



# Pocket Change

VOLUME 71 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2024

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Seated Liberty
- Important Announcement
- New Members
- 2024 BOD
- The Real Rod

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## Seated Liberty Design in US Coinage By Rex Borders

The Seated Liberty design, used in US coinage between 1836 and 1891, has the distinction of appearing on the most denominations. And because of the many years of issue on multiple denominations, the Seated Liberty has the most individual coins of any design series. This article reviews how the design came about and the history of its production.

US dollar coinage was first authorized by the Coinage Act of 1792. The first dollar coins were of the "Flowing Hair" design (1794-1795). These were followed by the "Draped Bust/Small Eagle" (1795-1798) and then the "Draped Bust/Heraldic Eagle." The Draped Bust/Heraldic Eagle saw regular issue between 1798 and 1803. Several dollars were minted in 1804 but were dated 1803. The famous 1804 issue was made from original dies but not struck until 1834.



Most dollar coins were exported to make foreign payments. The silver content made them slightly heavier than the Mexican 8 Reales and they were readily acceptable to foreign nations. Also, the fluctuating silver price made them profitable to melt. For these reasons Thomas Jefferson ordered a suspension of the production of dollar coins in 1803.



Dollar production was again authorized in 1831, however, no action was taken until Robert Maskell Patterson became the 6th Director of the US Mint. He was tasked with developing a new design for the dollar. Being a fan of the English Britannia (1667 example shown at left, 1825 penny shown below), Patterson had the mint's chief engraver (William Kneass) develop sketches based on his direction. Patterson also commissioned contemporary artists (Thomas Sully and Titian Peale) to develop motifs similar to the English Britannia. Both these men produced similar artwork. Britannia herself dates from ancient designs.

Kneass had a stroke in 1835 before any coins were made. His assistant, Christian Gobrecht, completed the work based on sketches and artwork. Gobrecht created the first die and produced what is now called the "Seated Liberty" design. The first Seated Liberty dollar was minted in 1836 (photo next page). These first dollars are also called "Gobrecht" dollars because his name appears in the rock base. The similarities with Britannia are obvious. *(continued page 2)*

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

*(continued from page 1)* The US Mint used the Seated Liberty design on five denominations, half-dime, dime, twenty-cent piece, half-dollar and dollar. Each denomination had different dates of issue, but the basic design was used continuously for 55 years through 1891.



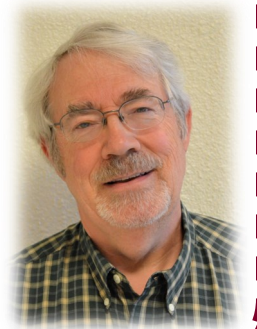
Various changes were made to the original seated liberty design over the years resulting in 5 or 6 types each depending on the denomination.

To collect every coin in the series is a Herculean task. A complete basic set of the series includes 472 coins. Throw in the major varieties and there are 508 coins, and with all varieties there are 642 coins (numbers include trade dollars, also considered a seated liberty design.) For comparison a Barber basic series used on 3 denominations consists of 221 coins. Early silver

commemoratives consist of 144 coins.

Still out of reach for most collectors, a more reasonable way to collect these would be one example of each denomination and type. This would include 29 coins. One of each denomination is obviously 5 coins.

Many collectors want to add an example or two to their own collections. Maybe you're one of them.



## 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.

## Welcome New Members

Charlie Maniaci  
Brianna Adinolfi  
Matthew Frechette  
Sarah Villavicencio

Manetta Maniaci  
Lisa Lifke  
Jack Dettweiler  
Laura Doty

John Rogers  
Marc Calderwood  
Raymond Saavedera  
Melvin Brown

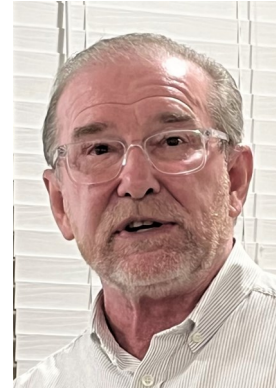
## *Your 2024 Board of Directors*



**Jim Derrick**  
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**Director**



**Byron Kesner**  
**Director**



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**Director**

## ANA News

by: Phil Vitale



National Coin Week (NCW) will be celebrated April 21<sup>st</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> this year. All numismatists are called to make this week a special time by participating in the special events to proclaim our hobby. NCW started a hundred years ago to “attract the general public to our hobby.” Popular events include the annual Club Trivia Challenge, daily on-line trivia questions, an impressive group of lesson plans and articles. Tim Fuller is our club’s point of contact for the NWC.



