

South Brevard Coin Club



August 2024

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:

Jack Klein

Vice President:

Open

Treasurer:

Tim Janecke

Secretary/Newsletter

Paula Davis

Next Meeting

August 7, 2024 - 7:00 pm

1715 Treasure Fleet

Presented by Jim Wilson



**Learn about the Fleet of Spanish
Treasure Ships that sank off the coast of
Florida in 1715.**

Plus Monthly Auction and Raffle!

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)**

www.southbrevardcoinclub.org

South Brevard Coin Club

IMPORTANT MESSAGES FROM THE BOARD:

We are still looking for volunteers to help with the following positions. Sadly, we have not had much response from the membership and it is crucial to fill these positions so that the Club may grow and thrive which benefits everyone.

Please consider volunteering for the following positions:

Monthly Program Coordinator – To be in charge of scheduling monthly speakers/activities.

Hospitality Coordinator – To coordinate refreshments at the monthly meetings and semi-annual parties.

Membership Assistant – To assist the Membership Chairman with recruiting new members and working at the Membership Table at the Second Sunday Coin Show when needed.

Webmaster – Maintain website development and updates on a regular basis.

Community Advertising – To work in the community to promote and advertise Club activities.

Treasurer Backup – To work closely with the Treasurer to be able to assist when needed.

MEMBERS PLEASE

**CONTRIBUTE YOUR TALENTS AND SKILLS TO MAKE
OUR CLUB BIGGER AND BETTER THIS YEAR!**

**Contact a Board Member to volunteer for the
position you're willing to help with.**

Upcoming Programs

Month/Year	Topic	Speaker
January 2024	Colonial and Early American Currency	Tim Janecke
February 2024	World Coins	Jack Lane
March 2024	ANACS Coin Grading Service	Terry Morrissey
April 2024	Spring Picnic and Raffle	Golden Corral
May 2024	Numismatic Trivia Night	Bob Mellor
June 2024	The Value of a Coin Grading Class	Mike Young
July 2024	Annual Pizza and Numismatic Movie Night	
August 2024	1715 Treasure Fleet	Jim Wilson
September 2024	Numismatic Trivia Night	Bob Mellor
October 2024	Members Bourse Night	
November 2024	Stagecoach Auctions by Wallace	Sheena Wallace
December 2024	Annual Holiday Dinner and Raffle	Golden Coral



Coin Club Library – The Club has a great library of numismatic books that members are welcome to check out! The complete list of books available is in the 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.

Only \$15.00 per person for year!

Benefits and Membership Application in 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 goody 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 (pmqdavis@aol.com)

to appear in a future newsletter...



The Latest Edition of *MintMark* is Now Online

MintMark is the American Numismatic Association's quarterly newsletter for member clubs and the Club Representative Program. The third quarter issue for 2024 is now available for download. *MintMark* can also be read online through your internet browser.

<https://www.money.org/community/clubs/ana-representative-program-newsletter-mintmark/>

Stories in this issue include:

- Become a New ANA Club Member for One Year – Free!
- Exquisite Rarities on Display at the 2024 World's Fair of Money® in Chicago
- News from Around the Country

The deadline to submit articles for the next issue of *MintMark* is October 2, 2024. Please send your articles and images to Eric Holcomb, *MintMark* editor, at eric@holcomb.com. If any researched information is included, please be sure to include a reference link (including Wikipedia). When submitting articles and

Mark Your Calendar!

2nd Sunday COIN SHOW

Azan Shrine Center
1591 West Eau Gallie Blvd
Melbourne, FL 32935

2nd Sunday Each Month

9:30am-3:00pm

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

COIN TALK

Suntree Viera Public Library

4th Tuesday of the month

6:00pm-7:45pm

Informal group, open to the public to come share and learn. Bring coins to discuss or learn about. Every month is an interesting discussion and unites you with other coin enthusiasts.

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>

SBCC has an extensive library that is available to all the members.

