

*Numismatic
Association of
Southern California*

*Spring 2022
V. 19, No. 1
\$9.95*

*California State
Numismatic
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**Southern California
Edison—a medallic
research quest, p 20...**

The California Numismatist

The California Numismatist

Official Publication of the
California State Numismatic Association
and the
Numismatic Association of Southern California
Spring 2022, Volume 19, Number 1



About the Cover

Images from author Harry Waterson's specimen of the medal for the John B. Miller award, presented only twice by Southern California Edison, pulls us into his article on some of the men who built the initial infrastructure that enabled the southern part of California to flourish as it has. Turn to page 20 for more information on this interesting story on the history of our state in the early 20th century.

Visit Us on the Web

The California Numismatist has a website at www.CalNumismatist.com. Also, both CSNA and NASC maintain their own websites at:

www.Calcoin.org
www.NASC.net as well as
www.goldenstatecoinshow.com

And both associations have Facebook pages at:

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Presidents' Messages

NASC...

Since I am involved in several coin clubs and am also a coin dealer, I am often asked by other collectors what sort of coins they should collect. This is particularly true from those very new to the hobby. I could quickly recommend that they seek out something like key date coins, and that would not be a bad response as over the years key date coins seem to be more in demand and to perform better and more consistently in the long run versus other coins. Or I could just point the new collector toward one of the more popular series of coins such as Lincoln cents or Morgan dollars and they would likely do fine.

However, if our goal is to keep people interested in coins for the long haul, particularly new collectors, their collecting must be personally enjoyable for them. Accordingly, when asked by others what they should collect, I believe the best response is simply to tell them to collect what *they* like, don't just collect what I like or what I recommend to you.

Of course, when told that, many new collectors realize they don't really know what they like yet, or don't really know what is even out there to choose from in the first place. In those cases, I go a little further and recommend that a new collector put together a type set. A type set is a collection of one example of each major design of each denomination.

In building a type set, usually a new collector will quickly learn what coins they like the most as they complete the set. They will find themselves really loving some of their purchases. And they will find themselves dreading the prospect of spending money to fill some of the other holes in the set. At some point, a type set collector will discover which types they enjoy the most and which they do not and at that time they can focus their collecting efforts.

In any case, be sure to take your time and always remember that it is *your* collection and you should be collecting what *you* like. I hope that you all are continuing to enjoy this great hobby as much as I do!



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

Michael J. Kittle
NASC President

CSNA...



Our fearless leader with ANA's Kim Kiick.

Let me open with strong and sincere compliments to our illustrious Phil Iversen for coordinating and contributing to a recent quite successful Diamond Jubilee 75th Anniversary Coin Show and Convention, on the last weekend of January 2022.

Phil, along with others, really stepped to the plate and hit a grand slam. While compliments are being shared, our grand lady of our association, Joyce Kuntz, did an excellent job with the coin show and convention's traditional banquet. Ed Rodriguez did a yeoman's job tabulating and arranging a fund-raising auction at the banquet.

On a positive and proud note, the California State Legislature, both the State Senate and Assembly, recognized and honored our CSNA with its Joint Resolution #17. Hopefully, our esteemed Editor Burns might picture it elsewhere in this issue.

Our coin show and convention was also graced with the active and positive presence of Kimberly S. Kiick, with her mother, Theresa. Kimberly, the current ANA executive director, bestowed a nice plaque to our association in tribute for CSNA's milestone diamond jubilee.

Continuing the positive accolades and happiness, again our illustrious Phil Iversen has arranged our annual coin show and conventions with a confirmed date and venue for the next five years! For 2023, that would be Friday through Sunday, January 27-29, again at the Arcadia Masonic Center.

Seventy-five years is a long time, and the future, particularly during troubled times as the enduring pandemic, is not sure, clouded with doubts, concerns, and whatever might happen; but, our CSNA has witnessed much in seven-plus decades, paving the way into the future.

Closing, here is a thought, "The smallest deed is better than the grandest intention." Work hard, play fair, and give back!

Michael S. Turrini
CSNA President

Editor's Page

Completing this page is usually the last element of the final steps locking down each issue just prior to uploading a finished file to the printer for the actual printing, bindery, and mailing work. As I'm writing, it's a gorgeous day developing (it's early on Sunday, my usual completion day of the week), the sunshine is unhindered by any clouds in the sky, and the forecast is for the temperature to hit 70° today. We're lucky to have such great weather here on the west coast, and luckier still to have authors who continue to write wonderful articles on a wide variety of interesting topics for us to enjoy.

In fact, my article warehouse for TCN has several larger pieces that I hope to be able to fit into the next issue (which I'll start pretty much as soon as I button this down and upload it). The environment for collectors, and authors, is better than it's ever been: digital repositories for information on our hobby are many, and accessible to pretty much everyone.

Of course, for some, such as researcher and author Harry Waterson whose article on the John B. Miller medal appears in the pages of this issue, the classic analog approach is where they must delve to find their treasure. Harry spent many hours seeking access to and pouring over the archives at the Huntington Library here in Southern California. Lucky us, his efforts were very fruitful and we have another great story to add to the tapestry of numismatics here in the Golden State.

Rounding out the issue, we welcome new author (to us anyway) Steven Berenhaus on a special kind of toned "look". John Duff provides an overview of an oddly interesting collecting category with his article. Rick Melamed covers the journey of a collection of \$10,000 notes. Steve Sussman poses a challenging mystery to TCN readers. And Mark Benvenuto highlights a category of gold coins for collecting that one might consider "affordable". Read each of their writings and enjoy, and we'll all get working hard on the next issue for you.



Greg Burns
Editor



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Glenn Schinke

MEMBER
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Please visit us at an upcoming Coin Show

**Due to coin shows being cancelled, contact
Glenn Schinke (626) 221-4606 if he will be at
the coin show you will be attending.**

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Don Ketterling CSNA Life Member 44-2

Corresponding Secretaries' Reports



NASC—

by *Walt Ostromecki*

Short and sweet with nothing much to report.

As corresponding secretary I was advised by NASC President Kittle not to send out 2022 dues notices for regular members. Rationale: since the association has been unable to hold in-person meetings, gatherings, and coin shows during the COVID pandemic years 2020 and 2021, dues for the 2022 year have been waived. All current regular members have been credited for the 2022 year as paid. Those who did send in dues payments will be extended accordingly.

As of February 2022 our Golden State Coin Show is still slated for the weekend of August 26-28. Nearly 47 % of NASC regular membership receives the digital TCN, a great cost saver. On the sad side, SM (life) member Harvey Stack passed away in January of this year.

Plans also are scheduled to include a free Scouts BSA Coin Collecting Merit Badge Workshop on Saturday from 12 noon to 4PM. This is subject to change as California has set, per a new law effective January 1, 2022, some strict guidelines with background checks, fingerprinting, and permit fees for all gatherings of scouts, leaders and counselors.

NASC current membership remains in the 300-310 range for the first quarter of 2020. We do have 13 active youth. Our website has been completely revamped and updated by Webmaster Jim Phillips. It's received some great positive collector content-information reviews. Also generated one new member so far in 2022. Thanks Jim for all your volunteer time and efforts to improve the NASC website!

CSNA—

by *George Magaan*

As I sit here looking back over 2021, I think what a disaster it has been with lock downs, sickness, and the loss of loved ones. There now appears to be light at the end of the tunnel. With two education symposium's, one at each end of the state, completed in November, coin shows starting to appear all over, and best of all we have in person meetings. We are finally starting to see each other again.

In January CSNA had their convention, awards/anniversary banquet, along with their annual sponsored coin show. The coin show was an immense success with a large number of attendees over the three-day weekend. Many of these had never attended our shows in the past.



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ANA Executive Director Kimberly Kiick, Colorado Springs, CO, and CSNA member Robert Fritsch, Nashua, NH, attended both the show and banquet. We thank you both for your support and attending our celebration.

More educational symposiums are in planning for 2022, we ask you share your knowledge with others or make plans to attend one of these shows. Dates will be forthcoming.

Membership renewals are going well, thank you for your prompt returns and new membership is up a little.

With spring here, get out and do your thing, attend coin shows, visit your coin dealers, support and encourage others in the hobby of numismatics. Most of all support your local coin clubs.

CSNA Membership on 12 March 2022

Regular.....	183
Life.....	110
Junior.....	1
Associate.....	2
Member Clubs.....	15

Member Club Life.....	12
Business Members	15
Total	338

NASC Membership on 17 February 2022

Total	300-310 (1Q2022)
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Dear Members—Please Note!

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

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 1740 Sessler Drive
 Yuba City, CA 95993
gcmagann@hotmail.com

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

Donations

CSNA gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the following donation. To support their missions, send any amount large or small to the NASC/CSNA corresponding secretaries.

\$100+

Loris Enzminger



Name That Tune Tone

by *Steven Berenhaus*

Somewhere over the rainbow lies a pot of gold coins. Not really, but rainbow toned coins can bring golden prices. Many collectors desire colorful coins and that lust has pushed prices higher and higher.

I've been a fan of rainbow toning for decades and have kept my eye on price trends. I thought I had a good grasp of the market but I was in for a shock! At the 2016 ANA Worlds Fair of Money in Anaheim, I examined a Standing Liberty quarter in a dealers showcase. It was beautifully rainbow toned. I asked the price and the dealer said "thirteen". I handed it back saying how nice it was but I couldn't afford thirteen hundred. In an annoyed voice he responded "thirteen thousand." I pulled my foot out of my mouth and moved on.

That is not what I wanted to talk about. There is another kind of toning that I am crazy about. It is an antique look that occurs on older coins.

I first became aware of "antiquing" in high school. While ordering my senior ring, I opted to have it antiqued. For \$10 extra, they applied a black stain over the entire ring and buffed it after it dried. The gold showed through on all the high spots and a black patina remained in the recesses. It turned out so nice that I removed it whenever I swam or showered, because I was afraid it would wash off. That was the first piece of jewelry I ever wore. A funny sidenote about that ring. The manufacturer described the

green stone as a "genuine synthesized tourmaline".

This same antiquing happens naturally on older silver coins. Natural forces in the environment react with the metal. Humidity, storage, sunlight, etcetera, all effect it. Circulation usage from hand to hand, rubbing in pockets, against other coins, or sliding in a drawer also affect it. It's like Mother Nature and Father Time had a baby and an artist lovingly shaded it in, giving the portrait depth and life.

These coins would call out to me from dealer showcases and if the price was right I would buy them, whether I needed them or not. I felt these coins had a warmth or a soul, that you could almost feel when you held one.

This type of toning occurs most frequently on capped bust, draped bust and Liberty seated coins of all denominations, and on Morgan dollars. It is less common on Walking Liberty halves, Mercury dimes and Standing Liberty quarters. It is rarely seen on Peace dollars and Franklin or Kennedy half dollars.

One benefit of this kind of toning is that these coins are not usually priced above their generic counterparts.

When I first tried to describe them around 40 years ago, I called them "black and white cameo toning". That description seemed to work for a while, until dealers started advertising proof coins that way. Photos would show proof coins with black

reflections in the mirrored fields, in stark contrast against frosted white devices. I needed a different name.

In 2011 an erotic novel was turned into a movie titled *Fifty Shades of Grey*. That was what I was waiting for!

I called them “Fifty Shades of Grey cameo toning” everywhere, hoping the name would catch on (it didn’t). My fellow club members knew what I liked and sold me many of the coins that I still have today. Eventually I had so many, I made two type sets of quarters, a type set of half dollars (including many classic silver commemoratives) and a full date set of capped bust half dollars (minus the 1815 key date)—with many duplicates.

One of my friends from both the Massapequa and Long Island Coin clubs called recently and told me he’s sending an article about the toned coins I like. A page from *Coin World* magazine arrived in my mail which discussed cameo coins. The article



mostly discussed cameo *proof* coins but they devoted a couple of paragraphs to the type of toning that I am talking about. The article featured a picture of a seated half dollar in G4 condition with what they called “circulation cameo” toning. The article stated

that “circulation cameo” is a relatively recent coinage phrase and that the *E-Sylum* dates it to the mid 2000s.

That is a good descriptive name and I will use it, especially since the toning I’m describing is sometimes only two shades of gray (slate gray devices against charcoal gray fields.). There is an old saying “a rose by any other name would smell as sweet”. Maybe someday another name will come along, but whatever you call it, I’m a big fan.

Taste is personal and subjective. Toning is tarnish to those who don’t appreciate it. If you ask me how I like my toast I’ll say “Light to medium”—how I like my coins? “Well done.”

Factoid

John Reich designed this capped-head concept of Liberty, and it was modified by Chief Engraver of the Mint William Kneass. It proved to be a popular design and lasted from 1807 to 1839 on the half dollar, 1815 to 1838 on the quarter, 1809 to 1837 on the dime, and 1829 to 1837 on the half dime. All four of these coin were struck in 89.2% silver and 10.8% copper.

—Wikipedia

Cemetery Exonumia and Other Early-Death-Care Advertisement Pieces

by John Duff

Many of us have loved ones and friends that we visit at cemeteries from time to time. There are also celebrities, dignitaries, and the famous that are found in cemeteries around the world. Some of the most famous burial sites visited would Jim Morrison of the Doors found in Paris and Marilyn Monroe found here in Los Angeles. A lot of us will eventually find ourselves buried in a cemetery plot or niche while it has also become popular to have one's ashes spread at sea or in the forest. Our cemeteries have become an integral part of the human cycle of life. Those involved in the business of taking care of our loved ones that have passed would advertise their services through tokens much like a business card as well as have their business name on various types of material.

