The SJCSRA Coin Club Newsletter

Volume 25, issue #9 **November 2026**

Founded in 2001 **Life Member** **Club Member**

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SJCSRA Coin Club
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Email: sjcsracoinclub@gmail.com

ANA Representative: Steve Kuhl
SCNA Representative: Steve Kuhl

Club meetings are on the 1st Thursday of every month at 6:30pm (doors open at 6:00pm) at the Oh Mie Stelle! Bakery, 969 Pine Log Rd, Aiken, SC

Message from the editor:

Welcome to the latest edition of the SJCSRA Coin Club Newsletter. The Holiday season is approaching. See the last page regarding the SJCSRA Club dinner to be held on Dec 3rd.

In this issue is an article by Garry Naples regarding the Carson City Mint. In The News is an article about a large Roman coin hoard found in Germany and another of a Viking find in Finland.

The topic of November's presentation is ***Electrum: The Birth of Coinage***

Help make this newsletter flourish. I encourage all members to write an article about your favorite numismatic topic and share it. Submissions are asked to be received by the 20th of each month to allow for editing and/or formatting.

The club has been actively updating our email contact list. Please notify Secretary Jim Mullaney at the club's email of all corrections, updates, missing names, new additions, etc.

Thank you,

Gene Belair

Political Intrigue at the Carson City Branch Mint

by Garry Naples

Supporters of the gold and silver standard were called Hard Money advocates. In the late 19th century both the government and corporations, particularly banks, could print money at will to use as legal tender. Such a practice caused inflation. Hard money advocates wanted currency to be 100% backed by existing gold reserves. Other interests wanted unlimited coinage of silver.

Bland Allison Act

The Act was the impetus to coin Morgan Dollars, but the backstory is that the Act was a compromise between gold and free silver advocates to require the Treasury to buy $2M to $4M of silver at market prices each month and coin silver dollars. President Rutherford Hayes vetoed the bill and his veto was overridden on February 28, 1878.

1885

Elected in 1884, Grover Cleveland sided with the gold standard advocates and believed coinage of silver would devalue the dollar. He unsuccessfully sought repeal the Act, but other opportunities soon arose. James Crawford, Carson City Branch Mint Director since 1874 passed away on March 5, 1885. That same day, the newly appointed Treasury Secretary announced the closure of the Carson City Branch Mint. William Gerrard succeeded James Crawford and the branch mint closed 15 days later.



James Crawford

Photo source: “The Mint on Carson St.”

It was not difficult to see why Carson City was not taken seriously. The population of US Mint cities were as follows:

San Francisco – 265,000
New Orleans – 250,000
Philadelphia – 900,000
Nevada – 50,000
Carson City – 4,500

Carson City 1885 Morgan Dollar Mintages:
Silver Dollar – 228,000

Survival estimate; 157,000 – 165,000
Uncirculated; 150,000 – 155,000
GSA Population; 148,285
Estimate of XF to AU; 3,000 – 5,000