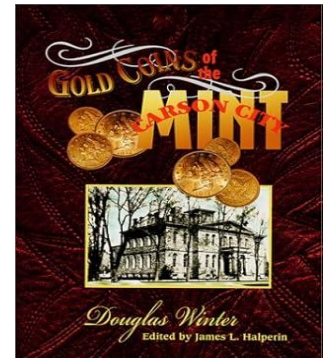
Check out the list of books below.

We would like to revive the BOOK REVIEW at our monthly meetings in which a member gives an oral review of a book they have read to the membership. And for your efforts, Bob will have something for you from the goodie bag!

**BOOK REVIEW by Mike Young of
“GOLD COINS of the CARSON CITY MINT”**

Author: Douglas Winter

Douglas Winter is not just an accomplished author of numerous books on numismatics, mines and history of the west, he is regarded as a leading expert in 19th century branch mint gold issues. The editor of this book, James L. Halperin is known as the most successful coin dealer of all time. One colleague has referred to Jim as “*the Michael Jordan of coin dealers.*” Together, these two men have produced a publication that serves as a quintessential reference to not only Carson City Mint history, but also every single gold coin ever produced at the Carson City Mint.



Published in 2001, Winter takes the reader by the hand and tells the story of Carson City’s beginning from the surveying of its streets, to the construction of the mint. He lays out the details of how America’s richest mine got its name, mint coin production, the political back and forth of its operation, and the bullion embezzlement. The bulk of the 218 pages is a reference guide to each gold coin. There is a focus on grading specifics of these coins. He explains why certain “CC” gold issues are some of the most difficult coins to grade, and offers insight as to why, “*many of these issues were struck from poorly aligned dies...*” Winter covers Half Eagles, Eagles, & Double Eagles for all 21 dated years. The individual coin description begins with an introduction and overview. Each coin is evaluated in nine different categories, including a rarity summary and overall summary.

This is not an inexpensive book, but for the Carson City Gold Coin Collector, and grading enthusiast it is a mandatory addition to your reference guides. I did see a \$101 price tag on one site, but most were at \$130 or higher. You could probably find a decent “CC” silver coin for a comparable cost. This book is offered in both hardback and paperback. I did read this book on a website, but due to copyright infringements, I am apprehensive to site it here. An alternative has been provided for South Brevard Coin Club Members by contacting our club Librarian Jack Klein, or asking Fred Garvin, “Hey Garvin, how did Mike read that book online?”



SBCC Library Books

Available for Checkout
Contact Jack Klein (kleinjack@att.net)



ITLECOIN CLUB of SOUTH BREVARD LIBRARY	PAGE 1
TITLE	Author Publisher
1913 Liberty Head Nickel	Stack Bowers
American Silver Eagles	Whitman Publishing
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
Collectible American Coins	BRESSETT, Kenneth
Confederate States Paper Money	CUHAJ, George S.
Curious Currency	LEONARD, Robert D.
Die Photos & Fuld/Moore Listings Update	FULD, George & Melvin
Early Paper Money of America 5th edition	NEWMAN, Eric P.
Early Paper Money of America 2023 edition	NEWMAN, Eric P.
Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Proof Coins	BREEN, Walter
ErrorScope Magazine	Number 3
Gold Coins of the Carson City Mint	WINTER, Douglas
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 1981	KELLY, Don C.
National Bank Notes A Guide with Prices 2004	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

COIN CLUB of SOUTH BREVARD LIBRARY	PAGE 2
TITLE	Auth or Pub
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	BOWERS, Q. David
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 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 Red Book \$26: Guide to Quarter Eagle Gold 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.
Secrets of the Rare Coin and Bullion Business	GAROFALO, Michael
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 2001-2008	BRUCE, Colin
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

BENEFITS OF SBCC MEMBERSHIP

- Meet once a month with fellow numismatists
- Education
 - Guest Speakers
 - Numismatic Classes
 - Library of books that can be checked out
- 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 and Movie Night
- Annual Christmas party with big coin raffle



SOUTH BREVARD COIN CLUB

P.O. Box 372418 Satellite Beach, FL 32935

www.southbrevardcoinclub.org

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership Type: New _____ **Renewal** _____ **Dealer Only** _____ **Other** _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: () _____ **Email:** _____

