



Pocket Change

VOLUME 72 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2025

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- We Trust
- Birthdays
- Dimitrov
- Club Activities
- New Members

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In God We Trust

by Rex Borders

*"Then conquer we must,
when our cause it is just,
and this be our motto -
In God Our Trust."*

These words were written by Francis Scott Key in 1814 and appear in the 4th stanza of the poem "Defense of Fort M'Henry". Our National Anthem, the Star Spangled Banner's lyrics are based on this poem.

Prior to the Civil War there was a movement to include these words on our nation's coinage. One such idea was produced as a pattern for the \$10 Gold piece. This shows "IN GOD OUR TRUST" in the banner over the eagle on the reverse.



The expansion of religious sentiment during the Civil War reached a point where the nation demanded the motto's addition to our coinage. The "IN GOD WE TRUST" motto first appeared on the U.S. 2-cent coin in 1864, the wording having been modified by the Secretary of the Treasury. The 1864 coin has two varieties of this motto, as illustrated at left. An 1868 certified example is displayed here.

hower signed into law (Public Law 84-140) a bill declaring "In God We Trust" as the nation's official motto. Congress further mandated that the phrase be printed on every denomination of U.S. currency. (continued page 2)

The appearance of the "In God We Trust" motto on currency came much later. In 1956, President Eisen-



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

(“Trust”continued) The first paper currency bearing the motto entered circulation Oct. 1, 1957, when it appeared on



the 1935G series of the \$1 silver certificate. The motto was



added mid-production such that some 1935G notes were made without the motto and some with the motto. Now these notes are cleverly referred to as 1935G No Motto and 1935G w. Motto. A “with motto” example is displayed at right.

Happy Birthday Members

January Birthdays

Paula Shelton
 Jason Elwell
 Pat Vitale
 Phil Vitale
 Jack Dettweiler
 Ed Deye
 David Destromp Sr.
 Bob Deurloo
 Alan P. Neuman

February Birthdays

Bill Norfleet
 Jane Fuller
 Stuart Simon
 Sandra Rudeau
 David Watters
 Tom Thurman
 Alfred Gomez
 Ray Shelton

To arms! To Arms!



The NM State Fair is coming September 4th through 14th. Start thinking about putting in a display. Also, the club will be asking for volunteers to man our area in the Creative Arts building. This is your opportunity to interface with and educate the public.

Member Profile

by: Phil Vitale

Aleksander (Alex) Dimitrov

I enjoy introducing interesting club members to our readers every month. Alex Dimitrov was born and raised in Bulgaria at the time when the country was part of the Eastern Block and communism was the political system in the country. Alex attended the Technical University in the capital city of Sofia with a major in Industrial Design; he wanted to work in the auto industry designing automobiles. Regardless of these ambitions, he “always looked up to the United States as the greatest and best country to live in, so when I was 21, I moved to the US.”

Alex arrived in the US without knowing anybody and had nothing. Like most immigrants, he started working in the construction industry and slowly got into the plumbing trade. After years of working for another company, he decided to start his own small plumbing business which has been his main occupation for the last 18 years or so.



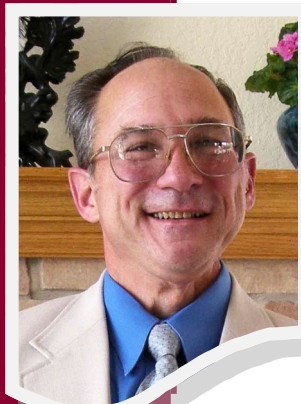
His interest in numismatics stemmed from his interest in precious metals. As a crossroad between the East and the West Bulgaria always had hidden treasures from the Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman Empires and it wasn't unusual for people to find ancient coins buried in the ground. Some of the world's oldest gold artifacts were found in Bulgaria making it a part of the local culture. In current times, the irresponsible monetary policy and constant money printing made Alex think of the hyperinflation and currency devaluation he had witnessed as a growing kid in Bulgaria. Metals seemed a logical safe haven and a piece of mind in future turbulent times. He started to appreciate the beauty and history behind some of the coins he acquired, and he slowly got into the world of numismatics.

Alex primarily collects Mexican Libertad, Morgan dollars, and Bulgarian silver coins. His goal is to learn more about the older US coinage and hopefully expand his collection in the future. Numismatics has become one of his passions in addition to soccer, cars, horology (the science of measuring time). He is also interested in traditional investments like stocks and real estate, and hopes to establish a portfolio of investment properties in the next 10-15 years as a way to support his retirement.

