

The SJCSRA Coin Club Newsletter

Volume 25, issue #6

August 2026

Founded in 2001	Life Member	Club Member
		
Club Officers President: Kelly Nordeen VP: Typhany Nordeen Secretary: Jim Mullaney Treasurer: Chuck Goergen Sgt. at Arms: Jim Sproull Show Chairman: Steve Kuhl Website: Susie Nulty Editor: Gene Belair	SJCSRA Coin Club PO Box 5562 Aiken, SC 29804 Web site: www.sjcsracc.org 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. I hope you're having a great Summer!

In this issue we examine the WWII coin issues of the U.S. and Canada.

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.

A reminder that club dues are \$15 and were due on April 1st. The by-laws require payment within 60 days (May 31st) to maintain good standing in the club.

Thank you,

Gene Belair

UNITED STATES and CANADA Circulating Coinage of WWII (1942-1946)

During World War II, metals were in critical need for use in armaments. Copper (bronze) and tin was needed for shells and cartridges while nickel was used in guns and armor; high grade steel for ships and tanks; and aluminum for airplanes. To assist the war effort, the US and Canada treasury departments revised the composition of their base metal coins (as did many other countries in Europe).

USA small cents of 1943 to 1946

In 1943 the US mint changed the composition from bronze to zinc-coated steel blanks for the cents. This saved approx. 3,750 tons of copper. Put in different terms: a bronze cent weighed 3.11 grams while a 30 carbine rifle empty cartridge weighed 2.48 grams. With a mintage of nearly 1.094 billion coins, the saved copper made about 1.200 billion cartridges.

From 1944 to 1946, spent cartridge cases were salvaged and recycled to make the blanks for the cents. These coins appear to have a slightly lighter shade of red (more yellow) in uncirculated condition due to the high brass content.

The war years cents were minted in huge quantities and can be had today for between \$5 and \$30 in MS65 condition. There are some extremely rare examples of wrong metal strikes for 1943 + 1944 with values from \$35,000 to \$600,000. (Beware of copper plated 1943s and zinc plated 1944s.)



1943-D on zinc plated steel

1944-D on salvaged cartridge

(Photos from PCGS CoinFacts)

USA five cents of 1942 to 1945

In late 1942, the composition of the five cents coin was changed from copper-nickel to 56% copper, 35% silver, and 9% manganese. This resulted in a savings of approx. 2,900 tons of nickel or the equivalent of 99 M4 Sherman tanks.

To mark this change the US Mint added a large mint mark over the dome of Monticello. This was the 1st use of the letter P on US coins. MS65 examples of all dates and mints can be had for between \$13 and \$50 with "Full Step" examples commanding significant premiums.



Philadelphia



Denver



San Francisco

(Photos from PCGS CoinFacts)

Canada five cents of 1942, Tombac issue

The Canadian government decided to change the composition of only the five cents coins. In 1942, the pure nickel blank was changed to a durable brass compound called Tombac (88% copper and 12% zinc). The weight remained 4.54 grams but the diameter increased from 21.21 to 21.30mm. The coin had the same design elements of the previous year, i.e. George VI facing left on the obverse and a beaver on the reverse.



(Photos from PCGS CoinFacts)

In 1943, the reverse was redesigned to incorporate the V for Victory theme made popular by Winston Churchill. In 1946, the reverse design reverted back to the beaver. See the article below by Steve Kuhl originally published in the SCNA's SScanner Newsletter in 2020.

Gene Belair

References:

- Yeoman, R.S. *The Official Red Book, A Guide Book of United States Coins* (79th ed), Whitman Publishing, 2026
- PCGS *TruView* and *CoinFacts*, Collectors Universe, 2026
- Wikipedia for mintages and weights.
- Kauntz, J. *A Charlton Catalogue of Canadian Coins, Vol. 1, Numismatic Issues* (78th ed), 2026

Fact Sheet – 1943 - 1945 Canadian “Victory” Nickel

“We Win When We Work Willingly”



1943 – 1945 Canadian Victory Nickel.

<https://www.ngccoin.com/price-guide/world/canada-5-cents-km-40a-1944-1945-cuid-1034444-duid-1257935>

- Struck from 1943 to 1945
- During World War II demand for copper and zinc was high
- 1943 Cents made of Tombac – a type of Brass
- 1944 & 1945 coins made of steel and plated with nickel and chrome.
- Small number were not chrome plated and have a duller appearance.
- Dodecagonal (12-sided) shape

- First non-standard circulating Canadian coin (other than commemorative dollars)
- Obverse: Bust of King George VI, facing left
- Reverse has “V” for Victory and the coin’s denomination; Flaming torch in front of “V”
- Denticles on Reverse replaced by Morse code phrase: "We win when we work willingly".
- Design re-used in 2005 to commemorate 60th anniversary of V-E Day.
- Reverse was engraved to scale (most coins engraved at large scale and then reduced.)
- Inexpensive Coin. NGC Values: MS-60: \$2.50; MS-63: \$6; MS-65: \$80
- Tombac Coins worth a bit more. Exception: Only known 1944 Tombac:

Year/Mint	Denom	Mintage	Find it on eBay	PrAg	G	VG	F	VF	XF	50	53	55	58	60	61	62	63	64	65	66
1944(no mint mark)	5 Cents	11,532,784	Shop Now!	\$ -	0.10	0.20	0.20	0.50	0.90	1.30	-	-	-	2.50	-	-	6.00	-	50.00	-
1945(no mint mark)	5 Cents	18,893,216	Shop Now!	\$ -	-	0.10	0.20	0.40	0.80	1.30	-	-	-	2.50	-	-	6.00	-	80.00	-

1944 – 1945 Steel Canadian Victory Nickel Values

<https://www.ngccoin.com/price-guide/world/canada-5-cents-km-40a-1944-1945-cuid-1034444-duid-1257935>

Specifications – 1944 – 1945 Canadian 5 cents

- Mintage:
 - 1944: 11,532,784
 - 1945: 18,893,216
- Alloy: Steel, plated with nickel (.0127 mm) and Chromium (.0003 mm)
- Weight: 4.54 grams
- Diameter :
 - Opposite Corners: 21.3 mm
 - Opposite Sides: 20.87 mm
- Edge: Plain / Smooth
- Mint: Royal Canadian Mint
- Designed and Engraved by:
 - Obverse: T. H. Paget, Thomas Shingles
 - Reverse: Thomas Shingles



1943 Canadian Victory Nickel – Tombac
<http://www.coinsandcanada.com/coins-prices.php?coin=5-cents-1943&years=5-cents-1937-1952>

1944 Canadian Victory Nickel – Missing Chrome Layer.
<http://www.coinsandcanada.com/coins-prices.php?coin=5-cents-1945&years=5-cents-1937-1952>



Year/Mint	Denom	Mintage	Find it on eBay	PrAg	G	VG	F	VF	XF	50	53	55	58	60	61	62	63	64	65
1943(no mint mark)	5 Cents	24,760,256	Shop Now!	\$ -	0.10	0.20	0.30	0.40	0.80	1.80	-	-	-	3.50	-	-	12.00	-	150.00
1944(no mint mark) 1 known	5 Cents	8,000	Shop Now!	\$ -	-	-	-	85000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1943 – 1944 Tombac Canadian Victory Nickel Values

<https://www.ngccoin.com/price-guide/world/canada-5-cents-km-40-1943-1944-cuid-1034481-duid-1270165>

Editor's Note: the values for these coins have changed very little since 2020. Reference: *Canadian Coin News Trends* dated July 14, 2026.

Sources:

CoinsandCanada.Com:

<http://www.coinsandcanada.com/coins-articles.php?article=world-war-ii&id=381>

Numismatic Guaranty Corporation:

<https://www.ngccoin.com/price-guide/world/canada-5-cents-km-40a-1944-1945-cuid-1034444-duid-1257935> and

<https://www.ngccoin.com/price-guide/world/canada-5-cents-km-40-1943-1944-cuid-1034481-duid-1270165>

Steve Kuhl

Sad news:

Margareta Cashin, wife of Dave Cashin, has passed. They have supported our show over many years. Margareta's illness has been years-long, and finally overcame her. Please pass along and keep David and their family in your thoughts / prayers. Below is the note David sent out.

"Just wanted to let you know that Margareta passed away this past Wednesday, July 22. God was faithful to His promises. He allowed me to have her at home to the very end and I was able to pray over her as she was departed to the arms of her savior. We'll be having a funeral on August 7. Blessings!

Dave Cashin"

Funeral arrangements: Dunbar Funeral Home – Northeast, 4219 Hard Scrabble Rd, Columbia, SC. As of this writing no date/time has been posted.

SJCSRA Club Meeting Notes from July 2, 2026

Treasurer Chuck Goergen called the regular meeting of the coin club to order at 6:30 p.m. There were 15 members attending. Steve Kuhl won the door prize, a 2024 ¼ ounce silver Britannia.

Jim Sproull announced upcoming coin shows in the region.

JJ Engel made a motion which Willie Simon seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the June 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 \$6175.24.

Old Business:

The start time for our club meetings has been changed to 6:30, effective as of today's meeting.

Steve Kuhl reminded us that there will be educational seminars at the SCNA October Convention in Greenville. Information is available on the SCNA website – www.sc-na.org. This year there will be two one-day seminars: Introduction to Coin Grading and Introduction to Currency Grading. There will also be a two-day seminar on Intermediate Coin Grading. See the SCNA website for details on these seminars.

