

# PENNY-WISE

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>List of Club Officials</b>	119	
<b>Introduction by the Editor</b>	120	The Siren Song of "Stuff"
<b>Original Articles</b>		
Bill Eckberg	121	Robert Scot, First Engraver of the United States Mint. Part 2: His Growth at the Mint
Craig Sholley, William Eckberg and John Dannreuther	127	Braided Hair Restrike Proof Half Cents: Another View
Roger W. Burdette	134	How Many Master Coins Could Be Struck Before Half Cent Dies Required Repolishing?
Kevin Vinton	136	New Die State of 1804 Large Cent
<b>Meetings and Membership Notes</b>		
Emily Matuska	138	EAC President's Letter
Grady Frisby	138	Minutes of the EAC Board of Governors Meeting
Tim Skinski	140	Minutes of the 2022 EAC Annual Meeting
Harry E. Salyards	141	EAC Editor's Award
Grady Frisby	142	Treasurer's Report
Chris McCawley	145	2022 EAC Sale Prices Realized
	147	Call For Nominations of 2023-2026 EAC Officers
Tim Skinski	147	The 2022 Half Cent Happening
Craig McDonald	150	Colonial Events at the 2022 EAC Convention
	151	J.R. Snowden's Opinion of Coin Collectors
David Johnson	152	The 2022 Large Cent Happening Results
Dale Isaac	153	EAC 2022 Photos
Ed Fox	154	EAC Region 3 Reports
	156	Save the Dates for Future EAC Conventions
Kevin Vinton	156	Book Review - <i>The Half Cent Handbook, Liberty Cap Varieties 1793-1797</i> by Ed Fuhrman
Bill Eckberg	157	Book Review - <i>Die States of 1794 United States Large Cents</i> by Chuck Heck
Lou Alfonso and David Huang	158	An Invitation to Apply for a Garvin Fund Grant
Bim Gander	159	Candidates for Membership
<b>Miscellaneous Collector Notes</b>		
Ray Rouse	160	Hard Times Tales: HT303
Jon Truskey	161	Rare but not Very Pretty: Collecting Key Coppers on a Budget - Part Two
Lou Alfonso	164	Large Cent Coin Boards
<b>Letters to the Editor</b>	165	
<b>Swaps and Sales</b>	169	

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## INTRODUCTION BY THE EDITOR: THE SIREN SONG OF “STUFF”

Harry E. Salyards

Serious collectors pride themselves on proceeding with goals in mind. The degree of specialization involved in these goals varies greatly. One person may focus on the die varieties and die states of a single early copper date. Another may collect more than one denomination by Redbook variety. A third may focus on building a set of pre-Civil War type coins. Regardless of the particular goal, the first steps can be comparatively easy. But there will come a time when those last few “holes” are harder and harder to fill. This is to be expected, because a true “rare coin” *should be* hard to come by. After many fruitless weeks of scouring online listings in vain, the prospect of attending that first real, live coin show in over two years poses its own sort of risks. What if this show, too, offers nothing that will fit the collecting goal?

Something new, but clearly related to your collection, may strike your fancy. The early coin dealer tokens recently written up by Lou Alfonso come to mind, as an example of something adding breadth to one collector’s basic plan. But sheer frustration at the inability to fill those longstanding holes in your collection is not a good motivator, and a disappointing coin show is not a safe place for a born collector. Coins that *don’t* fit your collecting plan may start whispering to you, ‘Well, what about me? Aren’t I a nice piece for the type?’ If you succumb to this Siren Song, you will not die as a result—unlike those mythic sailors in the *Odyssey*—but will likely live to regret your purchase.

Very few collectors can afford to collect everything. Each purchase then, inevitably, becomes focused or unfocused. It represents a chance to fill a

gap in your collection, or it doesn’t. If it doesn’t, and you nonetheless break out your checkbook, you will acquire an orphan: a coin without particular antecedents, or obvious successors. Karma being karma, just about the time you’ve expended those funds on a coin that doesn’t really fit, you’ll finally be offered a coin that does.

The late Wayne Anderson had another name for this sort of coin: “stuff.” No matter how nice the coin was, if it didn’t enhance his primary collection, it was disposable. It was just “stuff.” Some of these coins were quite nice. It didn’t matter. It might have been a long-term remnant, or a recent mistake. Either way—it was just “stuff.”

While the dispersal of legendary collections continues apace—the Dale Friend dollars, the Syd Martin colonials, the Jim McGuigan half cents—it strikes me that better varieties of pre-1815 copper and pre-1807 silver are seriously underrepresented in both ‘routinely scheduled’ auctions and dealer listings these days. This is particularly true in terms of problem-free coins in higher circulated grades. The current, much-hyped market seems to offer very few candidates to fill those empty spaces in the sort of collections I’ve been talking about. But “stuff” is always available, whispering, ‘Well, what about me?’

In the excitement of return to in-person coin shows, enthusiasm must be tempered by realistic expectations. You may not find a single coin on your want list. If not, there will be another show, another day. Keep your eyes on your collecting goal, and close your ears to the Siren Song of “Stuff.”

\* \* \* \* \*



# ROBERT SCOT, FIRST ENGRAVER OF THE UNITED STATES MINT

## PART 2: HIS GROWTH AT THE MINT

Bill Eckberg

Part 1 of this series discussed Scot's early experience as an engraver until he was hired by the U.S. Mint. In particular, it discussed his great skill at lettering and map making and his far more rudimentary skill at drawing people and eagles, the two major components of the dies for the U.S. coins of the time. What can we say about his artistry at the beginning, and how did he develop it so quickly as to have produced the Draped Bust design, one of the most beautiful coinage designs ever produced by the U.S. Mint?