Alex currently resides in Rio Rancho with his wife Karina and kids (Alex Jr and Vladimir) and stepson Zaid. He is excited to be a member of the Albuquerque Coin Club, make new friends and learn new things in the world of coin collecting.

ANA News

by: Phil Vitale



I am reminded by Kim Kiick, ANA Executive Director, that there are a wealth of presentations and quizzes available on the ANA website for clubs to use at their meetings. I had forgotten what a broad array of presentations available. These PowerPoint presentations are narrated and ready to show. There are 22 presentations in three groups: General Numismatics, World Currency, and US Currency – I am impressed by the quality and variety therein.

Do you struggle to put together quizzes for your meetings? Struggle no more! The website also has 16 different quizzes ready to use. There are quizzes on the Wonderful World of Money covering general numismatics, Stars & Stripes asking people to identify money from clues, Women in Numismatics and many

more.

If you want to access these materials, navigate to the Community tab, select clubs, and pick Activities for Clubs on the pull down menu.



January Presentation

by Phil Vitale

Pre-War US Proof Sets

Our January meeting saw Scott Bucholtz educating our members on Pre-War Proof Sets. Individual “proof” coins were produced from 1858 to 1915; they were “shiny” specimens produced without special preparation. Production of these individual coins were eliminated in World War I.

During the great depression, FDR promoted coin collecting as “a good hobby.” “Proof sets” were produced starting in 1936 using coins produced using the proof minting method: highly polished dies, sharper rims and designs, smoother fields and sometimes chemical treatment to enhance the finish. The initial pricing for these early sets was \$1.89 (91¢ face value of coins plus a 98¢ premium with shipping). The number of sets produced in a given year were limited by the smallest mintage of set coins produced.

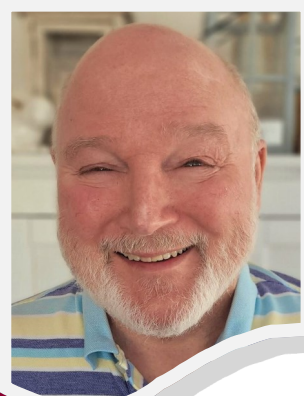


Proof set production stopped in 1942 for several reasons. These included the manufacturing priority for World War II, the need for more circulation coinage for increasing commerce, and the mint’s tasking to produce medals for servicemen.

The Coin Cabinet

by: Jim Derrick

I would like to thank everyone for attending the January 27, 2025, membership meeting. We had about 50 attendees present, and another 8 or more on-line via Zoom (Special Thank You to our long-distance attendees). There were several new members, YNs, and guests in attendance. I enjoyed Scott Bucholtz's excellent presentation on Pre-War Proof Sets and I hope you did too. Scott is our new Education Program Manager for 2025. Please contact Scott if you would like to give an educational presentation in the future at: scott.m.bucholtz@gmail.com.



The ACC Spring 2025 Great Southwest Coin Expo event is just around the corner and preparations are underway to make this a great event. The show is scheduled for April 11-13, 2025, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, in Albuquerque. The early room reservation discount of \$119.00 per night ends on March 11, 2025, so make your reservations by calling the Crowne Plaza Hotel at 877-227-6963 and reference Albuquerque Coin Club Spring 2025, Block Code AC4. Please note that the link will default to today's date. You will need to put in the conference dates you will be attending, for the conference rate to pop up. The online reservation link is: <https://www.crowneplaza.com/redirect?path=hd&brandCode=CP&localeCode=en®ionCode=1&hotelCode=ABQCP&PMID=99801505&GPC=AC4&cn=no&viewfullsite=true>.

We are auctioning off 5 older coin display cases to members at each of our monthly membership meetings over the next 3 months.



I would like to congratulate Phil Vitale who is running for the American Numismatic Association (ANA) Board of Governors in 2025. Phil has worked extremely hard over the years promoting and supporting the ACC and is a Life Member of the ACC. His efforts to promote education and learning about numismatics have been outstanding. In the past few years, Phil has led members to become Numismatic Scholars with ANA, conducted monthly numismatic presentations with KRQE News TV in Albuquerque, and presented numerous presentations at home and across the country. He is a former ACC President and Board Director and currently is the national Outreach Programs Coordinator for the ANA. He is also our Award-Winning Pocket Change Newsletter Editor. Please join me in congratulating Phil on his nomination for ANA Governorship.

