Albuquerque Coin Club
ACC
Founded 1953

Pocket Change

VOLUME 73 ISSUE 7 JULY 2026

August State Fair Display set up Fri. 21 & Sat.22

State Fair Sept. 10—20 Do a shift for FREE admission

CONGRATS New VP Byron Kesner New Director Jane Fuller



Revisiting the Continental Dollar

Mystery Coin Article - Published in May 2026, Pocket Change Newsletter Issue.

By Jim Derrick

Following my article about the Continental Dollar Mystery Coin in the May 2026 issue of the Pocket Change Newsletter, I was contacted by ANA Numismatic Hall of Fame member Mr. Joe Boling, who is also an active member of the Albuquerque Coin Club. Mr. Boling recommended that I look at the newer research regarding the Continental Dollar Coin in the past issues of the ANA (American Numismatic Association) Numismatist Journals, and the Numismatic Bibliomania Society Electronic Newsletter "The E-Sylum." Below is a summary of the more recent research I was led to by Mr. Boling.

In the January and July 2018 issues of the Numismatist, there were two articles on the "Myth of the Continental Dollar" by authors Eric Goldstein & David McCarthy. The Authors shared several pieces of evidence showing the Continental Dollar Coin, although dated 1776, was not minted until about 1783, and was produced as a commemorative medal at an unknown mint in Great Britian or Europe. I will briefly discuss some of the evidence the Authors provided here, but I recommend you read the article by the Authors to fully understand the evidence they shared. You may access the article entitled "The Myth of the Continental Dollar" part 1 at this online address: https://blog.money.org/coin-collecting/myth-of-the-continental-dollar-1; and access part 2 at this online address: https://blog.money.org/coin-collecting/myth-of-the-continental-dollar-2.

There is also a commentary from the Newman Numismatic Portal regarding Numismatic Scholar Eric P. Newman's early research, which discusses his research findings in relationship to the information the Authors provided in 2018. The commentary states Newman was aware of the rumored findings but could not locate the diary of du Simitiere to confirm these. It points out that du Simitiere's documents were later found in the Library of Congress in 2017 by Author Goldstein. I recommend you review this Newman Numismatic Portal document dated March 31, 2018, entitled "Continental Dollars Revisited" at https://nnp.wustl.edu/blog-post/516273.

It provides links to some of the research gathered by Eric P. Newman, and states that Newman believed the Continental Dollar "FUGIO COIN" was an American issue.

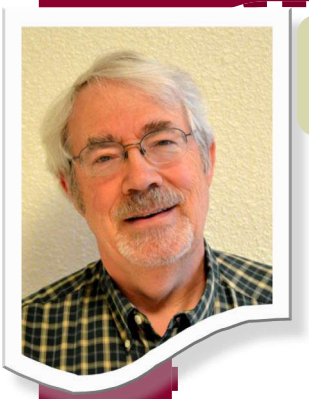
The authors show evidence that the Continental Dollar Coin was minted in Great Britian or Europe as a medal to celebrate the end of the American Revolution. The evidence they located was in the writings of early Historian and Numismatist Pierre Eugene du Simitiere (1737 – 1784) of America, and Ms. Sarah Sophia Banks (1734 – 1818), a Numismatist Collector in Great Britian.

Mr. du Simitiere, a Swiss immigrant, was known as the "Father of American Numismatics" during the time of the American Revolution. He researched, collected, and catalogued coins, medals and paper money during the time of the Revolution but did not have any earlier knowledge of the Continental Dollar Coin or possess the coin at the time of his death in 1784. The Authors pointed out that if the Continental Dollar Coin had been minted in the U.S., Mr. du Simitiere would have known about it. Mr. du Simitiere's was preparing to author a book about the American Revolution, titled "Common Place Book" that would include entries about coins, medals, and paper money of the American Revolution. The book was not written before he died, but his intended additions to the draft book included an entry #18, which read: "A coin of the size of a Crown, with devices and Mottos taken from the continental money, Struck't in London on type-medal and dated 1776."

