

The SJ CSRA CC of Aiken, SC meets on the 1st Thursday of the month at the Aiken Public Library

Pres. J.J. Engel
V.P. Pat James
Sec. Jim Mullaney
Treas. Chuck Goergen
Sgt. in Arms: Jim Sproull



The Stephen James
CSRA Coin Club of Aiken
P.O. Box 11
New Ellenton, SC 29809
Web site: www.sjcsracc.org

Programs: Pat James
ANA Rep.: Glenn Sanders
Show Chair: Board members
Photos: Steve Kuhl
Publicity: Pat James
Newsletter: Arno Safran
E-Mail: arnosafran@comcast.net
Auctioneer: Jim Sproull
Web site: Susie Nulty (see above.)

Volume 18, No. 6

the Stephen James CSRA Coin Club, Founded in 2001
Monthly Newsletter

June, 2019

Our next meeting is Thurs. June 6, at the Aiken Public Library, starting time 6:45 PM

SJ CSRA CC Coin & Currency Show Set for Sept 7

2019 Club Meeting Schedule

Jan. 3	Apr. 4	July 11	Oct. 3
Feb. 5	May 2	Aug. 1	Nov. 7
Mar. 7	June 6	Sept. 5	Dec. 5

The Collectible US Coins of 1819, (200 Years Ago)

By Arno Safran



The 1819 Coronet large cent, Caped Bust quarter and half-dollar
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view details.]



James Monroe

1819 was not a good year for President James Monroe. Our country's fifth president was facing the political crisis of his life as a major recession known as "Panic of 1819" had brought about our nation's first major recession. Up to that point in time, the American economy actually prospered, this despite the War of 1812 and its aftermath that was a period of economic growth. In 1819, the

newly re-chartered 2nd Bank of the United States began to call in the debt acquired by the mid-western state banks which had recklessly printed currency not backed by "specie" (i.e., silver or gold coin) with the result that when the debt was called in by the Federal banking facility, the state banks failed. This created a downward spiral which affected not only the borrowers but large numbers of the general population who lost their jobs as well. That same year, the Philadelphia Mint struck only four of the ten denominations, the large cent, quarter and half-dollar. also the \$5.00 gold half-eagle.

Current Club Show Flyer Creative & Attractive

COIN & CURRENCY SHOW!!

 Saturday
SEPTEMBER 7, 2019
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

FREE KIDS GIFT!
FREE APPRAISALS!
FREE ADMISSION!

COINS, TOKENS, and PAPER MONEY

*** BUY * SELL * TRADE ***

IN THE GYM AT
SOUTH AIKEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1711 WHISKEY ROAD AIKEN, SC

Between Security Federal Bank
and First Citizens Bank

Event Host: Stephen James CSRA Coin Club
aikencoinshow@gmail.com P.O. Box 11 New Ellenton, SC 29809

Directly above is the flyer for our *Coin and Currency show* scheduled for Saturday, September 7, 2019. Our annual fundraiser will be housed at a new facility, the South Aiken Presbyterian Church located across the street near the previous H. Odell Weeks Recreation Center. From all accounts, the interior is both spacious and attractive. While the event is three months away, it is important that members spread the word to family and friends as well as possible patrons by tacking the flyer on bulletin boards where it is permissible to do so. Ads have already been placed in both *Numismatic News* and *The Numismatist*, the American Numismatic Association's monthly journal.

The Collectible US Coins of 1819, (200 Years Ago)

(Continued from page 1, column 2)



An 1819 Coronet Large cent, N-8, R1, virtually a Brown UNC.
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view details.]

Of the four US coin denominations struck in 1819, the Coronet large cent type (1816-39), with a reported mintage of 2,671,000 received the largest number and it is considered a common date. Of the ten known varieties, the first two are over-dates, the rest, considered normal dates. Five are, listed as R1s, (very common), three as R3s, less so but not scarce and two as R4s, scarce but not rare. The N next to the die variety number stands for the late Harold Newcomb, a dealer and attributor who specialized in what is referred to as “the middle dates” series.

The coin shown above is very well struck with nice coppery color. The 1819 cent was one of the five dates discovered from the famed Randall Hoar in the mid 19th century, contained in a bucket that included many mint state specimens, some in full red, others similar to the coin shown and still others badly corroded, the prime reason why number of cents from 1816 thru 1820 are available at a reasonable cost in high grades.

