

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

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

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



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

Volume 17, No. 7

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

July, 2018

Our next meeting is Thursday, July 5, 2018 at 6:45 PM in the Aiken Public Library

Augusta CC Spring show past, 2 months to go for the SJ CSRA CC

2018 Club Meeting Schedule

Jan. 4	Apr. 5	July 5	Oct. 4
Feb. 1	May 3	Aug. 2	Nov. 1
Mar. 1	June 7	Sept. 6	Dec. 13

Club Shows Can Be a Lot of Fun



A view of a SJ CSRA CC past show at Tony Chibbaro's table

The Augusta Coin Club spring show held on May 18 & 19 brought out a record number of dealers as well as the public and the editor noticed a number of SJ CSRA CC members present on both days. Club shows provide an opportunity for members to acquire numismatic items they might not otherwise find locally, meet and converse with fellow collectors as well as dealers they have not previously met before thereby creating new avenues with which to locate items for their collection.

Our next club show will be coming up on Saturday, September 8 at the H. Odell Weeks Activity Center on Whiskey Road just across from the Home Depot and is usually held in conjunction with "Aiken's-Makin' Day weekend of celebration, a huge local fair held a couple of blocks east of the central part of the downtown Aiken. Club President Steve Kuhl has been serving as our bourse chair for a number of years and has done a superb job of attracting dealers to our show. A number of our members have also take tables at this event in the past.

The US Coins of 1808: 210 Years Ago

By Arno Safran



Excluding Gold, only three denominations were struck in 1808; The Draped Bust 1/2¢, the Classic Head 1¢ and the Capped Bust 50¢ Shown are the obverses: [Magnify page to 200% to view details.]

Similar to the previous year, 1808 was a year of transition. John Reich had been hired in 1807 to redesign all our coins but instead of being named Chief Engraver, his position was that of Assistant Chief Engraver to Robert Scot at an annual salary of \$600. Even by early 19th century standards, that wasn't very much. In 1808, the Classic head design replaced Scot's Draped Bust Liberty on the cent but not on the half cent. The new cent design was similar to the Capped Bust half dollar now in its second year but as the reader can see, not an exact replica. The Classic head portrait (*sometimes referred to as "Turban Head"*), would appear in consecutive years through 1814 and is considered by many collectors the most beautiful of all cent types. Unfortunately it is the most difficult type to find with a nice coppery color, unblemished surfaces; in other words; problem-free. There were a number of reasons for this. At the time Mint Director Robert Maskell Patterson was ordering all our copper blanks from Matthew Boulton of Soho-Birmingham, England. For some reason, the blanks to be used for striking Classic Head cents were either dark or of poor quality to begin with or more likely, improperly stored in ships' holds as they

(Continued on page 2, column 1)

The Coins of 1808

(Continued from page 1, column 2)



The reverses of our 1808 coinage (excluding gold)
[Magnify page up to 200% to view details.]

made their long voyage across the Atlantic. Stored in kegs that became damp from seepage, many of the planchets became dark, porous and granular; even corroded before they reached the Mint in Philadelphia. Today, finding 1808-1814 large cents that still appear chocolate brown and free of surface abrasions are scarce, in great demand and somewhat pricey.



An 1808 Classic Head Cent, S-279 R3 grading VF-30
The reported mintage was just over a million pieces struck.
Nice Chocolate brown planchets of this date are difficult to find.
[Magnify page 200% to view details.]

1808 was the last year that Robert Scot's Draped Bust design would appear on the half cent. With a reported mintage of 400,000 it is not rare although the two overdate varieties identified as C-1 & C-2 are costly. The common normal date variety known as C-3 is not without interest however. The last 8 in the date was struck from the same punch used to strike the two zeroes of the lower fraction number on the reverse. These were executed one on top of the other to form the second 8 on the obverse. Roger S. Cohen, Jr., author of *American Half Cents* regarded this as "another indication of the low regard the Mint had for the 'Little Half Sisters' of the Cent."



An 1808 Draped bust Half Cent, C-3, R1
The second eight in the date is formed by the same two zeroes used in the fraction 1/200 on the reverse. [Magnify page to 200% to see details.]

