



NCNA Journal

Volume 46 ☞ 2020 ☞ Number 4



Time to say goodbye to 2020 and look for a design change for the Silver Eagle in 2021!

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Writing for the NCNA Journal

The *NCNA Journal* welcomes original articles on all facets of numismatics; articles related to North Carolina numismatics are particularly encouraged. Submission of previously published articles will be considered on a case-by-case basis; prior publication source should be noted at time of submission. The NCNA reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, format and/or content.

Digital copies of submissions are preferred; they should be sent via email to: ghcheek@earthlink.net. Typewritten articles are also accepted; they should be sent to: Greg Cheek, PO Box 185, Yadkinville, NC 27055.

The inclusion of images in support of a submitted article is very much appreciated. Digital images of 300 dpi (or higher) are preferred. Files in JPG format are preferred; please contact the editor before sending images in other formats. Questions regarding images should be directed to the editor. ***PLEASE NOTE: The copyright for all images submitted must be owned by the submitter; submission of images downloaded from the internet without prior permission is not acceptable.***

Authors of articles submitted are eligible for the NCNA's **Bason Literary Award**. It is given each year in recognition of outstanding contributions to the *NCNA Journal* and/or other numismatic publications.

Advertising in the Journal

Advertisement artwork should be submitted in "camera ready" digital form (300 dpi or greater) whenever possible; a clean business card can be submitted for one-third page ad requests. A \$35 charge will be incurred if the NCNA is required to design an advertisement prior to its publication. Payment is due prior to the first insertion.

Advertising Rates		
	One Insertion	Annual (4x)
One-Third Page	\$20	\$60
Half Page	\$30	\$100
Full Page	\$60	\$200
Back Cover (Full Color)	N/A	\$300

Submission Deadlines for Articles and Advertisements

Issue 1 – March 1

Issue 3 – September 1

Issue 2 – June 1

Issue 4 – December 1

NCNA Journal

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North Carolina Numismatic Association

Volume 46

2020

Number 4

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President's Message

Greetings fellow collectors, dealers, and NCNA members! I hope that you were able to enjoy this past holiday season with family and friends. May this edition of the NCNA Journal also find you off to a good start in 2021.

With 2020 behind us now, I'm hopeful that we will soon see an improvement in the COVID situation with release of the anticipated vaccines. However we will most likely continue to affect the scheduling of coin and stamp shows in the first half of the year. Please continue to check the status of shows on the NCNA Facebook page at www.facebook.com/NCCollector or website at www.NCNA.CLUB as well as other updated show information.

As you know, we were very fortunate to be able to hold our annual **NCNA Convention and Coin Show back on October 2-4** at the Cabarrus Arena and Event Center. A report on the convention and show is provided on the next few pages in this edition of the journal. Thanks again to all who worked so hard to make the show a success!

Also, I just want to remind everyone that before the convention, the NCNA Board of Directors (BOD) voted to **extend the current slate of officers and board of directors until October 2021**, as an emergency measure to better deal with the COVID situation. We plan to return to the standard NCNA election process for 2021. Let us know if you are interested in getting more involved as an NCNA member by serving on the NCNA Board of Directors.

And yes, it's time to **Renew your NCNA Membership in 2021**. We encourage you to renew as soon as you can. Please note that **if your envelope mailing label is blank or before 2020, then this will be the last journal that you will receive**, as the cost of publishing the NCNA Journal is covered by membership dues. We'd love to keep you as a loyal member of the NCNA and continue to send you the NCNA Journal.

An NCNA membership application renewal form has been inserted into this issue of the journal for your convenience. Please send your membership renewal to **Halbert Carmichael/NCNA, PO Box 5625, Raleigh, NC 27605**. Contact him at hhcarmichael@mindspring.com if you have any questions regarding your membership status.

I also want to bring your attention again to the **NCNA Young Numismatist Scholarship Program**. With this program, the NCNA provides one scholarship per year for a young numismatist to attend the ANA Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Information about the NCNA Scholarship Program can be found on the NCNA website at www.NCNA.CLUB/yn-program. Please feel free to email Bob Pedolsky, our NCNA YN Coordinator at rpedolsky@carolina.rr.com, if you have any questions regarding the scholarship application process or the program itself.

As always, feel free to reach out to me, other NCNA officers, or members of the NCNA Board of Directors. We are here to assist with local club efforts and we continue to look for opportunities to attract others to the hobby. Your ideas are important, as we consider how to make the hobby more enjoyable and meaningful for the NCNA membership and collecting community as a whole.

I continue to be optimistic for our hobby. Many dealers and coin shops have made the necessary adjustments to continue doing business. Many have taken advantage of digital technologies such as email, zoom, facetime, websites, auctions, and Ebay to drive sales. While most local clubs have not been able to hold in-person meetings yet, some have been able to conduct video or teleconference sessions to share information and stay in touch with their members. I know that many clubs have developed member email lists that help keep everyone informed as well. Everyone is finding ways to stay in touch with fellow local club members, dealers, and other friends in the hobby. But, most importantly of all, my prayers continue for everyone's safety and well-being.

I wish you the best in 2021, and look forward to serving you in the NCNA for another year. I hope to see you at another show or club meeting soon!

Greg Cheek, NCNA President

About the Cover for this issue of the

NCNA Journal ... With 2021 brining a new design for the reverse of the U.S. Silver Eagle coin, we celebrate its outgoing design on the cover of the December 2020 edition of the NCNA Journal. It has been in use since the coin's introduction in 1986!

2020 NCNA Convention Recap

By Perry Siegel and Greg Cheek

We are pleased to announce that the **2020 NCNA Convention & Coin Show held on October 2-4** was a success! It was held again at the Cabarrus Arena and Events Center on NC Highway 49 in Concord, NC. This was our fourth year at this site and we are planning to hold the convention there again in 2021.

If you made it to the show, we hope you enjoyed it. There was an excellent group of approximately 70 coin dealers set up at the show, coming from 13 different states. **Several health and safety protocols were in place** were in place, all of which were mandated by Cabarrus County. Contactless temperature checks prior to entering, masks required, hand sanitizers available around the bourse, bathrooms sanitized every hour, and all tables were separated 10 feet apart. It made for a huge bourse floor, as 140 dealer tables were spaced over both Exhibit Hall A & B this time. At least everyone got their steps in!

We were allowed a maximum of 249 people in the building at any one time. This did result in a waiting line outside for a short period of time on both Friday and Saturday mornings. We hope everyone understood that this was beyond our control, as we would not have been allowed to hold the show if we didn't adhere to these guidelines. A volunteer from registration was usually outside talking to the people waiting and answering their questions, which we trust you found helpful. The NCNA also instituted **early entry at 9:00 am instead of 10:00 am each morning for people 60 years of age and over**. This helped spread things out and reduced the wait times.

We had a great group of volunteers from several local clubs, who tirelessly worked the public registration tables. Their efforts greatly contributed to a smooth operation, considering the social distancing requirements. Additionally, we instituted a **preregistration process** for the first time, as preregistration forms were available on our web site. Anyone who brought their completed preregistration form to the show entered our newly developed **express line**. People who brought in their postcards were allowed to enter the express line as well. Given the success of the express line in streamlining the registration process, we are strongly considering this again for the 2021 show.

Unfortunately, due to the COVID situation, we were unable to hold many of our normal events at the convention in 2020. This included the

wildly popular barbeque and brisket dinner for the dealers during setup, our always informative seminars and educational exhibits, and the Boy Scout Merit Badge program.

All considered, we were pleased to put on the first coin show in North Carolina since early March. If you were able to attend, we hope you were glad to get back to a show! We look forward to seeing everyone at the **2021 NCNA Convention & Show on October 1-3, 2021.**

2020 Show Attendance

Public attendance for the Convention was estimated to be around 750-800 attendees for the weekend. Surprisingly the attendance was only slightly down from last year. This certainly exceeded everyone's expectations, as attendance was expected to be significantly lower due to the COVID situation. Many of the show attendees said that this was the first show they had attended since early in the year, and were excited that we were able to have the show. The beautiful weather seemed to work to our advantage as well.

"Young Collector's Zone"

Due to the COVID situation, we also had to forego most of our normal activities for young collectors. However, we were still able to hold a limited, yet safe version of our YN program. NCNA YN Coordinator, Bob Pedolsky set up a YN check-in table, taking all of the necessary precautions in order to facilitate a Treasure Hunt for about 20 young folks and their parents on Saturday. Bob is looking to organize a full slate of YN activities at the 2021 NCNA Convention. Look for the return of educational talks, display panels, games, coin search stations, and the popular Boy Scout Merit Badge Seminar.