The Authors found additional evidence in the writings of Ms. Sarah Sophia Banks (1734 – 1818) of Great Britian. The Authors state Ms. Banks could be known as the "matron of British Museum's numismatic holdings." Her eight volumes of numismatic notes included written evidence on the Continental Dollar Coin. In her pre-1790 catalogue of acquisitions (9,000 pieces), the Continental Dollar Coin in her collection was described as a "Congress Dollar, 1776, never current, struck on speculation in Europe, for sale in America…."

Near the end of her life, Ms. Banks mentioned the Continental Dollar Coin again in a new ledger where she restated her beliefs of the coin and wrote in her own hand on a tipped-in flier, stating "N.B. Representing the Paper Currency of a Dollar, which goes for four shillings and six pence in that Country…." The flier further completely describes the Continental Dollar Coin as we know it, including both obverse and reverse and the abbreviation "EG FECIT, its maker's name.

I encourage those interested to use the online links provided to read the documents about this important Coin/Medal. The 2018 articles by Eric Goldstein & David McCarthy provide fascinating information on the Continental Dollar Coin/Medal, but it is too much information for this brief overview. I ask that you draw your own conclusions about the Continental Dollar Coin/Medal. For me, learning this newer information about the Coin/Medal adds to my knowledge and understanding of this wonderful piece and the rich history of Benjamin Franklin's designs of the FUGIO themed coins and paper banknotes. This has been a fun study, and I thank Numismatic Hall of Fame member Joe Boling for guiding me on this quest to learn more about the Continental Dollar Coin/Medal.



Rex's Record

by Rex Borders

Hello everyone. I hope you are having an enjoyable summer. The coin club continues to be active with general membership meetings, board meeting and State Fair preparations. Plus you may have been fortunate enough to attend the ANA Summer Seminar.

The ACC General Membership Meeting was held June 29 with about 45 members in attendance. Peter Reckhemmer held a YN session between 6-7:00 pm. Jim Derrick opened the meeting at 7:00 and welcomed everyone including new members. Yours truly was the featured speaker for the evening. My talk was entitled "Learning your AMCs" where I discussed the WWII special currencies including Allied Military Currency created in the period. AMCs were issued in six countries and used by Allied troops and citizens in the occupied/liberated countries. The government recognized the need to restrict access to normal US dollars should they be captured and to limit inflation in the countries resulting in the influx of large amounts of currency. Also the Allies wanted a currency that was a symbol of unity.

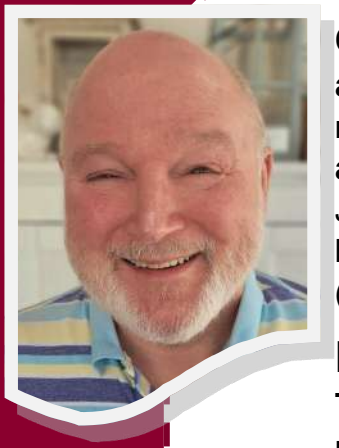
After a break, Tim Cox talked about the State Fair volunteers needs. Rod Frechette is our club manager for the fair this year. I also talked with focus on entering a display. **Why is the State Fair important to the ACC?** The ACC has been associated with the NM State Fair since the club's creation in 1953. This event is the primary method in which ACC can reach out to the general public. Although our shows are well attended, most show attendees are already collectors. The State Fair gives the club a chance to encourage the collecting hobby and attract new members. We do this with displays and personal interactions with the public, coin giveaways and lectures. The rules to enter a numismatic display is on our web site. They can also be found by searching NM State Fair Creative Arts Numismatics or clicking https://statefair.exponm.com/p/participate/competitions/creative-arts. Creating a display is an enjoyable way to share your numismatic interests. Many categories of items are available to compete in, coins, currency, medals, tokens, etc. You can compete for prizes including, cash, ribbons, and bragging rights. Two of our club's most prestigious awards are given at the State Fair. The Special Grand Award is known as the Bernie Linhart Memorial Award and the People's Choice Award - Rosette is known as the Steve Acre People's Choice Award. You must enter your display(s) on Friday or Saturday August 21/22. There us a $5 fee for 1 or more entries. This will be reimbursed in club bucks if you submit your receipt to our Treasurer.

