# South Brevard Coin Club 

Newsletter

MEETINGS:
First Wednesday of every month

David R. Schechter Center
(Satellite Beach Community Center)
1089 So. Patrick Drive
Satellite Beach, FL 32937
Doors Open 6:00
Social Time 6:30-7:00 pm
Meeting Time 7:00 pm
Board of Directors:
Chairman:
Jim Nuara
President:
Mike Smith
Vice President:
Jack Klein
Treasurer:
Tim Janecke
Secretary/Newsletter
Paula Davis

## August

Monthly Meeting August 2, 2023
Doors Open 6:00 pm
Meeting Starts 7:00 pm
"Interesting Features on Money"
Presented by Bob Mellor

Bring items to sell in our auction


Fantastic Raffle Items Every Meeting!

South Brevard Coin Club
P.O. Box 372418, Satellite Beach, FL 32937-3972 Member of the American Numismatic Association (ANA) and Florida United Numismatists (FUN) southbrevardcoinclub.com

## South Brevard Coin Club

## Upcoming Programs

| Month/Year |  | Speaker |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| January 2023 | Collecting German Notgeld | Bob Whalen |
| February 2023 | Collecting Florida Paper Money | Chet Hogan |
| March 2023 | The Southern Gold Rush | Dr. Juan Riera |
| April 2023 | Annual ANA National Coin Week Trivia Question Night | Tim Janecke |
| May 2023 | Annual Educational Trivia Night | Bob Mellor |
| June 2023 | Annual Summer Gathering/Raffle | No speaker |
| July 2023 | Annual Pizza and Numismatic Movie Night | Bob Mellor |
| August 2023 | Interesting Features on Money | Bob Mellor |
| September 2023 | Interesting European Coins Minted after WWII | Bob Mellor |
| October 2023 | Annual SBCC "Members Coin Show" | No speaker |
| November 2023 | Collecting Aerospace Numismatic Material | Bob Mellor |
| December 2023 | Annual Holiday Dinner and Raffle | No speaker |



Coin Club Library - The Club has a great library of numismatic books that members are welcome to check out! See list of books available in newsletter. Contact Jack Klein (kleinjack @ att.net) to check out.

## Invite a Friend!

Invite your friends who share your numismatic passion to come to a meeting and see what we're all about. Anyone joining after July $1^{\text {st }}$ is Half Price, just $\$ 7.50$, for the balance of the year!

Benefits and Membership Application at end of newsletter.

## Articles for the Newsletter are encouraged from all members!

Please consider submitting an article about something you found interesting or some personal experience you have had in your coin collecting. Your sharing helps educate other members with your areas of expertise or experience. Plus, there is a little goodie from the Club for your efforts!

Also, let us know of any future Coin Related Events in the Area. Please submit articles or information to Paula Davis (pmgdavis@aol.com) to appear in a future newsletter...

## Mark Your Calendar!

## COINS IN FLORIDA

## www.coinsinflorida.com

Fabulous website for a comprehensive list of coin clubs, auctions, shows, events, and news in Florida! Join their newsletter!

## Check out this website for a wealth of information, resources and events for all levels of numismatists.

## https://www.money.org/numismatic-events/national-coin-week

COIN TALK
902 Jordan Blass Drive Melbourne, FL 32940 Informal meeting for anyone interested in numismatics. Bring an item to show
and tell or bring a topic to talk about. Always interesting discussions conducted Informal meeting for anyone interested in numismatics. Bring an item to show
and tell or bring a topic to talk about. Always interesting discussions conducted by Bob Mellor!

## $2^{\text {nd }}$ Sunday COIN SHOW

Azan Shrine Center
$4^{\text {th }}$ Tuesday of the month
6:00pm-7:45pm

This is a monthly show held on the second Sunday of every month. Come to the show to pick up Coins-Currency-Stamps or become a dealer and sell.
Free admission, free parking. A.N.A.C. Coin Grading Company is on site for your coin submissions, food is available for purchase.
For information on table rental contact Alysha Wilson -Phone 321-704-3070 or email AlyshaWilson@Att.net

# The First Philadelphia Mint: 1792 

by

## Jack Klein

The Mint Act of 1792, whose full title was "An Act Establishing a Mint and Regulating the Coins of the United States" was signed into law by President George Washington on 02 April 1792. The mint was to be built in the nation's capital which, at the time, was in Philadelphia.

It authorized the minting of several denominations of gold, silver, and copper coins. They ranged in value of the ten-dollar Gold Eagle all the way down to the copper half cent.

