

MISSOURI JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS

VOLUME 50

JULY, 2025

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MISSOURI NUMISMATIC SOCIETY



2025 Penny Press Souvenirs

<i>Kathy Skelton</i>	<i>Hua Mulan</i>	4
<i>Robert Kravitz</i>	<i>Wampum</i>	9
<i>C. Joseph Sutter</i>	<i>Golden Missouri Sales Tax Token</i>	10
<i>Robert Kravitz</i>	<i>1970 Was a Very Good Year</i>	12
<i>Dave Price</i>	<i>PERFECT U. S. MINT REJECTS Or The Beautiful Coins, (What Can Happen – Will Happen) MINT ERROR – Type Sets</i>	14
<i>C. Joseph Sutter</i>	<i>The Dalles Mint, A Follow-up</i>	24
<i>Charles Calkins</i>	<i>A 1708 SEXTO Crown of Anne – Unicorn of Forgery?</i>	28
<i>Charles Calkins</i>	<i>German East Africa Tabora Hellers</i>	32
<i>Joel Anderson</i>	<i>Bechtler Mint – Not A Mint</i>	42
<i>Mark Blumenstock</i>	<i>Are the Roman Gods Will With Us?</i>	46
<i>Chip Vaughn</i>	<i>Julia Domna, Matriarch of the Severan Dynasty of Ancient Rome</i>	64

Missouri Numismatic Society

and Scotsman Auctions

present:

MNS 65th Annual Coin Show and Scotsman Auction

July 16th—19th, 2025

St. Charles Convention Center

Convention Center Plaza

St. Charles, Missouri 63303



Show Hours:

DEALERS ONLY: Wednesday, July 16th NLT 2 pm - 3 pm

PUBLIC: Thursday, July 17th 10 am - 6 pm

DEALERS & EARLY BIRDS: Wednesday, July 16th 3 pm - 6 pm

Friday, July 18th 10 am - 6 pm

(\$50 fee for Early Birds
good for all days)

Thursday, July 17th 8:30 am - 6 pm

Saturday, July 19th 10 am - 4 pm

Friday, July 18th 8:30 am - 6 pm

SCOTSMAN AUCTION:

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140 Booths

Free Admission and Free Parking

U. S. & Foreign, Ancient & Modern Coins and Currency,
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The Missouri Numismatic Society was founded in 1938.



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P. O. Box 410652, St. Louis, Missouri 63141-0652



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MEMBER CLUB OF THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION (ANA)

P.O. Box 410652St. Louis, MO 63141-0652

MissouriNumismaticSociety.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Kathy Skelton	President’s Message	3
Kathy Skelton	Hua Mulan	4
Robert Kravitz	Wampum	9
C. Joseph Sutter	Golden Missouri Sales Tax Token	10
Robert Kravitz	1970 Was a Very Good Year	12
Dave Price	PERFECT U. S. MINT REJECTS Or The Beautiful Coins, (What Can Happen – Will Happen) MINT ERROR – Type Sets	14
C. Joseph Sutter	The Dalles Mint, A Follow-up	24
*****	A Missouri Record	26
Charles Calkins	A 1708 SEXTO Crown of Anne – Unicorn of Forgery?	28
*****	Quiz	29
Robert Kravitz	Five Cent Third Issue Spencer Morton Clark Fractional Currency Notes	30
Charles Calkins	German East Africa Tabora Hellers	32
Joel Anderson	Bechtler Mint – Not A Mint	42
Mark Blumenstock	Are the Roman Gods Will With Us? You Bet Your As They Are!	46
Dave Price	Mint Errors – The Beautiful Coins, (What Can Happen – Will Happen) “How ‘Error’ Coins Are Made - Back in Yesteryear”	52
C. Joseph Sutter	Always Follow Good Advice!	62
Chip Vaughn	Julia Domna, Matriarch of the Severan Dynasty of Ancient Rome	64
*****	New Challenges	68
*****	MNS Show Exhibits	71

INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

Scotsman Auction Co.

Outside Back Cover

GUIDE TO AREA ACTIVITIES

Future Numismatic Events	72
Ancient Coin Study Group	74
World Coin Club of Missouri	75
Missouri Numismatic Society	76

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President's Message

By
Kathy Skelton



Welcome to the 65th Annual Coin Show of the Missouri Numismatic Society (MNS). We hope you are having a great experience and finding some treasures for your collection! Our 65th show! We began as a small show in 1960 at the St. Louis Gateway Hotel. The following year the coin show was moved to the Statler Hotel. For the past several years we have grown into the St. Charles Convention Center.

Our educational exhibits are fun and informative - we have an expert in error coins, exhibits on Ancient Coins, Primitive Money, a tribute to Eric Newman, and Buddy Can You Spare A Dime exhibit. The president of CONECA (Combined Organizations of Numismatic Error Collectors of America) will be here.

Our Penny Press machine is cranking out cents for you - we have several images on the die, and you can take home a souvenir. We are featuring our state animal - the Missouri Mule - (among other choices). Kids of all ages love to turn the crank.

On a sad note, we lost Dr. Juan Castro, Mike Butland (CJS&T), Joseph Lawler, Charlie Sloan, and Scotsman lost their CEO, Julie Buhr and specialist, Bob Brandt. Regular readers of the Journal will remember Dr. Castro for his numerous Philippines exhibits and his multi-year Journal coverage of Dr. Jose Rizal.

Our show is run by volunteers - not just the show committee, but also members of our club. They help in many 'behind the scenes' ways. No one has a paid position. So, a big **THANK YOU** to all who put in a lot of time and effort into keeping dealers, volunteers, and the public happy. Special thanks to Dan Marion, Rob Kravitz and Barbara Steers who communicate and organize the dealers and booths.

Thank you to our board - they come together for running the club. Each board member has a special talent, and do an excellent job at their position - Joel Anderson, Treasurer; Dale Bunyard, Governor, Nick Correnti, Recording Secretary; Carl Garrison, Governor; Dave Hamill, Governor; Tom Howlett, Governor; Rob Kravitz, Vice-President; Dan Marion, Governor; Barbara Steers, Correspondence Secretary; Doug Tomney, Governor; and Chip Vaughn, Governor. I am encouraging members to run for the board. This is your club and to help lead the way in growing our fellowship. This year we have a new link on our website, the Alfred Walker Numismatic Association - check it out along with our other brother/sister clubs!

Don't forget to check out the lots at Scotsman Auction. Friday night is auction night and will be exciting as always. Good luck and happy bidding!

Join our club and share your interests with other members! If you join at our show (only \$10.00!), your membership will not expire until the end of 2026. You will be given a gift, a free meal and entertainment at our Award Party in December. At our meetings (see the last page of this journal), you have a chance to win great attendance prizes and learn about different numismatic interests. If you volunteer at our show, we have a free volunteer thank you dinner. We also have a Face Book page, send adults and YN's to Colorado for the annual ANA classes, and other educational endeavors. Most of all, fellowship with like-minded collectors.

Thank you for attending our show and have a great time!

Hua Mulan – Flower Magnolia

By
Kathy Skelton

Born in Central China's Henan or Shanxi, or Hebei Province during the Sui Dynasty (580-618 CE).

Death – believed to be in the Tang Dynasty era (618 – 907 CE) – Suicide

Mulan is thought to be a Chinese fictional folk hero. Later books such as *One Hundred Beauties* by Yan Xiyuan, *Female Mulan* (her family name is Zhu), and *Romance of Sui and Tang* (her family name is Wei) attest that she was a real person.

Legend has it that Mulan's aged father was conscripted to the army to fight the northern nomadic hordes. Mulan dressed like a man and took her father's place. She fought well and was honored by the emperor (he did not know that Mulan was a female) by offering her a high office position. She declined and returned to her family, and revealed herself to be a female.

Further legend has Hua as the eldest child and she knew her father was too old to fight in the army. She bought a horse, said farewell to her parents and left for the Black Mountain, camping by the Yellow River in the evening where she could not hear the calls of her parents; but she did hear the barbarians' cavalry in the Yan Mountains. Hundreds of battles took place, and after a ten-year campaign, the soldiers returned to meet the Son of Heaven, enthroned in a great palace, who bestowed promotions in rank, and wonderful prizes. Mulan turned down everything and rode home. She took off her armor, combed out her hair, and wore a fine dress. Her comrades were shocked at the change.

Mulan's father was eventually vanquished after siding with the enemy of the Tang dynasty and had to relocate – the family was believed to be living in Leshou. Mulan (still a virgin) had an arranged marriage to Luo Cheng but they never marry – the Khan (believed to have raped thousands of virgin girls) summoned Mulan to his palace to be his concubine. Rather than be the Khan's concubine, Mulan committed suicide. Many find her death surprising – the debate being whether she was engaged or not, also in a debate is that Mulan was only half-Chinese (her mother was from the Central Plain of China) but her father was from Hebei and presumably of Turkic origin.

For over a hundred years, the *Ballad of Mulan* was passed down by oral tradition as an autobiography. Modern historians believe the poem to be fictitious.

The first written record of Mulan is a folk song called the *Ballad of Mulan*, composed during the Northern Wei Dynasty. This ballad was in a collection of books and songs, but was lost to time; but significant excerpts, including the *Ballad of Mulan*, survive in the Song dynasty anthology. A later adaptation has Mulan active around the founding of the Tang dynasty. In later works, her story is in the anthology compiled by Guo Maoqian in the 11th or 12th century. Her story is in the 17th century work of historical fiction (*Romance of Sui and Tang*, written by Chu Renhuo), and many screen and stage adaptations.

Playwright Xu Wei (c. late 1500's) told her tale as “The Female Mulan”. Film adaptations include the 1939 *Mulan Joins the Army*, and continued to Disney’s 1998 animated feature *Mulan*, followed by a sequel in 2004, and in 2020, a live-action film.



A painting of Hua Mulan, 18th century, housed in the British Museum.



Statue of Hua Mulan in the Chinese Garden in Jurong East, Singapore.



1992 obv.
Country: China Mintage: 30,000
Weight: 22 gr. Diameter: 35 mm



1992 rev.
Comp.: 90% Silver



2021 \$5 Heroines obv.
Country: Niue Mintage: 500 Poland
Weight: 62.2 Diameter: 45mm



2021 \$5 Heroines rev.
Comp: 2 oz. Antique Silver



Copper comm. Obv.
Country: China Mintage: 399
Weight: 480 gr. Diameter: 80 mm



Copper comm. Rev.
Comp: Copper



2021 \$5 Warrior obv.
Country: Niue Mintage: 555 Poland
Weight: 62.2 gr. Diameter: 45 mm



2021 \$5 Warrior rev.
Comp: 2 oz. Antique Silver



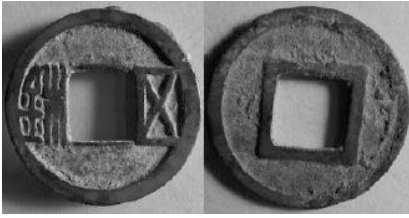
Disney pewter Challenge Coin obv.
Mintage: 5,000 Comp: Pewter
Diameter: 38 mm



Disney pewter Challenge Coin rev.
Weight: 32.7 gr.



Disney elongated penny
Country: USA Mintage: ? Comp: Zinc and Copper
Weight: 3.17 gr. Size: 1.25" x .75"



Wu Chu Coin (112-559 CE)

Country: China Mintage: Spans 736 years

Comp: Copper Alloys

Weight: 2.56 gr. Diameter: 23mm

This coin type was minted for over 700 years under many rulers. Although hard to identify, Frank Robinson attributes this to the Sui Dynasty (589 - 618 CE).



Kaiyuan Tongbao Coin T'ang Dynasty (618-907 CE)

Country: China Mintage: Spans 286 years

Comp: Bronze, lead, iron, silver, or gold

Weight: 8.41 gr. Diameter: 30 mm



Tang Dynasty Cash Coin 618-907 AD

Country: China Mintage? Comp: Brass

Weight: 5.18 gr. Diameter: 24 mm

Ballad of Mulan

unknown author, translated by Jack Yuan (2006)

The sound of one sigh after another, As Mulan weaves at the doorway.
No sound of the loom and shuttle, Only that of the girl lamenting.

Ask her of whom she thinks, Ask her for whom she longs.

"There is no one I think of, There is no one I long for.
Last night I saw the army notice, The Khan is calling a great draft –
A dozen volumes of battle rolls, Each one with my father's name.
My father has no grown-up son, And I have no elder brother.
I'm willing to buy a horse and saddle, To go to battle in my father's place."

She buys a fine steed at the east market; A saddle and blanket at the west market;
A bridle at the south market; And a long whip at the north market.

She takes leave of her parents at dawn, To camp beside the Yellow River at dusk.
No sound of her parents hailing their girl, Just the rumbling waters of the Yellow River.

She leaves the Yellow River at dawn, To reach the Black Mountains by dusk.
No sound of her parents hailing their girl, Just the cries of barbarian cavalry in the Yan hills.
Ten thousand miles she rode in war, Crossing passes and mountains as if on a wing.
On the northern air comes the sentry's gong, Cold light shines on her coat of steel.
The general dead after a hundred battles, The warriors return after ten years.

They return to see the Son of Heaven, Who sits in the Hall of Brilliance.
The rolls of merit spin a dozen times, Rewards in the hundreds and thousands.

The Khan asks her what she desires, "I've no need for the post of a gentleman official,
I ask for the swiftest horse, To carry me back to my hometown."

Her parents hearing their girl returns, Out to the suburbs to welcome her back.
Elder sister hearing her sister returns, Adjusts her rouge by the doorway.
Little brother hearing his sister returns, Sharpens his knife for pigs and lamb.

"I open my east chamber door, And sit on my west chamber bed.
I take off my battle cloak, And put on my old-time clothes.
I adjust my wispy hair at the window sill, And apply my bisque makeup by the mirror.
I step out to see my comrades-in-arms, They are all surprised and astounded:

"We travelled twelve years together, Yet didn't realize Mulan was a lady!"

The buck bounds here and there, Whilst the doe has narrow eyes.
But when the two hares run side by side, How can you tell the female from the male?

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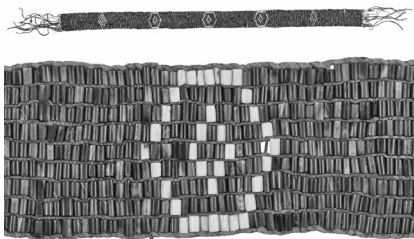
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Wampum

The First Medium of Exchange in the New World

By
Robert Kravitz

The Indians of the North and the Southwest did not use any particular medium of exchange that might be called any type of currency. The Indians of the Pacific Northwest and the Atlantic Seaboard used wampum. Wampum, which is shell money, was also called peag by the Dutch.



The most widespread use of wampum was in the New England States. It was made by fastening beads made from parts of clam, mussel and oyster shells. The beads were white, blue, purple or black.

Wampum was made legal tender in Massachusetts on November 15, 1637. White wampum passed at four to an English

penny. Then in an October 7th, 1640 change, white continued to pass at four to a penny and blue at two to a penny while black was only worth one penny. The Indians would not readily accept the white man's metal currency for furs or other trade items. The English therefore were obligated to use wampum in any of their very early dealings with the Native Americans.

It was not long before factories were started that manufactured wampum. The first were at Albany, NY and near Hackensack, NJ. This caused the rapid depreciation of the wampum by 1649. Then on May 22, 1661 wampum lost its legal status in Massachusetts! By then Massachusetts had its own coins. Willow tree coins were struck from 1653 to 1660, the Oak tree from 1660-1667.

In a short time the wampum shell money lost its worth as a medium of exchange. Many enterprising and unscrupulous fur traders made a fortune trading wampum to the Indians for fur!

References

Documentary History of Banking and Currency in the United States, Volume 1, 1983
Peterson, H. "Background of American Coinage", from ANA's The Numismatist, April, 1953

About the Author:

Robert Kravitz is the author of the definitive book on Fractional Currency: A Collector's Guide to Postage & Fractional Currency (second edition). He is a dealer who attends most major shows and currently resides in St. Louis.

Golden Missouri Sales Tax Token

By
C. Joseph Sutter

Author's note: Chits, Chiselers, and Funny Money is the primary source for the information in this article. It was written by Michael Pfefferkorn and Jerry Schimmel and is a tremendous source for sales tax information in Missouri and the other states and municipalities that issued sales tax tokens. Mr. Pfefferkorn was the original editor of the Missouri Journal of Numismatics.

In 1934 the State of Missouri was desperate for funds. 1929 saw the start of the Great Depression, which lasts until 1939. Missouri, as did the rest of the country, experienced high rates of unemployment and poverty, drastic reductions in industrial production and international trade. There were also widespread bank and business failures. To meet this need the Missouri Retailers Occupation Tax Act was passed creating a one-half percent tax on retail sales and services.