Convention Exhibits

While we were not able to set up our normal Educational Exhibit Area in 2020, we are looking to try again next year. We especially want to encourage new and young collectors to consider exhibiting at the convention in 2021. We can always assist with getting you started. Just let us know.

Educational Seminars

We also had to forgo our normal Educational Seminars on Saturday for the 2020 NCNA Convention. However, we anticipate the return of these programs in 2021 as well. The NCNA is always looking for new speakers. If you have a special collecting interest in the hobby, please consider sharing your passion by presenting at the 2021 NCNA Convention.

2020 NCNA Awards

Although we were not able to hold our annual General Membership meeting on Saturday morning, we were able to conduct a short presentation of our Annual NCNA Awards in the center of the bourse floor on Saturday. Several individuals from across the state were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the hobby in North Carolina, with NCNA president Greg Cheek presiding over the ceremony.

O.T. Thompson received the prestigious *John Jay Pittman Award*, the NCNA's "*Numismatist of the Year*" award. The award is given in recognition of outstanding and enduring contributions to numismatics in North Carolina. O.T. was recognized for his many years of dedicated service in the hobby, including his leadership in the Lower Cape Fear Coin Club, strong engagement in the ANA, and outreach to other local clubs.

The *Forrest & Tessie Michael Volunteer Service Award* was awarded to **Anthony "Tony" Campbell**. The award is given in recognition of outstanding volunteer service to benefit numismatics in North Carolina. Tony was recognized for his faithful support of the Iredell Statesville Coin Club since formation of the club 25 years ago. He has proved himself as a dedicated record keeper and treasurer for the club.

The *Bason Literary Award* was awarded to **Paul Horner**. The Award is given each year in recognition of significant contributions to numismatic education through published works. Paul has become a trustworthy contributor of wonderfully researched articles for the NCNA Journal, and has long been recognized for his collecting interest and expertise on North Carolina currency and paper script.

The recipient of the *President's Award* is chosen by the awards committee at the recommendation of the NCNA President. In 2020, this award was presented to **Perry Siegel**. He has served as the Bourse Chair for the annual NCNA Show for the past 3 years, and Perry was recognized especially for his hard work and dedication in managing these highly successful shows. His leadership and coordination with the Cabarrus Area played a huge role in making the NCNA Show happen in 2020. Many thanks go out to Perry for his much appreciated efforts.

The *Ted Hendrick Memorial Dealer Award*, jointly sponsored by the Raleigh Coin Club and the NCNA, was presented to **Bill Graves**. He was recognized for his many years of demonstrated integrity as a dealer at local, regional, and national shows. Bill has been a long-time supporter

of the NCNA, and is currently serving on the NCNA Board of Director. Raleigh Coin Club President Jim DeShong presented this well-regarded award to Bill.

Cole Peoples was the recipient of the *Young Numismatist of the Year Award*. He has been a very active collector and a member of the Charlotte Coin Club for several years. His passion for the hobby certainly qualifies him as an outstanding young numismatist. Through his various collecting interests, and his contribution of fine articles for the NCNA Journal, Cole has demonstrated a high level of understanding regarding numismatics. Great work Cole!

2020 ANA Awards Presented at the 2020 NCNA Convention

ANA President Steve Ellsworth presented the *ANA Presidential Award* to two individuals at the NCNA Convention as well.

Many of you knew **Barry Ciociola**, as he was a long time NCNA member. He served on the NCNA board of directors for many years, and also served as NCNA President for two terms. Barry was known throughout the ANA, other regional and state numismatic associations, and local coin clubs as well. With Barry's passing in October 2018, he was honored posthumously with this award from ANA President Steve Ellsworth. NCNA President, Greg Cheek accepted the award on behalf of Barry's family. He is greatly missed by so many of us in the hobby.

Parry Bragg, the current President of the Virginia Numismatic Association (VNA) was also presented with the ANA President's Award for his many years of dedicated service to the VNA. Parry was present and had a table at the show, and has always been a strong supporter of the NCNA.

**Interested in presenting a program or
displaying an exhibit for the
October 1 -3, 2021 NCNA Convention
and Show at the Cabarrus Area and
Event Center in Concord, NC ?**

If so, contact Perry Siegel at herakles@heraklescoins.com

Looking for a Local Coin Club or Local & Regional Coin Shows?

Find out more about clubs and shows in your area
on the NCNA website:

www.NCNA.club

Click on the “Coin Clubs” or “Coin Shows” tab
at the top of any page on the website.

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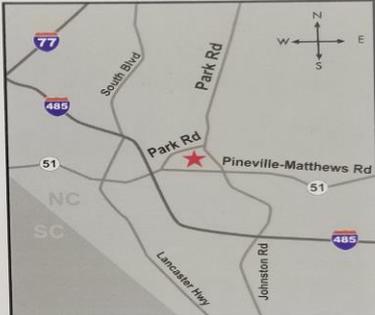


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Notes from the Editor's Desk

As we arrive at the last NCNA Journal of 2020, I must apologize for not getting it to you in December as originally planned. I think the holiday season got the best of me. Anyway, I'm always impressed with the assortment of interesting topics that we receive. My gratitude goes out to those folks who provided the articles in this edition of the Journal!

Bob Pedolsky, NCNA Young Numismatist Coordinator, has provided some wonderful suggestions for collecting coins in circulation entitled "**CHANGE**" in "**Young Collector's News**".

David Boitnott has written a very revealing article on the story of Francis Leroy Henning in "**Everybody Needs a Hobby**". Francis Henning was infamous for his counterfeiting ventures from the late 1930's into the 1950's. Have you ever seen a "Henning Nickel"?

Paul Horner is no stranger as a contributor to the Journal. This time he offers up a look at some of the "paper money" issued in North Carolina during the Great Depression in his article entitled "**Asheville Merchants' Association, Inc., 1933 Depression Scrip**".

Danny Freeman is back with another edition of "**A Blast from the Past**", giving us a closer look at the **1856 Flying Eagle Cent**.

David Carlson is our newest contributor to the Journal. He shares a very unusual article regarding the 1897-O Barber Dime entitled "**The Devil's Coin: The Coin that Almost Never Was**".

In "**Ancient Guy**", Perry Siegel gives us a very timely look at ancient coins connected with the Hanukkah story in "**The Rest of the Story**". Perry brings the history of the Hasmonean dynasty in Judea into focus with superb examples of coins from that period.

Lastly, we've had some fun in the last few issues in 2020 with a new column entitled, "**Look it up in the RED BOOK**". While we took a break in this edition of the Journal, this column will return with new themes in 2021. We encourage you to send us topics of interest to you that will challenge our membership to explore the REDBOOK.

I hope that you enjoy all of these great articles! Would you also consider sharing your favorite collecting interest with our membership by submitting your own article in 2021? Just let me know.

Until next time – Greg Cheek

Secretary's Report

Halbert Carmichael is the NCNA Secretary/Treasurer.

Please direct all NCNA correspondence to him at the following address:

Halbert Carmichael /NCNA
PO Box 5625
Raleigh, NC 27605

Halbert takes care of all incoming membership applications/payments and other financial matters for the NCNA. He is also available to assist with inquiries regarding your membership status as well. You can reach Halbert via email also at hccarmichael@mindspring.com.

Be watchful for important updates posted by Halbert in this section of the Journal.



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Young Collector's News

CHANGE

By Bob Pedolsky

I hope YNs of all ages are doing well. Over the past few months, there has been a lot of “change” happening in all our lives. In this article, though, I am going to talk about collecting from “change”. There are many ways to collect from change to help build our collections.

When I was growing up, everyone, including me, started to collect Wheat Cents from our parents’ pockets or the change we got from buying a candy bar, a small toy, or a pack of baseball card. But the best way was by going to the bank, and if you had 50 cents, a friendly bank teller would let you have a roll of pennies! That was usually saved for the weekend when all homework was done. Then it was time to take out your Whitman Lincoln folder books and open them up on the kitchen table. You would admire your coins in folder one for a quick minute, pine for all the empty holes in the teens and twenties and see how well you were doing in the thirties. Then, quickly look at book two and wonder how many you can update for better condition, especially those rusty steel cents from 1943. Then you might wonder if you could find one of those new 1959 Lincoln Memorial cents that you just saw for the first-time last weekend - the one your friend found in his mom’s change. It looked so new and shiny. You had to look hard at the Lincoln Memorial to see that Lincoln was seated right in the middle of the columns. How cool! Then, you took out the roll you got from the bank and started to search. How thrilling!