While moderate income collectors may be able to acquire a normal date 1808 half cent grading VG thru VF-20 since a nice problem-free example will run anywhere from \$100 to \$375 depending on the grade, an example of the 1808/7 1/2¢ in the same grade range will cost well into the four figures, possibly as much as \$2,000. A coin grading XF-40 or better will bring much more and is usually sold by a major numismatic auction house. Fortunately, one doesn't need the overdate to form the three piece 1808 year set.



This rare 1808/7 Draped Bust 1/2¢ graded AU-53 by PCGS sold for \$8, 625.00 at a Heritage Signature Auction on April 25, 2006.
(Courtesy of Heritage Auctions Archives) [magnify the page to 500%.]

There is only one other collectible coin for 1808 (excluding gold) and it is the resplendent Capped Bust lettered edge half dollar. The reported mintage for 1808 including all known varieties is 1,368,600, so as a date it is not considered scarce and should be available at a modest price up through XF.



An 1808/7 Bust half, O-101 grading VF-30
An "original" example of a lower grade specimen that is affordable.
[Magnify page to 200% to observe overdate more clearly.]

According to the latest edition of *United States Early Half Dollar Die Varieties: 1794-1836* by Al Overton, edited by Donald Parsley, there are ten die varieties for 1808 including the 1807/8. Although listed as an R-1, "fairly common", over-dates usually receive stronger collector demand and are priced accordingly but with over 1.3 million struck at the Philadelphia Mint that year for all die varieties, the 1808/7 half is still considered affordable for those who wish to pursue both the over-date shown above and the normal date shown below.



An 1808 Bust half O-106 R2 grading XF-40
Magnify page 200% to view details.]

(Continued on page 4, column 1)

The US Coins of 1808

(Continued from the previous page)



An 1808 Capped Bust \$2.50 quarter eagle graded AU-55 by PCGS
The coin realized \$126,000 at a Heritage Auction held this past April.
(Courtesy of PCGS' COINFACTS)
Magnify page 200% to view details.]

In 1807, John Reich's new Capped Bust design facing left appeared for the first time on both the half-dollar and the gold \$5.00 half-eagle. The following year, 1808, Reich's new design was placed on the smaller dime-size \$2.50 quarter eagle half-eagle. While both coins are expensive across the grading spectrum, the Reich design of the 1808 quarter eagle was struck only that one year, then suspended until 1821 when Robert Scot's Cap Head design-type replaced it. The reported mintage for the one year 1808 Capped Bust quarter eagle was a scant 2,110 pieces resulting in one of the great US numismatic rarities and is extremely expensive today. The certified AU-55 example shown above realized \$126,000 at a Heritage Auction held in April, 2018 some \$1,000 higher than the current suggested retail price, (an extreme rarity indeed!).



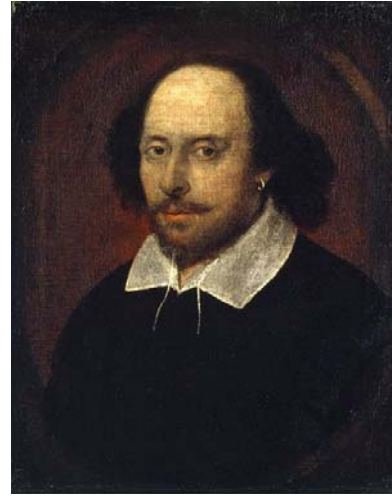
An 1808 \$5.00 half-eagle certified MS-63 by PCGS
The coin realized \$21,738 at a Legend Auction on May, 2018
(Courtesy of PCGS' COINFACTS)
Magnify page 200% to view details.]

With a reported mintage of 55,578, the 1808 \$5.00 half-eagle is far more common than the 1808 quarter eagle but due to continual fluctuations in the changes of gold prices during the years our early gold coins were being struck, many of these pieces were either melted for their higher gold value over face or shipped abroad for the same reason resulting in fewer survivors for the collectors of later generations. While the more attractive higher grade specimen of the MS-63 \$5.00 gold coin is valued well below the 1808 \$2.50 quarter eagle grading only AU-55, it is still priced well beyond what most collectors can afford. Even an 1808 \$5.00 half-eagle in the same AU-55 grade as the quarter eagle shown atop is listed by PCGS COINFACTS at \$9,700 which while far below the value of the smaller coin is still a very high price for most coin collectors to consider.