I hereby promise to abide by the Bylaws of the Club

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Annual Club Dues: \$15.00 per person

Children under 18: - \$5.00 each

The Numismatic Haberdasher

by Fred Garvin

Great Britain wasn't really great at producing or supplying small denomination coins. There was never enough coinage for its colonies, and late in the 17th century through the 18th century counterfeiting small copper coins had become an economic problem. Counterfeiting worsened for Britain in the spring of 1751, and in late 1773 they had an overseas tax problem. When the Crown sent troops in 1775 to "deal with it", it was they who got "dealt with" and after an 8-year beating, a desperate surrender was accepted and all British subjects were allowed to go home, Britain did request another beat down in 1812, but that thrashing was dispatched much quicker. Counterfeiting was so bad in the late 18th Century the Royal Mint stopped striking small copper coins for almost 50 years, 1773-1821. King George III was constantly at war during most of his reign and wasn't focused on farthings, however "The Copper King", Thomas Williams was, and privately produced pence, & half-pence trade tokens to pay workers at the Parys Mining Company. Merchants all over Britain started doing the same and a solution to the counterfeit coins was realized.



Municipal or Provincial Trade Tokens throughout Britain are regulated to three different time periods, 17th Century, 1649 through the 1670's, 18th Century, 1787-1797, and 19th Century, 1811 through the 1820's. It is this decade of the 18th Century trade tokens that have been "coined" as Conder Tokens.

When Matthew Boulton teamed up with James Watt to start a World-Wide Revolution in coining he was quoted stating, *"...for if our government will not make a new copper coinage we shall force them to it by coining for ourselves such copper pennies."*

Meanwhile, back in London, Thomas Williams, representing the largest copper mine in Wales, met with the Master of the British Mint in 1785 to propose copper coins be struck using a counterfeit deterrent method of edge lettering. Williams offered this technology free of charge to the Royal Mint on the condition that all the copper used would come from the Parys Mine. His offer was declined, so he did it without their help, and started the production of half pence tokens to compensate workers and facilitate local trade on the Isle of Anglesey just off the coast of Wales. It is Thomas Williams that is credited with the initial 1787 production of the Anglesey penny tokens. These pence & half-pence trade tokens were all struck by Matthew Boulton at his Soho mint.

Small denomination coins were desperately needed for commerce. Most goods sold were priced lower than a full shilling, which was minted in silver. Copper coinage was needed to make change from a Shilling. The British monetary denominations end with a Farthing, being equal to a ¼ Pence. 6 Pence is ½ Shilling, A 12 Pence Piece is a Shilling. 5 Shillings make a Crown, and 4 Crowns equal a Pound. Merchants, business owners, and shopkeepers all over Great Britain, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales required "pennies" pence pieces, half pence, and farthings for their tills and to promote commerce.

A very popular business in the 18th Century was a Haberdashery Shop. Linen/fabric, sewing items, buckles, buttons, men's clothing and all sorts of related accessories

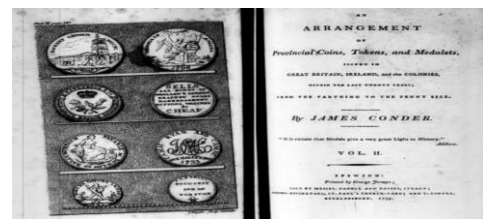
were sold in these shops. A literal smorgasbord of items. The proprietor of such an establishment was known as a Haberdasher, a seller of small things. James Conder was a successful Ipswich Haberdasher and followed the growing trend of merchants having their own trade tokens made.



Most of these tokens were valued at a half pence, but there were also farthings produced and one pence tokens. These provincial trade tokens featured seemingly endless design motifs. Almost as soon as they were issued, the tokens began to be collected and the hobby became fashionable. So vast were these tokens, the aspiring numismatist, Haberdasher James Conder began to index the array of tokens he encountered passing through his Haberdashery. He provided an early reference for these tokens and inadvertently lent his name to the overall series of these 18th Century trade tokens, commonly referred to as “Conder Tokens”.

