

Raleigh Coin Club NEWSLETTER

Established in 1954

October 2009

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Spot Prices as of
2 October 2009

Platinum: \$1279
(+\$17.00)

Gold: \$1002.30
(+\$10.10)

Silver: \$16.14 (-\$0.04)

1877 CC Liberty Seated Dime Variety

By Roger W. Beckner

An attractive Carson City minted dime with a repunched date surfaced recently at the Raleigh State Fairgrounds Market. Joe Perry, a.k.a. "Silver Dollar Man", who knows me as a variety specialist exclaimed – "Do I Have Something For You!" when I approached his table recently. Indeed, Joe presented an about uncirculated Liberty Seated CC Dime that proved to be a repunched date (RPD) variety. A lively offer-counteroffer resulted in my acquisition of the 1877 CC dime completely without buyer's remorse!

Definitions

Primary: refers to strong, high relief numbers in proper alignment.

Secondary: refers to weak, low relief, misaligned numbers that are usually only partially visible.

Variety status as a RPD is quite evident on this Carson City dime. Bold remnants from the errantly repunched "1" are located north of the primary as an extra base. The secondary base appears to be suspended with complete separation above the primary. The last "7" in the date displays a secondary image slightly south of the primary. Strong secondary images of the repunched "1" are the "Pick Up Point" for identification of this 1877 CC dime RPD.

Marked changes in "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" include broken or re-cut letters; all letters in "OF AMERICA" shows tooling marks relative to re-cutting. A broken upper loop on the first "S" in

Liberty Seated Dime Variety continued on Page 4

Raleigh Coin Club

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Established 1954

Club Officers

President

David Boitnott

Vice President

Jim Jones

Secretary

Richard Brown

Treasurer

Steve Pladna

Sergeant-at-Arms

Benji Harrell

Directors (Term Ending)

Roger Beckner (2009)

Kent Woodson (2010)

Paul Livingston (2011)

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Dave Provost

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Club Affiliations

American Numismatic Association
Member #C079478

Blue Ridge Numismatic Association
Member #C3383

Eastern States Numismatic Association
Member #0026 (Life)

North Carolina Numismatic Association
Member #C14 (Life)

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September Meeting Minutes

The September meeting was called to order by President David B at 7:40pm; the meeting start was delayed to give members a little extra time to find our new meeting location – the Ridge Road Baptist Church.

New Business

David B announced that we are confirmed at the Church for our October and November meetings, but that if we wish to continue to meet at the Church in 2010, we will need to decide on a new monthly meeting day due to an ongoing scheduling conflict with the meeting room. David indicated that Mondays and Thursdays are already reserved by another group and that the Church will typically have Wednesday evening programs. So, it appears likely that our meetings will need to switch to a Tuesday if we are to continue at the Church. Additional discussion will take place at the October meeting.

The RCC ballot for officers of the North Carolina Numismatic Association (NCNA) was discussed. David B reviewed the biographies on the candidates and led the discussion of the candidates; most officer candidates were running unopposed. After discussion of the candidates competing for Director positions, the club voted on the following NCNA slate:

President:	Bill Brewer
1 st Vice President:	Scott Arney
2 nd Vice President:	Will Camp
Treasurer:	Charles Lambert
Secretary:	Barry Ciociola
Directors:	Jim Neely, Charles Gray, And Jack Leite

David B discussed the upcoming RCC election and called for two volunteers to serve on a Nominations Committee. Dave P and Jim G volunteered; the committee will report at the October meeting

Nominations were considered for the RCC-Sponsored "Ted Hendricks Memorial Award." The award is given annually to a dealer active in North

Meeting Minutes continued on page 7

President's Message

The Raleigh Coin Club held its September meeting at the Ridge Road Baptist Church. Based on attendee comments, I believe everyone was quite pleased with the facility and location. We will continue to meet there on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 through November of this year. However, we do need to decide on a new meeting date for 2010 since the AA will have the hall every Monday and Thursday. Wednesday is a church night so that pretty much leaves Tuesdays. The Fuquay-Varina Coin Club meets the second Tuesday of the month. There are a few of us that live on that side of the county who would like to attend both. Therefore, I suggest we adopt the first or third Tuesday of the month. There is no need to rush into a decision as we have until December.

