The Palm Beach Coin Club

50th Anniversary
1960 – 2010

Tony Swicer

American Numismatic Association

Florida United Numismatists, Inc.
Palm Beach Coin Club
Historical Events

1960 - 1985

1960
PBCC Organized

1964
Coin Market Peaks

1971 - 1972
GSA Sale
2.9M “CC” Dollars

1973
Coin Market Peaks

1976
WPCC Organized by
Bob Mason, Ed Postal,
Ed Filipowski, & Ken Embler

1976 - 1990
Randy Campbell,
WPCC President

1978
Redfield Dollar Hoard
407,000 Silver Dollars

1979
ANACS Organized

1980
Gold Hits $825 oz.
Silver Hits $52 oz.
Silver coins 22 times face

1980
PBCC Celebrates
50th Anniversary

1985 - 2010

1985
Coin Market Peaks
PCGS Organized

1986
PCGS Organized

1992
WPCC Merges
with PBCC

2000
PBCC Celebrates
40th Anniversary

2002
PBCC Graduates Nine
Members from
ANA Diploma Program

2003
PBCC Wins ANA Best
Promotion of National Coin Week

2008
Tony Swicer
25 Years as President

2009
PBCC Wins FUN
Florida Coin Club of the Year Award

2010
PBCC Celebrates
50th Anniversary
The Palm Beach Coin Club (PBCC) was organized in 1960 at the George Washington Hotel (Helen Wilkes Resident Hotel) on Flagler Drive in West Palm Beach. An early postcard tells us that the club originally met on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of every month. Members were notified of the meetings via postcard.
Because we have a wooden nickel from 1960, we know that the first club President was George Batsche. Prior to 1970, virtually all records of the club were thrown out by Jack Pollino.

We have the Treasurers’ reports from 1971 onward. George Batsche was still a member in 1971 and the club President was Charlie Johnstone. Ed Polyanchek joined the club in 1961 and is the longest living member. The Treasurer’s record shows that I joined the club in 1973. Club dues at this time were $3 a year. We met at the 1st Federal Savings & Loan at the corner of Southern Boulevard and South Olive in West Palm Beach. We met upstairs in the back of the bank. The building is still there today. The club had to move in 1976 and over the next three years met at The School Board building off Belvedere, Home Federal Bank on South Dixie, and Bonanza Steak House on Congress Avenue in Palm Springs.

First Federal Savings and Loan building
The club’s first coin show was on the weekend of March 30 - 31, 1974 at the Palm Beach Mall. Tables were $35 each, 25 dealers participated, and the Mall charged the club $125 for the show space. Profit from the show was about $100, boosting the club’s bank balance into the mid $300’s.

In 1976 several members were disenchanted with the direction or lack of direction that the club was taking. So they started the West Palm Coin Club (WPCC) in the back of Ed Postal’s coin shop. WPCC met on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every month and PBCC met on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, so there was a club meeting every week, either PBCC or WPCC. Randy Campbell was President of that club from 1976 to 1990 when he left the area to work at ANACS in Colorado Springs. In 1992 the WPCC merged back into the PBCC.

We had a coin show in the Haverhill Town Hall in 1978 with 22 tables. In 1979 we moved into the Haverhill Town Hall, thanks to club members Councilman Harold Blinn and Mayor Chuck Stoddard. We met there until 1998. From 1979 to 1982, the club shows were at the Sheraton Hotel on Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., thanks to President Al Tressel. From 1983 to 1987, Jack Pollino secured the Colonnades Beach Hotel on Singer Island for our annual shows. We had 60 to 65 tables per show. North American Rare Coins (NARC) held the club auctions from 1983 to 1985. The Coin Guild of Delray outbid NARC for the auction in 1986 and 1987, putting $3300 into the club treasury. The club did not have another show until 1997.

Haverhill Town Hall
The club met at St. Mary’s Orthodox Church from 1998 to 2001, when we were asked to leave without notice. We have met at the West Palm Beach Garden Club since 2001.

