



Front Page News

Celebrating 63 years in the numismatic hobby

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PAWCATUCK VALLEY COIN CLUB

September 2025 Edition Newsletter

The **740th** meeting of the Pawcatuck Valley Coin Club will be held on **Thursday, September 18, 2025** at The **WESTERLY SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER**, 39 State Street, Westerly, Rhode Island. Doors open @ 6:00 PM, Bourse @ 6:30 PM and Meeting @ 7:00

We are continuing to change and update the format of our newsletter. Please contact Tom Omlor (tomlor214@gmail.com) for any additions, announcements, and interesting story contributions, and these will be included as soon we can get to them.

There will be a PVCC Club Auction this month. The September Auction List is posted in this Newsletter and has 10 items for the junior auction and 50 items for the senior auction.



This month a presentation on "Civil War Tokens—A Monetary Substitute" will be given by Rob Pennell. Rob is a collector of Civil War related tokens and other items, and will share some of his knowledge with us.

And, as always, there will be a "Show And Tell" period for any personal exhibits. There will be a Junior and a Senior Door Prize, Raffle tickets will be sold for the Junior and Senior Raffle Prizes, and Bonus Raffle tickets will be sold as well.

PVCC Door Prizes for Thursday, 18 September 2025

Jr. Door Prize

1968 Canada 6 Coin Uncirculated Mint Set
With Envelope



Sr. Door Prize

1887 \$1 Morgan Silver Dollar PCGS MS62



Raffle Prizes

Junior Raffle:

1943 P&D Lincoln Steel Cent BU
1965 Austrian 10 Groshen BU
1960 Ireland 6 Pence VF35
Chinese 'Holed' Cash Coin
1921 Morocco VF30 Proof
1956 Roosevelt Dime EF40
1944 Half Crown XF45

Senior Raffle:

2023 United States Mint Uncirculated Coin Set
Silvertown 1.0 ounce 0.999 Fine Silver Round
1831 Coronet Large Cent Large Letters VG
1960 Franklin Half Dollar VF35
1933 United States 24K Plated \$20 Coin Copy
2025 \$10 Celia Cruz Women State Quarter Roll
1969 New Zealand 7 Coin Uncirculated Set Royal Australian Mint



Spot Price for 1 ounce of Gold and 1 ounce of Silver:

As of 09/14/25

Gold: \$3,658.85

Silver: \$42.43

...in local news

Items of interest for the members to consider and be aware:

1. October 5 will be the date for the Dedham, MA Coin Show. Show time is 9am—4pm. See the Calendar page for further information. This is being presented here as the October newsletter will probably not be out in time for that coin show notification.
2. Our fellow member, Cal Mellor, has asked that I input the following information he received from the Royal Mint:

It's official. I can no longer buy British coins from the Royal Mint.

Previously, there was an \$800 de minimis tariff exemption that included foreign coins. That went away. So tariffs now apply to all foreign coins according to their country of mintage.

When it happened, I contacted the Royal Mint to ask if they would continue shipping British coins to the U.S. via the Royal Mail and USPS. They assured me they would, and offered to even pay any additional expenses.

Well, the Royal Mail is now a private company. It was sold to a Czech billionaire for \$4.89 billion dollars earlier this year. And the Royal Mail has refused to accept parcels to the U.S. because they don't want to get involved in collecting tariffs.

The Royal Mint then assured me to continue placing orders because they would use another shipping service, possibly DHL or UPS.

I recently tried to place an order, and it was refused because "delivery service was no longer available" for my U.S. address.

I went back & forth with the Royal Mint for several days, and they now acknowledge that they can no longer sell or ship coins to the U.S. They hope to work something out in the future, but have no solution.

This is sad news, but I guess, for the time being, this the current status for the Royal Mint. We will keep you updated as more information is known.

In Local News ... (con'd)

3. And finally, from the desk of our President—Woody Carland

In Praise of 'AU' And 'Details' Coins

By Woody Carland

I've found, in over 30 years of collecting coins, tokens, and medals and being on a budget, some of my best finds have been certified coins in holders with 'AU' and/or 'Details' designations. I still have much to learn about the hobby. That being said, I have had some collecting successes by developing an understanding of 'AU', 'Details' coins, the top and bottom of the grade, and an all important factor- 'eye appeal'! When considering a certified coin for your collection, these practices may be helpful. For this article, I will use the word 'coin', to cover all metallic numismatic collectibles accepted for grading and encapsulation by the main certification companies, PCGS, NGC, CAC, ANACS, and ICG. For starters, let's look at the 'AU,' ('About', or 'Almost' Uncirculated) category:

These are coins that have only had a slight amount of handling or circulation. The range for grading an 'AU' item is as follows; AU50 (just a grade above XF45), AU53, AU55, and AU58. The AU58 designation is the closest to the beginning of the MS grades.

