



Coinfusion

Newsletter of the
Lower Cape Fear Coin Club
P.O. Box 4744, Wilmington, NC 28406
www.LCFCC.org
Service to the numismatic community of
Southeastern North Carolina since 1963



Host of the NC Azalea Festival Coin Show Every April

APRIL 2018

Our Fifty-Sixth Year

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month

CLUB BOOSTERS

David Meisky (4-18), Mike Samaskeawicz (4-18), Bob Doleman (5-18), Tom Bromley (5-18), Rich Jewell (2-19), Franklin Fussell (4-19), C. J. Lindsey (2-20), Stanley Rehder (4-20), George Rogers (4-20), and Bob Neale (6-25). To become a Club Booster, please send \$10 or donate an equal or greater amount of usable numismatic material. Your name will be placed near the top of our monthly newsletter followed by the month your booster contribution expires. Thank you for your support.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"Relatively speaking, it's 'crunch time' for the club! April's meeting will be only two days before setting up for the coin show. Not all the worker slots are filled; not all the raffle tickets have been sold. Even if you don't sign up for a slot, show up to help! And, our coin show is a 'trip' for all!" Bob.

COIN EVENTS COMING UP *

April 14 & 15, Wilmington, NC, Our Annual North Carolina Azalea Festival Coin Show, Elks Lodge, 5102 Oleander Dr., Contact O. T. Thompson @ 910-520-8405 or email uffda28411@yahoo.com.
The theme of our 2018 Coin Show will be WWI.
Dealers may set up on Friday, 2-9.

April 21, Norfolk, Coin Show, VFW, 5728 Barteo Street, 757-363-0179.

May 5 & 6, Raleigh, NC, Coin Show, Fairgrounds, 1025 Blue Ridge Boulevard, 919-790-8544.

May 19 & 20, Fayetteville, NC, Coin Show, Holiday Inn, 1944 Cedar Creek Road, 910-497-5445.

June 7-10, Kansas City, MO, International Paper Money Show, Sheraton Kansas City Hotel, Crowne Center, 2345 McGee Street.

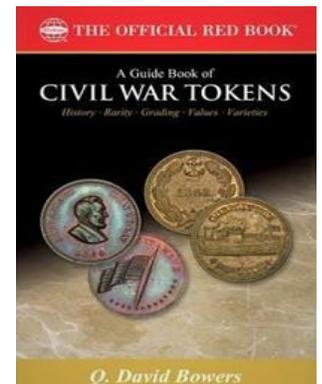
July 12-14, Orlando, FL, Coin Show, THE Annual Summer Fun, Orange County Convention Center.

August 14-18, Philadelphia, PA, ANA Summer Convention, Pennsylvania Convention Center.

* Please verify coin show dates, times and locations at contact number or email address before going.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next **REGULAR** Club meeting will be held at Carolina BBQ at 1602 South College Road in Wilmington on **April 11, 2018**. The meeting **begins at 6:30 promptly!** Final coin show plans will be discussed. **HELP** is still needed so please come to support your Club. The **program** will be on **Civil War Tokens** by Confederate General William 'Extra Billy' Smith re-enactor David Meisky.



NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next board meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 17**, at Carolina BBQ, 1602 South College Road at 6:30 PM. **ALL** members are invited to attend. Results of our coin show will be discussed.

LAST REGULAR MEETING

Our March 14 meeting drew thirty-two members and guests. **Mike Graybar** won the attendance prize of \$10 and **Bob Neale** won the 50/50 raffle. Plans for our April coin show were discussed with all 48 bourse tables sold out. The program was on 'How to Sell Your Coins'. Basically, if you have 'high-dollar' coins, you should negotiate with major auction houses and if you have average collections, like most of us, you should know their grades, make a list and get three estimates from smaller dealers, expecting 20%-40% under Redbook values for them.

LAST BOARD MEETING

The March 20 BM was attended by all officers and mainly covered our upcoming Coin Show. We need all members to help with things like setting up on Friday afternoon from 2-9, making coffee during the show, manning the door, taking down the tables Sunday evening, Kid's Korner, selling raffle tickets, and helping with publicity. The board asks that all members, coming to the next regular meeting, be prepared to sign up for 'something'!

U. S. MINT NEWS

The new 2018 Kennedy half-dollars and Thorpe \$1s are in and will be distributed to those who ordered them. The new 'Breast Cancer Dollar' is on sale at the Mint's website, www.usmint.gov.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Soon to come... 'Bitcoins & Digital Currency', 'Safe Deposit Box Tips', 'Mint By-products', 'Grading Services and Slabbing or NOT Slabbing Your Coins', 'Security at Home, On the Internet and On the Road', 'Mel Wacks Coins', 'Autographed Currency'. Let an officer know what you want to see in a program and it will happen.

