

Pocket Change

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Mints
- Birthdays
- Ewing
- State Fair
- \$100,000 note
- New Life Member

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Coin Production From Closed Mints

by Scott Bucholtz

I am fascinated by the history of the US Mint. From the earliest days of screw presses at the first Philadelphia Mint to odd denominations such as two and three-cent pieces to help spur on commerce to the modern, industrialized factory floors of today's operations, the US Mint facilities have played a key role in helping to define the United States both locally and on a global scale.

The need for mints dotted across our country has its origins in economics and politics in the years well before the Civil War.

Gold was first discovered in the Carolinas in 1799 and in Georgia in 1829. The roads up the Atlantic to deliver newly mined gold was treacherous; full of thieves, forests, marshes, and bad weather (just to name a few). Miners frequently lost their entire shipments (often a full year's work) or even their lives trying to deliver precious metal to the mint for coining. Congress passed

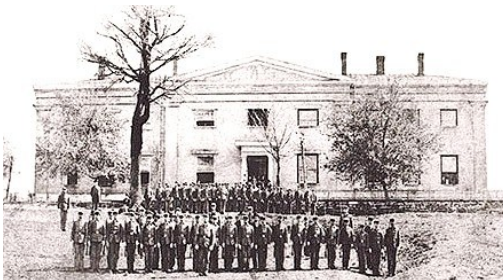
the Mint Act of 1835 on March 3rd of that year; this directly led to the creation of the new branch Mints in Charlotte, NC; Dahlonega, GA; and New Orleans, LA.

Then, in 1859, the Comstock Lode was discovered in the Virginia Range of Nevada. Congress acted more quickly this time and in March of 1863, legislation was passed to construct a branch mint at Carson City in the Nevada Territory (approximately a year and a half before Nevada became a state). A small US Mint was also established outside the

continental United States in Manila, the Philippines in 1920 as an economic decision to save money from shipping Philippine coinage across (*continued page 2*)



Charlotte Mint



Dahlonega Mint

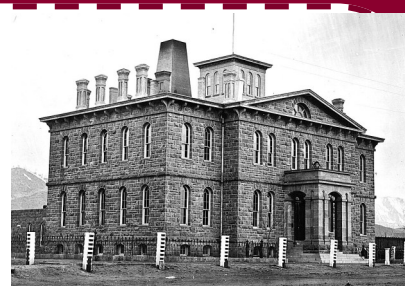


New Orleans Mint

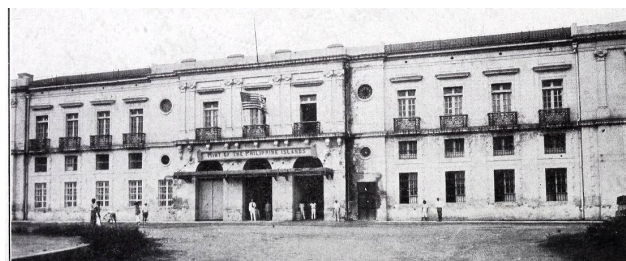
You are the expert. Do a presentation at a club meeting and share your expertise.

(Mints continued)) the Pacific Ocean (the US acquired the Philippines in the Spanish-American War).

While the other US Mints today (Philadelphia, San Francisco, Denver, and West Point) are still active, the five above allow us to compare complete coinage production totals. The Charlotte Mint (C) combined output amounted to a total of only 1,204,786 gold pieces (\$1, \$2.5, and \$5) during its years of operation (1838-1861). The combined mintage output of all \$1, \$2.5, \$3 (1854 only), and \$5 gold pieces struck at the Dahlonega Mint (D) was 1,378,663 (also 1838-1861). Eighty percent of that mint's production was the half eagle coin. All told, the combined output of the Carson City Mint (CC) totaled just over 56.6 million coins, with a face value of just shy of \$50 million. The Carson City Mint operated from 1870-1885 and again from 1889-1893. During its years of operation (1838-1861 and 1879-



Carson City Mint



Manila Mint



1909), the New Orleans Mint (O) produced over 427 million gold and silver coins of nearly every denomination; with a total face value of over \$307 million! This includes silver three-cent pieces (1851 only), half dimes, dimes, quarters, half dollars, silver dollars, gold dollars, gold quarter eagles, three-dollar gold pieces, half eagles, eagles, and double eagles. The Manila Mint produced 206 million coins for local circulation from 1920-1922 (no mint mark) and 1925-1941 (M mint mark). This includes everything from one centavo to the one peso (including commemoratives).

Happy April Birthdays



Bill Constantine	4/3
Joe Abben	4/4
Stephen Lynch	4/4
James Finnance	4/6
John Fryar	4/6
Marian Wrage	4/9
Kerry Renshaw	4/10
James Evatt	4/14
David Colonna	4/19

Ester Feske	4/20
Timothy Wintermute	4/26
Bob Stalcup Jr.	4/27
Ben Costello	4/28

Member Profile

by: Phil Vitale

Rick Ewing

The Eyes of Texas Are Upon You

Come to our membership meetings and you are likely to see a guy joining us on Zoom wearing earphones and a pensive look. Rick Ewing is one of our Lone Star state members making a difference in our hobby.

