

Cumberland Coins

The Volunteer Coin Club Newsletter

July, 2013

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be Tuesday July 9th 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.

This is the last regular meeting of the summer. We will be having our annual family picnic in August on our regular meeting night of the 13th. The club will furnish the main dish and the sides are pot luck. Bring your own drinks. If you plan to attend and haven't signed up yet, you can do so at the meeting. If you will not be there, contact Betty Harris (484-9152) or Loretta Groom (787-4578).

We will have the usual business meeting, show and tell, the raffle, and the auction at the meeting.

Coin Lore

Convict Love Tokens

By Bill Snyder

In the late 1700's, England had a problem with the growing population of convicts. The Courts were busy, despite harsh punishment for minor crimes. Stealing most anything could result in life, if not death, sentences. The prisons were full.

The solution found was to sentence prisoners (both male and female) to "Transportation". That meant sending them to newly discovered Botany Bay (in what is now New South Wales, Australia). The Bay was, up to this time, only populated by native Aborigines.

The "First Fleet" of 11 ships left for Botany Bay in 1788.. The ships carried 504 male convicts and 192 female convicts.

A Penal Colony was set up. Governor Philip (1788-1792) founded a system of labor in which people, whatever their crime, were employed according to their skills - as brick makers, carpenters, nurses, servants, cattlemen, shepherds and farmers.*

When the last shipment of convicts disembarked in Western Australia in 1868, the total number of transported convicts stood at around 162,000 men and women. They were transported here on 806 ships.*

Also telling of convicts' experiences were convict love tokens, mainly produced in the 1820s and 1830s by transported convicts as a farewell to their loved ones. Made from coins such as pennies, most of the engraved inscriptions refer to loss of liberty. One token, made from a penny for convict James Godfrey, is dedicated to his love Hannah Jones. The inscription reads: 'When in/Captivity/Time/Goeth/Very slow/But/Free as air/To roam now/Quick the/Time/Doth/Go'.

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Here is another -



*(see <http://australia.gov.au/about-australia/australian-story/convicts-and-the-british-colonies>).

COINfucious Says: *"Many CC dollars on eBay; on some, CC stand for Chinese Counterfeit."*

Area Coin Shows

August 3 **Knoxville Coin Show**, Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike (I-40 exit #378).

August 23-25 **Blue Ridge Numismatic Association Annual Convention**, NW GA Trade & Convention Center, 2211 Dug Gap Battle Rd., Dalton, Georgia

September 7 **Knoxville Coin Show**, Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike (I-40 exit #378).

November 1-3 **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

Starter set Lincoln cent Book #1 VF or better

Starter set Lincoln cent Book #2 XF or BU

1968S BU Lincoln roll

1957D BU roll Jefferson Nickels

1962D BU roll Jefferson Nickels

The Door Prize will be a 2009 US Presidential \$1 proof set.