FUN NEWS

The Florida United Numismatists are now getting ready for their Twelfth Annual Summer FUN Convention at the Orange County Convention Center on July 12-14. Make your plans to attend NOW. The recent FUN TOPICS has some really good articles on half-dollars, fractional currency, Canadian cents and 'How to Enjoy Coins When You're Broke'.

ANA NEWS

The ANA Convention this summer is in Philadelphia on August 14-18. Make your plans now.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

March Question: What tips can you give to the average collector when it comes to selling coins?

BEST March Answer: 1. KNOW the grades of your coins. 2. Make an INVENTORY of your coins. 3. Have your key and semi-key date coins SLABBED. 4. Get three appraisals locally. 4. Don't expect to make a 'killing'.

2018 MEETING DATES

Please mark your 2018 calendar now so you won't forget our meetings. They're all on the second Wednesday and begin at 6:30 PM. May 9, June 13, July 11, August-Picnic, September 12, October 10, November 14 and December-Christmas dinner. The board (Business) meeting will be held on the **Tuesday** AFTER the regular meeting except in August and December. All members are invited.

INTERESTING PHOTO



Gold bars litter an airport runway in Russia after the rear door of a transport plane came open on take-off.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

If you have any interest at all in numismatic auction catalogs, this site is for you. Takes up less space too.

<https://archive.org/search.php?query=subject%3A%22Auction+catalogs%22&sort=-date>

DUES, DUES, DUES

Annual dues are \$15 and life memberships are \$150. Please remit your dues to our P. O. Box or pay at any meeting. A reminder, anyone who's been a member of our Club for five years and is eighty-years-old by January 1 is eligible for a FREE Life Membership. Let any officer know if you think you qualify.

COIN/S OF THE MONTH



2018 Canadian Glass Caterpillar coin



2012 Niue \$2 'Lottery Coin' (Balls move in coin.)

A COIN STORY by O. T. Thompson

Many moons ago lived a part-time coin dealer and school teacher named David Porter. David was a portly fellow with whom I travelled with to many ANA Conventions. Every coin show we went to was a memorable trip. The following is a story of one.

I first 'retired' from the hobby around the summer of 1999 as the time and money I was spending on it was just too much. It was tough giving up a life-long pursuit of coins I could never afford and leaving album holes unfilled but, at the age of fifty, it was time to move on to something else...I thought.

My plan was to give up memberships in the ANA, the local coin clubs, Numismatic News and Coin World subscriptions and begin liquidating things I had collected and accumulated since 1955.

All was going well until the 2000 ANA Convention came to Philadelphia. David called and asked if I was going to the ANA to which I responded, 'You know I've retired from the hobby so I won't be going to any more ANA Conventions.'

David was used to getting his way and asked again. My response was the same. The THIRD time, he said, 'You NEED to take me to the ANA as I only have a short time to live!' We went.

I must say, this trip was THE best we ever went on as David was excited, as usual, and was determined to make the most out of his last ANA.

At this point, I must say that in all the previous ANA Shows, David had a habit of 'photo-bombing' the opening ceremonies and/or the ribbon cuttings. We also liked to attend the major auctions, not to buy coins, but, to eat the free food. I gotta admit, it was kinda fun doing these things.

The 2000 ANA was the first time an MS 70 coin was to be auctioned so we decided to actually attend the auction for that reason. Yes, there was 'talk' about what gimmick the movers in the hobby would come up with next and we all agreed there could be NO perfect coin...but, the 70 era began right there.

The Mint Director, Phil Diehl, was to have a press conference at the Convention so we thought it would be neat to attend. (Many conventions ago, David and I had begun attending the press conferences and I had always asked the same question, 'Does the U. S. Mint plan to create a coin commemorating the Viking discovery of America in the year 1000?' The first time asked, the Director said something to the effect they might consider it. After that, every time I asked that question, it was met with a sneer and a short answer.)

(Many years ago, we were stopped at the door of a press conference by a lovely and gracious lady who simply asked, 'What publication do you represent?' The only thing we could think of at the time was this newsletter, which I had put together in the early 80s. For some reason, she couldn't find COINFUSION on her list. She agreed to add it after David told her we had travelled a very long distance just to attend the ANA. I was now an editor and David, now my star reporter. Surprisingly, this newsletter was kept on the list for many conventions to come.)

The presser was what we expected. The who's who of the numismatic media were there and, before long, Mint Director 'Big Deal Phil Diehl' was leading a procession of 'little people' into the room. The questions were as to be expected and a very

professional atmosphere prevailed. That was until I was nudged by David to ask something. Being the Viking silver dollar was now in production, all I could do was thank the Director for all the hard work he put in to the coin, which was met with his famous sneer and another short answer. He did, however, invite all attendees next door for wine and cheese as he left the podium.