Rick was born in New Orleans, LA, but was raised in Texas and has been there ever since. He earned a bachelor's degree in Oceanographic Technology from Texas A&M University and a degree in education from Sam Houston State University. Teaching became his passion; he taught photography for 25 years with his students winning 750 awards in local, state and national levels. His photographic acumen was recognized at local and state levels, and with the national Disney & Eastman Kodak Armatale' Award for teaching.

He was hooked on numismatics from the time his mother gave him a Whitman folder 70+ years ago; he "never stopped collecting, just branched out." Today he has an extensive paper money collection with over 3,000

notes. He is a regular at the ANA's Summer Seminar and never stops learning. Rick furthers our numismatic hobby by his association with the Texas Numismatic Association (TNA). Over the last 25 years with the TNA he has progressed from member to District Governor, to President for the last four years.

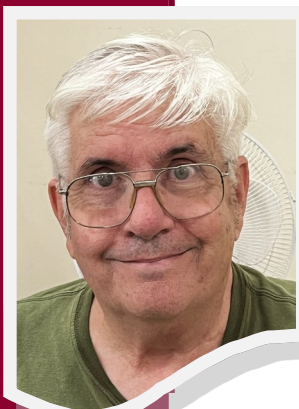
Rick has lived in Beaumont, TX, since 1970 when he married his sweetheart, Fran. They have two daughters, April and Alexis, both of whom earned engineering degrees from Texas A&M. He is still an avid photographer submitting many photographs into various exhibitions over the years. He is a member of the Photographic Society of America, and was listed in their "Who's Who" directory from 1982 to 1988.



State Fair

by: Tom Stone

The Fair is Coming Sooner Than You Think



The Albuquerque Coin Club has been displaying numismatics at the New Mexico State Fair since the club's founding in 1953. Our participation in this event reaches out to the public to educate them about our hobby and our Club. It also helps in informing others about the Club, attracting new members, and providing details on upcoming shows and events.



The coin display and competition is a public event managed by the ACC; we need members to do displays for the 50 cases available. Information on judging criteria can be found at EXPONEWMEXICO.com. We will also need help to set up our club area and display cases. In order to serve the public, we will need volunteers to man our booth and displays; we will be asking for volunteers as the event draws nearer.

We'll be putting out more information in the coming months.

March Presentation

by Phil Vitale

\$100,000 Gold Certificate

Our March meeting saw Peter Rechkemmer educate the group about a real rarity, the \$100,000 Gold Certificate. These notes are the highest denomination ever issued. They were printed in December 1934, and January 1935, as an accounting instrument to be used between Federal Reserve banks (there were no electronic transfers in the 1930s) and were not intended for circulation.



few that still exist are in the hands of the government.

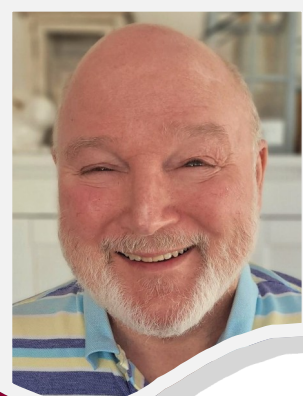
Since gold possession by private individuals was outlawed in 1933, it is illegal for private citizens to possess these certificates. 42,000+ of these certificates were printed, but most were destroyed. The

The Coin Cabinet

by: Jim Derrick

Congratulations to our newest Life Member, Mr. Tom McCain, who was awarded this prestigious Club award at the Great SW Spring Coin Expo on Saturday, April 12, 2025.

“Horny Toad” Tom, as he is known, becomes the 18th Life Member of the Club. Joining the ACC in 1960 (65 years), the longest active member of the Club. He has been a Board Director, educator, and mentor to our members and youth. He was the first recipient in 2021 of the “Johnny Plath Numismatist of the Year Award”. Tom has hosted many members at his metal foundry to help them learn about metals and minting. He has supported the ACC with specially minted coins from his foundry to reward members for their volunteerism. He is an expert in Large Cents and collects many types of US coins. Tom is a gracious gentleman and a faithful longtime member of the ACC. Please congratulate Tom on this well deserved award recognition.



Speaking of coins, I am an avid Franklin Half Dollar Collector and have complete Proof and Mint State certified sets. My Mint State set includes 35 coins certified by PCGS and NGC, all MS65 or higher with Full Bell Lines (FBL), except for the elusive and expensive 1953 S FBL Coin, valued at about 40K-60K in MS65FBL. Recently I upgraded my MS set with a **1961 D MS66 FBL coin** (pictured). It was a thrill to purchase this coin as they become more difficult to find and acquire. It is a continuous passion and why I joined the ACC and the ANA.