The new members membership sale is still on. New members can sign up for a one-year Gold membership (on line access only) for \$5, or a Platinum (on line plus Numismatist paper copy delivered) for just \$25. Prices are good through March of 2024. Please see me for an application if you are interested in this special offer.

The National Money show is a month away. This year’s event is around the corner in Colorado Springs on March 14-16 at the beautiful Broadmoor resort. Hundreds of tables, free lectures, special displays and great comradery await participants. Your club will have a table at the show. Block your calendar and make plans to attend today. Please see me for information.

## CONGRATULATIONS

***Byron Kesner and sweetheart Barbara tied the knot on January 26th at Congregation Albert.***

***We wish them health, happiness and love throughout the coming years.***

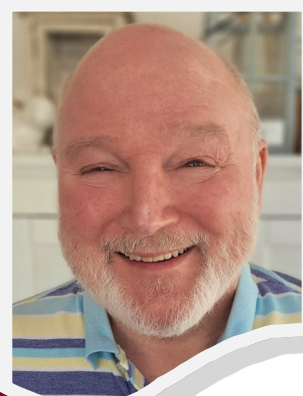
***Mazel Tov !!***



## The Coin Cabinet

by: Jim Derrick

Hello to everyone. I was lucky to succeed at auction recently and acquired a 1963-P Franklin Half Dollar, Full Bell Lines (FBL) coin, in MS65 (Gem) uncirculated condition. This coin has been elusive to find in this condition and only a few have been available for sale in recent years. It's one of four coins I have needed to upgrade my 35 coin Franklin Mint State set to Gem FBL coins. For me, this is the fun part of collecting and I hope you can find a treasure as I did.



We had a long January Membership Meeting due to club business. I apologize to the members and to Scott Bucholtz, our speaker, who had to wait until late to present "Two Cent Pieces". My thanks to Scott for a superb presentation. I'll do better in February with the educational presentation and quiz moved up to near the beginning of the meeting and our agenda will be more reasonable and on-time. **Please note, the February 26, 2024,**

**Membership Meeting will be held at the Greater Albuquerque Area Realtors (GAAR) Event Center, located at 1635 University, across the street from the UNM Continuing Education Center.** The meeting times will be the same.

The draft By-Laws were handed out at the January 29 Membership Meeting with a goal of having a membership vote on these in February. **However, I am delaying a vote on adopting the new By-Laws until March or April or possibly later, to give our members more time to review the changes and to respond.** If you need a copy of the draft By-Laws or would like to send comments, please email me directly at [jder-rick0702@msn.com](mailto:jder-rick0702@msn.com). You can also download a copy of the draft By-Laws and current By-Laws from our website at [https://www.abqcc.org/about\\_documents.html](https://www.abqcc.org/about_documents.html). The Board will consider some of the issues raised at our last meeting and I will strive to keep you informed of any new updates as we move forward.

Our Website re-design/rebuild contract is already underway with WebsiteMD.IO and Board member Rex Borders is our point person and Website Manager working with the contractor. Our new website is expected to be more interactive and useful to members. The membership application process will be available for both initial & renewal on-line and for payment submission. We will also be working to improve the auction process online for the future.

Coin Shows: The ANA National Money Show will be held at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs March 14-16, 2024. **The Spring Show is scheduled at the Marriott Pyramid Hotel, April 19-21, 2024. Please reach out to Coin Show Manager Matt Peacock for any dealer or show issues and to Tim Fuller for volunteering to help with the show.** Our Fall Great Southwest Coin Expo will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Albuquerque, November 8-10, 2024. Please stay well and healthy.