West Palm Beach Garden Club

In 1997 we held our first coin show in 10 years at the Holiday Inn, I-95 and Boynton Beach Blvd. It was a huge success and we decided to continue our annual shows. In 1998 the show moved to the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1155 S. Congress Ave., where the show is held to this day. After four annual shows we decided to go to a monthly show, the last Sunday of every month. We later made it the 4th Sunday of every month. In May of 2001 we went to the monthly show format. We have had the monthly show there for nine years now.
Club membership in the 1970’s and 1980’s was 30 to 40 members. By 1986, with a market peak, we were up to 140. In 2000 we were at 130 and in 2009 we peaked at 289 paid members. The monthly show and the club brochure are the main reasons for the increase.

Membership over the Past 10 Years

Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>130</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>155</td>
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<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>192</td>
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<td>2003</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>243</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>262</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>265</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>275</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>289</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I became President in 1982 - 83, then again in 1986 to present (27 years). In that time we have developed ideas on running a coin club that no other clubs do. From 1983 to 1990 I was the buyer for the Coin Guild in Delray Beach. As buyer, on trips when I had extra time, I would purchase coins and paper money for the club auction at cost. The club would then make money off the auction lots.

Club Auction Catalogs from the 1980’s
In 2001, several club members started the **ANA Diploma Program**. The program consists of six correspondence courses, two videos, and the *Money Talks* book. We had 35 club members take the **Grading Mint State Coins** course. In August of 2002, nine of us were the first to graduate from this program. Since then, we have graduated nine more members, they are: Mike Bolognesi, Billy Devine Jr., Francis Musella, Antonio Acevedo, Rick Fairchild, Gil Stine, Chuck Heck, and Gary Stalter.
We started the **Pot Luck Dinner** and **White Elephant Sale** in the mid-1990’s. At the December party, everyone brings a covered dish and the club provides the meats and drinks. In the White Elephant Sale are items that members don’t want, so they donate them to the club and the sale pays for the food.

**Pot Luck Dinner and White Elephant sale**

We offered club calendars for the first time in 2001. Every meeting and coin show date is stamped in red ink. In 2002, Bruce Ollis built our club website pbcc.anclub.org and we were up and running.
In 2003 we celebrated **National Coin Week** and we were honored by the ANA with a plaque for the best promotion of National Coin Week. We also received an **ANA Summer Seminar Scholarship** worth $500 which was awarded to YN Francis Musella.

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**NATIONAL COIN WEEK**

**APRIL 20-26, 2003**

**PALM BEACH COIN CLUB’s**

**OPEN HOUSE**

The Palm Beach Coin Club will be holding an “Open House” for all guests at 7 PM Wednesday April 23rd at our coin club meeting. Free refreshment, door prizes and a program entitled, “Tale of the Coin”.

The club is located across from the Science museum in the Dreher Park at the West Palm Beach Garden Club, 4800 Dreher Trail North, WPB.

Scouts in uniform get a free door prize.

For further information, call Tony Swicer at 561-964-8180, M-F, 9-5
We initiated the **Club Member of the Year Award** to honor our volunteers who help with setting up our monthly show and help at club meetings. The winner and runner-ups receive gift certificates to local restaurants. In the last two years we handed out 16 silver eagles each year. We decided early on that Board members would not be eligible for Club Member of the Year, even though they have worked just as hard as other club volunteers.

### Club Member of the Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Member of the Year</th>
<th>YN Member of the Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Bud Maguire</td>
<td>YN Francis Musella</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Gary Cooper</td>
<td>YN Francis Musella</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Sandy Pearl</td>
<td>YN Paul Eleshewich</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Bud Maguire</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>Antonio Acevedo</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Andy Hartmann</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Andy Hartmann / Ed Napoli</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
In 2004, the club newsletter expanded to four pages thanks to Editor Rick Carver and first articles by Eric Brothers. We threw a surprise birthday party for Ed Polyanchek. The cake had “160” years on it, making him our only Civil War veteran.

