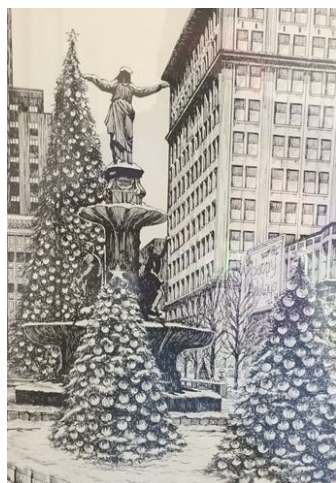


# The Cincinnati Numismatist

Volume XC, Issue XII

December 2020



*The next meeting of the Cincinnati Numismatic Association will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, December 11th. You will be able to attend this meeting from the comfort of your home through the Zoom application. Members will receive an email invitation and meeting password.*

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## 2020 Christmas Coins

### From around the world

By Santa's Elves



ints all over the world produce special coins every year for Christmas. Let's take a look at a few examples for 2020.

The royal Canadian Mint has sold out of their one ounce silver colored "Murano Holiday Cookies" coin pictured above. 5500 of the pieces were minted and

sold for CAD\$139.95. Layered on the surface of the silver coin are cookies made from Murano glass. Because the glass is handcrafted no two are exactly the same. The designer is Pandora Young. The obverse features the standard effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II by Susanna Blunt. Santa would be sure to appreciate this "plate of cookies" instead of the same old plate of real cookies and milk that he finds left for him in thousands of homes on Christmas eve.

## 2020-2021 Meetings

Date				Presenter			
October	9th	Friday	Extended Show & Tell	February	12th	Friday	Open
November	13th	Friday		March	12th	Friday	Open
December	11th	Friday	Annual Christmas meeting and Charity Event	April	17th	??day	Annual Dinner?
January	8th	Friday		May	14th	Friday	Open
				June	??th	Friday	Open

From the land down under the Perth mint offered another in their series of annual star shaped coins. This silver one ounce colorized beauty sold for AUS\$118.18. The design features native flowers and Yellow Robins. Only 1500 were minted and they have sold out.



The Swiss mint has a 2020 mint set in special Christmas packaging. This gift idea combines the 2020 circulation coins with a shiny Christmas medal. Unfortunately we cannot buy this set. According to the Swiss mint website, "Swissmint CANNOT accept any foreign orders for its numismatic products, due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic." Oh well, maybe they will have an after Christmas sale!



Gibraltar has issued Christmas Commemorative coins since 1988. That 1988 50 pence Christmas coin sells for north of \$100 today. This year's issue will also include a £2 coin which is sold with a Christmas card like the 50 pence piece. These coins seem to be hard to find here in the states. They are available on eBay in the UK.



1988 Gibraltar 50 pence Christmas Commemorative

Looking for something magical this Christmas? How about a Harry Potter one ounce silver colorized proof \$2 coin from Niue. There is no magic needed to find this coin. Several large online bullion dealers have them starting at \$89.95 in the original packaging.



The Canadian mint marketed this one ounce silver "Matryoshka Coin - Father Frost" for the Solomon Islands. It too has sold out with a mintage of only 5,000. It sold for CAD\$139.95. Maybe they ran out of themes for their own commemoratives?

The Canadian mint's website describes the design as follows.

*"The reverse of your coin presents the egg shaped version of Santa in a wonderful frosty look. On top of the reverse, the inscription: "2020"—the year of issue. On the bottom, the inscription: "Ded Mopo3"—the name of the coin. The obverse of the coin depicts the effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the inscriptions: "ELIZABETH II"—the name of the Queen, "SOLOMON ISLANDS"—the issuing country, "\$5"—the face value and "1 Oz Ag 999"—the weight of the coin and the fineness of silver."*







The Royal Australian Mint celebrates the festive spirit with this 2020 fifty cent piece. The design is inspired by Australia's official floral emblem, golden wattle. Of course the obverse features the effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. It comes mounted in a card in your choice of five colors! That's important if you collect Christmas coin presentation cards...or whatever they are called. The coins are legal tender in Australia and will only set you back AUS\$10 each. If you buy Five of them the mint will ship them to you free, even to boys and girls in the U.S.!