### Scot's first dies

Though he started work in November, 1793, Scot's first coinage dies were made in 1794. During that year, he created designs and dies for the cent, half cent, dollar, half dollar and half dime. The cent was a close adaptation of Henry Voigt's 1793 obverse device. The half cent device was a new realization of the Capped Bust

will be addressed here only briefly. His approach for all types was to begin with a master die containing only the central device of the coin; he then used that to raise a hub and used the hub to impress the device into working dies. He then added the date, lettering and border to each working die.

All of the coin types struck with the 1794 date are shown in Figure 1. They are presented proportionally sized, so it is clear how different the relative sizes are; the size differences are significant to our discussion. Note particularly the large difference between the sizes of the dollar and half dime.

Only cents and half cents were coined during the first three quarters of the year. Although both had busts of Liberty with flowing hair and a liberty cap, or pileus, on a pole, the designs bear only a superficial resemblance. Figure 2 overlays the image of one on the other in different color channels, with the faces as close to the same size as possible. This shows what overlays look like when the designs are similar but not from the same source. The most obvious differences are in the positions of the caps. We can also see that the positions of the



Figure 1. Robert Scot's 1794 coin designs. a - cent, b - half cent; c - half dime; d - half dollar; e - dollar.

motif from the cent and half cent of 1793 and easily his most attractive 1794 device. I have previously examined Scot's methods in creating the copper coins<sup>1,2</sup>, so they



Figure 2. 1794 cent and half cent overlay. The designs are similar but not alike.

eye and ear, throat and lowest hair curl differ, as do the sizes of the noses and shapes of the chins. The cent had been adapted directly from the 1793 obverse hub, and the half cent was a new design by Scot. His first Head of '94 cent dies were completed by mid-January. We can

1 Eckberg, William. 2020. The earliest hubs of the U.S. Mint. *The Numismatist* 133 #8, 47-52.

2 Eckberg, William R. 2019. *The Half Cent, 1793-1857. The Story of America's Greatest Little Coin*. Early American Coppers, West Palm Beach, FL.

guess that Scot was trying to produce a similar look in the half cent, which made its first appearance five weeks later, but the overlays show that the designs were independent of each other.

Silver and gold coins could not be struck in 1793, because none of the Mint officers had been able to post the required bond. Thus, the silver coins were new and original in 1794 as well.

Jefferson wrote Washington<sup>3</sup>:

Philadelphia Dec. 30. 1793.

Sir,

I am informed, by the Director of the Mint, that an impediment has arisen to the coinage of the precious Metals, which it is my Duty to lay before you.

...the law requiring these Officers [Chief Coiner and Treasurer] to give a security in the sum of 10,000 dollars each, neither is able to do it. The coinage of the precious metals, has, therefore, been prevented, for sometime past, though, in order that the mint might not be entirely idle, the coinage of copper has been going on; the trust in that, at any one point of time, being of but small amount.

I have the honor to be with the most perfect respect & attachment Sir, your most obedient & most humble servant,

Th: Jefferson

The Chief Coiner's salary was to be \$1500 per year; that of the Treasurer \$1200. Can you imagine having to post a bond of several years' salary before you could start your job? Eventually, the bonds were reduced and paid by others so work could begin.

Silver coins were first struck in the fall of 1794. Only three denominations bore that date: half dimes, half dollars and dollars. All carried a new Flowing Hair design. Although the Mint did not yet have a press that was powerful enough to strike fully a coin as large as the silver dollar, it struck 1,758 of them anyway. The Spanish dollar had been the official basis of U.S. money since the Articles of Confederation, so the intent was to make the domestic equivalent, at least for the publicity. Alas, the coins proved weakly struck, and no more were produced until a new, more powerful press, capable of more

effectively coining dollars and medals, was installed the next year. The remaining silver denominations, the dime and quarter dollar, were not introduced until 1796.

The dollars were delivered on October 15, 1794. Secretary of State Edmund Randolph shared one of them with President Washington<sup>4</sup>:

Philadelphia October 16. 1794. 11 o'clock.

Sir

The silver coin of the U.S. bears upon its face so much neatness and simplicity, that I cannot restrain myself from transmitting a dollar for your inspection.

I have the honor sir to be; with the highest respect yr mo. ob. serv.

Edm: Randolph.

The dollar was the first precious metal coin struck, and Randolph's letter demonstrates the pride that the government felt at producing its first "crown"-sized coin.

Not everyone was so impressed. One Carlisle Pollock wrote this criticism of the Flowing Hair series to General John Williams of Salem, NY on January 25, 1796<sup>5</sup>:

I have seen all of the coins already issued and nothing can be more wretched; an unmeaning fool's head on one side and something that resembles a turkey cock on the other. Oh, shame, shame, shame....[i]f the President's head should be too aristocratic, a plough and a sheaf of wheat would be better than an idiot's head with flowing hair which was meant to denote Liberty, but which the world will suppose was intended to designate the head of an Indian squaw. But heaven forbid that future ages should judge the taste and talents of the present citizens of America by so mean and pitiful a sample of their work.

There was, unsurprisingly, a lot of politics behind this diatribe. While little seems to be known of Pollock, it would seem that he had not seen the Draped Bust dollar of late 1795. Williams was an Antifederalist, opposing the U.S. Constitution, and so would have been

3 From Thomas Jefferson to George Washington, 30 December 1793," *Founders Online*, National Archives, <https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Jefferson/01-27-02-0574>

4 To George Washington from Edmund Randolph, 16 October 1794," *Founders Online*, National Archives, <https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Washington/05-17-02-0050>.

