Cincinnati Numismatic Association 90th Anniversary 1930-2020

The Cincinnati Numismatist

Volume XC, Issue VII

July 2020



The next meeting of the Cincinnati Numismatic Association will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, July 17th. 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. The meeting may also have a simultaneous in person component as well.

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Grading Nickel Three Cent Pieces

By Isaiah Hageman

Three cent pieces are a very unusual and interesting part of United States coinage. Minted from 1851 to 1889, this was a very short series divided into two sub-series: silver and nickel three cent

pieces. These coins were made for two distinct purposes: providing a coin valued in between the large cent and half dime, and to pay for the three cent postage. A coin valued 1851 between the cent and half dime was needed for monetary exchange of foreign currency to U.S. coinage. Postage stamps for mailing letters in 1851 cost three cents, thus the need for a low cost coin that would suffice for stamp purchases instead of three large cents or making change for a

half dime.

Nickel three cent pieces were a cheaper alternative to their silver three cent companions, although

harder to strike. Nickel is a tougher metal than silver, and does not strike up as easily, thus the weaker strikes found on nickel three cent pieces. This article

seeks to describe grading and evaluating conditions of nickel three cent pieces, struck from 1865 to 1889.

Entering circulation, these nickel pieces first exhibit wear on the word LIB-ERTY and hair by the ear on the obverse.

Reverse side,

these show wear

as luster breaks

and some slight

III. Coins in this

category would be

considered AU. or

About Uncirculat-

time we reach

Extremely Fine,

XF. luster is for

the most part

broken and an

even, consistent

grey color. Wear

abbreviated EF or

By the

ed.

rubbing on the



1851 three cent stamp and coin in approximate scale

> is evenly distributed across the entire coin, with high points on the coin worn down further. Hair and the ribbon on the obverse are worn down to just major de-

2020 Meetings

Date			Presenter	Date			Presenter
June 12	2th	Friday	Stephen Petty	November	13th	Friday	Open
July 17	7th	Friday	John Roberts	December	l I th	Friday	Open
August 14	4th	Friday	Open	January	8th	Friday	Open
September I I	l th	Friday	Open	February	12th	Friday	Open
October 9	9th	Friday	Open	March	12th	Friday	Open



tails, with fine lines eradicated. LIBERTY could be slightly weak, depending on how well the coin was struck. The reverse side shows slight detail in the wreath, and lines in III are starting to become weaker.

Very Fine, abbreviated VF, coins are in the largest category for wear. On the obverse, hair details have begun to run into the ear, and the ribbon is fairly flat. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA is slightly weak, and LIBERTY is weak, although still completely visible. The reverse displays very little fine detail on the wreath, and the lines in III are blending together. This is the lowest grade that shows all lines in III distinctly, because as it becomes more worn the lines will become flat.

Fine, or F, coins will, for the most part, only display a partial LIBERTY. Occasionally, there will be a weak full LIBERTY. Hair detail has completely worn together with the ribbon and ear on the obverse. Lines in III on the reverse are worn together and mostly flat. Denticles on both sides appear weaker, but still full.

Very Good, or VG, coins will look very similar to Fine coins, but details at this stage are much flatter and less defined. Points of interest at this grade are the flat hair and ribbon, a flat crown, and denticles that become flat in some areas on the coin. The reverse brings almost completely flat lines in III and only major outlines of the leaves in the wreath. Good (G) coins have very few letters of LIBERTY visible. Most of the denticles are worn flat, and there is very little difference between the hair, ribbon, and ear. Eye detail is mostly gone, and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA is about 50 percent flat. The reverse will have completely flat lines in III, and the III itself is starting to blend into the field. Parts of the wreath have begun to blend into the fields as well.

About Good (AG) coins have about 75% of the date showing, and about 90 percent of UNITED STATES OF AMERICA has blended with the fields. Denticles are completely gone, and over half of the wreath on the reverse has blended with the fields.

I have never seen, whether in pictures or in person, a nickel three cent coin that would grade lower than About Good. I know they exist from population reports, but I have never seen one. It would be interesting to see a problem free Poor or Fair coin of this type.

Varieties for the nickel three cent piece are far and few between, with a couple of major exceptions. There are a couple double dies and a re-punched date or two. Errors are also very scarce, and I believe the most common is the rotated die. An eBay search produced only a dozen or so legitimate errors, mostly rotated dies and a couple broadstruck or off center coins.