Civil War Veteran Ed Polyanchek’s “160th” Birthday Party

In 2005, the club received a 25 Year Plaque from the ANA. The first Summer FUN Show was in 2007 and was held at the Palm Beach County Convention Center, in downtown West Palm Beach on Okeechobee Blvd., for the next two years. We had 19 club volunteers the first year, followed by 28 and 35 volunteers in the next two years. In 2008 we had our first bus trip to the January FUN Show in Orlando. Forty-two members went that year, followed by 39 members in 2009, and 43 members in 2010. All members went at no cost as the trips were all subsidized by FUN and the club paid the rest.
In 2009 the club won the **FUN Florida Coin Club of the Year Award** at Summer FUN. We received a life membership in FUN, $200, and a huge plaque. We competed against 25 other Florida clubs. Club VP Antonio Acevedo won a trip to the **ANA Summer Seminar** by writing an essay to FUN.

Club members that have been, or are currently on the FUN Board of Directors are Randy Campbell (past FUN President), Kenneth Embler, and Tony Swicer (current FUN Vice President).

The club has donated 24 new **Red Books** to the Palm Beach County Library System every year for the past 15 years.
Club Meeting Places

**Palm Beach Coin Club**

- **1960 – Mid 1960’s** -
  - George Washington Hotel, Flagler Drive

- **Mid 1960’s – 1975** -
  - First Federal Savings and Loan, Southern Blvd. and Olive

- **1976 – 1978** -
  - School Board on Belvedere
  - Home Federal Bank, S. Dixie
  - Bonanza Steak House, S. Congress Ave.

- **1979 – 1997** -
  - Haverhill Town Hall, Charlotte St.

- **1998 – 2000** -
  - St. Mary’s Orthodox Church, Florida Mango Road

- **2001 – Present** -
  - WPB Garden Club, Dreher Park

**West Palm Coin Club**

- **1976 – 1978** -
  - WPCC Formed
  - Ed Postal’s Coin Shop
  - Lake Worth High School
  - YMCA
  - Haverhill Town Hall

- **1979 – 1988** -
  - St. Mary’s Orthodox Church

- **1989 – 1991** -
  - Holy Redeemer Church, Kirk Rd.

- **1992** -
  - WPCC merges with PBCC
Coin Club Shows 1974 - 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Palm Beach Coin Club</th>
<th>West Palm Coin Club</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1974 Palm Beach Mall, March 30 - 31</td>
<td>1977 Holiday Inn, P.B. Gardens, 36 tables</td>
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<tr>
<td>1978 Haverhill Town Hall, 22 tables</td>
<td>1978 Holiday Inn, P.B. Gardens, 36 tables</td>
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<tr>
<td>1979 Sheraton Hotel, P.B. Lakes Blvd.</td>
<td>1979 Holiday Inn, P.B. Gardens, 36 tables,</td>
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<td>Auctions by Lyman Allen</td>
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<td>1980 Sheraton Hotel, P.B. Lakes Blvd.</td>
<td>1980 Holiday Inn, P.B. Gardens, 36 tables,</td>
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<td>Auctions by Lyman Allen</td>
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<tr>
<td>1981 Sheraton Hotel, P.B. Lakes Blvd.</td>
<td>1981 Holiday Inn, P.B. Gardens, 36 tables,</td>
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<td>Auctions by NARC</td>
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<td>1982 Sheraton Hotel, P.B. Lakes Blvd.</td>
<td>1982 Holiday Inn, P.B. Gardens, 36 tables,</td>
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<td>Auctions by NARC</td>
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<tr>
<td>1983 Colonnades Beach Hotel, October, NARC</td>
<td>1983 Holiday Inn, P.B. Gardens, 36 tables,</td>
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<td>Auctions by NARC</td>
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<tr>
<td>1984 Colonnades Beach Hotel, 69 tables, NARC</td>
<td>1984 Colonnades Beach Hotel, 70 tables,</td>
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<td>Auctions by NARC</td>
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<td>1985 Colonnades Beach Hotel, NARC Auction</td>
<td>1985 Colonnades Beach Hotel, 75 tables,</td>
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<td>Auctions by NARC</td>
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<tr>
<td>1986 Colonnades Beach Hotel, 60 tables, Coin Guild Auction</td>
<td>1986 Colonnades Beach Hotel, Auction Coin</td>
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<td>Guild</td>
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<td>1987 Colonnades Beach Hotel, Coin Guild Auction</td>
<td>Colonnades Beach Hotel, Auction Palm Beach</td>
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<td>Rare Coins</td>
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<td>In May, 2001 the Show went to a</td>
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<td>Monthly Format through to the Present</td>
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<td>2000 Knights of Columbus (March)</td>
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<td>2001 Knights of Columbus (March)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010 Knights of Columbus, 4th Sunday of the Month</td>
<td>1992 WPCC merges with PBCC</td>
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The PBCC Presidential Jet