5 Stewart, Frank H. 1924. *First United States Mint, Its People and Its Operations*. Privately Published.

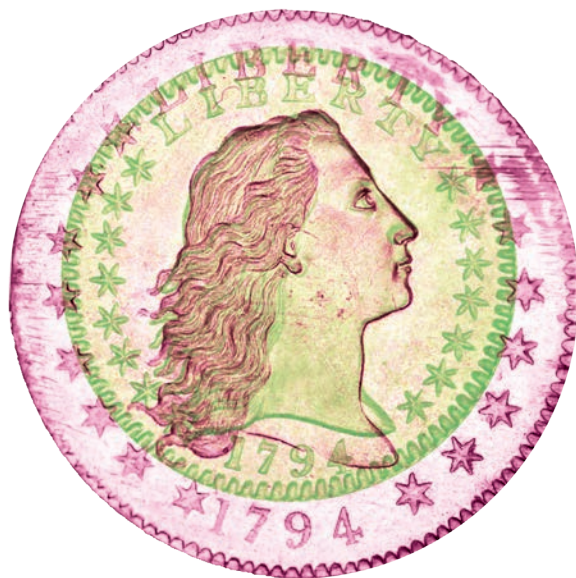


receptive to complaints about the U.S. coins. When the letter was written, he was serving in Congress as a Democratic-Republican.

The first half dollars were delivered on December 1, 1794; the half dimes were evidently not coined until March 30, 1795, even though they carried the 1794 date.

The layouts of the half dime and dollar differ substantially. The head of the former takes up almost the entire obverse, the hair and bust protruding well into the circle of stars. The head on the dollar, by contrast, is relatively small and surrounded by a large amount of blank space. As a result, neither design is satisfactory. The dollar's Liberty has an extremely long neck, and her hair, with the individual hairs engraved like those on Voigt's Chain and Wreath cents of the year before, and Scot's own 1794 cents, looks cartoonish. The half dime, by contrast, has a shorter neck and less detailed hair, but a very large eye. The half dollar is the most attractive of the three; the hair is more softly engraved, and Liberty's shoulder is much higher than on the dollar, making her look more naturalistic.

I investigated how these differences might have come about. The coins are of very different diameters; the dollar is 40 mm, the half dollar is 32.5 mm and the half dime is only 16.5 mm. Overlays scaled to make the



**Figure 3. Overlay of 1794 half dime (green) and dollar (magenta), showing how the heads were created from the same drawing but take up much different amounts of the design.**

heads equal in size give an important insight into the way Scot worked. From looking at the individual coins, we would not guess that Scot made all of the silver denominations as much alike as he could. We might expect



**Figure 4. Overlay of 1794 half dollar and dollar. The heads take up a similar space on the coin, but the bust is shorter on the half.**

that since each of these was hand engraved, and superficially, they look quite different, each was done from a different model. However, the precision of the profiles across the denominations is clear and unambiguous evidence that he used the same template for all three and scaled his drawing for each. The faces are essentially identical on the three denominations, except that the eye is relatively larger on the half dime and lower on the face of the half dollar. By contrast, the necks of the half and half dime are shorter and the shoulders higher (Figures 3, 4). Liberty's softer, less detailed hair and higher shoulder on the half dollar help to make this denomination the most attractive and naturalistic of the three.

However, he didn't scale the half dime quite accurately enough. The dollar and half dollar are scaled about equally, so the heads appear about the same size on the overlay. However, the head of the half dime fills up too much of the obverse. The distance from the forehead to the chin is a full 40% of the diameter of the coin, whereas for the dollar and half dollar, that same distance is only about a third of the diameter of the coin.

We should not be too critical, though, as the U.S. Mint was a fledgling operation staffed entirely by men who were, like Scot, learning on the job.

### Scot's Draped Busts

Gold coins were first struck in 1795. Scot's half eagle was the first (Figure 5). Only eagles and half eagles were struck that year; quarter eagles were first coined in 1796. The gold coins had a completely new design. It featured a more mature looking version of Liberty with a tall cap, softly cascading waves of hair that curled very

slightly at the ends and a small, draped bust. Significantly, Scot abandoned his procedure of engraving each individual hair on Liberty's head, thereby making the designs subtler and more attractive. The same motif was placed on all gold denominations: quarter eagle, half eagle and eagle (\$2.50, \$5.00 and \$10.00). The head fills the obverse space. The tall cap often caused Scot to place 9 or 10 stars to the left and shift LIBERTY to the right with 5 or 6 stars, but the overall look remained balanced. Thus, Scot's first gold coinage dies represented a significant improvement in his design over that of the Flowing Hair silver coins and the Liberty Cap cents of 1794. In 1795 he also modified the cent obverse to make the hair softer and less busy.

Randolph arranged for some of the first half eagles to be sent to the President<sup>6</sup>:

Philadelphia July 27. 1795.  
½ past five a.m.

Private  
Sir

Mr Desaussure brought me on saturday several half eagles. They are most beautiful; far more so than the guinea. I have desired him to send down to you three or four; which he has promised to do—He goes on with spirit and effect. I have the honor to be sir with the most respectful and affectionate attachment yr mo. ob. serv.

Edm: Randolph.

All gold denominations were developed from the



Figure 5. 1795 half eagle obverse.

6 To George Washington from Edmund Randolph, 27 July 1795," *Founders Online*, National Archives, <https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Washington/05-18-02-0302>.



Figure 6. Overlay of 1796 quarter eagle and 1795 eagle. The busts and their space in the coins' fields are virtually identical. Scot had become highly adept at transferring his designs to different sized coins.

same template. Overlays of the quarter eagle and eagle (Figure 6), like those of the half dime and dollar, show only very minor differences between the coins.

Flowing Hair dollars were only struck for one year. Late in 1795, Scot abandoned the design in favor of his new Draped Bust motif (Figure 7). Note the fully-



Figure 7. Obverse of a 1795 Draped Bust dollar. The design is vastly superior to any previous US coin.

struck hair, drapery and stars courtesy of the Mint's new, heavier coinage press. The 1795 Draped Bust dollar is far more artistic than any of his 1794 designs and even more so than his gold coin designs. Her face is youthful and more feminine, her hair cascades in waves and ringlets, and she has a very ample bosom. Many consider this Draped Bust motif to be among the finest U.S. coin designs ever.



