

The SJ CSRA CC now meets at the South Aiken Presbyterian Church at 1711 Whiskey Road

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V.P. Garry Naples
Sec. Jim Mullaney
Treas. Chuck Goergen
Sgt. in Arms: Jim Sproull**



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Volume 22, No. 10

the Stephen James CSRA Coin Club, Founded in 2001
Monthly Newsletter

October, 2023

2023 Club Meeting Schedule

Jan. 5 Apr. 6 July 6 Oct. 5
Feb. 2 May 4 Aug. 3 Nov. 2
Mar. 2 June 1 Sept. 7 Dec. 7

An Affordable Standing Liberty quarter



**An 1926-D Liberty Standing quarter graded MS-64 by PCGS
[Enlarge page to 150% or 200% to see details more clearly.]**

In 1926, the **Denver Mint** struck 1,716,000 Liberty Standing quarters compared with 2,700,000 at the San Francisco Mint with a whopping 11,316,000 produced at the Philadelphia Mint. One would expect the Denver Mint issue with the smallest mintage to be most expensive but it is the San Francisco Mint specimen which is currently retailing for \$2,250 for a MS-64 certified specimen that is presently priced mile high while the 1926-D in the same grade is retailing for only \$425 followed closely by the Philadelphia specimen at just \$400. That indicates that the New Orleans mint coinage was more heavily used proportionately than those struck at the Philadelphia or Denver mint quarters for that year.

The author acquired the 1926-D Standing Liberty quarter shown above at the Blue Ridge Numismatic Association show held at the Dalton Georgia Convention Center back in August, 2011. At the time it cost just \$325.

For those who are not familiar with the Standing Liberty quarter series, the type was created by Sculptor-engraver Herman A. MacNeil and first coined at the end of 1916 with just 52,000 struck thereby replacing Charles Barber's Liberty Head quarter, that had been coined from 1892 thru late 1916.

The Standing Liberty quarter design was slightly changed in the second half of 1917 but not because the first sub-type revealed Miss Liberty's full breast as once believed. As it turned out it was at the request of engraver MacNeil's who never intended that aspect of the coin to appear in that manner in the first place. Nine years later, in 1925, the date was placed under an exergue in order to keep it from disappearing due to heavy circulation. 1926 was the second year of the coin's new adjustment made and the type would continued unaltered thru 1930, the end of the short series. When it comes to the placement of the mintmark on the Standing Liberty quarters, they are really not all that clear due to the fact that both the D and S mintmarks are placed in small Capital letters diagonally above to the right of the lowest star which is just above the date.

Collecting Peace dollars (and beyond?)

By Arno Safran



**A 1921 High-Relief Peace dollar graded MS-66
[Courtesy, USA Coin Book]
[Enlarge page to 150% to see details more clearly.]**

In 1921, after an outpouring of millions of Morgan dollars were struck in all three mints earlier in the year--a new silver dollar type emerged. It was designed by Engraver Anthony de Francisci featuring his wife, Theresa as Miss Liberty,--and released by the Philadelphia Mint with a reported mintage of 1,006,473 coins in early January, 2022, but with the 1921 date. These coins were struck in high relief like the coin shown above and are highly desired by collectors of silver dollar coinage. As a result, they are quite costly today despite the more than one million produced. The author has an MS-62 sample which cost him \$200 back in 1982 but looks nothing like the beautiful example shown above, although today his coin would be worth around \$750 whereas the MS-66 example would be worth \$10,000 today according to the 2024 *Red Book*.



Theresa de Francisci



**A 1922 Normal relief Peace dollar graded MS-64+ by PCGS
[Enlarge page to 150% to see details more clearly.]**

With a mintage of 51,737,000 at the Philadelphia Mint, the 1922 Peace dollar is the most common date of the entire series and is currently priced at \$140.00 in MS-64+. It was struck in moderate relief because the high relief was found to be impractical.

(Continued on page 2)

Collecting Peace dollars (and beyond?)

(Continued from page 1, column 2)



A 1925 Peace dollar graded MS-64 by PCGS
[Enlarge page to 150% to see details more clearly.]

Between 2013 and 2014, the author decided to complete a date set of Peace dollars and was able to do so by attending major coin shows such as the Georgia National Association, Blue Ridge Association both held in Dalton, GA and the South Carolina Numismatic Association shows held in Greenville, SC. The Philadelphia Mint struck the highest mintages thru 1925. In 1926, the San Francisco Mint coined the most Peace dollars. In 1927, it was the Denver Mint's turn, then back to San Francisco in 1928. The San Francisco Mint dollars circulate more heavily and are more expensive in MS-64 & 65. Due to the Great Depression, no Peace dollars were coined from 1929 thru 1933. In 1934, the striking of Peace dollars were renewed in all three mints and in 1935, just Philadelphia and San Francisco. The key dates of the series are the 1928-P with just 360,648 minted and the 1934-S but only in the uncirculated grades.