At the post conference get-together, David and I felt somewhat out of place. We enjoyed talking to the biggies of the hobby and awaited a drawing for a new GOLD Isle of Man five-piece proof set donated by the Pobjoy Mint. Of course, the 1.9-ounce gold set was won by yours truly. That was NO surprise to either of us I always win these things at coin shows.

The evenings in Philadelphia were forgetful as the streets didn't look too safe so we retired to the hotel bar, where many Convention attendees were staying. The camaraderie was great as many of us only saw each other once a year. David had the time of his life and passed away a few months later.

Today, in memory of David Porter, you will still see me in the background of many ribbon-cuttings and opening ceremonies at some of the FUN and ANA Conventions. I can still hear David laughing at some of things we 'pulled' at these shows. In summary, there's a lot more to coin shows than just buying or selling coins.

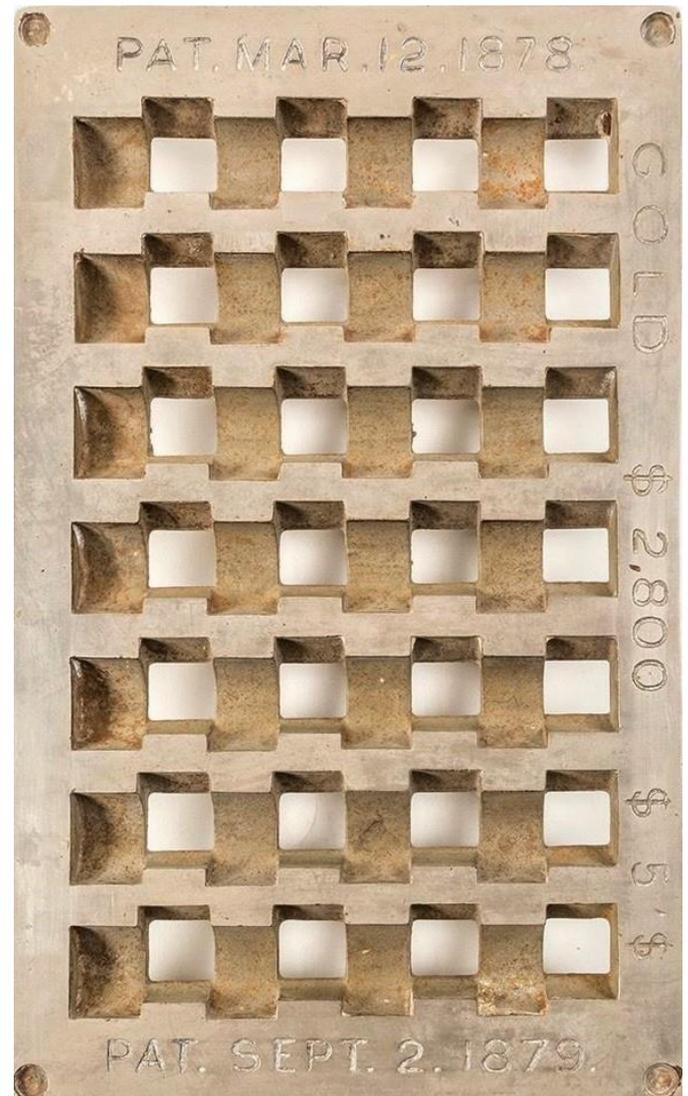
Next month you'll read about the day David and I sold coins TO the United States Mint.

QUOTES OVER THE YEARS

Over the years I've heard many memorable quotes from dealers...the following are a few: "The market is down right now, or I'd give you more for it. What do you want for it. (NEVER answer that one.) I have NO call for that sort of stuff. I don't buy that junk. I'd just have to wholesale it out. I pay more than anyone else. I make more on it when I'm buying than when selling. I've got more than that in it. It won't be around long with so few available. I left that one at the shop. Highest prices paid. There's not enough meat on that bone to make it worthwhile. I gotta make 'something' on it to pay my expenses. The grade on that coin is \$125. You gotta deal but let me send it off to get it slabbed first. C'mon, I'm only making a dollar on it. That's the best I can do. Let

me know if you find someone paying more. I'm not making a penny on that one. You can't afford it."

INTERESTING ITEM



Banker's tray for \$5 gold coins.

SOON TO COME

Did you ever ask yourself, 'Who runs this Club, how is business handled and why doesn't all of the Club's business come up at regular meetings?' Well, coming soon will be biographies of our current officers and board members. Some may surprise you and some will amaze you, but all will give you some insight into how our Club is managed. If you think you can add anything to the Club's operations, come to a board meeting. Heck, come anyway. There IS an opening for another board member so why not make it you? You 'might' enjoy it.

* * *

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ANA Club Membership # 1051079 Since 1964	
FUN Club Membership # 25857 Since 2014	
NCNA Club Membership # C-47 Since 1972	