In 1796, he applied the design to the half dime, dime, quarter, half dollar and cent. It was brought to the half cent in 1800. Though most earlier designs had lasted a year or less, this far more artistic and attractive design survived for over a decade through two completely different reverse types (Small and Heraldic Eagles) on the silver and gold coins. We may think of it as a quantum leap in artistry over the Flowing Hair design, but we must not forget how the gold coins pointed the way earlier in the year.

Once again, Scot used the same template for all of the silver coins. Overlay of the half dime and dollar shows this very clearly (Figure 8). Not only are the designs virtually identical, but the busts' positions and relative sizes on the two denominations are virtually identical as well. The only notable differences are in the position of the forelock and minor differences in the hair ribbon. The correspondence is remarkable given that the master dies for the coins were engraved by hand in very different sizes from the same original drawing. Scot learned from his experience with the 1794 coins and produced far more consistent and artistic designs in 1795 and thereafter.



**Figure 8. Overlay of 1796 half dime and 1795 centered bust dollar. As with the gold coins, the designs are essentially a perfect match.**

But Scot was not a slave to consistency. He varied his designs when he wanted to. If we overlay the Draped Bust cent and dollar (Figure 9), we see how he modified the design for the copper coins. While the lower two-thirds of the faces are the same, Liberty on the cent has a noticeably larger head, her neck is about twice as long, and her bust less ample. That difference in design was intentional, because if we overlay cent and half cent (Figure 10), we see that their designs are as close



**Figure 9. Overlay of the Draped Bust cent and dollar. If we align them so the match is close from the nose to the chin, we find that the necks, busts, hairlines and eyes are all in different places. These designs were not produced from the same model.**

to identical as are those of the various silver and gold denominations.

Overlay of the 1795 dollar and eagle shows that they were from different models, though that should also be obvious from a quick look at the coins and so is not shown here. If we adjust the two so the mouths and



**Figure 10. Overlay of Draped Bust Type I cent and half cent. The designs match almost perfectly with the exception of the back of the hair and ribbon**

noses match, the chins, necks, busts, eyes and sizes of the heads do not match. As noted, the hair is also very differently engraved; that on the gold coins is in a far simpler arrangement.

We can learn much of Scot's intent from these analyses. His Draped Bust design was a motif, an idea, not a single design. He carried it out uniquely in his copper, silver and gold issues. Though the designs are all called draped busts, that on the gold coins is very different

from that on the others. The gold coins differ more from the silver coins than the silver coins do from the copers. Scot's obvious intent was to make the gold coins as distinctive as he could.

For unknown reasons, Walter Breen was completely unimpressed by Scot's work. He claimed that "[John] Reich's first assignment as Assistant Engraver, 1807, was to improve the designs of all current denominations – *i.e.*, to replace the unsatisfactory Scot designs." However, Scot's designs at the time were anything but unsatisfactory. They were the beautiful Draped Busts. None of Breen's allegations about the inferiority of Scot's work hold up in the face of evidence.

What I have presented here very clearly shows that Scot became a highly skilled and artistic Chief Engraver. In contrast to Breen's unsupported and prejudi-

cial speculations, the evidence presented demonstrates Scot's great skill as a designer and engraver of U.S. coins. Not only were his designs artistic and attractive, but he was highly skilled at reproducing his designs on very different-sized coins.

Like the Mint personnel as a group, Scot was a beginner learning his job, and his earliest dies reflect that. But he quickly grew into his job and continued as Chief Engraver for nearly 30 years. His Draped Busts, especially those on the silver coins, represented the height of his coinage die artistry, a height that many say has only been exceeded by that of the high relief Double Eagle produced by one of America's most eminent artists, Augustus St.-Gaudens. Scot's work, indeed, merits such company.

\* \* \* \* \*

## BRAIDED HAIR RESTRIKE PROOF HALF CENTS: ANOTHER VIEW

Craig Sholley, William Eckberg, and John Dannreuther

In the January 2022 issue of *Penny-Wise*, Roger Burdette proposed striking periods, based on U.S. Mint records, for the 1840 – 1848 Braided Hair Restrike Proof half cents. While a straight-forward reading of the records cited by Roger do support his conclusion, we find that die states and additional mint records do not. First Restrike die states clearly show that restrike proof half cents were struck on multiple occasions starting in late 1856 or early 1857 and continuing to just before Linderman resigned as Director's Clerk in April of 1864. Second Restrike die states show that striking resumed in late April or early May of 1867 when Linderman returned to the mint as Director and were struck on multiple occasions, possibly as late as 1878, whenever Henry Linderman was present at the mint. Additional data, including mint and other historical records, fully support this conclusion.

### A Brief Discussion of the Emission Sequence of the Braided Hair Restrike Proof Half Cents

The emission sequences for the First and Second Braided Hair Restrike Half Cents provide, perhaps, the most definitive evidence that the striking of these pieces was not limited to "batches" struck during a couple brief periods as Roger suggests. In fact, just the order of striking of both the First and Second Restrikes strongly supports the contention that they were struck on demand.

Rather than present the rather long and involved sequences at this point, we'll instead discuss a few key

points. For those interested, the full emission sequences are presented at the end of this article.

The first key point of the sequences is that they do not begin with one date and then proceed in an orderly fashion through the rest of the dates. Rather, both the First and Second Restrikes show a seemingly random striking order. For example, the First Restrikes begin with 1852, then proceed to 1849, on to 1848, jump back to 1852, then to 1841, and so on. The Second Restrikes show the same seemingly random date order, starting with 1840, then to 1845, to 1841, then 1846, and so on.