My wife and I have a small collection of cemeteries exonumia and early death care advertisement pieces along with our paranormal paper money, coins, and tokens collection. Rosemary is also part of a small group of friends that call themselves the Traveling Taphophiles. They are what is called "gravers" or someone that visits and documents where people are buried posting information and photographs of grave sites on the website "Find A Grave." People can

request help on Find A Grave to find a loved one's grave site. My wife and her friends are a group that will look for and fill these types of requests with information and photos when they are able to while visiting cemeteries around the United States, as a hobby and charitable activity. Gravers are historians, documentarians, and have quite an interest in early architecture and sculpture of grave sites and stones and can often be found cleaning up a grave site that has been neglected and in need.

So, with my interest in numismatics, when Rosemary or I come across a token or some type of early advertisement about cemeteries, mortuaries, caskets, etc. we will add it to our small collection that we call Cemetery Exonumia and Advertisements.

Here are some of the cemetery tokens and early advertising pieces that we have collected.

Duff and Son, Newton, Kansas

The first token I want to show you has our namesake. It is an early Duff and Son token out of Newton, Kansas. This furniture and undertaking services store was operated by embalmer Albert J. Duff and his wife and assistant embalmer Helen R. Duff



until their store in Newton, Kansas burned down in 1914 along with other businesses in a large fire in the town. My own great, great grandparents were farmers a few hundred miles away in Lyndon, Kansas named Mr. & Mrs. James Kennedy Duff. They were descendants of William Duff who came generations earlier to the vicinity of Hillsville, Lawrence County, Pennsylvania during colonial times when Native Americans still roamed the land. So, this token has a big interest for our family.

Evergreen Burial Park

This 1953D “Keep Me and Never Go Broke” encased cent states, ”EVERGREEN BURIAL PARK “THE MOST BEAUTIFUL CARED FOR CEMETERY IN AMERICA” doesn’t give a specific location. Fortunately, we know that this cemetery is located in Roanoke, Virginia.

Here is a short description of this cemetery,”



Evergreen Burial Park in Roanoke, Virginia, began in 1916 and is the headquarters of Evergreen Memorial Trust. A number of notable individuals and their families are buried at Evergreen Burial Park including Governor J. Lindsay Almond, 15 Roanoke mayors, several Norfolk and Western presidents including “Racehorse” Smith, and veterans of all wars dating back to the Civil War.”

Francis F. Seidel, Inc. Funeral Home

This funeral home opened for business in 1944 and was located in Reading, Pennsylvania.



Forest Lawn Memorial Medal 1906-2006

Forest Lawn Memorial Parks and Mortuaries is a well-known chain of cemeteries and mortuaries located in Los Angeles, Riverside, and



Orange counties in Southern California.

Although Forest Lawn was founded by a group of San Francisco businessmen in 1906, Hubert Eaton is credited with being Forest Lawn's founder for establishing its business plan as a "memorial-park" in 1917 starting with a memorial-park in Glendale.

In 2006 Forest Lawn produced this medal celebrating 100 years of service.

Civil War Undertaker Tokens

- 1) Fr. Freise, NYC, 1863
- 2) J.J. Deihl, NYC, 1863

There two New York City undertakers that produced tokens during the Civil War. Both of these tokens are dated 1863 and are listed in The Official Red Book by Whitman entitled, "A Guide Book of Civil War Tokens." There is undertaker J.J. Diehl listed as NY-630-T with dies prepared by Louis Rolloff and there is undertaker Fr. Freise listed as NY-630-Z with dies prepared by Emil Segil. The



Fr. Freise tokens are priced slightly higher in value than the J.J. Deihl tokens, but you can see that they both have a similar look.

Funeral Supply Company, 1952, At The Shamrock

Shamrock Cemetery is located about 20 miles east of McLean, Texas right off the Interstate 40 Freeway. So this wonderful leather keychain advertisement piece from 1952 is advertising a Funeral Supply Company at the Shamrock Cemetery.



Geo. H. Long, Undertaker, Kansas City, Kansas

Undertaker George H. Long was born in Brown County, Ohio on September 30, 1875. He was the oldest of five children of James A. and Jemima (Fluharty) Long who were natives of Ohio. George worked in a hardware store while



he was still a high school student. He worked there for ten years until 1899 when he married Miss Bessie Grim. Bessie's father was a successful undertaker in Ripley, Ohio, so George went to work with his father-in-law to learn the trade. By 1908 he would move his family to Kansas City, Kansas, and by 1910 he would set up his own undertaking business on Tenth Street in Kansas City, Kansas.

(Transcribed from *A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans*, written and compiled by William E. Connelley, Chicago : Lewis, 1918. 5 v. (lvi, 2731 p., [228] leaves of plates) : ill., maps (some fold.), ports. ; 27 c)

1911 to 1921 Meissen Feuerbestattungsverein German Notgeld Token

Gemeinnütziger Feuerbestattungsverein Halle e.V." is located in Halle (Saale), Sachsen-Anhalt, Germany, and is part of the death care services industry of funeral service and crematories there in Germany. The German Meissen pottery factory produced a large number of ceramic tokens during and after WWI as a form of German notgeld (emergency money) but this beautiful Meissen ceramic token references death care services.



Bill Sladek, Orange Casket Company, Orange, TX, Tape Measure

The Orange Casket Company was established in 1929 by Bill Sladek.



Stump Mortuary, 60 North Daisy Ave, Pasadena, CA, Matchbox

STUMP MORTUARY was located at 100 N Hill Ave, Pasadena, CA 91106.



Turner & Stevens, Pasadena, CA, Phone F.O. 95 Sewing Kit

This very interesting brass sewing kit has the phone number as F.O.95



certainly making it an early advertising piece for this mortuary and memorial park. They are still in business today in Monrovia, California as well as the Pierce Brothers Turner & Stevens Mortuary in San Gabriel, California. Inside this piece you will find needles and thread.

William Sirlin Mortuary, Ohio Encased Cent

The William Sirlin Mortuary was located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This good luck encased cent gave two addresses of 620 E. Ohio & 3424 Brighton Rd with a phone number of C.E. 2831.



Blue Fox, San Francisco, CA Token

The Blue Fox Restaurant of San Francisco billed itself as the restaurant across from the San Francisco morgue. Mario Mondin purchased the Blue Fox in 1942, which was a well-known speakeasy during pro-



hibition, and created one of the best restaurants of San Francisco until it closed in 1993. In earlier days, the restaurant attracted celebrities such as Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra, Joe DiMaggio and Marilyn Monroe. Joan Crawford stowed her own case of vodka there.

Except for the Forest Lawn medal from 2006 these business tokens and advertising have some age to them especially the Civil War undertakers.

SOURCES:

- 1) *A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans*, written and compiled by William E. Connelley, Chicago : Lewis, 1918.
- 2) *A Guide Book of Civil War Tokens*, by Q. David Bowers, 2013 Whitman Publishing LLC.
- 3) Find A Grave, <https://www.findagrave.com>.
- 4) Forest Lawn Memorial Park, <https://www.forestlawn.com>.
- 5) Turner & Stevens Live Oak Memorial, <https://www.diginitymemorial.com>.
- 6) Evergreen Burial Park, <https://www.evergreen-burialpark.com>.
- 7) Wikipedia.
- 8) SFGate.com.
- 9) Photo: *The Blue Fox Restaurant*, San Francisco Public Library Historical Photograph Collection.



Application for CSNA Membership

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

- Regular Member: \$20 per year / \$55 for three years / \$90 for five years (includes print TCN)
- Regular Member: \$10 per year (digital only TCN)
- Associate Member (spouse of a Regular or Life member and at same address): \$10 per year (digital only TCN)
Provide spouse's name: _____
- Junior Member (age 17 or younger): \$10 per year (digital only TCN)
Provide your Birth Year _____
- Life Member (includes print TCN): \$500 (18 to 54 years of age), \$450 (55 to 64 years of age), \$350 (65+ years of age)

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

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Applicant's Signature: _____

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- Make your check or money order payable to: **CSNA**
- Mail completed application to the Director of Membership Services:

George Magann
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gcmagann@hotmail.com

- ATTENTION PAYPAL USERS. Members can now pay their dues through PayPal. Payments can be sent to our **CSNA1960@gmail.com** account. Your written instructions should include renewal term and address or contact information to ensure delivery of your issues of *The California Numismatist*.
- Enquiries about CSNA should be addressed to CSNA Membership Director George Magann, or CSNA Treasurer Lloyd Chan at his email address found on www.Calcoin.org. Please allow several days for a response.



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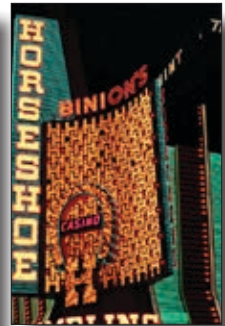
Famed Binion Horseshoe Hotel Display Of \$1 Million Cash

by Rick Melamed

One of the great old-time attractions of mid-century Las Vegas was the \$1 million display in the Binion's Horseshoe Hotel and Casino. The display had one hundred \$10,000 bills sandwiched between two very thick, transparent pieces of Lucite (or plastic), suspended by substantial chains inside a large, ten-foot-high, gold-colored horseshoe. Having that much money in plain sight proved to be a popular tourist attraction that drew millions of visitors. These days, when a \$10,000 bill comes up for auction, it draws a lot of attention and big prices. Only 336 are known to exist, meaning the 100 bills used in the display represents 30% of the known population.

\$10,000 bills were the largest notes available to the general public (the BEP printed \$100,000 notes for the Federal Reserve Banks for inter-bank trading). After 1969, bills \$500 and above were discontinued to prevent money laundering.

During the 1920's, when the West was still wild, Texas was an open expanse for opportunity with little opposition from the law. It was in this environment that Benny Binion made his mark. Binion rose in the ranks to become a mob boss in the Dallas/Fort Worth area—controlling much of the area's illegal gambling with protection from local politicians. He had a long list of crimes documented by the



Binion, his casino, and the famous display.

FBI, including bootlegging, illegal gambling, and two murder convictions. With the 1946 election of a new Dallas County Sheriff, Binion lost his fix with the local government and fled to Las Vegas. In post-war America, Vegas was even more carefree than Texas. The city was controlled by the mob, and dozens of dubious characters were thriving in an atmosphere where their vices were legal (i.e.: gambling, prostitution, etc.). The most famous were Bugsy Siegel, Meyer Lansky, Lucky Luciano, and Sam Giancana.

In 1951, Binion opened the Bin-

ion's Horseshoe Hotel and Casino and in 1954, the first incarnation of the \$1,000,000 display was erected inside the casino. However, facing a five-year sentence in Leavenworth Prison for tax evasion, Binion sold the hotel to New Orleans oilman Joe W. Brown to pay his debt. Binion would eventually buy it back five years later but, in the interim, Brown liquidated the display. Though it was a popular attraction, locking up \$1 million in cash was ultimately too much for Brown. In 1964, Binion decided to resurrect the display. With much effort, Binion was able to collect the required one hundred \$10,000 bills and the famed \$1 million display made its comeback.

Benny Binion passed away in 1989 at the age of 85. In 2000, Binion's family sold the bills in a private sale to a coin dealer. The amount of the sale was never disclosed, but there are claims that it was between \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000. The Binion notes were eventually graded—many state they were repaired and in uncirculated condition. When I personally viewed the notes in the 1980's, I observed that many of them had creases – leading me to assume they were “restored.” In auction descriptions, the provenance to Binion is often mentioned as are comments of restoration (images courtesy of Heritage).



Notes from the display graded by PMG and PCGS.

The notorious provenance of a Binion note certainly adds to the allure for collectors. The connection to the Wild West and freewheeling days of the mob-run Vegas before corporate ownership, harkens back to a different time. However, the Binion family should have held out; recent auction results have approached \$200,000 per note. Thanks to my son David Melamed for his help in editing this article.

The John B. Miller Award for Distinguished Service

by Harry Waterson

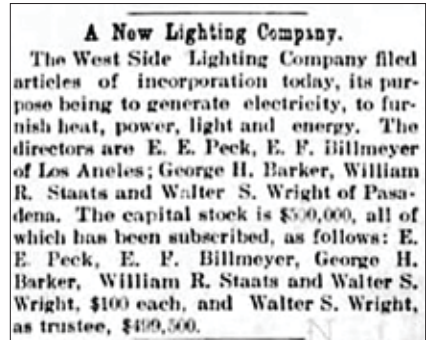
John Barnes Miller took Horace Greeley's advice: "Go West, young man," and he never looked back.

John was born October 23, 1869, in Port Huron, Michigan. He was the oldest of three children born to John Edgar Miller and Sarah Amelia Barnes. He attended grade school in Port Huron and went to Ann Arbor High School. He graduated in 1888 and went to the University of Michigan. Due to his father's ill health he returned to Port Huron in 1890. His father was in the lumbering and banking business with a subsequent involvement in the coaling of boats. Miller worked in a law office for two years, which convinced him he preferred business rather than the law. He invested in and operated a cotton plantation in Louisiana from 1892 to 1894. He returned to Port Huron and engaged in the steamboat and domestic fueling business.

One year before going to California, John married Carrie Borden Johnson of Yonkers, NY, on April 17, 1895. She is a granddaughter of Gail Borden, the founder of the Borden Milk Company. Their first daughter, Philadelphia Borden Miller is born in Port Huron on April 17, 1896. Miller made a trip to Southern California after the birth of his daughter to look for business opportunities. The grass is greener there and the three Millers move to Pasadena, in late 1896.

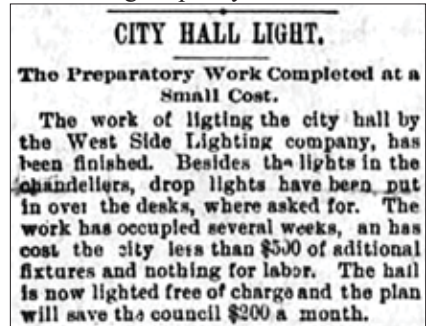
How to Start a Utility Monopoly

First, incorporate.