Those opportunities still exist today. Now, I’ll give you a few examples of what you can collect from change.

The two most obvious choices are the State Quarters, District of Columbia and U.S. Territories (1999-2009), and the America the Beautiful Quarters (2010-2021). Each series will have 56 different reverses with all sorts of wonderful designs depicting, history, places, famous people, animals, artwork, and, of course, national parks. All can be found with a little hard work by just going through the change you get every day or through those friendly bank tellers. There are coin folders that will let you collect one from each mint (Philadelphia and Denver) or just one of each design, your choice. At the end of either series, you will

have a wonderful, diverse collection of history and beauty in just 56 different designs.

If that is a little too intense for you, try Lincoln Memorial and Shield Cents. From 1959-2008 the Lincoln Memorial Cent can still be found in change quite easily. You have the Lincoln Bicentennial coins of 2009, with four different designs depicting Lincoln's life, followed by the new Shield reverse (2010 to date). That might represent over 60 years of not much change in design but, once you study the series, there are some great varieties. Some are easy, and some are hard to find. That's what makes the series fun to collect.

Speaking of varieties, many people have the "Cherry Picker's Guide to Die Varieties" by Bill Fivaz and J. T. Stanton. It is possible to find some minor and major varieties in any series or denomination, by going through "change". It is a challenging and very detail oriented way of collecting from your change.

But the most exciting series might be the Jefferson Nickel. You can still find nickels from the 1930's and 1940's, including the silver war nickels in change to this day. Just that alone makes this an exciting series to try to complete from change. Once you get past the 1950-D (which I did find in change), from 1951-2003 there will be a lot of nickels to find. It will take a lot of due diligence and searching through a lot of nickels to find them all. Things get exciting with the Westward Journey Nickels of 2004-2005, with a new obverse and four different reverses. Then, starting in 2006 to date, there is another new obverse. There are over 80 years of coins that can still be found in change to complete this massive nickel collection. You will have the thrill of the hunt, a project worthy of your time and effort, and a lot of fun in the process.

Till next time, be safe. I hope that you had a wonderful holiday season.

Take care!

Bob

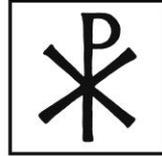
NCNA Young Numismatist Coordinator

Are you are young numismatist or do you know a young numismatist who might be interested in applying for our NCNA YN Scholarship? If so, please contact Bob Pedolsky, our NCNA YN Coordinator at rpedolsky@carolina.rr.com.

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Look it up in the RED BOOK

“Look it up in the REDBOOK” is a new column that will test your knowledge of U.S. coins using R.S. Yeoman’s well known A Guide Book of United States Coins - **THE OFFICIAL RED BOOK**. The intent of this column is to challenge journal readers with questions that can be answered in this great reference on U.S. coins.

While we are taking a break for this column in the December 2020 edition of the NCNA Journal, you are encouraged to watch out for the return of “Look it up in the REDBOOK” to in the next edition of the NCNA Journal.

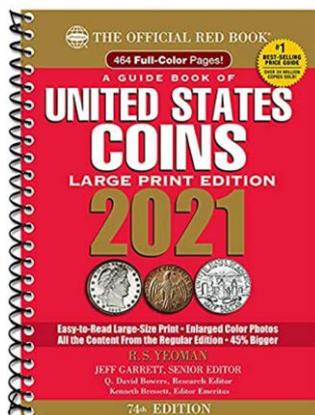
Congratulations are in order for winners of the first two editions.

Jason Mann was the winner in the inaugural edition of “Look it up in the REDBOOK” in the July 2020 NCNA Journal. He correctly answered all questions posed in regard to the Walking Liberty Half Dollar, Standing Liberty Quarter, and Mercury Dime series.

Libby Sigmon was the winner in the 2nd edition of “Look it up in the REDBOOK” in the September 2020 NCNA Journal. She correctly answered all questions posed in regard to coins that circulated during the Colonial Period in North America. Thanks again to Tom Wood, who provided the Colonial coin photos and very challenging questions.

As in the first two editions, the first person to email the editor of the Journal at ghcheek@earthlink.net, with the correct answers to the questions in the upcoming column will win a Silver Eagle.

The 2021 Edition of the Red Book is now available and can be purchased at most coin shops and coins shows.





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Everybody Needs a Hobby

By David W. Boinott



Figure 1 - The Famous “Henning” Nickel (Image courtesy of the author)

As collectors and numismatists who really enjoy our hobbies, we could all have empathized with Francis Leroy Henning’s plight as he stood before a judge that Thursday awaiting his day in court. On one hand, Henning’s crime could have been viewed simply as a hobby innocently run amok. He was just honestly doing what he loved – making trinkets and things in his home machine shop. But, on the other hand, this was no nickel and dime variety crime. You see, Francis Henning’s trinkets were counterfeit United States nickels!

So, how did Francis Leroy Henning (**Figure 2**) find himself in court this fine December 29, 1955 day with his freedom hanging in the balance? He was clearly an educated man, schooled and employed as a mechanical engineer, an entrepreneuring businessman with a vending company on the side, who like many of his fellow Americans was working hard to better his station in life. Just the kind of guy you would want as a neighbor. On the surface there was no indication he was running a criminal enterprise. However, beneath the surface, he was not above taking a short cut or two in his pursuit of the American dream from time to time.

This was to be his undoing. And, unfortunately for Henning as he faced the judge this was not his first brush with the law. Henning had a criminal record, having been arrested in Boston by the Secret Service in 1939. The charge counterfeiting \$1 silver certificates. A prior for counterfeiting was surely not going to help his current situation.

Convicted and sentenced to three years for his 1939 offense, Henning decided to make the best of an otherwise bad situation. He was a model prisoner and took advantage of what opportunities presented themselves. As an engineer he had been involved in the design of many mechanical parts but really had no hands on experience in the manufacture of these parts. So, when the opportunity to work in the prison machine shop where he could add some practical experience to his engineering background came up he jumped at the chance. Not a bad use of his time – it was not like he had anywhere else to go. In the process he picked up a new hobby and perhaps a new idea.

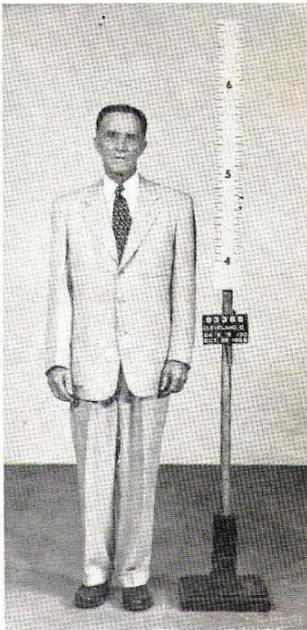


Figure 2 – Frances L. Henning
(Image courtesy of the author)

Upon his release from prison, Henning relocated to Erial, New Jersey and proceeded to get his life back in order and to some sense of normalcy. Perhaps bored, perhaps broke, at some point in the early 1950s Henning did the math and figured he could manufacture his own nickels to literally make a little extra cash. He had the skills thanks to his prison training. While, he could not purchase metal for the planchets made of 75% copper, 25% nickel like the mint he could get metal alloyed at 80% copper, 20% nickel with a trace of iron. Close enough. His cost worked out to be 3-1/2 cents each plus tool costs and labor. For easy math let's say he would make an even cent on every nickel. Not a lot of money but as they say he could make it up in volume.

Now before you scoff, remember this was the early 1950s. A one-cent profit each would translate into \$1,000 profit for every 100,000 nickels passed. Incidentally, 100,000 is the low number the government charged him with putting into circulation. For reference consider in 1953 in his area a house would have cost you about \$8,000, a new Ford depending on model had a sticker price of under \$2,000 and gas was 21 cent a gallon. Henning figured the risk was low and worth it. Really, who would ever give a lowly nickel a second glance let alone question its authenticity?

