

Nashua Numismatist

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President's Message

Dear Fellow Club Members,

As we step into March 2026, I'm reminded of how this month often bridges the seasons—winter's quiet reflection giving way to spring's renewed energy. In many ways, our hobby mirrors that transition. We honor the history and artistry of coins from centuries past, while also embracing new discoveries, technologies, and collecting opportunities.

This month, I encourage each of you to take a fresh look at your collection. Perhaps there's a coin you've overlooked that deserves a closer study, or a story behind a piece that you've yet to share. Our meetings and newsletter thrive on these shared stories—they're what turns coins from objects into living history.

We also have some exciting events ahead, including our March meeting, where we'll feature a coin of the month and have a memorial service for the US Cent. A coin that will unfortunately no longer be minted. Whether you're a seasoned numismatist or just starting out, I hope you'll join us, bring a friend, and maybe even a coin or two for our show-and-tell.

Let's make this month one of curiosity, connection, and celebration of the hobby we love.

Jay Ouellette- NCC President



Next Event:

Wednesday, March 11th, 2026, 7PM In-person + Zoom Option

Nashua Public Library (Large or Activity Room), 2 Court St., Nashua, NH

COTM: Memorial Services for the US Cent

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**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION
TO THE NASHUA
NUMISMATIST**

**January – November
is 20th of the month.**

**December is 18th of
the month.**

Send Submissions To:

Kevin Winn
nashuacoinclub@gmail.com

Bill Seldon
billseidon711@gmail.com

Use This Format

Text Files: .doc (Word only, no PDF)

Image Files: jpg only.
Source submitted by author.

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The Nashua Numismatist staff will have the final say on what appears in any issue.

Thank You !!

Nashua Coin Club

Minutes of the Meeting

February 11, 2026

The meeting was opened at 7:10 by President Jay Ouellette with the Pledge of Allegiance at the Nashua Public Library. There were twenty-four members and one guest in attendance, sixteen members and one guest in the library, and eight members on Zoom. The minutes from the previous month were approved, the Treasurer's report was read and approved. Correspondence consisted of the Numismatist from the ANA, our bank statement and tax form from DCU, dues from multiple members, the Centinel from Central States, our 2026 Membership Certificate from the NCBA, and The Journal from the RCNA.

There were two new members in attendance. Noah McGrath and Dave Poirier were both recruited to join after numerous visits to Nashua Coins and Collectibles. Welcome to the club Noah and Dave.

The attendance raffle of \$4.00 was won by Fred Liberatore.

We discussed our Coin of the Month program and produced two more ideas for 2026. In September we will discuss Canadian copper coins and tokens, and in November the COTM will be Odd Denominations.

Secretary Kevin Winn talked about correspondence from the ANA about membership discounts for new members. See either him or Brian Bazarnicki if you would like to join the ANA with a \$15 discount.

We talked about the off-site meeting where it was decided that we would propose that our new web site be supported by Go Daddy, the same company that protects our domain name. After a brief discussion, it was unanimously decided to delegate \$250 for the first three years' payments for this support. Barrett Chapin will officially take on the responsibilities of Webmaster and begin the process of creating the website for the club. We will also keep the link which leads to a static page description of our club on the Nashua Coins and Collectibles website.

We talked about articles in the newsletter written by Bob Fritsch, Kevin Winn, Judy Blackman, and Fred Liberatore. All are extremely well done and worth your time to read.



George Schuschereba's coins from South of the Equator.

Our Coin of the Month was numismatic items from countries South of the Equator. (All photos by Kevin Winn unless otherwise noted). George Schuschereba started us off with coins from Columbia, Chile, Uruguay, Trinidad, Argentina, Bolivia, Venezuela, and



Noah McGrath's notes from South of the Equator.

Aruba. These are some of the many countries where George has worked during his lengthy career. He also talked about mining tokens from some of these same countries, which were tokens that workers received in lieu of pay that had to be spent at the company store. Noah McGrath talked about “coffee tokens” which were the same idea as the mining tokens for workers on coffee plantations. And Noah did bring in bank notes which he happened to have with him from Guatemala and Costa Rica. Asher

Hamilton passed around a \$10 Polymer bank note from Australia, which was the first country to produce these non-paper notes.



Asher Hamilton's Australian Polymer Note

Cliff Lo Verme brought in his silver Kookaburra Coin from Australia, and a Gold plated ring coin from New Zealand printed in Elvish which commemorated the Lord of the Rings movies which were filmed in that country. Sam Ouellette passed around his 1910 Australian six-pence coin. Tim Skinski on zoom showed us a New Zealand five dollar polymer note featuring a yellow eyed penguin, along with an actual photo of a yellow eyed penguin which they took themselves while vacationing in New Zealand so that Tim's wife Liz, could add birds from that country to her amazing Life List of Birds of the World.



Kookaburra coin and Lord of the Rings Medal from Cliff Lo Verme



New Zealand Five Dollar note and photo both showing the Yellow Eyed Penguin. (Photos by Tim Skinski)

Show and Tell was next and we started off with Fred Liberatore showing us his Proof set products from the Australian Mint. There were three from the Cook Islands, Australia, and Samoa. Dave Poirier passed around a five shilling coin from Somalia and a ten



Fred Liberatore's proof Sets

Centimos coin from Peru, along with coins from Columbia and Ecuador.

Our Upcoming Coins of the Month:

March 2026 – Memorial Services for the US Cent.

April 2026 – Your most historical numismatic item in your collection.

May 2026 – The Worst numismatic item in your collection.

June 2026 – Coins of revolutions, uprisings, and sieges.

July 2026 – Any numismatic item from the U.S. Bicentennial 1976.

August 2026 – Any numismatic item from any country undergoing hyper-inflation.

September 2026 – Copper Coins and Tokens from Canada

November 2026 – Odd Denomination Coins from any Country

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Kevin Winn
Secretary



Recent Acquisitions for February 2026

Bob Fritsch; Notes featuring an actor portraying Sherlock Holmes like the one at right (Photo right by Bob) showing actor William Gillette as the Super Sleuth.



Photo - Bob Fritsch

Kevin Winn; 1803 S245 “Unicorn” U.S. Large Cent

Fred Liberatore; 1887 French two Francs – Classic 2nd Republic Coin

David Poirier; 1848 Large Cent and some early Wheat Cents

Asher Hamilton; World Banknotes

Judy Blackman; RCM 2026 Specimen Set and Virginia Numismatic Association Encased Cent. (see photos from Royal Canadian Mint and Judy Blackman below)



RCM Specimen Set

Virginia Numismatic Association Encased

The End of the U.S. One Cent Coins

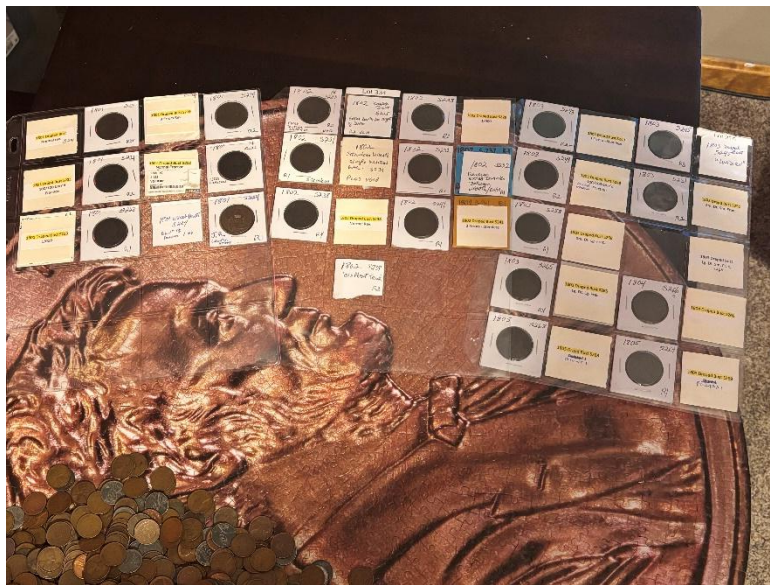
By Kevin Winn (all photos by the author)

The United States Mint in Philadelphia officially started making one-cent coins in 1793. They were made continuously in Philadelphia and/or other U.S. Mints until 2025, except for the year 1815, when they couldn't obtain enough copper planchets from England due to the fact that the countries were at war.

Most of the production was involved with making coins for circulation. They also made Proof Coins and some special edition varieties, but the circulating pennies were always a workhorse coin among the various denominations.