Los Angeles Evening Express,
June 3, 1896, p4.

Then light up City Hall.



Los Angeles Evening Post-Record,
June 15, 1896, p3.

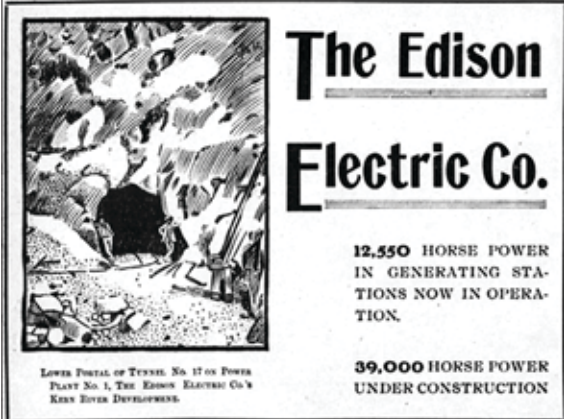
This did not work out at all well. The City Council still charges West Side Lighting Company a \$100/month franchise fee. West Side immediately appealed to the Gas & Light Committee of the City Council. The commit-

tee denied the appeal in January 1897.¹

Early in 1897, John B. Miller joins the fledgling West Side Lighting Company as General Manager (GM). He earns \$100 a month to run the company. In December, West Side Lighting absorbs the Edison Electric Company of Los Angeles, the owner of the Edison transmission franchise in the city. It assumes the name Edison Electric Company. On February 1, 1898, Edison Electric Company elects John B. Miller treasurer and a director. He is the 29th employee of the newly constituted company. Miller shoots up the ranks, first as second vice president and then as president of the Edison Electric Company in August 1901. The decade of the 1900s is spent acquiring local power companies and raising money to pay down debt and develop hydroelectric power generation facilities in the Kern River Valley. Here is where the company is in 1903 (top right of page).²

Edison Electric Company's Kern River – Los Angeles Transmission Line begins operation in May 1907. The line is 117 miles long and delivers 25,000 kilowatts of electricity under 75,000 volts. It was then the world's longest and highest voltage power line. It is also the first line in the country to suspend all its conduits from steel towers. To the right is a flattering cartoon of John Miller³ supplying electrical power to Los Angeles.

The Edison Electric Company files to become a California corporation in July 1909. Originally incorporated in California in 1894, it was succeeded by a Wyoming corporation in 1902.



The Edison Electric Co.

12,550 HORSE POWER
IN GENERATING STATIONS NOW IN OPERATION.

39,000 HORSE POWER
UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

LOWER PORTAL OF TUNNEL No. 17 ON POWER PLANT No. 1, THE EDISON ELECTRIC CO.'S KERN RIVER DEVELOPMENT.



In the 1909 filing, the main change is to rename it the Southern California Edison Company (SCE). This change gives rise to rumors that the company is being taken over by a hydroelectric power trust. The popular impression is that financial interests of Westinghouse and General Electric are trying to consolidate the water electric power companies of the country. The company vehemently denies that impression.

“There is no change of ownership; share for share the stock of Southern

California Edison is owned by the same men who have been identified with Edison Electric.” said R. H. Ballard, secretary and assistant GM of the company.⁴ Specimen share certificate below.



*Southern California Edison
Photographs & Negatives,
Courtesy of the Huntington
Library, San Marino, CA.*

The US enters the Great War on April 6, 1917, and on April 26, President Woodrow Wilson appoints a National Executive Committee of Five to finance the American Red Cross and their work during the war. Wilson names John B. Miller to the committee. Miller is in charge of raising bulk contributions in all states west of the Mississippi. He serves until 1919.

May 29, 1917, Southern California Edison completes its merger with Pacific Light & Power Company (PL&P). The name and management of SCE remains in place to run the merged companies. Key PL&P executives are retained. This was a pivotal moment for SCE and requires:

A Short Digression

There was another major player in the Southern California electric utility industry, Los Angeles real estate magnate Henry E. Huntington (1850-1927). He organized the Pacific Light and Power Company in 1902. He had formed the Pacific Electric Railway, LA's Red Car system a year earlier. Huntington was a nephew of railroad tycoon Collis Huntington and held various executive positions in his uncle's companies. The Red

Car system began to compete with the Southern Pacific Railroad for passenger service to LA's expanding suburbs. The Red Car was more successful because their streetcars were more versatile and convenient than passenger trains. Huntington began looking for new sources of electrical power because light rail consumed 80% of LA's electricity in the early 1900s. He also wanted a source cheaper than thermal.⁵

John S. Eastwood (1857-1924), an engineer from Fresno, CA, developed a plan to harness the San Joaquin River system in the Sierra Nevada Mountains for the hydrogenation of electricity.

Eastwood pitched the plan to an associate of Huntington and Huntington hired Eastwood in 1902 to do a thorough survey and a final plan for the Big Creek hydroelectric system.

After various delays and misgivings construction finally started on the Phase One of Big Creek in 1910. The first hydroelectric “juice” is delivered to PL&P in November and December 1913. The engineering hurdles that had to be overcome were comparable to the Panama Canal, which was under construction at the same time. SCE would take over this entire infrastructure in the merger and would go on to build Phases Two, Three and Four.⁶

Henry Huntington became a director of SCE following the merger. Now back to:

The Miller Years at SCE

“Phila” Borden Miller marries Donald O’Melveny (1891-1942) on June 20, 1917. As the headline has it “Hillside Wedding Ties Prominent Families.” *Hillside* is the name of the Pasadena estate of John. B. Miller that is the site of the outdoor wedding at sunset and the supper reception afterward.⁷

John B. Miller, President of SCE, announces a public stock offering on September 13, 1917. Southern California Edison follows the practice of giving its consumers the opportunity of becoming partners in the business and sharing in the profits of the company on terms that permit the smallest saver and investor to participate. The stock is offered at \$89 cash a share or \$90 a share on an installment plan of \$5 a month a share. At the time the stock was paying a 7% annual dividend paid quarterly tax-free in CA and the U.S. It is also probably the “greenest” utility in the country. Its 175,000 customers receive over 90% of their electricity from water power plants. At the time of the offer the

company has 1,864 stockholders. The same offer was made to the officers and employees of the company just prior to the public offering.⁸ This puts to rest any residual ‘take over’ rumors left from 1909.

March 1, 1918, SCE elects John B. Miller chairman of the board on top of his role as president.

In 1920, SCE hosts the forty-third convention of the National Electric Light Association (NELA) at the Hotel Huntington in San Marino, CA. For five days in May, 2,000 of the foremost power developers and distributors plus some of the ablest bankers in the United States attend. The top item on their agenda: “The ushering in of the electrical era, which, it is expected, will relieve America of its dependence on wood, coal and oil, three important, but rapidly disappearing factors in the generation and distribution of heat, light and power.”⁹ A century later, this is still a major item on the national agenda. To digress again:

The SCE Stock Ownership Plan

In a 1920 tombstone ad to sell shares in SCE, the company notes that 7,000 members of the public are now shareholders, 2,000 of whom are employees of the company. The price of a share is \$91/share cash or \$92/share on the partial payment plan.¹⁰

The 1921 stockholders meeting of SCE is held in the Assembly Hall of the Edison Building in Los Angeles. A large number of the company’s local shareholders were present. President John B. Miller announces that at the end of 1920 the company had over 10,000 shareholders. SCE is a pioneer in the wide distribution of its stock

among the people it serves.¹¹ From January to June of 1921 SCE conducts a six-month new stockownership campaign. It adds 17,500 stockholders of which 2,955 are employees out of a permanent payroll of 3,500. In the first five months, it sold \$7,985,000 worth of common stock at par value. This sets a record for the sale of a utility stock to individual buyers.¹²

John B. Miller Week is June 12 to 19, 1922. “Some 4,000 of the Edison men and women are this week putting in after-hour-time in presenting to their friends and acquaintances the merits of popular ownership in the company which supplies their electric necessities, and explaining to them why ownership in the Edison Company gives the people of the southwest an opportunity to help build up the community of which they are a part.”¹³ During *John B. Miller Week*, 11,712 new individual stockholders subscribe for Edison common stock. SCE now has 48,105 stockholders nearly all of whom live in Los Angeles and the ten counties of Central and Southern California, which the company serves. This gives SCE the largest number of stockholders of any electric utility in the world. At 24,000 stockholders, the Commonwealth Edison Company of Chicago runs a distant second.¹⁴

The pace continues. At the 1924 Annual Meeting, John B. Miller reports that during 1923, 17,529 new stockholders were added, bringing the total number up to 65,636.¹⁵ SCE would continue to spread stock ownership throughout the tenure of John B. Miller. Now back to:

More Miller Years at SCE

R. H. Ballard, VP & GM of SCE



Southern California Edison Photographs & Negatives, Courtesy of the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA.

writes in October 1921 that Powerhouse 8 (shown above) is now online. From Huntington Lake, the first of the new chain of lakes, the waters fall 2,200 feet to Powerhouse 1, then 1,900 feet to Powerhouse 2 and again 750 feet to Powerhouse 8. The same water powers the machinery of three generating plants and yet their potentiality is unimpaired.¹⁶ Powerhouse 8 is built in 100 days and is the first plant designed to transmit commercial power at 220 kilovolts (kV). “When Powerhouse 8 came online, they were able to increase to the highest voltage level in history and transmit power with the longest distance power lines.”¹⁷

On February 1, 1923, at a testimonial banquet in the ballroom of the Hotel Alexandria in downtown LA, John B. Miller receives his 25-year gold service button, the highest of a series of buttons given every five years. From the 350 officers and employees who attended the dinner, 19 who



Southern California Edison Photographs & Negatives, Courtesy of the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA.

were already 25-year button recipients stepped forward to serve as a guard of honor during the presentation. Since Miller was only the 29th hire, he must have known the honor guard well. The company now employs 5,000. The button is gold and white and less than a dime in diameter.

The conversion of the 1913 transmission lines from 150kV to 220 kV is completed in May 1923. Powerhouse 8 for the first time delivers electricity at full capacity. The upgraded 220,000-volt transmission lines are suspended from 1,300 steel towers stretching 243 miles from Big Creek to the Eagle Rock substation near Glendale, CA. The lines were extended an additional 26 miles to the new Laguna Bell substation in Commerce, CA in August. This is the 1923 world's record for long distance high voltage transmission. The 500 Edison employees who did the power lines reconstruction are given a testimonial luncheon at the Elite Restaurant on August 11 to celebrate their accomplishment. John B. Miller tells them that their great work allows him to continue to borrow money to expand the company.

On the evening of June 7, 1923, John B. Miller is awarded the Charles A. Coffin gold medal. The National Electric Light Association presents the award at Carnegie Hall in New York City. He accepts on behalf of Southern California Edison in recognition of the notable contribution SCE made during 1922 to the development of electric light and power in its territory. General Electric established the Coffin Foundation in December 1922 and this is its first award.

This 2¾-inch gold medal was



Southern California Edison Photographs & Negatives, Courtesy of the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA.

designed by Chester Beach (1881-1956) in 1923, the same year he did the Monroe Doctrine Centennial Half Dollar. Medallie Art Company of NY struck the medal.

Obverse: Left facing portrait bust of Charles A. Coffin (1844-1926). He was an American business executive who was a co-founder and first president of General Electric Corporation.

Reverse: Vignette of male figure on a matched pair of winged horses rearing over a waterfront cityscape with radiant sun in the background.

6-line inscription below: FOR DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTION / TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF ELECTRIC / LIGHT AND POWER FOR THE CONVEN / IENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND THE / BENEFIT OF THE INDUSTRY / AWARDED TO Across the bottom is a raised cartouche resting on an open-top laurel wreath engraved to SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON CO. / CALIFORNIA 1922.

Vignette: “On the reverse the artist has shown man controlling the forces of nature – water and heat – and driving them, in the form of electricity, over land and sea.”¹⁸

The Florence Lake Tunnel under Kaiser Mountain in the High Sierras is holed through on February 18, 1925. At 13½ miles, it is the longest 15-foot diameter tunnel in the world, 2,000 feet longer than the Simplon Tunnel under the Alps. It is the most important piece of Southern California Edison’s Big Creek project comparable only with the Panama Canal in size, cost of construction and feat of engineering.¹⁹ The tunnel diverts the San Joaquin River 65 miles from its course and drops its water 6,000 feet through a chain of powerhouses that extend

down the San Joaquin river canyon. See the image of the small plaque that records the tunnel’s statistics and lauds the accomplishment.

The annual conference of the Western Division of the US Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) took place at the Olympic Hotel in Seattle, WA, later that year. At the session on the Hydro-Electric Power Situation in the West, Chamber VP Paul Shoup presented a tablet to George Clinton Ward and his associates commemorating



the completion of the Florence Lake Tunnel. Last line on tablet: “By their works, ye shall know them.”²⁰

The tablet bears a portrait bust of Ward by Felix Peano (1863-1949) and is mounted on the last granite boulder

torn from the middle of the tunnel when the North and South portals holed through.²¹ Ward oversaw the construction of the



Big Creek System and later became VP and then president of SCE. Florence Lake Tunnel was renamed Ward Tunnel in his honor in 1936.



The face of the granite boulder is approximately 3 feet high by 4 feet wide. The bronze tablet is about 20 x 24 inches. Its whereabouts today is unknown. Felix Peano was a well-known sculptor who famously did the original columns and bridges for Venice, CA. They too are mostly gone.