As with a number of dates in this series, there are numerous sub-types varieties featuring over-dates along with large and small date or large and small date obverses along with large and small lettering reverses.



1819 Coronet Large cent, N-1, R1, lg. over-date graded AU-50
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view details.]

This is the first variety of two over-dates struck of the Coronet large cent in 1819. The anomaly is barely visible even with magnification. It was graded AU-50. See detail below!



Detail showing over-date 9/8 in date
Courtesy of PCGS COINFACTS



An 1819 large size Capped Bust quarter B1, R5 graded VF-20
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view details.]

The design type of the large size Capped Bust quarter was created by Asst. Chief Engraver John Reich and first coined in 1815, then suspended until 1818 when 361,174 with that date were struck with ten known die varieties, the largest recorded for the series that ran through 1828. The reported mintage for the 1819 quarter dollar was 144,000 with just four varieties and the coin shown is the first and scarcest of the four, catalogued as a R5 (*with R1 being the most common and R8 being extremely rare.*) While the 1819 dated quarter is not considered very scarce, let alone rare, it usually surfaces in the lower grades up through VF-20, the grade shown and as such, the coin still appears somewhat attractive at an affordable price.

The most recent study of the Capped Bust quarter series was published in 2008 by numismatic scholar Steve M Tomkins. He did a tremendous amount of fresh research on the series which went far beyond the original Browning book on the same subject yet Tomkins retained the variety attribution letter B for the purpose of clarity.

Unlike the half-dollar which was 32.5 mm in diameter and had a lettered edge, the large size Bust quarter was 27 mm in diameter with a reeded edge. In the first four decades of the United States Mint, annual mintages were based on federal warrants with the actual date being almost superfluous. As a result, a coin such as the 1824/2 Bust quarter could show a mintage of 24,000 when in reality, only 16,000 were actually struck according to Tomkins..



An 1819/8 Capped Bust half-dollar, O-103a, R4 graded AU-50
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view details.]

The reported mintage for the half-dollar denomination in 1819 was 2,208,000, the second largest for that year behind the large cent. There are fifteen known die varieties for the date with the first six, O-101 thru O-106 being over-dates. Of the six over-dates, the O-103 is considered the scarcest listed as a R-4 on the rarity scale. The O stands for Al Overton, a dealer and author of the original first three volumes of *United States Early Half-Dollars* (1794-1836). The coin was originally acquired at the F.U.N. Show held in Orlando back in January 2006.

(Continued on page 3, column 1)

The Uncollectible US Coin of 1819, (200 Years Ago)



An 1819 \$5.00 gold half-eagle graded XF-45 by PCGS
(Courtesy of Heritage Auctions Archives)

[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view details.]

Despite grading only XF-45, the coin realized \$52,545
At the ANA Convention held in August, 2017 in Denver, CO

Most early US gold coins dated from 1795 thru 1834 are scarce to extremely rare depending on the date of course but also due to an entirely different set of circumstances, the continual fluctuation in gold prices vis-a-vis the European markets. As a result, when the gold in a \$5.00 half-eagle increased in value above a coin's actual face value, the coin would be taken out of circulation by bullion merchants and shipped to Europe for their higher worth thereby reducing its availability for later generations of collectors. This was particularly troublesome for collectors interested in acquiring an 1819 quarter eagle for their collection, but with the exception of the 1813 and possibly the 1814/3 issues, this particular US type series is fraught with rarities despite their reported mintages. On the reverse of the coin, most 1819 half-eagles display the denominator at the bottom of the reverse as **5D** over **50**.



The 1819 \$5.00 gold half-eagle was 25 mm in diameter just slightly smaller than the capped bust quarter shown on the preceding page. Both coin types can appear fairly attractive in extra-fine. What isn't attractive is the price one has to pay especially for the gold half-eagle in the same grade. The XF-45 graded coin shown atop cost the winning bidder \$52,445. While still beyond the discretionary income of most collectors, a collector desirous of obtaining a more affordable similar example of series, the earlier 1807 or 1811 Capped Bust \$5.00 gold half-eagle sells for \$7,500 in XF-45 and while that too is expensive for most, nobody ever said, early US gold coins were collectible. . For most numismatists, it's just a dream.