That was especially true during the Large Cent era from 1793-1857. In those days, pennies had value and could probably pay for a meal or a drink among other useful items necessary for normal life. They wouldn't get left behind or forgotten, and if noticed abandoned and lost on the ground, they would always get picked up and reused.

In 1856-1857, the U.S. decided to switch from large cents to small cents, and they stayed with that size planchet until today. Large cents had a diameter of 27.5 – 29 mm depending on the design type. Small cents have a consistent diameter of 19 mm. The first small cents made from 1856-1864 were made from a copper-nickel combination (88% Copper and 12% Nickel). During 1864 they switched to a bronze mixture (95% Copper and 5% tin and zinc). That metallic combination stayed in place until 1943.



Three pages from Kevin Winn's Large Cent Collection

1804.

Obverse Design features for small cents started with the Flying Eagles from 1856-1858, the Indian Head Pennies from 1859-1909, and finally the Lincoln Head Cents from 1909-2025. From a copper collector's perspective, like me, I have at least one coin from every year of one cent production. That's 232 years of coins dated from 1793 to 2025. That includes some very tough, rare coins with low mintage numbers like the Large Cents made in 1793, 1799, and

My Large Cent collection is my primary focus at this time. It is something I really enjoy because of the design changes every time a different die was used in production. All these changes are well documented in multiple books, which helps with the challenging task of correctly attributing a newly acquired specimen.

But for many years before I got hooked on the Large Cents, my Lincoln Cent Collection was my favorite album. I tried (and I am still trying to get some “red” into every date and mint-mark needed to fill the albums. I am close but there are always going to be some remaining on my upgrade list. Especially the 1914-D, 1922 plain, the 1924-S,



My Lincoln Cent Jigsaw Puzzle along with one tub of extra wheatbacks.

and the 1926-S. All other coins in this collection are MS60+ and either Red, Red-Brown, or Brown with a trace of red.



And like every collector of any major coin series, I have my favorites. The first is my 1909-S VDB in MS 64RB. For many years I didn't own one. Then I bought a VF20 in an ANACS holder. And I finally replaced that one a few years ago with the MS64 RB

example. The story which goes with this coin is that for years, my wife would ask me what I wanted for Christmas. My stock answer was always "1909SVDBBU" which I would always need to translate for her into "a Lincoln Penny from 1909 made in San Francisco, with the designers initials on the back, in brilliant uncirculated condition." Since I finally got permission to spend the money for the MS 64 coin, I've had to think up a different answer to the Christmas question.

The second Lincoln among my favorites is my 1915 cent. It is a gorgeous coin, which I have graded MS65 Red. It is a strong strike with unbelievably clear features in Lincoln's face, hair, bowtie, and in the wheat stalks on the reverse. The story with this coin is that it is the only remaining coin from my paper route collection. So, when I was eleven



to fourteen years old, (around 1962-1965). I delivered the Lowell Sun to about eighty customers in the Highlands neighborhood of Lowell. We had to collect cash from all our customers every week, and since it only cost sixty-two cents a week to get the paper for all



seven days, I had to handle a lot of change. Somewhere, somehow, I obtained this really great 1915 Lincoln cent which was immediately put into my album, and it has been in my primary Lincoln collection since that day.

My third favorite is probably my 1955 double die in AU 58 (with traces of red) which I obtained by trading a pretty nice Indian Head Penny collection for the 1955 double-die plus \$100 cash.

There are many, many other favorites. In fact, every Lincoln cent in my primary collection has a story about where and when it was obtained, and it is

always enjoyable to view the collection which has such a consistent quality throughout the years from 1909-2025.

But now the President has ordered the mint to stop the production of cents, which they have done. But he hasn't turned this order into law as yet. It would have to be approved by Congress to turn this request into a permanent change.

So, we must say good-bye to President Lincoln. Even though the penny will continue to be included in proof sets and mint sets, there will be no more spendable cents made because of the exorbitant cost to make them versus the actual value of the cent.

Good By Mr. Lincoln. It has been 116 years since President Theodore Roosevelt collaborated with Victor D. Brenner to have your likeness adorn our one-cent coins. It has been a great run, much longer and more dearly loved, and constantly collected than any other U.S. coin in history.

I've been collecting Lincoln Cents since I was about ten years old. I am sorry to see them go, even though I do understand the economics of the situation. But I can't let a numismatic moment like this pass by without penning a few verses that highlight the situation in a different way. Please Enjoy:

Penny Candy Was a Real Thing!

BY Kevin Winn

Penny candy WAS a real thing,
But soon the cent will be no more.
Pennies could purchase almost anything
And were always retrieved when they fell to the floor.

Pennies were useful and used every day.
They had a purpose, so pennies were saved,
Because everyone knew a full coin purse may
Help purchase anything your heart may crave.

Put a few together for a loaf of bread,
A bottle of milk, or an ice cream treat.
Save a few rolls to dine out instead,
Or to feed your family with fresh fish or meat.

But now we have finished making those cents,
Panicked people are putting pennies in pots.
Soon we'll feel cheated and our fists may clench,
When prices are rounded to a higher spot.

“No Sense” is a pun being used by the masses.
I've heard and used it and read it in articles.
But what will you do when this cent-troversy passes,
And the president decides that he has seen enough nickels.

What can we do except smile all the same,
When the value of our coins is so far out of range.
We will all move on and adjust to the game
Changing our lives due to the lack of change.



Image Created by ChatGPT

The Cent: A Slow Demise

By F.A. Liberatore

The small United States cent first appeared in commerce in 1857 and was wildly successful, easily replacing the cumbersome and expensive to produce large cent. In 1857 a reduced size, new design, and switch from copper to cupronickel with 5 % tin/zinc made the Flying Eagle and then in 1859 the Indian Head cent even more popular and widely accepted in commerce. In 1909 the design was switched to the now ubiquitous and beloved Lincoln cent. The image of our greatest president, who saved the union, has become iconic. While the reverse has been redesigned from wheat ears to the Lincoln Memorial to the Union Shield, the Lincoln obverse has remained the same since first used in 1909. Four special reverses in 2009 commemorated the 200th year of Lincoln's birth and the four main phases of his life.

Inflation is a slow, insidious, seemingly never ending process that destroys the purchasing power of money, especially a token currency of low intrinsic value. The gradually rising value of copper sounded the alarm concerning the Lincoln cent in 1981. The solution was the substitution of a cheaper metal for the bulk of the cent with copper plating to cover up the numismatic sin that had been committed. These new cents looked the same as the ones they were replacing but had a fatal flaw. Zinc is a more chemically active metal than copper. Dissimilar metals in close contact will form an electrochemical cell in the presence of moisture. As a result the new cents tarnish badly and corrode readily in the environment. Inflation continued to eat away at the value of the cent and eventually the purchasing power continued to decline as the cost to make them continued to increase. There were other signs, cents on streets, parking lots, sidewalks, store floors laying there unloved and not picked up. Older folks would pick them up but the youngsters knew it was not worth the effort. Small dishes appeared in stores with a pile of cents and a note, "Need a penny, take a penny or leave a penny." By 2025 it cost the mint 4 cents to coin one cent.

We have a somewhat haphazard government at present. So, In November 2025 the mint was ordered to stop making cents for circulation. There was no guidance on what to do with prices which often are in odd amounts due to sales taxes. And the idea that 0.99 won't seem like the \$1 it is for all practical purposes makes a constant need for cents for change. Stores and consumers have simply been left adrift. The cents have not been demonetized and there are billions of them in bags, jars, boxes, drawers, and lost everywhere. One grocery chain accumulated 100 million cents in a week at 100 stores just by offering 2 cents per cent in trade.

Canada stopped making cents in 2012. Their government regulated rounding so that 6 or 7 cents became 5 cents and 8 or 9 cents became 10 cents. The only problem is that the cupronickel nickel now costs 14 cents to make. It too will be eliminated leading to still less Happy Collecting since virtually every old collector now started on cents when young.

F. A. Liberatore

1910 Exhibition Plaque Awarded to Famous Scientist

by Judy Blackman, FRCNA, FONA, KStE-CDA/USA

Kleeford Coin Auctions Ltd. (<https://www.kleefordcoins.co.uk/>) is a registered limited company in England and Wales. This piece is from Lot 170 in Kleeford's November 2025 auction, and photo is courtesy of the company. There were no bids on this piece, despite its unusual design and shape, and its historic significance.

