

The SJ CSRA CC now meets at the South Aiken Presbyterian Church at 1711 Whiskey Road

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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 21, No. 9

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

Sept. 2022

Our next will be on Thursday, Sept. 1 at 6:45 PM in the South Aiken Presbyterian Church
Due to the latest Omicron variant of Covid-19, please wear a face mask inside the building

Collecting US Quarter dollars types, Part Five

2022 Club Meeting Schedule

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

An early “key” Half-cent key



An 1811 Classic Head half-cent, C-1, R4 graded VG-10
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view coin more clearly.]

In 1809, with John Reich now appointed as Asst. Chief Engraver, his new Classic Head design was introduced with over 1,500,000 produced; the second highest of the entire half-cent series. Starting in 1810, with the US and Great Britain at odds on a number of issues which would soon result in the War of 1812, the obtaining of planchets from Birmingham, England from Matthew Boulton became substantially more difficult with the result that the number of half-cents coined dropped to 215,000. By 1811, just 63,140 were coined making it the key to the series. After 1811, no half-cents were coined until 1825, some fourteen years later. Though the design type remained the same Reich was long gone and Scott had died, William Kneass the new engraver continued to produce Classic Head half-cents sporadically thru 1835. In 1836 only proofs were issued before the denomination was temporarily discontinued once more.

So for those hobbyists interested in collecting “key” dates” of various types--when a affordable--the 1811 Classic Head is one of the legendary keys that collectors of early American coppers cherish. The writer acquired the 1811 coin shown above at the Garden State Numismatic Association’s annual spring convention in Cherry Hill, NJ across the Delaware River from Philadelphia in June, 1991 from a dealer that specialized in Early American coppers, the late Don Valenziano. The cost, then, \$250. Today the *Red Book* lists it at \$850 in the same grade.

Collecting varieties of Washington Quarters (1932-1992)

By Arno Safran



A 1932 Washington Quarter graded MS-65 by NGC
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view coin more clearly.]

The previous articles written regarding our nation’s earlier quarter types each displayed very original, artistic and attractive portrayals of Miss Liberty. The concept of using Miss Liberty as an allegorical figure started to change in 1909 with the striking of the Lincoln cent that year followed by the Buffalo nickel in 1913. All the while, Miss Liberty continued to appear on our silver and gold coins which came to an abrupt end in 1932 when it was decided to celebrate the bi-centennial of George Washington’s birth by striking a commemorative quarter designed by John Flanagan with George Washington’s figure on the obverse and a new spread eagle type on the reverse..

In 1931, due to the great depression, few coins were being struck. No 1931 dated Standing Liberty quarters appeared with only cents, nickels dimes produced. The gold issues were later called back by the Roosevelt administration in 1933 with most assumed to have been later melted. In that same year, 1933, only cents and half-dollars were coined, and while a smaller number of gold coins were struck, they too were eventually ordered to be returned except for coin collectors who wished to keep them.

Due to the popular reception the commemorative Washington quarter received, it was decided to continue the new design type from 1934 on since the Standing Liberty quarter was frequently affected with striking problems during its 15 year tenure. No one at that time knew that the Washington quarter would remain in circulation for ninety years.

(Continued on page 2, column 1)

Collecting varieties of Washington Quarters (1932-1992)

(Continued from page 1, column 2)



A 1965 clad BU Washington quarter

Starting in 1965, the silver was removed from our dimes, quarters and halves and replaced by cupro-nickel; a clad metal. Shown directly above is an example of the first year of the cupro-nickel Washington quarter. This example was struck as part of a special mint set and not for circulation although over a combined number of 1.8 billion clad quarters were struck at the Philadelphia and Denver mints that year. While Engraver John Flanagan's design is the same as the precious silver issues released from 1932 thru 1964, the cupro-nickel metal combination appears darker besides being worthless and although still valued at twenty-five cents, just as our paper money was worth its numerical value shown on the bank note, the clad coinage essentially considered "scrap" had no precious metal value.