In 1935 the tax was raised to one percent by the Emergency Revenue Act. At this time the concept of tokens was introduced. Since the smallest U.S. coinage unit was one cent, these tokens were to be denominated in fractional cent units, mills. The tokens were made out of cardboard so they would not be the same as U.S. metal coinage. It was not until 1937 that metallic, specifically zinc, tokens would be considered.

Manufacturing contracts were given to St. Louis' Eisenstadt Manufacturing Company and Cincinnati's Osborne Register Company. Eisenstadt acted as an agent for the Scovill Manufacturing Company of Waterbury, Connecticut. These contracts called for two denominations: one and five mills. Two designs were used: a plain Missouri Map without any surface markings and an engraved or finely checkered map. Scovill manufactured both five and one mill tokens using the plain map while Osborne only made the one mill using the engraved map.

The tokens had identical designs on the obverse and reverse. On the one mill the Missouri Map was overlaid with a "1" with the legend "MISSOURI SALES TAX RECEIPT" around the edge. The five mill used a "5" repeated on both sides of the Missouri Map and had a center punched hole to easily distinguish from the one mill. Both were 23 mm in size.

Patterns were manufactured in four metals: copper, brass, aluminum and gold. They are referred to as catalogue numbers 8 – 15 in *Chits, Chiselers, and Funny Money*.

The production zinc token had a mintage in 1937 of 39,902,000 zinc one mill tokens (17,602,00 by Scovill, 22,300,000 by Osborne) and 10,360,500 five mill tokens, all by Scovill. *Chits, Chiselers, and Funny Money* also mentions four tokens struck in gold, two each of the one and five mills. Scovill was the manufacturer.

Why make two sets in gold? One set was presented to the State Sales Tax Supervisor George Bates and the other to State Auditor Forrest Smith. Supervisor Bates confirmed the existence of the gold token in a letter to H(erbert) Rowold, from 1944 and reprinted in the ATTS Newsletter. #189. He wrote that the tokens were “made by Scoville Manufacturing Co” as a matter of courtesy and are souvenirs and not for sale, as Mr. Rowold was curious about. Scoville “made in gold two mill tokens and two five mill tokens”. He described them as weighing twice that of the zinc version, or 1/8 ounces, worth around \$100.00. He was inclined to keep his set. Mr. Bates wrote that one set “was presented to Mr. Smith and the other set to me” (Mr. Bates).

The weight issue is important since the question arose if the tokens were made of gold or merely zinc plated in gold. If plated, the weight difference from the zinc token would not be noticeable. However, speculating that they were made of gold, makes them in violation of the 1933 laws prohibiting the manufacture of gold coins. Mr. Malehorn, also writing in the ATTS Newsletter, is doubtful that Missouri State officials would ignore the federal laws but then he recalls the political climate then in Missouri and concludes that maybe Bates and Smith “just didn’t bother to turn them in”.

Did these gold tokens violate the 1933 laws? Executive Order 6102 of April 5, 1933 banned the hoarding and retention of gold coins. Hoarding was defined as: “the withdrawal and withholding of gold coin, gold bullion or gold certificates from the recognized and customary channels of trade”. However, it provided for an exemption in “Section 2 (b) Gold coin and gold certificates in an amount not exceeding in the aggregate \$100 belonging to any one person; and gold coins having a recognized special value to collectors of rare and unusual coins.” Mr. Bates may have been addressing the \$100 exemption when he declared a value for the tokens in justifying his retention of them. There also is the question of whether or not these tokens had a special collector value. As a collector, this author believes they did.

The Coin World Almanac refers to executive orders 6102, 6260 and the December 28 Order of the Secretary of the Treasury to also ban the manufacture of gold coins. This manufacturing issue continued to be debated over the years. In 1954 amendments to gold regulations declared any coin manufactured after 1933 were presumed to NOT be rare and so the tax tokens would be in violation of the law.

Also in the ATTS Newsletter, Kevin Barnett wrote about the gold tokens and his efforts to locate them. He was able to find a descendant of the two officials and was sent a picture of the one cent mill in gold. Mr. Barnett believes that the sets remain in the possession of the Bates and Smith families.

Continued on page 67

1970 Was a Very Good Year

By
Robert Kravitz

This 2025 65th Annual Missouri Numismatic Society Coin Show will be my 55th time doing this show. I was thinking the 1970 ANA Show was my first show setup as a dealer, but that was in August. The MNS Show was in July. I split a table with John Buck at these two shows. I met John through error coins. He was working in the money counting room downstairs at the Mercantile Bank in downtown St. Louis. He would get bags of coins in and had first shot at all the error coins. I met John in 1969 at a show he was set up at with a lot of off-center cents through dollars. That got me interested in error coins. I bought some and we became friends.

I learned a lot at the ANA 1970 Show from Art Kagin (a currency dealer) who was the only dealer who would talk to this young kid about fractional currency. My Grandpa gave me a 50¢ 5th issue note with William Crawford on it. He said that he was Bob Hope's Grandpa! Art said that he was not, he was Secretary of War in 1815 and Secretary of the Treasury 1816-1825. Art talked to me about currency for about half an hour. This started me on the road to collecting Fractionals. I bought a few notes that day from Art.

1970 was a very good year for me. I was 17 years old, had a driver's license and was driving a 1969 Torino GT Boss 302. I had by now been collecting coins for about ten years. I've been buying and selling some at High School. A kid moved here from Mississippi. One day he brought a few Confederate notes. I bought them at ten dollars each and sold them a few days later at a coin show for \$20.00 each! The next day I asked him if he had any more, he said there was trunk full of them. So over the next few months he brought me a total of about 30 or so at ten dollars each. One week he had a rare note that I got \$100.00 for!

Back then, compared to today, coins were way cheap! Silver dollars, in uncirculated, were like \$20.00 each. Three dollars for circulated common ones. Silver was just \$1.72 an ounce. The most common fugio cents, in vf, were just \$30.00 each. 1914D cents, vg to fine, just \$50.00. Two cent pieces, in fine, were \$5.00 each. 1938D Buffalo Nickels, uncirculated, also were just \$5.00 each. 1916D Mercury Dimes, in fine, were \$180.00. Uncirculated Standing Liberty Quarters, common dates, were \$35.00 each and uncirculated Walking Liberty Halves, common dates, just \$10.00 each.



Currency in 1970 was also cheap. The 1899 Black Eagle, uncirculated, was \$20.00. The 1899 Indian Chief, uncirculated, just \$100.00. The 1896 Educational Notes, uncircu-

lated, brought \$100.00 for the One Dollar and \$350.00 for the Two Dollar. The Fractional currency note with Lincoln was \$30.00 in uncirculated. Today it sells for \$700.00 or more! My Grandpa's Crawford note in 1970 sold for \$10.00, today its \$500.00!

Now that I am an old Deadhead (a Grateful Dead Fan), I remember 1970 as the year I became a fan for life. The Grateful Dead played in St Louis, or nearby, five times at five different venues: The Fox Theater, Meramec College, Washington University, the Mississippi River Festival and at Kiel Opera House.

During the gig at Kiel I got to go back stage and meet one of them before the show started. I walked in the show room, one of the first in. A friend, Eric, was standing on the stage. He said "come on back". So we went back stage. I got to meet Ron "Pigpen" McKernan, the blues singer of the band. He was sitting at a grand piano plucking the strings. I said "Hi Ron". He sez "Hello". We got to talk for about ten minutes until a roadie said "you guys have to go back out front". This was before back stage passes were needed! Years later (1982-1984) I got to work some Dead Shows for Contemporary Productions as a runner. To get food and whatever else they needed. Got to meet the rest of the band and all the roadies. They were all kind to this young deadhead.

To describe the Grateful Dead's music is not at all easy! But here I go! Dance-able, intricately melodic, trippy and soaked in peace and love. Ethos! Everyone is there to have a good time. We all become brothers and sisters of the same Dead family, if you will. I'm still friends with many from 40 to 50 years ago!

So from coins and currency to fast cars and music, 1970 was a very good year!



About the Author:

Robert Kravitz is the author of the definitive book on Fractional Currency: A Collector's Guide to Postage & Fractional Currency (second edition). He is a dealer who attends most major shows and currently resides in St. Louis.

PERFECT U. S. MINT REJECTS Or The Beautiful Coins, (What Can Happen – Will Happen)

MINT ERROR – Type Sets

By

Dave Price, dpapa3rr@gmail.com

Missouri Numismatic Society, Life Member-1980

Welcome to the world of collecting United States mint error coins.

This year, through the following coin photographs, descriptions, and definitions, we will try to show diverse ways of collecting mint errors for assembling into type sets.

What kind of Error type sets can you produce? This report started out to be a simple report to write. I came up with these, easy ones. Then it became more intense, bigger is better, isn't it?

If you really want to do the ultimate mint error type set, go get a 2025, 78th Edition, "The Official Red Book, A Guide Book of United States Coins". This article was written before the 2026 Red Book was released. I do not know if the same base quantity still applies!

Let's play a numbers game. Don't let your eyes glaze over - we haven't even started yet! Start on page 88, Half Cents. Say you have a coin for each line item,,that would be 74 coins, it does not matter what grade or rarity you choose.

TABLE 1:

A simple type set for Table 1 is five coins. One for each 'Class Description'. A total of 74 (line items) would be needed if you desired a full date and variety set in each of the categories. Now this statement goes with every table we will generate – SOME OF THESE COINS ARE IN EXCESS OF 1 MILLION DOLLARS. You can wish for that coin for your type set.

Let me explain what you see. If you chose the easy way – that would be five mint errors (one for each Red Book Class Description).

Red Book Class Description	Red Book Lines Total	Total Coins Needed
---	-------------------------------------	-----------------------------------

Half Cents:

1793, Liberty Cap, Head Facing, Left.	1	1
1794-1797, Lib. Cap, Head Facing, Right.	13	13
1800-1808, Draped Bust.	19	19
1809-1836, Classic Head.	21	21
<u>1840-1857, Braided Hair.</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>
Total classes:	74	74

TABLE 2:

Since this article is about mint errors, let's talk about mint errors. Mint errors and varieties are divided into 3 PDS classifications, **Planchet**, **Die**, and **Striking**. Total of 394 different classes in the **PDS Error System**. The "bible" for all PDS classifications, terms, and definitions: ((P - Planchet (85) errors (preparation); **D** - Die (114) varieties (design); S - Striking (195) errors (production)) are taken from the "Official Price Guide to Mint Errors." See further below for a Div 1, 2 and 3 partial listing of some mint major error types.

Red Book Class Description	Red Book Lines Total	P-D-S Error Total	Total Error Coins Needed
---	-------------------------------------	----------------------------------	---

Half Cents:

1793, Liberty Cap, Head Facing, Left.	1	x	394	=	394
1794-1797, Lib. Cap, Head Facing, Right.	13	x	394	=	5,122
1800-1808, Draped Bust.	19	x	394	=	7,486
1809-1836, Classic Head	21	x	394	=	8,274
<u>1840-1857, Braided Hair.</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>x</u>	<u>394</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>7,880</u>
Total classes:	74	x	394	=	29,156

I can see where the coin supplies dealer is the only person that can survive the added quantity of coins. Additional cost for security deposit boxes; security systems for the office above the garage; added staff: office manager; CFO; janitor; computer guru; photographer; upgrade IT systems again; etc.; etc.; etc. Will it ever stop??

We have added 394 mint error classes to each Red Book Line Total, of the Half Cent ‘Class Description.

TABLE 3:

Now you have added 6 more Red Book ‘Class Descriptions’, and 607 more Red Book line totals and with 394 PDS errors to your set, and we haven’t talked about.....

Red Book Class Description	Sub Class	Red Book Lines Total	P-D-S Error Total	Total Coins Needed
Large and Small Cents:				
1793-1857, Large Cents	6	148	x	394 = 58,312
1856-1858, Flying Eagle	1	5	x	394 = 1,970
1859-1909, Indian Head	3	61	x	394 = 24,034
1909-1958, Lincoln – Wheat	3	160	x	394 = 70,920
1959-2009, Lincoln – Memorial	3	192	x	394 = 76,648
2010-2025, Lincoln – Shield	1	48	x	394 = 18,912
Total classes:	17	607	x	394 = 239,158

Have you thought about retiring early – so you can work on all of this?

The simplest type set for Table 3 would be 1-each Class Description for 17 coins. Then the Line Total would be next with 607 coins to full fill the set. And here we go – 394 different types of errors to be added to the Line Total for 239,158 errors to fill the set. Good Luck.

Ok, let’s get started assigning a single mint error to each Class Description listed above. I have added 1 striking error, a 20% off center @ K-6:00, MS62r \$30. If I only had 607 of these, the Type Set would be done for this Class. You could choose a certain type of clip (by percentage and K position) or off center struck (by percentage and K position) or indent or a lamination. Like I said – “You pick what type of error you want,” for all the categories of coins on that page of the Red Book.

TABLE 4:

Now you have added 13 more Red Book 'Class Descriptions', and for a Red Book line total of 4074 more class categories to your set, and we still haven't talked about.....

Red Book Class Description	Red Book Sub Class	Red Book Lines Total		P-D-S Error Total		Total Coins Needed
Half Cent	5	74	x	394	=	29,156
Large Cent	6	148	x	394	=	58,312
Small Cent	13	459	x	394	=	180,846
2-cent pieces	1	13	x	394	=	5,122
3-cent pieces, Ag	3	26	x	394	=	10,244
3-cent pieces, Ni	1	27	x	394	=	10,683
5-cent pieces,	10	378	x	394	=	148,932
Half Disme	9	111	x	394	=	43,734
10-cent pieces,	14	569	x	394	=	224,186
20-cent pieces,	1	7	x	394	=	2,758
25-cent pieces,	151	992	x	394	=	390,848
50-cent pieces,	22	645	x	394	=	254,130
1-dollar pieces,	100	625	x	394	=	246,250
Total classes:	336	4,074	x	394	=	1,605,156

The total coins in your Ultimate (Large) Type Set of 1-coin per 4,074 lines with 394 errors each = 1,605,156 error coins needed. The Ultimate (Medium) set would be 4,074 coins. The Ultimate (Short) set would be 336 coins, (1 coin for each Red Book Sub-Class).

TABLE 5:

Now we are going to assemble a Type Set for 1982 Lincoln cents. We have added 2 more Red Book - Class Descriptions, (bolded) and 8 more Red Book line totals with 394 PDS errors to your set, for a total of 3,152. You may opt out of the 394 S-mint proof errors, because you may not be able to find all the error type coins you need. And we still haven't talked about what your favorite error coin or coins are.

Description	Class	Total		Total		Needed
1982, Lincoln, Copper Alloy:						
1982, Large Date	1	1	x	394	=	394
1982-D, Large Date	1	1	x	394	=	394
1982, Small Date	1	1	x	394	=	394
1982-S, Small Date, Proof 1		1	x	394	=	394

1982, Lincoln, Copper-Plated Zinc Alloy

1982, Large Date	1	1	x	394	=	394
1982-D, Large Date	1	1	x	394	=	394
1982, Small Date	1	1	x	394	=	394
1982-D, Small Date	1	1	x	394	=	394
Total classes:	2	8	x	394	=	3,152

Miscellaneous Type Set Examples:

Table 6 - 1959-2009, Lincoln - Memorial. 192 coins, (includes 1 each for all dates, mint marks, proofs and varieties).

Table 7 - Clad Layer Missing (CLM). This error class is only for clad coinage. 1965-2025, dimes, 60 years, 122 dates, mint marks, and varieties. (Type Set includes 1-CLM per each date. This error class is divided into 3 classes; 1) obverse CLM; 2) reverse CLM; and 3) partial CLM. You pick. But what if you don't like dimes. U.S. Quarters might strike your fancy. 1965-2025, quarters, 60 years, 369 dates, mint marks, and varieties. Regular issues, State, Territories, America the Beautiful, American Women. I'm not going to do halves or dollars. Now you can see where this is going. Right?!.

Table 8 - Blanks and Planchets. I have a display that I exhibit at various coin shows that is missing 6 spaces. Blank - no rim: large cent, ag 3-cent, 3Cni, 20c. Planchet - with rim: 3Cag, 3Cni. I have been looking for a couple of these for 25 years, but I don't want to pay \$1,000.

Mint Error Types:

Definitions - PDS Error System: The "bible" for all PDS classifications, terms, and definitions ((P - Planchet error, 85 classes, (preparation); D - Die variety, 114 classes, (design); S - Striking error, 195 classes, (production)) are taken from the "Official Price Guide to Mint Errors," 2nd Edition, 1978; 6th Edition, 2002; 7th Edition, 2007; by Alan Herbert.