James Conder’s system began by which region the tokens were issued, England, Scotland, Ireland, or Wales. Then each county was itemized, and further categorized each city or town the merchants’ tokens came from. The tokens edges varied and were either plain, milled or lettered. This lettered edge technology was perfected by Boulton-Watt, and when Thomas Williams offered the Master of the British Mint this “free” technology, it is believed to be a ploy devised by Boulton and Williams to allow Boulton to mint Royal copper coins and Williams to cash in on the mountain of copper at the

Parys Mine. The plain and milled edges were meant for general circulation at face value. Most tokens were lettered edges and stated where they would be payable for goods or even exchanged for regal coin. In 1798 Conder published his catalogue titled, *An Arrangement of Provincial Coins, Tokens, and Medalets*. James Atkins updated the reference including the 19th century period tokens in 1892, and from 1910-1917 Richard Dalton & S.H. Hamer produced an even more complete guide.



James Conder lived and worked in Ipswich from 1761-1823 where his Haberdashery was located. His home was near the intersection of Old Buttermarket & White Hart Lane. A lesser-known fact about James Conder, is in 1863 a road widening project took place in Ipswich. Apparently, digging to a 10-foot depth was required and directly under James Conder’s front door threshold was a cache of silver pennies. The hoard was 150 Anglo-Saxon coins from the reign of “Æthelred the Unready” (979-985). There is no way to prove these silver coins were a part of Conder’s collection. Why would he bury them like that? Historians have warned it is tempting to attribute this cache to the “Ravaging of Ipswich” in 991, but there is not enough evidence to confirm. The World may never know. So, for now, enjoy seeking out Conder Tokens, finding relevant merchants, really incredible designs, and the different denominations. As always, I’m easy to find, approachable, and waiting for someone to yell to me, “Hey Garvin, check out these tokens.”

AMERICAN STEEL & CONNECTICUT COPPERS

by Fred Garvin

After The Revolutionary War and prior to the adoption & ratification of the U.S. Constitution, the highest laws of the land were The Articles of Confederation & Perpetual Union. These documents allowed for the Individual States to mint their own coinage, while at the same time made it difficult for a National coinage to be viable. By 1787 there was an “unraveling” of the Union between the States. From May through September of 1787, ***“...In order to form a more perfect Union...”***, The United States Constitution was created, presented & ratified going into effect March 4th 1789. Many states minted coppers during this period of the late 18th Century, New England States most prominently. None of these State minted coppers are dated later than 1788, however, more than 50 years earlier there was an impressive Connecticut metallurgist that was privately striking copper coins to pay his bar tab.



The “Connecticut Coppers” have the most complex minting history of all the State Authorized Coppers of the Confederation Era. There were more than 355 die combinations, at least 126 type varieties having 26 distinct bust styles made by at least 6 different mints. One of the most popular of these is the 1787 “Horned” Bust. Located in the lower left Field of the Obverse, a chip in the die created the progression of the “Horn” enlarging overtime. The Reverse is quite reminiscent of the British Pence and Half-Pence, although it is called “Liberty” rather than “Britannia.” This was done intentionally because these State “Coppers” were meant to be valued at a Pence or Half-Pence.

Each State Assembly Authorized and documented weight requirements for production of Coppers. The problem was there was no uniformity of weight between the States with a range from 160 grains to 111 grains. A seemingly forgotten point of U.S. Monetary History is that a Shilling in America was not the same as a British Shilling. Individual States had its own valuation for the various denominations of Pounds, Shillings, and Pence. Some States valued the British Shilling at 2 “State” Shillings.

The term “Coppers” is said to be slang, much like the term “Nickle” is used to refer to the Five Cent Piece. It was well understood at the time, a “Copper” was in reference to a State Minted copper coin valued at a Pence or Half-Pence even though all these State Coppers had no face value. The counterfeit British Half-Pence of the period were referred to as Birmingham Coppers. Massachusetts did record 2 different “Coppers” of similar value to a Pence and a Half-Pence. In a very interesting article titled “More on Confederation-Era Coppers” from The National Bibliomania Society, The E-Sylum, Vol. 26, Number 13, Article 17 dated 23 March 2024 reviews a PGCS article that redefines Confederation-Era “Coppers” as “Half-Pennies”. A rather perturbed individual is quoted, *“...I also take issue with the word “coppers” regulated to “slang” like nickels. State coppers had a denomination, which was always a fraction of a shilling.”* There was much disdain concerning the PGCS article, one author requested his name be removed and it was apparent redefining or even referring to a State Authorized “copper” as a “Half-Pence” was a form of Numismatic Heresy/Blasphemy.