The first construction camp opens for the Vincent Transmission Line in August of 1925. The line is constructed between December 1925 and January 1928 and is the first transmission line purpose-built to carry 220kV. The line travels 224 miles from Powerhouse 3 on the San Joaquin River to the Gould substation on Angeles Crest Highway in Flintridge, CA. There are 879 steel towers, about one every quarter mile. They are A-frame structures with a steel truss system anchored into four concrete footings with insulators hung from the top. The towers were strong to accommodate

the larger insulators and heavier wire needed for the 220kV load. Size varies due to terrain and span. The tallest are 120 feet high. The standard size is 64 feet high (as below) with base-leg extensions of 7, 14 or 21 feet as necessary to deal with rugged topography.

After 30 years with the company and 27 years as president, John B. Miller steps down as president of SCE on March 16, 1928 but retains his position as Chairman of the Board. R. H. Ballard is elected president. Ballard had been Exec. VP and GM since 1924. George Clinton Ward, formerly VP in Charge of Construction, is chosen to succeed Ballard.

Later that year at a testimonial dinner on October 24 at the Hotel Huntington in San Marino, R. H. Ballard received the John B. Miller Award for Distinguished Service. More than 100 guests, including directors, officials, department heads and district



Southern California Edison Photographs & Negatives, Courtesy of the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA.



managers gathered in the banquet hall to see and hear John B. Miller present the medallion TO RUSSELL H. BALLARD – FOR HIS BRILLIANT / ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE COMPANY’S INTEREST as the Ballard inscription states.

Obverse: Portrait bust of John B. Miller in left profile on upper half of medallion flanked by high voltage electric Vincent Transmission steel towers with a hedgerow of Joshua trees across the center. Below is an open field suitable for engraving. Legend around top half: JOHN B. MILLER AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE. There is a spray of California poppies at the bottom and a tiny KILENYI along the rim at 4 o’clock.

Left and top-left: this 4-inch bronze medal was sculpted by Julio Kilenyi in 1928 and was struck by Whitehead and Hoag, Newark, NJ. It is edge marked WHITE-HEAD-HOAG. Photo: G. Burns.



As engraved. Southern California Edison Photographs & Negatives, Courtesy of the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA.

Medal portrait. Southern California Edison Photographs & Negatives, Courtesy of the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA.

Reverse: Winged figure of a male god holds thunderbolts aloft in his left hand. An electrical transmission conduit coils around his body and extended right arm with the 'live' end held in his hand. He is rising out of the mist from a water spill plunging into a deep gorge. Above the spillway is a wide afterbay flowing from a partly obscured powerhouse high on the right. The legend around the bottom of the medallion: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY

Obverse Portrait: The bust of John B. Miller is taken from a portrait photograph by G. Haven Bishop. The photo is undated but is clearly marked "Medal Portrait" in the SCE archive at The Huntington Library.

Reverse Iconography: This is Big Creek Dam No. 6, 155 feet high with a 495-foot long crest. The base is 39 feet wide, tapering to eight feet at the crest. The spillway is an overpour type consisting of six spillway spans separated by piers.

Construction was started in No-

vember 1922 and completed in March 1923. A contemporary photo has not been found but the below color image from midcentury tells the story.

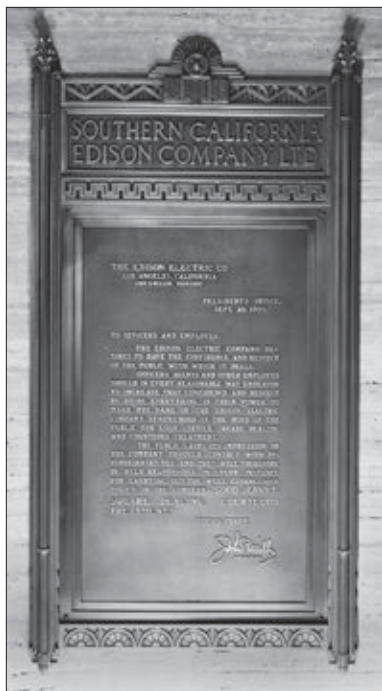
The Kilenyi composition does not include Tunnel No. 3 Intake Structure (the round structure with the conical roof) in the Dam No. 6 forebay and the walkways above the dam. The roofline of Powerhouse 8 is just visible in the upper right hand corner of the picture. Kilenyi moved his point of view to the left so that more of Powerhouse 8 is visible in his sculpture.

Mrs. Sarah A. Miller, mother of John B. Miller, passes away at her Hotel Huntington bungalow Cedarhurst on February 18, 1930. She was in her 80th year and had lived in Pasadena since 1909.

The Hotel Huntington has 27 small cottages for long-term guests. She had lived there since 1925 when her husband John Edgar Miller predeceased her.

John B. Miller lays the cornerstone of the new Art Deco general office





building of SCE at 5th Street & Grand Avenue in June 1930. It was a height limit building of 14 stories, 150 feet tall. The 28 story LA City Hall opened in 1929 and by city ordinance, no other building in the city could exceed half that



Big Creek Powerhouse I (1¼-in. brass).

**THE EDISON ELECTRIC COMPANY
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
JOHN B. MILLER, President**

President's Office, Sept. 26, 1905.

To Officers and Employees:

The Edison Electric Company desires to have the confidence and respect of the Public, with which it deals.

Officers, Agents and other employes should, in every reasonable way, endeavor to increase that confidence and respect by doing everything in their power to make the name of The Edison Electric Company synonymous in the mind of the Public for good service, square dealing and courteous treatment.

The Public gains its impression of the Company through contact with its representatives, and they will, therefore, be held responsible in every instance for carrying out the well established policy of the Company — "GOOD SERVICE, SQUARE DEALING, COURTEOUS TREATMENT".

Yours truly,

John B. Miller
President

SCE lobby tablet (top left) and the letter (above) memorialized. Southern California Edison Photographs & Negatives, Courtesy of the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA.



Big Creek Powerhouse 2/2A (1-in. white metal).

height. That ordinance was in effect until 1958.

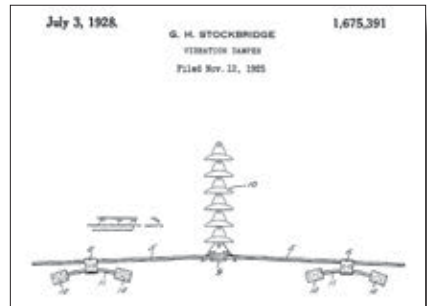
The new all-electric general office building was occupied by SCE in February 1931. The executive officers and about 1,000 of the company’s 5,100 employees worked in the building. The formal opening took place at the annual meeting of the company’s stockholders on March 20. One thousand shareholders attended the meeting in the new auditorium. More than 10,000 visitors toured the new headquarters on the day. They would have all seen the bronze tablet in the lobby memorializing the 1905 letter by John B. Miller stating the policy of the company.

GOOD SERVICE, SQUARE DEALING, COURTEOUS TREATMENT was the company motto for customer relations starting with John Barnes Miller. “He was one of the first utility executives to recognize the necessity of providing the public with the best possible service at the lowest possible cost.”²² In 1982, SCE Chairman William R. Gould accepted the Edison Medal from the Edison Electric Institute. This medal was the Coffin Medal redesigned in 1947 to honor the 100th anniversary of the birth of Thomas Edison. Gould ended his acceptance with these words. “I

am confident that, utilizing a long and proud employee tradition of innovation and creativity, the Edison Company will continue to live up to its long time motto of “Good Service, Square Dealing and Courteous Treatment.”²³ Company fobs and keychains wore the motto proudly.

The second recipient of the John B. Miller Award for Distinguished Service is George H. Stockbridge (1871-1957). Stockbridge retired from SCE on January 1, 1931 as Superintendent of Transmission. Either at his retirement or shortly thereafter, he was presented with the Miller Award for his many accomplishments at SCE during his 26-year career with the company.²⁴

Of special interest is the Stockbridge Vibration Damper for high-tension lines.²⁵ It is a tuned mass damper used to suppress wind-induced vibrations on taut cables like overhead power lines. It was patented in 1928 and was used throughout the electric transmission industry. Modern variations are still in use today. Due to its distinctive shape, it is nicknamed the “dog-bone damper.”



The drawing shown is one of three designs in the patent. The design shown is the one adopted by the industry.

The End of the Miller Era

April 15, 1932. John B. Miller dies at 62 of septicemia, a poisoning of the blood stream. When he died, SCE had capital of \$150,000,000, employed more than 6,000 workers and had 110,000 stockholders. Ninety percent of the stockholders were either customers or employees of the company.²⁶

April 29, 1932. The SCE board of directors does not replace John B. Miller. Chairman of the board is discontinued and SCE goes forward under President Russell H. Ballard. The directors express their profound personal sorrow at the death of John B. Miller. He left SCE in a strong financial position with no bank loans, and plants and equipment in splendid operating condition.

August 24, 1932. R. H. Ballard dies suddenly at 57 after a relapse from an attack of influenza.

October 18, 1932. The SCE board of directors decides to fill its two most important positions. Harry J. Bauer is named chairman of the board and George Clinton Ward is elected president.

September 11, 1933. George Clinton Ward dies at 71 from a heart ailment brought on by a fall.

September 15, 1933. The board of directors of SCE elects Harry J. Bauer president in addition to his duties as chairman of the board. One individual once again holds the two offices. Bauer would run the company until 1948 while at the same time serving as president of the Automobile Club of Southern California.

In less than 18 months, SCE loses three chief executives, each of whom had provided singular management and foresight from the turn of the

century. These deaths were the end of an era and shook the company dramatically. Fortunately, the board of directors had some bench strength and the next chief executive saw SCE successfully through the end of WWII and beyond.

It is sad that the John B. Miller Award for Distinguished Service was presented only twice. The award did not survive the management turmoil after the death of Miller. SCE was a company of giants who had worked alongside Messrs. Miller, Ballard and Ward for decades and deserved the recognition that would have come with this award.

Special thanks to Audrey Williams, Senior Archeologist, Environmental Services, SCE, for her many contributions to this article. G. Haven Bishop (1879-1972), who was the company photographer from 1904 until 1939, shot all the photographs credited to SCE Photographs & Negatives. Without his remarkable photography, this story would have been severely restricted.

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- 3 "Men of Affairs in Los Angeles" *Los Angeles Times*, LA, CA, Aug. 20, 1909, p19.
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Didjknow?

Bayerische Staatsbibliothek (the Bavarian State Library in Munich), CSNA member 6429, is the central "Landesbibliothek", i.e. the state library of the Free State of Bavaria, the biggest universal and research library in Germany and one of Europe's most important universal libraries. Its collections currently comprise around 10.89 million books, among them TCN!—*adapted from Wikipedia*

My 1787 Massachusetts Half-Cent Burn Mark

by Steve Sussman

The 1787 half-cent was minted during the Confederation Era, by a private group for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Through a series of meetings, it was decided that the Commonwealth should own the mint and keep the profits from its operation. The act for establishing a state-owned mint of gold, silver, and copper coinage was established in October of 1786. The half-cent was to show the figure of an Indian holding a bow and arrow with a star near his face as on the state seal and the legend “Commonwealth” would be placed on the obverse as well. The reverse would have an eagle with wings out and the legend “Massachusetts” along with the date. On the eagle’s shield would appear the half-cent denomination, with 100 cents being equal to one Spanish milled dollar. The dies for this copper coin were first created by an apprentice of Paul Revere but switched in 1788 to a less expensive and more novice engraver.

It is not clear that the business administrators in charge understood the costs involved. As costs mounted the state decided to conduct an audit of the minting operation. On November 5, 1788, the results of the audit were signed by Governor John Hancock and presented to the General Court. Each coin cost more than double its face value to produce. By late January of 1789 the Commonwealth

Steve Sussman's half-cent's dies were cut by Joseph Callender (May 6, 1751 - November 10, 1821), an American silversmith and copperplate engraver based in Boston, Massachusetts. The cent and half-cent from this state were the first coins produced in the US that used the term "cent".



Detail of damaged area.

mint closed. This was not only due to extreme monetary loss. As of the next February, a new Federal Constitution made minting a federal function. The possibly 79,500 of the 1787 Massachusetts half-cent coppers that had been minted stayed in circulation for several decades. They were made on good quality copper planchets and were well struck.

I bought an NGC-graded 1787 Massachusetts half-cent at GreatCollections Coin Auctions a couple of years ago. It is an XF grade—a nice coin. There are only around 300 such

coins nicer than this one out of less than 700 graded and slabbed by PCGS or NGC. However, there is a distinct mark on the reverse. It appears to be a clearly defined burn mark on the “H” and the “U” of Massachusetts made by a tool, possibly shortly after the time it was minted. What could have caused this burn mark? I hypothesize that the half-cent had been placed on a table near the open fireplace where food was prepared, possibly in a post-colonial house in Massachusetts. The person placed a tool in the fire, and it was hot. The tool had a small head to it. One possibility is that a unique toaster tongs tool had been used to toast bread on the fireplace. Then the tool was placed on the table. The head of the toaster tongs put the curved well-defined burn mark on the coin. Alternatively, the tool might have been sugar tea tongs if they had been placed in very hot water, or in the fireplace somehow. I have not been able to locate the exact tool that made the mark. If there are any detectives out there... here is your chance.

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May the culprit have been something similar to these antique tongs? What do you think? Mmm, melting point of copper is almost 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit, so unlikely. But still, intriguing question!



Getting the Best Value from the Coronet \$10 Eagle

by Mark Benvenuto

When it comes to our collecting hobby, plenty of us build wonderful collections without ever adding a gold coin to the lot. The general belief is that it is simply too expensive for a collector to dive into these waters and make any kind of a splash when it comes to collecting gold. But let's all be honest about it: collecting any type of US gold would be absolutely cool! Keeping that in mind, let's look at a classic United States gold coin series, and determine if there just might be some kind of affordable option. We'll take a peek at the \$10 Coronet gold eagles.