A 1976-S 40% silver Bicentennial Washington Quarter with the colonial Drummer Boy image on the reverse

In 1975 and 1976, the Washington quarter was struck with a double date, 1776-1976 on the obverse along with an entirely different reverse which featured a colonial drummer boy with the thirteen stars surrounding a flame of liberty amidst the thirteen stars surrounded by the legend, **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA** in the upper portion and **QUARTER DOLLAR** below. In the view of many a collector, this reverse was aesthetically more attractive than the traditional eagle on the reverse and won the best prize of the three reverses made for the bi-centennial quarters, half-dollars and dollars produced those two years but, in 1977, the original eagle adaptation replaced them and the coin remained similar to the 1965 issue all the way thru 1998.

Statehood Quarters



A 1999-P Delaware Statehood quarter certified MS-68 by PCGS (Courtesy of PCGS COINFACT)

[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view coin more clearly.]

In 1999, the US mints in Philadelphia and Denver began striking Clad Statehood quarters beginning with the Delaware, the first of the five states to join the Union in 1799, two centuries earlier. It was followed by Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia and Connecticut. The design on the reverse of the Delaware piece shows Caesar Rodney's significant horseback ride in 1776.



A lovely uncirculated 2000-D clad South Carolina Statehood quarter
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view coin more clearly.]

Since the Stephen James Central Savannah River Area Coin Club is located in Aiken, South Carolina, the author decided to display the South Carolina example that became the eighth state to enter the Union. The reverse displays the state map with a beautiful wren at the left on a jasmine flower entering the state map from the left. On the right side of the map is a Palmetto tree. The coin is one of the better design-types the author acquired out of circulation back in 2000 but its value as a collectible is not very much although nice to possess as part of the complete set.



A 2002 date BU example of the Louisiana statehood quarter
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view coin more clearly.]

This coin displays the Louisiana statehood quarter, the 18th state to join the union. The reverse features a simple map of the United States displaying the vast Louisiana territory that president Thomas Jefferson acquired from France in 1803 known as "the Louisiana Purchase". The newly acquired territory appears across the middle to northwestern portion of the map displaying a trumpet--symbolic of the New Orleans Jazz music--shown above. At the lower left a Pelican appears since it is a natural resident of the Gulf of Mexico. Despite some criticism coming from various contemporaries who found the inclusion of the Louisiana Purchase objectionable, the author chose this particular coin to share with his club members because he liked the overall design with the map of the nation adding strength to the reverse.



A 2005 Proof West Virginia Statehood quarter
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view coin more clearly.]

Here we have another stunning design-type featuring the West Virginia statehood quarter which appeared in 2005 displaying the high bridge over the New River Gorge in the central part of the state. The author and his wife were there back in the summer of 2010 where the country is beautiful. West Virginia entered the union in 1863 in the middle of the Civil War. The exceptional thing regarding the Statehood quarters program is that if one takes the time to study the reverses of the fifty statehood coin set, there is much to admire and it's a tribute to the **Red Book** editors and contributors who took the trouble to publish every statehood quarter reverse with clear observable print.

Collecting varieties of Washington Quarters (1932-1992)

(Continued from page 2, column 2)



A 2009 District of Columbia Washington quarter reverse
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view coin more clearly.]

In 2009, the Mints started to strike the various territorial aspects of our nation's history beginning with the District of Columbia known as Washington, DC, the coin featured directly above. This specimen is one of the denominations that appeared in the 2009 Mint Set which by then had improved in strike and overall quality compared with the prior sets from 1970s and '80s. The example shown displays clear bright surfaces with the reverse displaying a portrait of Jazz musician and composer Duke Ellington at the piano with the slogan, "Justice for all" below and the motto *E PLURIBUS UNUM* followed by the date 2009.

US territories featured that year outside the mainland were Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S Virgin Islands, and the northern Mariana Islands.



A 2010-D Washington quarter displaying Yosemite Park reverse
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view coin more clearly.]

From 2010 thru 2014, as part of "the America, the Beautiful series" the Mint began commemorated all of the major US national parks on the reverses followed in 2015 thru 2021 by a series of less well known U.S. parks located in both the US and different parts of the world continuing thru 2021.



A 2019-D Washington quarter displaying a Woman at the spindle as part of the Lowell, MA park series
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view coin more clearly.]

