

Palm Beach Coin News

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE PALM BEACH COIN CLUB

July 2022

Volume 32, Number 07

July 2022 Events

July 3 - No Show in July

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

July 7-9

Summer FUN Show - North/South Bldg, Hall SA1

July 10

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

July 13

PBCC Meeting: Doors open at 5:00PM

Meeting Begins at 7:00PM

★ "Buried Treasure, America's Earliest Finds"

By Gregg Wagner★

July 17

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

July 24

PBCC Coin Show

American Polish Club, 4725 Lake Worth Rd., Greenacres

July 27

PBCC Meeting: Doors open at 5:00PM

Meeting begins at 7:00PM

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

Friday, July 8th is our bus trip to *Summer FUN*. The bus leaves Iglesia Familia Church, 855 Jog Rd, at the NW corner of Jog Rd & Summit Blvd. at 7AM sharp. All payments for this trip should be in. *Summer FUN* has sold out with 270 dealer booths. The show is in the new convention center opposite the old one. The North/South Building. Hall SA1. As you are looking at the new convention center from International Dr., the show is in the front left by the Hyatt Regency Hotel. July 7-9, starting at 10AM on Thursday July 7th.

Wednesday, July 13th will be a report and discussion on *Summer FUN*. Wednesday, July 27th, Gregg Wagner will have a program on "Buried Treasure, America's Earliest Finds".

Wednesday, August 10th, Steve Feiertag will have a program on "Lincoln Cents". He will talk and show his PCGS Registry Set. Wednesday, August 24th will be a "Mini Coin Show Bourse". Members are encouraged to bring their coins and currency to buy sell and trade with **free tables** on a first come first serve basis.

Denny's Minutia's Coins

Cast Counterfeits

by Denny Thostenson

One of the things that keep coin collectors up at night are the things we don't understand, or more often than not, we know nothing about what it is we are looking at, Numismatically speaking.

The 1936 Walking Liberty half dollar is one such instance.

On a rainy afternoon this fall, I took out a coin that has bothered me for a while. I was determined to learn more about the history of this "Gem".

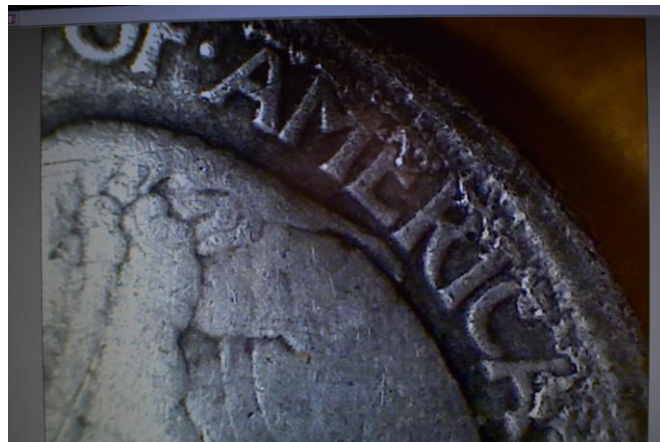
Under a 75 watt lamp and a 16X power hand held lens, I could see a very porous surface, especially when I focused on the date and lettering (note photo of IN GOD WE TRUST). This is caused by the counterfeiter pressing a genuine coin into a very fine sand cast. When the molten metal is poured into the cast die, the end result is a porous and a surface lacking sharpness.



As my lens worked its way around the surface, I stopped at the date. There is a tremendous amount of "extra metal" all around the numerals (note photo of date).

On the reverse, the extra metal was most noticeable around the word AMERICA (note photo of America). By this time, I had come to the conclusion that this coin was not made at a UNITED STATES mint.

To further my theory, I placed the coin under a portable electron microscope that a loong time friend, *Ron Plask has loaned me.



*At this point in this article I must thank Ron, a long time active dealer and educator in our clubs. Without Ron, these articles would not exist (so blame him).

After circumnavigating the reverse of the coin under a microscope, I determined that almost the entire reverse had this coarse extra metal between the lettering and the rim.

In conclusion, I am a proud owner of a great example of a cast counterfeit Walking Liberty Half dollar. While the coin itself is not valuable, as a tool to learn about counterfeits, it's priceless.

Denny's Minutia's Coins
1880-CC Morgan Dollar 8/7
VAM-5 Overdate
by Denny Thostenson

I think that it is safe to say that the Morgan and Peace dollars have been the most popular series of any coin collected within the past 50 years. They are beautifully designed, made of 90% silver and are widely available at every coin show.

Most collectors today don't know it but in 1964 silver dollars were available in bag quantities for face value. Gambling casinos used silver dollars in their slot machines. The sound of silver dollars could be heard all over the casinos when someone hit the right combination of icons. Literally hundreds of silver dollars sliding down into a tray, meanwhile rubbing against one another.

Just the thought of it would cause the average coin collector's hair to stand on end (those collectors have enough hair to stand on end).

Numismatic scholars of that time were looking closely at silver dollars to determine the differences between one date and mintmark and that of others. Names like: Walter Breen, Ted Clark, Del Ford, James Johnson (of *Coin World* fame), Art Leister, Neil Shafer (of *Red Book* fame), Leroy Van Allen and A. George Mallis (of the most successful VAM book on die varieties).

As I explained in my earlier article on overmintmarks, the mint frequently used dies from a previous year in a current year by simply filling in the void in the working die where the mintmark and date was and punching the new desired mintmark or date. Thus creating what we today refer to as an overmintmark or overdate.

The coin pictured in this article is found on the 1880 Carson City silver dollar. This peculiar variety is one of my favorites because it CLEARLY shows the new "8" over a very distinct "7". The Morgan dollar series has many overdates that are very collectable and even in today's frenzied market, can be Cherry Picked (that means that you can find an overdate in a dealer's inventory and not pay a premium over the price of the common coin).



Below the 2nd "8" you can clearly see the crossbar of the "7", the outline of the stem is also seen below the "8" you can see the bottom of the "7" and on top of the "8" there are prominent "ears" of the "7". If you look closely at the "8", you can see what we refer to as extra metal on top of the "8" where the crossbar would be.



In future articles I will discuss the overdates of the other four mints that were producing Morgan dollar in the year 1880.

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