CNA Member Wins ANA College Scholarship

Former YN Colin Feitl has been awarded an ANA College Scholarship. The scholarship can be used for tuition, books, or supplies directly related to class requirements. Students with a full class schedule, who maintain a B average throughout their higher education, can receive the \$1,000 scholarship up to four years.

Congratulations to Colin! We are proud to have him as a member of the club. If you are interested in

applying for the scholarship here are the details.

Besides holding membership in the ANA, applicants must be a graduating high school senior with a cumulative grade-point average of at least a 3.0. The winning students may use the scholarship at any twoor four-year college, university, or trade school within the United States.

Two letters of reference

must be sent on the applicant's behalf. The authors of the references may not be family members. Reference letters must be submitted by the person writing the reference, not the scholarship applicant. Applications for next year's scholarship will be due in March.

To support this program the Cincinnati Numismatic Association Board of Governors and club officers voted to donate \$100 to the ANA College Scholarship Fund.

Twelve More Years and Counting: Time to Double Down on Quarters?

By Mark Benvenuto

It may seem a bit odd to talk about some new way to collect quarters, or some new twist on establishing collecting, since the reverses of our quarters continue to change several times a year. But our workhorse twenty-five cent piece has been on the scene since 1932. We can only wonder if there will be any celebration, hoopla, or special gold commemorative when it turns 100.

For anyone who calls themselves a collector, but who has been hiding under the proverbial rock, there are a hoard of Washington quarters available for us to collect today. The ATB series – short for America the Beautiful - is coming into its final stretch. The States Reverse quarters had quite a run, starting all the way back in 1999 with one Caesar Rodney riding across the reverse to his destiny. There are even quite a few quarters that pre-date both series still floating around in change. So how do we go about building what might be called a full collection?

From change?

Perhaps the easiest to collect the last 55 years of Washington quarters is to try to glean each one from change. It makes for a fun pastime, but it does have some limitations. For example, it's probably going to be very tough to find a 1965 quarter in change that doesn't show some serious wear. That coin has

been circulating for quite a while, and probably shows it. Several of the other dates at the early end of this group probably suffer from the same problem.





Proofs – from the Mint, shows, shops, or on-line?

It's certainly no disgrace to try to collect the post-1964 Washington quarters by picking them up

"Is the higher end piece really worth the premium? The answer to such questions is something each of us will have to decide."

in proof sets, or at shows, or any of the other ways we normally add to our collection. There are still plenty of proof sets out there, with even some of the older ones in their original (rather flimsy) packaging. Of course, collecting proof sets means we are collecting five coins, not just the quarter. For something of a greater challenge, it might be fun to try to collect just the proof quarters. In this case, each of the twenty-five cent pieces will have been broken out of some proof set in order to be sold as a single. There are certainly a lot that fall into this category, with some of them having been slabbed, and some of them being raw coins.

What to pay for proof Washington quarters is something of a question mark, even though all the major price listings quote some dollar figure for each of them. The reason there is any question at all is that these are common pieces, even if they are proofs. They shouldn't cost too much. But there has been something of a push in the last few years, at least among some of the bigger sellers, to advertise the idea of proofs in extremely high grades, like PF-68 or PF-69, or even that technically perfect PF-70. The folks doing the selling would have us believe these high end pieces are worth quite a bit. They might be; but is a PF-66 example of the same coin real-



ly going to be something that anyone in their right mind can call ugly? Is the higher end piece really worth the premium? The answer to such questions is something each of us will have to decide.

Proof, and silver

This discussion of great-looking Washington quarters would not be complete without some mention of the silver proofs that have been available to collectors since 1992. These too are going to be coins at their best.



These also can still be purchased in full proof sets, as a few million have been made annually. And these too can be purchased as proof singles, possibly in those justmentioned ultra-high grades. Once again, the goal for anyone forming a collection might be to go for the ultrahigh grade while spending as ultra-low an amount of money as possible.