The Coronet Head eagle, also known as the Liberty Head eagle or just the \$10 gold piece, is the work of Mint Engraver Christian Gobrecht, and came out of the gate all the way back in 1838. The design underwent a tweak in 1866 with the addition of the "In God We Trust" motto, but other than that stayed on the gold eagle until 1907, and always had in each a weight of 0.48375 ounces of the precious metal. In that wide span of years, there are plenty of dates and mint marks with downright tiny mintages. For example, the 1844 from the main Mint in Philadelphia has an official mintage of only 6,361 pieces. By any stretch, this is a rare coin that is going to be expensive. On the more pleasant flip side of things, the 1847 saw a hefty mintage of 862,258 pieces. The main



Shown actual size, 27mm (1.07"), 16.72 grams (.54 ounce) of 90% gold and 10% copper. Designer/engraver: Christian Gobrecht (December 23, 1785 - July 23, 1844), appointed chief engraver of the US mint in 1840, and notable for the seated Liberty series of designs.

facility in the City of Brotherly Love finally did jump over the one million mark in 1880, and really smashed it in 1881, with over 3.8 million minted.

So, knowing that there are some very common dates among the Coronet Head \$10 gold eagles, let's look at a very common one first, the 1894, with a total of over 2.4 million coins. As this is being written, gold metal hovers at about \$1,800 per ounce on world markets. Since each of these big, gold eagles contains 0.48375 ounces of gold, that translates to \$871 worth of it. Thus, the only way we'll get our hands on one of these classic gold pieces for less involves the sheer, dumb luck of buying from someone who does not know what they are selling.

A look through any of the major price lists indicates that an almost uncirculated, or AU-50, version of the 1894 will ring in at about \$1,100. This

is intriguing precisely because it really isn't all that much more than the price of the gold in the coin. Yes, that's an extra \$229 over the metal's value, but we are talking about a piece of U.S. history that is closing in on 130 years old. That's really not too bad.

If we scan across the grades when looking at this 1894 eagle, we find that dropping down to a grade like fine, or F-12, doesn't really save us much money, maybe \$100. In an interesting twist, going in the opposite direction, to something like MS-60, doesn't really add that much to the price tag, again about \$100. So, do we want to spend \$1K for this date in something like VF-20, or spend \$1,200 for it as an MS-60 specimen. That's a question each of us has to answer, but the small differences in prices have a big meaning. We'll posit that this meaning is: very few people are collecting the Coronet \$10 gold eagles as anything more than a type set coin. Let's look a bit deeper to see if we can prove that point.

The 1893-S version of the Coronet \$10 gold eagle came out of the branch facility in San Fran to the tune of only 141,350 pieces. Before looking at prices, let's do a bit of math that compares this to the much more common 1894 we just mentioned. The 1894 had a mintage of 2,470,735 pieces. Assuming people worked 6 days a week, that means these were made over 312 days (let's round to 300 to account for non-working holidays). This means the folks in Philly were pounding out 8,236 of these per day. Making another assumption, that the employees at the branch facility worked at the same speed, this means that the 141,350 gold pieces made with the 'S' mark

in 1893 could have been made in 17 days. Even if there were half the presses in the Granite Lady than there were back East, the work could have been done in just a bit more than a month.

The point of this little bit of mathematical gymnastics is to hammer home that the 1893-S is a rare coin. It's less common than the 1916-D Mercury dime. It's far less common than the 1909-S VDB Lincoln cent. And yet its listed prices are: \$1,000 in VF-20, and \$1,100 in AU-50, and only \$1,250 in MS-60. Those aren't typos. These prices are virtually the same as those for the much, much more common 1894. To quote someone famous but not too well-spoken, "Huh?"

The answer to that one syllable appears to be that people indeed do not collect big gold like this by some date run, or by some run of dates and mint marks. And yet that \$1K cost we have now seen twice is not entirely outrageous. If we save \$20 per week, in one year we'll have \$1,040. Save \$25 per week – roughly the cost of a couple of pizzas – and we'll have \$1,300 by the end of a year. Yes, all this will go for only one coin, and owning it may not look as impressive as a string of quarters that have been pulled from pocket change. But collecting is about patience as well as the gross number of items we can score.

Look through the price listings and the reference books at this apparently under-collected series. There are plenty more dates and mint marks with low mintages and correspondingly low prices. The Coronet \$10 gold eagles are not cheap, but are not impossible to collect either. It's amazing what putting away \$25 a week can actually get us.

California Token Spotlight

Shining on: The Geyserville Hotel, and Other Tokens From Geyserville

by Merle Avila

Before the railroad came to Geyserville in 1872, travelers to Skaggs Springs Resort in upper Dry Creek had to take a stagecoach 14 miles out of Healdsburg. The Geyserville stop cut that stagecoach ride down to eight miles. It is believed that the 1873 Geyserville Hotel, “located at the corner of the road from Healdsburg, Ca. to Cloverdale, Ca. and Depot Street,” was built as a layover to accommodate those travelers. The Skaggs Springs Resort was attracting more and more visitors each year. Travelers would arrive by train in Geyserville and then travel via stage to Skaggs Springs. Business was enough to justify spending over \$400 to install a telephone line from the Geyserville train depot to the resort in upper Dry Creek and to invest in the Geyserville Hotel.

Walter Skaggs, the eldest son of Alexander Skaggs (proprietor of Skaggs Springs Resort), his wife Julia and two year old son Edward moved into the Geyserville Hotel and took over management. A couple years later (1882) a second son, Alexander, was born at the hotel.

The Skaggs renovated the hotel to include family rooms for summer guests and offered \$1 stage fare from the hotel to the resort. In July 1882,



Geyserville Hotel, 1894.



Skaggs Stage from Geyserville Hotel to Skaggs Springs Resort.



Skaggs Springs Resort, 1905.

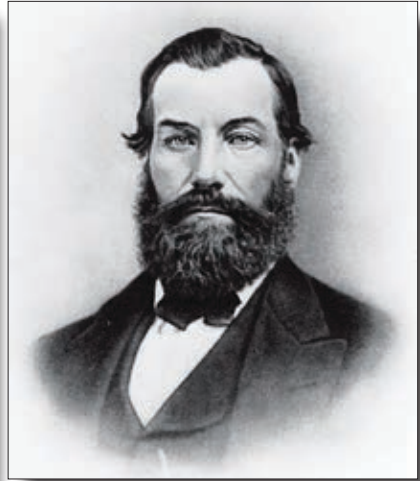
George Skaggs reports “that Sixty-eight guests left the Springs on the 5th, but that the establishment is still comfortable full with sixty-five and more coming. The Geyserville Hotel



SKAGGS' Hotel, Geyserville, Mex. J. Skaggs, Proprietor.

FOR SALE.

Skaggs' Hotel, Geyserville, Sonora. The above picture represents the Skaggs Hotel at Geyserville, which has been opened and run as a first-class hotel for the past nineteen years by Mrs. Julia Skaggs. This hotel, grounds, orchard and livery stables cover about one and one-half acres of ground. The hotel is two stories in height, and contains five parlors, large and commodious dining-rooms, bar, fourteen bedrooms, libraries, storerooms, etc., and is thoroughly equipped for the accommodation of tenants and guests. It enjoys a monopoly, being the only hotel in Geyserville, and having been conducted as a hotel should be, in first-class order, is well patronized by the general and traveling public. It is situated within two blocks of the S. F. & N. P. R. station in Geyserville, and on the wagon road that leads to the celebrated Skaggs Springs. The county road to Cloverdale, Ukiah, Lake County, and all northern coast points pass the hotel, which is a stopping point for all bound north. The present owner, having spent almost a lifetime in the business, is desirous of retiring and now offers the entire property for sale. It will well repay any hotel man to investigate this offer.



Julia Skaggs' sale ad in an 1898 Atlas was apparently unsuccessful, the business not finally being sold until 1905.

under Walter Skaggs is doing a good business. It looks as though there will be more annual visitors to the Springs this year than ever before. The guests are supplied with lots of venison just now." At the Geyserville Hotel, these venison meals were probably prepared by Charley, a 35-year-old cook from China.

Walter Skaggs fell ill in 1883, and passed that May from consumption. He was only 27 years old. Julia Skaggs continued to raise their two sons and operated the hotel for the next 20 years.

By 1898, Julia Skaggs was ready for a break from the hotel business. She listed the hotel for sale for \$10,000. It was advertised as "Has been opened and run as a first class hotel for the past nineteen years by Mrs. Julia Skaggs. This hotel, grounds, orchard and livery stables cover about one and one-half acres of ground. The hotel is two stories in height, contains

Alexander Skaggs, the youngest son who at a later point briefly ran the Geyserville Hotel.

fine parlors, large and commodious dining rooms, bar, fourteen bedrooms, kitchen, store houses, etc... thoroughly equipped for accommodation of tenants and guests. It enjoys a monopoly, being the only hotel in Geyserville... conducted as a hotel should be, in first-class order, well patronized by the general and traveling public. It is situated within two blocks of the S.F. & N.P.R.R. station... and on the wagon road that leads to the celebrated Skaggs Springs. The county road to Cloverdale, Ukiah, Lake County, and all northern coast points pass the hotel... a stopping point for all bound north. The present owner, having spent almost a lifetime in business, is desirous of retiring and offers the entire property for sale. It will well repay any hotel man to investigate this offer." However in the 1900 census Julia Skaggs 54, son Alex 17, and cook Won Sing 31, with five men as boarders, were all listed at the hotel.

The hotel continued to be a popular destination. A Healdsburg reporter gave praise, “Mrs. Julia Skaggs is proprietress and Ed W. Skaggs manager. This is a popular hotel. I never visit Geyserville without taking a square meal here. Mrs. Skaggs does a good business and is popular and her son Ed – well, you know him. He tends strictly to business and has thousands of friends all over this county. The wet goods are prime. I am a judge. I never refuse it. Don’t visit Geyserville without calling at this popular resort.”

In 1903, Julia rented the business to Ed Mason of Healdsburg, and she and her eldest son, Ed, spent many months in Switzerland, where Julia was born. They returned to Geyserville, and the youngest son, Alex, took back the hotel. However it must have changed management quickly, because on September 9, 1904, Bert Ellis was proprietor of the hotel when he

suffered a severe blow to his forehead and eye from a rock thrown by Ed/Emil Rose in a conflict over a bill. He was reported in serious condition but survived, and by October 6, Ellis was acquitted with no details.

In 1905, Julia was finally able to sell the hotel to a man who then resold it the following year for \$8,500. The Skaggs Springs Resort continued to do business accommodating 300 guests. They arrived by train in Geyserville to lay over at the hotel or be taken by stage nine miles to the resort.

1906 had its fair share of natural disasters. In January 1906, Geyserville residents living near the railroad tracks watched flood waters rise and began moving their household effects to safety. A dozen families were housed at the Geyserville hotel. Then in April, the 1906 earthquake caused significant damage in Geyserville: brick buildings and chimneys toppled, plaster walls



cracked, glass windows shattered in store fronts, merchandise destroyed, and tall water tanks came down. No specific reference to damage to the Geyserville Hotel has been found, but post-earthquake photographs show the balcony missing and the wooden post replaced with what look like iron pipes. Skaggs Springs reported no damage and was open for business.

Throughout the 1910's the hotel continued to change ownership but stayed under the management of Ed Mason and Edward Wahrman.

Edward Wahrman and Ed Mason applied for a liquor license for the Geyserville Hotel Bar in 1915. In June 1918, at midnight "Mrs. Ed Wahrman, from her home nearby, noticed a blaze on an outside stairway of the hotel. The lady gave the alarm, heard by Harlan Rimmel, sprinted to the fire bell, returned with hose cart and extinguisher. The young man, very quickly, had the fire out before the crowd arrived. The stairway and back wall charred, the hotel being very old and dry. The town would have been burned had not the fire been discovered as it was.

Prohibition, 1920-1933, closed the bar, but the hotel remained open. In 1920 Mason stepped away from the business, and Wahrman took over the entire hotel business until retiring in 1921.

The hotel changed hands in ownership and management several times during prohibition.

One colorful character that was



connected with the hotel was Angelo Toschi. In April 1923 at West Third and Roberts Avenue, Santa Rosa, one Angelo Toschi was charged, pleaded not guilty, fined \$600, freed, heard in court in May. Deputy sheriffs had raided property alleged owned by Toschi, a shed in the rear of the hotel, six gallon jugs of wine, two casks with liquor, produced as evidence. Toschi claimed the shed, not on his property and the wine was not his. Toschi was arrested several times for violation of the county liquor ordinance and municipal dry laws.

In October 1923, the Moss brothers sold the Geyserville Hotel to Mr. B. Toschi, from Willits.

In February 1924, A. Bulotti, Geyserville Hotel man, was fined \$250 in violation of probation laws, following arrest and fine assessed by justice of the peace Joseph Metzger of Geyserville. Bulotti's former partner in ownership of the hotel, A. Toschi, also in custody, but released when he showed Geyserville justice that he had disposed of his interest in the business a day or two before.

In May 1924, a 50-gallon still in full operation was seized by federal prohibition officers in a series of raids in northern Sonoma County at a ranch of Z. Molinari northeast of Healdsburg. Molinari was fined \$2000, and others \$1000, including Angelo Toschi, proprietor of the Geyserville hotel.

Toschi's hotel venture didn't last long. By 1925 the hotel had changed ownership again and even went back under the management of Ed Wahrman for a couple of years.

Ed Cook bought the hotel in 1927 and he added a service station and

auto camp. The hotel was picked up and moved one lot east and put on a new foundation. Business must have been good because Cook stayed longer than many other owner/operators of the time. By 1932, Standard Oil Co was involved with the service station.

Then sadly, October 8, 1935, a Tuesday night, a tragic episode occurred. "A considerable portion of Geyserville's business area was reduced to heaps of smoldering ashes shortly before midnight. A fire broke out in the basement of the J. K. Furgerson general store, destroying the store, the adjacent home of the Furgersons, and the old two-story Geyserville hotel building. Brought under control, many businesses were all damaged by the blaze. Windows were shattered in a number of buildings on the opposite side of the street as a result of the intense heat."

