



Palm Beach Coin News

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE PALM BEACH COIN CLUB
www.pbcc.anaclubs.org

March 2024

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March 2024 Events

March 3

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

March 10

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

March 13

PBCC Meeting: Doors open at 5:00PM
Meeting Begins at 7:00PM
★*"Most Famous Collectors of the 1900's"*
by Gregg Wagner★

March 17

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

March 24

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

March 27

PBCC Meeting: Doors open at 5:00PM
Meeting Begins at 7:00PM
★*"The Carson City Mint & the Comstock
Loade"* by George Kovacic★

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

Club dues are due for 2024. 219 have paid their dues. 78 have not. We allow one more newsletter before we remove unpaid members from the rolls. If your membership card say's "Good thru 2023", your dues are due.

The February Estate auction #48 brought in \$13,077. The club made \$654. 72 of 78 lots sold. The attendance at the meeting has been 65. The monthly Coin Show has been gang busters.

Wednesday, March 13th Gregg Wagner will have a program on "Most Famous Collectors of the 1900's". George Kovacic will have our "Grading Contest". There are 10 coins to grade and the winner gets a certified silver dollar. March 27th Gregg will present "The Carson City Mint & the Comstock Loade".

Wednesday, April 10th is Slab Auction #11. We are taking consignments for this auction until the March 13th meeting. April 10th is also "Free Food Night". We will have Pizza, calzone, stromboli, and desserts from Columbino's. We will have subs from Vince's. We eat at 6PM.

Tony

Denny's Minutia's Coins 1858 Flying Eagle Mystery

by Denny Thostenson

Gene Sternlicht bought over an 1858 Flying Eagle cent with some mysterious lines on the obverse at a recent coin show.

I put it under the portable electron microscope that Ron Plask has loaned me.

In my humble opinion, it is damage caused by some nimrod that used an object to impart scratches on the coin.

On the lettering, the scratches disappear due to wear, yet in the field, the lines are clearly visible. It's kinda a neat coin, except he ruined it.



On the good side of this discussion, it gives numismatists a reason to look at problem coins and determine what exactly happened. We all may not always agree but it gives us a reason to think and hold intelligent discussion. (I use the adverb "intelligent" loosely).

Denny's Minutia's Coins The Die Cud

by Denny Thostenson

The die cud is one of the most popular mint errors collected today. The reason being that they can be very easily found and seen by collectors that don't own a magnifying glass.

Another reason is that they can be fairly common. The U.S. Mint attempts to use dies, (those hardened objects about the size of a child's fist that strike coins) until they totally fail. Dies have been very expensive in previous years. Hence, the mint chooses to use them until they break.

Die cuds usually start out as a die crack, starting out at the rim and growing in an arc until it reconnects with the rim again. If the

mint detects the die break, they usually will not pull the die and either repair or discard the die. That's the reason die cracks are not valuable nor rare.



The dies that strike our coinage are made from metals blended with other metals to withstand repeated striking of the planchets (the unstruck coins). These other metals are referred to as alloys. The alloys extend the die life so that the mint can get more use out of the die over time.



If the die with the crack is not replaced, the enclosed piece will eventually fall out and be replaced with a smooth place without any engraving. Hence it's called a cud or more correctly referred to as a "rim cud".

Interestingly enough, on the other side of the coin where the cud has formed, you will frequently see a lack of detail in the strike, or as in this Washington quarter, you will find a valley or void.

Entire books have been written on cuds. The late Mort Goodman wrote a book on cuds in the 1960's and two of our hobbies more prolific authors, Paul Marvin and Arnie Margolis (of *Error Trends Coin Magazine*) continued to study and catalogue cuds in their book, *The Design Cud*.

The book, *The Design Cud* was published in 1979 and sometimes can be bought online.

I personally own a copy and used it in the writing of this article.

Denny's Minutia's Coins 1776-1976 Washington Quarter Fiasco by Denny Thostenson

While I was sitting in my backyard swing, I was looking through my cell phone to see what Florida's most famous resident had done, which was newsworthy (no name should be needed).

Something caught my eye. A new mint error has been found on the 1776-1976 Washington quarter and was being offered on eBay for \$20,000.

I have been a mint error collector for many decades. I cannot envision an error on a semi-modern coin being worthy of a \$20,000 price.



I went inside and opened my computer to eBay and selected the 1776-1976 Washington quarter mint error. What I found absolutely floored me.

I found OVER 50 eBay ads offering a 1776-1976-D Washington quarter WITH A FILLED MINT MARK. That means that the "D" does

not have an opening in the center. It's just a blob of metal who's outside shape is a "D".

My fellow Americans, a filled mint mark is a fairly common occurrence. It should not be considered a mint error.

It is what happens during the lifetime of the working die. The extreme pressure used to strike a coin can cause metal fatigue after several thousand strikings.

In the collecting world, its value is minimal.

In going through eBay offerings, I saw circulated quarters with the filled mint mark being offered from \$1,200 down to \$3 (three dollars plus shipping) for the same variety.

If you have \$1,200 that is burning a hole in your pocket, go to your Palm Beach Coin Club monthly coin show and purchase properly graded coins from reputable dealers.

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Dues are \$15 for the year

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