The 1925 Peace dollar had a huge mintage of 10,198,000 and the coin shown above was acquired at the ANA Convention back in Feb. 2014 at a cost of only \$90.00. The 1925 issue was once thought to be rare many years ago but later loads started surfacing with the result that the 1925-P Peace dollar is considered extremely common now and in the MS-64 grade shown above it sells for \$120 today. Many of these coins were once held in bags at various banks and when tossed into each other brought about numerous nicks and scratches to the surfaces. Grading depends primarily on a coin's wear and not necessarily on how many spots, nicks or scratches appear on the coin's surface. As a result, the author has come across numerous Peace dollars that are graded as high as MS-65+ and even 66, that display these conditions.



An 1927-D Peace dollar graded MS-62 by Anacs
[Enlarge page to 150% to see details more clearly.]

Above is an example of a 1927-D Peace Dollar that appears mark free on the surfaces but was graded just MS-62 by Anacs. The Denver mint struck 1,268,900 Peace dollars, the most of the three mints in operation yet it is more expensive than the Philadelphia Mint issue which struck only 848,000. Upon magnification to 200%, the tiny mintmark D on the reverse appears on the far lower left near the edge close to the third feather of the eagle. On this particular coin there is a tiny brown spot directly under it. The author acquired the piece for

\$150 at the Augusta Coin Club's fall show held back in November, 2009. It has since increased in value considerably and is now worth \$525 retail according to PCGS' COINFACTS. At a recent Heritage auctions one example sold for \$600 back in Feb. 2023 but appeared flakey in appearance. Another sold for \$480 more recently in April, 2023 but the recipient who is a dealer is now asking \$640 for it. The writer enlarged the coin and discovered that it has a scratch across Miss Liberty's cheek. The author's specimen shown at the bottom of the previous column shows a clear surface with no problems.



A 1928 Peace dollar graded MS-63 by PCGS
[Enlarge page to 150% to see details more clearly.]

While the 1928 Peace dollar is considered the key date of the series due to its low mintage of just 360,649, the author thought he was fortunate to come across the specimen shown directly above at the Blue Ridge Numismatic Association show held at the Dalton, GA Convention Center back in August of 2013. As it has turned out, despite the coin's low mintage, apparently, enough 1928-Ps were saved or taken out of circulation with the result that the value has not risen one bit since the author acquired the coin. Upon enlarging the photo of the coin to 150% both sides appear more weakly struck than either the 1925 shown atop column one or even the 1927-D below.



A 1935 Peace dollar graded MS-63 by PCGS
[Enlarge page to 150% to see details more clearly.]

In 1935, 1,576,000 Peace dollars were struck at the Philadelphia Mint with 1,964,000 released by the San Francisco Mint, but despite its larger mintage, 1935-S dollars start taking off in price with one certified MS-63 is priced at \$650 today compared to an 1935-P which is costs just \$275 in the same grade. A 1935-S grading MS-64 is currently worth \$1,000 compared with a 1935-P priced at just \$425.

It is known that both Morgan dollars and Peace dollars circulated more heavily in the central and western states than the eastern states. In many instances the coins were used at gambling houses before chips replaced them decades later.

The striking of silver dollars ended in 1935. With the striking of U.S. gold coinage terminated after 1933, there would only be just five U.S. coins struck for circulation in the United States and beginning in 1936, just the Bronze cent, the five-cent nickel, silver dime, quarter and half dollar were coined. No dollar coins would be struck again until 1971 and they were clad.

(Continued on page 3, column 1)

The Eisenhower Dollar



A 1976-1976 40% SILVER Eisenhower dollar graded MS-70
[Enlarge page to 150% to see details more clearly.]

President Dwight David Eisenhower was a five star General who became a very popular figure in American politics after winning the War against Germany on May 8, 1945. He was nominated by the Republican party as a moderate Republican to run for president in the election of 1952 with Richard Nixon as his Vice Presidential candidate and easily defeated Adlai Steven and John Sparkman, his Democratic Vice presidential candidates in the election of 1952 and again in 1956. Eisenhower remained a popular figure, so when he passed away in 1969, the Government approved a new coin in his honor by placing his countenance on the dollar. It would be the first time since 1935 since a U.S. dollar coin would appear as a bone-fide coin, only by this time, our coinage system had become remarkably different.

