

# Cumberland Coins

## The Volunteer Coin Club Newsletter

May, 2017

### Next Meeting

Our next meeting will on Tuesday May 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.

It's time to start planning for our Summer picnic in August. Please consider volunteering to help organize this event. (We are the Volunteer Coin Club after all.)

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

### Coin Lore

#### Countless Ways to Collect Coins

*by Bill Groom*

There really aren't any right or wrong ways to collect coins. A coin collection is what one makes of it. Some collectors prefer seeking coins from a particular country while others seek to acquire coins from as many locations as possible. There are those who collect coins by theme, picturing animals, flying machines, ships, leaders or famous people, flowers, landmarks, you name it ...

Many collectors tend to be condition conscious, seeking naught but the most pristine coins, be they proof or uncirculated pieces. Certified or slabbed coins are collected by them and investors who might care less about studying grading standards. Then, there are some collectors who carefully assemble matched-grade sets of coins. Collectors on a low budget often seek out holed or low grade coins, fondly termed "lowballs."

Metal content is another factor that influences collectors. Now who doesn't like owning a bright, yellow gold piece? How about those proof-like, silver coins, shiny Morgans? Coins come in many other metals and non-metals. Porcelain coins, anyone? Toners, particularly silver coins that exhibit rainbow colors, have become increasingly popular in recent years. When it comes to the appeal of metal content, collectors of early copper coins are among the most enthusiastic that this writer has seen.

Filling albums, collecting coins by date, mint and variety tends to be the most popular way to collect. No collector likes to look at a vacant album hole. But there are more and more collectors who are specializing nowadays. Error coins or mint mistakes, like those coins with enlarged planchets don't fit comfortably in albums, so collectors of them need to improvise or get such pieces slabbed. The collecting of coin substitutes or exnumia, like tokens, is another avenue of specialization, and there are ever so many side streets to take in that direction!

Attaching history to coins brings them to life. Below is what's called a year set. All of the coins are the same year of issue, 1915.

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Unlike Mint Sets which include one coin from every mint for a given year, mintmarks are negligible in year sets. Here is a pic of the reverse side.



History can be tied into these coins in many ways. One can research the designers, the symbolism, the elements of each coin and other aspects of how a particular coin came to be issued. Another, simpler approach is to look into what was happening at the time these coins were issued ....

In 1915, World War I was raging in Europe. German Zeppelins were dropping bombs on England. Motor cars were replacing horses. Indoor plumbing was spreading. A loaf of bread cost but 7 cents, a dozen eggs was 34 cents and a quart of milk was 9 cents. The 1915 dated half dollar would have bought all three items. The quarter would buy a blue plate special, and the remaining sixteen cents would buy ice cream and candy for two.

Old coins like these make great gifts for the kids and grand-kids. Be sure to share some history when giving coins as presents and be ultra-sure to caution the kids to NOT spend them!

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### Area Coin Shows

May 6           **Knoxville;** 53rd Annual Coin Show, Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike (I-40 exit #378).

May 19-20   **Gallatin;** Coin & Currency Show. Gallatin Civic Center, 210 Albert Gallatin Ave.

June 3           **Knoxville;** 53rd Annual Coin Show, Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike (I-40 exit #378).

July 1           **Knoxville;** 53rd Annual 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
1915	Year Set (1c, 5c, 10c, 25c & 50c)	G-VG
1922	Peace Dollar	XF+
1912-S	Lincoln Cent (semi-key)	Good
1944-P	Jefferson Nickel (silver war issue)	BU+
1909 VDB	Lincoln Cent (1st year type coin)	XF+
	Memorial Cent Error Coin (struck waaay off-center)	BU

### **Door Prize**

1944 Philippines 1 Peso  
Note WWII (Victory  
reverse - orange)