According to the United States Mint, the Lowell National Historical Park quarter was the 46th coin in the "America the Beautiful Quarters Program" and the first of the five quarter quarters of 2019 to be introduced into circulation. The writer has seen a number of examples of this piece in change and it is very appealing to the eye. Sculptor-Engraver Phoebe Hemphill engraved the coin.



A 2021-P Washington quarter showing the date on the obverse with Washington Crossing the Delaware on the reverse

In 2021 only two types of Washington quarters were struck; one of *the Tuskegee Airmen* similar to the preceding types going back to 1999 with the coin's date on the reverse but the other turned out to be **the original traditional type showing the date once again appearing under the Bust on the obverse**. However, instead of the eagle, the reverse displayed a new version of Washington leading his revolutionary troops crossing the Delaware River just north of Trenton, NJ. The engraver of new reverse was Benjamin Swords. In addition to being struck at both the Philadelphia and Denver mints, a silver proof version was struck in San Francisco in .999 fine silver. Once again, the editors of the *Red Book* must be praised for managing to include sharp pictures of every single reverse which is similar to holding each quarter in the hand. That said, the author wonders if the concept were featured on the half-dollar denomination like the original commemoratives struck from 1892 thru 1954, would not the images appeared a lot clearer with the coins being more desirable as collectables?



A 2022-P Washington Quarter featuring Laura Gardin Fraser's ordinal design for the Washington quarter in 1932, 90 years ago

In 2022, the Mint decided to display Laura Gardin Fraser's original design for the Washington Quarter first created in 1931 and approved by the US Commission of Fine Arts. The portrait was based on the famed life-mask of Washington by French sculptor Jean-Antoine Houdon, (1741-1828), but at the time, then, Secretary of the Treasury, Andrew Mellon preferred John Flanagan's image and his position in the Cabinet overrode the commission. For years, many considered Mellon's choice to be chauvinistic but numismatic scholar Q. David Bowers explained that Mellon had previously approved Fraser's four different popular commemorative half-dollars struck during the 1920s and 30s which debunked the original accusation.

The reverse of the 2022 quarters features a portrait of Dr. Sally Ride, (1951-2012) physicist and the first female astronaut to fly in space. She is one of the first five successful women to be chosen for the reverses of the 2022 quarter, the others being renowned author, Maya Angelou, (1928-2014), Wilma Mankiller, (1945-2010), Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, Nina Otero-Warren, (1881-1965), a leader in New Mexico's Suffrage movement and first female president of the Santa FE school system and Anna May Wong, (1905-1961), first Chinese-American Hollywood actress.

Unlike the Draped Bust, Capped Bust, Liberty Seated, Liberty Head and Standing Liberty quarters, the obverse of the Washington coin remained the same for 90 years, (1932 thru 2021) until it was finally changed in 2022 to Laura Gardin Fraser's original 1931 proposed version. The quarters types of our nation are a joy to behold and worthy as collectibles.

STEPHEN JAMES CSRA COIN CLUB Regular Meeting Thursday, August 4, 2022

President J.J. Engel, called the regular meeting of the coin club to order at 6:50 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the South Aiken Presbyterian Church (SAPC). There were 17 members in attendance.

Glenn Sanders won the member door prize drawing, a 2017 ¼ oz silver Mexican Libertad.

Jim Sproull reported there were many upcoming area coin shows in the summer months and the members could check in the SScanner publication of the SCNA for a complete list and the dates and places.

A motion was made by Willie Simon, and seconded by Andrew Goslen, to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the July 2022 meeting. A copy of the July Meeting Minutes will be on file with the other club records and one appears in the Club newsletter. Chuck Goergen reported that the Club's bank balance was \$1,718.63, and he would be giving Arno Safran a check for \$30 for Newsletter expenses.

Old Business :

Pat James, Coin Show Coordinator, reported that the table count so far was 16. She said that she is now contacting the area TV and radio stations asking them to list the coin show on their Calendar of Events for September. Pat left some flyers and bourse applications out on the reception table and encouraged members to take some and leave them at any area Coin Shows they may be attending. Pat also left worker sign-up sheets, and asked the members to please come help with the coin show, including distributing flyers to the local businesses. JJ Engel and Chuck Goergen noted that South Carolina had passed an open carry law going into effect on August 15, 2022, and there followed a discussion about this having an effect on the coin show.