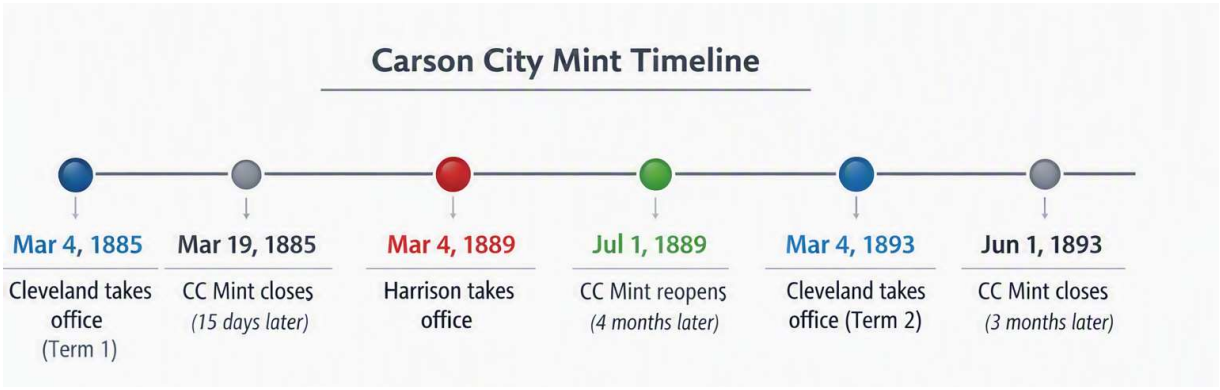
1889

In March 1889, Benjamin Harrison succeeded Grover Cleveland. Nevada Senators John P. Jones and William M. Stewart, silver advocates, supported Benjamin Harrison in his bid to unseat Grover Cleveland. Due in part to his support from Nevada, Benjamin Harrison was expected to repay Nevada in some way. The new Director of the Mint reopened the Carson City branch mint on July 1. Due to the dilapidated condition of the structure and machinery, four months of repairs began. The Carson City Branch Mint began producing silver dollars in October of 1889 and managed to strike 350,000. Double Eagles were again struck, realizing 30,945.

1893

With the defeat of Benjamin Harrison in 1892, again by Grover Cleveland, and Silver Party losses in other races, the end seemed inevitable at Carson City. Silver production was suspended mid-way through 1893 as a result. Treasury Secretary John G. Carlisle and Director Robert E. Preston seized the opportunity to close the Carson City Branch Mint for good on June 1, 1893, reducing its stature to an Assay Office. Despite this, Carson City managed to exceed production of silver dollars at any mint in 1893.

1893 Silver Dollar Mintage:
Carson City; 677,000
New Orleans; 300,000
San Francisco; 100,000
Philadelphia; 378,792





An 1885-CC Deep Mirror Proof-Like in the author's collection.
Photos by Garry Naples

Bibliography:

- The Mint on Carson Street, Rusty Goe, 2003, Publisher: Southgate Coins and Collectibles
- Curry's Chronicle, Spring 2010 edition; Garry Naples, Political Intrigue at Carson City, Nevada in 1873
- Wikipedia: Bland Allison Act

Editor's note: this article has been reformatted to fit this newsletter with the author's permission.

Editor's note: As an addendum to Garry's article above, below are the mintages of Silver Dollars during the Carson City Mint era.

Year	Philadelphia (P)	New Orleans (O)	San Francisco (S)	Carson City (CC)
1878	10,508,800	NA	9,774,000	2,212,000
1879	14,806,000	2,887,000	9,110,000	756,000
1880	12,600,000	5,305,000	8,900,000	591,000
1881	9,163,000	5,708,000	12,760,000	296,000
1882	11,100,000	6,090,000	9,250,000	1,133,000
1883	12,290,000	8,725,000	6,250,000	1,204,000
1884	14,070,000	9,730,000	3,200,000	1,136,000

Year	Philadelphia (P)	New Orleans (O)	San Francisco (S)	Carson City (CC)
1885	17,787,000	9,185,000	1,497,000	228,000
1886	19,963,000	10,710,000	750,000	NA
1887	20,290,000	11,550,000	1,771,000	NA
1888	19,183,000	12,150,000	657,000	NA
1889	21,726,000	11,875,000	700,000	350,000
1890	16,802,000	10,701,100	8,230,373	2,309,041
1891	8,693,556	7,954,529	5,296,000	1,618,000
1892	1,036,000	2,744,000	1,200,000	1,352,000
1893	378,000	300,000	100,000	677,000

Source: www.govmint.com

SJCSRA Club Meeting Notes from October 1, 2026

President Kelly Nordeen called the regular meeting of the coin club to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Oh Mie Stelle Bakery on Pine Log Road. There were 21 members attending. Former member Jerry Lipsky attended as a guest since he was visiting from Tennessee.

