

The Cincinnati Numismatist

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December 2018



The next meeting of the Cincinnati Numismatic Association will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, December 14th, at Coins+, located at 225 East 6th Street in downtown Cincinnati. This meeting is our annual Christmas dinner and children's charity auction. This year we will enjoy a catered dinner. Bring a dessert to share. The building is closed in the evenings so members need to arrive between 7:00 and 7:30 p.m. or the doors will be locked. If you arrive later than 7:30, a phone number that you can call will be listed on the door.

Inside this issue:

Collecting Toned Mercury Dimes	4
Silver Dollars North of the Border	5
Club News	6
Membership Application	7
Coin Show Schedule	8

2018 Christmas Coins

From around the world

By Santa's Elves



To celebrate the 200th anniversary of Silent Night the Austrian Mint has issued a 20 Euro 2/3 ounce silver commemorative coin. Entitled Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht in the original German, Silent Night has been translated into 300 different languages and dialects. It was even sung in the trenches of the Western Front during the Christmas truce of 1914 and has been recorded by countless artists ranging from the Vienna Boys choir to toxic twin Joe Perry. Silent Night was played for the very first time on Christmas 1818 at the Church of St. Nikola in Oberndorf near Salzburg.

The coin features a coloured, glow-in-the-dark star of Bethlehem that shines down on the chapel on the obverse. The coin is available from the Austrian Mint (www.muenzeoesterreich.at/eng) for €59.40 (\$67.65).

2018-2019 Meetings

<u>Date</u>			<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Date</u>			<u>Presenter</u>
September	14th	Friday	Ext. Show & Tell	January	11th	Friday	Colin & Debra Feitl
October	12th	Friday	Kip Wills	February	8th	Friday	Joe Boling
November	9th	Friday	Michael Sullivan	March	8th	Friday	Fred Schwan
November	26th	Monday!	Canceled	April	13th	Saturday	Annual Dinner
December	14th	Friday	Annual Charity Auction & Christmas Dinner	May	10th	Friday	Stephen Petty



From the UK the Royal Mint offers "The official Royal Mint Christmas coin. The 2018 Christmas Nutcracker £5 Brilliant Uncirculated Coin" at £12.95 (\$16.81). The coin is packaged in a purple and gold foiled greeting card with space to add your own personal message. It is also available in an advent calendar with gold-foil wrapped chocolate coins and, behind the final window is the Nutcracker Christmas coin.

The Royal mint also offers the 2018 issue of the annual Silver Six Pence. This is the coin the Brits put in their Christmas pudding on "Stir up Sunday". It also comes packaged in a purple and gold foil greeting card and sells for £14.95 (\$19.41) and can be purchased through the mints' website, www.royalmint.com.



The Swiss mint is selling a 2018 Christmas uncirculated set that includes a medal. The set includes 2018 Swiss circulation coins with a medal depicting a trumpet-blowing Christmas angel. The coins in the set have a face value of 8.85 Francs and sells for CHF 40.00 (\$39.93). The set is limited to 2,500 pieces. www.swissmint.ch



Swiss 2018 Christmas uncirculated set that includes an angel medal.

The Royal Canadian Mint has, as you might expect, a multitude of coins and medals with a Christmas theme selling from as low as \$21.95 CAD for a two dollar base metal example to the \$129.95 CAD fine silver ultra-high relief coloured coin – Christmas ornament!



High relief "ornament" coin. Below: Silver & Murano glass coin



The Royal Canadian Mint has a rather spectacular silver and Murano glass coin that sells for \$152.95 CAD. "Expertly handcrafted by Italian glassmakers, each Murano glass reindeer is unique to each coin. With an outstanding amount of details on such a small scale, your reindeer is testament to the centuries-old techniques that have made Murano glass such a highly prized art form. "

The Australian Perth mint has a one dollar denominated coin minted as legal tender for Tuvalu, It sells for AUS \$ 104.55 (\$75.28). Perth mint description: "The star



Bugs Bunny and girlfriend Lola star on the Perth Mint coin

shaped coin's reverse features Bugs Bunny, one of the best-known animated characters of all time, and his girlfriend Lola as they embrace beneath a sprig of mistletoe. The design includes the inscription SEASON'S GREETINGS and The Perth Mint's traditional 'P' mintmark" Peculiarly, the Perth mint website notes the coin as legal tender in Tuvalu and Australia! www.perthmint.com

Like the Royal Mint the Perth Mint also sells a silver sixpence for your Christmas pudding. In this case it comes in a red and gold bag with three vintage sixpences and six threepences. It sells for AUS \$ 26.82 (\$19.31)



Here in the United States, Littleton Coin Company has a 2018 U.S. Coin Christmas Card for \$9.95 or \$45.95 for five cards. Each card's cover contains five uncirculated 2018 coins. One each: Lincoln cent, Jefferson nickel, Roosevelt dime, National Park quarter and Kennedy half. Inside the card is a holiday greeting and room for your own personalized message.