The ACC Board of Directors met for a routinely scheduled meeting on July 11. Business through the end of the year was discussed. This includes the State Fair, November Coin Expo, and Holiday Dinner. Also meetings, educational plans, web site updates, membership report, YN report and finances.

Please talk to any officer of the club if you have questions. Also please help your club put their best foot forward at the New Mexico State Fair. Happy collecting.

The Coin Cabinet

by: Jim Derrick



Our congratulations to both Byron Kesner and Jane Fuller, who are both appointed to new roles on the ACC Board of Directors. Byron was appointed in June as Interim Vice President, and Jane was appointed in July as Interim Director. Many thanks to both Byron and Jane for volunteering. New Officer and Director nominations for 2027 will begin at the September Membership Meeting, with nominee voting (mailed ballot) by members in early November 2026.

HAPPY 250TH BIRTHDAY OF THE U.S.

The Albuquerque Coin Club is celebrating this event with commemorative 250th anniversary Club Bucks including the $10 French Liberte Club Bucks, $15 Mexican Libertad Club Blucks, and the $20 American Liberty Club Buck coins. If you would like to acquire one of these commemorative coins, you can purchase them at face value, exchange your existing Club Bucks for these, or earn them by volunteering at upcoming Fall 2026 Coin Show, scheduled for November 13-15, 2026, at the Marriott Pyramid Hotel. Please see Treasurer Pat Vitale for these great ACC coins.

SUMMER COIN SHOW / TRADE FAIR CHANGES

The one-day Summer Show / Trade Fair scheduled for Saturday, July 18, 2026, was cancelled due to problems related to security at the show. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused anyone. The ACC Board of Directors voted to suspend this event for the future at it July 11, 2026 meeting. **Member open floor trading, buying and selling will continue to be available at every Club Membership Meeting beginning at 6PM.**

2026 STATE FAIR NUMISMATICS DISPLAY/COMPETITION

The 2026 State Fair Numismatic Display and Competition is scheduled for September 10-20, 2026, at the Creative Arts Building, New Mexico Expo Fairgrounds. This event is an opportunity to display or compete for awards with your numismatic displays. Entry Dates to participate are Friday August 21, and Saturday August 22, from 9AM – 5PM, at the Creative Arts Center. If you wish to do a numismatic display, please see the official rules at https://cdn.saffire.com/files.ashx?t=fg&rid=NewMexicoStateFair&f=16-2026_Numismatics_-_guides_website(1).pdf&cb=4F5CA062 for more information. The ACC Sponsors the Numismatic Display/Competition and many volunteers are needed to host the event over the 10-day State Fair. Volunteers will receive free parking and free Fair entry on the days you are there to work one or more shifts. Please contact Volunteer Coordinator Byron Kesner bkesner1@comcast.net if you are interested in volunteering. Please see Directors Rod Frechette rodabqcc@gmail.com or Tim Cox tacotmc@gmail.com for any questions you may have.

The Short and the Long of It

by: Scott Bucholtz





As we are seeing the end of the longest run of a single US coin design (the Lincoln Cent), I started thinking about long-lived and short-lived coins both in denomination and design. Beginning with the Fugio Cent of 1787, the US cent has been a mainstay of Mint production and commerce of the US. The only years without 1-cent pieces being 1788-1792, and 1815. Contrasting that with the 2-cent piece which lasted for a mere 10 years (1864-1873) or the 3-cent pieces (silver and nickel) which together were made for 39 years (including overlaps). Despite production gaps, the US half cent (1793-1857) covered a full 65 years (only 39 years with actual coins being minted).