For one thing, none of our previous silver denominations retained any precious metals since the Coinage Act of 1965. The change in our system regarding our coinage began in 1965. Minor exceptions occurred from time to time regarding proof issues produced by the San Francisco Assay facility which had included 40% silver of the Kennedy halves thru 1970; but from 1971 on, all previous silver coins from the dime to the dollar were struck as clad coinage which included 75% copper and 25% nickel.

The Eisenhower dollar was first struck for circulation in 1971 and continued thru 1978 uninterrupted. Proof issues were struck at the San Francisco Assay Office that contained 40% silver that looked fairly snazzy although not nearly as spectacular as the brilliant gem shown above which is considered extremely rare for that series.



A 1971-D Eisenhower dollar struck in clad copper-nickel
Grading MS-63 The mintage was 92,548,511

During the early years of the Ike dollar series, many a scrounge type individual would attempt to trade an Ike dollar for a Morgan one and get away with it since non-coin collectors considered the two coins equal in value which technically they were if used in commerce during the early "Ike" dollar" years. The real problem with both the Kennedy half and the Ike dollar was that they hardly circulated. The 1971-D Ike dollar shown directly above is a fairly nice example of how the coin first appeared. The D mint mark appears on the obverse to the lower right just under above the Eisenhower's neck above the 7 and 2 in the date. To view it clearly magnify to 200%.



A 1973 Eisenhower \$1.00 graded MS-63
[Enlarge page to 150% to see details more clearly.]

In 1973, the clad Eisenhower dollars were sold in far lower numbers since it had hardly circulated at all in both 1971 and '72. Just 2 million clad issues were produced at the Philadelphia and Denver Mint. The public showed little interest in them because they preferred using paper dollars. The 1973 40% silver coin which was struck at the San Francisco Assay Office was more successful with the public since one million 40% silver coins were made available.



Frank Gasparro, our 10th
Chief Engraver of the Mint

The coin was originally sketched out by Frank Gasparro long before he became the Chief Engraver of the Mint when he viewed the future president as General during the World War II Victory parade back in 1945, so he was able to create a very attractive coin ready for circulation by 1971, two years after the 24th President of the United States passed away.



A 1976 40% silver coin in a more normal grade of MS-64
[Enlarge page to 150% to see details more clearly.]

Due to the Bicentennial celebration, no regular Eisenhower dollars were struck in either 1975 or 1976. Instead the reverse was altered from the large Eagle to displaying the Liberty Bell and the first landing on the Moon in 1969, the same year President Eisenhower died.



The two 1975-1976 reverse types showing the **thick** lettering on the left and the **thin** lettering on the right.

After the Eisenhower dollar



A 1977 Trial Liberty dollar designed by Frank Gasparro
[Enlarge page to 150% to see details more clearly.]

In 1977, Frank Gasparro began to work on a replacement for the Eisenhower dollar and came up with a fairly attractive portrait of Miss Liberty that was later rejected by those requesting a real person, in this case an important historical woman to replace a male figure. As a result, Susan Anthony was chosen for her strong desire to enable a woman's right to vote during the late 19th century. Another factor was the powerful slot machine industry which preferred any new dollar coin to be reduced in size in order to fit in the slot in the machine.



A 1979 Susan B. Anthony uncirculated dollar with narrow rim
[Enlarge page to 150% to see details more clearly.]



A MS-65 graded 1972 Washington quarter
[Enlarge page to 150% to see details more clearly.]

Engraver Gasparro came across a couple of photos of Anthony, one when she was 28 and another at 80. He liked neither but later was shown one when she was in her 50s but as it turned out most citizens found to be unattractive. As a result, the Susan B. Anthony dollar proved to be a very controversial coin due to two main factors. For one thing, the illustrative features of Susan B. Anthony made her appear as an old biddy. People also wondered why the reverse that appeared on the Eisenhower dollar remained the same. Then, there was the reduction of the size of the new dollar coin from 38.1 mm to a 26.5 mm size which resulted in confusion with the quarter that was 24.3 mm and since both coins were struck in the same clad metallic appearance when people used the coin by mistake for a quarter.



NARROW RIM WIDE RIM
Note width of rim and distance to 1 of date

There is another feature of the Susan B. Anthony dollar that many collectors don't know about and that is subtle sizes of the **rim**s at the **bottom of the coin**. The coin with the wider rim on the right is the scarcer of the two.