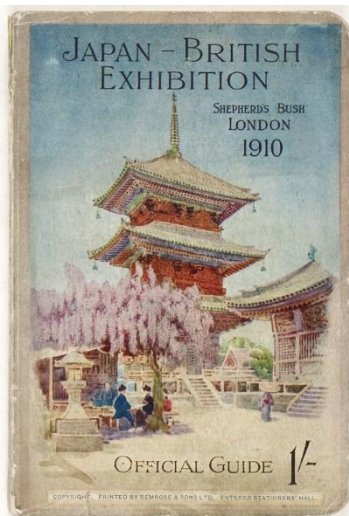
The plaque's legend reads, IN COMMEMORATION / OF THE / JAPAN-BRITISH / EXHIBITION / LONDON / SHEPHERD'S BUSH / 1910 / PRESENTED TO / SIR NORMAN LOCKYER. →

The lot's description reads, "Medal, or rather plaque, for the Japan-British Exhibition, London 1910. Silver, hallmarked Vaughton's, B'ham 1910. Trapezoid shape. Presented to Sir Norman Lockyer, British Scientist famous for discovering helium. (Which makes the plaque unique of course). Original case, the interior of which can be removed to make a display stand. Eimer's have got the one awarded to Viscount Churchill (no price given) but apart from that I cannot find another anywhere on the Internet. By the way, this one is FDC, not like Eimer's one which is VF1. (£250-500)."



Vaughtons (often stamped Vaughton's or V&S, B'ham) is a well-regarded Birmingham, England-based maker of medals, badges, fobs, and silverware, active since the late-19th century.

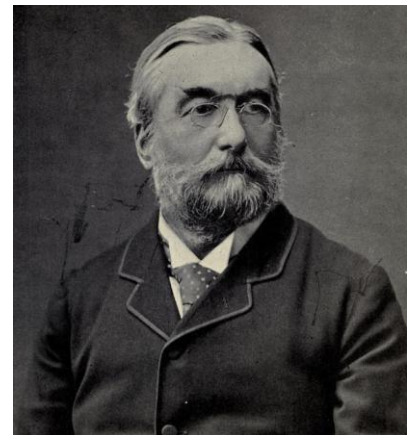
The *Museum History Journal* 11.1 (2018) notes, "The Japan-British Exhibition of 1910 brandished Japanese products and culture in Shepherd's Bush, White City, London. Although Great Britain allied with Japan on matters of international relations, the English and Japanese still suffered from unease in the midst of each others' politics and cultures. The *Anglo-Japanese Alliance of 1902* sought to create a 'friendly' relationship, within the bounds of each country's limitations of understanding. Thus the Japan-British Exhibition, held right in the heart of London, exposed any formerly construed 'eccentricities' of the East as shrewd, inventive talents to the Brits. It was held from 14 May 1910 to 29 October 1910.⁴"



← *JAPAN-BRITISH EXHIBITION OFFICIAL GUIDE, Printed by Bemrose & Sons Ltd. Entered Stationers' Hall. [Image created 14 May 1910, Public Domain.]*

Sir Norman Lockyer (born Joseph Norman Lockyer), KCB FRS, recipient of the Rumford Medal (1874) and Janssen Medal (1889). Scientific career: Astronomy, Imperial College, London, January 1, 1897.

→
[Stereoscopic Co.—Notable of Britain image, Public Domain.]



Here's some points about Lockyer's interesting life: 2/3/4

- Sir Joseph Norman Lockyer (17 May 1836 – 16 August 1920) was an English scientist and astronomer. Along with the French scientist Pierre Janssen, he is credited with discovering the gas helium. Lockyer also is remembered for being the founder and first editor of the influential journal *Nature*.

- Lockyer led eight expeditions to observe solar eclipses, for example in 1870 to Sicily, 1871 to India and 1898 to India.
- Lockyer is among the pioneers of archaeoastronomy (investigation of astronomical knowledge or prehistoric cultures).
- Lockyer established an observatory near his home in Salcombe Regis near Sidmouth, Devon. Originally known as the Hill Observatory, the site was renamed the Norman Lockyer Observatory after his death and directed by his fifth son William J.S. Lockyer.
- In 1901, Lockyer was obliged to retire from the Royal College of Science because of age regulations, but he continued as director of the Solar Physics Laboratory until 1911, when it was decided, to his profound disappointment and against his vigorous opposition, to transfer the observatory to Cambridge University. Lockyer's response to the transfer was to build an observatory at Sidmouth in Devonshire, which he directed until his death in 1920.⁵

References:

1. Hennessey, John L. "Moving up in the world: Japan's manipulation of colonial imagery at the 1910 Japan-British Exhibition." *Museum History Journal* 11.1 (2018): 24-41.
2. Norman Lockyer (1889). *Elementary Lessons in Astronomy*. Macmillan and co. (1868-94)
3. Norman Lockyer (1874). *Contributions to Solar Physics*. Macmillan and co. (1873)
4. Joseph Norman Lockyer (1873). *The Spectroscope and Its Applications*. Macmillan and Co. p. 1. (1873)
5. EBSCO Knowledge Advantage™ <https://www.ebsco.com/research-starters/history/joseph-norman-lockyer>

**1796 Liberty Cap 1/200 Cent C-2:
COTM Memorial Services for the US Cent**
by **Judy Blackman**, FRCNA, FONA, KStE-CDA/USA,
Info. & Image Source: Stack's Bowers Galleries (SBG)

Our March COTM is Memorial Services for the US Cent. I'm not sure a funeral is needed just yet, although a mock one was held on the day the last US Cent was struck. But looking at recent auctions, Large, Small, Half Cent, and One Cent listings are still very much sought after by collectors. While I was searching for a coin for this article, I came across a nice website with the history of the US penny, so I thought I'd share the link here for those who may be interested: <https://finestknown.com/history-of-the-penny/>.

Here is a recent listing (Lot 25008) by Stack Bowers Galleries (SBG), as shown in the February 3, 2026's Showcase Auction—Session 3—U.S. Coins—In Conjunction with the James A. Stack, Sr. Collection, Part II—Featuring the Dean Oakes Family Collection—Lots 25001-25176. At the time of starting to write this article (January 27, 2026), the bidding had already reached \$16,000USD (before Premium) with many interested parties.



The lot description reads:

Key Date 1796 Liberty Cap Half Cent (1/200), Cohen-2 Variety, With Pole, Rarity-4+, VF-30 (PCGS, Certificate Number 53910305). *Provenance: From the Dean Oakes Family Collection.* PCGS# 35098. BASEPCGS# 1027. NGC ID: 2227.

Significant and highly desirable Choice VF quality for this legendary Liberty Cap half cent issue. Deeply and richly toned, both sides exhibit hints of warm rose patina to otherwise dominant charcoal-copper color. A trace of micro-pitting is seen under magnification, and closer inspection with a loupe is also required to discern a faint scratch in the lower left obverse field and a few tiny digs within the field close in to the front of Liberty's neck. The in-hand appearance, therefore, is pleasingly smooth in a moderately circulated early U.S. Mint copper. Centering is good, border denticulation soft in several areas around both sides, but the detail is suitably bold throughout the design despite a touch of softness to the denomination HALF CENT at central reverse.

With only 140 or so coins extant in all grades (per Bill Eckberg, 2019), the 1796 is the rarest date in the entire half cent series of 1793 to 1857. Most survivors are from the C-2 dies, as here, examples of which have been honored rarities ever since numismatics became widely popular in the 1850s. Since then the appearance of a 1796 has been a special occasion. Although not as rare as its C-1 No Pole counterpart, the 1796 C-2 is still very scarce. Perhaps surprisingly for such an elusive variety, there are several Mint State coins known, including at least three Gem Red and Brown coins. One of these, the D. Brent Pogue specimen in PCGS MS-66 RB realized \$470,000 as lot 3009 in our February 2016 sale. Another is the PCGS MS-65+ RB from the Missouri Cabinet, which sold for an extraordinary \$718,750 in Larry & Ira Goldberg's January 2014 sale of that collection. Beyond the handful of Mint State coins, however, the census for this variety quickly drops to the lowest circulated grades, and individual coins at those levels are usually dark and porous. Our offering of this well defined and handsome PCGS VF-30 example represents an important bidding opportunity.

Okay, so what did this lot finally sell for? It sold for a whopping \$40,800USD (includes Buyer's Premium)!

According to Wikipedia:

The Liberty Cap half cent was the first half cent coin produced by the United States Mint. It was issued from 1793 until 1797. The Liberty Cap half cent was among the first coins produced by the Philadelphia Mint, with the only other coins produced by the Mint in 1793 were the Chain, Wreath, and Liberty Cap large cents. Production of the half cent was temporarily suspended in 1797 but resumed in 1800 with a new design. The 1793 half cent was engraved by Henry Voigt, although it is not known if he was the original designer. The "Liberty facing right" coins were designed and engraved by Robert Scot.