Sure it appeared low risk and sure he could make it up on volume but how could anyone spend that many nickels? No problem, Henning had an ingenious plan for that too. He started a vending company that on paper had vending machines all over southern New Jersey that accepted nickels. And business was good! Every week he would take rolls and rolls of nickels to the bank to deposit. They were the supposed proceeds from his booming vending business but actually they were the product of his clandestine mint. The bank was a ready outlet for his nickels that had no suspicions and asked no questions. They were grateful for his business. The bank had become his unwitting distributor. Simply genius! The first flaw in Henning's ingenious plan came when a bank teller did a routine count of one of the rolls in his deposit to verify there was the correct number of coins in the roll. There was no issue with the count but the teller did comment to Henning on how odd it was they were all dated 1944. I wonder if the teller reported his suspicions to anyone. I suspect Henning also wondered as much. Probably shaken but not deterred Henning made new obverse dies. From then on he made sure the rolls contained mixed dates when deposited. Disaster averted for now, the vending business remained strong. When the secret service raided his garage mint in 1953 they confiscated six obverse dies dated 1939, 1944 (possibly 2), 1946, 1947 and 1953.

While it is evident that Henning thought this project through and planned the operation in great detail it is equally evident that Henning was no numismatist. He made a fatal flaw which was almost immediately noticed by the numismatic community. He likely made his dies through a transfer process. In making the desired die, either obverse or reverse, the transfer process renders the donor coin unusable for the other side so a different coin must be used for each die. Under most circumstances this would not be of any consequence but for the unique nature of the World War II composition change of the nickel (35% silver) along with the Mint adding a large mintmark (even a P for Philadelphia) over the dome of Monticello to indicate this emergency composition. This would be the tripping point for Henning. Perhaps he can be forgiven for not knowing this as he spent most of World War II in prison for his first foray into counterfeiting. Nevertheless, Henning inadvertently made an obverse die from a 1944 war composition nickel while never making a reverse die with a large mintmark from a war era composition nickel to pair with it. Instead, he muled his 1944 obverse with a reverse from a non-silver nickel that had no mintmark. Big mistake! Big mistake! It didn't take long before Henning's mistake was being discussed at coin clubs and coin shows all over New Jersey and eastern Pennsylvania.

Was this a newly discovered Mint error? His unwitting distributor was definitely getting them out there in the public eye. The Camden County (NJ) Coin Club suspected something was amiss and decided to contact the secret service. Initially the secret service deemed the coins to be legit because who would ever fake a lowly nickel? But as more nickels emerged and more questions arose the secret service and the Mint took a closer look and quickly changed their tune. The investigation had begun. Now, remember the teller who commented on the odd rolls with all 1944 dated nickels, the investigation brought this to light and the authorities were rapidly focusing on Francis Leroy Henning.

Henning was feeling the heat by now. He had to quickly cover his tracks and get out of town. He reportedly dumped 200,000 of his counterfeit nickels into Cooper Creek near Cherry Hill, New Jersey. The secret service would recover 12 to 14,000 of them in 1953-4 and for years the area was a very popular spot for New Jersey metal detector enthusiasts. There is no telling how many have been pulled out by hobbyists but many seen today do show signs of corrosion. He is also rumored to have dumped another 200,000 of his counterfeit nickels into the Schuylkill River in Pennsylvania. None of these were ever reportedly recovered. With this he left town relocating to Cleveland, Ohio. Apparently, he made no attempt to destroy any of the other evidence as we noted earlier when the secret service raided his garage mint in 1953 they confiscated six obverse dies plus six reverse dies (two distinct varieties), dies for dimes, quarters and half dollars (never used) and a plate for one side of a five-dollar bill. Or, perhaps the raid interrupted his efforts to get rid of the evidence.

Francis Leroy Henning was arrested in October 1955 in Cleveland, Ohio. So, now Henning finding himself in court on December 29, 1955 was asked how do you plea? The gig was up, the evidence not in dispute and the prospects of an innocence verdict at trial was bleak, and so Henning answered “guilty” and put his fate at the mercy of the court.

On January 20, 1956 Francis Leroy Henning was sentenced to 3 years in prison and fined \$5,000 for the manufacture and circulation of between 100 and 150 thousand counterfeit nickels. The judge tacked on another three years for possession of a counterfeit plate and his plan to counterfeit \$5 bills.

While Henning’s scheme was in the end a personal failure and he never achieved fortune, he did get a level of fame at least in the numismatic community. His creation of the 1944 no mintmark nickel called the “Henning Nickel” today is a collectible in and of itself. A VF to XF real

silver 1944-P war nickel today sells for whatever the silver spot value says common war nickels go for. Meanwhile a quick search of eBay completed auctions and buy it now listings shows a “Henning Nickel” realizes between \$75 and \$125! There are of course outliers both bargains and the unbelievables. Interestingly there was a 1939 “Henning Nickel” on eBay in August 2020 described as ultra-rare with the looped R that had a buy it now price of \$999. It sold! The imitator now seriously trumps the real thing!



Figure 3 – 1944 “Henning” Nickel Reverses (Image courtesy of the author)

The 1944 “Henning Nickel” is the most commonly seen, most dramatic and most popular but the other dates 1939, 1946, 1947 and 1953 are also known. These dates are not as readily apparent but can be identified by a few characteristics shared by all Henning created nickels. The first is all Henning’s planchets were overweight. They weigh between 5.3 and 5.4 grams compared to the standard of 5.0 grams. The dies were poorly made and show many defects taught in the ANA counterfeit detection school. On close inspection you will see mushy details, missing detail and lots of raised metal areas. As a counterfeiter Henning was not really that good.

Earlier it was mentioned that in the raid on Henning’s garage mint six reverse dies of two distinct varieties were seized. The first variety (most often seen) has a unique issue with the R in EPLURBIUS. There is a defect in the letter’s left leg that looks like a massive hole. The second is your typically poor quality counterfeit. Both reverses are shown in Figure 3. These can also be used to help identify the other years. As I said in the title “everybody needs a hobby” and in conclusion Francis Leroy Henning would have been well served if he had added numismatics to his leisure pursuits. With a little “coin” knowledge he just might have got away with it.

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COIN SHOW CALENDAR

Please note that shows listed below are subject to change or cancellation due to the COVID-19 situation. Be sure to check for updates for these shows with show promoters or on the NCNA Website prior to attending: www.NCNA.club

NC

<p>Feb. 12-14 Fr : 10a-6p Sa: 10a-6p Su: 10a-3p</p>	<p>Charlotte, NC – POSTPONED – new date TBD <i>Charlotte Coin Club Annual Coin Show</i> Park Expo and Conference Center 800 Briar Creek Road Contact: Gregory Field – 704.293.4496 cell/text</p>
<p>Mar. 6-7 Fr: 10a-6p Sa: 10a-6p Su: 10a-4p</p>	<p>Raleigh, NC (also Nov. 20-21) <i>Carolina Coin & Stamp Show</i> NC State Fairgrounds – Gov. James E Holshouser Building 1025 Blue Ridge Road Contact: Jimmy Clayton – 910.574.4635</p>
<p>Mar. 13-14 Sa: 10a-5p Su: 10a-5p</p>	<p>Jacksonville, NC <i>Camp Lejeune Coin & Paper Money Show</i> Old Christian Book Store 103 North Plain Road Contact: Calvin Lindsey – 919.548.3963</p>
<p>April 10-11 Sa: 10a-6p Su: 10a-5p</p>	<p>Wilmington, NC <i>Lower Cape Fear Coin Club Show</i> Elks Lodge 5102 Oleander Drive Contact: O.T. Thompson – 910.520.8405</p>
<p>June 18-20 Fr: 10a-5:30p Sa: 10a-5:30p Su: 10a-2:30p</p>	<p>Raleigh, NC <i>Raleigh Money Expo - Raleigh Coin Club</i> NC State Fairgrounds - Exposition Center 1025 Blue Ridge Road Raleigh, North Carolina 27607 Contact: Paul Landsberg – 919.247.1982</p>
<p>Aug. 14-15 Fr: 10a-6p Sa: 10a-6p Su: 10a-4p</p>	<p>Statesville, NC <i>Iredell-Statesville Annual Coin Show</i> Statesville Civic Center 300 South Center Street Contact: Bill Brewer – 704.450.1639</p>

Attention show promoters!

Make sure your show gets listed in the NCNA Journal.
Send in your show information to: ghcheek@earthlink.net
at least four months ahead of time.