Div. 1 - Blank or Planchet error types could be:

(improper alloy mix; slag inclusions; defective or mechanically damaged; rolled thin or thick; tapered; included gas bubbles; scrap coin metal; curved clip – single, double, triple; incomplete, oval, crescent, ragged or straight; laminated, split or broken; wrong stock; extra metal; sintered coating; chopped coin metal; and fragments).

Div.2 – Die variety types could be:

(over date; doubled date; small date; large date; small over large date; large over small date; worn, broken, or damaged punch; doubled digit; wrong style or font letter or digit; doubled letter over digit; letter over digit element; digit over letter; doubled letter; large over small design element; omitted design element; doubled design element; reducing lathe doubling; extra design doubling).

Div. 3 - Striking (blank or planchet) error type could be:

(defective b/p; rolled thin or thick b/p; tapered b/p; partially or unplated; blistered plating; unclad b/p; oversize b/p; rim burr; rolled-in metal; center holes; struck scrap coin metal; bonded b/p; struck clipped (single, double, triple, multiple, overlapping curved, incomplete curved, oval, crescent; straight; incomplete straight; ragged; outside-inside corner clip) b/p; lamination, split or broken b/p; laminations (large & small cracks, split, hinged, missing clad layers, separated clad layer, broken coin; wrong stock; extra metal; sintered coating; wrong planchet; chopped coin metal strip; die adjustments; edge strikes; indented; brockage; capped die strikes; struck thru – cloth, wire, thread, grease, dropped fillings, struck or unstruck fragment, feeder fingers; double, triple or multiple strikes; partial collars; broad-strikes; off centers; and rotated die strikes)

Yes, I agree with you. Some of these classes are going to be hard to collect. Just remember that Div. 1 blanks or planchets do not have any die struck portion at all.

Note: All the categories above can be collected in some manner! You will not be able to collect all 394 error types.

Off Center Measurements:

To gauge an off-center coin, get an old fashion, round faced wristwatch with numbers in a circle around the face – not a digital one.

Look at the top or the 12 o'clock position, align the coin with the obverse head straight up. Note the direction of the struck position of the off-center coin.

This will give you the 'K' position (Kolit Gauge). written as 20% o/c (off-center) @ K-4 (clock position).

I have 2 printed (plastic, see-thru) gauges:

1. 1-3/16" x 3-5/8" with 5% to 95% grids for 1c, 5c, 10c, 25c, and 50c, grids.
2. 4-1/8" x 5-1/2" with 5% to 95% grids for 1c, 5c, 10c, 25c, 50c, and Ike \$1 grids.

The next system of measurements is for either off center or clips and easy to make. The next time you visit your Dr. ask him if you could have a couple 17 cm long paper measuring strips. I do a lot of coin photos, and these come in handy for both off-centers and clips. Let's start off easy – let's do a scale 10; print a 100 next to the 10, now divide that 100 by 10 spaces; and this gives you a 10% scale. Now read the 10%, 20%, etc. You can do this for an 8% scale, or 9, or 11, or 12%, depending on the photo magnification you use.

Off Center Clock:

Attached below is a clock of off-center Lincoln cents with off centers ranging between 50% and 70%.

I have a 50% off-center clock on display here today.

To me, off centers or clips would be the easiest, providing you can find all the dates, or dates and mint marks, or percentages you need. Good Luck! I may be needing some of the same as you do.

Incomplete Planchet (Clip) Clock:

To gauge a curved clip coin, follow the procedures above. Note the area of the clipped (missing) position of the coin.

Attached below is a clock of off-center Lincoln cents with off centers ranging between 50% to 75%.

Again, Look at an old-time clock. Looking at the top or 12 position I have accumulated clocks of 10%, 25%, 50%, 75 and 95% off center.

Prepared Albums or Books for Type Sets:

Hard pressed paper, with predetermined punched hole sizes, clear plastic sliding inserts (to keep coins from rolling around and falling out,) and hard front cover with pretty lettering of “Type Set”. I know I still have mine.

Somewhere back in the late 1970’s or early 1980’s, either ‘NECA’ or ‘CONE’ came up with a “Mint Error Type Set” album. I thought it was beautiful. I took it to all the coin shows and coin meetings to show the progress of filling in all the different types. Not all categories were covered, but there were blank slots to put some in. Well, I put mine in a safety deposit box for probably ten or twelve years. Error friends wanted to see it, so out it came. All the copper coins were GREEN. The manufacturer had used the wrong kind of plastic. I kept the book, but no coins are in it.

Back in 1959 I bought a Library of Coins, Vol. 33 – Type Set of U. S. Coins, Part 1, Half Cents to Quarters; and Vol. 34, Part 2, Quarters to Silver Dollars.

Both books are obsolete, Vol 33 has 63 holes, only 7 spaces for small cents; and Vol 34 has 37 holes. No spaces for clad quarters; Kennedy spots are missing and no spaces for Ike, SBA, Sac, or Presidential dollars. I guess I need to invest in new updated books.

(Author’s Note): ND = No Date; oc = off center; cc = curved clip; K = clock position; Ag = silver; CU = copper;

Clad Layer Missing:



25c, 1967
o-clm



25c, 1976
r-clm



25c, 1997
o-clm



25c, 1999, GA
r-clm

Off Center:



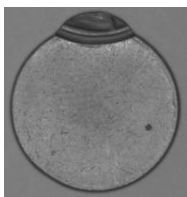
1991, 10%oc k-6



197x, 25%oc k-6
20%cc k-10

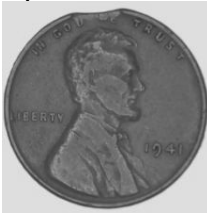


1982, 60%oc k-9



ND, 95%oc k-12

Clips:



1941, 5%cc k-12



1975-D, 20%cc k-3



1999, CT, 20%cc k-3



1980-D, 33%cc k-7:30



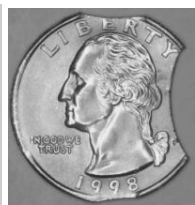
1941, double cc
5% k-6,
-5% k-9



1980-D, double cc
15% k-6,
25% k-9



1970-S, triple cc
5% k-4:30
25% k7
2% k-10



1998-P, triple cc
5% k12
20% k-3
1% k-6



1969-D
Incomplete clip



2000-P
Oval clip



1989-P
40% straight clip



1965
Ragged clip

Laminations:



1918
Lam, 80%



1926
Lam, k-3 to tRust



1903
Lam



1953-D
Lam, 45%



1953
Lam, Deep peel



1950
Split before Striking



1944
Lam, hinged



1965
Partial o-clm



1950
Partial r-clm,
Struck thru unstruck
fragment



25c, ND
Separated clad layer
“LI”



25c, ND
Separated clad layer
fragment



1972-D
Split after Striking

Note: Years ago, I met Alan Herbert and he explained the definition of a “mint error as one of a kind, unique, no other like it.” Sure, some may look and be awfully close, but no two are *exactly* alike.

Have you ever wondered - when that unfortunate error occurs at one of the mints, at one of the highly technical machines, before the inspector looks at the conveyor or looks in the tote box, what if you were there to grab and pick it up before an armed guard grabs you. What a dream just to think about it. I cannot even imagine all the combination types that are possibly and could be found, (capped die, bonded, multiple struck clipped/off center, broadstrike, brockage, indented, split before or after striking, multiple strikes). Well, back to reality, but it was fun to dream.

Credits

Definitions - PDS Error System: The “bible” for all PDS classifications, terms, and definitions ((P - Planchet error (preparation); D - Die variety (design); S - Striking error (production)) are taken from the “Official Price Guide to Mint Errors,” 2nd Edition, 1978; 6th Edition, 2002; 7th Edition, 2007; by Alan Herbert.

Minting Process: “Error Trends Coin Magazine,” 1981, by Arnold Margolis.
Minting Process: “The Error Collector’s Handbook,” 1969, by Arnold Margolis.

Coinage History, Weights and Measures: The Official Red Book, “A Guide Book of UNITED STATES COINS,” 78th Edition, 2025, by R.S. Yeoman.

Support your local error dealers.

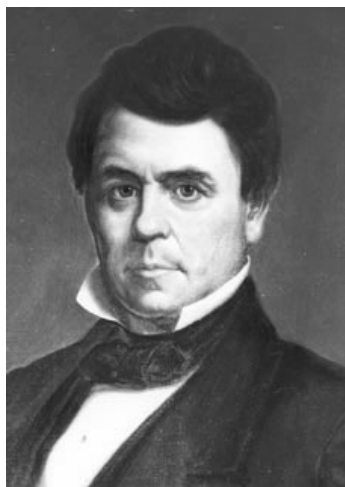
Stop by the exhibit area and we can talk about the minting process, mint errors and varieties or your mint error coins that you have found at the show. Every year, new collectors stop and talk with Eric Axtell, Chris Price and me. Now I know there are hundreds of error collectors out there.

Happy error hunting - until next time!
To err is human – to collect them is so much fun!

The Dalles Mint, A Follow-up

By

C. Joseph Sutter



James Pollock
Mint Director 1861 – 1866
1869 - 1873

In the July 2010 Issue of the Missouri Journal of Numismatics, volume 35, Walter Thompson presented the story of The Dalles, Oregon Mint. This article was reprinted from the December 1958 issue of The Numismatic Scrapbook magazine.

Mr. Thompson described how gold was discovered in eastern Oregon and Idaho in 1861-1862. The Dalles Mint was authorized by The Act of July 4, 1864. This act was passed despite a negative report from Director of the Mint James Pollock.

In his report Director Pollock stated the need to produce bullion bars with the government seal stamp of weight and fineness to protect against fraud. To meet this need Washington politicians suggested the creation of a mint. Director Pollock

did not agree and wrote "It appears to me that there is no necessity for establishing a Branch Mint in the state of Oregon. If any legislation is to be had on the subject, it should be confined to the authorization of an office for the melting and casting of bullion into bars and stamping thereon the weight and fineness of the same. An office for these purposes should not require any of the expensive machinery, or material necessary for refining and coining – could be conducted with but trifling expense when compared with the carrying on of a branch mint, and, would it is believed fully meet the commercial wants of that section of the country."

The approved Mint was to be a 75 foot square sandstone building. Each block was two feet square and dressed to perfect shape with smooth borders around a slightly roughened interior. The window ledges were of stone. The spacious front doorway is plain but attractive in the massive stone arrangement, with a narrow border just above the door. Inside is one main room with several smaller rooms along the east side with a fireplace in each room. The basement is a labyrinth of arched stone supports and passageways.

Unfortunately by the time construction was started the need for the mint disappeared. The gold mines had mostly played out and railroad transportation provided an economical way to send the ore to the other U.S. facilities. While the basement and first floor were built by 1875 the project was abandoned. The

interior was never completed and no mintage equipment obtained. The site was donated to the State of Oregon then sold to non-governmental uses. Since 2007, the current owner is Erin Glenn Winery.

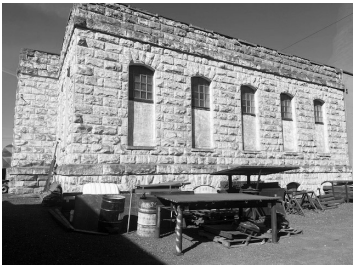
The winery is blended within the former mint walls. As seen in these images, the exterior of the mint is still present showing the original window detail. The original stone building has been extended using a concrete block addition. The photo shows the ramp along the addition leading to the winery entrance. Upon entering the winery, the original Mint's exterior front wall can be seen with chairs and couches placed next to it. The original Mint entrance can be seen and serves as the actual entry into the winery.

While the winery contains a very comfortable and relaxing atmosphere, the addition is somewhat rough to give the feeling of being in an over one hundred year old building, which you are.

Outside on the building's front is a plaque identifying a brief history of the building as a proposed U.S. Mint and the States' intended usage as an educational facility, which was not done either.

The Mint/Winery is part of the Historic District in The Dalles. The city contains two district areas with over 70 properties on the National Register of Historic Places. It sits on the Columbia River just a short ninety minute drive east of Portland. The Columbia River is the border between Oregon and Washington and the drive to Portland could include a stop at the Bonneville Lock & Dam.

It is very nice to see that the memory of this proposed mint is retained by the citizens of The Dalles and not torn down when its use is no longer needed.



A Missouri Record

continued from the July, 2024 issue

The editor encourages reader assistance in locating, attributing, and documenting the historical significance of numismatic items relating to Missouri. This column provides a place to publish unusual exonomia, thereby preserving such items for future research.

155. Obv. ORIENTAL CHAPTER NO. 78
R.A.M. ST. LOUIS, MO /
CHARTERED OCT. 9 1879 / ONE PENNY

Rev. S T K S H T W S



156. Obv. PRESIDENTS CASINO ON THE ADMIRAL
ST LOUIS MO / 5¢

Rev. ACCEPTABLE ONLY AT THE PRESIDENT
CASINO ON THE ADMIRAL/
NOT LEGAL TENDER / 5¢



157. Obv. WEHRENBURG THEATRES.

Rev. BFC ENTERPRISES INC.
NO CASH VALUE /
BFC VENDING



158. Obv. ST. LOUIS MISSOURI / DEDICATION OF
THE GATEWAY ARCH / JEFFERSON /
NATIONAL / EXPANSION / MEMORIAL /
MAY 25, 1968



- Rev. ALFONSO J. CERVANTES, MAYOR /
THE COMMON SEAL OF
THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS



159. Obv. ST LOUIS POST-DISPATCH SCIENCE FAIR.

- Rev. IN / COOPERATION / WITH /
WASHINGTON / UNIVERSITY /
ST. LOUIS / MISSOURI / 1964



160. Obv. CITY OF O'FALLON MISSOURI FOUNDED
IN 1856 / city seal.

- Rev. O'FALLON'S HERITAGE AND
FREEDOM FEST / NO CASH VALUE



Brass. 23 mm. 4.55 g. Plain edge

161. Obv. DOGWOOD CANYON NATURE PARK

- Rev. WOODEN NICKEL 5¢



A 1708 SEXTO Crown of Anne – Unicorn or Forgery?

By
Charles Calkins

The Acts of Union were passed by the Parliaments of England and Scotland in 1707 and established the Kingdom of Great Britain by merging England and Scotland into a single political entity. In 1707 and 1708 Queen Anne struck crowns with an E below the bust signifying they were minted in Edinburgh, the capital of Scotland.



These crowns have an edge inscription reading “DECVS ET TVTAMEN ANNO REGNI (regnal year)”, where the the regnal year corresponds to the date of the coin. Anne became queen on March 8, 1702, so her sixth regnal year (sexto in Latin) began on March 8, 1707 and ended March 7, 1708, and her

seventh regnal year (septimo in Latin) was from March 8, 1708 to March 7, 1709. Although the regnal year overlaps the calendar year, only 1707-dated issues are known with SEXTO in the edge inscription and 1708-dated issues with SEPTIMO. This 1708 issue, however, reads SEXTO.



Is this coin unique? Did they, perhaps, strike it early in 1708 during the latter part of her 6th regnal year and identified it as such, although no others are known? Or, is this a forgery, contemporary or otherwise? Perhaps the 8 was altered from a 7? Images of known good 1708-Es found online are inconclusive as the 8 tends to be shaped somewhat differently from coin to coin.



The seller that the author purchased it from found the coin interesting, and he had shown it to someone from Spink who could not provide more information on it, but did not immediately dismiss it as fake, either.

So... unicorn or forgery?

How Well Do You Know these Numismatic Legends?

1. Joseph J. Mickley (1799-1878) spent many years searching for a coin from his birth year. What was that coin?
2. On October 5, 1967 the Willis H. du Pont collection was taken from his Florida home. Among the 7,000 items taken were three unique Seated Liberty coins. What were they?
3. Why was the star added to the 1922 Grant Memorial half dollar?
4. What is a 1944 Jefferson Nickel without a mint mark worth?
5. What gold coin has a mintage of 445,500 but was sold for \$18.9 million on June 8, 2021?
6. What cent has two varieties in one year, one with three controversial letters and one without these letters?
7. Some U.S. currency has the word HAWAII printed on the front and back. Who did this and why?
8. Did the daughter of James B. Longacre model for the Indian Head cent?
9. In 1963 the Missouri Numismatic Society commemorated its twenty-fifth anniversary by counter stamping an Austrian coin from 1780. What was this coin and how did they obtain a supply of almost two hundred year old coins?
10. The 1960s saw a coinage shortage that was blamed on coin collectors taking too many coins out of circulation. While this proved not to be the actual problem, the rise in silver prices was more of a culprit, silver coinage was replaced by a new bi-metal or "Clad" coinage. One denomination that had not been issued since 1935 was struck in silver and then abandoned. All were melted. What was this denomination?

Answers on page 61

Five Cent Third Issue Spencer Morton Clark Fractional Currency Notes

By
Robert Kravitz

Spencer M. Clark, a Civil Service Engineer, was appointed to the position of Chief Clerk at the National Currency Bureau (predecessor of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing) in the Treasury Department in 1862. He was a man of many talents: superb inventor, timeless organizer, and a very competent administrator.

