

SVCC

— NEWSLETTER —

MAY, 1987

VOLUME II, NO. 5

SACRAMENTO

SCENE

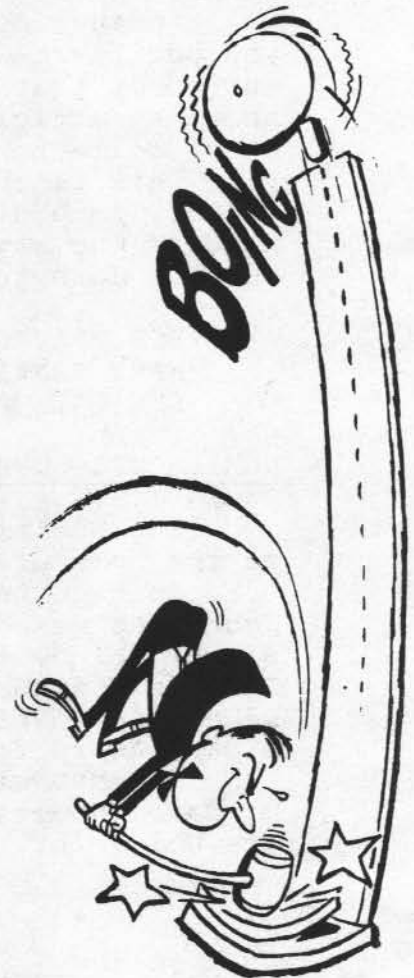
ATTENDANCE SETS THREE YEAR RECORD!

What a bellringer! 59 members and guests packed the meeting room at our April 22 meeting. This was the highest attendance at an SVCC regular meeting since March 28, 1984!

A steady influx of new members is largely responsible for the recent strong attendance. We recently increased the numbers of tables and chairs so that the room will now accommodate up to 80 people. Let's see if we can reach that number by the May 27 meeting!

EDUCATIONAL MEETINGS

Ron Miller and Vince Lacariere drove up from Fremont for the SVCC meeting of April 22. Ron gave us a program entitled "U.S. Coins: Quality and Rarity", which was very well received by the large crowd mentioned above. Ron's talk was informal and covered a variety of subjects. He discussed different methods of collecting coins, his background as a collector and dealer, and his favorite pursuit - California merchant tokens. After his presentation, Ron spread out a tantalizing display of numismatic delicacies, including a Gobrecht dollar, a 1916/16 Buffalo nickel, and an immaculate 1814 large cent.



When the club offered to pay Ron for coming, he declined and suggested that we buy a good book for the club library instead. Thank you, Ron Miller!

Jerry Carsman will tackle the most sensitive of numismatic topics in his presentation to be given at the May 27 meeting. Jerry's program is entitled "The Grading Controversy". This is one subject that collectors cannot study enough, so plan on being there.

NOT THE BEST, BUT WE'RE TRYING

The ANA is currently holding a contest for the Best Newsletter of the Year for 1986, with winners to be announced at the ANA convention in August. The eleven issues of your SVCC Newsletter which were published last year have been submitted as an entry in this contest.

Another opportunity to mention that there are many of you out there who have knowledge in a specialized area of our hobby that you should share with others. Jim Hart, how about an article on tokens? Larry McDilda, the way to convert other collectors to Canadian coins is to get them interested!

This is the sixteenth issue of the SVCC Newsletter and so far, in addition to your editor, there have been only six members who have contributed articles! The honor roll appears below. Join this list and you will feel better!

BOB TRAVIS
MARY TRAVIS
BEN GAY

JACK FROST
STEVE BARDIN
CHARLES BLIM, JR.

NUMISMATIC STUDY GROUP

The Numismatic Study Group (NSG) held its seventh meeting at the home of John Gomer on April 21. The main topic was the U.S. Coinage Designs of John Reich. The discussion was led by John, who also presented a display of the Reich designs for silver coins, together with examples of William Kneass' copies. Also in attendance were Bob Travis, Dave Showers, and Bob DeCesaris. Pete Prince was declared winner of the Plugged Nickel Award for missing the meeting because he forgot about it!