Part of the reason Connecticut Coppers were so vast was due to the massive swath of a copper vein that ran through the Connecticut Valley. Copper, brass and bronze industries have capitalized from the various mines that sprung up in Connecticut since the 16th Century. One of the many mines was near East Granby Conn. on Newgate Rd. The Copper Hill Mine was owned by Dr. Samuel Higley, also a practicing Blacksmith which was most likely responsible for his great thirst.

A lesser-known fact is that Dr. Samuel Higley is credited with the first Steel production in America. In 1728 Higley told the Connecticut General Court, *"with great pains and cost' discovered a curious art to transmute iron into good steel."* Two Blacksmiths testified that Higley had come into their shop, asked for a pound or two of iron and said he'd make it into Steel. Several days later he brought it back, and the blacksmiths found it to be "good steel" the first they had ever seen. It has been recorded in General Connecticut Court Documents Higley was granted a 10-year monopoly on Steel Making



Later that same year, Samuel purchased an adjoining tract of 143 acres to his father's existing land. That is where his "Copper Hill" Mine is located. The mine was so rich in high quality ore that Dr. Higley could simply walk into the mine and pick out a lump of pure copper. With his metallurgy skills it has been assumed he produced his own dies to hammer out the 15 varieties of Higley Coppers that are known to exist. Daniel Freidus has produced the most recent listing of the Higley varieties. The First of which depicted a Deer on the Obverse with lettering reading *The Value of Three Pence*. The Reverse had 3 hammers topped with crowns, the date of 1737 and *Connecticut*.

At the time, a tankard of fine ale cost 3 Pence, the local tavern keeper stopped accepting Higley's 3 Pence Piece due to the overwhelming quantity he had accumulated from the Doctor. It is important to note that in May of 1737, Dr. Samuel Higley had set sail transporting a shipment of his copper to Britain where records indicated the 50-year-old Higley died and was buried at sea. With almost 6 months into 1737 it is possible that Higley did in fact strike these coins and use them to pay for drinks, some modern historians adhere to the contrary believing he wasn't alive to do so.

With other varieties of The Higley "Connecticut Coppers" dated 1739, and none known to exist dated 1738, Historians believe it was Dr. Sam's brother John, and other family members that continued to strike these coins. Technically, referring to the Higley coins as "Connecticut Coppers" would not be accurate because "Coppers" is a specific term regulated to the Confederation Period and "Coppers" were only produced from 1785-1788. Ratification of the Constitution prohibited States from minting coins after 1788, and established a National Mint in 1792. Plus, reaping the ire of dedicated Numismatists is not the goal of this article.



During the 1730's of the American Colonies it was illegal to privately strike coins, it was also difficult for British authorities to enforce the edict. Taking a closer look at Higley's copper coins you could see how he was aware of this and the lettered text he engraved into the dies seems to be an attempt to put the receiver at ease. *"Value Me As You Please"*. The Roman Numeral 3 located just below the Exergue on the Obverse would infer a 3 Pence value, as his other coin clearly displayed and bartender once accepted, but this coin seemed to reflect a more gracious characteristic allowing for varying interpretations and a reassuring reverse *"I am Good Copper"*, with crowns topping hammers possibly to evoke a Monarch Authority. His other varieties seem to also depict similar attributes. This analyzing of Higley's coins is purely speculation, and should in no way be taken as any sort of authority on the subject. The fact remains these are the first copper coins struck in Connecticut, and when delving into "Connecticut Coppers" Higley's coins should be mentioned. As always, I'm easy to find, approachable, and waiting for someone to yell out, "Hey Garvin, check out these coppers!"