



# Palm Beach Coin News

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

August 2023

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## August 2023 Events

### August 6

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

### August 9

**PBCC Meeting: Doors open at 5:00PM**  
★ **Gregg Wagner PowerPoint Presentation** ★

### August 13

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

### August 20

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

### August 23

**PBCC Meeting: Doors open at 5:00PM**  
★ **Gregg Wagner PowerPoint Presentation** ★

### August 27

**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 club bus trip had 35 of the 39 who paid, on the bus. Carole Marshall, the bus captain, said everything went well. My *FUN Show* report follows.

Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>, Greg Wagner will have a PowerPoint program and handout. The club auction is available to all club members in August. You can put up to eight lots in the auction at no charge to club members. Get to the meeting early and set up at a table and sell your coins and memorabilia at no charge to club members.

I have about ten hard cover *Red Books* left at \$10.50 each.

Tony

## 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer FUN Show July 13-16, 2023

The 17<sup>th</sup> annual *Summer FUN Show* had 4350 in attendance, including 130 early bird dealers. The sold-out bourse floor had 275 dealer booths with a waiting list to get a table. The show included the U.S. Mint featuring the first sales of the new 2023 Morgan & Peace dollars at \$79 each. Lines to Purchase the 2023 dollars were one hour long every day. We had an Ancient & Foreign section, budget section, club section, Wizard supply, educational seminars, Heritage Auctions, exhibits, Coins & Kids booth (over

200 kids participated), panning for gold, the YN program had 30 attendees, the Scout program had 55, and all the major grading services were there.

There were four club buses that brought 132 club members to the show. Greater Jacksonville/Ancient City clubs had 43 on board, Palm Beach had 35, and Ocala and West Hernando had 27 club members each.

This was Katie Williams' first FUN Show as show coordinator on her own. Everything went smoothly. Cindy Wibker was FUN Show coordinator for 30 years and is still on board as FUN Secretary.

The temperature outside was 95 degrees with showers in the afternoon, but it was very cool on the bourse floor.

We now look forward to our big show January 4-7, 2024, North/South Building, Hall NB, the same location as this past January.

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## Denny's Minutia's Coins The World's Columbian Exposition Half Dollar

by Denny Thostenson

The Act of Congress of August 5th, 1892 authorized a maximum of 5,000,000 to be coined, by the mint in Philadelphia to help defray the cost of buildings and exhibits. This was to be the first of the Great World's Fair to be honored with a commemorative coin. It was scheduled to be opened in Chicago in October 1892. The actual opening date was May 1st, 1893.

The Exposition experienced financial difficulties right from the start. The commemorative coins were to be sold to the public for \$1 each, which was a considerable sum in that day and age.

The U.S. Congress withheld 1,141,760 coins from the 1893 mintage as security to cover the expense of awards, metals and judges. Many of the coins that they did get remained unsold and eventually were spent at face value (\$.50) or even melted.



Chicago was selected over other cities as they had a tract of 686 acres bordering on Lake Michigan. The Exposition people had to erect 150 buildings.

Charles Barber, the Mint's Chief Engraver, was selected to design the obverse which was to have a bust of Christopher Columbus.

It was decided that the reverse would have a three masted ship with two hemispheres and Barber turned over the design to George Morgan, his assistant.

On the day of the initial striking of the first coin, a number of dignitaries were present. The first coin struck was taken from the press and placed in a small box for presentation to the owner of Remington Typewriter. Upon closer examination, it was found that the planchet had a flaw, so another coin was struck (and the first coin was discarded). The owner of Remington paid \$10,000 for the first, properly struck coin.

From there, 103 coins were struck and referred to as Proofs. Even though the planchets and the dies were not treated as Proof coins were prepared in that era.

Today, Proof Columbian halves are distinguishable from business strikes by sharp, crisp strikes on mirrored fields. This has been a topic of concern as Prooflike strikes are known to exist and can be confused as Proofs.

It has been long known that the mint regularly used proof dies after the run of proofs was finished, to strike business strikes.

NGC wrote a very interesting article on the Columbian Half dollar with Proof Columbian half dollars with diagnostics included, on 12/11/2012.

In writing this article, I went on eBay to get a clearer picture of a Proof coin. I saw several halves slabbed by recognized slabbing companies, with cons that do not contain the diagnostics mentioned by NGC.

What that means is, you can find a very well struck Columbian Half Dollar, dates 1892 or 1893 and it could be a Proof coin.

The current issue (2023) of *A Guide Book of United States Coins* does mention the striking of 100 proof coins for each date, they do not list a price nor does the current Greysheet.

A word of caution. Do not buy an alleged Proof Columbian Half Dollar that is graded Mint State (MS) and expect to be buying a Proof. A Proof coin will be graded "Proof" and should be slabbed by a recognized grading service.

I must mention that I used *The Encyclopedia of United States Silver & Gold Commemorative Coins* and NGC'S excellent study on this topic *1892 Columbian Half Dollar* (12/11/2012).

## **PALM BEACH COIN CLUB**

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### **Meetings held at:**

American Polish Club

4725 Lake Worth Road, Greenacres

Telephone: 964-7236

**Website:** [pbcc.anaclubs.org](http://pbcc.anaclubs.org)

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ANA Member Club

# 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

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