An 1819 gold half-eagle graded MS-62 by PCGS
(Courtesy of PCGS' COINFACTS and Heritage Auction Archives)
The coin realized \$184,000 at a Heritage Auction
held at the FUN Show in January, 2004

And as long as we're collectively dreaming, if you won the "power ball" drawing, you might just be able to afford the magnificent MS-62 specimens of this 1819 gold half-eagle that sold for \$184,000 at the 2004 FUN show.

While it is unlikely that any of us reading this will ever add the 1819 dated \$5.00 half-eagle to our collection, it is

possible to acquire the cent, quarter and half-dollar and as the reader can tell from viewing those three denominations atop page 1, column 2, the images of the coins form an attractive collectible set.

More on the "Panic of 1819"



A \$1,000 promissory note issued by
the Second Bank of the United States

As for President James Monroe's dealing with the "Panic of 1819" and how it affected his chances of reelection efforts in the following year, 1820, that too tells an interesting tale. After the War of 1812, Henry Clay, Speaker of the House, with the support of Congressman John C. Calhoun of South Carolina, incorporated some of the economic ideas of Alexander Hamilton, our first United States Sec. of the Treasury into an economic program which came to be known as "The American System". The three parts concept was to 1) allow the federal government to be in control of the economy and not the individual states, 2) to create a national bank, also adding tariffs to foreign products and 3) to provide sufficient funds backed by "specie" to subsidize the building of new roads and canals. This economic philosophy became a component of James Monroe's so-called "Era of Good Feeling" which actually began after the War of 1812 ended with the signing of the Treaty of Ghent on Dec. 24, 1814 by President James Madison's representative John Quincy Adams and ended after Andrew Jackson became president in 1829.

The "Panic of 1819" was caused by the greed and corruption of these basically noble ideals when the state banks allowed investors and builders to overextend their loans not guaranteed by "hard money" but by promissory notes that turned out to be worthless when the issuing bank failed. Eventually, President Monroe, the Congress, along with the Banking and business community reached agreements to find a way to forgive the debts that caused many citizens to go bankrupt and restore some semblance of authority regarding the transaction of the nation's business. In the election of 1820, President Monroe was reelected for a second term unopposed although the famous *Doctrine* of 1823 that bears his name, was actually written by John Quincy Adams, his Secretary of State.



John Quincy Adams

Visiting the 1890s!

© 2019 Stephen Kuhl



An 1890 Liberty Seated Half-Dollar, PCGS MS-68+ Courtesy of PCGS CoinFacts

Dateline May 2019. Or is it May 1890? The answer depends on your perspective! Renowned collector and educator Mr. Arno Safran took the members of the Stephen James CSRA Coin Club on an enjoyable numismatic journey through the 1890s for their monthly Educational Program. Arno provided historical context and wonderful numismatic examples of the period from 1890 to 1899. He told the audience that *“the ‘Gay 90s’ as they were called was a decade in which many of the recent inventions such as the phonograph, the telephone, the automobile and most importantly, the*

harnessing of the power of electricity were about to change and improve the way the human race had lived for thousands of years. But it was also a period of extremely low wages for the labor force along with massive immigration from mostly European countries, all competing for the low paying jobs which forced people to work ten hours a day, six days a week.”

From a numismatic point of view, Arno reminded the audience that the 1890s was when the US coinage moved away from the Liberty Seated era (created in 1836 by Christian Gobrecht) to the classical coinage of Charles Barber’s Liberty Head designs. He also observed that since economic conditions were so tough, most of the coinage circulated heavily simply because the public couldn’t afford to save money, thus making high grade examples of some of the coins from this era scarce. Safran also noted that although theoretically a decade begins with a year ending in a “one” instead of a “zero”, common practice is to include the “zero year” as the start of a decade (sometimes you just shouldn’t bother fighting convention!)

For those who were unable to attend Arno’s wonderful presentation, here is a review of the 1890s supplemented with information and photos from his presentation and several other sources. Starting with the 1890 census, the population of the United States was 62,979,766 - an increase of 25.5% from the 1880 census. This was a historic moment in the history of computing because this census was the first time an automated tabulating machine was used. This device, invented by Herman Hollerith, used punch cards and electromagnets to perform the counting. Hollerith's company eventually became IBM.