Our cousins at the Royal Mint in Great Britain offer their iconic silver sixpence. In Victorian times, families would place a sixpence into their Christmas pudding mix and it was said that whoever received it when the dish was served would enjoy good luck in the year ahead. In 2016 the Royal Mint introduced a new decimal version of the classic coin in the form of a sterling silver sixpence piece and have minted this special Christmas coin every year since then. It comes packaged in a gift box and sells for £30.00. Maybe adding one of these to your collection will inspire you to make a Christmas pudding this year.



The Osborne Mint right here in Cincinnati offers this one ounce .999 silver round design that celebrates Hanukkah and the Festival of Lights. This festival is dedicated to reclaiming the Holy Temple in Jerusalem in the second century and the subsequent miracle. A single pot of olive oil, a one-day supply, lasted for eight days! The Osborne round showcases this tradition with a beautifully designed menorah featuring a Star of David in the center and candles branching out on each side. A simple and yet meaningful design. It sell for \$38.50

The back design is the same as the other silver rounds in their holiday collection. It features an image of wings with a shield in the center of them and a flag flying above. A ribbon under the wings says USA while a cityscape circles underneath. .999 Fine Silver is at the top, with One Troy Ounce at the bottom – denoting the purity and weight. The O/M mint mark is also on the reverse.



The final item in our Christmas coin review is a "Hobo Nickel Coin Eisenhower dollar as Santa Claus engraved by J&M Tarantula" This interesting Christmas coin is available on eBay along with a number of other HoBo nickel style coins of various denominations featuring a Santa Clause design.

The seller offers them as a limited edition run of one hundred pieces and with random dates. "Each coin is hand carved one at a time with only hand tools I made myself and a pair of reading glass." Each one comes in a 2 x 2 coin holder and with a certificate of authenticity. Each one is hand numbered, dated and signed on the reverse.



# New Jewish-American Hall of Fame Medals

## Commemorate Olympic Swimming Champion Dara Torres

By Mel Wacks

Cincinnati's Skirball Museum, on the campus of Hebrew Union College, is the home of the Jewish-American Hall of Fame Medal Collection. The entire collection was put on view in 2019, and portions of it will be exhibited in the future. Mel Wacks, Director of the Jewish-American Hall of Fame, recently sent examples of the latest medals to the Museum, to keep their collection up to date.

The 2020 Jewish-American Hall of Fame high relief art medals honor Olympic multi-medal winner, swimmer Dara Torres. JAHF supporters will be given the limited edition, large 2-inch, 3 oz. art medals: bronze (105 made, \$50 contribution), pure silver (60 made, \$200 contribution), and gold-plated pure silver (35 made, \$250 contribution). **Members of the Cincinnati Numismatic Association can take a 20% discount.** Orders can be sent to JAHF, c/o Mel Wacks, 5189 Jeffdale Ave., Woodland Hills, CA 91364 or call 818-225-1348; The Jewish-American Hall of Fame produces the longest continuing series of art medals being issued anywhere in the world.

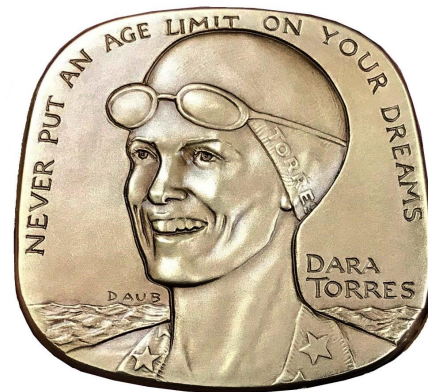
The Jewish-American Hall of Fame's first female sports star is Olympic swimming champion Dara Torres. Torres competed in five Olympic Games, winning 12 medals. In her first Olympics, in 1984, she won a gold medal for the 100-meter relay. She went on to compete in the 1988, 1992, 2000, and 2008 Olympics, winning five medals in 2000, more than anyone else on her team. In 2008, the oldest-ever Olympic swimmer at age 41 (having given birth only a year earlier), won two silver medals for 100-meter medley relay and 50-meter freestyle, breaking the American freestyle record she had set at age fifteen.

Over the course of her career, Dara won four gold, four silver, and four bronze medals at the Olympics and broke the American record speeds for 50-meter freestyle ten times, more than any American swimmer in any event. Among multiple Olympic medalists, Dara is in 15th place worldwide (including both men and women), in 4th place among Americans, in 2nd place among American women, and in 1st place among all Jewish Americans.

Dara Torres entered her first international swimming competition at age 14. Over 20 years later, at the Beijing Olympic Games in 2008, Dara became the oldest swimmer to compete in the Olympic Games. When she took three silver medals home — including the 50-meter freestyle race where she missed the gold by a

heartbreaking 1/100th of a second.