For a time the entire town was threatened with destruction, but quick work by volunteer firefighters and arrival of equipment from neighboring communities together with an abundant supply of water from the Russian River enabled the balance of it to be saved.

Milton "Dent" Rose, a longtime Geyserville volunteer fireman, said that the fire truck that the May Day Festivals raised money for from 1925-1931 and local men built at Lampsons, saved Geyserville that night.

I would like to acknowledge The Geyserville Museum Curator Ann L. Howard, and Gretchen Crebs of Bowersworth & Son, general merchandise, for info in this article.

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CSNA's 75th Anniversary Convention—Arcadia

(All photos by Lloyd Chan.)

CSNA celebrated its 75th anniversary at the January convention held in Arcadia from the 28th-30th. As the photo shows, there was an eager gathering of attendees awaiting the opening of the doors on Saturday morning (the show opened as well on Friday and Sunday, for a three-day event).



ANA Executive Director Kim Kliick holds the resolution signed by the California bicameral legislature congratulating CSNA on the achievement along with their commendations and best wishes for continued success. It was signed by Senator Bill Dodd (3rd district) and the Honorable Timothy S. Grayson (14th district).



Kliick presents CSNA President Michael S. Turrini with a plaque from the ANA in recognition of the association's 75 years of ANA membership since 1947.



Below: CSNA's governing body met to cover routine association business during the convention, Turrini seen at the far left.



Globe-trotting numismatist Robert Fritsch, member of many California coin clubs as well as many from other states (left), joins Kiick and Turrini in a documentary photo in the lobby of the Arcadia Masonic Center where the convention and later banquet was held. It's fairly certain Robert held the record for distance traveled to the convention, coming as he did from Nashua, New Hampshire, some 3,150 miles away.



Convention Chair Phil Iversen, a frequent holder of that title, is flanked on the left by ANA's Kiick and on the right by CSNA's Turrini while admiring the special 75th anniversary cake enjoyed by the attendees at the evening banquet, which was held in the entrance hall of the Arcadia Masonic Center after the closing of the bourse on Saturday evening.



Right and lower right: Turrini presents speakers awards to Jose Gallego (l.), Phil Iversen (r.), and Herb Miles (photo lower right).



Below: coordinating the banquet details was perennial Joyce Kuntz.





Mel Wacks Judaica Art Medal Award Announced at FIDEM Tokyo 2020/2021

At FIDEM Tokyo 2020/2021, the biennial Congress of the International Art Medal Federation, two medalists were chosen to share the Mel Wacks Judaica Art Medal Award, for Judaic, Biblical or Holy Land themes—Ewa Olszcwska-Borys of Poland and Romualdas Inčirauskas of Lithuania. Each will receive an engraved silver medal, courtesy of the Jewish-American Hall of Fame, and will share the \$250 prize money, presented by the Cincinnati Skirball Museum, home of the Jewish-American Hall of Fame Medal Collection. Wacks founded the Jewish-American Hall of Fame in 1969, and has served as its director since then.

Ewa Olszcwska-Borys' medal, titled $E=mc^2$, is described in the catalog as: "Albert Einstein predicted gravity waves first observed in 2015. The reverse of the medal shows the fusion of two black holes and the gravity waves this generates." The large (127 x 130 mm) rectangular cast bronze medal features a thoughtful Einstein in Ewa's dramatic personal style combining incused and raised surfaces.

The other winning medal, by Romualdas Inčirauskas, portrays Chiune Sugihara. It is also rectangular, measuring 150 x 150 mm, and described in the catalog as: "Dedicated



to Japanese diplomat Chiune Sugihara (1900-1986), who lived in Lithuania, in Kaunas, from 1939-1940. During World War II, he saved about 6,000 Jews from Lithuania, Poland and Germany by issuing them with Japanese transit visas. The medal is dedicated to [his] 120th birth anniversary. The symbols on the reverse convey the tragedy of the Jewish people." The reverse depicts a large Star of David intertwined with scenes of Jewish victims behind barbed wire fences of the death camps, with inscriptions: "6000 lives" and a quote from Matthew 5:6-10, ending with "Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Collectors can contact these medalists for availability and pricing information at eob@wp.pl and incirauskas@gmail.com. For further information about the Jewish-American Hall of Fame, visit www.amuseum.org/jahf.

New Concerned Collectors Coalition to Replace Consumer Patron Membership

The National Coin & Bullion Association (NCBA) is replacing their Consumer Patron-level membership with a new, *free* membership dedicated to collectors. The Concerned Collectors Coalition is for individuals whose primary source of income is not from the sale of numismatic materials. Concerned Collectors Coalition members receive a membership certificate and the association's quarterly digital newsletter, *Member News*.

To support advocating for the numismatic community, Concerned Collectors Coalition members will need to identify their federal and state legislators as part of the registration process. This allows NCBA and their lobbyists

to focus efforts on legislators whose constituents will be directly impacted by the initiatives so that they can contact them. It will also allow their lobbyists to create a clear picture of where these key legislators stand on issues related to NBCA initiatives and which committees they serve on before NBCA reaches out to them.

Concerned Collectors Coalition members will be an important voice in the fight for NBCA initiatives and will be called upon to help support work in the state and federal legislatures. The membership is free, but donations are vital to their efforts. You can still contribute \$25, \$50, \$100—or more—to support NBCA initiatives and help shape the future of the numismatic community. To contribute, visit <https://bit.ly/33lc6y3>.



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Maybe so much you're "drowning" in assets?

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

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



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. Submitted material may be edited for form or content...

Steve Albanese's Passing

Dear Greg,

I was sorry to read of Steve Albanese's passing in the "Farewells" (TCN winter, 2021).

While Steve was involved with many local coin clubs, I remember him mostly from the Glendale Coin Club during the late 1970's through the 1980's. He was a true collector and transitioned to a vest pocket dealer while selling off duplicates or coins that he had upgraded.

He will be missed.

—Michael Aron

Yes, Michael, that's where I remember Steve from as well. I know that I bought a few pieces here and there from him, and that was at the Glendale club's meetings.

Best regards, Greg

Bill Febuary Replies

In response to TCN reader Ryan Baum's letter published in the last issue, Bill Febuary forwarded the following:

Hi Greg:

I would be happy to respond to



Ryan's letter, but perhaps even a better way to respond is to refer him to a couple of my articles that I wrote and were published in the TCN fall 2007 issue titled "National Bank Notes of San Francisco" on page 20 of that issue, and another important article



that might help him as well from the summer 2013 issue titled "The Most Important Set of Books on California Currency." Both of these articles continue about the currency that was in the Krackover Auction Catalogue and would be helpful for more information about California currency.

—Bill Febuary

Fan of Hamilton and Wells

Hi Greg,

I really enjoyed the Jim Wells

article on Alexander Hamilton in the winter 2021 Issue of TCN. As one of our founding fathers and the architect of the US Treasury, seeing his portrait on the various federally issued notes is a well-deserved honor. I'd like to take this one step further and share some Hamilton images from obsolete currency. Before the Treasury started issuing currency in 1861, banks and

other commercial institutions printed their own, privately backed, notes. Several of which contained Alexander Hamilton's portrait. There are more examples out there but shown below are four nice obsolete notes.

Thanks to Heritage for the use of the images and to Jim Wells for his well-researched article.

—Rick Melamed

New Haven, CT - Mechanics Bank \$50 proof note. Undated, but likely mid-1800's. Hamilton's portrait bottom center.



1829 Bank of Macon, Georgia. Hamilton on the bottom left. George Washington and John Jay above Hamilton.



1845 North River Bank, NY. It uses the same portraits as the Macon note – Hamilton is on the bottom right.



State Bank of Indiana note. It's undated but from the mid-1800s. Hamilton's portrait on the right.



The Emerging Hobbyist

by Michael S. Turrini

(This issue enjoys a guest column by Matthew Malvini...GB.)

Our lives were permanently altered in 2020. A global pandemic, on a scale not seen since the Spanish Flu of 1918, affected every aspect of society. In previous articles, I shared my thoughts about this crisis affecting our hobby. Solutions such as online club conferences, and in-person meetings with social distancing protocols have been tried. Much to my elation, there have been plenty of coin clubs and shows that have acclimated admirably to these trying times. We are all making the best of the situation.

Recently, the CSNA celebrated its 75th year! I wanted to tie into this monumental occasion with a prediction. Where will numismatics be in 75 years? Quite a daunting task to predict so far into the future! Perhaps we can venture to the past for our answer. Since 1947, much has changed for coin collectors. Silver coinage transitioned to clad, copper cents became “Zincolns,” and the San Francisco mint halted production of circulation strikes. These changes created an uproar with the public and collectors alike. Alas, I sense something far more drastic is in store for us.

The year is 2022, and technology is within a fingertip’s reach everywhere we go. Take a look at America’s form of consumerism. Our society



continues to lean towards “has-sle-free” payment for goods. Digital transactions, cryptocurrency, and online shopping make our physical monetary system an inconvenience. Certain sporting venues, restaurants, and shopping centers no longer accept cash as a form of payment, yet it is a form of legal tender. But my suspicion is that some merchants are refusing to handle money because of the pandemic.

What happens if this trend progresses further? At that point, there will be no sense in minting physical money. Everyone suddenly became a coin collector once silver was phased out in 1965. The mass hoarding of dimes, quarters, and half dollars was ludicrous. Will this trend reappear? My instinct says “Yes!” As soon as it’s announced that coins and currency will no longer be issued, there will be widespread hoarding. My fellow collectors, I strongly suggest you take action now! Collect any spare change. Keep it aside. Check the Coinstars at grocery stores. Pick up that shiny cent on the ground. Who knows...it soon might be worth a small fortune.

Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society (EPNNES) Invites Grant Applications

EPNNES announces the opening of the application period for the 2022 Newman Grant program. Newman Grants financially assist authors and organizations pursuing original research in American numismatics. This program was launched in 2019 and supports research projects related to colonial numismatics, US federal coinage, counterfeit detection, etc.

Authors, researchers, and organizations are encouraged to apply for amounts between \$1,000 and \$5,000. Awards may be applied toward research costs including but not limited to photography, reproduction of material and graphic art services, database access fees, and travel. Electronic publications will be preferred as EPNNES wishes to fund numismatic research, rather than the print publication of



research. Newman Grant awardees agree to non-exclusive publication of their research on the Newman Numismatic Portal (NewmanPortal.org). EPNNES intends to make approximately half a dozen grants in 2022.

The Newman Grant program is administered for EPNNES by the Newman Numismatic Portal (NNP). Applications may be found on the Newman Numismatic Portal at <https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/archivedetail/530553?Year=2022> and should be submitted to NNPCurator@wustl.edu. The application deadline is April 15, 2022, with the grant awards to be announced on May 25, 2022, coincident with the late Newman's birthday.

It is the hope of EPNNES that this program will continue the legacy of Eric P. Newman in a way that would reflect his high standards for numismatic research.

Enjoying Your Hobby?

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

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

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

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



ANA Educational Outreach

by *Walt Ostromecki*

One wonders just how many of today's truly sincere resolute youth-hobby promoters, advocates, educators, and coin clubs have ever visited an online youth numismatic chat room? And furthermore, listened to and acted upon what many young collectors (ages 14-18) are saying and seeking from the numismatic hobby to become actively involved?

Three words pop up again and again: *education* (personal growth enhancement skills); *knowledge* (a basic hobby fun introduction about the hobby, coin grading and counterfeit detection training, coin values), *mentorship-growth* (including ongoing personal online and face-to-face support where possible from a seasoned numismatist who will answer questions, encourage and let the youth collect what he or she desires—not tell them what to collect, period).

ANA Education Committee members have been actively visiting numerous young numismatic chat rooms and actively listening to and interacting with youth of all ages. They have also posed online questions specifically geared to what young collectors, ages 14-18, in 2022 are looking for from the numismatic hobby, and what they expect from membership in a local coin club or state or national hobby association such as the ANA.

The results from 273 young re-

spondents (ages 9-18) on the question as to why they have no desire to become a member of a coin club or large organization is twofold: “They are boring social clubs for the 55+ age group masking as a coin hobby club not at all seriously interested in engaging and nurturing youth” and “lack promoting numismatics through education to the next generation hobbyists during the meetings because of a lack of knowledgeable adult members in the area of the numismatic hobby in general.”

As an FYI only six of the 273 youth who responded to the question said they might consider joining a club down the road when they were older or even as an adult. This is indeed a sad state of affair for both the future of coin clubs and the numismatic hobby! Several teenage budding hobbyists shared their observations with ANA Education Committee members on just how they were treated when they attended a coin club meeting. (It should be noted that none of the 17 who voiced their negative experiences ever went back to a club meeting!)

One 17 year-old individual minced no words when it came vividly sharing his first time horror story experience at a club meeting. It is paraphrased here as a wakeup call for others to see. He also posted it with the club's name on the chat room board as a warning for

other youth and adult coin club individuals to take heed! He had decided to go to the coin club meeting for one purpose, to learn in person about the basics of grading coins from its members. To his shock and amazement not one of the 25-30 adults and officers in the meeting had truly little if any knowledge of grading Lincoln cents. Not even a *Redbook* was at the meeting!

The teenager entered the meeting and was immediately “pounced upon” by an elderly man who said hello and quickly “shoved” a membership application into his hands. “Join us. I need the credit.” The teen remarked, “I want to learn about coin grading. Can you help me?” “No, I do not know anything about grading. You will have to buy a book! Just pay your membership dues.”