Steve Kuhl won the door prize drawing – a 2024 quarter-ounce silver Brittania.

Jim Sproull announced upcoming coin shows in the region.

Willie Simon made a motion which Rick Raffone seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the September Meeting Minutes will be on file with the other club records and the Minutes are also reported in the Club newsletter.

Chuck Goergen reported that our current balance is $6024.24.

Old Business:

Steve Kuhl reported that the SCNA annual elections were in progress – so check your mail for ballots. Steve also reminded us that the SCNA Convention will be in Greenville, Oct 28-31. Information is available on the SCNA website – www.sc-na.org. Steve and Kelly are also selling tickets for a gold coin being raffled off at the convention.

New Business:

Typhany Nordeen requested that anyone willing to develop a program for our club to let her know. She is in the process of scheduling programs for next year.

Plans were discussed for the club's Holiday Dinner coming up on December 3rd. A motion for the club to subsidize members meals by $10 was passed unanimously. See next month's newsletter attachment for more details on the dinner.

Chuck Goergen showed a portable camera setup that can be used to display Show & Tell items at meetings. A motion was passed unanimously for Chuck to obtain a similar setup for the club's purchase.

The program in November will be given by Chuck Goergen on Electrum – the birth of coinage.

Show & Tells

Chuck Goergen shared a recent procurement he made from the US Mint – Trump Dollars. 250,000 of the dollars were made with the July 4 privy mark, so the percentage of these dollars having the privy mark is much greater than the other denominations. Chuck found several with a privy mark in his mint purchase. Chuck also shared a silver 10-euro coin issued by the Spanish mint of and styled as a commemorative 8-real Pillar dollar from the Mexico City Mint.

Gene Belair had a set of counterfeit bullion coins he shared that he discovered were highly magnetic. Gene also shared a 3-coin set from France from his birth year – 1960 along with a set of Canadian half-dollars that featured four different coat of arms on the reverses as well as four different portraits of the queen on the obverse.

Program:

September's program was presented by Steve Kuhl titled ***HEY! YOU CAN'T DO THAT, CAN YOU!?*** The program provided information on South Carolina Provincial Government Currency, with a focus on the June 1, 1775 Issue. Steve discussed a period from 1769 to 1773 shortly before the revolution when the British governor of South Carolina was at odds with the SC Commons House over who had authority to issue money from the SC Treasury. He also summarized some key events over 1774 & 1775 as both a SC provincial congress and the Continental Congress were created and started taking actions. Steve related that the SC Provincial Government made five separate issues of currency – that included 44 different denominations. Interestingly the denominations were not based on British pounds, but on SC pounds that were initially worth one-seventh of a British pound. The SC currency experienced severe inflation during the Revolutionary War and lost 99% of its value by the time the British captured Charleston. Steve's presentation included some wonderful examples of Notes from this period and covered many interesting details on the Notes.

Don Reed won $15 in the 50/50 drawing.

Jim Sproull, assisted by Steve Kuhl, conducted the monthly club auction.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Mullaney, Secretary

IN THE NEWS

Amateur archaeologist finds Germany's biggest hoard of ancient Roman silver coins

By KIRSTEN GRIESHABER Associated Press
September 22, 2026, 9:03 AM

BERLIN: An amateur archaeologist who discovered several Roman silver coins in a field in western Germany realized he had stumbled upon something bigger when his metal detector kept beeping.

Oliver Riedl called the authorities for help and a group of experts who began digging immediately discovered a total of 934 Roman silver denarii. It is the biggest coin treasure ever found in Germany from the time of Roman Emperor Hadrian, the local office in charge of archaeological monuments said Tuesday. "It was clear to me that there was something bigger buried here," Riedl said, describing how his metal detector continued signaling even after he had found several coins near Wesseling, south of Cologne a year ago.