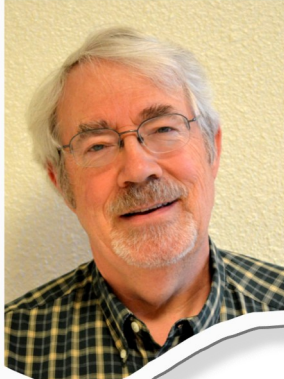
The ACC Display Case upgrade has been completed with the Arizona Case Company. The ACC was fortunate to purchase and replace all our older cases with 76 new silver, single lock display cases, and 10 gold, double lock display cases. The funding was made possible with proceeds from past member Dick Kisluk's Coin Donation made in 2022. The gold, double lock, display cases will be used to display Dick's Coin Collection.

The Spring Picnic is also coming soon and is scheduled for Saturday, May 10, 2025, from 1-4 PM at the Jewish Community Center (JCC). ACC Board Director, Marian Wrage, is handling the sign-up list for the picnic. Adults pay only \$2 for admission and kids are free. There will be hot dogs, hamburgers, salad, sodas, and chips. Members are encouraged to bring a side dish or dessert. Please see Pat (Marian isn't available) at the April 28 Membership meeting or email her at patvitale49@msn.com to get on the sign-up list.

Do you enjoy writing or journalism? The ACC is currently recruiting for a volunteer to replace Mr. Phil Vitale, as our outstanding Pocket Change Newsletter Editor. If you are interested in learning this role and continuing the award-winning tradition that Phil has set for the ACC, please contact me to discuss this opportunity.

Rex's Record

by Rex Borders



The March membership meeting was held March 31, 2025. Peter Rechkemmer, as YN Manager, worked with 3 YNs prior to the meeting. The general membership meeting saw about 40 people in attendance. One new member was introduced. Several people attended via zoom. Peter R. gave an excellent presentation on the largest denomination banknote ever produced in US history, the \$100,000 bill.

I've started to wonder what we, as a club, could do to encourage more attendance. The Club has over 160 members and we need to strive for better participation. Imagine how vibrant and energetic the meeting would be if only 50% of the membership attended the meetings. If you have any suggestion as to what we could do to attract greater in-person attendance, please share your ideas with any board member.

Membership in the ACC is on a calendar year basis. Membership renewals are due by April 15th in accordance with our by-laws. Failure to renew will result in your being dropped from the membership rolls and you will not get further emails including the award-winning Pocket Change newsletter.

The ACC Board of Directors held their monthly Board meeting on April 5, 2025. Highlights of the meeting included updates on our new case purchases, a major upgrade to the Club assets. We were also briefed on the Spring Coin Show preparations including logistics, security and advertising. A reminder that anyone can attend the board meeting if desired, normally on the second Saturday of the month, 10:00 @ the Bear Canyon Senior Center.

The Club always needs member volunteers for a host of activities. If you are not already volunteering, please consider helping out. I firmly believe that once you volunteer for club activities you will get more out of your membership.

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

Pat's Pittance

by: Pat Vitale



Happy Easter to everyone! This year is just flying by too quickly for me. Our Spring Coin Show will be over by the time you read this, but right now we are all gearing up for it. We had deposits totaling \$5,066.85 from membership renewals and Show fees. Our expenses totaled \$12,983.34. This amount was mainly due to the arrival of the remaining 48 display cases, purchase of more tables, Show advertising and our recurring monthly expenses. Our checking account closed out the month at \$19,341.11. The Vanguard account is at \$31,359.75. This puts our monetary assets at \$50,700.86. If you have any ques-

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.

April 28, 2025 Membership Meeting Speaker: Rick Ewing

Topic: Oopses of the BEP

May 10, 2025 Club Picnic

Jewish Community Center

May 19, 2025 Membership Meeting Speaker: Rex Borders

Topic: "Going Deutsch"

June 30, 2025 Membership Meeting Speaker: John Saiz

Topic: Pre Euro Coins

ANA EVENTS

June 21 - July 3, 2025 Summer Seminar

Colorado Springs, CO

August 19 - 23, 2025 World's Fair of Money

Oklahoma City, OK

UPCOMING AREA AND MAJOR COIN SHOWS

May 30 - June 1, 2025 TNA Coin & Currency Show

Conroe, TX

June 26 - 28, 2025 Springs Coin Show

Colorado Springs, CO

July 11 - 13, 2025 Amarillo Coin & Currency Show

Amarillo, TX

July 25 - 27, 2025 Vegas National Coin Show

Las Vegas, NV

August 16, 2025 ACC Trade Fair

UNM Continuing Education Center

November 7 - 9, 2025 Great Southwest Coin Expo

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Albuquerque, NM

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

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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 - or Pat Vitale: patvitale49msn.com