Certified coins with 'Details' labels are given this designation because the coin has one or more problems. This could be as minor as a small patch of micro corrosion, on an old colonial copper, or an obvious scratch or bend. Any flaw which precludes the certification company from giving the coin a 'Straight' numeric grade. The collector needs to consider whether to purchase a 'Details' coin or have one certified. Determination will rest on the coin's rarity, value at resale, or the simple desire to have the item in their collection.

The numismatic axiom, 'buy the coin, not the holder,' is as true as ever; there is so much focus on the certification companies, their holders, 'green beans', etc., one can become blinded by the hype. Grading companies and their graders are only human- they can and DO make mistakes. It helps to have a good general, (or specific to your specialty) knowledge of coin grading by practicing on your own coins-Don't let the pros do it for you.

So, let's put these strategies into practice. You're at a coin show, or a store, or online, and you have your eye on a particular candidate for your collection. Does the certified coin meet the criteria for the correct grade? Is it at the top of the grade, with all the correct features present, or is it lacking in some area, putting the coin at the 'bottom' of the grade? What is the luster and overall eye appeal? If the coin is a bit underwhelming, it's probably OVER graded. Look for the 'top of the grade'. Eye appeal is an intangible which the certification company Grader may or may not have considered. When you see it, you know it, and let's face it, we have all seen high-grade coins, which score great on the technicalities, but have a flat, uninteresting appearance. This is where the 'AU/Details' approach may come in handy.

In examining certified coins in the 'AU' range, particularly the AU58 grade, I've found that if I am observant and patient, an 'AU' coin will appear, which has more going for it: eye appeal, grade accuracy and the right PRICE. This will allow me to add a great coin to my collection. In many instances, I have encountered AU58 coins which were UNDER graded and should have been MS.

The same goes for 'details' coins. There are many awesome, high grade beauties in 'Details' certification holders, which go for a third to half the cost of a 'Straight' graded coin. And if you look at stores, shows, even high-end auction houses, many of the coins housed in 'AU' or 'Details' holders are still respectable and quite valuable, especially if the coin is rare to begin with. Sometimes, you will even see a certified coin with both 'Details' and 'AU' included on the label.

So, with all the collective experience among our members, here at PVCC, there may not be too much new here. I just enjoy sharing a few thoughts for those who may want to consider the benefits of 'AU' – 'Details' – 'Top of the Grade' and 'Eye Appeal', while hunting for their next numismatic treasure☺

Woody C.

From the American Numismatic Association (ANA)

NumismaTalks Info

September Webinars:

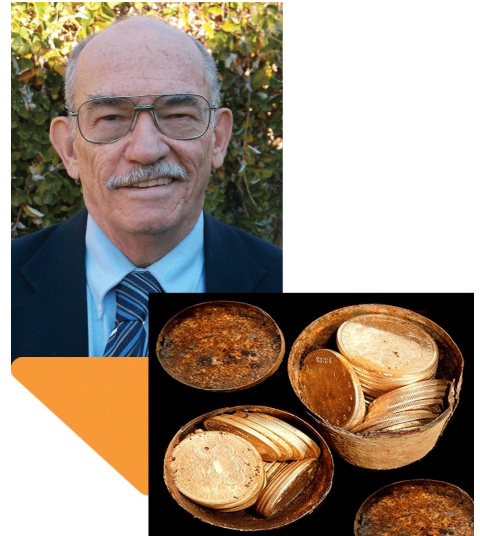
Topic: **The Fabulous \$10 Million Saddleback Ridge Gold Coin Hoard**

Date: **September 11**

Presented by: **Robert "Bob" Bair**

This presentation describes the February, 2013 discovery of 1,427 buried gold coins in California, by a couple walking their dog through their wooded property. Containing (mostly \$20 Liberty) gold coins dated from 1847-1894, this "buried treasure" realized over \$9 million for its finders, and is the most valuable land-buried gold coin hoard ever found in the United States.

Robert "Bob" Bair has been involved in numismatics since 1956, first as a collector, then as a coin dealer starting in 1987. As a boy growing up in northwestern Wisconsin in the 1950's he began collection coins that he received from his newspaper route, and a lifelong passion was born. Bair holds masters degrees in U.S. History (1970) and Educational Administration (1994)



Topic: **Medieval European Coinage; The Fall of the Western Roman Empire to the Rise of the Carolingian Empire**

Date: **September 25**

Presented by: **Douglas Mudd**

This talk is about the first half of the Middle Ages from the traditional date of the fall of Rome in 476 AD to the beginning of the Carolingian Empire during the 9th century AD.