The NSG will hold its next meeting on May 19 at the home of Dave Showers, where the subject will be The Early Days of the U.S. Mint.

* * * * *

NIMBLE-FINGERED NUMISMATIC NAVIGATION WILL GET YOU TO
OUR NEXT MEETINGS:

* * * * * MAY 27 * * * * *

* * * * * JUNE 10 * * * * *



LOCAL NUMISMATISTS ATTEND

CSNA SHOW IN SAN FRANCISCO

by Bob Travis

The meeting place was the Burger King parking lot in Davis. The appointed hour was 8 a.m. Our plan was to car pool to San Francisco for the CSNA annual spring show at the Cathedral Hill (nee Jack Tar) Hotel. We did reasonably well this time. John found Davis on the first try. You may remember that at the San Jose show in January he made it to Vacaville before realizing that he was past Davis. Ben also found us without any trouble. In fact he was there early enough to find the croissants and coffee before we arrived. Then there's Pete Prince. Next time we plan to leave at 8:00, we're going to tell Pete to be there at 7:30. Anyway, shortly after 8:00 we were on the road.

Our first order of business was to talk Ben out of eating that croissant so we could stop for breakfast. No problem: as soon as we mentioned breakfast, he started naming good restaurants along our route. We settled on Muffin Treat, on Ben's recommendation, and we all enjoyed a good breakfast. That is except Pete. Pete claims he doesn't eat breakfast, but the rest of us assumed he was conserving funds for the show. John felt sorry for him and shared several sausage patties and most of his toast. I can highly recommend this place. They know how to cook eggs. I insist that eggs be cooked until they bounce. . . They did. Once the important things were out of the way, we were on our way to San Francisco. We arrived at the Cathedral Hill shortly after the bourse opened and we were soon on the floor. This is not a large show, so it was easy to keep track of each other during the day. John was easy to find. It's always the same -- just look for Sheridan Downey's table and the nice Bust halves. Ben was also easy to keep tabs on -- just look for the action. He was doing a lot of wheeling and dealing. In contrast, Pete and I kept a low profile. Neither of us had much cash to part with, so we did a lot of window shopping and tire kicking. I did manage to complete my Seated Liberty type set by locating a nice 1870 dime. (Note to Julie: Pete didn't buy anything)

Our breakfast wore off fairly early, so by noon we were enjoying buffalo (actually, it's bison) stew and other assorted goodies at Tommy's Joynt, a Hof Brau across the street from the show. That is except Pete. Seems he was still "stuffed" from eating so much of John's breakfast. Actually lunch was probably the highlight of the day. However, all good things must come to an end, so after an hour or so we ambled back to the show.

I found the exhibits most enjoyable. One that I especially appreciated was a complete set of Seated Liberty half dollars from the San Francisco Mint. The display was attractively arranged and contained considerable information. Also included

was an example of the 1878-S half dollar. Although Mint records indicate that 12,000 were struck, only 30-40 survive. There were several other nice exhibits, but the Seated Liberty halves were my favorite. Too bad there is not enough interest to add exhibits to our shows. They add a lot of class.

We had planned to leave by 3 p.m. to beat the traffic, so after enjoying the exhibits, I went back for one last go-around on the bourse floor. One thing that I noticed is that nice, high grade circulated (EF-AU) early coins, copper through Seated Liberty, are difficult to locate. Actually they have been disappearing for several years, but now they are especially tough. I was looking for any EF/AU Seated dime between 1860 and 1872. I was able to locate only a single problem-free EF-40. Remember, this show attracts many of the "big name" dealers from around the country. I was also looking for some common late date (1849, 1855) large cents in EF-AU. They were not to be found.

By 3:00 we were ready to call it a day, so we set out to beat the traffic. Ever try to beat the traffic out of San Francisco on a Friday afternoon? Fortunately, cool-headed John was behind the wheel, so we had a pleasant ride home. We managed to slip in a coke/smoke break at Fairfield and I was back in Davis by 5:00.

