

Cumberland Coins

The Volunteer Coin Club Newsletter

December, 2015

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will on Tuesday December 8th 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.

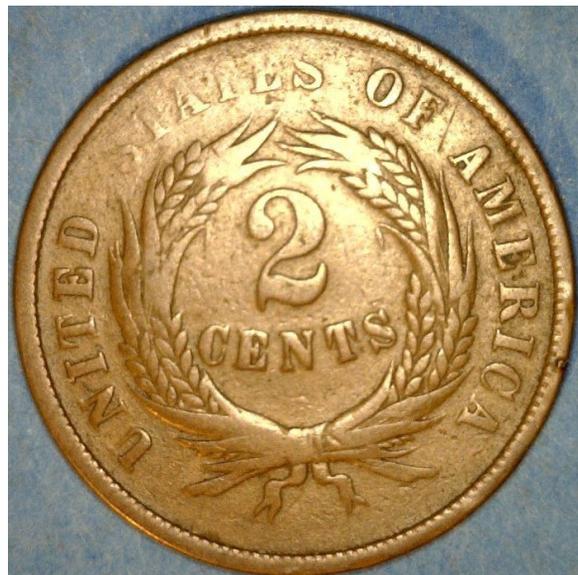
We will have a small Christmas celebration this month. If you can, bring a snack type item to share and whatever drink (non-alcoholic) you'd like. Of course we will have the usual business meeting, show and tell, raffle, member prize drawing and the auction.

Coin Lore

Finding a Doubled Die

by Bill Groom

What coin collector doesn't like to pick a cherry, now and then? For some years, one such long sought after coin happened to appear on my radar. On a recent road trip, I wandered into an Illinois coin shop to see what I might find. The dealer had a ton of coins, so I literally spent an hour there. While I managed to purchase a half dozen or so coins, the below two cent piece is the one that will long be engraved in my memory.



At first glance, many a coin collector would probably not give this 1867 two cent piece a second look. Yet, since I first became aware of this variety, I've tried to remember to closely examine all 1867's that have since passed through my hands. The doubled die is clear, if one knows where to look. Here are a few close-up views to study ...

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This variety is now listed in Yeoman's so-called "*Red Book*." Discovered in the 1950 's by Walter Breen, I've never before held one in my hand. Consider the two key coins in the set, the 1872 and the 1864 small motto pieces. The 1867 doubled die is estimated to be three times rarer in number than the 1872 and four times harder to find than the 1864 small motto. Yet, given modest collector demand for this variety, it's valued at a fraction of the two key coins. In higher grades, it's exceedingly rare.

Finding a rare variety like this is clearly a reason why every collector should at least own a copy of the "*Red Book*." There are many scarce and rare varieties of coins that await discovery by some lucky and somewhat knowledgeable collector who visits a local coin shop or show. Many dealers don't bother to closely study their stock; and, especially so, those who deal in high volume.

Stay tuned for another scarce variety find, made at the recent Chattanooga show. In the meantime, I'll keep looking for that elusive 1955 doubled die Lincoln!

Area Coin Shows

December 5 **Knoxville;** Coin Show, Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike (I-40 exit #378).

February 5-6, 2016 **Knoxville;** 52nd Annual Coin Show, Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike (I-40 exit #378).

March 4-6, 2016 **Chattanooga;** Tennessee State Numismatic Society (TSNS). Spring Coin Show. Camp Jordan Arena, I-75, Exit 1.

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

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This Month's Raffle Prizes

		Est. Grade
1915-S	Barber Half	VG
1872	cn Three Cent Piece	Fine-VF
1898 & 1905	Barber Dimes	VG & F
1925, 1929-D & 1935	Buffalo Nickels	F-XF
1908, 1911 & 1912	Liberty Nickels	Fine

The door prize is a 1903 Philippines One Centavo and a 1945 Mercury Dime VF&BU.

To celebrate our Christmas meeting, there will be a second "mystery" door prize.