## Rod's Two Cents

by: Rod Frechette



*Our club exists  
to serve our  
members.*

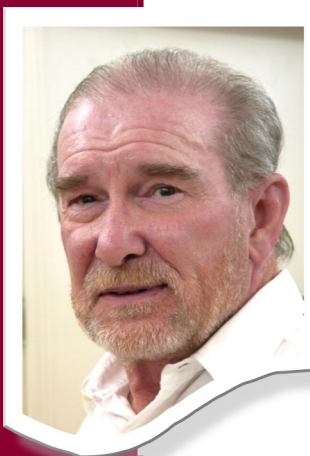
*Get involved  
and enjoy it  
more.*

Glad I have some friends helping me out with this dictation. I feel like I am working 9 to 5 as a secretary. There is so much to report I almost broke a nail. I still feel like a secretariat in a horse race! President, Jim Derrick and the entire Board are doing us proud. 2 ½ hour director meeting with excellent assistance from parliamentarian Ed Dey and input from Bill DeWeese and Jane Fuller. We put a bunch of initiatives to the membership at the monthly meeting. More was accomplished there than many presidents do in a year! Lots of discussions on each topic lead to 3 major votes passing 35 – 5 with a few abstentions. Passed were motions to: 1) authorize Tim Fuller to purchase a modern new wireless security system with lots of whistles and bells for up to \$1,200, 2) allowing treasurer Rick Tope to transfer about \$35,000 of our funds into a Vanguard market account for much higher interest while maintaining \$15,000 maximum in the bank checking account to pay bills and 3) authorizing up to \$4,000 for a professional web designer to remake our website and maintain it for the year with great features.

Major shout outs and recognitions to: Rex Borders as a new Life Member, Matt Peacock – Johnny Plath Numismatist of the Year, Educator of the Year – Phil Vitale, YN Rising Star – Cruz Peacock, Special Recognition and Appreciation – Eddie Tudor, Special Recognition Media and Advertising – Ed Dey. Excellent Presentation on Two-Cent Pieces” by Scott Bucholtz.

## Rick's Two Bits

by: Rick Tope



First, the basics: for January we had an ending balance of \$30,533.38 plus 2 CDs amounting to \$20,280.02 for a grand total of \$50,813.40. There was a modest income of \$1,673 and expenses of \$4,472.18 plus a \$2.07 service fee. The largest expense was \$1,549.16 for new website startup. We also had several hundred dollars in total printing costs. In transitioning from a printed newsletter to an online version it should help somewhat to bring down printing costs.

Next, we are making gradual progress on moving our savings over to a Vanguard account which will pay much higher interest rates. There are various preliminary items which need to be taken care of before that is finalized, but it's coming soon.

## 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/89460254208?pwd=wgHoZVdt9UeBcJhQdoWdSaK0YdBvsT.1>

Meeting ID: 894 6025 4208      Passcode: 241112

**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

**April 29, 2024      Membership Meeting      Speaker: TBA**

Topic: TBA

### 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

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

El Maida Shrine, El Paso, TX

**March 9 - 10, 2024      Mesilla Valley Stamp & Coin Show**

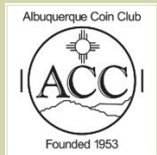
Las Cruces, NM

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

Marriott Pyramid Hotel, Albuquerque, NM

Promoting Numismatics Through Education

## 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

## 2024 ACC Board of Directors

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**Director:** Byron Kesner  
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**ANA Rep.:** Phil Vitale  
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**Website Guru:** ??????

**Parliamentarian:** Ed Deye  
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**Pocket Change** is published every month by the Albuquerque Coin Club. If you are interested in writing an article to be published in the newsletter, want to receive it via email, or just have ideas, please contact one of our publishers at the following email addresses. Phil Vitale: [moneyman75x@outlook.com](mailto:moneyman75x@outlook.com) - or Pat Vitale: [patvitale49msn.com](mailto:patvitale49msn.com)