I think we all had a good day. I know I did. We did some reminiscing about our trip to Long Beach last fall and it looks like we'll try that again soon. This is a great way to spend a day. . . or two. . . or three. It sure beats working.

* * * * *

POSTSCRIPT TO THE ABOVE ARTICLE:

It was a fun show, to be sure. I surprised myself by buying only one coin for \$35.00, but spending nearly \$100.00 on books! (I did see a 1794 half dollar I could have bought for \$2,000, but my wallet ran away, screaming in terror.)

You might think that the only topic of conversation on these trips is coins. Not so. On this particular journey, we discussed the following subjects, to name but a few:

home repairs	the stock market
baseball	food
precious metals	the weather

We even tell jokes:

Husband to his wife, after a passing bird has deposited the contents of its bowels on his shoulder:

"Honey, will you get me a little toilet paper, please?"

Wife: "Why, dear, that bird is probably a mile away by now!"

Editor

A HOARD OF GOLD COINS UNEARTHED IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Press reports state that on March 28 a pot of gold coins was unearthed on an estate near Chester, S. C. The face value of the coins is said to be \$6624. The coins were dated from 1830 to 1881, with many of them dated 1856. The number of coins of each denomination is given as follows: \$20, 30; \$10, 113; \$5, 307; \$2.50, 44; \$3, 4; \$1, 37. It is reported the gold was taken to the Federal Reserve Bank in Charlotte, N. C., where it was exchanged for paper money.

A PROSPECTIVE BUYER'S VIEWS ON COMMEMORATIVES.

It cannot be denied that commemorative coins have done more to stimulate coin collecting than anything else, but the flood of prospective issues can also be detrimental to numismatics. New collectors won to numismatics by the commemorative series can easily become "soured" by too many issues. If the newly won collector is confronted with unwarranted disappointments he is quite likely to lose interest and sell his collection, instead of becoming a lifelong numismatist that would be an asset to our hobby.

DEALERS!

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By DAVID M. BULLOWA

82 BOWERY, New York City.
A. KOSOFF

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--- and ---
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United States Coins

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- 1851 New Jersey Farthin \$1.90
- 1722 Rosa Americana Per 2.25
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- 1722 Woods 1/2 Penny, tyj 3.75
- 1760 Woods, Bust of Helj .50
- 1723 Woods 1/2 Penny, ve .85
- 1737 Connecticut Threepee 60.00
- 1785 Vermont Cent, good 4.00
- 1786 Vermontensium, ver:11.00
- 1787 Vermont, Brittainia, 1.75
- 1788 Vermont, very good 2.50
- 1788 Massachusetts cent, 1.00
- 1786 New Jersey cent, go 1.00
- 1787 New Jersey cent, go 1.00
- 1788 New Jersey cent, go .80
- 1787 New York Eagle cer 9.00
- 1789 New York, Mott tok 4.00
- 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lev 1.30
- 1787 The Fugio Cent, got 1.75

Barney Bluestone
167 E. Onondaga St., Syracuse, N. Y.

CHOICE UNC. U.S. ROLLS

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- very good 385.00
- fine 1450.00
- 1797 UNCIRCULATED Write
- 1801 Very good 74.50
- 1802 Extremely fine 275.00
- 1803 Small 3, fine 44.50
- 1803 Large 3, very fine 75.00
- 1805 Over 4, very fine 95.00
- 1805 Very fine 42.50
- 1806 Over 5, extremely fine .. 99.50
- 1806 Over Inverted 6, very fine .. 175.00
- 1807 50 Over 20, nearly unc. 89.50
- 1807 50 Over 20, fine 22.50
- 1808 Over 7, very fine 22.50
- 1808 Nearly unc 37.50

It is unfortunate for both the dealer and the collector that there are no hard and fast rules by which to grade the condition of a coin. Various systems have been designed, some of which have not been without merit, but the insurmountable factor of personal opinion will never permit everyone to see eye-to-eye in deciding the comparative merits of each coin. This difference is of small importance if you buy your coins from dependable catalogers who have experience, integrity and good eyesight.