The Mint Act of 1792 required American Silver Dollars to be minted at 416 grains in total weight, with a silver content of $89.25 \%$. This standard of silver purity equaled the level of the Spanish Dollar, whose coins were accepted and being used in the United States before the mint was created. The remainder of the 416 grains of weight in each American Silver Dollar, consisted of copper or nickel alloy to enhance its sturdiness and durability.

Maintaining its overall weight requirements at 416 grains, American Silver Dollars produced in 1794 and 1795, were interestingly minted at $90 \%$ silver purity, in violation of the Mint Act! *

The total weight of these dollar coins remained the same, but the percentage of silver increased. Each Silver Dollar
had an excess of precious metal content: 416 grains $\mathrm{x} 90 \%=374.4$ grains versus the legally required 416 grains $\mathrm{x} 89.25 \%=371.2384$ grains. Thus: 374.4 grains minus 371.2384 grains equals an excess of 3.1616 grains per coin! Since the value of the coin was determined by its face value, this excess precious metal content was essentially wasted.

The most immediate effect of this practice was that depositors ended up paying for an additional 3.1616 grains of silver bullion (almost $1 \%$ extra) for every dollar they received! Merchants and bankers were reluctant to bring silver bullion to the Mint because of the disclosure of the illegal silverpurity percentage that had been in effect. When this became widely known, bullion deposits brought to the mint declined significantly in 1796 and 1797.


Additional requirements for coinage under the original Mint Act mandated that coins must contain the following markings:

1. One side was to have an impression emblematic of liberty, with the inscription "Liberty", and the year of the coinage.
2. The reverse side of each gold and silver coin was to have the figure or representation of an eagle with the inscription
"UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA".
3. The reverse of the copper coins was to have an inscription expressing the denomination.

The Act defined the proportional value of gold to silver as 15 units of pure silver equal to 1 unit of pure gold. The U.S. Mint utilized Standard Gold and Standard Silver purity levels in its coinage practices.
Standard Gold was defined as 11 parts pure gold with one part alloy composed of silver and copper.
Standard Silver was defined as 1485 parts pure silver with 179 parts copper alloy. See the list below for the coins affected by this purity grading.
The Mint Act also specified the "dollar" as the "money of account" for the United States, and directed that all accounts of the federal government be kept in dollars, dismes, cents, and milles. A mille being one-tenth of a cent or one-thousandth of a dollar. Some current local tax rates are still measured in millages or milles.

The coins authorized by the original Mint Act include:
Eagle: \$10@270 grains Standard Gold purity.
Half Eagle: \$5 @ 135 grains Standard Gold purity.
Quarter Eagle: \$2.50 @ 67.25 grains Standard Gold purity.
Dollar: \$1.00@ 416 grains Standard Silver purity.
Half Dollar: \$.50 @ 208 grains Standard Silver purity.
Quarter Dollar: \$.25 @ 104 grains Standard Silver purity.
Disme: \$.10@ 4.16 grains Standard Silver purity.
Half Disme: \$. 05 @ 20.8 grains Standard Silver purity.
Cent: \$. 01 @ 11 pennyweights of copper.
Half Cent: \$.005 5.5 pennyweights of copper.

## SOURCES:

BOWERS, Q. David. The Official Red Book Guide to the United States Mint. Whitman Publishing, Pelham, AL 2016
*Images of the generously illegal 1794 and 1795 Silver Dollars are found in the above reference. www.alexanderhamilton.org
wikipedia.org