NC

<p>Oct. 1-3 Fr: 10a-6p Sa: 10a-6p Su: 10a-3p</p>	<p>Concord, NC <i>NCNA Convention and Coin Show</i> Cabarrus Arena and Events Center 4751 Highway 49 North Contact: Perry Siegel – 704.488.4787</p>
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SC

<p>Feb. 5-7 Fr: 12n-6p Sa: 10a-6p Su: 10a-3p</p>	<p>Ladson, SC <i>Low Country Winter Coin Show</i> Exchange Park Fairgrounds 9850 HWY 78 Contact: Richard Smith – 843.797.0099</p>
<p>Feb. 19-21 Fr: 10a-6p Sa: 10a-6p Su: 10a-3p</p>	<p>Spartanburg, SC - CANCELLED <i>51st Upstate SC Coin Show</i> Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium 385 N. Church Street Contact: David Burzinski – 864.293.8416</p>
<p>Oct. 29-31 Fr: 10a-6p Sa: 10a-6p Su: 10a-3p</p>	<p>Greenville, SC <i>SCNA Convention and Coin Show</i> TD Convention Center 1 Exposition Drive Contact: Bill Latour – 843.532.5089</p>

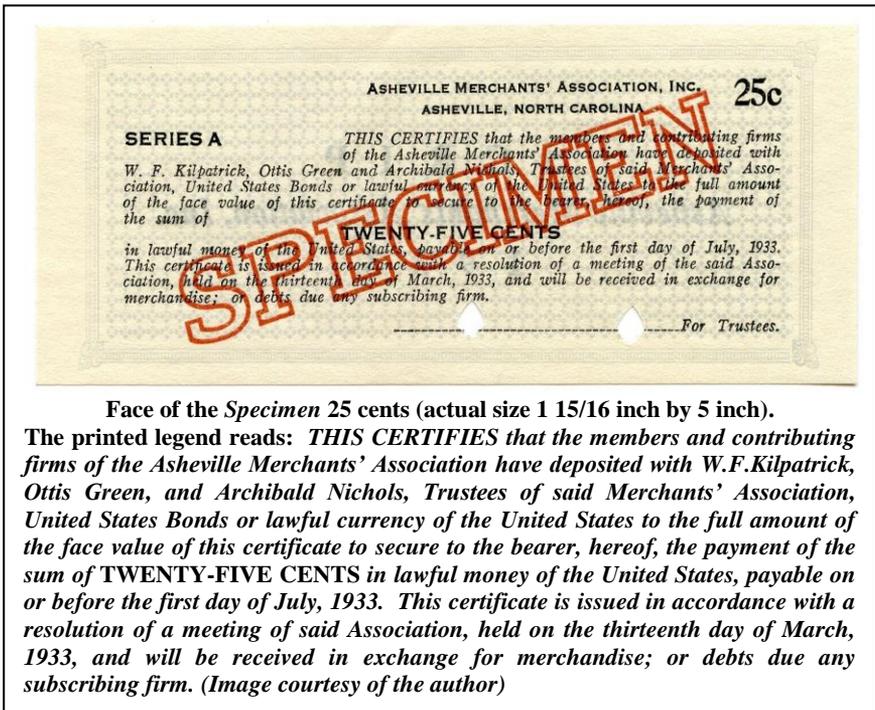
VA

<p>Mar.13-14 Sa: 9:30a-5:30p Su: 9:30a-3:30p</p>	<p>Salem, VA (also May 29-30, Aug. 21-22, Nov. 6-7) <i>Salem/Roanoke Valley Coin Show</i> American Legion 710 Apperson Drive Contact: Will Camp – 540.943.2267</p>
<p>Sept. 24-26 Fr: 10a-6p Sa: 10a-6p Su: 10a-4p</p>	<p>Fredericksburg, VA <i>VNA Convention and Coin Show</i> Fredericksburg Expo Center 2371 Carl D Silver Parkway Contact: Richard Schornak – 757.659.0235</p>

Asheville Merchants' Association, Inc. Asheville, North Carolina 1933 Depression Scrip

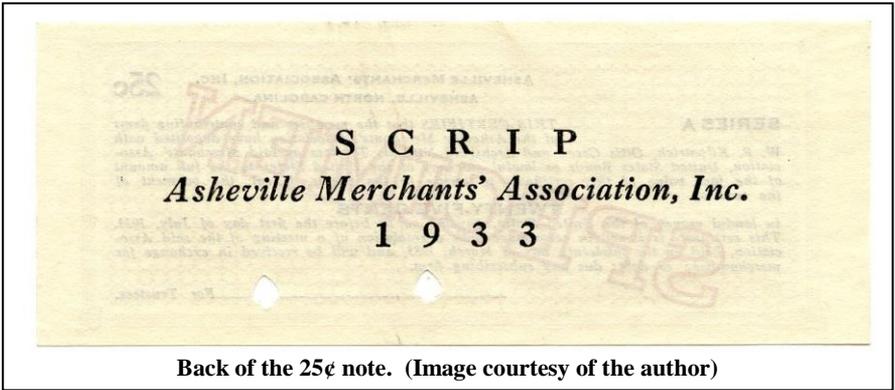
By Paul Horner

The closing of the banks during the so called "Bank Holiday" caused a lot of inconvenience to the local businesses throughout the nation. Many businesses and individuals at this time transacted their business in cash. Workers were usually paid by payroll checks which required them to be cashed at a local bank. When the banks closed, a number of North Carolina cities, towns and businesses resorted to the use of temporary scrip issues as a substitute for cash. Plans for local use of scrip was usually publicized in local newspapers to inform people of the plans. The same newspapers often had advertisements by local merchants saying they would gladly accept scrip for purchases. One such issue was that of the *Asheville Merchants Association* reported in articles and notices that appeared in the March 13th, 14th & 15th 1933 issues of the *Asheville Citizen*.



Face of the *Specimen* 25 cents (actual size 1 15/16 inch by 5 inch).

The printed legend reads: *THIS CERTIFIES that the members and contributing firms of the Asheville Merchants' Association have deposited with W.F. Kilpatrick, Otis Green, and Archibald Nichols, Trustees of said Merchants' Association, United States Bonds or lawful currency of the United States to the full amount of the face value of this certificate to secure to the bearer, hereof, the payment of the sum of TWENTY-FIVE CENTS in lawful money of the United States, payable on or before the first day of July, 1933. This certificate is issued in accordance with a resolution of a meeting of said Association, held on the thirteenth day of March, 1933, and will be received in exchange for merchandise; or debts due any subscribing firm.* (Image courtesy of the author)



Back of the 25¢ note. (Image courtesy of the author)

The scrip was to be “printed by the *Inland Press* on watermarked, rag content paper. Although this specimen is printed on rag paper, no water marks or printers’ imprint are present. No serial number is on the specimen shown here, but issued notes were to have been numbered. This note is extremely rare and *may* be unique.

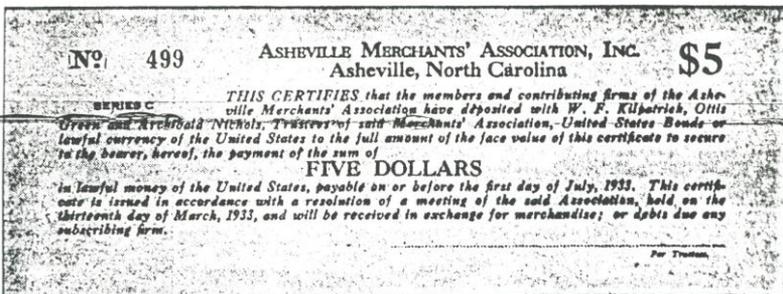
A lengthy article in the *Asheville Citizen* detailed plans for the merchant’s scrip issue. A committee from the local Chamber of Commerce met with various representatives of local manufacturing concerns to discuss plans for the scrip. The scrip was to be paid out in the payrolls of local merchants and industrial firms. Most merchants agreed to accept the scrip as cash for purchases. There was a possibility that the initial \$50,000 could be increased to \$100,000 at a later date if needed. As will be seen that never happened.

Four denominations were to be released for circulation and were described as follows: “*The 25 cent scrip is printed in blue, the \$1 scrip is printed in green, the \$5 scrip is printed in blue, and the \$10 scrip is printed in yellow.*” These colors refer to the security background and border *not* to the text which is printed in black. It is assumed that all four denominations would have been the same size, but this will not be known unless other examples appear. Each note was to be numbered for identification. It is probable that a note register would have been used to record notes circulated by the issuing firms, and the redemption of notes; this was done with the Winston-Salem city scrip.