Robert Scot (October 2, 1745 – November 3, 1823) was a Scottish-American engraver who served as Chief Engraver of the United States Mint from 1793 until his death in 1823. Henry Voigt or Henry Voight (1738 – February 7, 1814) was a clockmaker, mathematical instrument maker, machine and steam engine builder, and Chief Coiner of the first United States Mint. He operated a wire mill in Reading Pennsylvania and repaired clocks and watches for Thomas Jefferson, who knew him well.

Reference:

1. Yeoman, R.S; Bressett, Kenneth; Garrett, Jeff; Bowers, Q. David (2019). *A Guide Book of United States Coins (72nd ed.)*. Pelham, AL: Whitman Publishing. pp. 103–104.

It's All Just a Numbers Game

By Kevin Winn

Two of my grandsons are brothers ages fourteen and twelve. They are big into social media and pretty much spend all their spare time on their phones looking at You Tube, Instagram, Facebook or whatever is popular for kids that age at the moment. So, when I ask them how they feel about anything like their dinner, or a TV program, or a birthday gift, I pretty much always get the arms reaching out with their palms turned down and the words “**six seven**” coming out of their mouths. I usually reply to that weirdness with something like “**Twenty-Five or six to four**, over and out,” just so I can show them that I am as “Cool” as they are.

At least I like to think that...they certainly don't. I told them that in the world of coin collecting, “six seven” would often be an appropriate response when talking about a coin's condition. They roll their eyes and walk away as fast as they can go. But the “six seven” craze might not be as current and cool as they think. Like, maybe it's a code for something that really is just OK, not too great, but not completely terrible either.

To a coin collector that's usually exactly what it means. If a recently minted coin is six seven, you can probably go ahead and spend it. If it is a collectible coin, it could be a space filler in a coin album until a better example comes along. Like a sixty-seven or sixty-eight instead of a six seven. The one flaw in this logic is that a very rare coin like a 1799 Large Cent or an 1893-S Morgan Silver Dollar in grades six or seven is worth thousands of dollars, even in those low grades. But their rarity doesn't change their condition.

The Sheldon seventy point grading system has been around for almost eighty years, and it is widely accepted throughout the hobby and coin business. The recent phenomena of using “six seven” to describe something that's “meh” has been around since 1948 if you want to accept my humble opinion.



Chicago Transit Authority circa 1969 (left to right: Parazaidler, Seraphine, Kath, Pankow, Loughnane, Cetera, Lamm). Photo courtesy of Hit Parade Magazine – January 1970.

And maybe the rock group Chicago Transit Authority has more to do with it than you think. Today they are known as Chicago, and they are the group that wrote and popularized the song “25 or 6 to 4.” It was a big hit, and it can also be a controversial

phrase for a coin collector. Is a coin a Very Fine 25 or should it be graded 6 or 4 due to some detail problem?

It's all for fun, I guess. I don't really think the song writer, Robert Lamm, was thinking about grading coins when he wrote that song in 1969. But then you might notice that Lamm also wrote another hit song for the group in 1969 and that song was titled, "Questions 67 or 68" which may mean that he did find the better quality replacement coin for the "six-seven" in his album. Hmmmmm, does anybody really know what time it is?

Tales From The Shop – March 2026

By Kevin Winn

The price of silver continues to be the biggest and most asked about problem at the shop. Most calls and many in-person shoppers have that issue on the tip of their tongues as soon as they start talking with any one of us at the shop.



Just to recap: According to APMEX.Com, silver was \$31.82 per ounce on 2/1/25, over one year ago. It stayed pretty flat most of the year, then started its rise in the Fall finishing the month of October at \$48.77. Silver started the year 2026 at \$72.78 and then jumped to its highest level on January 29th when it hit \$114.98 per ounce! Today (February 15th, 2026), it's back down to \$78.14.

Gold has followed a similar path at a much higher level. It was \$2,835.90 on 2/1/25, hit its high on 1/29/26 at \$5344.30, and closed at \$5,060.20 on Friday, 2/13/26.

Business at the store reflects these rises and falls. It can get very busy when the price is at its high. And it can be like "crickets" when its on the way down. No one seems to care that if they bought silver a year ago, they can more than double their money if they sell it at today's prices. They complain about the price not still being \$115 an ounce and decide they can wait till it reaches that level again before they sell. They don't realize that they might be trying to catch a falling knife which means the price could just as likely keep dropping more than taking another jump back to its historic high.

What does this all mean to a coin dealer like Gary Galbo, who owns Nashua Coins and Collectibles? It means he has to stay on top of current prices 100% of the time or risk taking a loss when he pays more than he can get for any amount of either metal.

Most of our bullion transactions involve silver because that is more affordable to the masses than gold. You can own sixty-five ounces of silver for the price of one ounce of gold based on current prices noted above. From a customer's perspective it's easier to manipulate as you don't have to buy and sell your sixty-five ounces of silver all at once. It can be bought or sold in small increments at various times. They do need to keep track of how much they buy or sell at each price if they are interested in really keeping track of how much they have gained or lost over any series of transactions.

It seems like a fun exercise when you talk about it. You buy at the best price you can get, then sell it when the price goes higher. Simple enough. But what most customers don't add to the equation is the fact that dealers like Gary are in this business to make a profit. So, when they sell it to you it will be over that day's spot price, and when they buy it back from you it will be under. More than one customer has come into the store thinking they were going to make a bundle at that day's spot price, and then leave in a huff because they forgot we are not a non-profit organization!



1808 OLANCHO PROCLAMATION SILVER MEDAL

[Press Release: Steve Lansdale, Public Relations Specialist, Heritage Auctions www.ha.com]



TrueView Images Provided by Collectors Universe (via Heritage Auctions, HA.com)

TrueView Images Provided by Collectors Universe (via Heritage Auctions, HA.com)

Heritage Auctions 2026 Spotlight: Latin America World Coins Showcase Auction #61595, Lot 25200 **Olancho Proclamation Silver Medal** sold on Feb. 8, 2026, for \$10,980USD (includes Buyer's Premium). Lot description reads:

"Ferdinand VII gilt-silver "Olancho" Proclamation Medal 1808 AU Details (Mount Removed) PCGS, Grove-F-70, Herrera-44, Medina-334. By P. García Aguirre. Issued by La Oficina del Batallon de Milicias. A FERNANDO VII EL AMADO Bust of Ferdinand VII wearing Order of the Fleece // SIEMPRE FLORECIENTE COMO LA PALMA, palm in center dividing EL BATA LLON DE / OLAN CHO; 1808 in exergue. Very rare Proclamation medal issued for the mining region of Olancho, now in Honduras. Limited handling overall, with interesting tone from the gilding."

This historic medal was officially an issue under the Captaincy General of Guatemala as a part of Mexico but specifically for the mining region of Olancho in what is now the country of Honduras. Google Knowledge AI notes:

- From January 1822 to July 1823, the Captaincy General of Guatemala, including the mining region of Olancho in modern-day Honduras, was annexed by the First Mexican Empire. This period marked a brief union following Central American Independence from Spain in 1821. Key details regarding the region during this period include:
- Political Incorporation: The Captaincy General (comprising present-day Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Chiapas) joined Mexico under Agustín de Iturbide.
- Olancho Context: During the colonial era, the province of Honduras (which included Olancho) was a minor mining region often neglected in favor of wealthier areas in Mexico or Peru.
- Economic Condition: Mining in Olancho and surrounding areas in Honduras was plagued by labor shortages, difficult terrain, and lack of capital.
- End of Union: The union was short-lived, as the Mexican Empire collapsed in 1823, leading to the independence of the United Provinces of Central America.
- Following this, the region separated from Mexico to form its own federation, which later dissolved.

MACEDONIAN TETRADRACHM 167-148 BC

[Press Release: Steve Lansdale, Public Relations Specialist, Heritage Auctions www.ha.com]



Heritage Auctions 2026 Spotlight: Kingdom Ancient Coins Showcase Auction #61596, Lot 21093 **Macedonian Tetrachm** sold on Feb. 9, 2026, for \$1,342USD (includes Buyer's Premium). Lot description reads:

"MACEDON UNDER ROME. First Meris. Ca. 167-148 BC. AR tetrachm (31mm, 16.58 gm, 11h). NGC VF 5/5 - 2/5 (certificate #8568662-002), smoothing, scratches. Diademed, draped bust of Artemis right, bow and quiver over shoulder; all within the tondo of Macedonian shield / ΜΑΚΕΔΟΝΩΝ / ΠΡΩΤΗΣ, club of Heracles right; ΠΛΥΩ(?) monogram above, all within oak wreath, thunderbolt in outer left field. SNG Copenhagen 1310-1311 var. (monogram). HGC 3.1, 1103. AMNG III/1, 158. Very rare monogram for this type.