As I mentioned in my message a couple of months ago, we also have an opportunity to do something we are chartered to do – education! I received an email from the troop leader of Boy Scout Troop 524 located in Zebulon asking for help with their coin collecting merit badge activities. I traveled to Zebulon September 14 and talked with the troop leader.

They are excited about our willingness to help. I was hoping to do something for them by mid-October, but working issues around moving our meeting and show date has pushed this out. In my discussions with them I've learned there are a couple of opportunities to expand this program. On November 14 and 15, there will be a Bi-District Fall Merit Badge Clinic held at multiple Church of Latter Day Saints locations in and around Raleigh. Unfortunately the deadline for signing up as a merit badge counselor was October 1. Not being sure we would have something ready I have not committed yet but will have to before our meeting. There will be another larger Merit Badge Clinic held in February. The location could not be easier to find – it is spread between

October Meeting Notice

DATE

Thursday, 8 October 2009

TIME

7:30pm

WHERE

Ridge Road Baptist Church

PROGRAM

United States Platinum Eagle Coinage

Dave Provost

three churches on Ridge Road including the one we now meet in. I would like to see this project become a sustained program we continue to do well into the future. So, all that have expressed interest in YN activities this is your call to action.

In September we formed a nominating committee to put together a slate of candidates for elections this fall. All the officers are elected annually along with one director (the terms of our three directors are staggered). I would like to thank the two volunteers but not by name at this time – this way they can sneak up on you and trick you (Halloween is fast approaching!) into running. The committee is motivated as I explained to them that their first task is to get the sitting officers to agree to run for reelection. Failing that, they must find a new candidate. Failing that they get to run. Well, I think that's how it works and how I got where I am today. ☺ Maybe I just got snookered.

See ya at the October meeting. Remember, promote the hobby and the club – recruit a new member – there's points in it.

David W. Boitnott

Liberty Seated Dime Variety (cont.)

Continued from Page 1



*Figure 1. Obverse of 1877 CC Liberty Seated Dime
(Image courtesy of www.ha.com)*

“STATES” appears dramatically incomplete because the top right serif floats unattached in the field. Damage to the right side of this obverse die probably necessitated the retooling “OF AMERICA”. However, the broken letter, “S” originated on the obverse hub that impressed the die which struck this Liberty Seated Dime.



Figure 2. Repunched “1” located north of the primary date as an extra base.

An identical broken letter S hub variety is attributed on a reverse of the 1868 Shield Nickel by Dennis Paulsen on page 215 in “The Cherrypicker's Guide to Rare Die Varieties” Fourth Edition –Volume One.

Die gouges add another dimension to these unique die markers. A long, triple ridged, diagonal die gouge pierces the shield beneath its perimeter at 8:30 after emerging from the rock. This unusual, horizontally-ridged gouge breaks over the first two double sets of vertical shield lines while diving below the third only to terminate at the fourth (center) set. Ordinary die gouges display smooth surfaces in contrast to these peculiar sharp ridges, which resemble tooling marks. Evidently the depth of this die gouge decreases from left to right inside the shield since the third set of vertical lines remain unbroken.

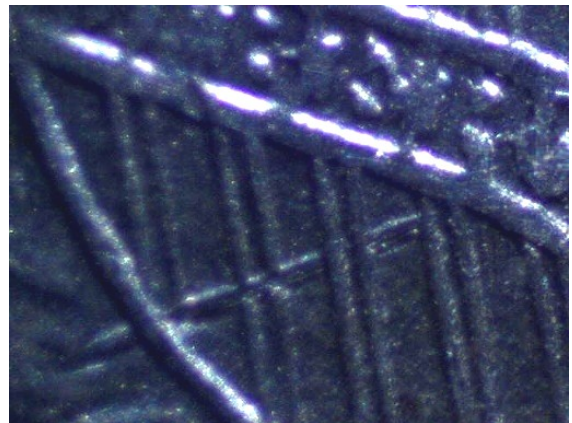


Figure 3. Die gouge across shield lines.

Note: Die gouge depth must be greater than the device (shield line) in order to break over it.