This jumbled date order most definitely does not suggest an orderly "batch" striking with the pieces then distributed as needed. Rather, it strongly supports the contention that these pieces were, like all the other restrikes, struck "on-demand" as requests were received. The likely scenario is that Linderman gathered requests for a period of time and then struck a batch of various dates to fulfill that demand. This process was repeated until the then-present demand was met.

Survivorship counts, based on a review of historical records by Richard Coleman, Jr. and presented in the July 15, 1996 issue of *Penny-Wise* support this contention. While the survivorship of the various types of regular-issue coinage is, in general, "all over the board," the survivorship of proof collector coins, especially restrikes, very closely mirrors the mintage. Restrikes were not sold to the general public at a little over



face value, but rather at significant premiums to very wealthy, “high-end” collectors. Thus, the number extant is closely related to the original mintage and can be used as a valid analog.

Coleman’s survivorship counts show a very high degree of variability. For example, counts for the First Restrikes show four 1840s, six 1841s, twenty 1842s, five 1844s, three 1847s, and thirty-five 1848s. While his counts for Second Restrikes are a bit more consistent with most dates being in the 16 to 20 range, there are some obvious outliers, including twelve 1840s, seven 1843s, eight 1848s, and no 1849 Small Date pieces.

With such a high variability in demand, striking a batch of a particular date for later distribution is simply not practical. Linderman would always have struck either way too many or way too few. And, while striking too few is not a big problem since more could be struck, striking too many is definitely a problem as he would have been stuck with pieces he paid workmen to strike that he could not sell.

So, not only does the date order of the sequence support striking on-demand, the number of pieces extant likewise supports the conclusion that Linderman gathered requests and then struck the number required to meet that demand. Furthermore, striking to meet demand as that demand is received clearly requires that the pieces be struck over a far longer period than Roger suggests and that brings up another key point of the sequences.

The second, and perhaps most important, key point of the emission sequences is that the obverse and reverse die states of both the First and Second Restrikes do not support a limited batch striking over a short period of time. Instead, they support these pieces being struck on numerous occasions over a very long period of time to meet collector demand.

For example, the die states of the proof-only Reverse of 1856 which was used on 1856 and 1857 proof strikes and the First Restrikes, show that many First Restrikes were struck at the same time as very early state 1857 proofs and quite likely as early as 1856. Furthermore, the multiple polishings seen on the various obverses and reverse likewise support these pieces being struck on multiple occasions – otherwise one would have to propose that a given date was struck, the dies removed from the press, the reverse (and next obverse) polished, pieces struck, and the whole tortured process repeated. The obvious answer is that prior to striking a group of dates to meet whatever the demand was, the obverses and reverse were polished, the pieces struck, and the die

then put away until demand dictated more striking.

Finally, the latest state First Restrikes have obvious rust pitting on the reverse and most of the obverses. Since rust pitting most certainly does not develop overnight, the rusting shows that the dies were definitely put away for some time before demand once again dictated more striking.

So, instead of a limited striking period from 1859 to 1860, as Roger suggests, the emission sequence clearly shows that the First Restrikes were struck as early as the fall of 1856 through, perhaps, March or April of 1864 as Linderman was preparing to resign as Director’s Clerk. The survivorship data likewise support that conclusion and support the conclusion that these pieces were struck as necessary to meet demand.

The Second Restrikes also show multiple polishings, mainly to improve the mirror and reduce the rust while the dies were in storage from 1864 until Linderman “found” them in 1867. As with the First Restrikes, the latest Second Restrikes were also struck from heavily rusted dies, again indicating a period of storage, likely from December of 1869, when Linderman left office, to April or May 1873 when he again returned.

Thus, the hard data of the emission sequences and the survivorship numbers do not support Roger’s proposals based on Linderman’s stories of finding and later destroying dies. With the hard data so clearly in conflict with Linderman’s stories, there’s obviously a problem.

Well, at least there is problem until one realizes that Linderman is lying in an attempt to deflect suspicion for the numerous restrikes on to James Ross Snowden, and the two occasions when he opened boxes of dies in the presence of other mint officers nothing more than “stage shows” to support that lie. While that might seem to be a very serious accusation, the fact is that there’s rock-solid proof of Linderman’s bad behavior.

### **Another Mint Record Reveals the Real Story**

There is no doubt that Henry Linderman was the most prolific restriker in mint history. Two key records firmly establish this fact. In the 1887 Mint Report, then Director James P. Kimball went on a nine-page denunciation of the past practice of striking off-metal patterns and various other unofficial restrikes for collectors and mint officials. Although, Kimball did not name him directly, he most certainly pointed the finger directly at Henry Linderman.

Quoting an article that had appeared in *The Nation*, Kimball noted that in 1859 to 1860 an estimated **50,000 dollars** (obviously collector value, not face) of patterns

were “struck and disposed of at the mint without any benefit to the Government at whose expense these were coined.” The quoted article went on to note that, “During Mr. Lincoln’s administration these abuses stopped, but of late years they have begun again. For example, numerous pattern dollars, struck between 1869 and 1874, have since turned up and passed into the hands of collectors, none of which appear in the Government collection.”<sup>1</sup>

The 1859 to 1860 and 1869 to 1874 time periods could implicate a number of mint officials, but Kimball went on to point the finger directly at Henry Linderman by telling the story of an illegally produced 1868 aluminum pattern set.<sup>2</sup>

In 1868, the Secretary of the Treasury ordered four complete sets of the coinage to be struck in aluminum and specially encased for diplomatic gifts. Kimball noted that one additional cased set wound up in “other hands.” With the pre-sale publication of Lyman Low’s catalog of the Linderman sale, listing lot 55 as a “Complete set of sixteen pieces, 1¢ to \$20 struck in aluminum from regular dies,” it became quite apparent that those “other hands” belonged to none other than Henry Linderman.