This equipment is representative of the tabulating system invented and built for the U.S. Census Bureau by Herman Hollerith (1860-1929). After observing a train conductor punching railroad tickets to identify passengers, Hollerith conceived and developed the idea of using punched holes to record facts about people

(VV2139). Courtesy of IBM Archives at <https://www.ibm.com/ibm/history/exhibits/vintage/vint>



An 1890 Liberty Seated Quarter, PCGS MS-68 Courtesy of PCGS CoinFacts

Liberty seated silver coinage was still being struck in 1890, its penultimate year. As a date, most of the 1890 coin denominations are considered fairly common in mint state except for two, the Liberty Seated quarter, which is scarce and the “half” which is rare. The cent, nickel, dime and the Morgan dollar are considered common. In 1890, Charles Barber’s Liberty nickel design (first introduced in 1883) was in its eighth consecutive year and the mintage was well over 16 million. The “with legend” sub-type of the Liberty Seated dime was struck from 1860 thru 1891.

While the US Government kept punching out millions of Morgan dollars, the Philadelphia Mint only struck a small number of quarters in 1890. 80,000 were produced but the date is still somewhat scarce especially in high grade. The 1890 Liberty Seated half-dollar was even more limited – mintage was very low, just 12,000 pieces. Obviously this is one of the scarcer coins of the 1890's.



The Gold King Mine, site of the world's first long distance transmission of alternating current for commercial purposes. Courtesy of Telluride Historical Museum

The year of 1891 saw several new inventions and accomplishments associated with the generation, distribution, and use of electricity such as Thomas Edison's first showing of a motion picture to a public audience (the convention of the National Federation of Women's Clubs). Later that year Edison would patent the radio. And in June, Alternating Current (AC) electricity was commercially transmitted for the first time by Lucien Nunn, Paul Nunn, and George Westinghouse. Their 6-foot wide Pelton water wheel driven power plant in Ames, Colorado transmitted 3000 volts of AC electricity 3 miles to the Nunn's mine. By 1894 this plant was furnishing power to all the mines in the Telluride, CO area and became the foundation for the Telluride Power Company.

In 1890 the US mint was using extensive amounts of silver to produce Morgan Dollars. In 1891 the coinage of the Morgan dollar decreased sufficiently to allow for much higher mintages of the quarter - 3.9 million struck at Philadelphia compared with just 80,000 the previous year. The half-dollar fared only slightly better over the 1890 production levels - its mintage increased from a measly 12,000 to 200,000 pieces. All the other denominations (excluding gold) were compatible with the previous year's large mintages and are considered common dates. 1891 was also the final year of Liberty Seated coinage. Shown here is a beautiful example of the last Seated Liberty Seated half dollar.



An 1891 Liberty Seated half-dollar graded MS-62 by PCGS. This piece has MS-64 eye appeal. Courtesy of Arno Safran



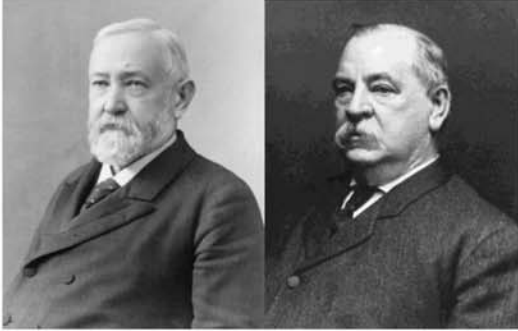
An 1892 Barber half-dollar graded MS-62 by ICG. Courtesy of Arno Safran

January 1, 1892 saw the opening of Ellis Island in the New York Harbor. This immigration center would be the initial point of debarkation for millions of immigrants over the next 60 years. Also in 1892, the Barber half dollar was introduced and struck at all three mints: 934,245 in Philadelphia, just 390,000 at New Orleans, and 1,029,028 in San Francisco. Charles Barber, who was an assistant engraver along with George Morgan (of

Morgan Dollar fame) during the 1870's, was appointed Chief Engraver after the death of his father Chief Engraver William Barber (who served in this position from 1869 -1879.) Charles Barber designed four regular US circulating coins: the Liberty "V" nickel (1883) and the Liberty Head silver dime, quarter and half dollar (1892). Barber also created several commemorative coins, patterns, and medals. He served as Chief Engraver through 1917.