Small, unidirectional, diagonal die gouges and scratches project from outside and between the denticles between 1 o'clock and 4 o'clock. The close proximity to the extensive retooling on the letters “OF AMERICA” could explain

Liberty Seated Dime Variety continued on Page 5

Poland Marks 70th Anniversary of WWII

The Polish Mint has released a set of three coins to mark the 70th anniversary of Germany's attack on Poland and the start of WWII. The set includes a base metal (Nordic gold) 2 Zlote, a 0.925 fine silver proof 10 Zlote and a 0.900 fine gold proof 200 Zlote.

Each of the coins marks and remembers an event from September 1939 when Germany launched its military offensive against Poland. The 2 Zlote coin marks the Battle of Westerplatte, the 10 Zlote coins commemorates the terror bombing of Wielun and the 200 Zlote coin recalls the Siege of Warsaw.



A formation of Ju 87 Dive Bombers raid the Polish town of Wielun on 1 September 1939.

To learn more about the three coins in the series and the events and heroism that each commemorates, visit Talisman Coins at www.talismancoins.com. They are an official distributor of coins of the Mint of Poland and include fairly extensive historical notes about each of the coins on their web site.

Liberty Seated Dime Variety (cont.)

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how this occurred as collateral die damage during re-cutting.

In my opinion, diverse die markers accentuate the RPD and enhance the collectability of this Liberty Seated Dime variety. The long, impressive spear-like die gouge, which penetrates Miss Liberty's shield, is visually appealing. A broken letter S hub variety creates an elusive double variety that is seldom encountered. Three major design variations culminate on the obverse of this 1877 CC dime to create an irresistible variety!

Varieties are "The Spice of Life"
Welcome to the Promised Land

**Remember!!!
We Have Moved Our Meeting Location!**

**We Now Meet at the
Ridge Road Baptist Church
2011 Ridge Road in Raleigh**

“Big Coins” Come to the United States

By Dave Provost

As a somewhat more than casual follower of new releases of world coins, I’ve noticed a trend in recent years toward the release of precious metal coins of five ounces or more – truly “big coins.” The mints of Canada, China and France are among those that have released “big” silver – and sometimes gold – coins.



Figure 1. Five-ounce commemorative silver coin from Royal Canadian Mint (Image courtesy of www.mint.ca)

(The coin celebrates the 150th Anniversary of the Start of Construction of the Canadian Parliament Buildings)

Of course, none of the pieces are meant to circulate – they all carry a face value that is much lower than the value of the precious metal they contain. In this respect, I consider them more of a medal or medallion than a true coin.

With the passage of the “America the Beautiful” coin act, the US Mint will soon be striking “big coins” of its own. Each “America the Beautiful” quarter release will be accompanied by the release of a five-ounce, 0.999 fine silver bullion coin with the same design. Each coin will be three inches in diameter, will have its weight and fineness edge

incused and will be bear the denomination of “Quarter Dollar.”

A little over 20 years ago, the US Mint struck large six- and twelve-ounce silver commemorative medals for the Young Astronauts program. Though medals, these pieces were very coin-like in appearance and, I’m guessing, a fair representation of what we can expect in 2010 when the Mint begins to offer its “hockey puck” versions of our new quarters.



Figure 2. 1988 Silver Young Astronauts Medal (struck by US Mint)

I haven’t seen pricing on the new pieces, but, based on their authorization as “bullion” vs. “numismatic product,” it might be that they will be available for a small premium over their bullion value. If this is the case, it will be a departure from the releases of several other mints that treat their “big” coins as numismatic delicacies and charge five or more times bullion value for them.

Until next month, Happy Collecting!

Meeting Minutes (cont.)

Continued from Page 2

Carolina who exemplifies the best qualities of the profession and supports education among collectors. After consideration of multiple nominees, the club voted to honor Bill Brewer with the award.

Jim J asked for volunteers for educational programs for early 2010. Members interested in giving a talk should contact Jim at their earliest convenience (especially if you can put on the program for January).

Roger B proposed a club field trip to Colonial Williamsburg, suggesting Saturday Oct. 10 as the date. Roger had contacted Curator, Eric Goldstein to discuss possibilities. Roger and Jim J noted the high caliber display of colonial numismatics available to see. After some discussion, David B remarked that there was not enough time to adequately plan for an October trip and asked Roger to come back to the club with a more detailed proposal for the trip so that it can be appropriately discussed and considered.