In June 1887, Kimball had the Secret Service stop Lyman Low’s sale of the Linderman collection and the government ended up seizing the aluminum set and eleven other 1868 pieces struck in aluminum likewise struck from regular dies. An interesting point in all of this is that the estate never made any claims that Kimball’s statements were libelous or that the government’s actions at the behest of Kimball were illegal.

When the sale finally took place the following February of 1888, it was still a cornucopia of restrikes produced at Linderman’s direction, including multiple restrike proof half cents of 1831, 1836, 1852 and 1840 through 1848, an 1827 proof quarter restrike, two examples of the infamous 1836 Name Below Base Gobrecht dollar, two 1838 Gobrecht dollar restrikes, an 1839 Plain Edge Gobrecht dollar restrike mule, and numerous other off-metal strikes and mules.

### **A Critical Look at Linderman’s Tales**

Despite the fact that the foregoing clearly shows that Linderman had numerous restrikes produced for his personal profit, this evidence does not fully refute his stories of “finding” sealed boxes of dies. However, there

are several questionable points about this supposed find.

How is it that two sealed boxes remained in the Director’s safe from 1860 to 1867 and the two previous Directors, James Pollock and William Millward, never noticed them, or if they had, never bothered to look inside? This part of the story is made even more unbelievable when Linderman goes on to claim that there had been a list compiled by Snowden, but it was lost.

In the spring of 1869, Linderman finds yet another box of dies, this time in the Mint Cabinet and, once again opens it in front of witnesses. The tale goes on to relate that this time Linderman had a “few pieces” struck from the dies, but there’s no story of the dies being resealed or what happened to them.

Perhaps the most curious point of these tales is that there is no evidence that Linderman informed his direct superior, the Secretary of the Treasury, of his find. His notes are not addressed to anyone; they appear to be nothing more than “memos for file.” Considering these points, Linderman’s magic box stories are nothing more than theater to deflect suspicion for the restriking away from himself and on to James Ross Snowden.

### **Some Final Points**

That Linderman was the one restriking the half cents is also entirely consistent with Snowden’s earlier denials that the mint was restriking half cents. Why would Snowden refuse favorable trades if he, in fact, had the dies? The records show he had restrikes made from whatever dies were available if and when pieces were requested. So, why not half cents... if he truly had the dies?

Furthermore, if someone at the mint did “find” or Snowden got control of the dies sometime in late 1859 to early 1860, which had to have happened if we are to believe he did box up the dies, then why did he not write back to the collectors he had previously denied? He could easily say the dies had been found and even though the restrike trade period had ended, their requests had come in during that time, so if they were still interested, he would make pieces available. But there are no such letters.

In fact, Snowden’s denials themselves are totally out of character. When collectors requested other pieces Snowden did not have, he did not issue curt, irritated-sounding denials. Rather, he very cordially offered what he did have. For example, in a June 28, 1859 letter, R.C. Davis requested 1838, 1851, and 1852 dollars along with an 1838 half dollar. Snowden responded on June 30<sup>th</sup>, offering an 1838 dollar, an 1854 proof dollar, the

1 James P. Kimball. “Annual Report of the Director of the Mint to the Secretary of the Treasury for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1887,” p. 130.

2 Kimball, p. 136.

1838 half dollar, and a specimen cent.<sup>3</sup>

Other surviving response letters from Snowden are likewise cordial.<sup>4</sup> He lists the pieces being offered or sent and occasionally even included an extra piece or two in appreciation for a particularly nice or rare medal. Only with requests for half cents does Snowden respond with abrupt, irritated denials. The obvious reason is that he was quite annoyed at being forced to turn down desirable pieces because he does not have control of the half cents dies and cannot have restrikes made for trade.

In his article, Roger opined that restrike half cents were struck in batches, not on-demand, because doing so was more efficient. He goes on to cite several examples of the mint producing batches of specimen pieces for sale to collectors.<sup>5</sup> While Roger's point is quite true if one is producing pieces or sets of for general sale, it is not necessarily true for restrikes.

With restrikes there is no way to predict which pieces or how many of each will be in demand. Furthermore, whether striking for trade or profit, the goal is to strike only enough pieces to meet the demands of fairly wealthy collectors. It does absolutely no good to strike so many pieces that the premium collapses to that of general issue proofs or patterns. The only way to maintain a reasonable price or trade premium is to just meet the demand of wealthy collectors. While this on-demand method is not efficient from a production standpoint, it most certainly is price-premium efficient.

Not only do the previously discussed survivor counts for restrike half cents support the conclusion that Linderman was striking on-demand, Snowden's trade letters likewise support that he was doing the same. The letters clearly show that he had numerous cent patterns produced, but a very limited number of other pieces, such as the 1838 Gobrecht dollar.

### Conclusion

The emission sequences for the First and Second Restrike proof half cents which clearly establish that the dies were polished numerous times along with the later rusting fully supports the conclusion that these pieces were struck over extended periods of time. The extended striking periods, survivorship data, and the need to maintain price-premiums likewise supports the conclusion that these pieces were struck on-demand.

3 Copy provided by Kevin Flynn. This and other letters are reproduced in Appendix A of his book, *The Authoritative Reference on Liberty Seated Dollars*.

4 Flynn, pp. 219 – 222.

5 Roger Burdette. "Production Dates of Half Cent Proof Restrikes, 1840 – 1848." *Penny-Wise*, January 2022, p. 11.

The 1887 Mint Report and a more critical look at Linderman's tales of finding boxes of dies in 1867 and 1869 strongly support the conclusion that Linderman was directing the restriking of these pieces and that his stories are nothing more than staged attempts to deflect suspicion.

