

Pocket Change

VOLUME 70 ISSUE 3

MARCH 2023

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Vermont Colonials
- Excited
- NMS
- Happy Birthday

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Republic of Vermont Landscape Colonials

by Matt Peacock

In 1785, storekeeper and entrepreneur, Ruben R. Harmon Jr. petitioned the house of representatives for permission to mint coinage for Vermont. The House gave credence to his preparation and gathered materials. Commencing July 1st, 1785, Harmon was granted exclusive rights to produce copper coinage for 2 years. Before minting could begin the grant also required Harmon to a bond of 5,000 pounds as surety that his coinage be of good and genuine copper. On June 16th, 1785, the necessary bond was placed.

Harmon's mint location was established in the northeast of Rupert, Vermont. In the small, shabby building of 16 x 18 feet Harmon quickly realized the regulated weight of $\frac{1}{3}$ of an ounce made the coin too large. The specifications in the grant were amended, calling for each Vermont Copper to weigh not less than 4 penny-weight and 15 grains.

Harmon employed die engraver William Bell who brought with him his brother Abel's die engraving tools and punches. Abel, a self-taught counterfeiter was caught and punished by having an ear cropped as a young man. Later in life he became a master silversmith and produced dies for Connecticut Copper Coinage.



The coins were struck using an early screw press. 60 coins per hour was the maximum output, although 30 was the average. Three people were needed to operate the press; one to place the metal, the other two to rotate the arms of the screw press. When first introduced, Vermont coppers were said to have traded at 2 to a British Penny. The English had imported vast quantities of half penny coins that devalued the Vermont Coppers to the point it was no longer profitable to produce them.

The Vermont Landscape type were the first coins produced. These coins depict a scenic, rocky mountain ridge forested with pine trees. The sun is shown peaking over the mountain at right. 3 different legends are found on this type. VERMONTIS being the latinized form of Vermont. (continued page 3)

Member Essay

What Still Excites Me About Numismatics

By Tim Fuller



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

As a young child, my grandfather would show me the silver dollars that he and my grandmother had saved over the years. Some of those coins were nearly 100 years old! Their local grocery store had dozens of shiny new silver dollars embedded in the automatic glass doors, which was really fancy in the early 1960's. These impressed me so much that my first purchase from a dealer was a BU 1890 Morgan dollar that I still have today. The excitement of a 7-year-old, holding a shiny new piece of history in my hands, became a quest. That same year I bought a Confederate note for 50 cents and my dad gave me my first Lincoln cent album. From then on, I have been fascinated with finding the scarce items, reading about the history involved and where they may have been. I think of the historical figures responsible for the making of a coin or note, where it might have been or who could have held it. Oh, the stories it might tell!

Having never pursued ancient coins, I was none the less attracted to them. So, when my wife, Jane, decided to collect ancients I was thrilled. This gave me the opportunity to continue my zest for US and Colonial coinage but to explore the ancients with her—NOW WE'RE TALKING! She has fully engaged in her passion and frequently seeks out the advice and knowledge of other club members as well as a few well-respected dealers we have gotten to know. It is so fun to watch her engage and tease out a deal on something of real historical interest, and I find myself looking for her as much as for myself when we are at a dealer or a coin show. As our dual relationship with coins has grown, I marvel at her ability to show a 2000-year-old coin to a child or another adult, let them hold the history in their own hands and then explain what she finds so interesting about it. Eyes grow wide and oohs and ahs are heard. We have recruited many new members to our club this way.

New members' enthusiasm excites me as well, with the opportunity to connect, share knowledge and ideas. The Albuquerque Coin Club has so many kind, knowledgeable and personable members, that from the first show I attended here, I was hooked. I found out that my interests were shared by many, and that I wasn't as completely ignorant

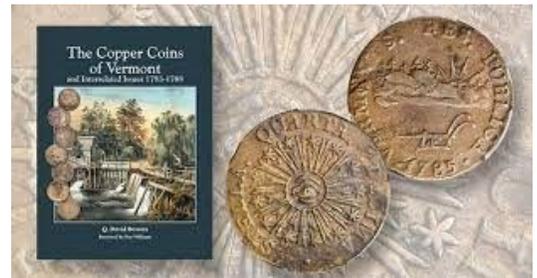


about these things as I presumed that I was. I have always been treated with respect and kindness from the start. This has made my transition to retirement, a sweet ride, as now I can do some of the things I have always wanted to do. The ANA has also made me feel welcome and valued. All of this means that I get to enjoy a hobby that I love and share it with others as I learn and grow. I can see myself still looking for that pristine chain cent or scarce quarter for many years, even if I am in a motorized wheelchair, but I love the people just as much as the thrill of the hunt!