Combining the half disme of 1792 with half dimes and 5-cent nickels, the 5-cent piece spans the second greatest window of time. They serve as a great contrast with the ill-fated 20-cent pieces which only survived 4 years (half of which were proof-only)! The US quarter dollar is the workhorse of today's physical money commerce. It was sparsely used in its earliest year of 1796 and wasn't produced again for 13 years.

In the 1800s, the 50-cent (i.e., half dollar) piece had become the workhorse (not counting extremely thin years of the Civil War and Reconstruction where coins did not freely circulate) of economic transactions. When they were first produced in 1794, they represented significant buying power (approximately $20 today). Moving along to the dollar coins (which also began in 1794), an interesting quandary is proposed. The Bland-Allison Act of 1878 directly resulted in the production of Morgan Silver Dollars. In the strictest of terms, despite the 98-year gap (none issues from 1922 through 2020) and an immediate preceding gap of 16 years (no Morgans were produced from 1905-1920), these coins may be the longest running single design of US coinage. Modern Morgan (and Peace) dollars are definitely NOT commemoratives (they are issued under the 1921 Silver Dollar Coin Anniversary Act) and are considered special production legal tender cons. Of course, these modern products from the mint are in no way intended for general commerce, do not back silver certificates, and are specifically designed for numismatists. Whether or not these represent a continuation of the Morgan Silver Dollar set is a debate which may have as many opinions as coins in the set!



There is no debate that modern US gold coinage is commemorative or bullion in nature and does not contain the direct links to the pre-1933 gold coins used in their day. Those coins began production from the mint in 1795 ($5 and $10) and 1796 ($2.5). This can be contrasted with the shorter-lived $3 gold pieces. These $3 coins were introduced in 1854 and tied to the postage rate of 3¢ (so one coin could be used to purchase a sheet of 100 stamps). By 1883, the price of postage had dropped to 2¢, thus making the coin meaningless. Congress was slow to react and thus production continued through 1889 when it was finally discontinued by the Coinage Act of 1890 (thus being minted for a total span of 36 years).

In conclusion, some US coins can trace their lineage back to the earliest days of our country but others serve as mere footnotes in the long, storied history of the US Mint.

Welcome to our New Members

Cameron Schreirer

Dorothy Koenig

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

Taking a Walk on the Wild Side

Hanging out with two new ACC members, Ken Bressette & Ken Hallenbeck ended up opening an unexpected door for me. Ken H. invited me to his office, "Dad Incorporated, A wholly owned subsidiary of Mom Incorporated.." Four hours later, I emerged from Ken's hoarder paradise of exonumia with forms of money from all over







the world. Chinese knife and shirt money, Aztec hoe money, Yap stones, and shell change, African Gong money, bronze bracelets, and masks, Cowrie shells to cacao beans and many other wonderful things. It opened an entire unexplored world I had always been aware of and finally dared to explore. It is no longer Terra Incognita. Many roads and pathways still remain unexplored, but realizing there is more to learn and more adventure awaiting drives me on. I hope this inspires and motivates you to put on your explorer's gear and commence new quests.

Pat's Pittance

by: Pat Vitale



. Is it hot enough for everyone? Where is the monsoon? All the Summer Trade Fair vendors should have received their refund checks by now. If you haven't done so already, please cash them. Our checking account saw deposits of $806.27 and expenses of $2,760.16. The closing amount for June was $55,305.59. We have $8,734.30 in uncashed checks. The Vanguard accounts stand at $66,711.91 giving us a total monetary asset of $122,017.50. If you have any questions about your Club's finances, call or drop me an

ANA News Summer Seminar by: Rod



Rick Ewing, Rod Frechette, Phil Vitale, Jim Derrick



Jennifer Akerman, Phil, VP Mary Lynn Garrett

Camaraderie is the #1 thing most people love about the yearly gathering of numismatists at Colorado College. Education is the other favorite. A record 450 people attended either one or both 5 day sessions, Phil was an instructor for his third time, on How to Make a Great Newsletter. Phil took Making Money the Medieval Way and made his own punches, dies and coins with a hammer! I took that class as well as The History of Making Money where we used hammers and a fly wheel/screw press after casting pewter strips, rolling them thin and pressing blanks out of the strips. I also sat in on a Bull Session on a Mexican War of Independence numismatic scholar controversy. A two night ,7 hour, mini session on the Coins of Mexico's War of Independence was also a blast. Jim Derrick sharpened his already impressive grading skills by taking the Grading Class. Texas ACC member, Rick Ewing, took two weeks of classes as well.