The newspaper articles mention that the signing of the notes would be by *agents* of the trustees (listed on the note face), but these agents are not named. We do know that W.F. Kilpatrick was Chairman and President of the Asheville Merchants Association; Ottis Green was the Mayor of

Asheville; and Archibald Nichols was Secretary of the Asheville Merchants Association.

The release of a photograph of a sample note, and the caption "...put into circulation today in Asheville today..." News of the Asheville scrip was reported by several state newspapers via the wire service and reported on the 14th of March. The *Gastonia Daily Gazette* and the *Raleigh News and Observer* both reported the scrip was in circulation on the 14th. Actually news of the release of the merchant's scrip was a bit premature. The scrip that was supposed to be put into circulation did not happen.



FIVE DOLLARS as appeared in the March 13th, 1933 *Asheville Citizen*.

This was a "Partially Issued" example. Note the serial number, but unsigned. **SERIES A** is the 25 cents, and **SERIES C** is the \$5 shown here. It follows that **SERIES B** would be the \$1, and **SERIES D** would be the \$10 notes.

(Image courtesy of the author)

On March 15th 1933 the news: "Abandon Plan to Issue Scrip for Stores Here" appeared, buried way back on page 8 of the *Asheville Citizen*. The article details a meeting of the Merchants Association board the day before. At the meeting the scrip committee and trustees determined that the scrip was no longer needed because the currency restrictions had been virtually removed. It was reported: *All scrip which had been printed was destroyed. None placed in circulation.* Certainly this explains why no *issued* examples are known (by the author) today. This issue is not mentioned in *Standard Catalog of Depression Scrip of the United States (1984)* or the *1985 Supplement*.

There is the chance more *Specimen* examples may exist and find their way into some ones' collection. Who knows, maybe some sneaky official swiped a numbered example to keep for a souvenir.

Keep an eye out for them!

References:

The Asheville Citizen, March 13, 1933

The Asheville Citizen, March 14, 1933 “Scrip Totaling \$50,000 to Be Circulated Here”

The Asheville Citizen, March 14, 1933 “Asheville Scrip Issued By the Asheville Merchant’s Association Now Available”

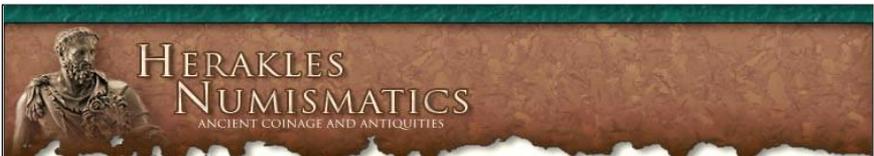
The Asheville Citizen, March 15, 1933 “Abandon Plan to Issue Scrip for Stores Here”

The Gastonia Daily Gazette, 14 March, 1933

North Carolina Numismatic Scrapbook, Autumn 2012, No. 41 *A Rare Specimen Note of 1933 Depression Era Scrip of the Asheville Merchants Association*, Paul Horner & Jerry Roughton

Raleigh News and Observer, March 14th, 1933 “Circulation of Scrip Begins at Asheville”

Standard Catalog of Depression Scrip of the United States (1984) and 1985 Supplement Ralph A. Mitchell & Neil Shafer, Krause Publications, Iola, Wisconsin 1984 & 1985



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Make plans to attend the NCNA Convention and Show at the Cabarrus Area and Event Center in Concord, NC - October 1-3, 2021

A BLAST FROM THE PAST ...

By: Daniel M. Freeman, NCNA LM#113

Growing up as a young collector in the 1960's, one of the most fascinating coins to talk about and dream of owning was an 1856 Flying Eagle Cent. We were told it was so rare! It was worth a fortune! Only the "super-duper" rich could own one! And so the story went. Was it really that rare? Not exactly. There are no absolute mintage figures for the '56 Flyer because it was a pattern coin. Most experts agree that it is in the range of 1,000 to 2,000 pieces. Research of the National Archives records show that the mint produced around 600 examples to present to congressmen and other top government officials to convince them it was a suitable replacement for the current Large Cent design. The new pattern design was an instant hit with coin collectors and the mint was overwhelmed with requests to sell them one. It is said that for many years after its 1856 striking, the mint was still producing them on request. They were selling for over 200 times face value! Two dollars per coin. Most average working people did not make \$2 a day back then.

Throughout the late 1800's it was one of the most desirable coins for a collector to acquire. When the renowned coin dealer Henry Chapman sold the collection of Mr. R.B. Leeds of Atlantic City, New Jersey in 1906, it contained 109 of the rare 1856 Flyer. When George Rice of Detroit, Michigan decided to sell his collection off to other private collectors in 1916, he had amassed 756 examples of the Flyer! John Beck, a very wealthy collector from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania bought a large number of the coins from Rice to add to his collection. At the time of Beck's death in 1924, he held 531 pieces of the "Flyer". It would be fifty years before Mr. Beck's collection was finally sold in several public auctions held in the 1970's by two well-known California dealers, Jerry Cohen and Abner Kreisberg.

Dave Bowers estimates from his extensive research on the coin that the mint produced around 1,000 proofs. The "Red Book" has listed a mintage of 2,000 for many years, so for sake of argument we will accept that figure for this article, and according to Sheldon's Rarity Scale, that does not make it exceptionally rare. But it has always been a very much "in demand" coin.

Is it worth a fortune? No, the auction archives of Heritage shows that they have sold many examples. Lower grade or impaired examples have sold in the \$7,000 to \$8,000 range. In 2018, a proof 63 “Flyer” was sold for \$13,000. Nice examples are available in the marketplace from time to time in the \$10,000 to \$20,000 range. Current “Greysheet” bid prices are \$6,000 in G4, \$10,000 in VF30, and \$13,500 in MS60.

The mystique and allure of the 1856 Flying Eagle is still very strong among collectors. Could an average collector own one? Sure, just hope the “super-dupers” have their eyes on something else the day you are shopping.

Until next time...

- References: Bowers, Q. David, “1856-1858 Flying Eagle Cents”,
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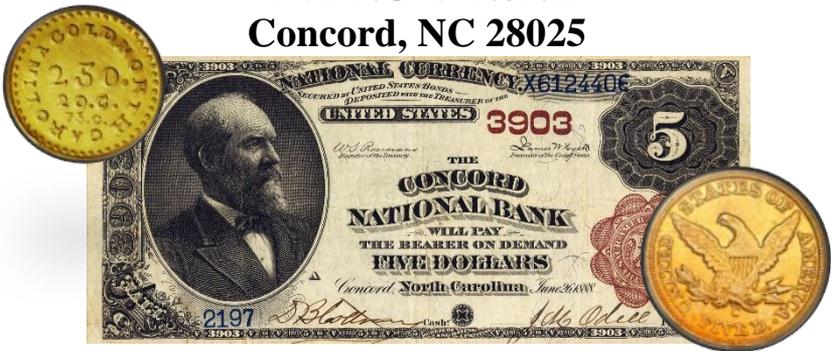
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The Devil's Coin: The Coin that Almost Never Was

By David Carlson

In 1896, the Secretary of the Treasury contracted the New Orleans Mint to produce 1,300,000 Barber Liberty Head dimes. The first shipment of silver needed to strike the coins arrived but the die for the press did not arrive until several months later into the early fall. To make matters worse, a Cholera outbreak ailing Louisiana, limiting the number of



(Image courtesy of the author)

available workers similar to the COVID outbreak today.

Despite being short on manpower they began to mint, working 16 hours a day 6 days a week in order to fulfill the contract while awaiting the next shipment of silver. Unknown to them, the shipment would never arrive.

Well that is not completely true, it did arrive, but on a Sunday. The only day the mint was not in production. By Monday morning they opened the box to find only sand, not the silver they had been waiting on. Nobody knows exactly what happened to that shipment. Some say the Native Americans stole it, others say it was a highwayman or

even the Army. Many believe, being that it was highly guarded during shipment, that it had never contained the silver from the start. Whatever the reason, the silver was never recovered. As a result of the missing shipment the New Orleans mint was only able to create 666,000 1897-o Liberty dimes. To make up for the shortage they made double the following year.

Now this would have been the end of the story, but it would seem a few years later The Honorable Reverend Ritten Amos Brown learned of these coins. A well respected minister and local judge. He was so offended by the number 666 having been minted he called it The Devils Coin and had his flock set out to destroy all of these unholy coins they could find. Word of the “Devils Coin” soon spread and neighboring churches also began doing the same thing. Soon the coin became known to be unlucky & evil, bringing certain doom to all who possess it.