The first recital of the Pledge of Allegiance in U.S. public schools is done on October 12, 1892 to mark the 400th anniversary of Columbus Day.

The Barber dime, while similar to the quarter and half-dollar, has a number of differences. Instead of stars circling the Bust of Miss Liberty on the obverse, the Legend "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" appears in its place. On the reverse, instead of an eagle, 13 stars, and legend as on the other denominations, Barber continued to use the same wreath that appeared on the Liberty Seated dime.



William Henry Harrison (left) and Grover Cleveland (right). Both gentlemen hold presidential "records": Harrison, the 23rd president of the United States, was a grandson of the 9th president, William Henry Harrison, creating the only grandfather-grandson duo to have held the office; Cleveland was the only president in American history to serve two non-consecutive terms in office (1885-1889 & 1893-1897).

The Chicago World's Fair (also known as the "Quadricentennial Columbian Exposition" commemorating the 400th anniversary of Columbus' "discovery" of America) opened in May 1893. In recognition of this anniversary the United States struck its first two commemorative coins in 1892 and 1893 - the Columbian Exposition half dollar and the Isabella quarter dollar.

Chief Engraver Charles Barber designed these coins, amidst political intrigue between



A delicately toned 1893 Isabella Commemorative quarter graded PCGS MS-62. Courtesy of Arno Safran

himself and Bertha Honoré Palmer, a contemporary advocate for women's rights. Mrs. Palmer, wife of Chicago millionaire Potter Palmer, used her position as President of the Board of Lady Managers for the Columbian Quadricentennial Exposition, to insist that women be represented via a commemorative quarter. She also proposed that Caroline Peddle, a student of Augustus Saint-Gaudens, prepare the design. Apparently this was a bit too much "input" for Barber and he selected Kenyon Cox to provide the initial sketches for the design of this coin.

Moving on to 1894, the economic turmoil begun in 1893 manifested itself in 1894 in worker protests and strikes. In April approximately 500 unemployed workers, led by Mr. James S. Coxe, marched in protest from Massillon, Ohio to Washington, D.C. where they demanded the federal government assist workers by hiring them to work on public projects. Congress and President Cleveland refused and law enforcement officials arrested Coxe for trespassing on public property. "Coxey's Army" quickly dispersed upon his arrest.



An 1892 Barber dime and a 1890 Liberty Seated Dime. They have different obverses but the same reverse. Courtesy of Arno Safran

The year 1893 ushered in significant economic turmoil for the United States. In the election of 1892 Grover Cleveland defeated Benjamin Harrison to become the 24th president on March 4, 1893. Two days earlier a world-wide economic crisis spread after a bank scandal and coup in Argentina severely impacted world trade. May of 1893 saw a collapse of the New York Stock Exchange leading to the US' financial panic of 1893. This brought a "run" on banks, massive unemployment, and a subsequent four-year period of economic depression.

Despite the world's economic turmoil, the



The 1893 Chicago World Columbian Exposition was held on 686 acres and was known as the "White City" because the buildings were constructed of white Alabaster. This building style proved to be very popular and was subsequently replicated throughout the United States for many years.



James S. Coxe

In May of 1894 the economic conditions in the US coupled with the demands of George Pullman, owner of the Pullman Palace Car company, resulted in a wildcat strike by 3000 employees, which ultimately included approximately 250,000 workers in 27 states. In the early summer of 1894 over 10,000 law enforcement personnel - National Guardsman, Deputy Marshalls, and Federal troops- were sent to Chicago to help manage the situation. Unfortunately, on July 7th National Guardsman opened fire on a crowd of protestors and killed between 4 and 30 (estimates vary and the exact number is not known). Strict law enforcement followed and the strike ultimately ended. In addition to the loss of life and worker injuries, by the end of the strike the railroads had lost millions of dollars in business and destroyed equipment, while the workers lost approximately \$1M in wages. Shown here is a complete 1894 set, courtesy of Arno Safran.