(Vermont from page 1) VERMONTS is an abbreviation/typo of above. VERMONTISIUM is Latin for the Republic of the Vermonters. The reverse of these coins feature the Eye of Providence in the center, with 13 long, 13 short rays and stars. The rays and stars represent the 13 Colonies. The reverse legends read, STELLA QUARTA DECIMA. Referencing Vermont's desire to be the 14th state. Matter of fact, Vermont would have been one of the original states had it not been for a border dispute with New York that lasted until 1791.



The planchets used for the coins were of rough quality and are often seen today with planchet defects. Some 1785 specimens struck over Connecticut coppers are known. There is even a scarce double date to be found in the 1786 RR-8 variety. The Vermont Landscape types are not common but obtainable with some effort. In Fine 12 condition these coin types can be had from \$1,200-\$3,000. I find the history intertwined with colonial coins to enhance their study and interest. For more information check out the Colonial Coin references available for loan from the ACC library.



National Money Show

Like the shot from the starter's gun, the National Money Show raced from the Thursday, March 2nd, start at the Phoenix Convention Center. Dealers, collectors, speakers, displays, security, and auctioneers were put into action to make this event more than just a coin show.

The ANA sponsors two big shows a year: the National Money Show and the World's Fair of Money. These national shows bring together hundreds of dealers, thousands of collectors, and an array of lectures, displays and the US Mint for a numismatic feast. I encourage you to make it to one of these shows for a very special experience.

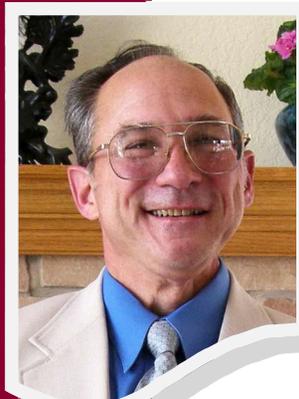


The King of Coins



ANA News

by: Phil Vitale



National Coin Week is being celebrated on April 16th to 22nd. This is the 100th Anniversary of Coin Week and this year's theme is "Our Money, Our Heritage, Our America." As always, the week will be packed with special activities for clubs and individuals. Our Coin Week chairperson is Tim Fuller.

Activities include:

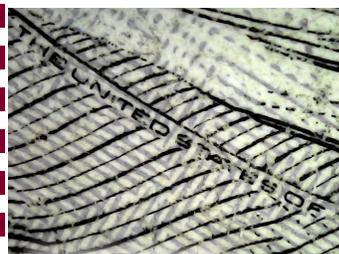
- Promotional Kit Giveaways
- Lesson Plans
- Club Trivia Challenge
- Daily Online Trivia
- YN Activities
- Daily eLearning Presentations



February Presentation

by: Phil Vitale

Our February meeting saw Rick Tope talking to us about counterfeit coins and currency. Rick told us about the primary counterfeiting methods (cast, electrotype, altered date/mint mark, etc.) and how to recognize them.



Among photos of counterfeits were a cast copy of a Fugio Cent, a Morgan dollar, a hand cut die Liberty Head coin, and a Flying Eagle cent with an altered date.



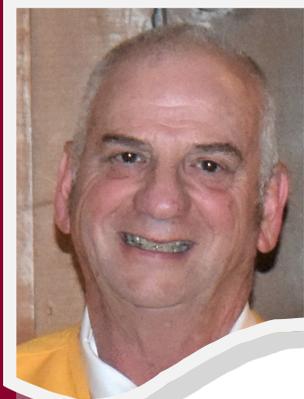
Rick also went over anti-counterfeiting features on paper notes.



The Coin Cabinet

by: Byron Kesner

March has already been an amazing month, numismatically; and we're just getting started. First of all, congratulations to Phil Vitale, Tim Cox, and Jim Derrick. They each passed the final exam for ANA's Numismatic Scholar program. They, along with all of our Club's previously awarded Numismatic Scholars, provide a great resource of knowledge to the ACC.