Needless to say, the Susan B. Anthony quarter was a very unpopular coin and lasted only three years before being suspended until 1999 when it reemerged as a "safeguard" to prepare the public for another small dollar coin which would become the more popular brass colored looking Sacagawea dollar in 2000.

Enter the lovely Sacagawea dollar A coin that looks golden but isn't!



A 2000 uncirculated Sacagawea dollar
[Enlarge page to 150% to see details more clearly.]

In 2000, the Sacagawea dollar replaced the Susan B., Anthony dollar. The obverse displays an attractive young native-American woman holding a baby in her arms with Liberty above with the word, LIBERTY above. The tiny, motto, IN GOD WE TRUST to the left and the date at the slightly lower right with the mintmark P for Philadelphia Mint directly below it. The reverse displays an eagle in flight right with the legend, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA atop with a semi circle of 13 stars directly below it, the original early motto, E PLURIBUS UNUM inside the space to the left of the eagle with 17 tiny stars circled around it and at the bottom, the denomination, ONE DOLLAR.

This is a lovely coin, no question about it. According to a [Wikipedia article](#), "the United States Commission of Fine Arts chose an obverse design depicting Sacagawea, a native American woman with her infant son, [Jean Baptiste Charbonneau](#), as designed by sculptor [Glenna Goodacre](#). Goodacre chose [Randy/L He-dow Teton](#) to model as Sacagawea because there were no known contemporary portraits, to help the artist capture the features of a young Native American woman. The depiction of Sacagawea's infant son, [Jean Baptiste Charbonneau](#) was partially modeled after one-year-old Adam Scholz, with assistance from his father, Peter Scholz. The infant is shown on Sacagawea's back, a [Hidatsa](#) custom. The reverse that was chosen was designed by Mint sculptor-engraver [Thomas D. Rogers](#) which depicted a soaring eagle, the [Shoshone](#) guide of the [Lewis and Clark Expedition](#), was eventually chosen.

As things stand today, the coin--lovely as it is--nevertheless--hardly circulates and to make matters worse, the date no longer appears on the obverse (or even the reverse for that matter).



A more recent 2016 "Code Talkers" reverse image on the Sacagawea dollar. The date is on the coin's edge.

A dollar today is worth closer to what a nickel was worth a century ago.

STEPHEN JAMES CSRA COIN CLUB Regular Meeting Thursday, September 7, 2023

Vice-President Garry Naples, called the regular meeting of the coin club to order at 6:50 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the South Aiken Presbyterian Church (SAPC). There were twelve members and one visitor in attendance.

Tim Stirrup won the door prize (for the second month in a row) – a BU commemorative half dollar for Statue of Liberty (1986).

J.J. Engel informed members of upcoming coin shows in the region.

A motion was made by Sharon Smoot and seconded by Chuck Goergen to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the August 2023 meeting. A copy of the August Meeting Minutes will be on file with the other club records and the Minutes are also reported in the Club newsletter.

Chuck Goergen reported that the balance in the club's account is \$1714.88. He also reported income and expenses in various categories for last year and this year.

New Business:

JJ Engel mentioned that he was looking into arranging the Christmas dinner at the Columbus Club again. He requested that anyone with alternate suggestions please contact him before the October meeting.

Show & Tells:

Chuck Goergen shared an obsolete \$1 note from Augusta (GA) Insurance and Banking Co. issued in 1861.

Glenn Sanders shared a series of 100 \$1 Bill star notes with consecutive numbers issued this year that he'd obtained online. Glenn also shared his 25-year pin and medallion from ANA that he'd recently received.

The Program:

Kelsey Forde presented this month's program on My Journey as a Hobo (Collector). Kelsey explained how she became hooked on Hobo nickels several years ago after seeing an article on a particular Hobo nickel in the Numismatist magazine. She described how she had enjoyed spending time at last year's FUN show in Florida with the Hobo Nickel Society, including tales of the quirky sense of humor that certain characters in that Society enjoyed. Kelsey shared numerous photos of her acquisitions of Hobo Nickels and also circulated several dozen of her Hobo nickels. She explained how Hobo nickels tend to be classified into three groups depending on the decades that they were produced in – Classic old Hobo Nickels from 1920 – 1940, Later Old Hobo Nickels until 1980, and Modern Hobo Nickels since 1980.

The members enjoyed the information and perspective Kelsey provided on the niche of coin collecting.

Jim Sproull, assisted by Jim Mullaney, conducted the monthly club auction.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jim Mullaney, Secretary*

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