Andrew Goslen will contact our host, SAPC, to learn its position as to whether SAPC will be allowing weapons on the church premises. The coin club will not allow weapons into the September 10th coin show, except that of the Security Officer, and will post appropriate signs notifying the public.

New Business:

: Pat James, Programs Chairperson, said in lieu of a program in September she was requesting that JJ Engel reported that he had reserved the

Columbus Hall for the club's holiday party on December 1, 2022. Everyone bring in an item of bullion from a private mint for an expanded Show & Tell. She said that an exception would be made for Chuck Goergen who collects ancient coins and the government mint restriction would not apply to him.

Show and Tells:

Sonia Hillman brought in a very dark U. S. large cent and wanted to ascertain the date. The coin was passed among the members, and it appeared to several members to be an 1800 coin.

Andrew Goslen shared some of the United States Mint quarters struck for general circulation at the West Point Mint with the "W" mint mark. The mintage of these quarters was limited thereby giving everyone the opportunity to collect rare coins from their pocket change.

Kelsey Forde brought in a 1923 Peace Dollar found in an old brief case and wondered what the grade was. After the coin had been passed around, it was the general consensus that the grade was F. Kelsey also shared two quite worn Buffalo nickels with dates 1917 and 1927, for which she didn't know the grades. After these coins had been passed around, it was the general consensus that the grade for the 1917 nickel was VG and the 1927 nickel would grade as G.

Chuck Goergen reported that he had noted that prices were up on the on-line auctions and also a significant increase of the selling commission to 20%. J.J. Engel remarked that cost of having coins graded had also increased significantly. Arno Safran noted the Numismatic News publication was a great source of current coin prices and had really good articles.

The Program:

Arno Safran presented the evening's educational program, a power-point program on collecting U.S. coins of interest for years ending in "2" from 1792 through 1972. He highlighted type coins starting with the 1792 Half Disme, or half dime, pattern coin.

Arno noted that in 1792 Congress established the United States Mint and began experimenting with coin designs. The half disme was a silver coin with a face value of five cents. The mintage is unknown but it is believed to be approximately 1500 with about 10% existing. Most surviving 1792 half disme show considerable wear; however, one specimen was graded MS-64 by PCGS and sold for \$420,000.

STEPHEN JAMES CSRA COIN CLUB
Regular Meeting Thursday, August 4, 2022

(Continued from the previous page)

Arno then proceeded to display a number of coins from his collection ending with the number two as detailed below:

- 1792** dated Gallery Mint Replicas similar to the copper & silver issues described in the previous column.
- 1802** Draped Bust dollar certified VF -35 by PCGS
- 1812**, a Classic Head Large cent certified AU-50
- 1822** a Capped Bust dime certified XF-40., also a Large size Capped bust quarter certified VF-35
- 1832** small size Bust Quarter certified XF-40
- 1842** a Petit Head large cent graded XF-40
- 1852** a Liberty Seated dime certified AU-55 by NGC
- 1862**, a Liberty Seated quarter certified XF-45
- 1872** a Shield Nickel certified mS-62 by NGC
- 1882** an Indian Head Cent. certified MS-64 Brown
- 1892** a Barber uncirculated dime, quarter & half
- 1902** a MS-64 Red Indian Head Cent.
- 1912** first year of the 1912 D & S BU Liberty nickels
- 1922** A BU Peace Dollar,
- 1932** a MS-65 Washington Quarter
- 1942** BU Year set with the both Jefferson nickels
- 1952-D** BU Franklin Half Dollar with full bell lines
- 1962** a 1962 Mint set
- 1972** a BU 1972-D Eisenhower Dollar and lastly, **(1932)** a BU Saint-Gaudens \$10.00 gold piece for the finale!

The members warmly applauded Arno's informative program, and President Engel thanked Arno for another of his excellent programs.

Jimmy Widener won \$20.00 in the 50/50 drawing. Fulfilling her promise to donate her frequently won 50/50 winnings, Pat James gave Andrew Goslen, a member of the coin club's venue host, the South Aiken Presbyterian Church, a check for \$50 to pass on to the church.