Empty train station during the Pullman Strike (1894). Library of Congress, Washington, D.C

By defending Eugene V. Debs and other representatives of the American Railway Union in criminal trials following the 1894 rail strike, Attorney Clarence Darrow cemented his nationwide reputation. His name is still a household word today.



1895 saw sports innovations such as the first US Open held by the US Golf Association and the first professional football game. Technically, professional football began in 1892 when the Allegheny Athletic Association paid one player (former Yale guard Pudge Hefflinger) \$500 to play in a game against the Pittsburgh Athletic Association. However, the first truly professional game, played by teams whose members were all compensated, was played on September 3, 1895 in Latrobe, Pennsylvania between the YMCA of Latrobe and the Jeanette Athletic Club. Players made between \$10 and \$25 for the game and the YMCA team won by a score of 12-0. On the technical front, George Selden was awarded the first US patent for the automobile for his two-stroke engine, and construction on Boston's "Underground" rail system was begun. As for coinage, 1895 continued with the issuance of existing designs for the six non-gold denominations (cent through dollar).



1897 photo of the first professional football team – the Latrobe (PA) YMCA team. Courtesy Pro Football Hall of Fame

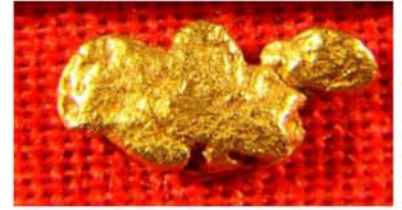


The 1896-P Barber Half-dollar is considered the scarcest Philadelphia Mint date of the 1890s. This PCGS-63 specimen is magnificent for the grade. Courtesy Arno Safran

In the US presidential election of 1896 William McKinley was the Republican nominee. He supported transition to the gold standard and he was backed by the wealthy urban dwellers (of both parties) mostly in the northeastern states. Democratic nominee William Jennings Bryan (who was 36 years old) supported the silver standard and was mostly backed by the farming community from the western and southern states because they believed that the importance of a silver standard was more beneficial to their financial wellbeing.

While the popular vote was close, 51.0% for McKinley and 46.7% for Bryan, McKinley won the Electoral College votes by a margin of 95 votes - 271 to 176. This win put the United States on track to adopt the Gold Standard, which was accomplished in March, 1900.

Natural Gold Nugget from the Klondike Gold Rush region.



1897 saw the discovery of new natural resource deposits which spurred economic



Outfitters such as these shown here were certainly more commercially successful than the average Gold Miner!

growth. In April oil was discovered in the Oklahoma Indian territories, initiating an oil boom which would endure for decades. In Canada, the Klondike (or Yukon) Gold Rush began, which resulted in an estimated 100,000 people attempting to migrate to this region. It is estimated that more than half of them never made it due to the difficulty of the trek. One person who did make it to the Yukon (and while he did not strike gold, he did find the foundation of his life and career) was Jack London (1876 – 1916). This adventurer / journalist / author worked the Klondike for a few years before returning home and becoming a successful writer.

Shown here is an 1897-P Barber dime which was graded MS-64 by PCGS. As Safran explained to the audience, he believes it should grade closer to MS-66 because of its sharp and spectacular surfaces. While it may be difficult to judge the grading for yourself in reading this article in print, an electronic version allows for magnification which, in the author's opinion, supports Arno's assertion.



Wreckage of the USS Maine in Havana Harbor; Inset: Starboard bow view of the USS Maine. Courtesy National Archives

Remember the Maine! This rallying cry symbolized the impetus for America's engagement in the Spanish-American War of 1898, and was coined following the sinking of the battleship USS Maine and the loss of 216 US Sailors in Havana Harbor, Cuba in February. By the end of 1898 the US had completed a blockade of Havana, destroyed the Spanish fleet stationed in the Philippines, and took control of Guam, the Philippines and Puerto Rico via a peace treaty between the two nations in

December. It is noted that in July the US also annexed the independent republic of Hawaii (after previously intervening in the affairs of the independent Kingdom of Hawaii, which culminated in the overthrow of the government of Hawaiian Queen Liliuokalani in January 1893). Quite an eventful year for America, one which saw a large increase in America's territory and international power.