Clark made one big mistake by putting his own portrait on the new five cent third issue notes of fractional currency. The portrait should have been of William Clark, of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery, Louisiana Purchase fame! This five cent note has the distinction of being the only note whose design forced Congress to pass a major piece of legislation. The outraged Congress promptly passed the Law of April 7th 1866 forbidding the portrayal of a living person on any US note or bond! Then you say “how about the Fessenden 25 cent and the Spinner 50 cent notes”? Both Fessenden and Spinner were still living, but these notes were issued before April 7th of 1866. The five cent note was printed from January 1865 until April, 1866 and continued to be issued for two more years.

The law “Section 12” in part said that if the plates had already been prepared then the notes could be issued. A decision was made to abolish the five cent denomination of fractional currency shortly after the Act of May 17, 1866. It directed that those notes should be recalled and that a five cent nickel piece be issued in quantities sufficient to redeem the outstanding five cent notes. As of June 1884 10.5 million notes had been redeemed which still left over 2.5 million notes outstanding. From January 1865 to early 1866 some 13,140,055 notes were issued. For the first time plate position letters were used on these notes. On each 16 subject sheet (four rows, four columns) the column of notes at the far left shows a small letter “A” on each of the four notes. It is printed on the left side of the note about mid-way down. Therefore, they are three more times more scarce than the other twelve notes without the letter “A”.



1236 Front

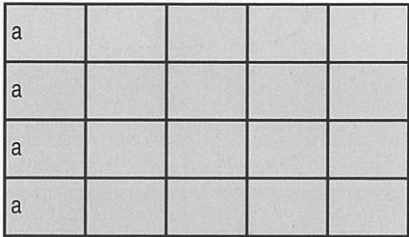


1236 Back



1238 Back

There are four varieties: Red Backs without “A” FR. 1236, with letter “A” FR. 1237, Green Backs without “A” FR. 1238, and with letter “A” FR. 1239. The red back notes are much scarcer than the green backs. The FR. 1236 Notes are hard to find in uncirculated or better and are rarely well centered on both sides. Centering



Location of sheet position of letter “a”.
The “a” can be 1 mm to 1.4 mm in size.

is important when grading fractional notes since they were mainly hand cut with scissors so perfect margins are rare. The FR. 1237’s are very hard to find uncirculated or better. They often come with ink smears because they come from the left end of the sheet. The FR. 1238 is the most common and can be found easily in uncirculated or better. The FR. 1239’s are hard to find nice because of ink smears.

Red Back									
FR #	VG	VF	XF	AU	CU	CH-CU (63)	GEM (65)	S-GEM (66)	RARITY
1236	30	50	110	195	295	450	700	—	SCARCE
Red Back with Sheet Position Indicator “a”									
FR #	VG	VF	XF	AU	CU	CH-CU (63)	GEM (65)	S-GEM (66)	RARITY
1237	35	70	135	250	500	795	1400	—	VERY SCARCE
Green Back									
FR #	VG	VF	XF	AU	CU	CH-CU (63)	GEM (65)	S-GEM (66)	RARITY
1238	25	45	90	100	155	200	450	—	VERY COMMON
Green Back with Sheet Position Indicator “a”									
FR #	VG	VF	XF	AU	CU	CH-CU (63)	GEM (65)	S-GEM (66)	RARITY
1239	35	70	95	125	175	325	650	—	COMMON

One final note about Mr. Clark, you would think putting his picture on the five cent note would have cost him his job! Mr. Clark continued employment at the National Currency Bureau until 1868. Even after he resigned during a congressional investigation he was still a Federal employee since he moved to the Agriculture Department until he died in 1890. Having friends in high places, Treasury Secretary Salmon P. Chase, worked out very well for him!

About the Author:

Robert Kravitz is the author of the definitive book on Fractional Currency: A Collector’s Guide to Postage & Fractional Currency (second edition). He is a dealer who attends most major shows and currently resides in St. Louis.

German East Africa Tabora Hellers

By
Charles Calkins

In the second half of the 19th century Europeans began colonization of Africa, with east Africa of particular interest to Germany and Great Britain. After German treaties were established with local chiefs in November 1884, the German government established a protectorate over the region in 1885 and the German East Africa Company (Deutsche Ost-Afrikanische Gessellschaft) was created to administer the colony. After assistance from the German military was needed to suppress a rebellion in 1889, in 1891 Germany took over administration and began to rule the area directly with Dar es Salaam as its capital. The area included present-day Burundi, Rwanda, and parts of Tanzania and Mozambique – over 380,000 square miles, nearly three times the size of present-day Germany.

In 1890 the first local coinage for German East Africa, the 1 Pesa, was minted in Berlin, and the Rupie and its fractions followed in 1891 with 64 Pesa to 1 Rupie. In 1904 the monetary system changed to 100 Heller to 1 Rupie. Coinage continued to be minted in Germany at Berlin (mintmark A), and additionally now at Hamburg (mintmark J).

In World War I, due to advancing British troops the colonial administration was moved to Tabora, about 450 miles west of Dar es Salaam in present day Tanzania, in September 1916. An emergency “siege mint” to produce coinage locally had been established in Tabora earlier in that year (mintmark T). Tabora itself fell in that same month to a Belgian force, so the Tabora mint was only in operation for about six to eight months.

Three denominations were produced at that mint. High-quality 15 Rupien coins made from gold produced at the nearby Kironda mine, featuring a crowned Imperial eagle on the obverse and an elephant on the reverse, were minted in two varieties differentiated by where the eagle’s wing is positioned relative to the inscription. As cataloged in the Standard Catalog of World coins, KM #16.1 had 9,803 minted, and KM #16.2 6,395 minted. These coins are legitimately rare and an example in MS63 can cost \$10,000.

The other two denominations, 5 Heller and 20 Heller, were much cruder in production and composition. These coins were issued in copper and brass and made from metal salvaged from the SMS Königsberg (some references apparently erroneously state the minting equipment, not the metal for the coins, was from the ship). The ship was a light cruiser that was scuttled in July 1915 in the Rufiji Delta after being cornered by the British, and brass and other metals were salvaged from its fittings, equipment, and ammunition casings. Due to the emergency conditions many coins exhibit significant minting errors, and a selection that the author has accumulated is illustrated below.

The 5 Heller features a crown with ribbon above the date and DOA (Deutsch-Ostafrika – German East Africa) on the obverse, and the denomination and mintmark within a wreath on the reverse, and is made of brass. There are two varieties identified in SCWC, KM #14.1 and KM #14.2, depending on whether the crown has an oval (left) or flat (right) base. The oval base variety is 1.5 to 2 mm thick while the flat base variety is 1 mm or less thick. The two varieties have a combined mintage of 30,000 pieces.



Examples of minting errors the author has come across are as follows:



This example features an incomplete clip (incomplete punch) where the blanking die fails to fully punch through the metal strip to punch out a coin blank.



Struck multiple times from degraded dies both the obverse and reverse show multiple impressions.



An abnormally thick obverse rim is on this coin.



The obverse features both concentric lathe lines overlaid with linear die polishing lines.



This last 5 Heller example shows weakness in the obverse strike and a large cud at 1:00 on the reverse.

The 20 Heller is larger (29 mm to the 5 Heller's 23 mm), but similar in design to the 5 Heller, though the mintmark is on the obverse. It was produced both in copper and brass, and has two primary obverse varieties and three primary reverse varieties. The obverse varieties are identified as type A featuring a large crown, and type B, a small crown. The A, B and C reverse varieties are distinguished by the shape of both Ls in HELLER as illustrated below with the C reverse in the same style as the 5 Heller. Mintages are only known per metal, with 300,000 copper and 1,600,000 brass struck of the various obverse/reverse pairings.

Using SCWC prices as a guide, the various types can be roughly grouped into Common, Scarce, Very Scarce, and Rare combinations, as follows. For copper, KM #15:

COPPER	Reverse A	Reverse B	Reverse C
Obverse A	Common	Very Scarce	Rare
Obverse B	Very Scarce	Common	Rare

And for brass, KM #15a:

BRASS	Reverse A	Reverse B	Reverse C
Obverse A	Common	Common	Scarce
Obverse B	Common	Common	Scarce

A survey of eBay indicates that copper issues in general are more difficult to obtain than as suggested by SCWC, as are C reverses.

The obverse A large crown has nearly straight sides and the ribbon reaches almost across the coin. The obverse B small crown has curved sides and the ribbon is much smaller and does not reach to the edge of the coin.



The A reverse has the first L with a broken curl and the second L with a complete curl.



The Ls on the B reverse have points instead of curls.



Both Ls on the C reverse have complete curls.



This reverse is not a recognized variety, but appears to be a transition between C and A where the curl of the first L is broken and diminished but still visible.

As with the 5 Heller, minting errors are common on the 20 Heller, and the author has come across the following:



This obverse B, reverse A has a misaligned reverse die.



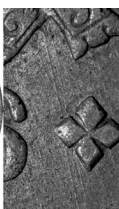
This A/A seems to be off-center in both the obverse and reverse, plus has very weakly struck areas which are not uncommon for the issue.



A die crack from the mintmark to the base of the A to the rectangle next to it is found on the obverse of this B/A.



This B/B has cuds on both the obverse and reverse. If an obverse cud is present it is likely located by the rectangle to the left of the D – multiple examples with cuds in that approximate position have been seen.



Even this sharp example of an A/C exhibits die polishing lines.



As with the 5 Heller, this B/B 20 Heller also exhibits a clip, but here it is a straight clip at about 10:00/2:00.



A number of brass examples don't seem to have their alloy mixed very well. This one shows a discolored streak on the reverse, plus an obverse lamination where a badly-mixed inclusion has separated.

Some 20 Hellers feature counterstamps which are said to refer to Mozambique. The author came across two styles. The first is an incuse M as on this A/B. This also exhibits a bad alloy mix with dagger-shaped light and dark inclusions visible in the magnification, as well as having concentric lathe lines. Four other instances of coins exhibiting concentric lines were located, all B/B.



This B/B features the other form of counterstamp, a PM in a circle (perhaps Portuguese Mozambique). This particular example has two (one weak) on the obverse and an additional one on the reverse. The hashmark-style damage on the

opposite side of the counterstamp is different than a flat region one would normally expect from something punched on to the opposite side.

If one is interested in minting errors, these coins of Tabora provide a wide array of different types of errors at a cost that is less than if they were exhibited on, say, coins from a United States mint.

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<https://x.com/i/grok/share/dW1D6dh9PT9sg3A7PbLeyWNGV>

MNS 65th Annual July Coin Show Alphabetical Dealer to Booth # Listing

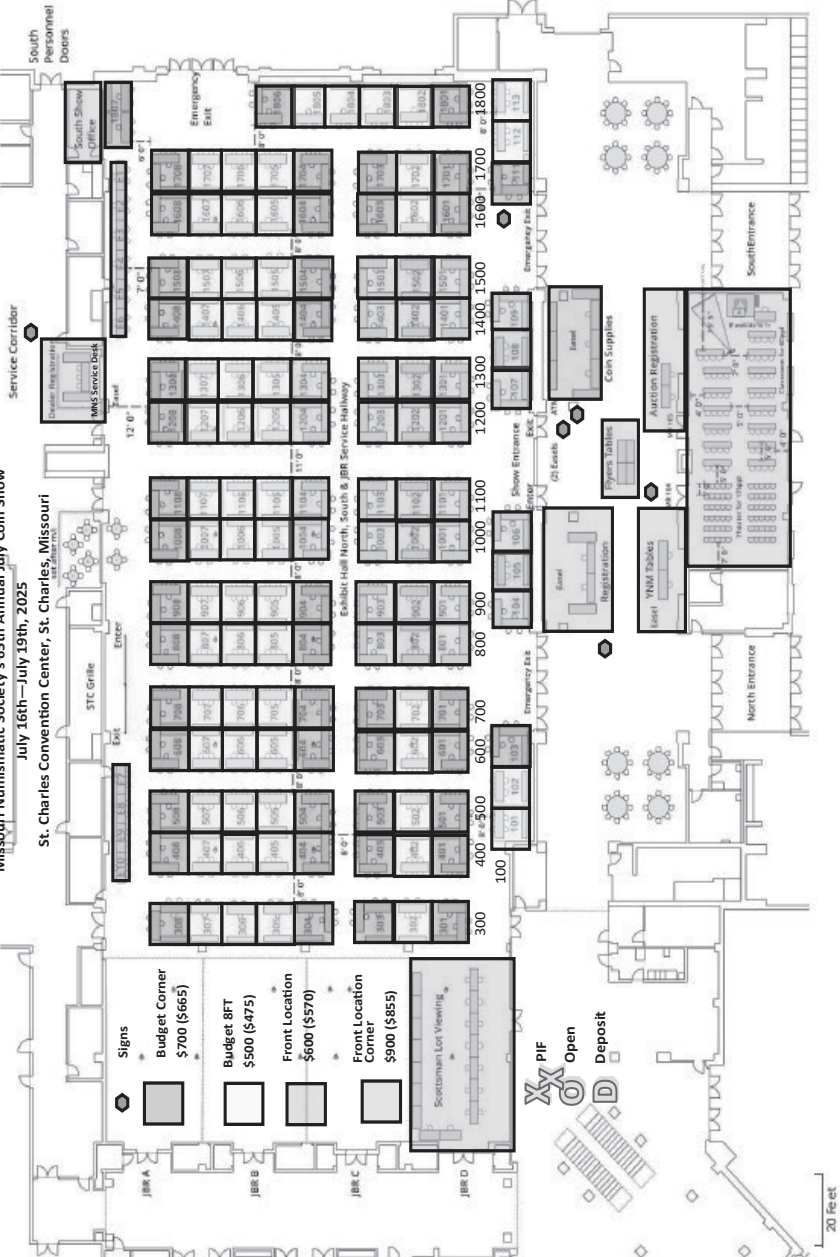
Booth Sign Name	Booth #	Booth Sign Name	Booth #	Booth Sign Name	Booth #
ACE Coins	1207	Eric Alexander	803	Morton Grove Coins	111, 112, 113
Allen G. Berman Professional Numismatist	1307	Exhibit - "1970-2025 My 55 Consecutive MNS Shows" — Rob Kravitz	1508	NamChong Coin	805
American Midwest Numismatics	1502	Exhibit - "Mint Errors" — Dave Price	E01-E05	New Life Coins	1007, 1008
Americana Collectors	1701	Exhibit - "Buddy, can you spare a Mercury Dime?" — Wes	1408	Nomad Numismatics / Meyer's Coins	1601
Americana Rare Coin	1503	Exhibit - "Twenty Dollar Registry Set" — Chris Sutter			
Andrew Reiber Inc	1401	Exhibit - "Primitive Money" — Doug Tomey	1708	Northeast Arkansas Coin	704
Appraisal Services - We Buy Coins	1003	"Julia Donna, Matriarch of the Severan Dynasty of Ancient Rome" — Chip Vaughn		Pacific Trading Company	1203
Arch City	106	Falcon Coins	404	Paper Money Depot / Georgia	1505
Barber Coin Collectors Society / Liberty Seated Collectors Club	306	Front Range Coin & Currency	605	PT&M / Latimore Numismatics	1501
BHK Coinstatic Inc.	1104	FUBA Coins	601	Quad City Coin	1406
Bob Hurst Numismatics	109	Gary Burhop / Jim Bush	1205	Rarchoa, Inc.	1106
Bob Jones	1703	Gerald Franz	1506	River City Rarities	1202
Brian Raines Rare Coins	708	Gold Standard Auctions	1204	Rob's Coins & Currency	1704
Bunyard's Coin & Stamps	1705	Gordy's Rare Coins	104	Maverick Mint	1602
Buried Treasures	303	Herakles Numismatics	1606	S & J International, LLC	608
Burl Armstrong	1804	Heritage Auctions	401	Salt City Coin	1702
Butternut Coins	908	Hipps RC	102	Schaffer's	301, 302
Central States Numismatic Society	307	ICoin, INC	1605	Scotsman Coin & Jewelry	1802
Centralia Coin, Stamp, Etc.	707	Iowa Great Lakes Coins, Inc	802	Society of Paper Money	1504
Chick McCormick	1806	J & J Omaha	801	Standley / Waggoner	1404
Chris Hansen	101	J + J Coins	1305	Steven Mileham	804
Christopher's Rare Coins	1304	James Beach	1306, 1307	Steven Moore	501
Clarksville Coins	504	Jay King	702	Steve Musil	1001
Coach's Coins	1402	Jay Tenchack	Lobby1	Steve Zeller	1603
Coin, Cards, + Collectibles	1108	JP's Corner - Numismatic Supplies	905	Terry Bry	607
CoinHunters	1803	Jonathan K. Kern	705	Texican Wholesale	1101
Coleman Foster	1301	Jovi Numismatics Ancient Coins	1608	The Coin Collector	901
Collect Indy	308	K & P Services	1201	The Coin Shop	1002
CW Coins & Bullion LLC	706	KDS Numismatics	107, 108	The Gold and Silver Vault	1303
D & L Coins	1403	Ken Byrd Coins and Currency	1805	Tom Reynolds	1208, 1308
Darrell's Coins	1706	Ken "KD" Dickerson Currency	405, 406	TraderBea	1707
David Carruthers	602	Kentucky Coin Cabinet	407	Val J Webb Numismatics	1607
David Johnson	1801	Key Coins	1405	Vaughn Rare Coins/Steven Erdmann	403, 502, 503
DBKJ Numismatics	701	Largo Coin + Currency / RCCSD	1407	West Coast Coins	906, 907
Dollar Bill's Rare Coin Gallery	808	Larry Tekamp RCB	1102	Wholesale Numismatics LLC	1103
Drillers Coin & Antiquities	904	Legal Tender	408	Windy City Currency/Vasil's Currency	1502
DRP Coins / Dave's Key Coins	1604	Mark Richter	105	WolfCreekCoin / Si Coin	304, 305
Duke Numismatics	903	Mark Schwartz	1105	Woodsmith Numismatics	1004
Dusty Royer's Notes of Note	902	Marty Bourquin	1107	World Coins South FL	
Eagle Rare Coin Company	103	Mid America Coins	604		
		Midwest Coinarama	703		

2025 MNS Show

Missouri Numismatic Society's 65th Annual July Coin Show

July 16th—July 19th, 2025

St. Charles Convention Center, St. Charles, Missouri



Can You Find These Numismatic Words?