Douglas Mudd is the Curator / Director of the American Numismatic Association's Edward C. Rochette Money Museum in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He is responsible for developing, planning, and content of the museum's exhibition program and the organization and care of the ANA collections. He has created dozens of numismatic exhibits for the museum and for the ANA's semi-annual conventions. His recent work has expanded the museum's exhibits into the virtual world of the internet including *Trenches to Treaties: World War I in Remembrance* and *Money of Empire: Elizabeth to Elizabeth*.



From the American Numismatic Association (ANA)

NumismaTalks Info (con'd)

October Webinars:

Topic: **Batavia's Bounty: Blood on the Coral, Silver in the Deep**

Date: **October 9**

Presented by: **Caroline Turco**

Collectors often measure a coin's worth in dollars and cents, but some pieces carry a far darker weight—an echo of lives lost and empires built. Shipwreck coins, battered by the sea, may never win a beauty contest, yet they hold a haunting place in history.

On October 9, step aboard the *Batavia*, pride of the Dutch East India Company, and set sail on its inaugural voyage. Destined for the lucrative spice trade with a belly full of silver, the *Batavia* promises fortune, glory, and a new chapter of global commerce until it collides with an unseen reef off an unknown continent.

What follows is mutiny, murder, and madness. Survivors not only face the sea, but each other. More than a shipwreck, this is the greatest tale of sunken treasure ever told – a saga of good versus evil – and it's all true!

Caroline Turco has a passion for storytelling. From the operatic stage to her "historypod" mic, she brings a unique blend of expertise and curiosity to the role of assistant curator at the ANA. A Renaissance woman at heart, Caroline loves art, history, and culture, which serendipitously mingle in the study of numismatics. When not at work researching coins or diving down rabbit holes, she can be found adventuring with her family to make new members. (Also, she'll probably still be talking about coins!)



Topic: **The American Bank Note Company Archives: Monetary History and a Rich Research Opportunity**

Date: **October 23**

Presented by: **Akio Lis**

The American Bank Note Company international archives holds a wealth of information about bank note production around the world. Held by the ANA Dwight N. Manley Numismatic Library, this collection includes information about paper money design, production, and shipment as well as internal correspondence by ABNCo staff. Some of this correspondence gives insight into the economic and political situations in countries that have achieved independence from former colonial powers. This presentation will include information about the types of documents, research opportunities, and points of access that are available as the ANA library staff and volunteers catalog and digitize these files.

Akio Lis joined the ANA as library manager in 2021. He was awarded the ANA Young Numismatist of the Year in 1998 and received an internship with the ANA library in 2003. After moving to Colorado Springs in 2005, Akio volunteered with the Dwight N. Manley Numismatic Library and worked with young numismatists (YNs) during Summer Seminar in the production of the YN fundraising auctions. Akio brings to the role of library manager a deep interest in history and research, as well as an in-depth knowledge of the ANA library holdings. He has worked to increase accessibility and recognition of the holdings of the Dwight N. Manley Numismatic Library and continues in the long tradition of growing this necessary numismatic asset.



Coin World—US Coins

Monday Morning Brief for Sept. 1, 2025: A positive experience

By [Larry Jewett](#), Coin World
Published: Sep 1, 2025, 7 AM



Shows like the World's Fair of Money invite learning, and places like the Finest Known booth and its displays about the S.S. "Central America" help consumers get a better appreciation.

Image by Larry Jewett

Nothing can revive the enthusiasm like a positive experience. It could be acquiring the coin you've sought for years in the right grade to complete a set. It could be getting recognition from club members and fellow collectors for something you've done or a contribution you made. There are numerous possible ways to instill a kick in the enthusiasm level. For me, it's the vibrancy of the positive experience of visiting a shop or a coin show.

I will admit I was on the fence about whether taking the World's Fair of Money to Oklahoma City was the right move. I totally understood the intent — to move to a new location and keep the rotation somewhat fresh...it reminded me of the golf world, where The Open Championship (aka the British Open) ends up at a different place each year, but always within a set of predetermined eligible courses. I had heard the negatives about accessibility and the unknown. Negatives were drowning out any positive messages even as it soon became evident that there was no point in arguing. The decision was made long ago and it would take a major catastrophic event to change it. The 2025 World's Fair of Money was going to Oklahoma City, like it or not.

It was a risk, but with risk comes reward, and the time has come to start reaping the reward. During the World's Fair of Money, the American Numismatic Association gives out annual awards. Somewhere, though, some person or persons didn't get the award they deserve, and that is the proper recognition for spearheading an event that will have a positive impact on a collector base and dealer community for a long time to come.

No matter what metric you may use to measure success, the 2025 World's Fair of Money is going to be on it. Retail sales? Reported brisk. New business? Many saw it at their tables. Connecting with the collector? You bet, as a crowd of Midwest enthusiasts who may not otherwise have crossed the Mississippi to attend an ANA show were there in droves. It was even suggested that some of the Oklahoma City area retail shops reported a downturn in business prior to the show as collectors were waiting for the big event. Activity for young and old? Everything from educational programs on a variety of topics, children's activity (constantly busy) and eBay broadcasts. Bottom line: Oklahoma City was a happening. The skeptics were conspicuous in their absence and have been radio silent, while pundits on social media are posting images of crows on plates for those who will step up and have their dose of blackbird, eating crow for their pre-show remarks.

It wasn't perfect — no show is — but it now stands on results and not speculation. The ones who benefited were the ones who tuned out the noise and stayed focused on the intent. All coin shows are not winners, but all deserve a chance. As the next show looms on your calendar, remember why you do what you do. It doesn't have to be a rousing success to be impactful. Even shows where the desired coin remains elusive offer benefit in education and developing relationships.

If you missed out on the Oklahoma City experience, make the best of your next one, wherever it may be.

September 18 Auction List

Pawcatuck Valley Coin Club

Auction 9.18.25

#	Description	Start	Result
1	Jr. Liberty Seated Dime 1857 P Fine cat. \$16.00	\$12.00	
2	Jr. Mercury Dime 1941 D Gem cat. \$22.00	\$16.00	
3	Jr. Mercury Dime 1943 D Ch.Bu. cat. \$12.00	\$8.00	
4	Jr. Liberty Standing 25¢ 1928 P VF+ cat. \$17.50	\$14.00	
5	Jr. 3-pc Bicentennial (red envelope 40%) cat. \$18.00	\$15.00	
6	Jr. 9-pc British Decimal Coins (Processed) cat. \$10.00	\$5.00	
7	Jr. 10-pc Bronze Set Challenger Shuttle cat. \$20.00	\$10.00	
8	Jr. 4-pc NLD Coronation Set 1g/2.5g Bu cat. \$10.00	\$6.00	
9	Jr. 7-pc GB/NI 1977 Proof Set cat. \$17.00	\$10.00	
10	Jr. 6-pc GB/NI 1978 Proof Set cat. \$22.00	\$12.00	
11	USA Large Cent 1817 (13 stars) Fine cat. \$35.00	\$28.00	
12	USA Large Cent 1827 VG cat. \$75.00	\$60.00	
13	USA Large Cent 1838 Fine cat. \$26.00	\$20.00	
14	USA Large Cent 1846 Fine cat. \$20.00	\$16.00	
15	USA Large Cent 1847 VF cat. \$25.00	\$20.00	
16	USA Large Cent 1855 (slant 5) VF cat. \$30.00	\$24.00	
17	USA Large Cent 1855 (upright 5) EF-40 cat. \$46.00	\$35.00	
18	USA Large Cent 1856 (slant 5) XF-40 cat. \$46.00	\$35.00	
19	USA Large Cent 1856 (upright 5) EF-45 cat. \$54.00	\$40.00	
20	2¢ 1864 Large Motto AU \$62.00	\$50.00	
21	Shield 5¢ 1875 VF cat. \$110.00	\$85.00	
22	Buffalo 5¢ 1913-D (V1) VF cat. \$25.00	\$20.00	
23	Barber 10¢ 1908-P EF cat. \$24.00	\$18.00	
24	Mercury 10¢ 1921-P VG+ cat. \$80.00	\$65.00	
25	Mercury 10¢ 1923-P BU cat. \$32.00	\$25.00	
26	Mercury 10¢ 1924-S VF-35 cat. \$25.00	\$20.00	
27	Mercury 10¢ 1930-S EF-40 cat. \$16.00	\$12.00	
28	Mercury 10¢ 1931-D EF-40 cat. \$40.00	\$32.00	
29	Mercury 10¢ 1934-P BU cat. \$28.00	\$22.00	
30	Liberty Standing 25¢ 1917-P (V1) VF+ cat. \$75.00	\$60.00	
31	Liberty Standing 25¢ 1920-P Ch.Bu. cat. \$240.00	\$185.00	
32	Liberty Standing 25¢ 1926-P XF cat. \$34.00	\$25.00	
33	Liberty Standing 25¢ 1927-S Fine cat. \$115.00	\$85.00	
34	Liberty Standing 25¢ 1928-S AU cat. \$70.00	\$60.00	
35	Washington 25¢ 1939-P Gem cat. \$43.00	\$35.00	
36	Bust Half 1827 Fine cat. \$70.00	\$60.00	

September 18 Auction List (con'd)

37	Liberty Seated 50¢ 1861-P VG cat. \$70.00	\$60.00	
38	Barber 50¢ 1914-S VG+ cat. \$35.00	\$28.00	
39	Liberty Walking 50¢ 1921-S Fine cat. \$300.00	\$250.00	
40	Lexington-Concord 50¢ 1925-P Ch.Bu. cat. \$90.00	\$75.00	
41	Morgan \$1 – 1880-O (Micro) AU cat. \$60.00	\$50.00	
42	Morgan \$1 – 1883-CC Fine cat. \$135.00	\$120.00	
43	Morgan \$1 – 1892-P AU cat. \$150.00	\$130.00	
44	Morgan \$1 – 1892-S Fine cat. \$80.00	\$65.00	
45	Morgan \$1 – 1893-P XF cat. \$525.00	\$400.00	
46	Morgan \$1 – 1896-S Fine cat. \$82.00	\$67.00	
47	Morgan \$1 – 1897-O AU-53 cat. \$150.00	\$130.00	
48	Morgan \$1 – 1902-S EF-40 cat. \$210.00	\$170.00	
49	Morgan \$1 – 1903-S VF-35 cat. \$250.00	\$200.00	
50	Peace \$1 – 1926-S UNC cat. \$90.00	\$75.00	
51	Peace \$1 – 1927-D AU cat. \$90.00	\$75.00	
52	Bison \$1 – 2001-P Proof cat. \$85.00	\$70.00	
53	(PCGS) Mercury 10¢ 1939-D MS-64 cat. \$30.00	\$24.00	
54	(ANACS) Mercury 10¢ 1943-P MS-65 cat. \$30.00	\$24.00	
55	(NGC) Mercury 10¢ 1945-S MS-65 cat. \$20.00	\$16.00	
56	(PCGS) Washington 25¢ 1943-P MS-64 cat. \$43.00	\$35.00	
57	(PCGS) Franklin 50¢ 1963-D MS-65 cat. \$26.00	\$20.00	
58	Fort Griswold Medal 1981 Pewter cat. \$20.00	\$15.00	
59	8-pc Canadian Decimal Proof Set 2006 cat. \$179.95	\$99.00	
60	13-pc GB Decimal Proof Set 2006 cat. \$140.00	\$99.00	
61			
62			
63			
64			

September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Orange, CT (Am Leg.) 9am—2pm Orange, CT (Liberty) 9am—2pm	15	16	17 Blackstone Valley, MA 3pm—7pm	18	19	20
21 Hartford, CT 9am—3pm Nashua, NH 9am—2pm North Attleboro, MA 9am—2pm	22	23	24	25	26	27 Naugatuck, CT 9am—2pm
28 Devens, MA 9am—3pm	29	30				

Admission is free unless otherwise noted

BLACKSTONE VALLEY: VFW Post 1385, 13 Cross Rd., Uxbridge MA 01569, 15 Tables, Contact Mike 774-280-4333

DEDHAM MA: Holiday Inn-Boston, Dedham 55 Ariadne Road, Dedham MA 02026, 35 Tables, Contact Edward Donegan 508-631-1423

DEVENS MA: Devens Common Center, 31 Andrews Parkway, Devens MA 01434, 75 Tables, 978-658-0160, \$1 Admission

HARTFORD CT: Hartford Hotel & Conference Center, 4 Sebethe Dr. Cromwell CT 06416, 40 Tables, 718-323-1930 or stassinsJ98@aol.com

NASHUA NH: Alpine Grove Events Centre 19 S Depot St. Hollis NH 03049, 50+ dealers, 978-658-0160

NAUGATUCK CT: American Legion, 21 Cedar Street, Naugatuck, CT 06770, 20 Tables, Contact John Stassins, Jr. 718 323-1930

NORTH ATTELBORO MA: Elks Lodge # 1011 52 Bullfinch Street No Attleboro, MA 02760, Contact Bart Leonard 774-203-3158

ORANGE CT: American Legion Post 127, 630 Grassy Hill Rd., Orange, CT 06477, 30+ Dealer Tables, Fred Riso 203-265-1813, 2\$ Admission

ORANGE CT: Liberty Coin Club, Courtyard by Marriott, 13 Marsh Hill Rd., Orange, CT 06460, George Bauer 203-558-6994

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