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7th Edition	3.00	5.00
8th Edition	3.00	5.00
9th Edition	2.25	3.50

Sixty-one members and guests enjoyed the Christmas party held by the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society at its 550th meeting in December. All of the incumbent officers were re-elected for another year except board member J. Sam Norwood who had resigned due to travel plans. His place was filled at the election by Miss Maxine Bryce. It was announced that Mrs. Harry Cutler and her lodge had tied for first place in the national contest.



EMPIRE COIN COMPANY, INC.

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GOLDEN GLOW COIN CLEANER





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AD

SECTION

OPEN NOW: River City Coin Shop. Coins, bullion, supplies. All SVCC members receive 30% off on all supplies. 10487-A Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova, CA 95670, (916) 361-9570.

WANTED: 1937 gold coin of any country. Also, Arkansas Commemorative in XF condition. Call Art Shattuck at (916) 924-5998.

WANTED: Someone to show me, before or after our meeting, how to identify large and small date Lincoln cents. Al Albietz: 428-9497.

WANTED: United States Marine Corps items, such as tokens, medals and postcards relating to same. Will buy, sell or trade. Dan Jacobson, P.O. Box 7101, Sacramento, CA 95826-0801.

UNSURE whether your California Fractional Gold Tokens are original or imitations? I appraise and buy both fractional gold coins and original gold tokens. Also want U.S. large cents in EF or better condition. Ship to: D. Showers, P.O. Box 2420, Woodland, CA 95695.

MILITARY PAYMENT CERTIFICATES - U.S. military currency used overseas from 1946 (Series 461) to 1973 (Series 692). Denominations are 5¢ to \$20. Write/call/bring to SVCC meeting. Nick, Box 60104, Sacramento, CA 95860, (916) 486-8720.

WANTED: Coins of Japan. Call Ben Gay at (916) 726-5334.

BUYING: Complete year sets of The Numismatist: 1888-1913, 1915-1936, 1938, 1940-1946. John L. Gomer, 3445 American River Drive, Suite D, Sacramento, CA 95864 / (916) 486-8755 days / (916) 487-9667 eves.

WOULDN'T YOUR AD look good in this space? If you are a paid SVCC member, send in your ad and it will appear in this Newsletter, which is distributed to 100 SVCC members and 35 coin clubs and organizations in Northern California and Nevada. Sacramento Valley Coin Club, P.O. Box 160122, Sacramento, CA 95816.

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N O R T H E R N C A L I F O R N I A

S H O W C A L E N D A R

June 13-14: Gateway Coin Club of Merced County 13th Annual
Coin Show, Merced Mall, West Olive between R &
M Streets, MERCED

August 2: Fremont Coin Club annual coin show, Elk's
Lodge, 38991 Farwell Drive, FREMONT.
BOURSE: Vince Lacariere, P.O. Box 1401,
Fremont, CA 94538

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READER SURVEY

Please complete the following and deliver or mail to: John L.
Gomer, SVCC, P.O. Box 160122, Sacramento, CA 95816. Your input
will be greatly appreciated.

The following features have appeared in the SVCC NEWSLETTER from time
to time. Please rate them by number: 5 - Excellent; 4 - Very Good; 3 - Good;
2 - Fair; 1 - Poor.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| ___ SACRAMENTO SCENE | ___ ARTICLES ABOUT TRIPS TO COIN SHOWS |
| ___ COMMON KNOWLEDGE | ___ NORTHERN CALIFORNIA SHOW CALENDAR |
| ___ NUMISCELLANY | ___ BOOK REVIEWS |
| ___ EDUCATIONAL ARTICLES | ___ CLASSIFIED AD SECTION |
| ___ RECOMMENDED READING | ___ TRIVIA TIME |

What do you collect? _____

What is your favorite section of this newsletter? _____

What would you like to see in this newsletter? _____

The SVCC NEWSLETTER is published monthly by:

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John L. Gomer



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SVCC meets at 7:30 P.M. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month at:

SMUD Service Center
5026 Don Julio Blvd.
North Highlands, CA