

Cumberland Coins

The Volunteer Coin Club Newsletter

April, 2015

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will on Tuesday April 14th starting at 6:30. The meeting is will be held at the 127 Senior Center on Highway 127 (Main Street) South of town. Doors open at 6:00.

We will be meeting in the kitchen/dining area this month rather than the main room. Drinks and snacks are allowed there if you want to bring one. We will have the usual business meeting, show and tell, raffle, member prize drawing and the auction at the meeting.

We are in need of more educational presentations. If you would be willing to prepare a 5-10 talk about something you are familiar with (or willing to research), please tell Ken Gates or Mike Puhl. The talks by the members have been well received and are a great addition to the meetings. Your help will be appreciated.

Coin Lore

An Early Calendar Medal

by Bill Groom

Here is a rather unusual medal that served a dual purpose. In addition to serving as a pocket calendar for the year 1852, it was also an advertising piece for the publishing firm of J.B. Hyde of 162 Fulton St. in N.Y. City. Made of brass, it has a diameter of 34mm, being smaller than a silver dollar but larger than a half dollar. The obverse illustrates a calendar for the first half of the year, and "J.B. HYDE / 162 FULTON ST. / PUBLISHER" appears within a scroll, below. The reverse provides a calendar for the second half of the year. Below is stated as follows: "PAT'D ACCORD'G TO ACT OF CONG'S / OCT. 21, 1851 BY I.B. PERSON / IN THE SOUTH'N DISTRICT OF NY."



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Mr. Hyde issued calendar medals for some other years, 1851-55, but his firm appears to have dissolved by 1856. While city directory information about Mr. Hyde is lacking, a listing for I.B. Person appears in Trow's 1857 NY issue. Ira B. Person is listed as a "cardwriter" working for a publisher by the name of Daniel B. Appleton at 346 Broadway.

While not exceedingly valuable, these pre-Civil War calendar medals are quite scarce. The handful seen by this writer have been in higher grades. So, it's a logical assumption that these medals offered greater appeal to collectors than they did as practical, pocket pieces of the time. It is unclear that a patent for this medal was ever approved. Similar calendar medals had circulated in England back in the 1700's. Regardless, this medal is telling of the times when many an American sought to patent his novel idea and strike it rich ... another Horatio Alger story.

Area Coin Shows

April 17-19 **Dalton, GA;** Georgia Numismatic Association (GNA) 51st Annual Coin Show. NW Georgia Trade and Convention Center, 2211 Dug Gap Battle Road

May 2 **Knoxville;** Coin Show, Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike (I-40 exit #378).

May 15-16 **Gallatin;** Coin & Currency Show. Gallatin Civic Center, 210 Albert Gallatin Ave.

June 6 **Knoxville;** Coin Show, Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike (I-40 exit #378).

For more information on some of these shows see <http://www.tsns.org/Tennessee Club Shows.html>

This Month's Raffle Prizes

		Est. Grade
1807	Large Cent	AG
1866	Shield Nickel (1st year rays type)	G/AG
1910-S	Barber Half	VG
1863	Civil War Token (For Public Good)	Fine
1925	Mercury Dime	XF

The Door Prize is a Trio of 1830-40's Canadian Penny Tokens, A/C.