Dara was the first female athlete ever to be featured in the Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Issue, and in 2009, won the ESPY award for "Best Comeback." To add to her accolades, Dara was also named one of the "Top Female Athletes of the Decade" by Sports Illustrated Magazine and, in 2010 her book, "Gold Medal Fitness: A Revolutionary 5-Week Program" became a New York Times Best-Seller. In 2019, Dara Torres was inducted into the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Hall of Fame.



Dara's likeness was created by the renowned American sculptor Eugene Daub — using an interesting sculpting technique reminiscent of ancient Egyptian sunken reliefs — whereas a portion of the portrait is below the surface and part of it is raised. The reverse was designed by Mel Wacks.





# The Story of a Coin

By Bob Heeg

Any collector understands that the story behind an item is an intrinsic part of the value we place upon it. Ask anyone who collects coins to tell their favorite story and you will see the collector come out in all their glory. Nothing beats a good story.

I have a few stories but for two coins in particular, the story is very compelling. Here is the story of one of those coins.

Few coins evoke adventure like the 8 reales coin or "pieces of eight" sought by the pirates in the new world. I bought one back in 2008 and in so doing bought my best coin story.

"Few coins evoke adventure like the 8 reales coin or "pieces of eight" sought by the pirates in the new world."

In the sixteenth century the Spanish had set up a mine in Potosi, Bolivia in their quest for silver and gold. The gold and silver mines were manned by indigenous slave labor - a very hard and short life. The silver that became my coin was handled by that slave labor.

Then the raw ore was smelted in Potosi again by slave labor and formed into roughly round shapes. The most important marking on coins made in the new world was the Assayer's mark. It was a guarantee of fineness and weight. My coin bears the assayer mark "Q", the mark of Augustin de la Quadra who was the assayer in Potosi from 1613 to 1616. My coin was held by Augustin and stamped by him, by hand, somewhere between those three years.

Then it was dispatched to Spain to King Philip III. The trip started by loading pack animals with all the coins, including mine, and driving the animals to the coast - about 300 miles. There they were loaded on ships and sailed to the isthmus of Panama where they were again loaded onto pack animals and driven across the isthmus to the Atlantic Ocean. There, my coin was loaded onto a ship and sailed to Cuba. Once there my coin and tons of other coins were loaded onto the treasure galleon, Nuestra Señora de Atocha (Our Lady of Atocha).

There were also more than 260 souls onboard. On September 6, 1622, while on its journey to Spain the Atocha hit rough weather around the Florida Keys. Imagine finding yourself out to sea and the weather gets worse and worse over the course of hours. At some point all on board knew they were sailing into a hurricane and that it was likely their last day on earth. I wonder if my coin heard their prayers or screams as the ship went down.

And there my coin laid, on the bottom of the shallows near the Florida keys for 363 years until July 1985. Mel Fisher had searched for the Atocha for 16 years and lost a son and daughter-in-law in the process. Undeterred, Mel recovered tons of coins in short order. These first batches of treasure got the attention of others and soon the Spanish government, the state of Florida and the Federal US government all laid claim to my coin (and many others).

This resulted in the first coins brought up to be impounded and locked in a jail cell in Florida where they were meticulously catalogued and sat pending litigation. I know my coin was among those in jail because all the coins were given a serial number with an SR in it. My coin's serial number is 75A-SR896.

Once the litigation was over, Mel took his share and started selling it. Then it came to me.

What a journey this coin had from slave labor to minting to traveling by animal and ship to the Atocha, to the bottom of the sea for 363 years, to jail, to Mel Fisher and finally to me.

Wow, what this coin has seen!



Here is a picture of this piece of eight

## Club News

Many local and national coin shows have been cancelled. Check the show schedule on page eight.

The Christmas meeting and children's charity challenge is on Friday December 11th. Since we can not meet in person our Christmas meeting will be very different this year. There will not be an auction or dinner but we can still challenge each other to help children and their families in need. We have as a club held an auction at our Christmas meeting benefitting Children's charities. In recent years, that charity has been the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Cincinnati. The local institution just completed a major building project creating the largest Ronald McDonald House in the world!

This means that they will be serving more families than ever before and be, in greater need of the communities help.