The company also has created a 2018 Colorized Christmas Coin Ornament for \$12.95. A colorized 2018 Kennedy half dollar shows a chickadee perched on a branch with snow-covered berries. The coin is enclosed in a capsule with a mount



at the top for a ribbon to hang as a Christmas tree ornament.

SilverTowne, of Winchester, Indiana, has among its offering of Christmas silver rounds this "2018 Holiday Train Depot Silver Round and Silver American Eagle two piece box gift set" at \$48.10.



The Educational Coin Company has assembled a set of 6 ancient coins pertaining to the Nativity of Jesus Christ. The set comes in an attractive wooden display box.

The company describes the set as: "This remarkable collection features three coins issued by rulers associated with the Nativity—Caesar Augustus, Herod the Great, and Azes II, believed to be the Eastern king who sent the Magi to Beth-

lehem—as well as Aurelian and Constantine the Great. Rounding out the set is a small bronze coin struck during the reign of Alexander Jannaeus, one of the last Jewish kings before the Roman annexation of Palestine, known as "mites."

"All coins in each set are protected in an archival capsule and beautifully displayed in a deluxe case. The box set is accompanied with a story card, certificate of authenticity, and a black gift box."

An internet search found the set available from many different sellers for as low as \$299.99 and as high as \$455.00.

There are countless silver and bronze Christmas rounds and bars of every description available from scores of sellers. Some religious, some secular, some colorized, some with a space for engraving and most come in a capsule with a hole at the top for a ribbon or hook so it may be hung on a Christmas tree. Maybe something that we elves have pointed out will create a treasured Christmas memory for someone on your Christmas list.



First Days of Christmas: Box of 6 Ancient Coins Pertaining to the Nativity of Jesus Christ from the Educational Coin Company features three coins issued by rulers associated with the Nativity

Collecting Toned Mercury Dimes

By Isaiah Hageman

Collecting toned Mercury dimes can be harder than it appears at first glance. There are many different types of toning available, which range from very subtle to brilliant rainbows of color arcing across the coin. Third-party grading, when added to the mix, brings another

of these dimes had very slight toning, which was usually tan, brown, or orange. There were a few rare examples that had beautiful toning, and were priced accordingly.

Beautifully toned Mercury dimes command a large premium.

fields.

Another example of this large price jump is an NGC MS66 “Fatty” holder 1942 dime. It had a variety of beautiful colors on the reverse. This coin was for sale at a Buy It Now price of \$250.



dimension to collecting. You could choose between different grading services, and even slab type.

I have had the opportunity to view hundreds of toned coins at coin shows around the Midwest; however, I rarely see a beautifully toned Mercury dime. They are far apart and few in between. Most toned dimes are a tan/brown color, and a few have some subtle arcs of reds and blues.

Upon searching “toned mercury dime” on eBay, I found 312 results for toned dimes certified by PCGS, NGC, ANACS, or ICG. Most

A 1944 Mercury dime in a PCGS MS66 holder with a green bean (a green CAC sticker) was for sale at a Buy It Now price of \$295.

Greysheet for that coin is \$25, and Bluesheet is \$22. The green CAC adds approximately \$10, which makes the total value of this coin \$35.

Why was that dime at a price point that was \$200 above Greysheet? The answer is mainly eye appeal. The beautiful rainbow arcs of red, green, blue, and some gold graced the reverse. On the obverse, mottled reds and yellows covered Liberty’s bust and surrounding

I own one toned Mercury dime, a 1943-D graded MS64FB by PCGS. It also has a TrueView photo, which is pictured in this article. It has amazing reds, yellows, and blues on the obverse. The reverse features orange and yellow all over the fields. This coin cost me a large premium over the price of a regular blast white dime.

Toned Mercury dimes are a joy to collect. They command a premium, but can be worth the money if you enjoy naturally colorful coins. As always, have fun with your hobby!

Silver Dollars North of the Border

By Mark Benvenuto

The collector hype for United States silver dollars has been steady for decades, with hefty prices for high-end Morgan and Peace dollars becoming almost common news. It seems to have become routine that some major name auction puts up a crown jewel of a silver dollar that commands prices most of us can only dream of – at least in terms of bidding. So it may seem odd to think that there is an entire series of silver dollars which is reasonably priced, and for which there are some relatively low mintages. There is such a series, though. It's the silver dollars of our northern neighbor, Canada.

The first of the Canadian silver dollars

In one of those just plain odd coincidences, Canada got into the silver dollar arena the same year the United States got out of it, 1935. Canada produced a 0.800 fine silver dollar that year honoring the silver jubilee of King George V's reign on the British throne. It might have gone down in history as a one-year



wonder, except the very next year the design was reprised, but this time with different obverse legends.