Although it is unlikely that any of us reading this will acquire the two 1808 gold issues displayed, we can still contemplate their beauty observing them either at shows or on the internet. That foregoing said, the collector wishing to complete the more accessible portion of 1808 coinage should have no trouble acquiring a still attractive specimen of the 1808 normal date Draped Bust half-cent, Classic head large cent and Lettered Edge Capped Bust half-dollar.

The Coins of Shakespeare's England By Xavier Pique

*"Doubt thou the stars are fire,
 Doubt the sun doth move,
 Doubt truth to be a liar
 but never doubt I love"*



A few weeks ago, at my favorite second-hand store, I chanced upon and purchased a huge tome containing all of William Shakespeare's works. After reading bits and pieces of *Othello* and *Measure for Measure*, I was hooked-I had to know more about the Bard's life and times.

Not too much is known of Shakespeare's life. He was born in Stratford-On

Avon, England, in 1564; at age 18 married Anne Hathaway and had three children. He was an actor, playwright and theatre entrepreneur in London and owned property in both Stratford and London. He died in 1616 at the age of 52. Beyond this, not much else is known with certainty. Incredibly, no

It is not known exactly when Shakespeare began writing, but contemporary allusions and records of performances show that several of his plays were on the London stage by 1592. From 1594, Shakespeare's plays were performed only by the Lord Chamberlain's Men, a company owned by a group of players, including Shakespeare that soon became the leading actors company in London. After the death of Queen Elizabeth in 1603, the company was awarded a royal patent by the new king, James I, and changed its name to the King's Men.



The Globe Theatre, Stratford -On - Avon

The works of Shakespeare included comedies such as *As You Like It* and *Twelfth Night*, tragedies like *Romeo and Juliet*, *Hamlet* and *Othello*, and historical dramas like *King Henry the Fourth* and *King Richard the Second*. He also wrote poems in 14-line sonnet form as well as *Lucrece and Venus* and *Adonis*, which are much longer poems and refer to well-known Greek mythological themes. The plays were performed at the Globe Theatre, which Shakespeare built at Stratford-On Avon.

Shakespeare's plays are full of interesting characters, many of whom are given descriptive names, such as Elbow, Puck, Pistol, Froth, Mistress Overdone, Snug, Bottom, Simple, Cobweb, Shallow, Moth, Quince, Mustard-Seed, and Pinch.

The significance of Shakespeare's plays is their overwhelming humanity- these dramas and comedies capture all of the human experience- love, hate, revenge, jealousy, treachery, loyalty, faithfulness, greed, and lust.



Queen Elizabeth Sixpence Silver 1573

During the period of Shakespeare's early life, Queen Elizabeth was monarch (1558-1603). Gold and silver coins circulated freely. It was common for the monarch's likeness to appear on the coin's obverse, with a shield usually on the reverse. This



King James I Gold Crown- 1604-1619

period is thus known as the Elizabethan era. In 1603, James I ascended to the throne of Britain, after being King of Scotland. King James ruled from 1603-1625. During this time, several series of coinage were issued, which included various interesting mintmarks, such as the trefoil, rose, tower, key, book and spur rowel.

Read more about this interesting era and coinage at www.vcoins.com.

Xavier Pique served as Treasurer of the Augusta Coin Club for ten years and contributed a number of articles to the newsletter of that organization. He also appeared as guest speaker at the SJ CSRA CC. ED..

STEPHEN JAMES CSRA COIN CLUB Minutes from the Regular Meeting June 7, 2018, Aiken County Library

In the absence of Pres. Steve Kuhl and VP Pat James Treasurer Chuck Goergen called the regular meeting of the club to order at 6:45 p.m. Sgt. In Arms Jim Sproull reported that there were 19 members present and 1 guest. He also announced information concerning several upcoming coin shows in the vicinity. Chuck Goergen won the members' door prize, a 2018 Silver Eagle. A motion was made by J. J. Engel, seconded by Howard Hillman, and passed to dispense with the reading of the May 2018 meeting minutes, a copy that will be on file and appear in the club newsletter.