The National Money Show, this past week in Phoenix, was a great success. Besides my travails of travelling to get there (through Las Cruces because I-40 at the Arizona border was closed), I always enjoy walking through the exhibit hall and checking out the diversity of coins and currency on display. I saw some amazing items; most of which were way out of my league financially. Still, it's fun to walk from vendor to vendor and talk to them about my collecting interests and

what they have that would add value to my collection.

The one thing that I've noticed and have come to appreciate at these national shows is not so much how large they are, or how dramatic the displays of one-of-a-kind coins and currency. I've come to appreciate, more than ever, the comradery of seeing fellow ACC members at these shows, wearing our famous yellow vest. Everyone at the national shows knows the Albuquerque Coin Club members by our yellow vests. It makes me very proud that I represent and serve as President for such a nationally renowned Chapter of the ANA. More than ever, I appreciate using the resources of our attending members to get an opinion about a coin that I've seen, or ask a question about a particular ancient that I'm interested in. The other aspect of attending these shows on behalf of the ACC is the fun of working at our Chapter table, and meeting and conversing with numismatists from all over the country who recognize us by our yellow vests.



So, if you have a chance to attend a national show, take the opportunity to do so. The next national show that we, as a club, typically attend is the World's Fair of Money. This year it will be in Pittsburgh, PA, August 8-12, at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. It's a long way to travel; but the show promises to be a great show.

Please don't forget our own regional Spring show – the Great Southwest Coin Expo, March 31 through April 2, 2023, at the Marriott North hotel. We're still looking for volunteers to help out with the show. It's a great way to earn coin bucks. Be sure to contact Matt Peacock if you're interested.



Jen Kibbey at our table

Peggy's Two Cents

by: Peggy Deurloo



We're having a party and you're invited. The Albuquerque Coin Club is turning 70! Our March 27th meeting will forgo our normal agenda and focus on celebration.

Like any birthday party, there'll be a cake and other refreshments. We'll talk about the club's history, recognize people that have made us great, and present awards. Another feature of the party will be the introduction of new "club bucks" replacing the variety we've been using over the last 10 years.

Ladies and gentlemen and numismatists of all ages – we'll see you there!



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

Bill's Two Bits

Hello Fellow Coin Nuts,



As Gene Autry used to sing, "I am back in the saddle again."

Our revenues for the month of February were \$721.87. Total Expenditures for the month were \$1,997.12. Our three biggest expenditures were \$945.90 for the upcoming show; \$295.05 in postage for membership dues invoices and regular monthly postage plus \$500.00 for 70th anniversary and future award member plaques. For the month we took a loss of \$1,345.57.

Postage expense is not normally so high and the awards plaques are basically a one-time expenditure. So it is not as bad as it looks.

Our checking account has a reconciled balance of \$19,270.18 and we still have three CD's totaling a little less than \$30,700.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact me and I will do my best to give you an answer.

Bill DeWeese

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/85212076570?pwd=VThzSXZPMFNTTnlaSFZ0SHhQaGdBQT09>

Meeting ID: 852 1207 6570

Passcode: 983142

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|-----------------------|---|
| March 25, 2023 | Wee Are Hammered
Rod's office, 1 PM |
| March 27, 2023 | 70th Club Birthday Celebration |
| April 24, 2023 | Membership Meeting Speaker: Matt Peacock
Topic: How to sell your coins |
| May 22, 2023 | Membership Meeting Speaker: Rex Borders
Topic: Liberty Seated Design Coinage |

ANA EVENTS

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| June 17-22, 2023 | Summer Seminar Session 1
Colorado Springs, CO |
| June 24-29, 2023 | Summer Seminar Session 2
Colorado Springs, CO |
| August 8 - 12, 2023 | World's Fair of Money
Pittsburgh, PA |

UPCOMING AREA AND MAJOR COIN SHOWS

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| March 24-26, 2023 | Fort Collins Coin Club Show
Loveland, CO |
| April 7 - 8, 2023 | Waco Spring Coin Show
Bellmead, TX |
| May 3 - 6, 2023 | Denver Coin Expo
Denver, CO |
| June 1 - 4, 2023 | TNA Coin & Currency Show
Arlington, TX |

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

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