Pre-1965, the true classics

The Washington quarter came out of the gate in 1932, a pretty miserable year for the United States. Most collectors are aware that the 1932-D and the 1932-

S are two of the key coins to the series. There was not a huge call for quarters then, as the nation was deep enough into the Great Depression that these may have seemed an out-ofreach coin to many, at least as a collectible item. Today we don't think about this too much, but



note that the last Standing Liberty quarters are dated 1930. The year 1931 was so bad in terms of the general economy that there was no call for new quarters at all. The same lack would occur again in 1933.

As far as proofs, there were a few from 1936 to 1942, then they started again in 1950 - this time to be produced every year, right up to the present. The first couple of years of these classic proofs are very costly. But the mintages for the 1936, the 1937, and the 1938 proofs are tiny, at least when we compare them to those of today. What is noteworthy is that although the official Mint figures for the proofs of 1939 – 1942 did rise a bit, their prices today are much lower than we might first expect. An expenditure of perhaps \$250 might land us one of these early gems, assuming we can find any for sale. And the price for something like a proof 1950? Well, that might be called wonderfully low. We might be able to snag one of these glittering twenty-five cent pieces for as little as \$100. Again, there's probably going to be a hunt involved when it comes to a coin like this. But it would be worth it.

Twelve more?

There are still twelve years between us and any centennial celebration of John Flanagan's design for the Washington quarter, which may seem like ages to some folks. But now might be a great time to spend some energy assembling a great set of them, whether from change, as proofs, or in some other state of preservation. Doing so would mean we'll have a very attractive set when the celebration does come to pass.

Did you Know?

Laura Gardin Fraser's original design for the Washington quarter was rejected in favor of John Flanagan design. However her design was used on a 1999 commemorative gold half eagle. Fraser's design was rejected despite the support of Fine Arts Commission Chairman Charles W. Moore and Adolph Weinman. Weinman designed the Mercury dime and Walking Liberty half dollar.



From The June Zoom Meeting Show and Tell

By Michael Folk

So back in the 1980's I was in England for work and took a weekend to explore the British Museum in London. As fate would have it, I was reading a biography of Sir Isaac Newton who besides inventing calculus and having apples hit him on the head was the Warden and Master of the British Royal Mint for over 30 years. In the Museum lobby there was a special exhibit revolving around Newton and his work at the Mint. It included an



18th century hand driven printing press used to produce currency. It seemed a bit odd that although he was the Master of the Mint, they were exhibiting paper printed currency that at the time of Newton was produced by the Bank of England and not the Mint.

They provided a piece of paper and you were allowed to then print a Test note. Although I tried, they would only allow me to print one. It is single sided and unfortunately I have no other information about the die or anything else. I have only seen one reference to it over the years. In the late 1980's Heritage had one in an auction. It hammered off at \$25. The description however indicated this was an advertising piece for a World Currency Convention held in London. I have never been able to nail down any information on such a convention. The auction did not disclose any reverse image but I assume it had an ad for the convention printed on the reverse. Perhaps not though. I can not discern any differences between the Heritage image and my own sample so I have to believe it is the same die. As you know, currency is not something I usually delve into but I hold on to this piece because of the relationship to the Newton exhibit I attended.

Canadian Tri-Metallic Space "Quarter"

By David G. Heinrich

The 2019 First Canadian In Space tri-metallic commemorative coin is composed of a center of brass, a cupronickel inner ring and a bronze outer ring. The coin is rather large at 50.25 millimeters in diameter. The coin is shown here in near actual size.

The commemorative marks the 35th anniversary of the first Canadian in space. Marc Garneau was one of the seven crewmembers of Mission STS-41-G on October 5, 1984 on the Space Shuttle



Challenger. Garneau conducted multiple Canadian-designed experiments as a payload specialist. He would later fly on two more space flights: STS-77 in 1996 and STS-97 in 2000.

The design according to the Canadian Mint website: The reverse features a central core image of Challenger superimposed over Earth. The realistic design of the space shuttle is surrounded by concentric circles representing different sections of Earth's atmosphere. The inner core represents the troposphere where the shuttle launched, the inner ring is the thermosphere where the shuttle orbited, and the outer ring is outer space. The 35 maple leaves which adorn the outer ring represent the commemorated 35 years, also identified with the "1984– 2019" as printed on the coin along with "CANADA." The obverse features the effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II by Susanna Blunt, also surrounded by 35 maple leaves.