So let's all pull together and make a pledge to this worthy cause. Either make a donation directly to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Cincinnati or send a check made out to the club to be included with other donations and sent to the charity as a group donation. Send checks to:

C.N.A.  
P.O. Box 446  
Miamitown, OH 45041

Every member who donates will be in a drawing for one of our club's 90th-anniversary copper medals.



Dues notices for 2021 were sent with the newsletter a couple of months ago. This is earlier than when dues notices have been sent in the past. This will help to collect dues in a more timely fashion and will be the standard going forward. Memberships not renewed by January 1st will lapse.

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!

If you accepted the challenge of writing an article for the newsletter by taking a challenge envelope and are having difficulty identifying the item or researching it, don't hesitate to ask for some help. Send an email to the editor, David Heinrich, and he will assist you.

## Free Coins, Medals, Tokens, Banknotes...

You can add a free numismatic item to your collection. Sealed envelopes containing a coin, medal, token or banknote will be available for the taking. All you have to do is agree to write an article for the newsletter about the item you receive. All of the pieces have been photographed so you can include photos in your article.

Included with your mystery item will be an information sheet that includes the item's weight and diameter or in the case of a banknote the width and height and the item's photo identification numbers.

As an added incentive, one or two of the items will have some intrinsic value. That's right, there will be a little bit of treasure "buried" in among the plain brown envelopes.

Will you be brave enough to take the challenge? What will you learn? What will you add to your collection, a foreign coin, a medal commemorating a historical event, a banknote from a far away land or time?

There is no specific length required for your article, it just needs to be long enough to tell the story.

If you would like to participate send an email to [cincycoins@gmail.com](mailto:cincycoins@gmail.com) and one will be mailed to you. All envelopes are unmarked and sealed ahead of time as a group so no one knows what's inside.

The program has resulted in multiple articles for our readers to enjoy,



Watch for articles to appear in future issues of the newsletter. Why not give it a try?



# 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 exonomia.

The organization meets once a month, on the second Friday at 7:30 pm. The meeting location is at Coins +, 225 East 6th Street, in downtown Cincinnati on an upper floor of the building.

Our meetings consist of numismatic presentations given by numismatists from among our membership and from other experts in their fields from around the country. Show and tell and light refreshments are also part of our meetings.

We have a group dinner held at a local restaurant every April. December marks our annual Christmas dinner meeting and charity auction benefiting local children's charities.

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, 2017, 2018 and 2019 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. Give us a try!

*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

President/Editor: David G. Heinrich  
Vice President: Bill Bennett  
Recording Secretary: Deborah Lewis  
Assistant Editor: Isaiah Hageman  
Treasurer: David G. Heinrich  
Webmaster: Tom Lanter



ANA  
Member  
Club

### Newsletter contact:

David G. Heinrich  
PO Box 446  
Miamitown, OH, 45041  
cincycoins@gmail.com

### Dues & Membership Contact:

David G. Heinrich  
PO Box 446  
Miamitown, OH 45041  
cincycoins@gmail.com

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 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 phrase was omitted from the Canadian coinage of 1911?

### Numystery answer:

*DEI GRATIA (God's grace) meaning that the king ruled by the grace of God*

## Coin Show Schedule

### Monthly

Cincinnati Greenhills Classic Coin, Currency, Stamp, Jewelry & Watch Show, American Legion Hall, 11100 Winton Rd, Cinti, OH  
Last Sunday, 10:00 am - 3:30 pm  
numismaniaofohio@gmail.com

### 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  
**RE-OPENED IN JUNE**

### Editor's Note

*This schedule was accurate at the time of printing but as you know things are changing on a daily basis.*

### December 4th & 5th

The 62nd Annual I.S.N.A. Coin Show Indianapolis Marriott East Hotel **Cancelled!**

### January 7th-10th

The 66th annual FUN Convention will be at the Orange County Convention Center, 9800 International Dr., Orlando FL 32819, North/South Bldg Hall SB, Orlando, Florida. The show in January is renowned for being the bellwether event on the numismatic calendar. With over 1500 dealers, Heritage Auctions, exhibitors and over 10,000+ of the most avid collectors, the FUN show kicks off the year on a high note. Make your plans early to attend this monumental numismatic event! More information at [www.funtopics.com](http://www.funtopics.com).

### January 8th-17th

The 49th 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, Jan-

uary 8, 2021 through Sunday, January 17, 2021, with bourse activities taking place Friday-Sunday, January 8-17, 2021. 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.

### 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](mailto:cincycoins@gmail.com)