



Palm Beach Coin News

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

May 2023

Volume 33, Number 5

May 2023 Events

May 7

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

May 10

PBCC Meeting: ★ Free Food Night ★
★"The History of the Philadelphia Mint"★
by Gregg Wagner

May 14

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

May 21

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

May 24

PBCC Meeting: Doors open at 5:00PM
★"Silver Commemorative Half Dollars"★
by Gregg Wagner

May 28

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

The April 12th Slab Auction realized \$2974. The club made \$298. April 26th, Gregg Wagner spoke on "Shield Nickels" and George Kovacic ran the "Grading Contest".

The 2024 Red Books are in. The hard cover is \$10.50, the soft cover is \$9.50. 17 hard covers were given to the Palm Beach County Library System. Supplies are limited, get yours early.

May 10th is Free Food Night. We eat at 6PM. We will have pizza, calzone, stromboli, and desserts from Colombino's. Subs from Vince's. Gregg Wagner will speak on "The History of the Philadelphia Mint". May 24th Gregg Wagner will speak on "Silver Commemorative Half Dollars".

The club bus trip to Summer FUN is Friday, July 14th leaving from Iglesia Familiar Church, 855 S. Jog Rd, WPB, at the NW corner of Jog & Summit Blvd. 7AM SHARP! We need your \$30 for the trip ASAP. See Tony at the meeting or at the show.

Tony

Hobo Nickel Collecting

By Aaron Handler

Each hobo nickel started out by being an ordinary Indian head (Buffalo) nickel issued by the U.S. mint between the years 1913 to

1938. These nickel's features have been altered by various people, some were actually hobos, who crudely altered the Indian's features in order to trade the altered nickel for a free meal, a place to sleep, or for a ride on a freight train. Other nickels were altered by people who were as skilled as master engravers. The most common alteration made was that of a bearded man wearing a derby hat which resembled a hobo. In short, a hobo nickel is a form of American folk art.

Various tools were used to make hobo nickels, such as: screwdrivers, awls, files, engraving tools, fine chisels, small hammers, dental tools, grinding wheels, dental drills, and diamond pencils. Some hobo nickel engravers are known by name but many are not.

The *Original Hobo Nickel Society, Inc.*, was founded in 1992. The society can authenticate and grade hobo nickels like NGC and PCGS

grades U.S. and foreign coins. They use the following five rating levels: Crude, Below Average, Average, Above Average, and Superior. In addition, their scale is refined with a plus (+) for high-end and a minus (-) for low-end levels within each rating.

A starter guide book for beginner hobo nickel collectors is a must read. The fourth printing of the *Hobo Nickel Guidebook* by Stephen P. Albert was published in 2014. The *Original Hobo Nickel Society, Inc.* can be contacted at "HoboNickels.Org." They will have representatives at the January 2023 *FUN Show* in Orlando, FL and they will also hold a Saturday morning meeting and auction at the *FUN Show*.

Examples of hobo nickels that have been sold on eBay in 2011 are shown below.

Some Recent eBay Sales of Hobo Nickels



Larry Foster \$104



Chris Stinnett \$89



Howard Thomas \$284



Howard Thomas \$401



Dave Boulay \$100



Unknown \$63.50



Rita Hutchings \$125



Rita Hutchings \$110

Denny's Minutia's Coins The 1942 Over 1941 Mercury Dime Overdate

by Denny Thostenson

Across the many years of coinage production, the mint used many conservation methods due to the fact that the coinage dies were not of today's high quality hardened dies.

It became common to try to extend the life of the die. Many times, due to production issues, the useful lifespan was extended rather than discard a still usable die.

Mint engravers would rework the dies design and repunch a different date over the original date, hence making it usable again.

In some cases, the new date would entirely obliterate the original date in other cases, little was done to obliterate the original date.

The 1942 over 1941 Mercury dime perhaps fell into that category.

On occasion, a mixup occurred between the initial hubbing process where the first impression was made and the trip back to the hubbing room for annealing, a second impression was made by a hub of the following years date. We may never know if the mistake was noticed but ignored due to pressures of production quotas or they just didn't notice the error.

What is interesting is that both the Philadelphia die and the Denver die both had the double date and went into production.

Today, Numismatists refer to these errors as "Overdates" (Numismatists are clever chaps, aren't they?).

These errors almost always command a substantial premium because the production was limited and the demand is substantial.

Another reason for the popularity of these Mercury overdates is there can be little discussion of the two distinctly different dates as they can be authenticated with a low power magnifying glass (note the photos).

Current Greysheet prices for the "P" mint overdate, in AU58, is \$1,600 and the "D" mint overdate in AU58 is \$1,500.

Needless to say, at these lofty prices, I would not recommend buying either of these coins without being slabbed by one of the leading slabbing companies (ANACS, ICG, NGC, or PCGS).



"DISCLAIMER"

The PBCC Newsletter is published for the purpose of disseminating numismatic news, club information, and educational material. Articles in the Newsletter are the opinions of the authors and are not necessarily those of the Editor, the Officers or the Board of Directors. All authors are fully responsible for the information in their articles and its accuracy. Articles submitted for publication that the Club Officers, the Board of Directors, or the Editor may deem inappropriate for the Newsletter, will be rejected.

PBCC Membership Application

Dues are \$15 for the year

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ (optional)

Date _____

How did you hear about us? _____

Join Today!

Mail your completed application and check for \$15 to:

PBCC
P.O. Box 5823
Lake Worth, FL 33466

308 Members and Growing!



***Visitors Are
Always Welcome!***

AFFIX
POSTAGE
HERE

PBCC
P.O. Box 5823
Lake Worth, FL 33466