"Embracing the challenge of designing a coin with tri-metal technology, I worked with engineers and colleagues to create a coin that outshined all others. We considered each metal's implication and impact in the 3D modelling, and then set about the process, which involved engraving tooling work, 3D rendering and postproduction. This is definitely a fascinating addition to my collection!" Ms. Aida Alves: Engraver

The coin weighs 51.31 gram and has a mintage of 15,000.

The coin is still available from the Royal Canadian mint.

Club News

The speaker for our June Zoom meeting was Stephen Petty and his subject was "History of the Cincinnati Industrial Exhibitions & Acquired 1881 Gold Medal". There were 20 members in attendance at the meeting. A sincere thank you to Stephen Petty for his extra effort in preparing the presentation for our club. A test Zoom meeting was held the night before to make sure everything went smoothly during the meeting.

After Mr. Petty's presentation, a number of members shared some show and tell items. Member Michael Folk could not attend the meeting but sent in his show and tell via email, it appears on page five.

Weir Farm West Point quarters have been mailed to YN members of the club and a number of members have sent in Freestore donations for one of the quarters. Here's how you can get one. Send a check for \$5 or more made out to Freestore Foodbank or to the Cincinnati Numismatic Association and we will send a quarter back to you. Mail the check to:

C.N.A., PO Box 446, Miamitown, OH 45041, Making the check out to the club will keep you from being added to the Foodbank's mailing list if you want to avoid that. All funds collected will be forwarded to the charity.

If you would rather pick up the coin in person you can send an email to cincycoinclub@gmail.com and pick up your quarter at one of the three Coins+ locations. You can also pay in cash this way. This is a great way to add to your collection and help your neighbors at the same time.

We all know how desperate the Foodbank's current needs are. Let's all chip in and see how

an chip in and see how much we can raise as a club for those in need. Coins+ and an anonymous donor will each match the first \$5 of every donation up to a total of \$100. Combined that will add \$10 to the first \$5 up to a total of \$200.

2020 The local Greenhills show resumed on June 28th and the monthly show at the Makoy Center in Columbus also resumed in June.

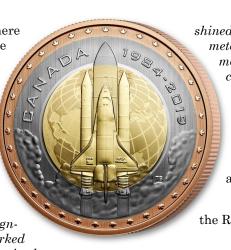
Many local and national coin shows have been canceled. Check the show schedule on page ten.

If you are not a member of the American Numismatic Association, check out the incredible offer on page seven. All CNA Members who join the ANA during this special offer will be in a drawing for a Silver Eagle. Our club goal is to see if we can sign up twenty new ANA members.

The new Redbooks are in stock and available to members through the annual Redbook Fundraiser. The seal on the personalized bookplate for this year's Redbook is made of solid copper to help celebrate our 90th anniversary. Look for the order form on page nine.

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.

N.A., PO Box 446, Miamitown, H 45041, Making the check out to



ANA Membership Offered To CNA Members For **Only Five Dollars!**

Press release

Are you not a member of the American Numismatic Association? The ANA is offering an unprecedented \$5 Gold membership for club members who are not current members of the Association.

This is a significant savings. Gold membership is normally \$28.

Club members who would rather receive The Numismatist by mail can upgrade to an ANA Platinum membership for only \$20. That is a saving of \$26!

As a member of the American Numismatic Association you will enjoy all of these benefits.

- Digital access to every issue of The Numismatist, from 1888 to the present
- Free admission to all ANA shows
- Borrowing privileges from the world's largest numismatic library
- Virtual exhibits from the Money Museum-high resolution images of spectacular rarities
- Discounts on seminars, hobby publications, books & supplies, collection insurance, and so much more!

There is an added incentive for Cincinnati Numismatic Association members who take advantage of this offer. You will be entered into a drawing for a silver eagle. The drawing will take place at the September meeting,



Let's grow our ANA

community! Join using the form on this page or call 800-514-2646 or visit money.org/join. Be sure to reference code CLUB2020.

Hurry! This sweet deal won't last forever.





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YES! I want to join the ANA!

• PLATINUM \$20 (The Numismatist delivered by mail)

• GOLD \$5 (The Numismatist digital version)

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call 1-8	00-514-	-2646 or us	e code C	CLUB2020 to sign up
online a	^t MONE	Y.ORG/JO	N	

Offer valid for new or lapsed ANA members only. This sweet deal expires 8/31/2020.

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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 exonumia.