The teen was totally flabbergasted! “Can anyone here help me?” Again the “No, you need to join the club. We need youth members!” He turned and started to walk out the door. His arm was grabbed by the greeter who started rambling on about himself, his long-time membership in the clubs and awards, etc. “What an ego he had,” the teen mumbled to himself. “Come on, stay,” commented the individual. “Tonight, we have bingo and pizza night. Buy some raffle tickets and look over the auction items for sale.”

All the teen wanted was to learn about grading and not be there for a social bingo game and food. He sat down where the individual kept on talking about himself as the previous meeting minutes were read, debated, and corrected. This was followed by the treasurer’s report and club business. The teen excused himself to the

bathroom and instead dashed out the door. He commented to self, “So this is what a coin club and meeting are like. I came here to learn about numismatics not, join, play bingo, and eat!”

Well, this is the sad case of many a coin club meeting today. It is a turn off for youth, period. Oh, how is the teen doing today you ask? He contacted the ANA for mentorship assistance and provided the name of an individual volunteer youth mentor this writer.

He has since joined the ANA and attended ANA’s education summer seminar for which he received an all-expense paid scholarship, learned, and passed coin grading and counterfeit detection courses. He is now part of a group of ANA YN’s who mentor other YN’s! He has been hired as a 2022 summer intern for Heritage Auctions and has grown numismatically and remains in close contact with this writer! I am most thankful for a bad coin club experience that was turned around into someone great for the hobby! Some coin clubs and individuals just will never change from holding to past traditions when it comes to attracting and mentoring youth into their membership today!

I urge individuals and coin clubs to check out and see for themselves what youngsters have to say and want from our hobby and coin clubs today, not the past from 1970-1990’s! There is a lot going on there all can learn from. As an ANA member you can view and connect with the ANA’s online YN Chat Forum via their website: education@money.org. Use the click down menu to find YN activities and programs or contact Sam Gelberd Numismatic Educator at sgelberd@money.org.

Most Valuable Coin In The World - \$48 Million Gold Bitcoin

A coin selling for over \$1 million these days is quite common. Hundreds of examples have been sold at auction over the past decade. At the uppermost end of value for conventional numismatics, there are a few that quickly come to mind. The 1933 \$20 St. Gaudens double gold eagle that sold in 2021 for \$18.9 million is the most valuable. There are others such as the 1804 silver dollar, 1913 buffalo nickel, the Stickney 1787 New York-Style Brasher doubloon. But recently a new coin surfaced, and the record for value has been demolished. The highest valued coin is now a solid gold 1000 Bitcoin. Bought for \$4,905 in 2011, the coin is now worth \$48+ million. It was submitted by GreatCollections Coin Auctions to Professional Coin Grading Service who assigned it Proof-70 DCAM (if it came at a Proof 69, would it only be worth \$24 million?)



An astonishing amount, no doubt. But keep in mind, there is much speculation value attached to this coin. Who knows—could it be worth \$100 million one day? Or if the crypto-bubble burst, it may be worth just the melt value of the coin—a few thousand dollars. Thanks to GreatCollections for the image.

—Rick Melamed

Financial Recap of CSNA 75th Anniversary 2022 Coin Show



Income:

Bourse Fee	\$11,600.00
Banquet	550.00
Slabs	105.00
Registration	751.00
Door Prizes	619.00
Total Income	\$13,625.00

Expenses:

Security	\$3,080.00
Truck Rental	98.68
Kitchen Help	110.00
Slabs	675.00
Hall Rental	3,500.00
Banquet	587.00
Dealer Coffee	71.80
Advertising	506.00
Badges	28.41
Printing	176.40
Decorations	40.65
Postage	48.09
Miscellaneous	14.57
Door Prizes	363.00
Total Expenses	\$9,299.60

Net Profit (\$13,625 – \$9,299.60) = \$4,325.40

Farewells

Robert Benner

(Crescent City, CA)

CSNA life member having joined in 1958. Recently moved from Chico to Crescent City (near the northern California border), and now reported deceased by the USPS from our prior mailing. We see there's a Benner Mini Storage business there in Crescent City. Perhaps Robert moved there in his final days to be closer to family. No obituary information found online.

Harvey Gerald Stack

(June 3, 1928 - January 3, 2022, New York, NY)

Major dealer and accomplished collector, Harvey, who was NASC sustaining member (life) SM-64, joined 10/22/1962, died at 93 years of age. At the New York firm his father and uncle started in 1933 (Stack's Rare Coins, now Stacks Bowers Galleries), he was said to have personally conducted more auction sales than anyone else in the industry. See major media outlets for a more complete obituary, as Harvey was so well-known in the hobby/industry that his biographical information that's available online could easily occupy volumes of TCNs.



Enjoying Your Hobby?

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

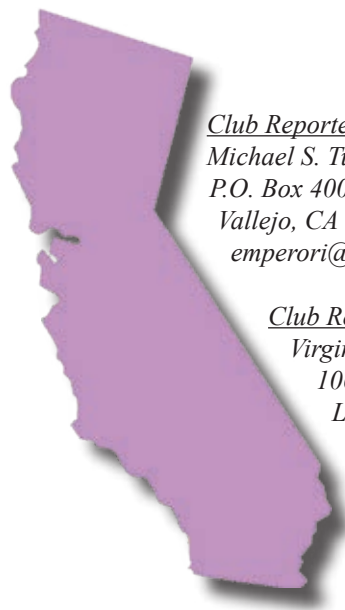
Who will be doing the research when the current crop of "greybeards" is gone? Better hope someone promotes it to the general population and gets young people involved at an impressionable age...

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

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



Around the State...



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Virginia Bourke

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Ginny's Gleanings: We stand on the shoulders of giants. Back in 1947, nine members from only three California coin clubs met together to create a state-wide coin association which became CSNA*. Two of those members were Leonel C. Panosh from the San Diego Numismatic Society and Karl Brainard from Bay Cities Coin Club which is even older by a little bit than CSNA. SDNS turns 85 this year and BCCC turns 75. CSNA grew fast! Within a year, there were 320 members coming from 65 California communities and 17 different states. Congratulations to Mel Wacks. He was recognized as a Numismatic Ambassador at the FUN show. In San Diego, Steve Fahrlander and Jose Gallego put on a spur-of-the-moment one-day coin show which was hugely successful with over 200 in attendance. Many of the clubs are having to find new meeting places with changes to their meeting night, but all in all, things are getting back to normal. "If we cannot now end our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity." —John F. Kennedy

* From San Diego Numismatic Society's first bulletin dated March, 1948 (the first bulletin in California coin clubs).

Michael's Musings: The pandemic's deployment of its wrecking ball on local coin clubs has been terrible: meetings canceled or relocated, club-sponsored coin shows terminated or postponed, less attendance, and the such. Even your club reporter has visited much less these past several months, and certainly at no local club-sponsored coin shows. Coupled with these facts, bulletins/newsletters

and news releases have been infrequent or with a few coin clubs, non-existent. Needless to say, this limits and hampers coverage, and one of the functions of our award-winning TCN is reporting on and about its member coin clubs. Again, hard-copy regular mailings from local coin clubs is preferred and requested, to PO Box 4003, Vallejo, CA 94590-0400.

Club Reports...

ALAMEDA COIN CLUB does meet monthly via Zoom, and email announcements in-advance. These Zoom gatherings usually have a program, most likely via Powerpoint.

ANCIENT COIN CLUB OF LOS ANGELES **Randy Butler** presented the December program speaking on *Byzantinobul-Byzantium-Constantinoble-In-Istanbul, Part 1 – Featuring the Hagia Sophia*. **Michael J. Connors** shared his *Drachm of Parthaspates*. In January **George Anastasopoulos** spoke on *Standardization and Quality Control of Ancient Athenian Coinage*. The new officers are **President John Borneman**, **VP Roger Burry**, **Secretary Michael Connors**, and **Treasurer Robert Effler**. Outgoing president, **Joseph Geisinger**, was thanked for his many years as president. **Mike Markowitz** did the program in February *Short Timers: The Briefest Reigns of the Roman Emperors*.

BAY CITIES COIN CLUB This club celebrates turning 75 this year but are saddened by the passing of long-time member **Bill Sudduth** in January. The December meeting featured *Coin-O* with the annual decorating of the wreath and tree with lots of silver coins. The club installed new officers for 2022 at the Olive Garden in Manhattan Beach. **Bernie M.** is the president. Since SDNS is the second oldest coin club west of the Mississippi, this club must be third!

BURBANK COIN CLUB **Phil Iversen** has been keeping members informed by humor, new coin debuts, and information on anything numismatic in the monthly bulletin. At this time, meetings have not been scheduled.

CHULA VISTA COIN CLUB This club has been meeting online all year with extended *Show and Tells*. In December **Bob Fritsch** from New Hampshire presented his informative program *How I Became an Enthusiastic Coin Collector*. which was done in Powerpoint. In January, the club finally met in person in the usual place and over 25 members showed up. In February **Daniel Siso** won \$45 from the 50/50 pot. For 2022 **Steve Fahrlander** continues as president, **Ted Koopman** as vice president, **Dave Corcoran** as treasurer, and **Ginny Bourke** as secretary.

COINEERS members are delighted with their new meeting place at the North University Community Library. The members took advantage of member **Brent's** hospitality and had a wonderful time for the installation of new officers at his home. They are **President Wayne Joy**, **Vice President Richard Tritz**,

Secretary Chris Dinanno, and **Treasurer/Editor Andrew Woodruff**. **Ed Lee** continues as webmaster. The interesting theme for February was *Antebellum America—Coins Minted Prior to 1861*. **Debbi** continues serving her delicious cookies and brownies.

COVINA COIN CLUB members enjoyed their Christmas party in December. **Dennis Rocklein** spoke on *Philippine Coinage* and members ate goodies and vied for great door prizes. An extended *Show and Tell* was the program in January. Dennis presented the rest of his talk on Philippine coinage in February. Also in February, **Lucky Jade** won the gold drawing prize.

CUPERTINO COIN CLUB did resume in-person/on-site meetings, yet attendance has been less than hoped. This club's show is in limbo, with officers seeking a venue and date. Your club reporter has been contacted by the club, seeking input to enhance the club. Several in this club have been quite active with *Scouting Coin Collecting Merit Badge*.

DELTA COIN CLUB elected new officers: **John Barnard**, president; **John Lopez**, vice-president; **Lia McVcker**, recording secretary; **Jared Moe**, corresponding secretary; and **Jay Coffey**, treasurer. **Ron and Joyce Korock** set-down after several dedicated years of service.

DIABLO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY hosted its *Annual Holiday Dinner* last December with Kimberly S. Kiick, ANA executive director, as its honored guest. The society now gathers in the Hoyer Hall at the Clayton Library, still on the third Thursdays.

FAIRFIELD COIN CLUB reelected its officers: **David J. Trimmingham**, president; **William F. Bartz**, vice-president; **Scott D. Griffin**, treasurer; and **Carlos A. Martinez**, secretary. President Trimmingham proudly reported the club has Saturday, August 13, 2022 as the date for its show, returning to the Moose Lodge outside of Vacaville.

FREMONT COIN CLUB continues to meet but has issues with recruiting officers and now has increased meeting costs, while its once renowned July coin show has been postponed to 2023. Much has to be credited **Matt Hutchinson** for his tireless efforts to coordinate and hold the club on a steady course. **Keith Scott** would continue as the club's president.

FRESNO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY This society is seeking a new meeting venue, having become crowded in the current venue, with growing attendance. Interesting: "New member Jennifer Scheidt works for PG&E and sometimes receives electric-bill cash payments from customers. She received a worn 1818 United States quarter, which she was able to keep. Incredible!" Simply, wow!

GLENDALE COIN CLUB **President Mike Kittle** has attracted people interested in coins from all over the world with his Youtube meetings. All GCC meetings are recorded so that members and anyone else interested can go back and review if they desire.

GREATER ORANGE COUNTY COIN CLUB members enjoyed **Brad Yonaka's** informative and insightful talk in January entitled *Let's Make a Numismatic Book*. **Dennis Rocklein** spoke in February presenting *Philippines Coinage, Part 2*. This club is lucky; they are still meeting at the same place and time as prior to Covid.

HEARTLAND COIN CLUB **John Weiss** shared all of the new 2021 dollars produced by the mint in November. The December meeting was their first successful hybrid (in-person and Zoom) meeting as well as the donation auction. **Andrew Woodruff** shared his complete set of 1984 Olympic coins in a beautiful walnut box he obtained from the "Coins for Kids" material. The 2022 officers are **President Jose Gallego**, **1st Vice President Andrew Woodruff**, **2nd Vice President Lance Dohe**, **Treasurer Darlene Cervantes**, **Recording Secretary Ginny Bourke**, and **Corresponding Secretary Kathy Bolieu**. Visiting from New Hampshire, **Bob Fritsch** was the auctioneer in January.

HEMET COIN CLUB **Bob K.'s** home was the setting for the November meeting. Bob is making arrangements so that they can meet at the Siena Dawn Estates. The program was an extended *Show and Tell*. The Christmas luncheon was held at El Zarape Restaurant. The officers from 2021 continued into 2022. They are **President Dennis Hogan**, **Vice President Phil DeAugustino**, **Corresponding Secretary/Editor Jim Phillips**, and **Treasurer Rafael Flores**.

INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO **Bob Fritsch** of New Hampshire provided the December program with his Powerpoint presentation of *Money Money Money Ancient and Medieval*. The January joint-installation dinner with SDNS had to be canceled due to Covid concerns so was held virtually. Bob again did the presentation. This time he spoke on *Hard Times Tokens – 1834-1844*. This talk won an award from NLG for best non-commercial for TAMS. **John Schuldt** joined us virtually and raved about **Brad Yonaka's** new book on *Mexican Pillar Dollars 1732-1771*. Members will be meeting in person finally in February in a new location.