After the defeat of the Macedonian Kingdom in 168 BC, the Roman Republic allowed the empire to become a protectorate. It was split into four administrative districts with capitals in Amphipolis, Thessalonica, Pella, and Pelagonia. To prevent economic growth within the districts, limitations on mining gold and silver were implemented. Only two districts were allowed to mint their own silver without association with Rome - one of them being Amphipolis, the first district or 'meris.' This period of coinage lasted only for two decades until the districts became a unified Roman province."

Google Knowledge AI notes:

Macedon became a Roman province in 146 BC following the *Fourth Macedonian War* and the defeat of Andriscus, concluding a century of conflict. Initially divided into four client republics in 168 BC, the region was officially annexed to become a strategic military barrier, with Thessalonica serving as a key administrative capital.

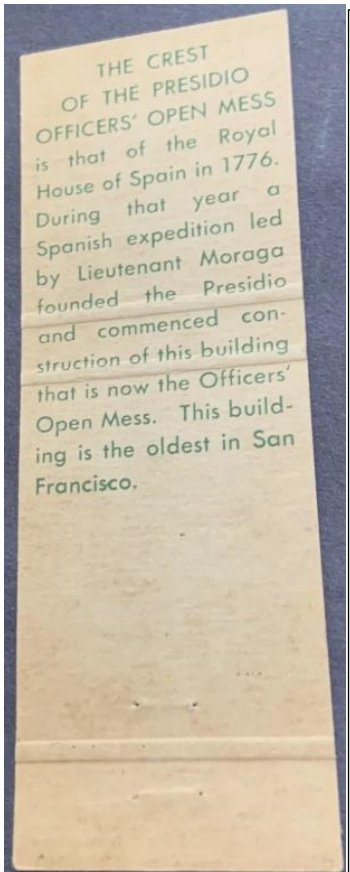
Key Aspects of Roman Macedonia:

- **Conquest and Division:** After the Third Macedonian War (171–168 BC), Rome abolished the Antigonid monarchy and divided the kingdom into four, isolated "client" republics (merides) to limit their power.
- **Establishment of Province:** Following the Fourth Macedonian War (150–148 BC), the region was formally organized as the Province of Macedonia in 146 BC, which included Epirus, Thessaly, and parts of Illyria, Thrace, and Paeonia.
- **Strategic Importance:** The province acted as a critical buffer for the Aegean region, protecting it against northern tribes.
- **Military and Administration:** During the Republic, it was a crucial military command. Thessalonica became a major hub, especially with the construction of the Via Egnatia, which connected the Adriatic to the Aegean.
- **Cultural Impact:** While Greek culture persisted, Roman rule introduced Latin to the region, and it remained a mix of Greek and Roman influences.

Following the split of the Roman Empire, Macedonia fell under the rule of the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire.

PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO

Included in this article, is a full article **"San Francisco's Presidio"** from the *Sierra-Diablo Matchcover Club's Bulletin No. 493, February 2026, by SDMC Editor Mike Prero*



← This Presidio Officers' Club cover was made by Diamond Match div. of San Francisco, California. There are other designs such as this purple cover shown below. The insides are also different, whereas the purple is blank inside, the red, gives an explanation of the crest shown on the front. This is important because the club's building is the oldest structure in San Francisco. The building image is courtesy of the Presidio Officers' Club. There is another variety of this cover in this article.



The Presidio of San Francisco (originally, The Royal Fortress of Saint Francis) is currently a park and formerly a U.S. Army post on the northern tip of the San Francisco Peninsula and is part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.



It had been a fortified location since September 17, 1776, when New Spain established the Presidio to gain a foothold in Alta California and the San Francisco Bay. It passed to Mexico in 1820, which in turn passed it to the United States in 1848. As part of a military reduction program in 1988, Congress voted to end the Presidio's status as an active military installation. On October 1, 1994, it was transferred to the National Park Service, ending 219 years of military use and beginning its next phase of mixed commercial and public use.



← **Aerial view of the Presidio of San Francisco, the Golden Gate and bridge, and the Marin Headlands and Mount Tamalpais (right background) - Northern California, U.S.**

- January 10, 2009

[Source: Wikipedia, photographer Robert Campbell - ticket:2008122910003218 use granted under GNU Free Documentation License.]

In 1996, Congress created the Presidio Trust to oversee and manage the interior 80% of the park's lands, with the National Park Service managing the coastal 20%. In a first-of-its-kind structure, Congress mandated that the Presidio

Trust make the Presidio financially self-sufficient by 2013. The Presidio achieved the goal in 2005, eight years ahead of the deadline.

The park has many wooded areas, hills, and scenic vistas overlooking the Golden Gate itself, the Bridge, San Francisco Bay, and the Pacific Ocean. It was recognized as a California Historical Landmark in 1933 and as a National Historic Landmark in 1962.

Here are some of the badges, and a tag with encased challenge coin.



Also, here's a variety of other, Presidio covers. Cover images courtesy of Carl's Match Covers (eBay seller, 25113). Carl's Match Covers has a large variety of vintage covers and is worth checking out!



We hope you enjoyed this walk down this Presidio of SF military memory lane.

Québec Bicentennial Medal

by Judy Blackman, FRCNA, FONA, KStE-CDA/USA

This 68 mm diameter medal is Lot 347 in CAC's upcoming auction. It is the 1759-1959 *Seven Years' War: Capture of Québec* Bicentennial Medal in bronze.

→

This medal was also issued in a silver composition, as shown by these images courtesy of Royal Museum Greenwich.¹ ↓

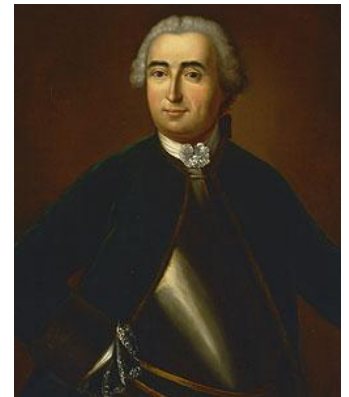


The obverse features portraits of Marquis de Montcalm and Major-General James Wolfe with a scene of the landing below them, inscribed with MONTCALM QUÉBEC WOLFE and SEPTEMBER 1759.

The reverse design depicts three figures building a column, symbolizing the foundation of Canada, with the text TRIA JUNCTA IN UNO, 1759 1959, and CANADA in the exergue. It commemorates the 1759 *Battle of Plains of Abraham*, a crucial battle that led to the British acquisition of New France.



Louis-Joseph, Marquis de Montcalm, was a Lieutenant General in the French forces in New France (born 28 February 1712 near Nîmes, France; died 14 September 1759 in Québec City, Canada). A career soldier, he served in many campaigns in Europe before coming to fight in North America during the *Seven Years' War*. He directed the defence of Québec City in the summer of 1759 during the siege by British Major General James Wolfe, which culminated in the *Battle of the Plains of Abraham*.²



Louis-Joseph,
Marquis de Montcalm³

The 1959 issue of this medal is distinct from the original 1759 40 mm medals, such as the QVEBEC TAKEN medal by John Pingo (often misattributed as A.R. Pingo) for the Royal Society of Arts, which were produced to honour the commanders at the time.² It features Britannia over crossed trident, standard with names SAUNDERS—MOORE on the obverse. The reverse shows Victory crowning a trophy of weapons over bound captive, QVEBEC TAKEN.⁴



References:

1. Royal Museum Greenwich, <https://www.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/rmgc-object-39554>
2. The Canadian Encyclopedia, <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/louis-joseph-de-montcalm-marquis-de-montcalm>
3. Government of Canada, Forces Journal, <https://www.journal.forces.gc.ca/vo7/no2/boire-eng.asp>
4. Coopers Coins, <https://www.cooperscoins.com/products/1759-quebec-taken>

Recent Numismatic News / Announcements / Discoveries

by Judy Blackman, FRCNA, FONA, KStE-CDA/USA

American Numismatic Association (ANA) News:

Reserve Your Spot for these FREE Live Webinar *Numisma Talks* on the second and fourth Thursday of the month from Noon to 1PM-MT (<https://info.money.org/numismatalks/>). All webinars are recorded and available at [money.org/videos](https://info.money.org/videos). Upcoming 2026 classes are:

- **Numismatics Noir: Where Culture and Currency Collide**, March 12, Instructor Jen Ingram.
- **Charmy's Wonderful World of Indian Cent Errors and Varieties**, March 26, Instructor Charmy Harker.
- **Remembering April 13, 1976 and the Numismatic Collectible History Created on That Day with the First Day Release of the New Series 1976 \$2 Bill**, April 9, Instructor Walt Ostromecki.
- **Out of the Shadow: The Golden and Silver Ages of Comics in Numismatics**, May 14, Instructor Robert Penn.



