

Newsletter of the
South Brevard Coin Club

October 2021

Host of the Second Sunday Coin Show



South Brevard Coin Club, P.O. Box 372418, Satellite Beach, FL 32937-3972

www.southbrevardcoinclub.com

Member of the American Numismatic Association (ANA) and Florida United Numismatists (FUN)

**Our next meeting is on
Wednesday, October 6th at 7 PM
David R Schechter Community Center
(a.k.a. Satellite Beach Recreation Center)
1089 South Patrick Drive
(Doors open at 6:00 PM)**

Meeting Program

Annual SBCC "Members Coin Show"

Purchase and sale of numismatic items within our membership. Feel free to setup a table to sell items or browse to add to your collection.

Member News

Need a book from our library? Contact Jack Klein (kleinjack@att.net) for a listing.

SBCC Coin Grading 201 Class planned for November 19th at the Schechter Center. Contact Bob Mellor at rm3coins@gmail.com to register.

We are looking for volunteers to present a numismatic topic of their interest in 2022. See openings below.

Coin Show News

Our next "Second Sunday" coin show is October 10th from 9:30 AM–3:00 PM at the Azan Shrine Center, 1591 West Eau Gallie Blvd, Melbourne FL 32935.

Christ's Coins

By Jack Klein

Coins are mentioned often in the Bible. Jesus even used them as parables during His ministry.

On a visit to Capernaum in Matthew 17, Jesus instructs Peter, the fisherman, to go to the shore and cast a line into the water. Peter is to open the mouth of the first fish he catches. There he will find a coin to pay the local Temple tax for both of them.

What might that fish have been? Perhaps it was an African Mouthbrooder, who had the habit of holding eggs in their mouth for protection during incubation. It could have been a natural instinct for such a fish to retrieve a shiny lost coin and hold it in its mouth.

And the coin? Scholars agree it was the size of a tetradrachm shekel of Tyre, about 13 millimeters in diameter (slightly smaller than a dime). That was the amount necessary to pay the local Temple tax for two people.



Peter's Fish Coin

Next, in Matthew 22, the Pharisees ask Jesus if it is right for Jews to pay taxes to Rome. Jesus asks the Pharisees for a coin. When they show it to Jesus, He asks them whose image is stamped on it. When they answer that it is Caesar's image, Jesus tells them to give it to Caesar.

It seems likely that the coin involved was a Roman silver denarius of Emperor Tiberius, about 20 millimeters in diameter (roughly the size of a nickel). Tiberius ruled from 14 A.D. to 37 A.D. during Jesus' earthly lifetime. These coins were in circulation throughout Judea at the time and would have been required for payment of the census or tax. The obverse side of the coin depicted a right-facing profile image of Tiberius. On the reverse was his mother Livia, seated on a throne, also facing right.



"Give it to Caesar"

The most infamous coins of the Bible were the thirty pieces of silver given to Judas Iscariot to betray Jesus. First, why *thirty* pieces? That was the usual price or fine for taking a life by accident. It was also the price of a slave being sold into captivity. It was equal to about 120 days' pay, or what one would spend for five months' living expenses.

There is no doubt that the coins given to Judas were Phoenician tetradrachm shekels, not intended for use in the Jerusalem Temple. The availability of Tyrian coins makes them the number one candidate for this historic transaction.



Judas' Silver

Tyrian coins were accepted by the Jewish community despite their depiction of an eagle and a foreign god. The obverse shows the head of Melkart with a lion's skin around his neck, and a laurel wreath on his head. He was a Phoenician god shown posing in the form of the Greek god Herakles. Its reverse depicts an eagle standing on the prow of a ship, carrying a palm under its right wing. Remarkably similar in design to the coin that Peter found in the fish's mouth. Just twice the size at 26 millimeters in diameter (same as that of the modern dollar-coin).

These are just a few of the more interesting Biblical coin stories. There are more, if you know where to look: Matthew 28:11-15; Mark 12:41-44; Luke 21: 1-4; John 19:23-24. What coins might have been used in these verses?

Text and Photo Credit: Bressett, Kenneth. *Money of the Bible*. 2nd Edition. Whitman Publishing, Atlanta, Georgia. 2007



**We want YOU to contribute to the newsletter.
Contact the SBCC Secretary for details.**

Club Officers and Representatives

President:	Jim Nuara
Vice President:	Mike Smith
Chairman of the Board:	Bill Peters
Treasurer:	Tim Janecke
Secretary:	Greg Bessette
ANA Representative:	Bert Alm
FUN Representative:	Tim Janecke

Past and Upcoming SBCC Meeting Programs

<i>Month/Year</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
January 2021	Norse-American Centennial Medal	Richard Ahlquist
February 2021	Treasures in your pocket! Finding modern error coins.	Juan Montoya
March 2021	Shipwreck Treasures of Florida	Juan Riera
April 2021	Annual ANA National Coin Week Trivia Night	Bert Alm/Tim Janecke
May 2021	Semi-Annual Educational Trivia Night	Bob Mellor
June 2021	Starting a Type Set Collection	Bert Alm
July 2021	Annual Pizza and Numismatic YouTube Videos Night	Bob Mellor
August 2021	One Day Educational Class Opportunities Discussion	Bob Mellor
September 2021	Semi-Annual Educational Trivia Night	Bob Mellor
October 2021	Annual SBCC "Members Coin Show"	No speaker
November 2021	Collecting US Military Payment Certificates & Barter Units	Elliot Lipson
December 2021	Annual Holiday Dinner	No speaker

<i>Month/Year</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
January 2022	Looking for a volunteer	
February 2022	Yellow Fever! and the Related Coins and Medals	Juan Riera
March 2022	Introduction to Collecting Casino Chips and Gaming Tokens	Mark Lighterman
April 2022	Annual ANA National Coin Week Trivia Night	Bert Alm
May 2022	Semi-Annual Educational Trivia Night	Bob Mellor
June 2022	Collecting Colonial Coins of Early America	Gene Yotka
July 2022	Annual Pizza and Numismatic YouTube Videos Night	Bob Mellor
August 2022	Looking for a volunteer	
September 2022	Semi-Annual Educational Trivia Night	Bob Mellor
October 2022	Annual SBCC "Members Coin Show"	No speaker
November 2022	Looking for a volunteer	
December 2022	Annual Holiday Dinner and Raffle	No speaker