LONG BEACH COIN CLUB **President Howard Feltham** is also the editor of the *LBCC Courier* since the shutdown. All the 2021 officers carried over to 2022. Members enjoyed an extended *Show and Tell* in December. The January installation dinner was canceled due to Covid concerns. **David Schwager** is working hard with the Long Beach School District and was able to confirm the meeting venue until May. April is planned for *Bourse Night*.

PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY elected officers for 2022: **Jason Macario**, president; **Dr. Charles Catlett**, secretary; and **Stephen M. Huston**, treasurer. Earlier, Jason provided the program at the society's November meeting: *Hunting For Hidden Gold*. PCNS ended 2021 with its traditional *Holiday Party and Potluck*.

PENINSULA COIN CLUB continues to meet and enjoyed a *Mega-Drawing* at its December meeting with lots of prizes. My recent newsletters have been misplaced; so, additional reporting was not possible.

REDWOOD EMPIRE COIN CLUB Sadly, this exemplary local coin club, guided by the three decades of enthused leadership from **Merle V. Avila**, was forced to cancel its February coin show, taking a terrible financial hit. *Show 'n Tells* remain a major enjoyment at its meetings, both in-person, on-site, and via Zoom.

SACRAMENTO VALLEY COIN CLUB Met in January via Zoom, and its hardworking and enthused **President Patrick Carpenter** gave a program on the French coin called *The Sower*. In the club's January newsletter there was an excellent article by **Rick Yadon** on "A Mysterious Standing Liberty Quarter." Titles for other published articles were not immediately listed; however, credit is acknowledged to **Nelson Sagastume** for assembling the newsletter and mailing it.

SAN BERNARDINO COIN CLUB Pies, coffee and soft drinks were enjoyed by the members who attended the Christmas party meeting in December. Door prizes were \$100 coins or more and competition was fierce. Lucky **Alex** won four prizes! The new officers are **President Alex Jaramillo**; **Vice President Ed Luers**; **Treasurer Don Lannon**, and **Secretary Vicki Jaramillo**. **Outgoing Treasurer Tony Micciche** was thanked for his many years of service. In January, Ed Luers gave a brief synopsis of the newly launched James E. Webb telescope which will circle the sun. **Randy Briggs** spoke in February on continental currency. New for this club is a scheduled 30-minute bourse session at each meeting.

SAN DIEGO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY members all enjoyed **Ken Spindler's** lasagna at the December meeting. The potluck was followed by a donation auction. New Yorker **Ken Berger** did the honors with pizzazz and humor as only a New Yorker can and sold everything! The joint installation dinner with INSSD was canceled due to Covid concerns. New officers were installed virtually in January by outgoing president **Greg Knox**. They are **John Gray III**, president; **Jeff Lewis** vice president, Ken Spindler treasurer, and **Ginny Bourke** secretary. **Jim Wells** shared his three ANA membership awards; a 50-year pin, a 60-year pin, and a 70-year pin. This club has a new meeting place at the Allied Garden Recreation Center. The February meeting featured **Bob Fritsch** using

Powerpoint on his talk *Evolution of a Coin Collector*. Bob belongs to over 55 clubs and is very active on the board of NLG and other large organizations. This club turns 85 this year and has ordered sample slabs from ANACS to celebrate the occasion.

SAN JOSE COIN CLUB via Zoom, distant coin stalwart **Herb Miles** provided a program *Anti-Slavery Tokens* at the January meeting. **Keith Scott** is also the aforementioned Fremont Coin Club president and San Jose, too. Al Lo, a long-time club devotee continues as the club's *Todo Dinero* acting editor, and the club is seeking input about its meetings and its coin show.

STANISLAUS COUNTY COIN CLUB has held both in-person, on-site, and Zoom meetings.

VALLEJO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY Just as things became normal, the society was forced to cancel its February and March meetings due to the Douglas Center's compelled closure. The society did enjoy its famous *Joint Christmas Party* with its neighbors the Fairfield Coin Club last December: 90 attendees reveled in the festivities, including a record \$4,225 taken-in on the *Mega-Drawing* plus enough *Door Prizes* for everyone and a second go-around, too!

WHITTIER COIN CLUB In December members enjoyed the club's annual Christmas silent auction for donated items to benefit the club. **Paul Delucchi** showed off his new 2021 Peace and Morgan dollars. **Steve Fortune** shard his 1916-D AU Mercury dime. New member **Herb Miles** was warmly welcomed. Their newsletter is very funny and informative.

CSNA Slabs Available!

Shown here are two sample slabs recently issued in limited quantity by the CSNA. The one on the left was issued in conjunction with the November Educational Symposium. It has an uncirculated Washington crossing the Delaware one-year type quarter. The one on the right contains an uncirculated 1947-S Lincoln cent issued in honor of the CSNA's 75th anniversary this year and the home state of the "S" mint. Those interested in purchasing them @ \$15 each or 2 for \$25



postpaid can remit payment payable CSNA and mail to Phil Iversen POB 5207, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413. Be sure to indicate which one(s) you are interested in.

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; klf1031@roadrunner.com. (NASC, CSNA)
- Bay Cities Coin Club**—meets 2nd Thursday, 6:00 p.m., El Segundo Public Library, 111 W. Mariposa Ave., El Segundo; 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; Website: www.calcoin.org. (NASC)
- Chula Vista Coin Club**—meets 1st Thursday, 6:30 p.m., San Diego County Library, Bonita Branch, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita; mailing address: 10601 Vista Camino, Lakeside, CA 92040; Website: www.chulavistacoinclub.org. (CSNA, NASC)
- Coincers Coin Club**—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., 4675 Tecolote Road, San Diego, CA; mailing address: 829 Portsmouth Court, San Diego, CA 92109. (CSNA, NASC)
- Covina Coin Club**—meets 3rd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., San Dimas Royal Mobile Homes Clubhouse, 1630 W. Covina Blvd., San Dimas; mailing address: Helen Desens, 282 W. Bygrove St., Covina, CA 91722. (CSNA, NASC)
- Cupertino Coin Club**—meets 2nd Friday, 7:30 p.m., St. Joseph of Cupertino Church, 10110 N. De Anza Blvd., Cupertino, CA; mailing address: P.O. Box 448, Cupertino, CA 95015-0448; email: CupertinoCoinClub@gmail.com; Website: www.cupertinocoinclub.org. (CSNA)
- Delta Coin Club of California**—meets 1st and 3rd Fridays, 7:30 p.m., Eagles Hall, 1492 Bourbon Street, Stockton, CA 95204; mailing address: P.O. Box 690761, Stockton, CA 95269-0761; email: deltacoinclub@gmail.com. (CSNA)
- DHHS Numismaniacs Coin Club**—meets periodically, Dana Hills High School, 33333 Golden Lantern, Dana Point, CA; Mrs. Mary Danna (club advisor), email: dhsnumismaniacs@gmail.com or text @DHHSNumismaniacs to 23559 for updates about the club. (NASC)
- Diablo Numismatic Society**—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Concord Museum & Event Center, 1928 Clayton Road, Concord; contact: President Robert E. Luna, 707-980-0618; email: info@diablocoinclub.org; Website: www.diablocoinclub.org. (CSNA)
- Downey Numismatists**—meets 4th Monday, 7:30 p.m., Downey Retirement Center, 11500 Dolan Ave., Downey; mailing address: Albertus Hoogeveen, P.O. Box 222, Downey, CA 90241. (NASC)

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



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Calendar of Events



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

We use www.CalCoin.org and www.NASC.net as the sources for TCN. To include your event please send information regarding the event to CSNA Webmaster Lloyd Chan at lchanfzx@aol.com and NASC Webmaster Jim Phillips at 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 1-2 **Fresno Coin Show**, American Legion Post 509, 3509 N. First St., John Ward, 559-967-8067.
- April 3 **North County Monthly Coin Show**, Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera St., Anaheim, Kerry Pieropan, 714-271-8946, www.pacificexposllc.com.
- April 23 **Vacaville Coin Show**, Moose Lodge #1967, 6585 Gibson Canyon Road, www.griffincoin.com.
- April 23-24 **The Arcadia Coin, Currency, and Collectibles Show**, Arcadia Masonic Lodge, 50 W. Duarte Road, Scott McNatt, 818-667-2329.
- April 29-30 **San Francisco Area Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Show**, DoubleTree Hotel, 275 S. Airport Blvd, South San Francisco, www.griffincoin.com.
- May 1 **North County Monthly Coin Show**, Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera St., Anaheim, Kerry Pieropan, 714-271-8946, www.pacificexposllc.com.
- May 6-7 **Sacramento Valley Coin Club Spring Show**, Four Points by Sheraton, 4900 Duckhorn Drive, Sacramento, Robert Shanks, 916-204-5168.
- May 13-14 **Visalia Coin Club Show**, Visalia Memorial Building, Memorial Hall, 609 W. Center Ave., John Ward, 559-967-8067.
- May 15 **Van Nuys Coin Show**, Van Nuys Masonic Hall, 14750 Sherman Way, Richard Murachanian, 661-287-1651.
- May 21 **San Francisco International Numismatic Bourse**, South San Francisco Conference Center, 255 S. Airport Blvd., South San Francisco, www.griffincoin.com.
- May 21 **Santa Maria Coin Show**, Elwin Musell Senior Center, 510 E. Park Ave., Ed Cohen, 805-937-1250.

May 27-29	Las Vegas Coin Show , The Orleans Hotel and Casino, 4500 West Tropicana Ave., Las Vegas, NV, John Ward, 559-967-8067.
June 5	Sacramento Coin Show , Lions Gate Hotel, 3410 Westover Street, McClellan, P. Macintosh, 916-317-9055, www.sacramentocoinshow.com.
June 18	Vacaville Coin Show , Moose Lodge #1967, 6585 Gibson Canyon Road, www.griffincoin.com.
June 18-19	Buena Park Coin Show , Retail Clerks Hall, 8550 Stanton Ave., Kerry Pieropan, 714-271-8946, www.pacificexposllc.com.
June 24-25	NorCal - East Bay/Concord Coin Show , The Clarion Hotel, 1050 Burnett Ave., Concord, Bill Green, 925-351-7605.
June 30-July 2	Long Beach Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Expo , Convention Center, 100 S. Pine Ave., 888-743-9316, info@longbeachexpo.com.
July 3	North County Monthly Coin Show , Embassy Suites Hotel, 3100 Frontera St., Anaheim, Kerry Pieropan, 714-271-8946, www.pacificexposllc.com.
July 9-10	65th Coinarama , Scottish Rite Events Center, 1895 Camino Del Rio South, Mission Valley (San Diego), Steve Fahrlander, 619-971-5159, www.coinarama.com.
July 15-16	Reno Coin Show , Ramada Hotel and Casino, 1000 E. 6th Street, Reno, NV, Bill Green, 925-351-7605.
July 22-23	Bakersfield Coin Show , Hyatt Place, 310 Coffee Road, John, 559-967-8067.
July 24	Van Nuys Coin Show , Van Nuys Masonic Hall, 14750 Sherman Way, Richard Murachanian, 661-287-1651.
August 5-7	Las Vegas Coin Show , The Orleans Hotel and Casino, 4500 West Tropicana Ave., Las Vegas, NV, John Ward, 559-967-8067.
August 13	Fairfield Coin Club Show , Moose Lodge #1967, 6585 Gibson Canyon Road, www.griffincoin.com.

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CSNA

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These Non-Voting Appointees Perform Special Duties for the Association

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NASC

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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; typed copy is also acceptable mailed to *The California Numismatist*, P.O. Box 1181, Claremont, CA 91711. The author's name and contact information should appear on the first page or on an accompanying cover letter or e-mail. *The California Numismatist* reserves the right to edit all items for format or content. As a guide to the general writing style typically preferred for use in our publication, please see the journal's website at www.calnumismatist.com.

Images—relevant to the articles and of a resolution suitable for publication (generally 300dpi 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, 2022

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.

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Rates Space	B/W	B/W	Color	Color
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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 President William Wisslead, in his *NASC Quarterly* president's message, thanked Ralph "Curly" Mitchell (left in photo), an NASC past-president and representative of the Franklin Mint, for presentation to the NASC Visual Education Library of the Franklin Mint film, *The Ultimate Achievement*, to NASC Past-President Ben Ableson (right in photo) a documentary on private minting in America and the multi-step process of producing coins and medals.
- *Calcoin News* Editor Les Lodge announced that at the past ANA convention (1971) the journal had been awarded the Outstanding Regional Publication award. San Jose Coin Club celebrant Rudy Gjurovich enjoyed having a medal struck in his honor as charter member number one. Rudy would attend shows dressed in a money suit draped with coins, medals, tokens, and bank notes, and was known as the "King of Coins". The medal was struck in copper, and two sizes in silver.

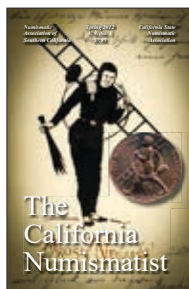


Twenty-Five Years Ago

- No big surprise, CSNA was making a splash about it's 50th anniversary. Joel Anderson was president and released a "solid wood golden nickel" (limited to 500 pieces) to new members, their sponsors, and selected contributors to the association. Theresa Lund stepped into the *Calcoin News* editor's role.
- Some themes are constant. *NASC Quarterly* ran a piece by Bill Fivaz and Jesse Martin titled "How Coin Clubs Can Recruit YN's - Two Alternatives".

Ten Years Ago

- An author TCN hasn't heard from for several years, Dale Hallmark, wrote the article "Prosit Neujahr!" (Happy New Year!) on the Austrian Mint's annual output of these specialized topical tokens, and which provided the theme for the issue's front cover. A chimney sweep is a fundamental part of the traditional lore, and the 1936 token on the front cover states "Ich bringe glück" (I bring luck), against the backdrop of an 1890s postcard with the very same thematic elements and sentiments.



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