The hoard of coins, which weighs 3.1 kilograms (6.8 pounds), went on display at the LVR-Landes Museum Bonn on Tuesday. The collection of coins was probably buried deliberately in the second quarter of the second century A.D., according to the LVR Office for the Preservation of Archaeological Monuments in the Rhineland.



Photo source not noted in story but assumed to be by the staff at the museum.

"Of course, we can only speculate about the motives, but it's very likely that someone wanted to keep this money safe. After all, banks didn't exist back then," said Erich Classen, state

archaeologist and the director of the office. Classen said it wasn't clear why the treasure was never recovered before, adding that "perhaps the owner died before that could happen, without being able to pass on the knowledge about the coins."

Treasure troves from ancient Roman times or other distant eras are not uncommon. However, few from the second century are as extensive as the one found in Wesseling, the archaeological office said, adding that it was difficult to estimate the coins' value at the time. However, the pay of Roman legionaries, which is well documented in written sources, provides a point of reference.

"At that time, an ordinary soldier in the legion earned 300 denarii a year. However, about half of that was withheld for food and equipment," said Rahel Otte, a research associate at the archaeological office. "A legionary would therefore have had to save all of his disposable income for about six years to amass the Wesseling hoard," Otte said. She added that it remains unclear exactly who ultimately amassed this considerable fortune.

The Cologne area was under Roman control roughly from 39 BC to AD 459. The Romans established a presence in the region under General Marcus Vipsanius Agrippa to secure their empire's border along the Rhine River, setting up a military outpost which later became Colonia Agrippina — today's Cologne.

Man searching with metal detector unearths massive Viking Age fortune, shattering records.

Numismatics expert says the 4,000-coin find is a 'double hoard'

By **Andrea Margolis Fox News** Published September 25, 2026 8:00am EDT

A metal detectorist in Finland unearthed a massive Viking Age silver hoard estimated to contain more than 4,000 coins — the largest discovery of its kind ever found in the country.

The hoard, uncovered by metal detectorist Kalle Lappinen, was found near the village center of Sysmä, a town about 105 miles northeast of Helsinki. Lappinen discovered the hoard on Sept. 3 and promptly reported it to authorities. Archaeologists from Lahti Museums began recovering the silver the very next day.

The hoard consists of "thousands of silver coins, hack silver, a silver bracelet, a mount and a bead," according to a museum release. The hoard includes coins from present-day Sweden, Britain and Germany, as well as dirhams originating from areas that are now part of Turkey and Iran.

The recovered coins weigh approximately 10 pounds in total and are believed to date to between 1000 and 1050 A.D., as Lahti Museums archaeologist Esko Tikkala told Fox News

Digital. Tikkala oversaw the hoard's recovery. He said the dating remains preliminary and will be refined after the coins have been cleaned and thoroughly studied.

While Tikkala has excavated other Late Iron Age hoards in the region, he said the sheer size of the Sysmä discovery surprised him. "Instead of the tens or few hundreds of coins we usually encounter, this find contains thousands," he said.



A massive Viking Age silver hoard discovered near Sysmä, Finland, is estimated to contain more than 4,000 coins. (Esko Tikkala/Lahti Museums)

Even at this preliminary stage, Tikkala said the discovery adds to evidence that Sysmä was an important hub during the Late Iron Age, with trade connections extending in multiple directions. "Today, Sysmä might be regarded as a relatively modest and peripheral place, but judging from the Late Iron Age archaeological material, the situation seems to have been very different a thousand years ago," he said.

The hoard also contains more than twice as many coins as Finland's previously largest known Viking Age coin hoard, which was unearthed in Nousiainen in 1895 and contained approximately 1,700 coins, Tikkala added.

The identity of the hoard's owner has been lost to time, Tikkala said, though several theories exist about why the silver was buried. The coins and other objects were buried beside a low rocky outcrop in spots where they could have been relatively easily recovered, he added.