New Business:

There was a general discussion about the nation-wide search for the special July 4th quarters that the mint had placed directly in circulation. The mint produced 250,000 coins with a unique "July 4" privy mark and inserted them in widespread circulation. Since these coins were placed in random rolls and bags, they cannot be ordered from the mint and you just need to keep an eye on pocket change.

Show & Tells:

- Gene Belair – he noted that the club's fantasy note he'd obtained at the March show was actually an error note in that the stamped reverse spelled the club's website incorrectly. Unfortunately this error does not result in scarcity since all the notes were stamped the same. Gene also shared info on non-round liberty bell coins being offered by the mint. The premium prices on these coins are staggering. Finally, Gene shared an item he'd had for years that he'd failed to include in his recent program on

Newfoundland coins. The item was a 2-oz silver medal commemorating the 25th anniversary of Newfoundland joining the Canadian federation.

- David Anderson – shared a 2026 silver proof set including this year's Semiquincentennial coins
- Chuck Goergen – shared a scarce 1893-S Morgan dollar in a well-worn condition.

Program:

July's program was presented by Jim Mullaney titled *Acknowledging the Artists Behind the Coins*.

The program was prompted by Steve Kuhl's observation during his recent program that the mint was sometimes unclear about who the designer or engraver of a particular coin was, specifically for the Semiquincentennial coins. Jim used that observation as the starting point to delve into the general topic of artists initials appearing on coins. He included the most infamous example of artists initials on coins causing controversy – the 1909 VDB Lincoln cent. For the US cent he pointed out that the Brenner's initials were restored to the cent design in 1918 and remained in a less noticeable location on the obverse up until the final circulating cents in 2025.

Jim covered how placing engravers initials on coins was a relatively common practice from the earliest years of our country and even occurred colonial days. Also, examples were provided of this same practice being common in other countries, include Britain and Canada.

Jim's program also included an overview of the coin authorization, design, and production process in the digital age. Because of the speed and efficiency of the digital engraving process, each individual artist can produce engravings of several dozen coins in a single year. In recent years, coins are commonly engraved by an artist different from the one that designed that particular coin. Because of this two pairs of initials are frequently seen on both the obverse and the reverse of recent coins.

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

Respectfully submitted,

**Jim Mullaney,
Secretary**

Calendar of Events

MONTH	DATES	SHOW	LOCATION
Jul 31	Aug 2	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
Aug	28 & 29	Sumter Coin Club (SCNA MEMBER CLUB)	FRI: 11 AM - 6 PM; SAT: 9 AM - 4 PM Saint Mark Banquet and Conference Center 2320 Four Bridges Road, Sumter SC CONTACT: sumtercoinclub@gmail.com
Sep	18 & 19	Camden Coin Club, Camden SC (SCNA MEMBER CLUB)	Camden City Arena, 420 Broad Street Camden, SC camdencoinclub.com ; camdencoinclub@gmail.com 803-713-5311
Oct	2 - 4	68th Annual NCNA Convention & Coin Show	Cabarrus Arena & Events Center 4751 Highway 49 North, Concord, North Carolina 28025 Contact: Perry Siegel, (704) 488-4787; herakles@herakles-inc.com
Oct	10	PEE DEE Area Coin Club Show (SCNA MEMBER CLUB)	SiMT Building Florence-Darlington Technical College 1951 Pisgah Road, Florence, South Carolina 29501 Contact: Pat Patton, 803-403-5607 or 843-413-9373 http://peedeearcoinclub.com/
Oct	29 - 31	SC Numismatic Association's 54th Annual Convention & Coin Show and AUCTION! SHOW DAYS: THURS, FRI, & SAT.	TD Convention Center 1 Exposition Drive, Greenville, SC 29607 Bourse Chairman Marc Kosanovich Phone: 864-275-3204 mksan5173@aol.com
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

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

Price: \$150 or Best Offer.



[8/26]

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. [8/26]

Gene Belair (860-609-1041)

WANTED

Buying (and Selling) the Coins, Tokens, Medals, and Currency of Canada. [7/26]

IN THE NEWS

Jim Sproull submitted this interesting tidbit from the Dec. 4, 2024 issue of The Marrietta Times, Parkersburg, WV.

What Serial Number is on that paper money?

A businessman, Calvin Westfall, in Parkersburg, WV is \$10,000 richer because he checked the serial numbers on paper money from the two soda machines in his place of business. After emptying the cash from the vending machines, he was going to give some bills to a friend. Fortunately he decided to check the serial numbers first. One bill was a Series G Federal Reserve Note minted in 2013 which had a serial number of G000000011. As the first bill minted, it should never have been released from the Mint. In Uncirculated Condition it would have been worth about \$15,000. Nevertheless checking serial numbers was very profitable for this individual.

Editor's comment: Obviously written by a non numismatist. Currency is printed not minted and it is issued by the BEP (Bureau of Engraving and Printing) not the US Mint. However, both entities are bureaus of the US Department of the Treasury.

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)
www.aikencoinclub.com /  Aiken Coin Club



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