Assay	Euro	Mint State	Proof
Bust	Exonomia	Motto	Relief
Cent	Florin	Nickel	Roll
Counterfeit	Fractional	Notaphily	Silver
Currency	Gold	Numismatics	Slab
Die	Grade	Palladium	Token
Dime	Ingot	Pattern	
Dinar	Kanga Cross	Planchet	
Dollar			

N O T A P H I L L P D P T R K I N B Y L
 I U D L O G L B A L S I A O S A U E C F
 C M M I N I T S T S T A T E L K U N E L
 K U N F C S I E U I L I T I M A L E I
 E N F C S I E U I L I T I M A L E I
 L I E F U M R A N I D A L L A X O R E F
 E T I O R R E N T I S R A N U C H
 M A L O C E R R E A I M U N O X E E
 D P R P K A C C O C C H
 L A N O I T C

Uncirculated Grading Terms

- Brilliant Uncirculated, BU – MS60 through MS62
 - o Uncirculated, but on the lower end of eye appeal.
 - o Some unsightly, even heavy nicks, scratches, and other imperfections
 - o Luster is often present

A typical catchall grade descriptor for rougher uncirculated coins a dealer may break out from rolls or uncirculated sets and individually sell as singles.

- Choice Brilliant Uncirculated, Choice BU – MS63,
 - o Many have used the same adjectival grade to describe pieces that would otherwise grade MS64.
 - o Cleaner (*not cleaned*) surfaces than a typical BU
 - o Usually free of the heavy marks and other surface flaws expected on the lower-end uncirculated coins.
- Select Brilliant Uncirculated, Select BU – MS64,
 - o Better in grade and eye appeal than a Choice BU
- Gem Brilliant Uncirculated, Gem BU – MS65
 - o Not a precise numerical grade and is thus open to the interpretation of the buyer and seller.
 - o Few heavy marks or other detractors
 - o Some marks and/or abrasions, but they will be minor.
 - o Strike must be above average
 - o Luster and eye appeal must be good.

MS65 is a landmark uncirculated grade for many coins and anyone buying a coin graded Gem BU should be particularly attuned that they are getting what they think – or assume – they are getting.

- Superb Brilliant Uncirculated, Super BU – MS66 or MS67
 - o Represents a best-of-the-best coin.
 - o Offers outstanding surfaces
 - o Few if any significant imperfections

Be wary buying coins with the above BU-based descriptors, as all are open to one's own interpretation.

Bechtler Mint – Not A Mint

By
Joel Anderson

North Carolina Gold and Christoph Bechtler's Private Mint

Bechtler Mint

342 Gilboa Church Road
Rutherfordton, NC 28139

Christoph Bechtler was born in 1782 at Pforzheim, Baden, in Germany. At fifteen, he was apprenticed to a gold and silver metallurgist and gunsmith. In 1829, Bechtler emigrated to the United States and arrived in New York on October 12th, accompanied by his sons, August and Karl, and his nephew, Christoph Jr. Within two weeks they moved to Philadelphia, applied for citizenship, and soon opened a jewelry and clock repair business.

In March or April, 1830, the Bechtler's moved to Rutherford County, North Carolina and purchased a tract of land 3 1/2 miles north of Rutherfordton, the county seat. Rutherford County in the 1830s - dirt roads, horse-drawn carriages, and a community on the brink of an economic boom. The Bechtler Family moved to North Carolina right when gold fever was hitting the state. In July, 1830, Bechtler announced in the "North Carolina Spectator and Western Advertiser", a regional newspaper, that he had opened a jewelry and watch clock repair business in Rutherfordton.

In 1831, a bill was proposed to Congress by Samuel Carson, a Rutherford resident, along with the local miners and merchants, to establish a branch mint in the gold region, but the petition was ignored. At the time, the only mint in the United States was in Philadelphia, and it was difficult and dangerous to transport the raw gold there. Shortly thereafter, several miners approached Bechtler and convinced him to assay their gold, convert it into coins, and open a private mint. On July 2, 1831 Bechtler advertised in the paper that he was ready to convert raw gold into coins. Bechtler made his own dies, planchets, presses, and other equipment. Assisting him was his son August, and his nephew Christoph. Later that year, the Bechtler's produced the first gold dollars struck in the United States.

On August 1, 1834, the standard for gold coins was lowered, and the Secretary of the Treasury recommended to the Mint Director that coins of the new mints bear the authorization date. That was not done on Federal coins, but Bechtler placed the date, August 1, 1834, on four varieties of \$5 pieces to avoid difficulty with Treasury officials.

The Bechtler's produced three denominations; \$1, \$2.50, and \$5. The coins were struck in three fineness's; 20 carats, 21 carats, and 22 carats.

During the 1830s Bechtler minted more than \$2.24 million dollars in gold coins, stimulating commerce in the Southeast and leaving a permanent legacy to both Rutherford County and American history.

With the opening of the Charlotte and Dahlonega Mints in 1838, the Bechtler's production began to decline. In 1840, Bechtler filed a report with the United States Treasury Department showing that he had coined \$2,241,840.00 from 1831 to February, 1840.

Late in 1840 Christoph gave the mint to his son August who continued the coinage. Christoph died in 1842 and August moved the coining operation to a house in downtown Rutherfordton that still stands today. There August produced large quantities of A. Bechtler \$1 pieces, which are by far the most available of the Bechtler coins. This coin is also the most common of all the pioneer and territorial gold pieces produced in the United States.

August died in 1846 and Christoph, Jr. took over the business. The only coins he produced were the A. Bechtler \$1 pieces, which were of questionable weight and fineness and struck from rusted dies. It is not known precisely when the mint closed, but the best information indicates 1850.

The Bachler's were the most successful, prolific, and long lasting of all the pioneer and territorial minters. The coins are often seen with irregular/flawed planchets or incomplete strikes while rotated dies are common throughout the series.

The Bachler's produced 29 different varieties of gold pieces, but no collector has ever completed the entire set. The finest Bechtler collection of all time was assembled by North Carolina dealer and collector, George O. Walton, owner of the fifth 1913 Liberty nickel. Walton was killed in an automobile accident in 1963 and some months later his collection was sold by Stacks at their October, 1963 Sale. The collection contained 252 Bechtler's, including 98 A. Bechtler \$1 coins. The primary set contained 25 of the 29 varieties, but such a collection would be almost impossible to duplicate today. A 15-piece complete Bechtler type set can be assembled by a serious collector, while a 5-piece denomination set is within the reach of most collectors.

Built in 1837, the Bechtler home forever forged in the history books as the home of America's first \$1 gold coin.

Bechtler Today - A plan to preserve and promote the Bechtler Heritage began and reached a significant milestone in 2015 with the purchase of the original 1837 Bechtler House as a heritage center. Today, the Bechtler House is open to the public and tells the Bechtler Story. The



house also serves as the headquarters of the NC Gold Trail, which connects over 27 counties with historical significance from the NC gold rush.

Today, the coins that survive from the Bechtler family’s mint in Rutherford County serve as reminders of North Carolina’s rich gold history. High-grade examples of the dollars, “quarter eagles” (\$2.50), and “half eagles” (\$5.00) produced by the Bachler’s are on permanent exhibit in the North Carolina Collection Gallery. Herman Bernard of High Point, N.C., donated a superb twenty-four-coin set of Bechtler gold to the University in 1981.



Bechtler \$1 gold coin, 1830s

The gold dollar is crudely made, like all the Bechtler coins. Errors such as the reverse N were not uncommon on privately made coins and paper money. If produced by accident or ignorance, such error examples were sometimes initially undetected. Nevertheless, they were issued until the coin die or printing plate could be corrected.



Bechtler \$2.50 gold coin, counterfeit



Bechtler \$2.50 real gold coin



Christoph Bechtler gold
half-eagle \$5, 1831

Bechtler coins were counterfeited at the time. The base metal \$2.50 example, above left, was gold plated at one time. How long it might have circulated before discovery is unclear.

Just two months before his death in January 1999, Herman Bernard attended the opening of the Gallery's "Hard Cash & Hard Times" exhibition. In this photo, the High Point collector sits next to the special safe in which his donated set of Bechtler coins was first on permanent display.



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<https://exhibits.lib.unc.edu/exhibits/show/historicmoneys/numismatics/bechtler>

Are the Roman Gods Still With Us?

You Bet Your As They Are!

By

Mark Blumenstock

ROMAN MONEY

It is said that the history of Rome is the history of the world. The Romans had many coins in the thousand or so years of their existence. Originally a lump of metal called an "Aes Rude" was used as money to conduct commerce (Sayles 19). The Lydians had similar coinage in the Archaic Period (750-479 BC). See a picture of this coin in the July 2022 Missouri Journal of Numismatics (MJN) on page 15 (Haag 15). Also see the July 2023 MJN on page 26 (Vaughn 26).

Later, a larger sized coin was made, called the "As". It was made larger because it was made of a common base metal (e.g. copper, brass, or bronze). This trend of large base metal coins was carried over to British Pennies and U.S. Large Cents (Bradley 6). This large size is a great reason to collect the As coins since the graphics used are easily seen. See a British Penny in the July 2018 MJN on page 9, Figure 1 (Blumenstock MJN 2018: 9).



Republican Denarius Coin (Circa 211 BC)

Left: Obverse: Head of Roma. "X".

Right: Reverse: Castor and Pollux on horseback (Dioscuri).
"ROMA" in exergue.

Figure 1.

Silver and gold coins are usually smaller due to the value of the metal. The standard Roman coin was the silver "denarius", and was about the size of a dime. The "As" coin was originally one-tenth of a denarius. In Figure 1 we see a very early "Republican denarius". It was made after the time of the Roman kings, and during the age when Rome was still a Republic, circa 211 BC. See a similar denarius coin on page 30 in the July 2023 MJN (Vaughn 30).

On the obverse of this coin is “ROMA”. She was a woman with a battle helmet, and was the symbol, or personification, of Rome. Notice the “X” below, and to the left, of her head. This is the Roman numeral for the number 10 and tells the citizen that it is worth 10 “As” coins (Sear 80). If we compare this to our own standard coin, the dollar, we use the dime as one-tenth of a dollar. However, as time passed the “X” on the denarius became “XVI” for sixteen. This meant that it was worth 16 As coins. See examples of this type of denarius on page 93 in David Sear’s Roman Coins and Their Values (Sear 93).

To put Roman money in perspective, see Table 1 below:

Aureus	Gold	= 25 Denarii	
Denarius	Silver	= 4 Sestertii	= 16 As coins
Sestertius	Bronze	= 2 Dupondii	= 4 As coins
Dupondius	Bronze	= 2 As coins	
As	Copper	= 2 Semis	
Semi	Bronze	= 2 Quadrans	
Quadrans	Copper		

Roman Coinage

Table 1.

From this you can see that a sestertius is a quarter of a denarius, and therefore a denarius is equal to 16 As coins (Bingham 364). This was the value of Roman money after the Second Punic War (Shelton 459).

ROMAN GODS IN OUR CALENDAR

As we entered the year of 2025 we opened our calendars to the month of January. This first month is named after the Roman god Janis. While many of the Roman gods were borrowed from Greece (e.g. Zeus became Jupiter, Hera became Juno, Poseidon became Neptune, etc.) Janis was the invention of Rome.

His picture showed two heads. One looking backward and one looking forward. He could see in the past and in the future. The As coin originally had Janis on the obverse during the Republican years; but when the emperors gained power, the head of the current emperor typically replaced Janis on the obverse of the coin. Many Roman coins have the temple of Janis on the back of the coin. The temple door is noticeably open or closed. If the door was open, Rome was at war. If the door was closed, Rome was at peace, and a solemn ceremony was conducted to close the temple door. Since Janis was the god of first things, he could look into the future, and so January became the first month of the year (Sear 80). See a Janis coin in the July 2023 MJN on page 29 (Vaughn 29).

Spring was a time when armies began their preparations for war. Even in modern times winter snow presents an obstacle to mobility on the battlefield (e.g. Napoleon and Hitler in the Russian winters). So, when spring comes on the third month, what better god to name this month after than Mars? March is named after Mars, the god of war. Mars is found on many Roman coins and is usually shown with weapons of war. See a Mars coin in the July 2018 MJN on page 10, Fig 2 (Blumenstock MJN 2018: 10).

Our modern calendar was designed by Julius Caesar. This Julian calendar named the sixth month June, after Juno, the consort of Jupiter. In the Greek world she was Hera. Her rank was Regina, queen of the gods, and she was a goddess who helped women (Bingham 352). See a “Juno Regina” coin in the July 2020 MJN on page 35, Figure 4 (Blumenstock MJN 2020: 35).

After the fall of the Roman Republic, the first emperor Octavian, was named by the Roman Senate as “Augustus” in 27 BC. This gave the recognition of his supreme authority and turned Rome into a Monarchy. Octavian became commander and chief of the military forces of Rome.

Octavian was adopted by his great-uncle, Julius Caesar, and so took the adopted name of Caesar. So, when someone talks about “Caesar Augustus” they are noting the adopted name from uncle Julius and the Senate title of Augustus.



As coin (Circa 22-30 AD) (RIC 181).

Left: Obverse: Head of Augustus. "DIVVS AVGVSTVS PATER".
Right: Reverse. Alter Centered. "PROVIDENT". "SC".

Figure 2.

Notice the "As" coin shown in Figure 2. This is an announcement of the passing of Octavian. This was minted in Rome between 22-30 AD. On the obverse of the coin we see the large profile of the emperor Octavian. The text on this coin reads "DIVVS AVGVSTVS PATER". He was now a god and the father of his country. On the reverse of this coin we see that "PROVIDENT" (i.e. providence) had dictated his success. The large letters "SC" (i.e. Senatus Consulto) denotes the command of the Roman Senate to manufacture this coin. An altar (Ara Providentiae Augusti) was centered on the reverse of the coin. This was a place where you could worship this new god.

According to David Sear the exact location of this altar is not known. It is interesting to note that this same type of "restored" coin was produced for the death of later emperors (e.g. Vitellius and Vespasian) (Sear 352). The graphic profile of the new emperor's face was changed, but the rest of the coin was similar.

To the Roman mind it was not absurd to think that a dead Augustus could become a "god". Harold Mattingly explains that being an Augustus was considered a service to humanity. This would make Augustus closer to the gods, and therefore a transition to the heavenly realms would seem to be a likely event (Mattingly 91). The month of July was named after Julius Caesar and the month of August was named for Octavian.

ROMAN GODS IN OUR WEEK

The passing of time at shorter intervals, namely days of the week, is another reason to argue that the Roman gods are still with us. The planets that can be seen without a telescope, plus the sun and moon, make up the seven days of the week.

Constantine the Great, who loved the sun god Sol, kept Sol's special day for the new state religion of Christianity. Today most Christians still use Sunday for their day of worship. So, not only is Christianity an old Roman religion (e.g. Vatican City), but the day of worship is even older. See a sun god coin in the July 2020 MJN on page 33, Figure 2 (Blumenstock MJN 2020: 33). To see a Catholic Amulet of the Holy Christian Family in the July 2020 MJN see page 35, Figure 4 (Blumenstock MJN 2020: 35).