ACC Indiana members, Joe Boling and Eric Kibby, taught different classes with other instructors The book sales, YN auction, mini mint, museum exhibits, including the Silk Road are just part of the fun. The Wednesday night reception and banquet are a special part of the comradery wfere we celebrate our instructors, staff and volunteers who make this such a rewarding experience. Come to Summer Seminar and see what you've been missing.



Shilynn Fisher John Berg James Dawson

Gaeton Falance Ray Gonzales Charles Avent

Daryl Conley Michael Guido Ronald Golubski

Christopher Rose John Saiz Byron Kesner Carl Silva

YN Update

by Peter Rechkemmer

What's This?



Why it's the YN's, (the Young Numismatists activity table.) Out in the hallway across from the welcoming table. It's where the Young Numismatists meet at the monthly Albuquerque Coin Club meeting from 6:00pm to 6:45pm. We meet to promote coin collecting and education about coins and paper money. So don't just walk on by, stop, see what's happening, and say hello to our young collectors. For they are the future of our hobby.



Some of our meeting activities include: a coin trivia contest, coin show and tell, classes, coin discussions, and a coin hunt. The coin hunt is the favorite next to seeing and meeting with their fellow young coin collectors. We normally have a coin hunt where the YN's hunt for coins to add to their collection. Other items they receive include: coin folders, coin supplies, coins, books, magazines, and information flyers about coins.

Do you have someone who is under 18 years old and is interested in coins or paper money? Could be your children, your grandchildren or even your great grandchildren, so let's get them signed up to be a YN! Or just bring them in, they don't have to be a member to participate. Can't make it to the meetings, every month a hard copy of the pocket change, the Albuquerque Young Numismatists Letter which includes other items such as coins, books, and other items get mailed out to every member.

Making the ACC 2026 Club Buck Tokens

Part 2 By: Rod Frechette







Continued from last month...



Seventy-five 15 Club Bucks with a one-inch diameter and 16 gage brass have Mexico City's beautiful Libertad, there Statue of Liberty, Nike holding a victory wreath, dating back to ancient Greek coinage, on the obverse. Why Mexico? Spain, Mexico and therefore Neuvo Mexico played extremely important, though mostly overlooked, roles in the British Colonies' victory over Great Britain. Financial and military supplies and support on the southern and western flanks as well as the Caribbean diluted and harassed England's war efforts. Their donations of ammunition, gun powder, weapons, food and supplies also helped turn the tide.



Seventy-five 10 Club Bucks with a ¾" diameter and 16 gage bronze have France's Libertine sowing a field with the seeds of freedom. First minted on an 1898 5 Franc coin and used extensively on French coinage since 1901. France was instrumental to the British Colonies gaining their Independence. We know that without the French alliance there would not have been The United States.



Second, we need dies made. My son, Thiery Alan Frechette, is an engineer and architect living in Toronto, who made the dies. He takes a round piece of hardened steel and saws it to 1 ½ " – 2 ½ " length for each die. Then he puts it on his lathe and turns it to the desired diameter for the coin and polishes the end to be engraved. Using source imagery and a client's vision, a CAD drawing is created. This is converted into a #D mesh file for the die, which goes through various iterations and quality control. The finished dies are then shipped from Toronto Canada to Albuquerque. He also makes 3-D plastic tokens and resin printed positives for use in casting.

