



Palm Beach Coin News

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

July 2023

Volume 33, Number 7

July 2023 Events

July 2

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

July 9

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

July 12

PBCC Meeting: Doors open at 5:00PM

July 13-15

17th Annual Summer FUN Show, Orlando

July 14

PBCC Summer FUN Bus Trip - Leaves @ 7AM

July 16

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

July 23

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

July 26

PBCC Meeting: Doors open at 5:00PM

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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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

BUS TRIP TO SUMMER FUN - SOLD OUT!

The bus trip to Summer FUN is finally sold out. No seats are available. Do not show up and think you are getting on the bus if you have not pre-paid. Academy bus leaves at 7AM sharp from Iglesia Familiar Church, 855 Jog Rd, at the NW corner of Jog Rd & Summit Blvd.

Once again, Rechant Metals donated a lot of coin supplies to the club for auction. Everything sold at the June 14th Wednesday night meeting.

The meetings in July are the 12th and 26th. Gregg Wagner will have a program at both meetings. Our monthly Coin Show is Sunday July 23rd. Summer FUN is July 13th to 15th, Thursday through Saturday. 10AM to 6PM. I will be at Summer FUN Wednesday to Saturday, so don't try to contact me then.

Tony

Denny's Minutia's Coins
Contemporary Counterfeits
on Morgan Dollars
by Denny Thostenson

Before I could write an article on this very important and complex topic, I had to dig up my Funk and Wagnall dictionary and

look up the meaning of "contemporary" and uncover how it related to Morgan dollars.

I guess the best place to start is the first time I read that there were known counterfeit Morgan dollars.

Back in June of 2005, I notice and kept, an article in the *Numismatist* entitled, *Contemporary Counterfeits*.

The article stated that PCGS has received a number of "Micro O" silver dollars for grading and encapsulation, all dated 1896-O, 1900-O and 1902-O. Up until this time, Micro "O" mintmarks were scarce (R-5). They were a known variety and listed as a VAM in the authoritative book on silver dollar varieties, *The Comprehensive Catalog and Encyclopedia of US Morgan and Peace Dollars* by Leroy Van Allen and A. George Mallis.

What had initially waved a yellow flag for PCGS was that all three Micro "O" dates shared the exact same reverse. Numismatists have known for hundreds of years that the Mint frequently re-used both obverse and reverse die in later years. This is where overdates and overmint marks come from.

These three known counterfeits are legal to own and are very collectable.

This is where the description "contemporary" enters the picture. These coins were obviously not struck in the New Orleans Mint. At this point in time, no one knows "who" manufactured these counterfeit Morgan or "when" it was done.

Contemporary is used to show that the coins were "being struck during the same period of time" that the Morgan dollar series was being struck at our mints.

Even that speculation is open for discussion. Without further evidence to the contrary.

But my friends, the story does not end there. Due to space constraints and a topic that is not of interest to very many collectors, I end this article right here.



For those that have interest, you can go online to VAMworld.com and read much, much more.

A gentleman named Daniel Carr wrote a fascinating story on not only the three known Contemporary Counterfeits, but other dates... all "O" mintmarked dollars. His findings are documented with an easy to follow slide presentation and sharp photos.

I cannot encourage you enough to investigate this.

Since the article that I took much of the information from (The Numismatist, June 2005) came out, a lot of very dedicated researchers dug more deeply into the "micro O" mint mark. They took a close look at the other recognized "micro O" mintmark varieties of that era.

They have discovered that since the discovery of the three original micro "O" varieties had been discovered, other coins with normal size "O" mint marks were found to share the same obverse dies. All privately made. 16 of these have been discovered since 2014.

So in addition to the original three dates, 1896-O, 1900-O and 1902-O. What is unusual is they share the same reverse which is recognized as being molded from an 1899-O reverse.



To those original three dates, you can now add: 1893-O, 1894-O, 1896-O 1900-O, 1901-O and 1902-O.

It is theorized that the micro "O" was the same punch used on Barber quarters.

As I said before, I must give 100% credit to Daniel Carr for his research and compilation of all of this information.

I strongly encourage anyone interested in this major development in the history of the Morgan dollar series, to go online to VAMworld and download the articles and slide presentation on Contemporary Counterfeits on Morgan Dollars.

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