



# Pocket Change

Special Holiday Issue

VOLUME 70 ISSUE 11

DECEMBER 2023

**SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:**

- Greek Coins
- NM Expo
- Silver Certificates
- Meeting Announcement

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## Greek Coinage Prior to Alexander the Great

By Tim & Jane Fuller

Coins were first minted in Lydia and were primarily made of electrum, a naturally occurring alloy of gold and silver. The earliest Greek coinage was minted by placing an appropriate weight of this metal upon a solid surface and striking it with a single die. After methods were developed to separate silver from gold, and the use of obverse and reverse dies, weights were standardized for many of the city states of Greece for the standardization of denominations, facilitating trade and change making. The time frame we are concerned with was considered the Classical Greek Period and was between 550 to 336 BC, just prior to Alexander the Great succeeding his father, Philip II of Macedonia to the throne.



Most often, coinage was used to pay taxes, municipal building projects and conflicts. Gold was used primarily to fund wars-paying mercenaries' wages and building warships (triremes). Most common local trade was still done with the barter system.

Individual city states minted their own coins, using city "badges" and patron deities for images on the coins. Major conflicts, such as the Persian Wars, the Peloponnesian Wars, and Carthaginian aggression became a catalyst for coin design, as the winner would often impose their own images upon the city states.

Athenian owl coinage was prolific for a very long time and huge numbers were minted. They often featured the Goddess Athena, the wise protector of Athens; the owl represented her wisdom. It should be noted that several other cities used similar iconology, and it is sometimes honored in modern coins.



Corinthian coins were known for Pegasus and Athena in a Corinthian helmet. So many varieties of these were produced, that some collectors specialize in just Pegasus coins. In Greek Mythology, Pegasus was sired by Poseidon and given birth by Medusa. He was given wings because he was "fast as the wind." (continued page 2)



*You are the expert. Do a presentation at a club meeting and share your expertise.*

(Greek from page 1) Ephesus, in Asia Minor, was known for the Bee, the Stag and a palm tree. These are fun to find. The tale goes that Artemis, the patron goddess, was thought of as a “queen bee” and her priestess for her “honeybees.” The stag represented a man who saw Artemis bathing. He was transformed into it.



Aegina was known for the famous Turtle badge. Early coins used a Sea Turtle, representing their prowess in sea faring trade and naval dominance. However, after being defeated by Athens, they were forced to switch to the Land Tortoise as they lost all maritime rights.



Coinage of Rhodes included images of Helios the sun god, a Stylized Rose, symbolizing Rhodos, and often the prow of a ship for Naval dominance. The depiction of Helios often was forward facing, a remarkable artistic achievement for the day.



Mytilene (Lesbos) symbology included the Lion, Calf, Boar and the head of Orpheus or a Gorgon. They minted their coins of electrum (43% gold) well into the 4<sup>th</sup> century B. C. Orpheus was a great musician and poet who went into the depths of Hades to retrieve his wife Eurydice.



Syracuse used Artemis and Dolphins along with the wreathed head of the nymph Arethusa. Nike crowning a Quadriga (4 horse chariot) was used to represent the Olympics. A side note: the horses were crowned to honor them for their achievements, not the driver!



Sparta, a major rival of Athens, included icons of Arethusa, dolphins and a Quadriga. However, they produced few significant coins during this time, making them all scarce and dearly priced, when you can find them. Ancient coin experts considered the coinage unappealing and lacking machismo.



A man headed bull represented the river Gela and thus the city. The symbols included Nike crowning a Quadriga, like Syracuse. This river god can also be depicted as a young man with a horn rising out from his head on these coins.



This is just a small sampling of the beautiful artistic work of the Greek engravers, some of whom included their mark on the coins and were well known and in high demand. There are many other city states with unique designs and cultural influences. Further exploration of Ancient Greek coinage and history will prove rewarding!



# Great Southwest Coin Expo

## Bringing Us Together

I sometimes find myself thinking: “Another coin show, so what?” But I get myself out to work the show and something magical happens. My club brothers (and sisters) greet me; we shake hands and laugh with one another. Dealers, more friends than business associates, exchange ideas and stories. I talk with show shoppers young and old. Some ask me about coins and collecting – others tell me they saw me on TV. Young children, their eyes wide with wonder, are shown treasures by their grandparents. My coin spirit is recharged; I am ready for the next show!



There is no doubt that the Albuquerque Coin Club volunteer spirit is the thing that drives our success. I am always gratified by the willingness of our members to pitch in to get the job done. Our November show was no exception with 33 volunteers working over 100 shifts. Our club heroes include: Bob Deurloo, Peggy Deurloo, Walt Ostromecki, Bill DeWeese, Tim Fuller, Jane Fuller, Peter Tabet, Byron Kesner, Matt Peacock, Steve Acre, Jim Derrick, Tim Cox, Phil Vitale, Chris Chavez, Jace Reeves, Hector Aguirre, Gary Fabian, Doug Wilson, Tom Stone, Peter Rechkemmer, Rod Frechette, Alfred Gomez, Marian Wrage, Pat Vitale, John Fryar, Robert Torres, Benjamin

Eckert, Kathy O’Neill, John Saiz, Carl Zdunczyk, Rex Borders and Ed Deye.