Beyond the dark past, many of these coins were forged into love tokens. After sanding down the face of the silver coin until it was flat, your sweethearts name could then be engraved on it and a small hole drilled to fashion it onto a necklace.

During WWI many U.S. “Doughboys” widely believed that this coin would keep them safe from harm. They carried the coin in their top left hand side pocket with the head facing out and patted it with their right hand for luck. In France the war was especially brutal, trench warfare at its worst; there was bayonet charges into machine gun nests and gas attacks with untested masks for protection. 6 out of 10 US soldiers died in the early days in France. After the war, the surviving soldiers who bared the coin kept their good luck charm in their top left pocket and would often be seen still patting it.

This carried over to WWII as the British soldiers were often seen patting their top pockets as a sign of respect for the American servicemen as they came off the line. In the early parts of the Korean War helicopter pilots would pat their pocket, kiss their fingers and point to heaven. Many passed these coins along as family heirlooms, others requested to be buried with the coin.

Given the history of the coin, it's hard to tell how many 1897-O Barber dimes remain, it is possibly one of the rarest LUCKY coins in existence. It's interesting to note that other coins have taken on the mystique. The lucky penny was also placed in the top left side pocket facing out, being that since the early 1950's, most men's shirts were made only with one pocket on the left side. There are many interesting stories surrounding this coin. It's not hard to think of it as a great collector's piece.

♣ News from the Clubs ♣

Go to the NCNA website for the most recent updates on local club contacts, information, and news.

Iredell Statesville Coin Club

The Iredell Statesville Coin Club was started in 1995 and reached the 25th Anniversary milestone in 2020! Sadly, due to the COVID-19 situation, the Iredell Statesville Coin Club show this past August had to be cancelled. However, they hope to conduct a special event in 2021 to commemorate the club anniversary and will publish more on this later.

Ned Eugene Lockman, Jr. (October 26, 1948 – December 28, 2020)

A member of our collecting community, Ned Eugene Lockman, Jr., passed away on December 28, 2020 at age 72. He was a long time member and strong supporter of the Iredell Statesville Coin Club. He was a very outgoing individual and will certainly be missed by all.

Eagle, Greensboro, Rowan, Triad, & Winston-Salem Coin Clubs

Leon Leverne Little (May 02, 1946 - October 01, 2020)

It is with much sadness to report the passing of Leon Leverne Little on October 6, 2020 at age 73. He was a long time active member of the Eagle (Lexington), Rowan (Salisbury), Triad (High Point), and Winston-Salem Coin Clubs. He was also President of the Greensboro Coin Club. Leon will be missed by so many across our collecting community.

Henry Elbert Baucom, Sr. (May 16, 1927 – April 23, 2020)

Another member of our community, Henry Elbert Baucom, Sr. passed away on April 23, 2020 at age 92. He was a long time member of the Winston-Salem Coin Club and will be missed by all who knew him.

Attention NCNA Member Coin Clubs!

The NCNA Journal needs your club news and activity updates!

Club leaders: Please consider having someone send regular updates on your club's activities and member obituaries to the *Journal*.

Updates should be sent to Greg Cheek at gcheek@earthlink.net or Greg Cheek – NCNA, PO Box 185, Yadkinville, NC 27055.

Thanks in advance for your help with keeping all NCNA members updated and aware of what is going on in your club.

THE ANCIENT GUY



The Rest of the Story

by Perry Siegel

Many of you may remember the radio icon, Paul Harvey. He was famous for his idiosyncratic delivery of news stories with dramatic pauses, quirky intonations, and many of his standard lead-ins and sign offs. His radio show, *The Rest of the Story*, consisted of stories presented as little-known or forgotten facts on a variety of subjects, with some key element of the story (usually the name of some well-known person) held back until the end. His broadcasts always ended with Harvey saying, "And now you know...the rest of the story." With the holidays upon us, the Hanukkah story and the resulting aftermath seems worth re-telling.

Hanukkah commemorates a historical event that took place in Jerusalem in the 2nd century B.C., when the Seleukid Greek Empire was the ruling power. In 168 B.C., the Seleukid king, Antiochos IV enacted a series of harsh decrees against the Jews. Jewish worship was forbidden; the scrolls of the Law were confiscated and burned. Sabbath rest, circumcision and



Silver tetradrachm of Antiochos IV with his portrait and Zeus holding Nike.

their dietary laws were prohibited under penalty of death.

Antiochos IV defiled the Jewish Temple in the city and installed an altar to Zeus in an attempt to force the Jews to assimilate into Greek culture and to adopt pagan rituals.

A small, ragtag army of Jews, known as the Maccabees, ultimately rebelled against the much more powerful army of King Antiochos and his religious persecution. In 164 B.C. they captured Jerusalem from

Antiochus' control, removed from the Jerusalem Temple symbols of pagan worship that the king had introduced, and built a new altar so they could once again offer sacrifices in keeping with Jewish law. Since the golden Menorah had been stolen by the Syrians, the Maccabees now made one of cheaper metal. When they wanted to light it, they found only a small cruse of pure olive oil bearing the seal of the High Priest Yochanan. It was sufficient to light only for one day. By a miracle of God, it continued to burn for eight days, until new oil was made available! This is the origin of the Jewish holiday Chanukah, which means “dedication,” and has been celebrated by Jews worldwide for eight days every year since that time.

The military triumph, however, was short-lived. Judas Maccabees' death would mark the end of the Maccabean revolt against the Greeks, and the start of the unstable Hasmonean dynasty. The descendants of the Maccabees, the Hasmonean dynasty, routinely violated their own Jewish law and tradition. This dynasty would rule the Jewish people for just over a century, during a time of extreme upheaval.



Bronze prutah of John Hyrcanus I inscribed, "Yehohanan the High Priest and Head of the Council of the Jews" within a wreath, and a double cornucopia.

At the time of the first Hasmoneans, the traditional title of the principal leader of the Jews was high priest. The priests, led by the high priest, presided over the Jerusalem Temple. They were also the supreme political authorities of their people. John Hyrcanus I, nephew of the great Judah Maccabee, was the first high priest in Judaea to strike coins. He had his Hebrew name, “Yehohanan,” placed on the coins. Hasmonean rulers did not put their faces on coins, even though it was the style in the rest of the Hellenistic world. Instead, they often carried an inscription in a laurel or olive wreath. The wreath was associated with leadership and power, and also adorned the Temple altar.

John Hyrcanus I was actually a just and fair ruler. Jewish life was good under his reign. He proclaimed that upon his death his wife would become queen and Judah Aristobulus I, his oldest son, would assume the role of high priest. However, Aristobulus had other plans; he imprisoned his mother and three of his brothers. He then became the first Hasmonean to officially adopt the title of “king.” Thus began his reign, though short, of heartlessness and cruelty. Things did not improve under his son Alexander Jannaeus, who ruled from 103-76 B.C. In fact, they



Bronze prutah of Alexander Jannaeus depicting a star of eight rays and an inverted

only worsened. From his conquests to expand the kingdom to a bloody civil war, Alexander Jannaeus' reign was exceedingly cruel and oppressive with never-ending conflict. His actions deeply disturbed many of his countrymen, on

one occasion his enemies embarrassed Jannaeus by pelting him with fruit while he officiated over the Feast of Tabernacles in the Temple. The king retaliated by having several hundred of the rebels killed. Civil war raged in Judaea for six years beginning about 95 B.C; 50,000 Jews perished, according to some accounts.

After Jannaeus' death, his wife, Salome Alexandra assumed the throne as queen, with her oldest son, John Hyrcanus II as high priest. Judah Aristobulus II and Mattatayah Antigonus followed, all the while the Hasmonean dynasty was weakening. It culminated in 63 B.C. when



Large bronze 8 prutah of Mattatayah Antigonus inscribed "Mattatayah the High Priest and council of the Jews" around a double cornucopia, and "of King Antigonus" around an ivy wreath tied with ribbons.

Pompey the Great converted Judaea into a Roman province. Pompey himself entered the Temple's Holy of Holies, the inner sanctuary, thus defiling it. For all practical purposes this act ended the great Hasmonean Dynasty. It would never recover even a fraction of its previous strength. The Romans ultimately appointed their Jewish ally, Herod I, as king of Judaea in 37 B.C., after the last king of the Hasmonean dynasty was deposed and executed.