An 1898 Barber quarter with rainbow toning certified AU-58 by NGC. Courtesy Arno Safran.

As the decade closed in 1899 (remember the convention – we started a year early so we are ending a year early!) the US found itself in a continuing war with guerilla forces fighting for independence in the Philippines - the same forces which previously fought against Spain and who thought America would immediately grant them independence following the conclusion of the Spanish-America war.

As was the case with the transition from 1999 to the year 2000, Americans in 1899 were filled with expectations and trepidation (everyone remembers the expected Y2K wholesale computer shutdown and ensuing chaos?). Some fears

and some expectations were proven unfounded, but others were realized, such as the US adopting the Gold Standard. And even though 1900 facts are not supposed to be included in this article, it feels pertinent to state that the US Census of 1900 showed a population of 76,212,168 citizens, which represents a 21% increase over the population in 1890. These many years of exploding population were to set a course for America that was not foreseen, except perhaps by a few.

In economic terms, the 1890s were a period of deflation, where the US dollar actually increased in purchasing power. This deflation was due to the negative economic times, where supply outstripped demand and consequently prices lowered. A dollar in 1890 is equivalent to \$28.08 in 2019; a dollar in 1895 is equivalent to \$30.42 in 2019, and at the end of the decade, 1899, a dollar had the purchasing power of \$30.79 2019 dollars.



A lovely 1899 Indian Head Cent graded PCGS MS-64.
Courtesy Arno Safran.

While Arno showed us many spectacular (and sometimes expensive) coins, shown here is perhaps one of my favorite coins from his presentation, in his words “a lovely gem 1899 Indian Head cent” certified MS-64 Rd by PCGS. I am not an Indian Head cent collector, so I can’t explain why this coin appeals to me so strongly, but I will agree with the Arno’s adjective of “lovely”!

Arno expressed his feelings about completing a collection from the 1890s this way: “*Completing a coin denomination set from the “Gay Nineties” was extraordinarily challenging and extremely rewarding since the Barber nickels, dimes, quarters and halves had tremendous purchasing power and weren’t saved.*” Since many of us will not be able to complete such a collection, Arno’s sharing of his journey via his excellent presentation to the SJCSRACC (to include all the backstories and numismatic photos) is greatly appreciated! As a fellow numismatist I express my feelings, which I am sure our Club members share, which is AWE of Arno’s numismatic knowledge and his willingness to share it!

Sources / References:

- PowerPoint presentation *The US Coins of the “Gay Nineties”*, by Arno Safran
- Historical factoids from America’s Best History website, located at <https://americasbesthistory.com/abhtimeline1890.html>
- Herman Hollerith’s tabulating machine, courtesy of The International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) historical archives at https://www.ibm.com/ibm/history/exhibits/vintage/vintage_4506VV2139.html
- James S. Coxey information: Ohio History Central at http://www.ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Jacob_S._Coxey
- Pullman Palace Car workers Strike related information from Encyclopedia Britannica at <https://www.britannica.com/event/Pullman-Strike>
- First professional football game: SB Nation Windy City Gridiron at <https://www.windycitygridiron.com/2009/6/11/906146/origins-of-football-1890s-to-1933>
- Photo of Latrobe, PA football team courtesy of Pro Football Hall of Fame, as contained in article *How the Pigskin Got Professional*, By Christopher Mendez, Spring 2010 located at <http://pabook2.libraries.psu.edu/palitmap/Football.html>
- Klondike Outfitters photo: <http://mrjovanoskisocialstudies.blogspot.com/p/yukon-klondike-gold-rush.html>
- Photo of Klondike area gold nugget: Courtesy Gold Nugget Sales at https://goldnuggetsales.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=3370



Arno Safran shared a year set from 1990, including an Eisenhower Centennial Silver Dollar.



President JJ Engel presents Arno Safran with a Certificate of Appreciation for his Program *Collecting the Coins of the Gay -90s in the Age of Electricity*.



Robbie Ogden shared a medallion for Amen Corner at the Augusta National Golf Course. He described how the 11th, 12th, and 13th holes on the course have played host to some of the most gripping moments in Master's history



John Kolmar shared an interesting error coin from 1942 where a Jefferson Nickel was struck on a penny planchet. The obverse of the nickel is on one side of the coin and the images from the obverse of a Lincoln cent are on the other side.