Why their owner never returned for the treasure, however, remains a mystery. "Perhaps a merchant buried part of his wealth for safekeeping so that he did not have to carry it with him,

intending to retrieve it the next time he returned to the area," Tikkala said. "Alternatively, it may have belonged to a wealthy local inhabitant who buried it because of the threat of conflict or an enemy attack," he added. "There are many possible explanations, and it is very difficult to determine what actually happened or who the owner was."



Archaeologists recovered approximately 10 pounds of coins believed to date to between 1000 and 1050 A.D. from the Finnish site. (Esko Tikkala/Lahti Museums)

Frida Ehrnsten, keeper of the numismatic collections at the National Museum of Finland, told Fox News Digital that the discovery could give researchers a new understanding of how silver circulated in the region roughly 1,000 years ago. "It's a very, very, very important new find that will in some ways probably change our perception of the Viking Age silver economy here," Ehrnsten said. Ehrnsten noted that researchers generally do not describe the people living in Finland during the period as Vikings — as Vikings came from Scandinavia, which does not include Finland — though the term "Viking Age" is used to describe the broader era and cultural context.

She said one of the most intriguing aspects of the discovery is that the silver was found in two separate deposits roughly 39 feet apart. "It's kind of a double hoard," she said. "We haven't really had any known examples of those from before." Ehrnsten also noted that hobby metal detectorists have played a major role in the surge of archaeological coin discoveries across Finland. About 25 years ago, roughly 7,000 Viking Age coins were known from Finland, she said. Today, that number stands at around 14,000. "Almost the whole body of this new material is made by people who go around searching [as] a hobby," she added.

Calendar of Events

Month	Dates	Shows	Locations & Contacts
Nov	*6 & 7*	*Midlands Coin Club (SCNA MEMBER CLUB)*	*The Medallion Center 7309 Garners Ferry Rd., Columbia, SC e-mail: MidlandsCoinClub@gmail.com*
Nov	*20 & 21*	*Augusta Coin Club (SCNA MEMBER CLUB)*	*Columbia County Exhibition Center, 212 Partnership Dr., Grovetown, GA; Contact: Steven Nix; 706-267-9602; fleetwoodcoins@hotmail.com*
		2027	
Jan	*7-10*	*72nd FUN Convention*	*Orange County Convention Center 9899 International Dr., Orlando, FL 32819 Katie Williams 407-404-1370*
Jan	*29-31*	*Low Country Coin Show (SCNA LIFE MEMBER CLUB)*	*Exchange Park Fairgrounds, 9860 Hwy 78, Ladson, SC Contact: Randy Clark, TwoBuckRandy@yahoo.com (843) 367-0141; www.lowcountrycoinclub.com*
Feb	*19-21*	*57th Annual Upstate South Carolina Coin Show (SCNA MEMBER CLUBS)*	*Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium 385 North Church Street, Spartanburg, SC 29304 WWW.UPSTATESCCOINSHOW.COM / WWW.CROWDPLEASER.COM*
Mar	*6*	*The Stephen James CSRA Coin Club, AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA (SCNA LIFE MEMBER CLUB)*	*South Aiken Presbyterian Church Gymnasium 1711 Whiskey Road, Aiken SC Steve Kuhl, scnanewsletter@gmail.com; 803-645-1769*
Mar	*19-20*	*Camden Coin Show*	*Camden City Arena 420 Broad St., Camden, SC 29020 Pascal Brock 803-438-2866 cambencoinclub@gmail.com*

SJCSRA Members Only BUY-SELL-TRADE

Listing items in this section is a MEMBERS-ONLY benefit of the SJCSRA Coin Club.