Coin Guild Auction at the Colonnades Beach Hotel in 1986
Area Coin Shops
Past and Present

**Coin Guild, Inc.,** Delray Beach, 1982 -1990
- Owner: Jack DeNiro
- Employee: Tony Swicer - Buyer
- Auctions: January 1986 PBCC; March 1987 WPCC; October 1987 PBCC

**Ed Postal,** 1976

**Hallmark Precious Metals,** 1980 - 1983
- Owner: Jay Bain
- Manager: Andrew Kossin

**North American Rare Coins,** 1979 -1985
- Owners: Reid Spencer and Walt Hood
- Employees: Randy Campbell, John Fravel, Jan Lautzker, Bob Van Bummel
- Auctions: 1981 - 1985 WPCC; Nov. 8, 1985 Peach State; Nov. 30, 1985 in Ft. Lauderdale

Reid Spencer’s 1985 trip to China helped NARC go out of business, owing approximately $400,000 to consignors.

**Palm Beach Coin & Jewelry,** 1991 -1997
- Owner: Larry Charbonneau
- Employee: Jeff Biddle
- Auction: 1990 WPCC
- Bid Board on Thursday nights

**Palm Beach Rare Coins,** 1986 -1992
- Owners: Greg Holloway, Walt Hood, Tim Carroll
- Employees: Randy Campbell, John Fravel, Jeff Biddle
- Auctions: 1987 WPCC
- Famous “Bid Board” every Thursday Night, 750 Lots

**Rechant Precious Metals,** 1977 - Present
- Owner: Ray Duclos
- Employees: Tony Swicer, 1997 to present; Mark Duclos, 2008 to present
Those Who Have Gone Before Us

Jim Bell
Harold Blinn
Manny Bloom
Tom Burke
Cecil Clounch
Gary Cooper
Ken Damon
Bob Dempsey
President
Sam Edelson
Secretary
Ed Filipowski
Joe Guerney
“Wild” Bill Hartman
Ken Hillman
Treasurer
Rita Hirsh
Charlie & Helen Johnstone
President
Dale Konigsburg
Secretary
Bob Lankford
Lawrence Leneve
Francois Maussang
Paul Morgan
Robert Perry
Jack Pollino
President and Show Promoter
Walter Pritchard
Treasurer
James Roach
Bob Roberts
Al Rogoff
President
John Scott
Bob & Helen Spence
Tom Stanley
Mike Vaccara
Ernie & Myrtle Venturi
Ray Watson
Dave Whiting
Jack Yannon
Tony at Summer FUN

Gary Brown at a PBCC coin show

Pot Luck Dinner
Credits

- Researched and written by club President Tony Swicer.
- Assembled and edited by Newsletter Editor and Board Member Rick Carver.
- Palm Tree logo designed by Bob Spence.
- Historical events provided by the members of the Palm Beach Coin Club.
PBCC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Join Today!

Dues are $10 for the year

Name ____________________________________________

Address ________________________________________

______________________________________________

Phone _________________________________________ (optional)

Date _______________

How did you hear about us? ______________________

________________________________________________

Mail your completed application and payment to:

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