I would be remiss if I didn’t mention our special guests at our show. Clifford

Mishler and Walt Ostromecki, both past ANA presidents and multiple award winners,



graced us with their presence during the show. We are grateful for their visit and continuing contribution to our hobby.

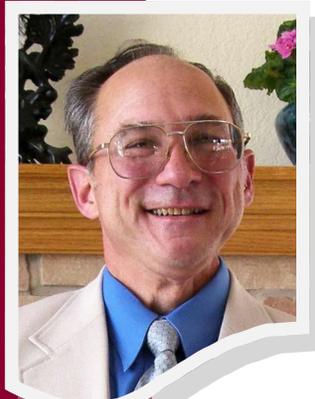


As always, I encourage you to get involved and pitch in with us to continue this great legacy!

## ANA News

by: Phil Vitale

My position as the ANA Outreach Coordinator is giving me insights on how the organization works and where we're going. I can assure you that there are many people working to make your collecting experience better.



Speaking of Summer Seminar, now is the time to put together your scholarship application. I can help you structure your application to improve your chances. The application deadline is February 15th, 2024.

ANA membership provides a wealth of educational opportunities. If you want to expand your knowledge of numismatics, sign up!

I'd like to wish all of you and your families happy and peaceful holidays. Share the joy with everyone you meet!

## November Presentation

by: Phil Vitale

### Large Size Silver Certificates

Phil Vitale educated the membership on Large Size Silver Certificates at our November meeting. The minting of millions of silver dollars as a result of the Bland-Allison Act of 1878 had many in the US wanting to own silver without necessarily holding the actual metal. The government approved the creation of silver certificates which were backed by silver and could be redeemed for silver coin at federally chartered banks. Silver certificates were issued between 1878 and 1957; large size certificates were issued until 1923 and were followed by the smaller size notes we use today.

The Bureau of Engraving & Printing had exceptionally talented engravers who turned out beautiful notes which Phil termed "works of art." This series had a number of US currency firsts: the first Native American centrally featured on a note, the first real woman centrally featured on a note, the first national symbol (an eagle) as a central feature, and the first use of a Greek Revival motif for a series of notes.



## The Coin Cabinet

by: Jim Derrick



I want everyone to know how honored I am to be able to lead and serve as your Club President in 2024. My goals for the year are to work with our new Board of Directors to provide outstanding leadership and management of the Club, to provide our members, dealers, and the public with outstanding Coin Shows and educational opportunities; to guide the continued improvement of the ACC Website with useful and easy to access information; to oversee completion of the ACC Bylaws revision; and, to recognize and honor our members for their volunteerism, educational accomplishments and achievements.

I hope you'll join me in a heartfelt thank-you to Past-President Byron Kesner, for his outstanding leadership of the ACC over the past 29 months. Reflecting on this, Byron oversaw our 70<sup>th</sup> Club Anniversary Celebration in 2023, where we honored our Past-Presidents, Life Members, and issued 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Club Coins. He also supported the numismatic education and graduation of eight Club Members, from the ANA Numismatic Scholars Diploma Program. He was very active during his Presidency spreading news of the ACC across the Nation.

Welcome to our new Board of Directors and thank you for your volunteerism and willingness to serve. The new Board Officers includes: Vice President Tim Fuller, Secretary Rod Frechette, and Treasurer Rick Tope and, Board Directors include Past President Byron Kesner, Rex Borders, Tim Cox, Matt Peacock and Marian Wrage. Thanks to all of volunteer appointees who help manage the affairs of the Club daily including ANA Representative and Pocket Change Newsletter Editor Phil Vitale, Advertising/Media Representative and new Club Parliamentarian Ed Deye, Membership and Auction Chair Jane Fuller, and State Fair Numismatic Leader Steve Acre. Also, thanks to our Directors who manage extra duties for the Club including Matt Peacock, Coin Show Bourse Chairman and YN Leader, Rex Borders who is Club Education Director, and Tim Fuller, Coin Show Volunteer Manager.

Congratulations and thank you to our Board Members who are stepping down from the Board of Directors. Special thanks to Peggy Wolff-Deurloo our outstanding ACC Secretary for the past 8 years and Robert Deurloo, Parliamentarian, for his many years of volunteer service. My special thanks to Bill DeWeese our Treasurer for many years, and for stepping in again in 2023. Lastly, thank-you to Directors Tom McCain and Morgan Bleth .

Congrats to our Award Winners in 2023: the "Johnny Plath Numismatist of the Year" award recipient, Matt Peacock, and Life Member Award Winner, Rex Borders. Congratulations to Phil Vitale, who received the first ACC Educator of the Year Award, and Master Cruz Peacock, who received the first YN Rising Star Award. I would like to also congratulate our Club Advertising/Media Representative, Ed Deye, who was recognized for his exceptional club advertising activities. Congratulations also to Eddie Tudor of Tudor Coins, who was recognized with a special plaque for his continued support of the ACC activities.