### Correction

In our previous article on the Braided Hair half cent reverses, we concluded that one of the Missouri Cabinet 1848 Large Berry pieces was the terminal state and a restrike based on the fine crack from Star 13 through the date and some apparent swelling (die sinking) in that area.

Further review has proven that conclusion incorrect. Die state study shows that the piece is an Original. Yes, there is a very fine crack as noted, however, that is merely a surface crack and was later polished off. Also, while there may be some very slight swelling, that appearance is largely due to the toning pattern.

### Acknowledgments

Thanks again to PCGS for the use of its high-resolution photographs. Emission studies of the sort would simply not be possible without them. Hopefully, at some point PCGS will make all of their photographs available for general download as a research tool.

### The Emission Sequences

The numbers in parentheses are PCGS photograph numbers. The photos can also be downloaded from the PCGS website by entering the number in the verification search.

The sequences are based on the PCGS photos available on the PCGS CoinFacts website. There may be PCGS photos we have not seen and there certainly are NGC coins for which we do not have acceptable photos. So, the sequence is approximate and there may well be coins that are earlier or later than those presented below, or which fit between the uses of the reverse we have found. Our purpose is not to present an absolute emission sequence, but to provide the most accurate view of the number of times coins of various dates were struck and the general striking order, given current information.

It should also be noted that we have not used all of the PCGS photos. Some were too blurry to use and others did not have the right lighting angle to reveal the surface features. On some photos we used image enhancement techniques including false color, sharpening filters, and changing contrast, color channels, saturation, etc. so that we could reasonably assess the die state.



Despite these issues, the changes in spalling and polishing and the later development of rust make it abundantly clear that the First Restrikes were struck on numerous occasions starting in late 1856 or early 1857 through late 1863 or early 1864, and that the striking was done as demand dictated.

Similarly, the obverse and reverse die states show that the Second Restrikes were struck on at least four occasions, and probably more, the reverse being polished to improve the mirror, but not so much as to obviously alter the rust and previous polish lines. They, too, were being struck on-demand, Linderman likely waiting until he had several requests before striking a batch.

The increased rust on the obverses and the fairly heavy rust across the entire reverse die on the latest strikes clearly supports the conclusion that the dies were placed in storage when Linderman left office in 1869 and taken out again upon his return in 1873. While we only have three coins listed in the latest state, we have seen several additional pieces in the Heritage and Stacks/Bowers auction archives that strongly suggest they are late state strikes. Lacking high-resolution photos, we have not been able to confirm this.

Be aware that we have included the 1831, 1836, and 1852 Second Restrikes because they are an integral part of the sequence, and including them provides a more complete view of how striking proceeded.

Regarding the Second Restrike reverse (called the “Reverse of 1840” because of its style, or “Reverse C,” after Breen), we have identified 1854 to 1855 as the most likely production date for this reverse, based on the appearance of the berry stems, especially the two lowest berries under the first A of AMERICA and the lowest inside berry opposite the H in HALF.

In 1856 and 1857, those stems are so worn from previous hubbings and/or so weakly impressed that the stems are little more than spindly lines. On 1849 to 1853 reverses, the stems are rather thick and strongly impressed, with the exception of 1851, where the stems under A are a bit weak, although not as weak as 1856 or 1857. Also, on the 1851 reverse, the stem on the lowest berry opposite H is far thinner than on the Second Restrike reverse.

That leaves 1854 and 1855 as the best appearance match. The Second Restrike reverse was thus, most likely, a reverse die left over from 1854 or 1855.

### **The First Restrike Emission Sequence**

**Group A Restrikes – Late 1856 to Dec. 1859** - The die states of the Proof-Only Reverse of 1856 clearly show

that many Group A 1840-1848 restrikes were struck in 1857 concurrent with 1857 proofs. The earliest restrikes were very likely struck in late 1856 along with or just after the last 1856 proof since the reverse die state is the same as that seen on later 1856 and early 1857 proofs. Also note that the reverse die states on several of the restrikes are so close that they were likely struck either concurrently or in such close proximity that the actual striking order may differ slightly from that presented.

The reverse die remains in good condition and absent of heavy rusting since it was in fairly constant use from 1856 through December 1859, by which time the initial demand for the restrikes had been satisfied. Linderman then the set dies aside until additional demand, sometime in late 1860 until just before his leaving in April 1864, again drives additional restriking. These later “Group B Restrikes” can be identified by the obvious rust that has developed along with the rather heavy lapping to remove that rust.

**1852 Initial Use (30451342).** Obverse is fairly clean with light rust patches between coronet and star, above head, and behind head. The reverse very smooth and clean just as on early 1856 proofs. No visible crack from dentil to C (AMERICA). Struck early to mid-1856.

**1849 Initial Use (30451347, 35443838, 20961700, 32616507).** Obverse is smooth and clean, as on the Large Berry Originals. The reverse is likewise fairly smooth and clean just as on 1856 and early state 1857 proofs with some very light roughness near the wreath above AL of HALF and below E of CENT along with the beginnings of a very light crack from a dentil to the upper right serif of C in AMERICA. Very similar to later state 1856 proofs (30773131, Hansen) and early 1857 proofs (32759271, 33516054). Likely struck late 1856 or very early 1857 concurrent with those issues.

**1848 Initial Use (27383753, 30451344).** Obverse shows light scattered polish lines and spalling as on later state Large Berry Originals. Polishing causes die lines up from dentils under date. These lines become more prominent in later uses. The reverse is essentially the same as on early 1849 restrikes above with both spalling and “C crack” very light. Likely struck at the same time as the early 1849 restrikes.

**1852 Second Use (424725504, 36387145, 36753014).** Obverse as on Initial Use. The reverse fairly smooth and clean with light spalling as on previous. Light C crack. Struck late 1856 to early 1857 as previous.