The ACC is an all-volunteer organization that conducts three major coin events/shows annually. It takes about 15-20 people for each of these events we organize and promote. We recognize our volunteers with our "Club Bucks" Program. Participants earn \$5 in club bucks for working a two-hour shift at one of the ACC sponsored numismatic shows including the spring and fall coin shows, summer trade fair, and other club sponsored shows. Please see me at a meeting if you wish to volunteer. Club Bucks can be used at Club Auctions, Supply Table, to purchase shirts or other items, and to buy coins at scheduled coin shows.

Rex's Record

by Rex Borders

The Albuquerque Coin Club Board of Directors met on Jan 11 and Feb 8, 2025. Minutes were faithfully recorded and will be made available to any member who requests them. All members are also invited to attend a board meeting if desired.



I'd like to highlight two items in particular. Our website, albuquerquecoinclub.com, has been modified to immediately present the user with important news. Hopefully this change will serve the membership effectively. Currently the important news includes: 1) It's time to renew your membership, 2) Important Bylaw vote at the February meeting and 3) How to register at the Crowne Plaza, site of the April Coin Show, for discount accommodations.

Secondly, though our website, the club was contacted by the Cherry Hills Library staff. They asked us to put in a static display for the month of January. Members pulled together to complete an informative display which also promoted our club. We were also able to use the library facilities to present the "Hand Hammered" interactive presentation with Rod Frechette's excellent role play. Approximately 20 people attended including many kids. Everyone received a souvenir and a club flyer.

These two events clearly demonstrate the importance of our website to our members and the local community. If you know of opportunities for other community interactions, bring your ideas forward.

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

Welcome New Members

Robert Coffey

David H. Colona

Brian Pick

Peggy Moore

Patricia Lindstrom

Pat's Pittance

by: Pat Vitale



Happy Valentine's Day to you all! We are in the middle of membership renewal time; you still cannot pay on the website with STRIPE, so please mail in your renewals as soon as possible. The month of January saw deposits of \$2,846.61 from member renewals and Spring Show fees. Our expenses totaled \$11,889.06. This is due to our purchase of 37 brand new show cases, deposits for the Fall Show venue, the Club picnic in May, and payment for the Trade Fair venue. Along with the show comes advertising fees and the remainder of costs were routine supplies. Our closing Bank amount was \$27,859.59. Our Vanguard account shows a balance of \$31,145.74 for a grand total of \$59,005.33. As always, feel free to contact me with any questions you may have regarding membership renewal or your Club's finances.

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 person and concurrently on Zoom. The Zoom invite is:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9868085956?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9868085956?pwd=VU9lWlZQVJaQWJ2OG55SXI1R095QT09&omn=83395206733)

[pwd=VU9lWlZQVJaQWJ2OG55SXI1R095QT09&omn=83395206733](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9868085956?pwd=VU9lWlZQVJaQWJ2OG55SXI1R095QT09&omn=83395206733)

February 24, 2025	Membership Meeting Speaker: Brian Smith & Doug Wilson Topic: Mercury Dimes
March 24, 2025	Membership Meeting Speaker: Peter Rechhammer Topic: 100,000 Note
April 28, 2025	Membership Meeting Speaker: Rick Ewing Topic: Oopses of the BEP
May 10, 2025	Club Picnic Jewish Community Center

ANA EVENTS

Feb 27-March 1, 2025	National Money Show Atlanta, GA
June 21 - July 3, 2025	Summer Seminar Colorado Springs, CO

UPCOMING AREA AND MAJOR COIN SHOWS

February 21-23, 2025	61st El Paso Coin Show El Paso, TX
March 8 - 9, 2025	Front Range Coin Club Show Boulder, CO
April 11 - 13, 2025	Great Southwest Coin Expo Crowne Plaza Hotel, Albuquerque, NM
July 11 - 13, 2025	Amarillo Coin & Currency Show Amarillo, TX
July 25 - 27, 2025	Vegas National Coin Show Las Vegas, NV

Promoting Numismatics Through Education

Albuquerque Coin Club



P.O. Box 11602
Albuquerque, NM
87192
Albuquerquecoinclub.com

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.

6:00 - 6:45 YN Meeting

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

Payment of auction winnings

ANA Member Club # C1063082



Promoting Numismatics Through Education

2025 ACC Board of Directors

President: Jim Derrick
505-220--3219

Vice President: Tim Fuller
479-252-2206

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Website Guru: Rex Borders

Parliamentarian: Ed Deye

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 - or Pat Vitale: patvitale49msn.com