← **Congratulations Robert F. Fritsch!** The ANA sent a letter confirming Bob has maintained **50 years** of consecutive membership and is awarded **Emeritus status** (as of January 1, 2026), a distinction reserved for the ANA's most devoted supporters. Bob will be formally recognized during the 135th World's Fair of Money Convention – Member and Awards Celebration held in August 2026 in Pittsburgh.

2026 National Coin Week: April 19-25

Striking Independence: 250 Years of American Numismatics is this year's theme for National Coin Week. This year, America celebrates 250 years of independence. This milestone invites us to reflect on the many ways money and freedom are connected.

Celebrate National Coin Week (NationalCoinWeek.com) with educational and promotional resources from the ANA, including activities for members and Young Numismatists, the annual Club Trivia Challenge, daily online trivia questions, featured articles from *The Numismatist* and the Reading Room, and objects from the ANA collection. Some resources are already live, with more being added in the weeks ahead.

2026 National Coin Week is proudly sponsored by Osborne Mint.



NNP: check out these added links to advance your numismatic education!

Link to **American Tax Token Society Newsletter:**
<https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/publisherdetail/524434>

Link to **James Lawniczak's references on encased coins:**
<https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/booksbyauthor/557736>

Link to **Medals, etc. Commemorating Haym Salomon:**
<https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/book/652188>

Link to **Olympic Games: History and Numismatics:**
<https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/book/554706>

Link to **Journal of the Old Bag Collector's Club:**
<https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/publisherdetail/549372>

Link to **The Incomplete Guide to United States Mint Coin Bags:**
<https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/book/625311>

Link to **Half Crazy:**
<https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/publisherdetail/548913>

Link to **Chuck Heck Decides to Sell His Collection:**
<https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/book/540243>



Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society (EPNNE) Invites Applications for Newman Grants:
 The Newman Grant program is administered for EPNNE by the Newman Numismatic Portal (NNP). Applications may be found on the NNP at:

<https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/archivedetail/530553?Year=2026>

and should be submitted to NNPCurator@wustl.edu. The application deadline is April 15, 2026, with the grant awards to be announced on May 25, 2026, coincident with the late Eric P. Newman's birthday.

Industry / Mint announcements:

In 2026, America will celebrate 250 years of independence. This milestone invites us to reflect on the many ways money and freedom are connected. The American Numismatic Association will offer educational and promotional materials for the week-long celebration (April 19-26, 2026) soon at NationalCoinWeek.org.



The U.S. Mint will honor four more Presidents in 2026 a part of its 1-oz Silver Presidential Medals series: Woodrow Wilson (28th, Democrat, 1913–1921), Warren G. Harding (29th, Republican, 1921–1923), Calvin Coolidge (30th, Republican, 1923–1929), and Herbert Hoover (31st, Republican, 1929–1933).

Trump's new \$1 coin designs revealed after iconic 'fight' version axed as Dems battle vanity project:

<https://www.msn.com/en-ie/news/world/trump-s-new-1-coin-designs-revealed-after-iconic-fight-version-axed-as-dems-battle-vanity-project/ar-AA1UQI2m>

U.S. House passes Aderholt's bill to create a \$2.50 coin for America's 250th Anniversary:

<https://aldailynews.com/u-s-house-passes-aderholts-bill-to-create-a-2-50-coin-for-americas-250th-anniversary/>

The U.S. dime's changing themes this year is for the first time since 1946, and the half dollar returning this year to a Lady Liberty design has not seen since 1947—there's a sense of nostalgia in the air for the Nation's Semiquincentennial (SemiQ).

The Numismatic Guaranty Company (NGC has) launched special slabs with an America250 label for the 2026 U.S. Semiquincentennial. See details at ngccoin.com. →



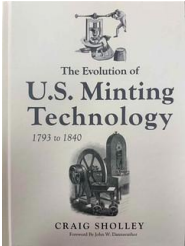
← Anyone interested in selling or consigning to these auction events should contact DLRC via email at coins@davidlawrence.com or by phone at 800-776-0560.

For more information on Short Snorters, see: <https://www.shortsnoter.org/> →

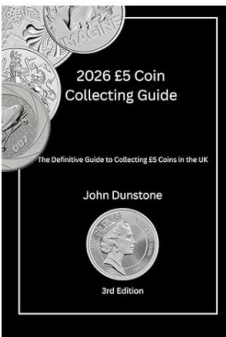


← The Liberty Seated Collectors Club (LSCC) is seeking an E-Gobrecht Editor as the most recent editor retired at the end of 2025 after 15 years. Please reach out to LSCC President Len Augsburger (leonard_augsburger@hotmail.com) should you have an interest. To learn more about LSCC go to <https://lscweb.org/>.

What's in Your Numismatic Library: check out a few of the newest releases.



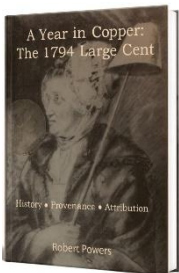
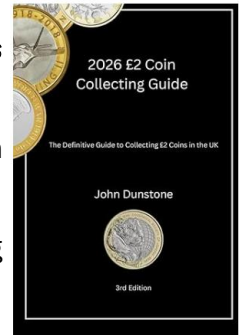
← *The Evolution of U.S. Minting Technology 1793 to 1840* by Craig Sholley, 2025: <https://www.eacs.org/books/>



← *2026 £5 Coin Collecting Guide: The Definitive Guide to Collecting £5 Coins in the UK* by John Dunstone


2026 £2 Coin Collecting Guide: The Definitive Guide to Collecting £2 Coins in the UK by John Dunstone →

Both Dunstone books are available from several online book sellers (including Amazon).



← *A Year in Copper: The 1794 Large Cent; History, Provenance, Attribution* by Robert Powers, available from online book sellers (such as David Kahn Rare Coins davidkahnrarecoins.com).

Young Numismatist (YN) News:




**STUDENTS,
Volunteer at
Parks,
Receive Numismatic
Prizes!**

In honor of the U.S. semiquincentennial celebration this year, the ANA is inviting K-12 students to celebrate history through hands-on service by joining the project America 250: Connecting Coins with the Land(s) They Represent.

Make a meaningful impact while discovering how designs and symbols on U.S. coins reflect the landscapes, wildlife, and historic places they help protect. Volunteer in national, state, and local parks, or in community conservation efforts, in exchange for numismatic prizes.

Visit [MONEY.ORG/AMERICA250-PROJECT](https://money.org/america250-project) to learn more and see where you can start volunteering today!

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Discoveries and interesting articles:

Only person to win Olympic medal and Nobel Peace Prize:

<https://www.popsci.com/technology/philip-noel-baker-olympics-nobel/>

Hard-up Olympians selling medals and their bodies:

<https://nypost.com/2026/02/02/sports/hard-up-olympians-selling-medals-and-their-bodies/>

Bois Durci plastic moulding patented in 1855 by Lepage:

<https://www.mernick.org.uk/BDWeb/>

Banknote featuring former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on Trump's desk sparks debate:

<https://www.turkiyetoday.com/world/banknote-featuring-former-iraqi-president-saddam-husseini-on-trumps-desk-sparks-debate-3213289>

Inside an AI start-up's plan to scan and dispose of millions of books:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2026/01/27/anthropic-ai-scan-destroy-books/>

Michigan man launches coin-grading device amid discontinuation of pennies:

<https://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/2025/11/michigan-man-launches-coin-grading-device-amid-discontinuation-of-pennies.html>

Scientists mimicking the Big Bang accidentally turn lead into gold:

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/big-bang-large-hadron-collider-gold-b2903961.html>

Noble Capital Sues Russia for \$200B Over Century-Old Unpaid Tsarist Bonds in U.S. Federal Court:

<https://indiandefencereview.com/russia-sued-over-tsarist-bonds-noble-capital-claims-200b/>

China prepares its digital yuan:

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/econographics/what-to-watch-as-china-prepares-its-digital-yuan-for-prime-time/>

Crypto criminals stole \$700 million from people:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c93w30gl5jno>

Silver Panic of 1893:

<https://www.moaf.org/publications-collections/financial-history-magazine/155>

Life of Early Engraving Emperor Norton:

<https://emperornortontrust.org/blog/2026/1/18/the-ubiquitous-but-enigmatic-life-of-an-early-engraving-of-emperor-norton>

Top 10 most valuable Canadian tokens sold at auction in 2025:

https://www.coinsandcanada.com/tokens-medals-articles.php?article=top-10-most-valuable-canadian-tokens-sold-at-auction-in-2025&id=1088&utm_source=brev&utm_campaign=coinsandcanada-newsletter-2026-02&utm_medium=email

England's Oldest Legal Ritual 'Trial of The Pyx' held for first time at Mansion House:

<https://www.professionaljeweller.com/trial-of-the-pyx-first-mansion-house/>

<https://www.ianvisits.co.uk/articles/pyx-and-ceremony-london-hosts-one-of-englands-oldest-legal-rituals-87497/>

Complete catalog of The Foxfire Collection: Featuring United States Type Coins...1793 to Date:

<https://archive.org/details/foxfirecollect2003rich>

Ohio lands America's most prestigious coin collection:

<https://www.stateneews.org/section/the-ohio-newsroom/2026-02-04/cha-ching-ohio-lands-americas-most-prestigious-coin-collection>

100-Year-old D-Day Hero Awarded Campaign Medal:

<https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/100-year-old-d-day-hero-fulfills-final-wish-to-be-awarded-campaign-medal/>

Free Digital Archive Unveils The Numismatic History of Paraguay And The Guarani Currency:

<https://asunciontimes.com/culture/paraguayan-history/free-digital-archive-unveils-the-numismatic-history-of-paraguay-and-the-guarani-currency/>

Rolls of washers disguised in coin rolls to defraud bank:

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/kitchener/article/rolls-of-washers-disguised-as-toonies-in-kitchener-bank-fraud/>

First series RMB blocks watermarks:

<https://www.pmgnotes.com/news/article/14848/first-series-rmb-block-watermarks/>

New Coat of Arms on Trinidad-Tobago banknotes this year:

<https://www.voice-online.co.uk/news/world-news/2026/01/16/new-coat-of-arms-with-steelpan-to-appear-on-banknotes-in-trinidad-tobago-this-year/>

Counterfeit Canadian 100-dollar banknotes circulating:

https://canadiancoinnews.com/police-warn-of-counterfeit-cash-circulating-across-gta/?mc_cid=17cb755620&mc_eid=651b8c32d4

St James Hughes-Curtin Communion Tokens Sparked My Interest

by Judy Blackman, FRCNA, FONA, KStE-CDA/USA



← This article comes about, as a result, of my interest in Lot 30 of Australian Numismatic Society (ANS) Auction 60, which closed on Wed., Jan. 16, 2026 (NSW-Australia time).

This lot's description reads, "Australian Communion token St. James Hughes-Curtin, Canberra bronze #443, 32 x 23 mm by Millers commemorate c.1966." The maker of this token is

G.A. Millers Badges, a company dating back to 1900 when Gustav Miller, a Swedish born craftsman, started a badge and medal business in Pitt Street, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. Now more than 100 years later, the company continues to manufacture and supply a comprehensive range of medals and badges with the same care and dedication as its founder. As a long-standing member of ANS, I have struggled to win lots in the online members auctions, which take place 3-5 times a year. This is because Sydney is 16 hrs ahead of where I live. The auction will close at 8PM on Wednesday (Sydney time), but I really have to have my last bid in by no later than 2AM, but of course, I'm fast asleep since I go to bed much earlier! So, I typically get beaten out by an "awake and alert" ANS member, despite my "advanced" and "maximum" bids I have sent. With this lot, once again Michael Carter had the winning bid!



According to Museums Victoria, which has a lot acquired from Spinks in 1988, these St. James Hughes-Curtin bronze tokens also have an edge inscription, however, I've been unable to find any further information or image to show this.

← Australian c1966 St. James Hughes-Curtin Presbyterian Church 'Three Shells' Oval Bronze Communion Token (unnumbered), 34 x 24 mm, minted by Millers-Sydney [Image courtesy of The Purple Penny thepurplepenny.com.]

↓ Several varieties of the St. James Hughes-Curtin Communion Tokens: 4 are Aluminum 1966-1972 (#402, 407, 425, 439), and 2 are bronze Second Issue Unnumbered. [Geoffrey Bell Auctions—RCNA Sale Ottawa, Lot 804, estimated value \$125CAD, sold for \$40CAD.] — this image is the obverse, see the next page for the reverse image.



flooded during a storm on Australia Day in 1971. Cars were swamped by the rising waters. The road was rebuilt and made much higher to prevent a repeat. A memorial (to remember the victims) was built near Yarra Glen in 2010.

- Curtin lays claim to innovative town planning. The houses were built facing a large, shared green space rather than the street. Walkways and underpasses were also constructed to local shops and schools, so pedestrians did not have to cross a road to get there. This was very forward-thinking, since at the time there were very few car owners.
- The January 2003 Canberra Bushfires hit the top edge of Curtin. Residents were taken off-guard when flames from three separate blazes in the Namadgi National Park swept into urban areas during a hot and windy afternoon. The rest of the town was saved as a skycrane helicopter dropped water on the nearby ridge, while fire crews fought the flames in the field.

Here's some history of communion tokens in Australia: The Christian Study Library⁵ notes -

- A number, of Australian parishes issued communion tokens, some even importing their tokens from Scotland. Australia's oldest token was issued by the Scotch National Church of Launceston, Tasmania, in 1833. The earliest dated NSW token was issued by St Stephen's Bathurst in 1837, followed by Goulburn Presbyterian Church in 1840. However, it is almost certain that the undated "Scotch Church" token issued by Rev. John Dunmore Lang's Sydney congregation pre-dates the Goulburn and possibly the Bathurst issue.
- Communion tokens were also issued from the early-1880s through to the late-1880s by many parishes in Victoria, South Australia and particularly Tasmania, with at least one Queensland parish issuing its own token under the name "Creek St Presbyterian Church" (now St Paul's Brisbane).
- From as early as 1886, the expensive lead tokens were being replaced with communion cards which many parishes still use even to this day.
- Lead communion tokens were also used extensively in the Free Church congregations in Australia, again from as early as 1833, but with many tokens being undated and with session records being remarkably silent on the issue, precise periods of use for many parishes cannot be definitely, determined.
- The usual design of Australian communion tokens, like those of Scotland, is an oval, circular or rectangular lead token with the name of the parish, occasionally with an image of the church or in Victoria, specially, an image of the Burning Bush, and on the reverse an appropriate Biblical inscription, usually from 1 Corinthians 11:24 or Luke 22:19, "*This do in remembrance of me*", with occasionally "*Let a man examine himself*" as an alternative text.
- Whether communion tokens were used in Australia as a means of maintaining Church discipline as Calvin had originally intended or as simply a way of prompting members to attend the usual quarterly communion services is somewhat unclear. It is believed that some 63 Australian Presbyterian or Free Kirk parishes issued lead communion tokens.
- At least one NSW parish, Queenbeyan, used tokens obtained from the parish of the minister's father (St Stephen's Macquarie Street). Further, as in Scotland, a number, of parishes used stock tokens, which were usually undated and unnamed.
- The archives of both the New South Wales and the Victorian Church have small collections of communion tokens, but it would appear, that, there is no complete collection.

References:

1. ACT Government—Open Government and ACT Magistrates Courtent/inform/cabinet-decisions/decisions/2023,-week-of/24-april-2023
2. Australian Christian Church Histories <https://www.churchhistories.net.au>
3. <https://www.canberrahistory.org.au/display/1138/curtin-living-memories.html>
4. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-10-17/canberra-suburb-of-curtin-celebrates-50-years/5818216>
5. <https://www.christianstudylibrary.org/article/token-esteem>

Mint Calendar 2026 Upcoming Release Dates

[Images courtesy of US Mint, www.usmint.gov]

There are currently no scheduled events, coin exchanges, or design contests. Be aware that issue dates can be a moving target. Check the Mint website for the latest info.