Paul Li discussed an interaction he had with staff member at a local high school and how he learned that they had to no numismatic reference material available for students. Paul proposed that the RCC provide copies of *Numismatic News* and the "Red Book" to area high schools. David B asked Paul to develop a specific plan, including costs, and to report back at the October meeting.

Old Business

The dates for the next year's club show were discussed once again. The customary date for the show conflicts with national and/or larger regional shows in other locations. It is felt to keep from losing dealers to the national shows we need to change our show to a non-conflict weekend. This is still under consideration, though potential dates before and after our current show date appear to already be reserved by other organizations. David B and Paul La will investigate and report back at the October meeting.

Meeting Minutes continued on page 8

US Virgin Islands Quarter Now in Circulation –

Watch Your Change!



US Virgin Islands Quarter numismatic products went on sale on 28 September. Visit www.usmint.gov for more info.

Show Calendar

Oct 17-18 **Wilmington, NC** **Wilmington Fall Coin Show** **Lower Cape Fear Coin Club**

American Legion Hall
702 Pine Grove Drive

Hours: Sat 10:00am to 5:00pm
Sun 10:00am to 4:00pm

Tables: ~35 Admission Charge

Oct 24-25 **Statesville, NC** **14th Annual Show** **Iredell-Statesville Coin Club**

Statesville Civic Center
300 S. Center Street

Hours: Sat 10:00am to 5:00pm
Sun 10:00am to 4:00pm

Tables: ~90 Free

Additional local show information can be found at:
www.coinworld.com

US Mint To Offer Special Braille Education Set

WASHINGTON - The United States Mint has announced the availability of a special Braille Education Set. The set is a tri-fold binder containing one uncirculated 2009 Louis Braille Bicentennial Silver Dollar, educational material and readable Braille. The coin is struck in 90 percent silver. Production of the Braille Education Set is limited to 25,000 units. Orders for the set will be limited to one set per household. The new set will be available for purchase beginning noon Eastern Time (ET) October 8, 2009.



Reverse of 2009 Louis Braille commemorative silver dollar.

The Braille Education Set is priced at \$44.95. The US Mint will accept orders at its secure web site, www.usmint.gov, or at the toll-free number, 1-800-USA-MINT (872-6468).

Louis Braille invented a system of reading and writing that has allowed the blind to be literate participants in society. The 2009 Louis Braille Bicentennial commemorative coin marks the 200th anniversary of Louis Braille's birth. Surcharges on sales of the coins will be paid to the National Federation of the Blind to further its programs to promote Braille literacy.

Meeting Minutes (cont.)

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Show and Tell

- Gene F discussed countermarked coins and passed around a Turkish coin with a Greek countermark.
- Halbert C showed several specially-packaged Australian commemorative coins, two of which featured birds; he picked them up at the ANA Convention in Los Angeles.
- Bill showed a silver commemorative medal set tracing the history of the US Flag.
- Lars G shared an 1876 Trade Dollar, graded MS61 by NGC.
- Dave P passed around a five-piece set of Canadian silver maple leaf coins with holographic maple leaf designs.
- Bruce S showed a \$50 Gold Certificate featuring a portrait of Grant, a \$5 Red Seal Federal Reserve Note and a \$1 Silver Certificate with a portrait of Martha Washington.
- Paul Li discussed a cancelled check featuring the signature of noted numismatist Grover Criswell.
- Cliff S had a 1914-D Buffalo Nickel graded MS-64 by PCGS.

Short Program

Roger B provided the "Short Program" for the evening; he discussed how cuds were created on coins and displayed a number of coins from his personal collection that featured cuds.

Full Program

Bob S presented the evening's program. It was titled "The Script Rider -- Adventures of a traveling man with money in his pockets."

The program, presented from the perspective of a fictitious 19th century inn keeper named Phineas Pilgrim, was an entertaining look at a very varied selection of merchant scrip. Bob discussed the scrip in the context of the economic environment of the time and had fun discussing the various goods and services Phineas "purchased" with the scrip he collected from customers of his inn.