

# Cumberland Coins

## The Volunteer Coin Club Newsletter

January, 2018

### Next Meeting

Happy New Year!

Our next meeting will on Tuesday January 9<sup>th</sup> 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.

The new year means we are approaching the end of our business year in March. The 2018 membership dues will be collected starting this month. We should also have an election of officers for the coming year. Our Treasurer has already expressed his wish for someone to take over the job he has done for at least four or five years now. There may also be others who would like to retire (at least temporarily). It's good for the club to have more members involved in helping run it. If you think you may be willing to help, tell one of the officers. You can also talk to any of us about what is involved with holding an office.

We will have our usual business meeting, show and tell, raffle, member prize drawing, and auction this month.

### A Meeting Item

Bill Groom will be in Florida this month and will not be able to attend so he asked me to put this in the newsletter.

“The Christmas spread at last month's meeting was much appreciated by the members in attendance. There were a few warm meat dishes, an assortment of veggies, finger foods, sweets and beverages. In order to save the club money, Mike and Sandy prepared all the items, themselves! They did the clean-up, too. It's also noteworthy that they serve as treasurer and secretary, respectively.

Throughout recent years, Mike Puhl has devoted himself to seeing that our newsletter is sent out, the club roster is maintained and more. Mike's a great organizer! President Ken is always ready to dive in, whenever needed. His initiative and generosity of time and expense have helped sustain events like the picnic. Mike and Ken are super-dependable!

I'd like to make a motion that the club present these officers with \$35 gift certificates (3, total \$105) for themselves/spouse to dine at Ruby Tuesday's. I believe the treasury can afford that? Open for discussion ....”

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### Coin Lore

#### The Wealth of the South Tokens

*by Bill Groom*

Among my favorite Civil War tokens are the so-called *Wealth of the South* series. Although issued for the 1860 election year, these tokens have long been included in the Civil War series. A Cincinnati die sinker, Benjamin C. True, struck a variety of these “Confederate” tokens in addition to tokens that promoted candidates Abraham Lincoln, Stephen Douglas, John Bell and John Breckenridge that year. True's tokens were brass and slightly smaller than a quarter. Often, they were plated and appear silvery as such. Many were holed to be worn with a ribbon. Unlike most Civil War tokens that circulated as cent substitutes, True's tokens were keepsakes, to be worn, carried as pocket pieces or simply collected.



Many Civil War tokens display fine pictorials, but few can compare with the intricate design of True's *Wealth of the South* pieces. Higher grade pieces boast amazing detail. Note how the cannon resides at peaceful rest, stacked cannon balls nearby, beneath the graceful Palmetto tree. These tokens left no doubt in 1860 that the South stood ready to defend its wealth in “rice, tobacco, sugar, cotton” as illustrated on the token's reverse.

In today's market, worn and/or holed specimens of these *Wealth of the South* tokens sell in the \$300-\$500 range. Higher grade, unholed specimens will command twice that amount and more. Common Civil War tokens are presently selling in the \$20-\$50 range. Anyone interested in this series may Google the **Civil War Token Society** online. There's an informative website, and books on the subject can be gotten at reasonable cost.

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### Area Coin Shows

**January 13, 2018**      **Knoxville;** Coin Show, Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike  
(I-40 exit #378).      Note: The show is the second Saturday this month.

**February 2-3, 2018**      **Knoxville;** 54th Annual Coin Show. Rothchild Catering and Conference Center,  
8807 Kingston Pike.

**February 17, 2018**      **Cookeville;** Coin Show, Upper Cumberland Coin Club. Hyder-Burkes Pavilion,  
2390 Gainesboro Grade

**March 2-4**                      **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>

### This Month's Raffle Prizes

		Est. Grade
1904	Morgan Dollar (Better Date)	VF+
1954	Washington Quarter	BU+
1862	Liberty Seated Quarter (Better Civil War Year)	G/AG+
1832	Large Cent	Good
1914	Buffalo Nickel (Better Date)	VF

### Door Prize

1943-S Lincoln Cent  
(A Beauty!) BU+