05-Mar: American Eagle 2026 Gold Proof Four-Coin Set →

05-Mar: American Eagle 2026 One-Half Ounce Gold Proof Coin

05-Mar: American Eagle 2026 One-Ounce Gold Proof Coin

05-Mar: American Eagle 2026 One-Quarter Ounce Gold Proof Coin

05-Mar: American Eagle 2026 One-Tenth Ounce Gold Proof Coin

27-Mar: Semiquincentennial Quarters 2026 Rolls and Bags – Revolutionary War →

07-Apr: American Innovation \$1 Coin 2026 Rolls and Bags - Wisconsin

14-Apr: Silver Proof Sets 2026

21-Apr: American Eagle 2026 One-Ounce Silver Enhanced Uncirculated Coin

05-May: Enduring Liberty 2026 Semiquincentennial Half Dollar 200-Coin Bag (Multi D/P)

05-May: Enduring Liberty 2026 Semiquincentennial Half Dollar Two-Roll Set (Multi D/P) →

07-May: American Buffalo 2026 One-Ounce Gold Proof Coin – West Point

12-May: American Innovation \$1 Coin 2026 Rolls and Bags - California

13-May: Warren G. Harding Presidential Silver Medal

28-May: American Eagle 2026 One-Ounce Gold Enhanced Uncirculated Coin

09-Jun: Morgan Silver Dollar 2026 Enhance Uncirculated Coin

09-Jun: Peace Silver Dollar 2026 Enhanced Uncirculated Coin

16-Jun: Semiquincentennial Quarters 2026 Rolls and Bags – Declaration of Independence →

30-Jun: Uncirculated Annual Coin Set 2026 (Multi D/P)



Figure 1 - Uncle Sam says, " Get your United States Mint products while they last!"

Upcoming 2026 Events

Check websites for updates:

08 MAR: EBW Greater-Worcester Coin Show, Auburn-Webster Elks Lodge, Auburn, MA

11 MAR: NCC MEETING, Wed., 7PM, In-person + Zoom, (Nashua Main Library)

15 MAR: EBW Coin Show, Third Sunday, Alpine Grove Evts Ctr, 19 S Depot Hollis

22 MAR: EBW New England Sunday Coin Show, Springhill Suites Marriott, Devens, MA

03-04 APR: NH 2026 Spring Coin Expo, DoubleTree by Hilton (Downtown), 700 Elm St., Manchester, NH

09 APR: NCC MEETING, Wed., 7PM, In-person + Zoom, (Nashua Main Library)

12 APR: EBW Greater-Worcester Coin Show, Auburn-Webster Elks Lodge, Auburn, MA

19 APR: EBW Coin Show, Third Sunday, Alpine Grove Evts Ctr, 19 S Depot Hollis

26 APR: EBW New England Sunday Coin Show, Springhill Suites Marriott, Devens, MA

23-25 APR: CSNS 2026 87th Convention, Schaumburg Renaissance Hotel and Convention Centre (near Woodfield Mall), 1551 North Thoreau Dr., Schaumburg (Chicago suburb), IL

29 APR—03 MAY: EAC 2026 Convention, Sheraton Charlotte Airport Hotel, Charlotte, NC

14 MAY: NCC MEETING, Wed., 7PM, In-person + Zoom, (Nashua Main Library)

17 MAY: EBW Coin Show, Third Sunday, Alpine Grove Evts Ctr, 19 S Depot Hollis

28—30 MAY: PAN 2026 Spring Convention, Monroeville Convention Ctr, 209 Mall Blvd., Monroeville, PA 15146

29—30 MAY: ONA 2026 Convention, Hampton by Hilton, 100 Coventry Rd., Ottawa, Ontario, K1K 4S3 CDA

11 JUN: NCC MEETING, Wed., 7PM, In-person + Zoom, (Nashua Main Library)

21 JUN: EBW Coin Show, Third Sunday, Alpine Grove Evts Ctr, 19 S Depot Hollis

28 JUN: EBW New England Sunday Coin Show, Springhill Suites Marriott, Devens, MA

09 JUL: NCC MEETING, Wed., 7PM, In-person + Zoom, (Nashua Main Library)

14-19 JUL: RCNA 2026 Convention, **** new location:** Delta Hotels (& RBC Convention Centre), 350 St Mary Ave., Winnipeg, MB, R3C 3J2CDA (hosted by Manitoba Coin Club)

25-29 AUG: ANA 2026 World Fair of Money®, David L. Lawrence Convention Ctr., Pittsburgh, PA

22—24 OCT: PAN 2026 Fall Convention, Monroeville Convention Ctr, 209 Mall Blvd., Monroeville, PA 15146

The Last Word:

Bob Fritsch

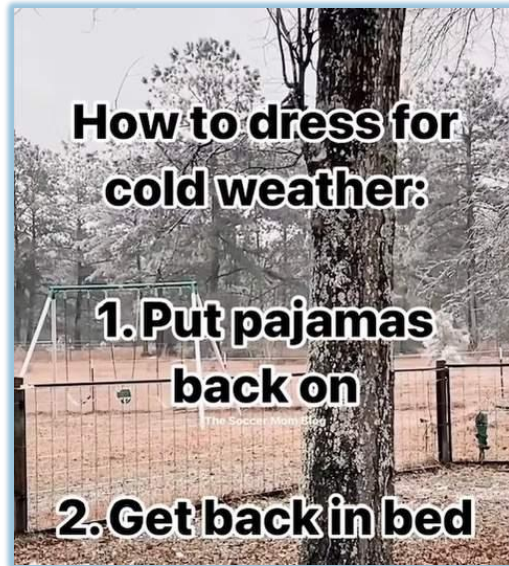


Photo by Bob Fritsch

2026 Club Officers

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VP – Cliff Lo Verme

VP – Joe Casazza

Secretary – Kevin Winn

Treasurer – Rick Marais

Director – Bob Fritsch

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Kevin Winn, Bob Fritsch,
Brian Maxfield

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The NCC meets on the second Wednesday of every month (except October and December) in the Nashua Library, 2 Court Street, Nashua NH.



NASHUA COIN CLUB, NH NEW/RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



NCC, P.O. Box 3003,
Nashua, NH, 03061-3003, USA

Applicant: (first, surname) _____ Email: _____

If joining as FAMILY, list other applicants. Note, *for any under the age of eighteen years (18), please provide date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy):

Applicant: (first, surname) _____ Email: _____

Applicant: (first, surname) _____ Email: _____

Applicant: (first, surname) _____ Email: _____

*DOB for _____ is _____. *DOB for _____ is _____.

Mailing Address: _____ Postal Code: _____

For Best Contact Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Alternative Phone: (____) _____ - _____

Note: In making application you agree and consent to the NASHUA COIN CLUB, NH sending newsletter, and other NCC correspondence to you digitally by the email provided above. Payment of dues and signature at the bottom of this application signifies you granted consent.

Please share here, your primary interest(s) by ticking the box(es):

- | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> USA Coins | <input type="checkbox"/> CDN Coins | <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign Coins | <input type="checkbox"/> Ancient / Medieval Money | <input type="checkbox"/> PNCs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> USA Notes | <input type="checkbox"/> CDN Notes | <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign Notes | <input type="checkbox"/> Banking Memorabilia | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Bills of Exchange |
| <input type="checkbox"/> USA Tokens / Medals | <input type="checkbox"/> CDN Tokens / Med- | <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign Tokens / Medals | <input type="checkbox"/> Exonomia | <input type="checkbox"/> Numismatic Publications |

All Membership Dues are payable in US Funds (USD). New Membership Dues are payable immediately, and Annual Membership Dues are based on the calendar year and due on or before January 1st each year. If you join after September 30th, you are paid for the current year and the following year. You may pay with your Application Form during an NCC membership meeting, by mail enclosing a check or money order payable to NASHUA COIN CLUB, NH, or by emailing nashuacoinclub@gmail.com to arrange an electronic funds transfer (etransfer). Indicate the type of Membership you are applying for:

\$3—Young Numismatist (YN) (under eighteen years old) Parent / Legal Guardian
(first surname): _____

\$15—Individual (aged eighteen years or older)

Tick off applicable box for your METHOD OF PAYMENT:

- CASH MONEY ORDER OR CHECK PAYABLE TO "NASHUA COIN CLUB, NH" eTRANSFER

In making this APPLICATION for Membership in the NASHUA COIN CLUB, NH (NCC), you hereby agree to abide any current NCC Constitution & By-Laws and as amended going forward. NCC is a domestic non-profit corporation (61868).

Sign: _____
Applicant's Signature

Date: _____
Date of Application (mm/dd/yyyy)

**EXCEPT FOR YOUR SIGNATURE,
PLEASE **PRINT** CLEARLY IN
ALL OTHER AREAS OF THIS
APPLICATION.**

New / Renewal	YEAR(s)	Type YN / I	Amt. Rec'd.	Date mm/dd/ YYYY

← THIS TABLE
FOR NCC EXEC.
USE ONLY
Exec. Signature:
