



# Palm Beach Coin News

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE PALM BEACH COIN CLUB

December 2025 - January 2026



## HAPPY HOLIDAYS



### December 2025 Events

#### December 7

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

#### December 10

*PBCC Meeting: Doors open at 5:00PM*  
*Dinner at 6:00PM*

*\* Potluck Dinner and White Elephant Sale \**

#### December 14

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



#### December 21

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

#### December 24 - NO MEETING

#### December 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			

### January 2026 Events

#### January 4

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

#### January 7

*PBCC Meeting 7:00PM, Doors open 5:00PM*

#### January 8-11

*71<sup>st</sup> Annual FUN Show Convention*, Orange County  
Convention Center, North/South Bldg, Hall NB, Orlando

#### January 11

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

#### January 17 & 18

*62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Treasure Coast Coin Show*  
Vero Beach Community Center, 14<sup>th</sup> Ave & 23<sup>rd</sup> St., Vero Beach

#### January 18





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

#### January 21

*PBCC Meeting 7:00PM, Doors open 5:00PM*  
*\* Estate auction #53 \**

#### January 25

*PBCC Coin Show*, American Polish Club, 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

Our club has a table at the West Palm Beach "Gem & Mineral Show" at the Expo Center Saturday & Sunday November 22-23. We are promoting our club.

**Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> is the Potluck Dinner & White Elephant Sale.** Everyone should bring a covered dish such as potato salad, mac & cheese, green bean casserole, scalloped potatoes, dessert, etc. The club will provide meat and drinks. The *White Elephant Sale* bring a radio, a TV, a scale, painting, golf clubs, numismatic items, tools etc., all for the benefit of the club. **We eat at 6 PM. No coin set up or coin auction. This is a party.** This is the only meeting in December. We have our coin show on December 28<sup>th</sup>.

The club election for 2026 was as follows, President- Tony Swicer, VP- John Pellegrino, Sec.- Sid Talavera, Tres- Robert Leneve, Board- Tony Acevedo, Rick Carver, Jack Diaz, Bruce Eleshewich, George Kovacic, Carole Marshall, Kelley McDougall, Tim Morley, Ed Napoli, Sandy Pearl, Larry Siehl, Gregg Wagner. Director of YN's- Dan Peceraro, Newsletter Editor- Rick Carver.

The bus trip to the January *FUN Show* is Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 AM leaving from Iglesia Familiar Church, 855 Jog Rd, WPB, on the NW corner of Jog Rd. & Summit Blvd. The bus leaves at 7 AM sharp and returns about 8 PM the same day. \$30 per person, see Tony. Only 11 seats left.

The *FUN Show* is in Hall NB, the new building directly across International Drive from the Rosen Center. The show is in the back right hall, same as last January. Shuttle buses run from the host hotels to the show and back. The parking lot next to the show cost \$20 per day. There will be two major paper money collections displayed at the *FUN Show*. My Kentucky National Bank Note Collection of 650 different notes and a collection of New York National Bank Notes, all serial #1's.

The club essay contest deadline is December 31<sup>st</sup>. Send your essay

to [swicer@comcast.net](mailto:swicer@comcast.net) to possibly be picked to win a trip to the *ANA Summer Seminar* in Colorado Springs June 2026. In 500 words or less, tell us why you want to go and how it will benefit you and the coin club. We have three essays so far. The club pays airfare and tuition (\$1800 value).

Estate auction #53 is Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> (enclosed). We will have a big type coin auction on Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>. Details to follow.

Dues are due every January, except for new members who joined late in 2025. Dues are \$15 a year or \$150 life membership. See Tony to pay.

Tony

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## The Alaska Gold Rush, Yesterday and Today

By Tony Swicer

We finally did it, we went to Alaska. My wife, my son, and I took the Holland America Lines, Statendam on a one week cruise up the inner passage from Vancouver to Seward. We stopped at Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, and College Fiord. We took a bus from Seward to Anchorage and then we rode the Alaska Railway from Anchorage to Denali National park and then on to Fairbanks. The land trip was four days and we flew home from Fairbanks.