Curiously, despite the good king having his royal noggin placed front and center on the obverse of

these first two years of Canadian silver dollars, the coin is generally named for the reverse – for they are known as the voyageur dollars. The reverse image, that of a Native American and a European trapper paddling a canoe, has become an iconic one for Canada. The voyageur dollars would last through quite a few changes in what would become a large, long-lived Canadian dollar coin program.

These earliest two Canadian silver dollars have mintages that are far smaller than most of the Morgan dollars. But in a great bit of news for collectors new to the series, the prices remain quite low. Perhaps this is because there are not as many collectors of Canadian coins as there are of U.S. Perhaps there is some other reason. But whatever the back story is, the important point is that something like \$50 - \$60 will still land us a sharp looking specimen of either of these two early silver dollars.

From George V to George VI



It was George VI who ended up gracing the Canadian silver dollar after only two years. The new George, as it were, would stay on these big coins up to 1952, which means there is a short series right here that we could collect. But what



may make this stretch of time interesting for some collectors is, this is where the first true commemoratives come in, at least in terms of dedicated reverse designs. A royal visit to Canada was commemorated in 1939, and Newfoundland's admission as a province into Canada was commemorated in 1949. The voyageur reverse returned after each commemorative year, but these two become the earliest entries into an interesting subset of these dollars.

To be fair, there are a couple of dates within the George VI span of years that we can consider rare, like the 1938, the 1945, and the 1948. They will cost more, if any of us are trying to assemble a full date run. But a person can leave these few out and still put together a rather attractive looking set of dollars of which they can be proud. The series doesn't have to be defined by the rarities within it.

Elizabeth takes the throne

The lady who is still on the throne in Britain today took the job in 1953, and has been on the obverse of Canadian dollars in one image or another ever since. It is a very young Elizabeth who can be found on the silver dollars from 1953 to 1964; and yes, in that time there are



a couple of further commems that could be added to that just-mentioned pair.

In 1965, the design was changed, showing a more mature queen, now wearing a tiara. While



this image remained on them up to 1989, the biggest change came in 1968, when the silver disappeared from Canadian silver dollars. From this point on, "silver" dollars would be nickel dollars. There is a great deal of nickel mined in Canada, and it was probably the obvious and logical choice at the time, as far as what metal to switch to.

Perhaps the most interesting aspect of a collection of just the Elizabeth Canadian dollars is their price. There are no real rarities within the series, and all of the actual silver dollars were produced in large enough quantities that they are quite inexpensive today. Certainly, if you are shooting for high end mint state examples, perhaps slabbed by some reputable third party grading service, the prices will rise significantly. But for those of us who don't mind raw coins, or coins in grades such as AU or even EF, the Elizabeth silver dollars can be a refreshing change from the prices associated with U.S. silver dollars.

End of the silver, 1968

A chapter in Canadian numismatic history closes with the change from silver to nickel, and the corresponding reduction in mass

and diameter of the new coins. But that doesn't mean a collection has to be stopped there. After all, the design went on until 1987 and the in-



roduction of the bronze-colored loon dollar. A person could easily decide that a collection of nickel "silver" dollars might be a worthwhile pursuit. It certainly is an inexpensive one, as the coins are not only a base metal, but generally made in large enough quantities that we can in many cases snag them from well-stocked dealers for just a few dollars.

All things considered, Canadian silver dollars have a lot to offer us. If we have gotten to the point where the U.S. silver dollars we do not have are those we can not afford, maybe it's time to look north of the border. Some great silver dollars await.

Club News Christmas Dinner Meeting is on Friday December 14th

Many thanks to Michael Sullivan for his presentation on "Early U.S. Dollars" at the November meeting. Michael gave a very thoughtful discussion on collecting early American dollars. His sensible approach to setting parameters for such a collection might be used as a method for many other series.

The Christmas Dinner Meeting is on Friday December 14th. Save the date! This is our annual Christmas dinner and children's charity auction. We will also have a limited number of items up

for auction for the club's benefit. This year we will have a catered dinner. Members are encouraged to bring desserts to share.

Any item is accepted for the auction, numismatic or not.

Dues notices for 2019 were included with the November issue of the newsletter. This is earlier than when dues notices have been sent in the past. This will help in collecting dues in a more timely fashion. If you have already paid or have paid for some number of years in advance

you will receive a thank you for pre-paying instead of a dues notice. Dues notices are not issued for life members. You can save time and postage by paying for multiple years of dues in advance or you can convert to a life membership for \$175 and never have to pay dues again!

We are looking for presenters for meetings for 2019. Share your passion with the club! Every numismatic subject can make a good presentation.

Membership Application

Pass this Membership Application on to a friend!