The next day of the week, namely Monday or moon-day, is paying homage to Luna. Rome believed that the goddess "Diana" was associated with the moon. Most cultures have worshiped both the sun and the moon. For a list of these cultures see the "sky gods" table in the July 2020 MJN on page 37 (Blumenstock MJN 2020: 37).

Tuesday, like the month of March, is named for the god Mars.

Wednesday is named for the god Mercury. Like the Greek god Hermes, Mercury was a messenger who promoted commerce. See an example of Mercury on a denarius on page 299 in David Sear's *Roman Coins and Their Values* (Sear 299).

Thursday is named for the god Jupiter. He was king of the gods. See an example of Jupiter on a denarius on page 152 in David Sear's *Roman Coins and Their Values* (Sear 152).

Friday worships the goddess Venus. Venus was the goddess of love. See an example of Venus on a denarius on page 129 in David Sear's *Roman Coins and Their Values* (Sear 129).

Saturday, or Saturn's day, worships the god Saturn, who was the god of farming (Bingham: 358, 363). See an example of Saturn on a denarius on page 144 of David Sear's *Roman Coins and Their Values* (Sear 144).

The gods mentioned so far are what Harold Mattingly would call the "Great Gods". However there were untold thousands of "Minor Deities". Some gods were nameless even to the Romans. They heard voices in the air, they had underground gods who made the plants grow, and they had local house gods for each of the aristocrat's households. Some "little gods" were for events like marriage or birth, and there were "spirits" for persons, places and things (Mattingly 73).

There were contemporary Roman authors, such as Cicero, who thought religion was just used for political purposes to control the masses, but the man on the Roman street must have considered all of this normal (Blumenstock MLA 2020: 36). Even today we have religious fanatics blowing, or burning, themselves to death to please one of the current gods.

ARE WE THE ROMANS?

As we read literature, some of the old Roman gods are mentioned. For example, when Author Conan Doyle wrote a story called, a "Case of Identity" he had Sherlock Holmes say, "By Jove", thus paying homage to Jupiter. Shakespeare, in his play "Julius Caesar", acknowledges the gods when he writes, "When beggars die, there are no comets seen; the heavens themselves blaze forth the death of princes".

There are some interesting comparisons between Roman coins and U.S. coins. Just as the Romans had a personification of "Roma", the U.S. used a personification called "Lady Liberty". Eventually Roma was replaced with the Emperors, and Lady Liberty was replaced with American leaders (e.g. Lincoln, Jefferson, Washington, etc). Just as Rome placed monuments on the reverse of their coins, the United States has monuments on the reverse of it's coins. For example the Lincoln cent has a Greek-type Temple called the "Lincoln Memorial" and the Jefferson nickel has Jefferson's home called Monticello. In addition, downtown D.C. has a myriad of monuments to various causes some of which have appeared on U.S. coins.

In a general comparison, most modern money still uses the basic Roman coin design. If you look at the obverse on most Imperial Roman coins you will see a profile of a leader, there is script along the edge going clockwise (with some

exceptions), a mint mark is on the bottom of the reverse (called exergue) and there is a graphic design on the reverse of a god, a hero or a monument. For a comparison of the U.S. and Roman coins see Figure 2 in the July 2018 MJN on page 10 (Blumenstock MJN 2018: 10).

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NOTE: The Journals of the Missouri Numismatic Society are archived digitally at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo. They can be seen at:
<https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/publisherdetail/510562>

NOTE: The American Numismatic Society has an online gallery of coins. To see examples of the coins discussed here, go to the "Coinage of Roman Republic Online" at: <http://numismatics.org/crro>

Mint Errors - The Beautiful Coins, (What can happen - Will happen)

“How ‘Error’ Coins Are Made - Back in Yesteryear”

By

Dave Price, dpapa3rr@gmail.com

MNS, Life Member-1980

Welcome to the world of collecting United States mint error coins.

This year, through the following coin photographs, descriptions, and definitions, we will try to explain how the minting process has changed over the years.

The Mint has eliminated certain activities. These functions – good or bad – have outside contracting firms taking over (by contract) the processes that no longer exist inside the old granite buildings anymore.

Summer was good that year! Mom, Dad, and I jumped in the car (brand new 1957 Chevy) and took off on vacation to see Grandma and Grandpa, (who had worked at the mint). For my birthday, my aunt gave me a little Brownie camera, Mom gave me five rolls of film for when we visited the mint, and my uncle an 1847 off center large cent (which I have written about before).

So off we went. Heading to the mint for a tour and stopping at every coin shop I could find on the way there. Error hunting and mint touring. It does not get any better than this. Summer was fantastic that year!!

The tour was big, lots of old stuffy people who thought they knew everything about coins and coinages and kept talking over the tour guide. I sure hope I never become one of them. Grandpa saw the glaze coming over my eyes, so he took my hand and off we went, with mom and dad in tow. He took us places, I think we were not supposed to go. But **I WAS WITH HIM**. It was great. I took enough pictures to fill up a shoe box.

Things were different back then, 67 years ago. All the pieces of equipment were uncovered – no sound insulating walls separating functions; everything was out in the open. Super noisy. Not like today. And another thing, ‘You can’t see things today’!! I am glad I got to see the old way of how things were done. Because all these things were important to me back then.

We saw the “**Make-up**” area where different metals are weighed and mixed; the “**Furnaces**” where the metals are melted and cast into ingot molds. Ingots go into the “**Rolling**” stage to become **1,500-foot-long** coils. I do not remember seeing in-

gots being rolled into strips, but I did get to touch a strip or two – big, heavy, could not lift one (couple ton). **“Blanking,” 14,000 blanks** made per minute. I saw big coils of metal being gang punched to make the metal blank discs – no rim. Blanks go one way, struck scrap and webbing go the other. The first **“Riddler”** is next, my most un-favorite piece of equipment – this catches and gets rid of all the coins that I display, (improper alloy mix; slag inclusions; defective or mechanically damaged; rolled thin or thick; tapered; included gas bubbles; scrap coin metal; curved clip – single, double, triple; incomplete, oval, crescent, ragged or straight; laminated, split or broken; wrong stock; extra metal; sintered coating; chopped coin metal; and fragments). **How I hate that machine.** Then into the **“Annealing,” 1,600 deg F** ovens and **“Cleaning”** drums (we could not see). Grandpa did not want us to go into that room. Next the **“Upsetting Mill,”** the planchet is born – (with rim); and that concludes the **PLANCHET PHASE** of the story.

We will not discuss the making of dies, but I did see all the denominations (**except \$1 dies**, none were being struck) stored in wooden crates.

1957 – How it was: Now we are at the **STRIKING PHASE** of the story and at the place I wanted to see the most. The **“Coining Press.”** The presses were hammering out 1c wheat back Lincoln cent pieces by the hundreds at a time, falling out of a chute onto a conveyor belt with inspectors on either side looking for those beautiful (bad coins) errors that went into a tote box, then to Melt and Casting, and the procedures start all over again. The good coins go to weighing, counting, and bagging, and then into pre-shipment storage.

2025 – How it is: Now we are at the **STRIKING PHASE** of the story and at the place I wanted to see the most. The **“Coining Press.”** The presses were hammering out 1c wheat back Lincoln cent pieces by the hundreds at a time, falling out of a chute into another **“Riddler”**, the second one, this one gets rid of all the coins I display – (die adjustments; indent; brockage; capped die strikes; struck thru – cloth, wire, thread, grease, dropped fillings, struck or unstruck fragment, rim burrs; double, triple or multiple strikes; partial collars; broadstrikes; off centers; and rotated die strikes). **How I hate that Riddler.** Any coin surviving this goes into a big metal tote box. Then rolled to inspection, coin weighing, counting, and bagging, and then into pre-shipment storage. I can still hear (rat, tat, tat, tat, tat) the noise the press made.

Summer was good that year. Coins, coins, and more coins. That is what it looked like to me. We saw big and little silver coins, and little shiny brownish red coins, Grandpa said not to touch anything that was on the floor, there was some neat, neat, stuff – caps, bonded, multiple struck off centers. I could have made a display with just one coin. Then came a guy with a big broom, who swept them up. Gone. Oh, I could have cried. I could not comprehend the significance of what I had just seen. Why couldn't I have had a pocket full of souvenirs?

And this is why I told you that story so I can tell you that I saw those functions that do not exist anymore. **The mint does not do:** One cent procedures at **Make-up** for 1 cent blanks, (mixing and weighing of materials); **Melting and Casting** (ingots); or **Rolling** (ingots to strips).

Now the Coils (strips) are vendor made, transported, and received at the Mint - **Coil Weighing**; **Coil Annealing**; **Coil Cleaning** (soap, clean, rinse, wire brush); coils made into single metal strips and multi-layer clad strips; and **Coil Weighing**. The process now includes partially unplated; blistered plating; and partially unclad blanks; all are vendor supplied to each mint. Followed by the second Riddler, rejects go back to Make-up. Present day the rejects are returned to the vendor.

The mint still does – after the first Riddler, **Blank Annealing** (heating to soften) and cleaning; **Upsetting Mill** (puts the edge/rim on both sides); stamping with the Coin Press; then a second **Riddler** (vibrating mesh) that separates the good coins from the bad coins (broadstrikes, off centers, multiple strikes, etc.). The Riddler has perforations just smaller than the size of the coin being shaken. **Inspection** (rejects to Make-up or Vendor) good to **Weighing**; to **Counting and Bagging**; and finally, to **Pre-shipment Storage**. And this was the process when Grandpa took me to the mint. Summer was really great that year.

As for the photos I took back then, I used to have them, until they became so brittle and cracked, they just fell apart. The pictures I see today – everything is all covered up, sound insulated, sterile, no coins on the floor, and visitors are shuffled to an elevated gallery – high above the coining floor. Back then we just saw coins, coins, and more coins.

We will not discuss or display Div. II - Die Varieties in this issue, but will save it for another time, due to limited space.

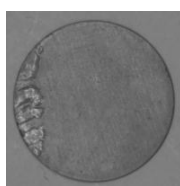
Definitions

The Minting Process: Melting, Rolling, Blanking, Annealing, Upsetting, Striking. It seems so simple when I write it like this!!

Div. I, Blank and Planchet Errors

INGOT ERRORS:

I-A-1, Improper Alloy Mix, T-2: A disc that was made of coin metal alloy that was defective because of a failure to properly process, heat, or mix the metals or because of adding the wrong metals or omitting metals before pouring the ingot.

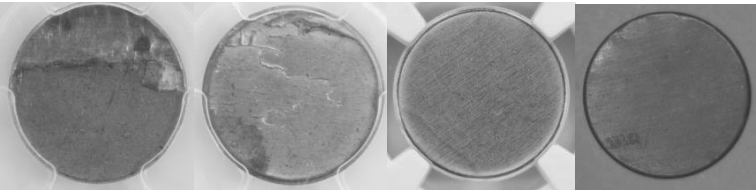


I-A-2, Slag Inclusion Planchet, T-1, cu: A planchet that had a layer of slag on the surface or an inclusion of slag that penetrated the surface.

I-B-1, Defective Blank or Planchet, blowhole, T-2: A disc which shows cracks at an angle near 90 degrees to the face or has interior areas missing or broken out.



I-D-1, Laminated, Split or Broken Blank or Planchet (Ingot Error): A coin which has split, cracked, or broken parallel to the face of the coin. The causes are included gas, dirt, grease or other impurities, or alloy mix problems.



1 cent, T-1,
Laminated

1 cent, T-2
def cu plating

1 cent, T-2 1 cent, T-2
pitted cu plating

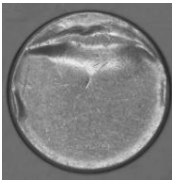
Other Ingot Error Types: Blistered Plating; Included Gas Bubble; and Partially Plated and Unplated Clad blanks and planchets.

ROLLING MILL ERRORS:

I-B-3, I-B-4, Rolled Thin and Rolled Thick Blank or Planchet: A blank or planchet punched from a coin metal strip which had too many (thin) or too few (thick) passes through the rolling mill.

I-B-5, Tapered Blank or Planchet: A blank or planchet punched from a coin metal strip that was rolled incorrectly at the end of the strip reducing the thickness sharply at one edge.

I-B-9, Included Gas Bubble Blank or Planchet: A blank or planchet punched from coin metal strip that contained pockets of gas, leaving a void or cavity in the planchet.



10 cent, T-2, clad, Included Gas Bubble

I-B-10, I-B-11, Partially and Unplated Blank or Planchet: A blank or planchet punched from clad coin metal strip which has gaps or openings in one or both clad layers, so that a portion or portions of the core metal of the planchet are exposed.

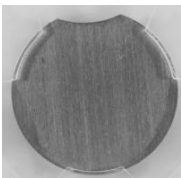
I-E-1, Wrong Stock Blank or Planchet: A wrong stock (thickness) metal strip was run through the blanking press making discs of the correct diameter but of the wrong thickness, alloy or metal, or a combination of the wrong thickness and the wrong metal.

BLANKING PRESS ERROR:

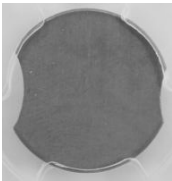
The blanking presses are 100-ton presses, mounted on bedrock, which operate at 250 strokes per minute and make 12-coin blanks per down stroke (for cent and dimes). If the metal strip slipped multiple times. how many clip blanks could have been made before an operator would have caught the malfunction??

I-C-2 thru 15, Clipped Blank or Planchet: A process which can produce a single, double, triple, incomplete, oval, crescent, straight, ragged or of any combination thereof.

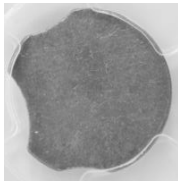
A missing area of a planchet or coin, caused by the blanking press punch overlapping an area of the coin metal strip that had already been punched out, that overlapped the end of a strip, a broken area, or an irregular edge of the strip.



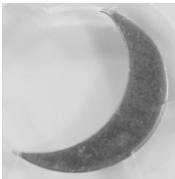
1 cent, T-1, cu
4% single curved clip K-12



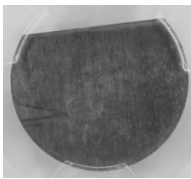
1 cent, T-2, cu
2% cc K-3
5% cc K-9



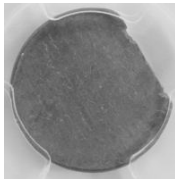
1 cent, T-2, cu
1% cc K-6
5% cc K-8
3% cc K-11



25 cent, T-1, clad blank
70% crescent clip



1 cent, T-1, cu
15% straight clip



1 cent, T-2, cu
10% ragged clip

THE RIDDLER SHAKE:

After the ingot, rolling, and punching of the blank is complete, the next process is the Riddler. This is when all clip collectors should stand-up and shake their fist at the U.S. Mint, because this piece of machinery has eliminated 90 to 99% of the mis-punched blanks. The new style Riddler has 3 vibrating screens of different sized holes. The blanks are fed onto the top screen which has holes to permit only correct sizes blanks, (larger than normal sized will not pass thru); the middle screen has holes which are slightly smaller than a normal blank (normal coins will not pass thru it, but smaller than normal will fall thru such as fragments and clips); the bottom screen has holes much smaller than a blank, (it will pass only clips, small bits of metal or scrap and all these go to the furnace).

UPSET MILL ERROR:

I-B-16, Upset Edge Blank or Planchet: After punching and riddling, the blanks are sent to an upsetting mill that passes them between a revolving grooved drum and a matching grooved fence. The blank rolls through, with the edges and bottom of the groove forming the upset rims on both sides of what is now a planchet. If the fence is not properly adjusted, (does not match the drum), it will cause the sharp edge of the groove to slice a piece of metal (rim burr) from the rim or edge of the planchet. 'If you are lucky, the rim burr will stay attached to the rim and be struck into the face of the coin and retained. If the burr falls off the planchet – you will see an indented slice in the rim. If the rim burr falls out of the coin, there will be a tear shaped indentation in the coin face.'

EXTRA METAL ERROR:

I-F-3, SINTERED COATING: A blank or planchet that is stuck in the annealing drum and is partially or completely coated with sintered coin metal dust.

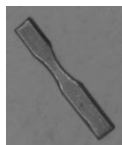
Note: True extra metal is just that – metal added to the blank during the blanking operation. This occurs as metal is scraped off the sides of the blanks as they are driven down through the bottom or thimble, the lower dies in the blanking process.

I-G-1, I-G-2, Blanks and Planchets:

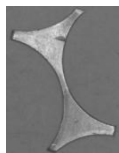
Minting Process! Blanks and planchets are considered errors because they have left the mint. **Note:** In past MNS Journals, I have written about and shown Blanks and Planchets for all denominations except gold.