Third, We ordered the metal blanks from a small family run supplier. Copper, Bronze, and Brass in these dimensions are the best metals to utilize with the limits of our old-fashioned press. We cleaned them up with an acetone rinse and then softly terry cloth patted and air dried. This is what we used to strike your tokens. We did not use a collar for striking. Fourth, with each swing and strike the anvil die would shift about 1/32 of an inch. So, about every 8 strikes we readjusted the die so the hammer would strike the hammer die on center. This takes 30 – 60 seconds looking from multiple angles. When striking the new blanks, we had to be careful with how hard to swing the screw. Too hard and it squished out up to ¼" and was reduced to up to two gauges in thickness. If we swung too softly, then it was hard to get a good strike impression. The coins vary in diameter from 1/32" to 1/16" depending on the strength of the swing. We also started with Medal alignment but in the process, we changed to coin alignment to make some variety. Each of the 250 ACC Club Buck tokens was individually aligned and hand struck. Within the three individual types, they are very similar in appearance. However, no two are exactly alike. If one to three of us were quiet for a half hour and working like a well-oiled machine, then we could place the blank onto the anvil die, place the hammer die on top of the blank, align the dies, remove the safety, raise the screw, swing the screw, wait for the recoil, secure the safety, pull apart the dies and pry off the token from one die in 40 seconds. 50% of these tokens were made in 1 – 1 ½ minutes each. These medals were made by these amigos



Four Amigos: Briam Pick, Rod Frechette, Robert Torres & Jane Fuller

We have Pressing Matters members in Ohio, Indiana, Texas, California, and 16 in New Mexico. Although we are going to set up properly as an educational nonprofit, our hope is to stop losing money and pay off all the machines we are acquiring and tools we use. An aspiration is to take New Mexico sourced copper and refine it on our own, using the methods of Colonial Spain's American empire from the 1500s – 1700s and make our own blanks from scratch. Our dream is to get a permanent set up at one of the museums in town or in Santa Fe.

We made a significant reduction in cost to the ACC in exchange for allowing Pressing Matters to utilize the obverse of the dies for other entities. We are willing to take individual orders. We are offering to strike in brass, bronze, copper, or pewter coins in 14 or16 – gauge (depending on availability) for $8 each including shipping. Please feel free to reach out to Rod Frechette cell or text: 505 – 379 – 5207 also: rtfrechette@frechettelaw.com. Thanks for the opportunity to serve you.

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. Meeting ID: 986 808 5956 Passcode: u6fN73

July 27 **Membership Meeting** **Speaker: Steve Loftis**

Topic: Olympic commemorative Coins

August 21 & 22 **Bring Your State Fair Displays for set up**

Contact Tim Cox or Rex Borders for help

August 31 **Membership Meeting** **Speaker: Jim Derrick**

Topic: US Continental Currency & Ben Franklin's Contributions

September 10—20 **State Fair** ***Volunteers needed***

free admission see Byron K., Rod F. or Tim C

September 28 **Membership Meeting** **Speaker: Byron Kesner**

Topic:History & Coinage of the Israeli Mint

*** *NOMINATIONS for Board of Directors****

October 26 **Mwmbership Meeting** **Speaker: Tim Cox**

Topic: Allayettes, the 1st Coin

**** NOMINATIONS for Board of Directors****

ANA EVENTS

August 25 - 29 **World's Fair of Money** **Pittsburgh, PA**

UPCOMING AREA AND MAJOR COIN SHOWS

August 1st **El Paso Coin Show**

October 15 - 17 **U.S. Mexico Numismatic Association Convention & Show**

Scottsdale AZ

November 13 - 15, **Great Southwest Coin Expo** Marriott Pyramid, Albuquerque

Promoting Numismatics Through Education

Albuquerque Coin Club

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ANA Member Club # C1063082

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	Young Numismatists Activities Coin hunt, Show and tell, Trivia contest, Numismatic class and more...
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

We're on the Web!
albuquerquecoinclub.com

Promoting Numismatics Through Education

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