Since 1930, the Cincinnati Numismatic Association has been the gathering organization for coin collectors and other numismatic related specialists in the Cincinnati area. Its purpose has remained the same to foster knowledge of numismatics and a fraternal spirit among those who pursue the study of coins, currency, tokens, medals, and ex-onumia.

The organization meets once a month, on the second Friday at 7:30 pm and some additional Mondays at 7:00 pm. The Friday meeting location is at Coins +, 225

East 6th Street in downtown Cincinnati on an upper floor of the building. Monday meetings are held at the Groesbeck branch library located at 2994 West Galbraith Road. Cincinnati, Ohio 45239. The Groesbeck Branch is on Galbraith Road, approximately a quarter of a mile east of the intersection of Colerain Avenue and Galbraith Road.

Our meetings consist of numismatic talks or discussions, grading seminars, digital presentations, exhibits, and a dinner held every April. Club dues for adults are \$10 annually. Dues for Juniors are just

\$3 a year. This is certainly one of the best values in numismatics.

Membership in the Cincinnati Numismatic Association includes a subscription to its monthly publication, *The Cincinnati Numismatist*. In 2006, 2007, 2016 and 2017 the publication received first place in the ANA's competition for Outstanding Local Numismatic Publication.

The Cincinnati Numismatic Association has its roots in its long history, but strives to serve the needs of the collectors of the future.

I hereby make application for membership in the CNA and agree to abide by the constitution and bylaws of the said association.

☐ 3 year membership (\$29)

☐ Life membership (\$175)

☐ 1 year membership (\$10)

☐ 1 year Junior member (\$3)

Print Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ (home)

_____ (work/cell)

Email: _____

Signature: _____

Sponsor (optional): _____

Signature: _____

(DO NOT FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING LINES)

Member Number: _____

Date Paid: _____

BOG Approval: _____

BOG Approval: _____

Make checks payable to the Cincinnati Numismatic Association.

Mail application and payment to: CNA, PO Box 446, Miamitown, OH 45041

CINCINNATI NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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Vice President: Bill Bennett
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The Cincinnati Numismatic Association was founded in August of 1930 and consisted of thirty-five members including numismatic notables such as B. Max Mehl and Farran Zerbe. The first CNA President was Herbert A. Brand. The CNA was founded for the purpose of hosting the 1931 American Numismatic Association convention. Since then the CNA has hosted the ANA convention three more times, in 1942, 1980, and 1988. The CNA also hosted the 1998 ANA Spring show.



The Cincinnati Numismatist

is an ANA award-winning publication

Numystery

By: Colonel Green

This month's Numystery:

What coin do Brits traditionally bake into their Christmas pudding on "Stir up Sunday".

Numystery answer:

A silver sixpence

Coin Show Schedule

Monthly

Cincinnati Greenhills Show
American Legion Hall
Winton Rd, Cinti, OH
Last Sunday
10:00 am - 3:30 pm

Monthly

Columbus Coin, Stamp & Card
Show, Makoy Center, 5462 Center
St., Hilliard, OH 10 am - 4 pm
Third Sunday, over 18 \$2 admission
drich@columbus.rr.com

December 14th-15th

Indiana State Numismatic Association Annual Coin Show & Convention Indianapolis Marriott East Hotel & Convention Center in Liberty Hall. 7202 East 21st Street in Indianapolis, Contact Vinton G. Dove 317-910-4205. See more show info on page 4.

January 4th-13th

The 47th Annual NYINC will be

held at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, located at 109 East 42nd Street, New York, NY 10022, between Park and Lexington Avenues. The Grand Hyatt also enjoys a direct indoor connection to Grand Central Station, the terminal point for commuter lines of the Metro North System. Our dates will be Friday, January 4, 2019 through Sunday, January 13, 2019, with bourse activities taking place Friday-Sunday, January 11-13, 2019. 115 Dealers all world and ancient numismatic bourse area, Public admission is \$20 for a three day pass valid throughout the event. Children 16 and under with an adult are admitted free of charge.

January 10th-13th

Annual FUN Convention, Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, Florida Thursday 10:00-6:30, Friday 10:00-6:30, Saturday 10:00-5:30, Sunday 10:00-3:00 Contact: Cindy Wibker 407-321-8747

February 1st-2nd

55th Annual Knoxville Coin Show (sponsored by the Fort Loudon and Smokey Mountain Coin Clubs) Rothchild Catering, 8807 Kingston Pike. 50 tables, Contact: Don Rhodes, phone 865-806-9320, e-mail dlrrhodes@att.net; or Jim Dezzutti, phone 865-414-4783, e-mail dezzuttij@yahoo.com.

March 28th-30th

ANA National Money Show, David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Hall B, 1000 Fort Duquesne Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15222, Thursday 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Want To Be Published?

If you have an article that you would like to have published in the newsletter, **PLEASE** mail it to; C.N.A., PO Box 446, Miamitown OH, 45041 or email to cincycoins@gmail.com