I-H-1, Coin Metal Strip: Stop by the Display Area and see our display, a one cent coin metal strip and touch the dies we wrote about. See you there!

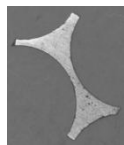
I-H-2, Chopped Coin Metal Strip: Pieces of the web or punched coin metal strip that were chopped into small pieces.



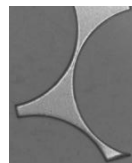
1 cent, Copper
Chopped Metal
Coin Strip



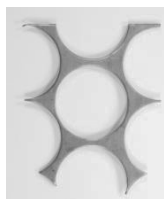
5 cent, Nickel
Webbing



10 cent, Clad
Webbing



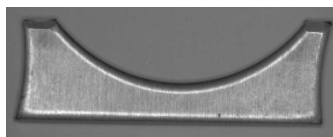
25 cent, Clad
Webbing



25 cent, Clad,
Webbing strip
Scrap



25 cent, Clad,
Webbing strip
Scrap



\$1, IKE, Clad
Webbing strip
Scrap

I-H-3, Waffle (Cancelled) Blanks or Planchets: The mint after 2003 has destroyed “error” blanks, planchets and struck coins before sending to be melted.



5 cent, T-1
Nickel, Waffle
(Cancelled)



10 cent, T-2
Clad Waffle
(Cancelled)



25 cent, T-2
Clad Waffle
(Cancelled)

I-H-4, Non-Punched Coin Metal Strip: Stop by the Display Area and see our display, an Ike dollar and quarter clad square coin metal strip. Touch and hold them!!

Div. III, Striking Errors

Question: What is the difference between Div. I - Planchet Errors and Div. III - Striking Errors? Not much, except this is where the dies have now come to rest on that non-faced metal disc, to be born into a struck coin. A lot of the processes

are the same, for example: I.B.10 - **Partially Unclad** Blank or Planchet becomes III.B.10 - **Struck on a Partially Unclad** Blank or Planchet. Clips, laminations, wrong stock, sintered coatings, fragments are all the same until they get past the Riddler and encounter the dies, then they become Striking Errors. The following Div. III classes do not have a Div. I blank or planchet category - struck on a - wrong planchet; chopped coin metal strip; die adjustment strikes; indents, brockages, and capped dies; struck thru (whatever); double, triple, and multiple strikes – on or off-center (saddle or chain); and broadstrikes; just to name a few.

Cent Production: The presses for cents are all quad presses. That is, each press has four sets of coinage dies which strike four coins in each down stroke. Each press runs at approx. 20 strikes per minute, or about 2 strikes per second, producing around 600 cents a minute. Each cent is struck with about 40 tons of striking pressure.

Philadelphia mint: Makes 47,250 coins per minute if all 63 presses are working.

Denver mint: Makes 40,500 coins per minute if all 54 presses are working.

Daily output: Millions of coins per day. You do math. My brain is starting to hurt.

It is in this stage of the minting process, the striking press, that the largest number of error types are produced. The flaws created in this area range from those which result from dies that are defective in one way or another, to actual malfunctions of the feeders or ejectors of the press. Between these two categories we find the vast quantity of error coins that are the backbone of the numismatic error collecting hobby.

Definition: Any error which occurs due to mechanical or human error during the actual striking of the coin.

Of the 192 different types of errors included in the “7th Edition of “Mint Errors”, the most common are **die struck blanks or planchets** – improper alloy mix; slag inclusions; defective or mechanically damaged; rolled thin or thick; tapered; partially unplated; blistered plating; included gas bubbles; unclad; scrap coin metal; curved clip – single, double, triple; incomplete, oval, crescent, ragged or straight; laminated, split or broken; wrong stock; extra metal; sintered coating; chopped coin metal; die adjustments; indent; brockage; capped die strikes; struck thru – cloth, wire, thread, grease, dropped fillings, struck or unstruck fragment, rim burr; double, triple or multiple strikes; partial collars; broadstrikes; off centers; and rotated die strikes.

Have you ever wondered - when that unfortunate error occurs at one of the mints, at one of the highly technical machines, before the inspector looks at the conveyor or looks in the tote box, what if you were there to grab and pick it up before an armed guard grabs you. What a dream just to think about it. I cannot even imagine all the combination types that are possibly and could be found, (capped die, bonded, multiple struck/clipped off center, broadstrike, brockage, indented, split before or after striking, multiple strikes). Well, back to reality, but it was fun to dream.

Credits

Definitions - PDS Error System: The “bible” for all PDS classifications, terms, and definitions ((P - Planchet error (preparation); D - Die variety (design); S - Striking error (production)) are taken from the “Official Price Guide to Mint Errors,” 2nd Edition, 1978; 6th Edition, 2002; 7th Edition, 2007; by Alan Herbert.

Minting Process: “Error Trends Coin Magazine,” 1981, by Arnold Margolis.

Coinage History, Weights and Measures: The Official Red Book, “A Guide Book of UNITED STATES COINS,” 78th Edition, 2025, by R.S. Yeoman.

**Stop by the display area and let’s talk errors & varieties.
Until next time - Happy error hunting!**

“To error is human and unfortunate -- to collect them is so much fun”.

**Presented to the
Missouri
Numismatic Society
By the
American Numismatic
Association
At the 133rd Annual
Convention
August 8, 2024
in Recognition of
Eighty-Five Years
of Membership**



Answers to How Well Do You Know these Numismatic Legends?

1. 1799 Large Cent.
2. 1866 No Motto Seated Liberty Quarter, Half Dollar and Dollar. While the dollar is not unique, only two are known to exist. The Quarter and Half Dollar were found and returned in September 1966, the Dollar in February 2004.
3. The star was added to sell coins. The idea was that collectors would buy two, one with and one without the star.
4. Nothing, they are counterfeit. These are the famous Henning nickels created by Francis LeRoy Henning. Other dates are: 1939, 1946, 1947 and 1953. While as counterfeits they have no value to collectors, some collectors do collect counterfeit coins and will pay for this coin.
5. 1933 Twenty Dollar Saint-Gaudens Double Eagle. All but 40? were melted by President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Executive Order 6102 of 1933. Only 11 are known today. Only one is legal to own, the others have been confiscated by the government.
6. 1909 Lincoln Cents. The controversial letters are V.D.B. which appear on the reverse at the bottom and are the coin's designer's initials: Victor David Brenner.
7. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor during World War II, the U.S Government printed HAWAII on \$1 Silver Certificates and \$5, \$10, \$20 San Francisco Federal Reserve Notes to allow them to be easily identified and withdrawn in case they fell into enemy hands.
8. No, the story was that Longacre's 12 year old daughter Sarah put on a war bonnet belonging to visiting chiefs and Longacre sketched it. He used this sketch when designing the Indian Head Cent. This story has been disproven.
9. Maria Theresa Thaler. This is an Austrian coin struck for Queen Maria Theresa (1740-1780). This coin became a trade coin especially in the Middle East, Ethiopia and India. While the coin was continually minted after her death the date was fixed at 1780, her final issue. So, no the MNS did not obtain hundred year old coins, but had them freshly minted.
10. 1964 Peace Dollar.

Always Follow Good Advice!

By
C. Joseph Sutter

Podcasts. That is my advice for this year. Create a Podcast.

Podcasts are all the rage and everyone I know who has made one is enjoying enormous wealth for very little effort. Great wealth, little effort! That's my motto in life. It also describes me! Except for the wealth part. But the little effort part is definitely me!

So what is a podcast? A podcast is an audio program, or in simple terms, a bunch of words or noises. You record these noises and put them on the internet and then a lot of people pay money, fancy term subscribe, to listen to them on their smart-phone, computer, or any other suitable device, whenever they like. That's all it is. The best part is the people paying money part.

There are only a few simple steps to follow:

- Decide what you want to record. Pick something you know a lot about, or at least something about. Remember at the last Coin Club Meeting when the Show Chairman mentioned that there were 134 dealers signed up and you volunteered for fifteen minutes that you once bought a coin from a dealer in Nebraska while on a trip to Memphis? You had the club members on the edge of their chairs waiting for everything you had to say. Select something like that.

Note: if you ask the experts they will suggest setting a goal and determining your target audience prior to picking a topic. Funny right! The goal is making a lot of money. Target audience? Who doesn't want to hear what you have to say? Just skip this part.

- Select a name for your podcast. To make sure a lot of people will choose it put ANA or MNS in it. For example: "the ANA Recommends This" or "MNS Favorite Podcast". Remember, copyright laws are for losers.

Experts suggest determining a time length and format. This sounds too much like planning. Planning is not one of my strong suits. No, you talk until you are done talking or run out of recording tape.

- Choose your music. This is very important since music can be used to sucker in, I mean, draw in an audience or add length in case you run out of things to say. Once again, pay no attention to copyright laws. What's the chance they will find out you stole their songs? Plus, you paid the fee to download it from Apple Play, right! You own it and deserve to make money off it!

The experts also suggest having guests on your podcast. This is not only time consuming but could also be expensive if the guest turns hostile and asks for compensation for wasting their time. This idea falls in the same class as preparing scripts to speak from. Winging it is the best way. Remember, the goal is to make money, not to spend a lot of time.

However, if you do have guests because you need help filling up the time slot, pick someone like you wife's brother. Someone you know more than. Don't pick an expert in the topic since they may contradict you and make you look stupid. Plus, until you start talking how do you what the topic is? You cannot find an expert if you do not know the topic. Above all, never select your wife. You will never get a word in. It's your podcast, not hers. Plus she may want some of the money you are getting.

- Find a good place to record. Any place with cold beer meets this requirement.

Don't be fooled by the experts who worry about the proper recording equipment. You already have a phone that records. Why waste money on additional equipment? Same holds for editing software. Waste of time!

If you must edit your audio, a google search yielded something called Audacity. It said it was free, and open-source and it's user-friendly and robust. While this sounds fine, this is something new to learn. Your time is valuable. Why waste it learning new things? Anyone can see that I don't waste my time learning new things. My computer comes with Paint 3D. I've used it to change pictures. Why not use it on your audio stuff?

- Choose a hosting site. Can't help you here. Don't know a thing about it. Find one that doesn't charge you anything. Maybe you can tag onto the MNS website?

That's about it. All you do now is sit back and cash the checks. Not exactly sure how you get the checks. It might have something to do with the hosting site. So make sure you check this out when you set up hosting.

Almost forgot. My residual. If you do create a podcast and make some money off it, please send me twenty percent as my advice fee. Remember, copyright laws exist. You owe me. And, if you follow my advice you definitely meet the loser requirement.

2026 Central States Numismatic Society Annual Convention

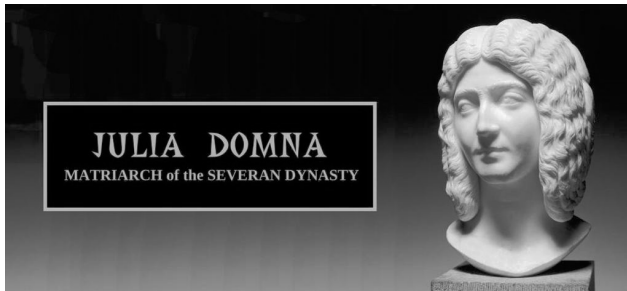
In 2026 the Central States Numismatic Society's, CSNS, 87th Annual Convention will be held in Chicago/Schaumburg at the Renaissance Hotel and Convention Center from April 23 – 25.

The theme for this Convention will be Missouri. Included will be presentations, exhibits and some very nice attendance prizes. All featuring the State of Missouri!

States featured in prior CSNS Conventions were: Iowa (2024) and Nebraska (2025).

Julia Domna, Matriarch of the Severan Dynasty of Ancient Rome

By
Chip Vaughn



One of the most important women in the Roman Empire was certainly Julia Domna, empress consort of Septimius Severus, mother of Emperors Caracalla and Geta and great-aunt of Emperors Elagabalus and Severus Alexander.



Early Coin Portrait of a Young Julia Domna

Julia Domna was born in Emesa, Syria, in about 170 AD, she was the daughter of Julius Bassianus, who was the High Priest of the god, Elagabal (Elagabalus), the patron god of Emesa. Her family was part of the Emesene dynasty a very powerful and wealthy Arabic family of priest kings of the temple. Because of their enormous wealth and influence the family was promoted to the

Roman senatorial aristocracy. Apparently the family had received Roman citizenship around the time of Julius Caesar or the first Julio-Claudian emperors since they notably were included in the important gens Julia.

The name, Domna, is an archaic Arabic word meaning “black”, which was a reference to the nature of the sun god Elagabalus which took the form of a black stone. She was the younger sister of Julia Measa who was also eventually given the title of Augusta after Domna’s death.



Julia & El Gabal Temple

When she first met Septimius Severus, he was governor of the Roman province of Gallia Lugdunensis, he was also already married. But he noted at that time, that soothsayers had proclaimed that she was destined to be the wife of a king. So, after Severus’ first wife passed away, being somewhat superstitious, he sought out Domna in hopes that the prophecy would come true. And in deed it did. They were married in 186 AD (as a young teenager) and in December of 192 Commodus died without an heir. Severus among others laid claim to the throne. In April of 193, he took the title of Emperor.



The marriage proved happy, and Severus cherished Domna and her political opinions and good judgement. Domna built a very solid reputation by applying herself to letters and philosophy. She gave birth to their two sons, Lucius Septimius Bassianus (Caracalla) in 188 in Lugdunum, and Publius

Septimius Geta the following year in Rome. More than any prior imperial couple, they traveled together as Severus continued to make ceremonial visits and lead military campaigns. She was with him in Gaul, Sicily, Egypt, Rome, Britain, Germania, Africa, Asia and Athens.



Domna was well known for her love of learning and her wit. It was generally acknowledged that she was highly educated and had a great interest in literature and philosophy. She regularly held seminars for writers and philosophers in her palace.



She received many official titles, exceeding all previous empresses in the number and variety of titles, such as “Mother of the Invincible Camps”, “Mater Deum” “Honourable Mother of the Camp” (Mater Castrorum) “mother of the army camps” in the year 204, she presided over the Saecular Games (Ludi Saeculares) which only took place once every hundred and ten years. After Severus’ death she received the title of Pia Felix Augusta, perhaps a way of implying that Domna’s influence was expected to continue to provide guidance to the empire as well as to continue the Severan legacy. Notably, she also appeared on many arch monuments and statues, which was unusual for an empress.



There was a hostility between Julia Domna and the powerful prefect of the guard, Fulvius Plautianus. Plautianus was related to Severus and was a boyhood friend. After his elevation to emperor Severus ordered Plautianus to hunt down the supporters of his former rival in the East, Pescennius Niger. But Plautianus took advantage of this role to accumulate riches by pillaging Syria and Mesopotamia. This caused a hostile reaction by Domna, who had close ties to the middle-eastern communities.

Plautianus aggressively sought to replace Julia as Severus' most trusted advisor. He treated Julia with contempt in public. In private he spread rumors of adultery and conspiracy with the enemies of the Emperor. Evidently Septimius discounted or ignored what Plautianus said about her. The emperor continued to take her with him on his expeditions; at other times, he displayed his trust in her by leaving her in Rome to administer the Empire on his behalf.

However, Plautianus was still recognized as one of the most powerful men in Rome. He murdered his enemies at will. He tortured noble women in order to gather evidence against Julia Domna, whom he considered his primary enemy.



Caracalla & Plautilla

He even arranged in 202 AD to have her son Caracalla, marry his daughter Plautilla, though the boy loathed his new wife as much as he detested her father.

In 205, Caracalla arranged for evidence to be presented to Septimius that Plautianus was plotting to kill them both. Plautianus was executed for treason. Julia Domna's archenemy had finally been exposed and eliminated. Soon afterwards Caracalla banished his wife and most likely ordered her death.

In spite of Julia Domna's influence, Caracalla and Geta detested each other. In 208 Septimius set out for Britannia with his two sons and their mother, hoping that the campaign would take their minds off their hatred for each other. While in Britannia, Septimius became gravely ill and died at Eboracum (now York) in February of 211. Before he died, he asked his sons to rule together. Julia's attempt to reconcile the two was unsuccessful. On their return to Rome, they continued to feud and their hostility toward each other became worse and worse.



Family Portrait with "damnatio" on Geta

In February of 212 Caracalla convinced his mother that he was ready for a compromise, Julia summoned Geta to her apartment in the Imperial palace. But Caracalla betrayed her trust and had Geta stabbed to death (reportedly in his mother's arms). He then issued an order of damnatio and forbade anyone to grieve for Geta. During the last five years of her life, following the murder of Geta (in spite of her hatred for Caracalla's treachery), Julia Domna virtually ran the government while Caracalla set out on various military adventures. Tragically, Caracalla was much troubled by illness throughout the rest of his reign.

In 217, Caracalla began a new war with Parthia. Domna went with Caracalla until they reached Antioch where she stayed to help deal with his administrative duties.