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.

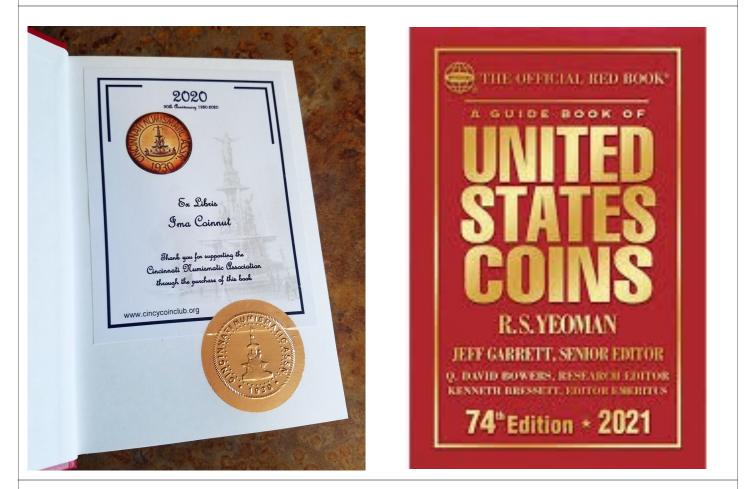
Club dues for adults are \$10 annually. Dues for Juniors are just \$3 a year. This is certainly one of the best values in numismatics.

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)	\Box Life membership (\$175	5)		
□ 1 year membership (\$10)	1 year Junior member	□ 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 Cincinna	ti Numismatic Association.			
Mail application and payment to: C	NA, PO Box 446, Miamitown, OH	45041		
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Purchase the new 2021 Redbook (and or Bluebook) through the Cincinnati Numismatic Association with a personalized bookplate and copper seal to help support the club's educational programs. The cost is the same as last year, only \$15 and you can pick up your copy at a club meeting or have it delivered for just \$3 more. The Redbooks are in stock now. If you would like to pick up your copy at a club meeting, send an email to cincycoins@gmail.com and give us the exact spelling of your name, as you want it to appear on the bookplate, and bring your \$15 payment to the meeting. Or you can use the form below and mail it in. Why not order copies as gifts for friends or relatives!

PERSONALIZED REDBOOK PRE-ORDER FORM

Please Print Clearly

Name as you want it to appear on the bookplate_____

Shipping Address if Applicable:_____

City/State/Zip:_____

Email:___

 \Box Picked up at meeting \$15

□ Delivery by U.S. Mail \$18

Make checks payable to the Cincinnati Numismatic Association

Mail order form and payment to:

C.N.A. P.O. Box 446 Miamitown, OH 45041 PAGE 9

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



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The Cincinnati Numismatist

is an ANA award-winning publication

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.

Numystery

By: Colonel Green

This month's Numystery:

What 18th-century ruler continues to be depicted on coins produced today – all bearing the same date?

Numystery answer:

mos

The Maria Theresa thaler is named after Empress Maria Theresa, who ruled Austria, Aungary, and Schemia from 1740 to 1780 and is depicted on the

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 **RE-OPENED IN JUNE**

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.

July 8th-10th

Summer FUN show OCCC West Building, Hall WE1, Orlando, Florida CANCELLED

July 17th-18th

The 37th Annual Greater Cincinnati Numismatic Exposition, 125 Tables, Sharonville Convention Center 11355 Chester Rd. (1-75 Exit 15 in North Cincinnati, first exit south of I-275). Hours: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Friday & Saturday, Dealer setup and early birds (\$40) hours: 3-7 p.m. Thursday, Contact: Paul Padget, 513-821-2143 or epadget@fuse.net

<u>August 4th-8th</u>

American Numismatic Association World's Fair of Money David L. Lawrence Convention Center, 1000 Fort Duquesne Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 CANCELLED

December 4th & 5th

The 62nd Annual I.S.N.A. Coin Show Indianapolis Marriott East Hotel & Convention Center, Liberty Hall 7202 East 21st Street Indianapolis, Indiana 46219 FREE admission, parking, and youth auction, Door prize drawing Raffle prize drawings Public hours: Friday 10:00AM – 6:00PM Saturday 10:00AM – 5:00PM, Youth Scavenger Hunt starts at 10AM Youth auction: Saturday – 12PM

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