Although an image is not available, it is noted that Chuck Goergen shared a denarius from the Roman Republic made in 48 BC. The obverse of the coin is the head of a Gallic captive believed to represent Vercingetorix.

The Club members thank all who shared their numismatic items and expertise!

**STEPHEN JAMES CSRA COIN CLUB
Regular Meeting May 2, 2019, Aiken County Library**

President J.J. Engel called the regular meeting of the club to order at 6:45 p.m.

Jim Sproull reported that there were 15 members present. Jim announced information concerning several upcoming coin shows in the vicinity.

Ken Bailey won the members' door prize, a 2019 Silver Eagle.

A motion was made by Chuck Goergen, seconded by Arno Safran, and passed to dispense with the reading of the April 2019 meeting minutes. A copy will be on file with the other club records, and a copy will appear in the club newsletter. The treasurer's report for May showed a balance of \$1703.10

Pat James provided an update on preparations for the club's coin show in September. Arno Safran reminded the members of the meeting of the Augusta Coin Club at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month (April 18) at the Sunrise Grill, West Town Market Square on Washington Road in Martinez, Georgia.

Several members including Robbie Ogden, Chuck Goergen, John Kolmar, and Arno Safran presented items in the Show and Tell.

Arno Safran presented a program on *Collecting the Coins of the Gay -90s in the Age of Electricity*.

Following the monthly auction, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jim Mullaney, Secretary*

Kindly Patronize our Advertisers

Coins Stamps & Currency.
Buy & Sell Gold - Silver

AIKEN COIN SHOP

1643 Whiskey Road
Aiken, SC 29803

tel. (803) 643-9957
cel. (803) 420-2949
cel. (602) 432-0920

Rocio E. Talj
Managing Partner

coinsstampscurrency@gmail.com

Since 1941

Clein's Rare Coins

3830 Washington Rd., Ste. 32 Martinez, GA 30907
Buying & Selling U.S. Coins, Currency & Confederate
- ALL GOLD & SILVER BULLION -
(Eagles, K-Rands, Maple Leafs & Pandas)
COIN APPRAISALS

STEVE DAMRON
Ph: (706) 755-2249
Fax: (706) 755-2461
Tue-Fri 10:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Sat. 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

ANA
LIFE MEMBER

Respectful, Friendly & Courteous Service

Augusta Coin Exchange

— JOHN M. RUSINKO —

Mon - Fri | 11AM - 4PM 706.210.5486 | 702.845.1934
Sat | 11AM - 4PM JR.Rusinko@yahoo.com

Member: ANA-R147538, CAC, SeniorCoins1792@gmail.com
PCGS, NGC & ICTA 4015 Washington Rd, STE - L
Dealer LIC # 40829 *Buying and Selling* Martinez, GA 30907

Month	Dates	Shows	Location
JUN	7-9	Raleigh Money Expo	NC State Fairgrounds - Exposition Center 1025 Blue Ridge Rd. Raleigh, North Carolina 27607 Contact: Dave Provost 919-987-5935 http://www.raleighcoinclub.org/ourShow/currentYear.html
JUN	15-27	ANA's 2019 SUMMERSEMINAR	Summer Seminar at Colorado College 902 N. Cascade, Colorado Springs, CO 80903 https://www.money.org/summer-seminar
JUN	20-22	Carolina Coin & Stamp Show Concord, NC	Cabarrus Arena & Events Center 4751 Highway 49 North, Concord, North Carolina 28025 Contact: Dot Hendrick 919-828-9450
JUN	29-30	Rare Coins of Raleigh Coin & Currency Show Greenville, NC	American Legion Post 39 403 Saint Andrews Dr, Greenville, North Carolina 27834 Contact: Shanna Millis 919-790-8544 https://www.rarecoinsofraleigh.com/
JUL	11-13	Summer FUN Show, Orlando FL	Orange County Convention Center 9800 International Drive in Hall WEI, Orlando, Florida 32819 http://www.funtopics.com/summer-fun.html
JUL	26-27	Warner Robins Coin Club Coin Show	VFW Hall 1011 Corder Road, Warner Robins, GA 31088 Contact Thomas Kimsey 478-335-6835