Temple of the Vestal Virgins

During the campaign, Caracalla was assassinated by Macrinus (who then proclaimed himself emperor). Domna chose to commit suicide after hearing the news. She was already suffering from breast cancer and most likely was reluctant to return to private life. It was said that she starved herself to death.

For more than two decades, Julia Domna was one of the most influential women in Rome. Two emperors had relied on her for guidance and support. During their lengthy absences, she administered a vast empire. She remained resolute even when she was attacked by her enemies, even when she saw her sons turning on their father and on each other. Julia Domna is also admired for her love of learning, which led her not only to expand her own knowledge but also to inspire and aid the intellectuals, artists and scholars she gathered around her. As their patron, she is credited with having done much to preserve her culture.



Continued from page 11

While four gold tokens have been identified, the possibility exists for one or maybe two additional one mill tokens. Eric P. Newman is thought to have owned one of these. Unfortunately, this specimen was taken in a burglary at his house on October 11, 1964 and subsequently lost. Mr. Newman acknowledged this token in his hand written inventory report of the robbery, describing a “1 mill Mo sales tax token struck in gold (2 struck in gold for presentation purposes)”. Mr. Barnett reported that Mr. Newman’s token was either: acquired from an Eisentadt executive or missing from the Smith set. So it is very likely that Mr. Newman owned one of these tokens. A fourth token was reported but never verified.

Zinc was used as the only metal source from 1937 through 1942. They were then replaced by plastic tokens in various colors and designs. These were used until 1961 when the Sales Tax Act of 1961 provided for the redemption and destruction of the tokens. By October 13, 1962 sales tax tokens were history.

So, how many gold tokens were produced? This author is inclined to go with four. However, as the state motto says “I’m from Missouri, show me.”

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New Challenges

On April 21 Pope Francis, head of the Catholic Church and sovereign of Vatican City, died. In the preceding weeks his health filled many news cycles as he battled several respiratory related conditions. While at times it looked like he was recovering, on the day after Easter Sunday, he breathed his last.

This event started a period of interregnum, a time when a group's leader is no longer present. In the Catholic Church this is referred to as *sede vacante*, which basically means no one is acknowledged as pope. This period runs until a new pope is selected (elected).

As a numismatist, this becomes interesting because coins are issued during this period. Coins issued under an existing pope usually have his image on them. With no current pope, a different image must be selected. A valid question would be why the need exists to issue these coins. Is the need for coinage such that a new issue cannot wait for the new pope to be selected? If so, why not just continue to issue coins from the prior pope? The answer is that this period is important and should be honored.



Since the time varies, the mintage numbers have a very large range. The recent *sede vacante* was only 13 days with Pope Leo XIV being selected on May 8. The *sede vacante* prior to Pope Francis was 13 days after Pope Benedict XVI retired. Recent *sede vacantes* since 1823 have been relatively short, ranging from 13 to 49 days. However, in a somewhat distorted example, the time between Popes Gregory XII and Martin V was two years and five months (July 4, 1415 – November 11, 1417).



The challenge this year is to build a collection based on this event. The most direct method would be to find a coin from every *sede vacante*. Wikipedia provides a list since 1799, 17 periods are identified. Collecting World Coins, published by Krause Publications, shows the coins issued during these periods. Between the two a set list could be developed.

Another option would be to base a collection on a particular pope. For example, Pope John Paul II, (October 16, 1978 – April 2, 2005) was a very popular pope.

With a fairly recent reign and by traveling to 129 countries, he became well-known to the world at large and possibly to the reader of this article. Referring to Collecting World Coins, my edition, # 11 from 2006, has eight pages of his coins (pgs. 863-870).

A third option would be to collect the coins from a world changing pope. One example is Pope John XXIII, (October 28, 1958 – June 3, 1963). His major accomplishment was the calling of the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) which made numerous changes to the Catholic Faith.

Maybe the idea of collecting the coinage of all the popes with a same name appeals to you. When a new pope is selected, he selects a regnal name, or a name that he will now be referred to. This practice dates back to 633 when Pope Mercurius felt his given name was inappropriate since it was based on a roman god. He selected John II after his popular predecessor. From then until 1555 with Pope Marcellus II, the new popes varied between the two naming methods.

The selection of a papal name carries deep symbolic weight and offers the first glimpse into how the new pontiff foresees his papacy. With the suffix of a number, it is easy to determine how many popes you need to find. Of course, not all popes issued coinage.

Sede vacante does not just apply to papal coinage. As Jeff Starck wrote in Coin World on August 30, 2020 the concept was followed by several German states over a 250 year time period. Mr. Starck was referring to the sale of a particular 1706 reichstaler, but the point is that a collection could be built with coins of multiple locations.

One of the best features of a collection based on sede vacante is the uniqueness of it. This author does not know of anyone building one. To those seeking a way to be different from everyone else, this concept should accomplish that.

Online copies of this and all issues of the Missouri Journal of Numismatics maybe found on the Newman Numismatic Portal NNP (<https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/publisherdetail/510562>).

The NNP is an online reference that contains thousands of numismatic items. It is funded by the Eric P. Newman Education Society.

St. Louis Numismatic Association

Meets First Friday of the month:
7:30 PM, doors open at 6:00 PM

Machinist Hall
12365 St. Charles Rock Road
St. Louis, MO 63044

Features: short business meeting, a 60 lot auction,
beverages and bourse tables.

Dupo Coin Club

Meets Third Monday of the month: 7:00 PM
Sugar Loaf Township Community Building
240 A. Fifth Str.
Dupo, IL 62239

Directions: from I-255 take Exit 9 (Dupo), turn left on South
Main Street, turn right on Admiral Trust Drive,
go 1½ blocks, turn right into parking lot.

Next Shows: August 3, 2025, August 2, 2026

American Legion Hall Post 365, 1022 Vandalia St.
(Hwy 159) Collinsville, IL 62234, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

Metro East Coin & Currency Club

Meets Third Tuesday of the month: 7:00 PM.
No meetings in June – July or August.

American Legion Hall Post 365
1022 Vandalia Ave (Hwy 159)
Collinsville, IL 62234

Directions: from I 55/70 take Exit 15 (Hwy 159), south which
becomes Vandalia Avenue, go about 1.9 miles to 1022 Vandalia,
turn left into parking lot

Next Shows: Fall Show: Oct. 5, 2025

Spring Show: May 3, 2026

Fall Show: Oct. 4, 2026

All shows are:

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

at the American Legion Hall Post 365
www.metroeastcoincurrencyclub.com

2025 MNS Show Exhibitors and Exhibits

<u>Exhibitor:</u>	<u>Title:</u>
COENECA	Interesting Errors and Varieties
Greg Darnstaedt	SS Central America, Part II
Jenkins	Buddy, can you spare a Mercury Dime?"
Rob Kravitz	1970-2025 My 55 Consecutive MNS Shows
Joe Lindell	St. Louis World's Fair
Dave Price	Mint Errors
Chris Sutter	Twenty Dollar Registry Set
Doug Tomey	Primitive Money
Chip Vaughn	Julia Domna, Matriarch of the Severan Dynasty of Ancient Rome

FUTURE NUMISMATIC EVENTS

- July 27, 2025 The Central Illinois Numismatic Association will hold its Summer Coin Show in Springfield, Illinois at the North field Center, 3280 Northfield Drive.
- August 3, 2025 **The Dupo Coin will hold their next Show at the American Legion Hall, 1022 Vandalia Street (Route 159), Collinsville, Illinois.**
- August 3, 2025 ARC Coin Show will be held in Kansas City, Missouri at the American Legion Post #21, 16701 E. US40 Hwy.
- August 19 -23, 2025 The American Numismatic Association (ANA) World's Fair of Money will be held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma at the Oklahoma City Convention Center
- September 4-6, 2025 IMEX (International Money Exposition) will be held in Nashville, Tennessee at the Music City Convention Center, 201 Rep. John Lewis Way South. (ellsworth@IMEX.show).
- September 7, 2025 ARC Coin Show will be held in Kansas City, Missouri at the American Legion Post #21, 16701 E. US40 Hwy.
- September 27, 2025 **The World Coin Club of Missouri' 2025 International Coin Fair at the St. Peter Parish Center, 301 First Capital Drive, Saint Charles, Missouri.**
- October 5, 2025 **The Metro East Coin & Currency Club will hold their 43rd Annual Fall Show at the American Legion Hall Post 365, 1022 Vandalia Street (Route 159), Collinsville, Illinois. (www.metroeastcoincurrencyclub.com).**
- October 17 - 18, 2025 Johnson County Numismatic Society will hold their 58th Annual Coin and Currency Show in Lenexa, Kansas at the Lenexa Community Center, 13420 Oak St. (www.jcns.org).
- October 24 - 25, 2025 The Ozark's Coin Clubs Annual Fall Coin and Stamp Show will be held in Springfield, Missouri at the Relics Antique Mall Event Center.
- November 13-15, 2025 **Coin-X, Powered by Roundtable Trading, at the Marriott St. Louis Airport, 1700 Pear Tree Lane (<https://www.coinxrt.com>).**
- January 8 – 11, 2026 The Florida United Numismatists' (FUN) 71st Annual FUN Show will be held in Orlando, Florida at the Orange County Convention Center
- February 12 – 15, 2026 **The St Louis Numismatic Association will hold their 61st Annual Greater American Coin Fair – 3 Day Show in St. Louis at the Hilton St. Louis Airport Hotel. Please see www.stlouiscoinclub.com for additional information.**
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February 26 – 28, 2026	The American Numismatic Association (ANA) National Money Show will be held in Savannah Georgia at the Savannah Convention Center. (Consult the ANA website, www.money.org , for details).
April 23 – 25, 2026	The Central States Numismatic Society's 87th Annual Convention will be held in Chicago/Schaumburg, Illinois at the Renaissance Hotel and Convention Center.
May 3, 2026	The Metro East Coin & Currency Club will hold their Fall Show at the American Legion Hall Post 365, 1022 Vandalia Street (Route 159), Collinsville, Illinois. (www.metroeastcoincurrencyclub.com).
June 27, 2026	The St Louis Numismatic Association will hold their 72th One Day Coin Show in St. Louis at the Machinists' Hall. Please see www.stlouiscoinclub.com for additional information.
July 9 – 11, 2026	The Florida United Numismatists' (FUN) 20th Annual Summer FUN Show will be held in Orlando, Florida at the Orange County Convention Center.
August 2, 2026	The Dupo Coin will hold their next Show at the American Legion Hall, 1022 Vandalia Street (Route 159), Collinsville, Illinois.
August 6 - 9, 2026	The Missouri Numismatic Society will hold its 66th Annual Coin Show at the Saint Charles Convention Center. The convention center is located at One Convention Center Plaza.
August 25 -29, 2026	The American Numismatic Association (ANA) World's Fair of Money will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. (Consult the ANA website, www.money.org for details).
October 4, 2026	The Metro East Coin & Currency Club will hold their Fall Show at the American Legion Hall Post 365, 1022 Vandalia Street (Route 159), Collinsville, Illinois. (www.metroeastcoincurrencyclub.com).
January 7 – 10, 2027	The Florida United Numismatists' (FUN) 72nd Annual FUN Show will be held in Orlando, Florida at the Orange County Convention Center.
August 10 -14, 2027	The American Numismatic Association (ANA) World's Fair of Money will be held in Rosemont, IL at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center. (Consult the ANA website www.money.org , for details).

Shows held in the St. Louis area are highlighted.

Ancient Coin Study Group

The St Louis Ancient Coin Study Group was established in 1979 and is one of the largest ancient coin clubs in the country. We boast of a membership of more than 300 members. The ACSG is jointly sponsored by the Missouri Numismatic Society and the World Coin Club of Missouri. Membership is dues free and our informal meetings are open to the public.

Ancient coins can be easily and often inexpensively purchased from coin show dealers, online marketplaces, and auction houses. The ready availability of inexpensive and good quality coins makes this an exciting time for the collector. ACSG members are happy to aid novice collectors in developing their collecting strategies.

The main component of each ACSG meeting is an educational ancient or medieval numismatic-themed presentation by a member or guest speaker. The “show and tell” sessions of our meetings offer the opportunity for both advanced and novice collectors to share their acquisitions with fellow ACSG members which include professional archaeologists and historians in an informal atmosphere. Members and guests may also bring in their most challenging “mystery coins” for identification and discussion.

The ACSG meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held at Star Coins and More, 1 Garvey Pkwy Suite 100, St. Charles, MO 63303. Attendees are free to bring coins to buy/sell. Most meetings are also broadcast via Zoom for those who cannot attend in person.

Please check our “St Louis Ancient Coin Study Group” Facebook page to confirm meeting information. Recordings of many of our recent educational presentations can also be found there as well as at the Newman Numismatic Portal website. Contact our organizers Chip Vaughn, Darrell Angleton, and Jeremy Haag at <stl.acsg@gmail.com> to be added to our email distribution list

2025

July 17	Peter Tompa	Coins as Cultural Goods: Promoting Conservation Over State Control
August 21	Jeremy Haag	A Money-Themed Tour of Pompeii
August 24	Group Tour	“POMPEII: The Exhibition” at the Saint Louis Science Center
September 18	Mike Markowitz	Reading Greek Coins
October 16	Dr. Michael Fuller	Roman History and Coinage of Antioch on the Orontes
November 20	Ben Walker	Grading Ancient Coins
December 18	Jeremy Haag (host)	Show and Tell Night

2026

January 15	Paul Bredt	Seasons in Art and Coins
February 19	Doug Tomey	Ancient Coin Collecting Themes and Strategies
March 19	David Grant	A Probus Primer
April 16	Jake Pawlusch	Ephesian Coinage
May 21	Mark Avery	Trade Coins of the Ancient World
June 18	Bryan O’Neil	AI Vision Models for Pedigree Search And Beyond

WORLD COIN CLUB OF MISSOURI

The World Coin Club (W.C.C.) meets the second Sunday of each month (except in May) in the meeting room of the Mt. Zion United Methodist Church. Meeting starts at 2:00, includes an educational program and bourse.

The church faces Craig School at 1485 Craig Road one mile north of Olive Blvd. Craig Road is also accessible from Page Avenue. Ample parking is available at the rear of the church.

The club address is W.C.C., P.O. Box 410652 St. Louis, MO 63141-0652.



MISSOURI NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

The Missouri Numismatic Society meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month, except in July, November and December, at 7:00 p.m. in the Creve Coeur American Legion Memorial Post 397. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

The address is 934 E. Rue De La Banque, directly behind (north of) Bristol's Restaurant. It is easily accessible by exiting eastbound from I-270 onto Olive Blvd. Visitors should turn left (north) onto New Ballas Rd. The next left should be taken at the end of one short block at the stop sign. At the top of the hill, the Legion Building is visible on the right. Park at the rear of the hall.

Members' bourse precedes the business meeting. A program auction and bourse follow.

For additional information or a membership application, write to: M.N.S., P.O. Box 410652, St. Louis MO 63141-0652 or see our website missourinumismaticsociety.org.

2025

August 27	Dave Price	Mint Errors – the Beautiful Coins
September 24	Elijah Skinner	The Uses and Abuses of Early American Copper
October 22	Dan Marion	How to Run A Coin Show
November 19*	Chris Sutter	Quiz: How Well Do You Know American Coins?

2026

January 28	Dan Kemper	Morgan Dollars
February 25	Dave Frank	School Lunch Tokens
March 25	Dave Price	Mint Errors – the Beautiful Coins
April 22	Carl and Nick	Auction
May 27	Kathy Skelton	Women Warriors - Mulan
June 24	Elijah Skinner	
July		No Meeting because of Annual Coin Show
August 26	Joel Anderson	The Betchler Mint
September 23	Rob Kravitz	Fractional Currency
October 28	Nick Correnti	Inflation Notes of the Past Century
November 18*	Chris Sutter	Disney Dollars

** *Third Wednesday because of Thanksgiving*

**The
MISSOURI NUMISMATIC
SOCIETY**

**invites you to attend our
66th Annual Coin Show
August 6th - 9th, 2026**

Please note the new Show Month!

**The
MISSOURI NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
invites you to attend the
NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

**which will be held
on the fourth Wednesday
of the month at 7:00 p.m.
Doors Open at 6:00 p.m.**

**Creve Coeur American Legion
Memorial Post 397
934 E. Rue De La Banque
directly behind (north of) Bristol's Restaurant**

2025 Wooden Dollar

This year's wooden dollar celebrates the
Missouri Mule and the 65th Annual Coin Show.



Now Accepting Consignments
*for our Collectors' Auction - 2025
and our Jewelry and Heirlooms Sale*

*We invite your participation in our
autumn auction events as a consignor.
Visit us at the lot viewing section of the
bourse to discuss our favorable terms.*

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