- Email your listing to sjcsracoinclub@gmail.com by the 23rd of the month for inclusion in the next month's newsletter.
- Listings will post for four months or until superseded by listing individual. Listings can be re-posted without change by email request.
- Listings can be up to a half page in length.
- Listings will be posted in sequence received with newest on top (may be rearranged for page breaks).
- Please keep all listings Numismatic in nature: coins, paper money, tokens, medals, coin supplies/books/catalogs/magazines/etc. No stamps, comic books, sports cards, etc.
- Disclaimer: not responsible for typos or errors. Always confirm availability/prices with the listing individual.
- Ads should be formatted as follows:

Member name (**contact method: phone/email**) **WANTED** or **FOR SALE** or **TRADE**
Detail description of item(s) for sale – wanted – trade. [date added]

Steve Kuhl (**803-645-1769) call or text** **FOR SALE**
60 years of Red Books!
DATES: 1957 - 2017 (minus the 1961 issue); Includes 10th, 20th, 30th, 40th, 50th, and 60th Anniversary editions.

- 45 Hardback in New / Gently Used Condition: 1957-1960; 1962-1996; 1998; 2000-2003; 2007
  - The 2007 60th Anniversary Issue is autographed by Ken Bressett
  - Red Book Collectible Pricing for just the Hardback books in condition: New: $352; VF: $193
- 15 Softback in various condition, from used to new: 1997; 1999; 2004-2006; 2008-2017

NEW LOWER PRICE: $100 or Best Offer.



[10/26]

Rick Raffone (313-378-9909) **FOR SALE**
Group of 26 US Mint Clad "S" Proof Sets from 1999 through 2024. The sets include the commemorative 25c and $1 coins. All are in their original mint boxes. $650 or Best Offer.

Group of 26 US Mint Clad "P&D "Mint Sets from 1999 through 2024. The sets include the commemorative 25c and $1 coins. All are in their original mint boxes/envelopes. $950 or Best Offer. [10/26]

Gene Belair (860-609-1041) **WANTED**
Buying (and Selling) the Coins, Tokens, Medals, and Currency of Canada. [10/26]

SJCSRA news

As voted on by the membership during the club's October meeting, the club has acquired an electronic video microscope. For those members who expressed interest in purchasing one, here is the info. Copy and paste the long text string into your browser.

https://www.temu.com/goods.html?_bg_fs=1&goods_id=601099853884317&parent_order_sn=PO-211-05225387172471591&add_order=1&_oak_order_sn=211-05225408143991591&_oak_goods_num=1&sku_id=17593595592367&_x_sessn_id=wzzwjj3cb9&refer_page_name=bgt_order_detail&refer_page_id=10045_1790960349641_f3ifoy25hf&refer_page_sn=10045



The Stephen James CSRA Coin Club

Aiken's Coin Club since 2001







Meets Monthly on 1st Thursday at 630 PM

at *Oh Mie Stelle!* Bakery, 969 Pine Log Rd., Aiken SC (Staples Shopping Center)

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DOORDASH



Stephen James CSRA Coin Club invites you to our DECEMBER Holiday Dinner Celebration

Thursday, December 3, 2026
6:00pm Social Hour in bar
6:45pm Dinner in Dining Rm
Friends/Spouses invited

Location
1037 Spaulding Drive
Aiken (off Dougherty)
Knights of Columbus Hall

$25pp members / $35pp guests
➔ **Must reserve & pay ahead**
➔ **Sorry,no drop ins <-**

Choose below: Steak Filet or Chicken or Salmon
Includes: Salad, Vegetable, Potatoes
Sign up to bring a dessert _____



PRINT Member(s) Name(s): **Total dollars**

_____

Guest _____ Total $ _____

Filet # Well_____ Med_____ Rare_____ **+$5 for steak**

Chicken # _____ Salmon # _____

Received check or cash will confirm your reservation
Make check out to ***SJCSRACC*** + include this form
Needs to be received **by NOVEMBER MEETING**
If not at November meeting, mail check (no cash) to:
Sharon Smoot 27 Windermere Way Aiken SC 29803
Call if questions: 803-642-1242
NOTE: Checks / Cash must be received by Sharon Nov 20!