I look forward to leading our Club this year as your President and may it be a healthy and productive 2024 for all.

## Rod's Two Cents

by: Rod Frechette



Thank you very much for providing me such a huge margin of Victory in my race for Secretariat! I have enough horse sense to know this wasn't your usual horse race. I will not let people rein me in as I report on the Board's meetings. I'm off and running. Don't worry, no need to spur me on. I will live up to the mumbblings I hear about me being a real winner.

A shameless plug now about Pressing Matters... 21 of us have 25 of 30 shares in the 30-ton coin screw press. We are striking coins and getting some machines to melt, roll, punch and upset metal. Reach out if you have an interest in learning about how medals and tokens are made.



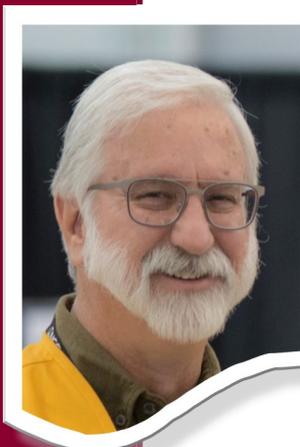
*Our club exists to serve our members. Get involved and enjoy it more.*

## Important Meeting Announcement

Due to scheduling conflicts at the UNM Continuing Education Center, our **February meeting** will be held at the Greater Albuquerque Association of Realtors, 1635 University NE (across the street from the Continuing Education Center). All of the normal activities and Zoom access will be the same.

## Bill's Two Bits

by: Bill DeWeese



For the month of November we had revenues \$24,410.13. The vast majority of that was from our Fall Coin Expo. We had expenditures of only \$10,551.41 again the vast majority of these were also from the Fall Coin Expo. For the month we showed a profit of \$13,858.72 which looks great but there are still some show expenditures that will be recognized in December as well as the expense of the holiday dinner. On the other hand we are showing a year-to-date profit of \$3,051.51, which is great to see.

Our checking account is showing a reconciled balance of \$35,564.03. The reason it is so high is that one of the CD's matured and we deposited it into the checking account rather than rolling it over into another CD. This is in anticipation of investing the extra cash into a US Treasury bill after the first of the year. We still have two CD's with a balance of a little over \$20,200.

## Dates to Remember

### ALBUQUERQUE COIN CLUB EVENTS:

**Albuquerque Coin Club Monthly Meetings** are held at the UNM Continuing Education Building located at 1634 University Blvd. NE, Albuquerque. Meetings are conducted in person and concurrently on Zoom. The Zoom invitation is:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85171996352?pwd=fXMfTrvAKNP2UFdCiUA3GRm6051NYq.1>

**January 29, 2024**                      **Membership Meeting**                      **Speaker: Scott Bucholtz**

Topic: Two-Cent Pieces

**February 26, 2024**                      **Membership Meeting**                      **Speaker: Rod Frechette**

Topic: New Mexico's Alamo

**March 25, 2024**                      **Membership Meeting**                      **Speaker: Rex Borders**

Topic: Ways to Collect - Type Collecting

### ANA EVENTS

**March 14 - 16, 2023**                      **National Money Show**

Colorado Springs, CO

**June 16 - 19, 2024**                      **Summer Seminar Session I**

Colorado Springs

**June 23 - 26, 2024**                      **Summer Seminar Session II**

Colorado Springs, CO

**August 6 - 10, 2023**                      **World's Fair of Money**

Chicago, IL

### UPCOMING AREA AND MAJOR COIN SHOWS

**January 19 - 20, 2024**                      **Tucson Invitational Coin & Currency Expo**

Tucson, AZ

**January 27 - 28, 2024**                      **54th Annual Mesa Coin Show**

Phoenix, AZ

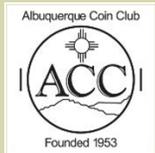
**February 23 - 25, 2024**                      **60th Annual El Paso Coin Show**

El Maida Shrine, El Paso, TX

**April 19 - 21, 2024**                      **Great Southwest Coin Expo**

Marriott Pyramid Hotel, Albuquerque, NM

## Albuquerque Coin Club



P.O. Box 11602  
Albuquerque, NM  
87192

## A.C.C. Monthly Meeting Agenda

The club meets the last Monday of every month, except December. Meetings are held at UNM Continuing Education Building located at 1634 University Blvd. NE, Albuquerque. We encourage and welcome visitors.



ANA Member Club # C1063082

- 6:00 pm Open floor trading and socializing
- 7:00 pm Call to order  
Educational Presentation  
Club Business
- 8:00 pm Break, socializing and trading  
1st Door prize and 50/50 drawing  
Auction of numismatic items  
2nd door prize  
Payment of auction winnings



Promoting Numismatics Through Education

## 2023 ACC Board of Directors

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