What began in glory ended in disgrace. The Hasmonean rulers ultimately engaged in the same political intrigues, power hungry acts, and bloodshed as the previous regime. They opened the door to a Roman conquest, which ended their rule (when Herod killed the last of them) after just 103 years and ended Jewish sovereignty in Israel for almost 2,000 years. "And now you know...the rest of the story."

This article was inspired by my friend, Mitch Wolin.

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The NCNA was established to bring together those interested in numismatics and to foster a sharing of numismatic knowledge through its publications, its annual Convention and its support of local coin clubs. NCNA membership is open to collectors, dealers and clubs.

Why Join the NCNA?

- **Fellowship:** Become part of a numismatic community that stretches from the Great Smoky Mountains to the Outer Banks!
- **NCNA Journal:** Receive an award-winning quarterly magazine with informative articles, NCNA organizational updates and the latest news from member clubs.
- **Discounts on Books & Supplies:** Receive a 10% discount on numismatic books and supplies from participating dealers.
- **Annual Convention:** The NCNA hosts one of the larger coin and currency shows in North Carolina each year, featuring local and regional dealers.
 - NCNA members can enter the Convention bourse 30 minutes before the general public. (Valid NCNA membership card must be shown.)
- **Local Clubs:** The NCNA can assist with the organization of a new club or the ongoing support of an existing club. Contact us if you need assistance!
- **Club Liaison Program:** A program that brings together club representatives from across the state to exchange ideas and collaborate on improving the club experience for all members.
- **Annual Awards:** Each year the NCNA presents awards to those who have contributed to the advancement of the hobby through their support of the organization and/or the sharing of their expertise with other collectors.

Young Collector Program

The NCNA offers an educational program specifically designed for young collectors. The program was created to help develop the next generation of collectors by encouraging today's youth to become active in coin and paper money collecting.



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NCNA Classifieds

Current NCNA members may place a free, text-only buy/sell/trade ad in the *NCNA Journal*. Ads are limited to 50 words (more as space allows). Ads from non-members will be considered as space allows; cost for non-members is 25¢ per word (minimum of 20 words). The NCNA reserves the right to edit ads to fit the available space, and to refuse ads at its discretion.

WANTED: North Carolina trolley and bus tokens to complete my state-wide collection. I need two plastic tokens from Goldsboro that have “Silverline Transportation” on one side with dollar values on the other. Also, two aluminum tokens from Thomasville that have “Thomasville Transit Co.” on one side and “Good for one fare” on the other. Other less common tokens being sought are: Asheville (Biltmore Forest Stage Co.), Elizabeth City (Lucas VA-CAR Bus Lines), Greenville (City Bus Lines) and High Point (Duke Power Co High Point). If you have any of these to sell, or know someone who does, please contact me at jeff.mccauslin@gmail.com.

FOR SALE: Complete sets of wooden nickels used to promote the Raleigh Money Expo™. Years included: 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018; six in total. \$6.00 per set, postage included. Contact info@raleighcoinclub.org or send payment to RCC / PO Box 99601 / Raleigh, NC 27624. Visit www.RaleighCoinClub.org to view the woods (under “Club Collectibles”).

FOR SALE: Back issues of the *NCNA Journal*. \$2.00 per issue plus postage. Postage for 1-2 issues: \$2.00; 3-4 issues: \$3.00; 5-6 issues: \$4.00. Larger quantity requests will be provided with a personalized shipping quote. Contact NCNA Secretary/Treasurer Halbert Carmichael at hccarmichael@mindspring.com for the list of available issues and payment instructions.

FOR SALE: Complete set of US Commemorative set of half dollars including the Lafayette Dollar and the Isabella Quarter. There are also extra coins such as the Grant with Star, Missouri 2x4, and Alabama 2x2. A very nice set of high grade coins. Contact Eric Dailey at ericdailey@roadrunner.com or 704-880-2925 to discuss and or set up an appointment.

Your ad can be here in the next issue of the NCNA Journal!

2021 NCNA Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

All NCNA BOD meetings are open to the NCNA membership. BOD meetings are scheduled on Saturday, immediately following the close of the coin show bourse and times are TBD. *Please note that the BOD meeting schedule is tentative at this point and subject to coin show cancellations or location changes due to the COVID situation.*

Meeting Location

Date

Conference/Zoom Call	Jan. 26, 2021
Azalea Festival Coin Show - Wilmington	April 10, 2021
Raleigh Money Expo - Raleigh Coin Show - Raleigh	June 19, 2021
Iredell-Statesville Coin Club Show - Statesville	Aug. 14, 2021
NCNA Convention - General Membership - Concord	Oct. 2, 2021
Carolina Coin & Stamp Show – Raleigh	Nov. 20, 2021

NCNA Local Club Outreach & Coordination

NCNA BOD Directors Bill Graves and Danny Freeman have reached out to local clubs for updated contact and other information, which has been posted on the NCNA website. They are continuing to reach out to local coin clubs and facilitate forums for sharing ideas and forming partnerships. Please feel free to contact Bill or Danny, as they are very interested in your ideas and suggestions.

NCNA Website (<http://www.NCNA.CLUB>)

The NCNA website is an important tool for sharing information with the membership. Alan Stullenbarger currently serves as our webmaster, with Perry Siegel providing administration for the website. Local club representatives should send all local club contact updates and news to Perry Siegel. Please send all coin and stamp show updates to Bill Graves.

NCNA Facebook Page & Other Social Media

(www.facebook.com/NCCollector)

The NCNA Facebook page is another important tool for sharing information with the membership and beyond. Paul Landsberg has taken on Facebook administrative activities for our page, exploring fresh ideas in utilizing other social media to promote our hobby. Please feel free to share your ideas and suggestions with Paul in the social media arena. This is still a fairly under explored area and much more can be done to use it to promote the hobby.

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President: Greg Cheek • 336.428.2026 • ghcheek@earthlink.net

1st Vice President: Perry Siegel • 704.488.4787 •

herakles@heraklescoins.com

2nd Vice President: Danny Freeman • 910.740.6751 •

southerngoldcoins@yahoo.com

Secretary: Halbert Carmichael • hhcarmichael@mindspring.com

Treasurer: Halbert Carmichael • hhcarmichael@mindspring.com

Directors through 2021

Dot Hendrick 919.828.9450	Sanford Steelman 704.578.4931 steel@carolina.net	Wayne Williamson 919.621.8893 wmwbsc@gmail.com
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Directors through 2022

David Boitnott dboitnott@nc.rr.com	Bill Graves Probgee@aol.com	Fred Haumann fjhstuff@yahoo.com
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Directors through 2023

Charles Gray 919.219.6906 graycorner@aol.com	Paul Landsberg 919.247.1982 paul_landsberg@yahoo.com	Mickey Smith 910.497.5445
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Appointed Positions

Webmaster: Alan Stullenbarger • alanstullenbarger@gmail.com

Journal Editor: Greg Cheek • 336-428-2026 • ghcheek@earthlink.net

Bourse Chair: Perry Siegel • 704.488.4787 •

herakles@heraklescoins.com

YN Coordinator: Bob Pedolsky • 704.408.8511 •

rpedolsky@carolina.rr.com

Website Administrator: Perry Siegel • 704.488.4787 •

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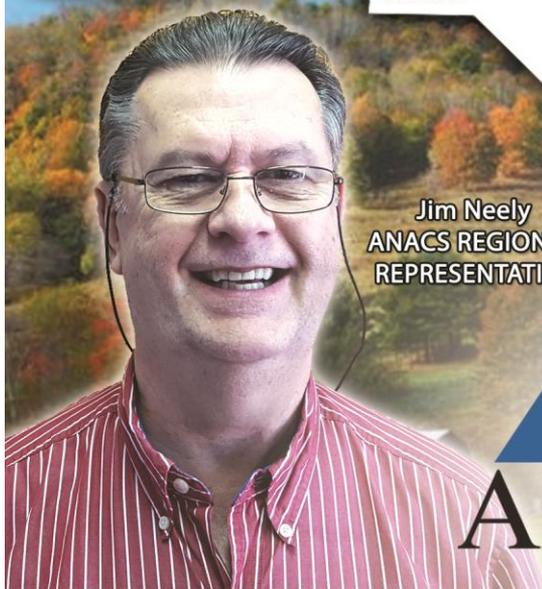
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