



Palm Beach Coin News

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE PALM BEACH COIN CLUB

March 2023

Volume 33, Number 3

March 2023 Events

March 5

Gold Coast Coin, Stamp & Collectible Show
24th & Taylor St., Hollywood, FL

March 8

PBCC Meeting: Doors open at 5:00PM
Meeting Begins at 7:00PM
★ **Estate Auction #46** ★

March 12

Melbourne Coin - Stamp & Collectible Show
Azan Shrine Center, 1591 W Eau Gallie Blvd, Melbourne

March 19

Ft. Lauderdale Coin and Stamp Show
Volunteer Park Community Center, Plantation

March 22

PBCC Meeting: Doors open at 5:00PM
Meeting Begins at 7:00PM
★ **"Colonial Coins" by Gregg Wagner** ★

March 26

PBCC Coin Show
American Polish Club, 4725 Lake Worth Rd., Greenacres

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 	23	24	25
26 	27	28	29	30	31	

Presidents Message

DUES ARE DUE. We collect club dues at the beginning of every year. Those of you who joined in the second half of 2022 do not owe your dues. Your blue membership card will be marked 12/22 or 12/23. If it says 12/22, you owe your dues, see Tony at the meeting, at the show, or mail \$15 to PBCC, P.O. Box 5823, Lake Worth, FL 33466.

Many of you never come to the club meetings and you miss a lot. We give away current numismatic magazines and all kinds of FUN memorabilia, such as orange lanyards, collectible FUN pins, 10 slabbed door prizes, brand new numismatic supplies in the donation auction, and other stuff. The information received at the meetings can be invaluable. Such as, I got an estimate to replace a door for my house of \$2500. A club member put it in for \$550. When the hurricane of 2005 hit, Allstate wanted to pay me \$5000 for damages. A club member suggested an independent claims adjuster and I received \$25,500. Our programs by Gregg Wagner have been outstanding, with Power Point presentations and handouts. We keep you informed numismatically with "In the News" at the meetings. And we tell you what and where not to buy coins, so you do not get ripped-off. You don't get this in the newsletter.

Wednesday, February 8th was Estate Auction #45-1. The auction realized \$4842.

The club made \$242. Estate Auction #45-2 was February 22nd.

Wednesday, March 8th is Estate Auction #46, US Type coins, 31 bulk US lots, 14 Silver Eagles, 78 lots total. Wednesday, March 22nd Gregg Wagner will have a program on "Colonial Coins"

We are taking slab coin lots for our annual "Slab Coin Auction" April 12th. Any coins or currency certified by the grading services is acceptable. See Tony. The new 2024 Red Books should be in by the second meeting in April.

Denny's Minutia's Coins 1880-S Morgan Silver Dollar VAM-10

by Denny Thostenson

Silver dollar variety collecting has been an active segment of the coin collecting hobby since 1971 when Leroy Van Allen and A. George Mallis collaborated in writing a book of known die varieties on the Morgan and Peace dollars. Each date and mintmark had not only varieties listed with descriptions but excellent photos also. Varieties were numbered and assigned what became known as "VAM NUMBERS". Little did the authors know at that time, but they were planting seeds for what would become one very active segment of our coin collecting hobby.

Today, the four top recognized grading services willingly attribute and mention VAM numbers on their slabs. A few books have been written on VAMs and the most popular varieties are listed in a special section in the Greysheet along with prices.

There is a free website dedicated to helping collectors attribute their VAM's. It's called

VAMworld. It easy to use and most importantly, IT'S FREE!!!

One of my personal favorite VAM's that I have found in dealer's inventory is the 1880-S VAM-10. It was discovered in 1969 by the late Ted Clark. In the early 70's, Ted wrote a series of very informative articles in *Coin World's Collector Clearinghouse*. The editor of *Coin World's Clearinghouse* was James G. Johnson and his assistant editor was Marilyn Tienan. Marilyn many years later married Leroy Van Allen.

Coin World's Collector's Clearinghouse quickly became THE place to learn about new discoveries.

In the 1971 *Guide to Morgan and Peace Dollars*, the 1880-S VAM-10 was listed as an R-5 (around 100 known).

Today's VAMworld website lists the 1880-S VAM-10 as an R-6 (a few tens). Personally, I know for a fact that the R-6 rating is a little overstated.

This coin can be found in any coin dealer's inventory at any coin show.



In the top loop of the second "8" you will clearly see extra metal AND a horizontal line. This is the remnants of the "7".

Current Greysheet lists the 1880-S VAM-10 in MS64 at \$154 and in MS65 at \$259. The

listing for a regular 1880-S in MS64 is \$75, and in MS65 it's \$185. That's a pretty handsome return for a little time invested.

Denny's Minutia's Coins The 1844-O Seated Half Dollar- Misplaced Date

by Denny Thostenson

Last week, I was going through a 2 X 2 box of coins and I found one of my all time favorite errors. It's a Seated Half Dollar from the New Orleans mint, dated 1844. While that isn't anything special with a mintage of two million, it's not even a semi-key date. What makes this coin special is the date is strongly doubled. "Misplaced" would be a better way of describing it.



I like to refer to this major type of error as a "Monday morning oops" (no doubt the Miami Dolphins lost on Sunday afternoon by an embarrassing margin). The die sinker wasn't paying close attention when he punched the date into the die. The initial punched date is 50 percent higher than the correct position. He obviously noticed his error and repunched the date in the correct

place. Luckily for us, he didn't take the time to fill the die error but just put it in the box to be used for production.



Once that obverse die was put into production, the error was discovered after a very few coins had been struck.

Noted Numismatic scholars, Walter Breen and Bill Favaz have referred to this variety as "very rare". Despite the rarity, it is a very popular coin. It's listed in the *Red Book* the *Greysheet*, Walter Breen's *Encyclopedia* and Bill Fivaz's *Cherrypickers Guide*.

My coin is a VG specimen. Cherrypickers values a VG at \$750 and an Extremely Fine example at \$2400. All of the recognized grading services, ANACS, I.C.G., N.C.G., and P.C.G.S. have very low populations of slabbed coins of this variety.

Despite the low known populations of this variety, I sincerely believe that this coin can still be found in dealers' inventory by those willing to take the time to look.

2023 Membership Dues are Due!

Only \$15 per Year

\$150 for a Lifetime

No Dues, No Newsletter!

PBCC Membership Application

Dues are \$15 for the year

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ (optional)

Date _____

How did you hear about us? _____

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