Treasurer Chuck Goergen indicated that the Club's bank balance was unavailable tonight, but it had recently increased by over a \$1,000 due to reservations for dealer's tables at our upcoming Coin Show to held Sept. 8.

Arno Safran reported that the June 21 meeting of the Augusta Coin Club would feature a Barbecue dinner catered by the Sunrise Grill, the club's monthly meeting place as a thank you to all its members that made the May 18-19 spring show another successful event for the club. The Sunrise Grill is located at the West Town Market Square on Washington Road in Martinez, Georgia.

There were five Show and Tell presentations.

Chuck Goergen brought in an 1822 Portrait dollar (or 8 reales) of King Ferdinand VII of Spain struck in Mexico at the Guanajuato Mint. Coins of this type circulated widely in the U.S. in the early 19th century.

Glenn Sanders showed an uncirculated US Silver Eagle from 2017 (with the W-mint mark for West Point). Glenn related the debate over whether or not this coin can be described as "burnished".

J.J. Engel brought in a 1944 50-cent piece from the Philippines that had been minted at the San Francisco Mint. This coin would have been among the first returned to the Philippines after the liberation from Japan in WWII.

Arno Safran displayed an 1892 Barber dime he upgraded from an AU-55 to a MS-63 and an 1861 Liberty Seated Quarter also graded MS-63 by PCGS at the recently held Augusta Coin Club Show.

Kelly Nordeen shared a set of 66 consecutively numbered star notes in uncirculated condition that he had recently obtained.

The program was *Two Tales of the 1911 Canadian Coinage Date Set*, by **Rich Baker**. Rich described some background information on how certain unique aspects of the 1911 came to pass. A combination of events including the Currency Act of 1910 and the death of King Edward VII in May 1910 caused the need for new coin dies for King George V. Hubs were created in London to support fabrication of the dies in Canada. Hubs were received in March of 1911 and a dwindling supply of minor coinage caused an urgency in choosing between Hubs with Latin inscriptions or English inscriptions. The Latin inscriptions were picked, and changes to the coins had added abbreviations that the King was Emperor of India, but omitted abbreviations that he served by the grace of God.

Speaker Rich Baker's Program Summary

(continued from the previous page)

Dies were produced from the selected hubs and coins were minted. Subsequently when it was noted that "Del Gratia" or "D.G." had been omitted from the coins, a public outcry arose at the lack of the phrase that had been used in the English Empire since the time of King Richard III. Rich noted that this was not the first time coinage for Britain's monarchs had omitted the phrase. In 1849, a florin had been produced without it. Rich also described how a dollar coin had been authorized by the Currency Act of 1910, but none had been thought to have been minted in 1911 until one came to auction in 1960. This coin was obviously among the rarest in the world and commanded a record price for several decades. Subsequently, it was discovered that a second pattern of the coin existed in the Royal Mint Museum.

Ken Bailey won \$13 in the 50-50 drawing. Following the monthly auction, Chuck Goergen adjourned the meeting at 8:40 pm.

**Respectfully submitted,
Jim Mullaney, Secretary**



Treasurer Chuck Goergen, left presenting speaker Rich Baker an Appreciation Award for his program on *Two Tales of 1911 Canadian Coinage*

Show & Tell images



An 1822 Ferdinand VII 8 Reales struck IN Mexico at the Guanajuato Mint displayed by Chuck Goergen Photos taken by Secretary James Mullaney

More Show & Tells from the June 7 Meeting



An toned 1892 Barber Dime graded MS-63 by PCGS displayed by Arno Safran [Increase by 200%]



An 1861 Liberty Seated quarter graded MS-63 by PCGS also displayed by Arno Safran [Increase by 200%]

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
Dealer LIC # 40829 4015 Washington Rd, STE - L
Martinez, GA 30907

Buying and Selling