Sgt at Arms Jim Sproull, assisted by Jim Mullaney, conducted the monthly club auction.

President Engel reminded the members that the next regular meeting would be at 6:45 p.m. on September 1, 2022, in the Fellowship Hall at South Aiken Presbyterian Church, and then adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Mullaney, Secretary

A Lion's Tale By Dave Bailey



A 1797 George III "Cartwheel" Copper 'Tuppence'
 (Courtesy of Heritage Auctions Archives)

I have read recently that the price of copper and zinc may force us to say goodbye to our old friend, the cent, which has had a history of over two hundred years. The Mint claims that is losing money with every cent issued. There was a time when the opposite was true which resulted in one of the strangest coin issues in all of British history, and therein lies the tale.

Matthew Boulton was a man with a mission, as well as a vision. The Royal Mint had ceased production of copper coinage for over twenty years. This was at a time when industrialists needed small denominations to pay their workers. The only copper coins available were regal coins that were worn slick or lightweight counterfeits. It was time for Boulton to step up and solve the problem. Steam was the answer. Boulton had joined with James Watt at Soho, outside Birmingham, England. After spending several years perfecting the modern steam coin press, he attempted to obtain the Royal contract for copper coinage.

Finally, he was given the contract and started the famous 1797 cartwheel issue. Only one word could describe the coins! Massive! The penny weighed in at one ounce of pure copper and the two pence weighed in at two ounces. The coins were handsome as well as heavy with a bust of George III on the obverse and Britannia seated on the reverse. They were more than just good looking. They were technological marvels of the day. Boulton incorporated an outer rim to protect the design features and sunk the legends into the coin rather than raised; (i.e., incused). In addition, there was no doubt where it was made. SOHO was boldly stamped under Britannia's shield.

The issue was a tremendous success as it helped drive out not only the shoddy counterfeits but also gave the public the expectation of large copper for their low denomination coins.

In 1805 the price of copper soared and many of the recently minted SOHO issues were melted. Shopkeepers kept a few to serve as balance weights for scales since they weighed exactly two ounces. The cartwheels were also used at political rallies where they could be thrown at rival candidates, thus the term, "a cheap shot" One can hold a piece of the "Industrial Revolution" just by picking up one of these massive coins. Thank you, Mr. Boulton.

(Dave Bailey was a collector of British coins and tokens and served as former President of the Garden State Numismatic Association , ED.)

The Educational Bank notes, *Series of 1896*
(The third and final article in the Series)



The \$5.00 Educational Silver Certificate, Series of 1896
[Courtesy of Wikipedia] [Enlarge page to fill screen.]

The \$5 note represents

Electricity as the Dominant force in the World

The third and final silver certificate of the *Series of 1896* Educational notes was the \$5.00 denomination and it is perhaps the most artistically spectacular of all three. According to Gene Hessler, author of *the Comprehensive Catalog of U.S. Paper Money*, Walter Shirlaw's painting of the face of the note still hangs in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. He earned \$600 for his efforts which translates into the purchasing power of \$18,500 today. Thomas F. Morris made minor changes bringing out some of the key figures in the background.

On the back of the note, Morris also portrays a female head, (*presumably, his wife according to contemporary gossip*). It is centered atop the note between United & States just above the Roman numeral V. The portraits of Civil War Union Generals Grant and Sheridan were painted by Lorenzo Hatch. G.F.C. Smilie was the engraver.

While the B.E.P. printed more than 35 million of these notes, their tenure was short-lived allegedly due to the efforts of Anthony Comstock, Secretary of the *Society for the Suppression and Vice*. In 1897, it was suggested that additional clothing be added to the women and even a \$10.00 note was proposed but neither came to pass and these beautiful works of art on the three Educational Silver Certificates were replaced by *the Series of 1899*. As a result, the three educational notes have become very expensive with the \$1.00, "*History Instructing Youth*" being the most common, the \$2.00, "*Science presenting steam and electricity to Commerce and Manufacture*" less so, and the \$5.00, *Electricity as the Dominant force in the World* shown above being the most costly of the three across the grading spectrum. These three notes represented the wave of the future as the 20th century approached as the PC and the use of cyber space does today.

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