I see Alaskan gold in three ways, 1. Gold found in the ground, 2. Oil from the North slope, and 3. Tourism.

1. Gold was discovered in Canada near Dawson Creek in the Klondike, Yukon Territory in 1898. Over the next few years, 100,000 men and women headed north, but only 30,000 to 40,000 reached the gold fields of the Klondike. 4,000 actually found gold, and a few hundred became rich. The easiest way to the gold was up the west coast by ship and through the Alaskan coast to the interior.

Gold was discovered in a creek near Juneau in 1880. Near where our ship docked, there was a goldmine that operated from 1912 to 1944 and

recovered \$88 million in gold during that time. Panning for gold was the easiest way to find it. Gold being heavy, over a period of many years would deposit itself down to the bedrock. The bedrock was usually ten to twenty feet below the surface. Streams would wash away the surface dirt down to the bedrock and expose the gold. After gold could no longer be found in the stream, shaft mining started. After shaft mining, huge gold dredges would tear up the earth moving tons of earth down to the bedrock.

At Skagway from 1898 on, miners went up to the Klondike. We rode a train 20 miles up to White Pass and saw the actual trail of the miners. In the winter time it reached 50 degrees below zero and over 3,000 pack animals died near White Pass.

Gold was discovered in Fairbanks in 1901 and is still mined today. Two gold mines retrieve 75 pounds of gold every week. We panned for gold at the Eldorado gold mine and everyone found gold. I had  $4\frac{1}{2}$  grams of gold and my wife and son both panned  $5\frac{1}{2}$  grams. The gold dredges were in this area. The dredge we were on would dig up the earth for two weeks. They used mercury to recover the gold then heat it to separate the gold from the mercury. After two weeks of dredging, they would recover \$5 million worth of gold. Dredging was stopped in 1959 by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Gold has been found in many areas of Alaska and there is more gold still in the ground than has been recovered. Other minerals mined are coal and zinc, to name a few.

2. Oil was discovered in the 1950's but recovering it was a major problem. The North Slope oil field had a pipeline built 800 miles from Barro down to the port of Valdez. The 48" diameter pipe cost \$8 billion and had 21,000 workers from 1975 to 1977. Peak oil production was 1988 with 2 million barrels of oil pumped per day. Today it produces 688,000 barrels per day. This is 16% of our country's usage. This oil field is expected to last about another 30 years. Near Fairbanks we touched the oil pipeline.

3. Tourism is gold in Alaska. Holland America Lines has five ships sailing Alaska. They own the ships, the buses, part of the train, the hotels, and some of the attractions. Each ship holds 1,200 to 2,000 people at \$2,000 to \$3,000 per person. There are other ship lines cruising Alaska. Every excursion on land can be \$40 to \$300 per person. Food on land is expensive. We had a small fish & chips for \$14.95 and the soda was \$2.50. Dinner on land can be \$20 to \$30 and up. Any meal on land is \$15 and up. A gallon of milk can be \$12 and a loaf of bread \$8. You had to go thru a gift shop to get out of every attraction. There were too many jewelry shops at every port all selling 50% off.

Alaska's roadway system is the size of the city of Chicago. The main road north-south, goes from Seward to Fairbanks. The east-west is the Al-Can highway from Dawson to Fairbanks. The best way to travel is by boat or plane.

Alaska has 586,000 square miles. The population is 600,000 with 290,000 in Anchorage. Fairbanks has 33,000 and Juneau 31,000. The temperature was 42 to 46 degrees on the cruise. It was 35 degrees at Denali and 74 degrees at Fairbanks.

1oz. silver medals were \$60 to \$100 each. I saw a coin shop in Anchorage but I did not have time to visit. I bought 2 medals in Ketchikan for \$2.50 each.

The most spectacular sight I saw was flying back over the Glacier Bay area, the mountains were snow covered with huge glaciers winding for miles. There were so many and what a sight.

#### "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

**286 Members and Growing!**



***Visitors Are  
Always Welcome!***



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Lake Worth, FL 33466