## SBCC Library Books

Available for Checkout


| 1913 Liberty Head Nickel | Stack Bowers <br> American Silver Eagles |
| :--- | :--- |
| Andean Collection South/Central American Bank Notes | Spink Inc. |
| Blackbook Price Guide to Paper Money | HUDGEONS, Marc |
| Coin and Currency Market Review | coinprices.com |
| Coin World Extra Magazine | Coin World |
| Confederate States Paper Money | CUHAJ, George S. |
| Curious Currency | LEONARD, Robert D. |
| Die Photos \& Fuld/Moore Listings Update | FULD, George \& Melvin |
| Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Proof Coins | BREEN, Walter |
| ErrorScope Magazine | Number 3 |
| Grading Guide for Early American Copper Coins | FUOSS and WILLIAMS |
| Grading United States Coins | ANA |
| Indian Peace Medals | Adams, John W. |
| Money: History in Your Hands | ANA: James Earl Jones; narrator |
| Money of the Bible | BRESSETT, Kenneth |
| National Bank Notes A Guide with Prices | KELLY, Don C. |
| Neighborhood Mint, The | HEAD and ETHERIDGE |
| Numismatic Forgeries | LARSON, Charles |
| Numismatic Listings of Modern and Medieval Countries | GROSSMAN, Lee |
| Obsolete Paper Money Issued by U.S. Banks | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Blue Book Handbook of U.S. Coins | YEOMAN, R.S. |
| Official Blue Book Handbook of U.S. Coins | YEOMAN, R.S. |
| Official Blue Book Handbook of U.S. Coins | YEOMAN, R.S. |
| Official Guide to Mint Errors | HERBERT, Alan |
| Official Red Book: A Guide Book of U.S. Coins | YEOMAN, R.S. |
| Official Red Book: A Guide Book of U.S. Coins | YEOMAN, R.S. |
| Official Red Book of United States Coins | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 1: Guide to: Morgan Silver Dollars | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 2: Guide to: Double Eagle Gold Coins | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 3: Guide to: United States Type Coins | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 4: Guide to: Modern US Proof Sets | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 5: Guide to: Shield and Liberty Nickels | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 6: Guide to: Flying Eagles and Indian Cents | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 7: Guide to: Washington Quarters | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 8: Guide to: Buffalo and Jeffersons Nickels | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 9: Guide to: Lincoln Cents | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 10: Guide to: US Commemorative Coins | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 11: Guide to; US Tokens and Medals | JAEGER, Katherine |
| Official Red Book \# 12: Guide to: Gold Dollars | Official Red Book \# 13: Guide to: Peace Dollars |
| Ofre |  |

## SBCC Library Books

| Official Red Book \# 15: Guide to: Franklin and Kennedy Halves | TOMASKA, Rick |
| :---: | :---: |
| Official Red Book \# 16: Guide to: Civil War Tokens | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 17: Guide to: Hard Times Tokens | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 18: Guide to: Mercury Dimes Standing Liberty Quarters <br> Liberty Walking Halves (single volume) | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 19: Guide to: Half Cents Large Cents | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 20: Guide to: Barber Silver Dimes | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 21: Guide to Liberty Seated Coins | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 22: Guide to Modern US Dollars | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 23: Guide to the US Mint | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Red Book \# 24: Guide to Gold Eagle Coins | BOWERS, Q. David |
| Official Whitman Guidebook Grading Standards US Coins | BRESSETT, Kenneth 1999 |
| Official Whitman Guidebook to US Currency | BRESSETT, Kenneth 1999 |
| Paper Money of the United States 2017 | FRIEDBERG, Arthur and Ira |
| Past Tense: History through the Lens of American Coinage | GILLIS, Rod |
| Rare Coin Estate Book 2000 | HALPERIN, James |
| Red Book of United States Coins 1965 | YEOMAN, R.S. |
| Select Numismatic Bibliography 1965 | CLAIN-Stefanelli, Elvira Eliza |
| SHEKEL | SCHUMAN, Edward |
| Shipwrecks Near Wabasso Beach | WELLER, Robt. \& RICHARDS, Ernie |
| Standard Catalog of United States Paper Money 14th Edition | KRAUSE, Chester |
| Standard Catalog of United States Tokens | RULAU, Russe |
| Standard Catalog of World Coins 1701-1800 | KRAUSE, Chester |
| Standard Catalog of World Coins 1801-1900 (2004) | KRAUSE, Chester |
| Standard Catalog of World Coins 1801-1999 (1999) | KRAUSE, Chester |
| Standard Catalog of World Coins 1901-2000 | CUHAJ, George |
| Standard Catalog of World Coins Single Volume 1987 | KRAUSE, Chester |
| Standard Catalog of World Paper Money 1650-1960 | PICK, Albert |
| Standard Catalog of World Paper Money 1961-2000 | BRUCE, Colin |
| Standing Liberty Quarters 2007 | CLINE, J.H. |
| Truth Seeker: Life of Eric P. Newman | Augsburger Burdette Orosz |
| United States Coinage | GUTH, Ron \& GARRETT, Jeff |
| United States Copper Cents | NEWCOMB, Howard R. |
| United States Gold Patterns | AKERS, David W. |
| U.S. Pattern, Trial, \& Experimental Pieces | ADAMS \& WOODIN |
| World Coin News Magazine | KRAUSE Pubs |

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## BENEFITS OF SBCC MEMBERSHIP

- Meet once a month with fellow numismatists
- Education
- Guest Speakers
- Numismatic Classes
- Library of books that can be checked out
- Email Jack Klein kleinjack@att.net for check out information
- Tabletop your coins before each meeting for sale or to show and tell
- Participate in coin auction (Buying and Selling)
- Receive a pre-1965 silver dime each meeting
- Win coins and coin related items in raffle
- Annual Summer Picnic
- Pizza night in July
- Annual Christmas party with big coin raffle