**1841 Initial Use (30451324).** Obverse has light scattered rust and patches of polish lines at about a 60° angle from upper left to lower right. The reverse now has

strong horizontal lapping lines across the central portion of the die, through HALF CENT, to the dentils on either side. The C crack is clearly visible on this Use; however, this feature varies in appearance from this point on depending on strike, polishing, and, of course, progression of the crack.

**1842 Initial Use (30451327).** Obverse has scattered light roughness (probably both spalling and rust) along with patches of light polish lines at various angles similar to later state Large Berry Originals. The reverse has remnants of the 1841 Initial Use horizontal lapping lines between HALF CENT and below CENT. The C crack is weak but visible.

**1841 Second Use (27384365).** Obverse again has scattered polish lines, but different from Initial Use. The reverse now has scattered polish lines at various angles and the C crack is clear. This state is virtually identical to middle state 1857 proofs.

**1842 Second Use (25016493, 27384369, 21757613).** Both the obverse and reverse have scattered polish lines different from the previous. The reverse is developing patches of spalling at the leaf tip above H in HALF, between HALF and CENT, and below CENT. The C crack is weak from previous polishings.

**1852 Third Use (36177144).** Obverse as on Second Use with a bit more polishing, particularly visible in from of mouth and chin. Reverse has light nearly vertical polish lines across most of die, reverse spalling at leaf tip and around HALF CENT perhaps reduced a bit by polishing, but still clearly visible. C crack appears a bit stronger. Essentially the same as later state (but not latest) 1857 proofs (24742941, 82913008). Struck mid to late 1857.

**1849 Second Use (39016325, 27383253).** Obverse has light, scattered polish lines and a bit more spalling (and perhaps some rust) in front of portrait. The reverse has a light, but clear, C crack and obvious spalling at the leaf tip above H in HALF. The spalling around HALF CENT is a bit stronger with a patch now clearly visible between HALF CENT. Struck mid to late 1857.

**1848 Second Use (39016325).** Obverse has light, scattered polish lines and a bit more spalling (and perhaps some rust) in front of portrait. The die lines up from dentils under date are now sharp spikes. The reverse has a light, but clear, C crack and obvious spalling at the leaf tip above H in HALF. The spalling around HALF CENT is a bit stronger with a patch now clearly visible between HALF CENT – essentially the same as later state 1857 proofs (24742941, 82913008). Struck mid to late 1857.

**1840 Initial Use (30451327, 4287181).** Obverse is fairly

clean with light scattered polish lines with a bit of rust/spalling. The reverse has a very light C crack. Polishing has weakened the spalling at the leaf tip, but the spalling above HALF and below CENT is clear.

**1844 Initial Use (27384379, 30451333).** Obverse has light rust, spalling, and polish lines in all fields. The C crack and spalling on the reverse have been weakened by polishing, but the spalling is still obvious.

**1846 Initial Use (30451339).** Obverse has strong polish lines at various angles in all fields along with light scattered rust and spalling. The reverse has scattered polish lines at various angles, the C crack is still weak. The spalling at the leaf tip above H and around HALF CENT have been weakened by polishing, but is still obvious.

**1845 Only Use (30451339).** Obverse has light scattered spalling and rust, about the same as later state 1845 Large Berry Originals. The reverse shows light polish lines from the lower left to upper right. The C crack is weak, but visible and the spalling around HALF CENT is a bit heavier than previous.

**1846 Second Use (27383830).** Obverse has scattered polish along with light scattered rust and spalling. The reverse has nearly vertical polish lines, but spalling around HALF CENT is still clearly visible. C crack weak, but visible.

**1843 Initial Use (30451330, 37765541).** Both the obverse and reverse are finely polished to a strong mirror. This polishing reduces the obverse and reverse rust/spalling, but the C crack is clearly visible. Struck late 1857 just before the area above C (AMERICA) delaminates on the final 1857 proofs.

**1857 Proof Final Striking (27714408).** On the last of the 1857 proof strikes, the reverse develops a small, shallow triangular-shaped delamination above the C in AMERICA, bordered on the right side by the C crack. The spalling around HALF CENT is clearly visible as on the 1843 Initial Use.

**1843 Second Use (43787089, 83934312).** Obverse has light polish lines from lower right to upper left reducing spalling and rust except for the heavy pits. Reverse has light scattered polish lines likewise reducing the spalling around HALF CENT, however, the spalling is still clearly visible. Polishing has altered the triangular delamination above C to a lump with a backwards comma shape.

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**Group B Restrikes – Late 1860 to April 1864 –** Group B Restrikes appear fairly rough and grainy due to rusting. They also typically have strong lapping to remove

the surface rust and mirror the fields. Traces of the lump above C as on 1843 Second Use strikes are visible early, but repeated lapping reduces this to an indistinct lump or lumps on later strikes. Patches of rust develop above the H and A of HALF on the latest strikes, clearly showing that Group B restrikes were struck on multiple occasions months apart.

**1842 Third Use (25016493, 27384369, 21757613).** The obverse has light polish lines, mostly from upper left to lower right along with additional light rust around portrait, very light pitting on face, and more rust patches around stars and date, but it is still fairly clean. The reverse is grainy with light rust across entire die, especially around letters and leaves. No clearly visible polish lines, the die was apparently removed from storage, perhaps given a light brushing, and used as is. The delamination above C has been polished and worn by striking to an indistinct lump.

**1849 Third Use (80868973).** The obverse has light polish lines, mostly from lower left to lower right along with more rust around portrait, stars and date. However, it is still fairly clean. The reverse is grainy with light rust across entire die as on the 1842 above with light polish lines from upper left to lower right. There is an indistinct lump above C, weaker than previous.

**1856 Initial Use (08227713).** The obverse has scattered

light rust across die with heavier areas around portrait. Heavy lapping lines in front of portrait at 45-degree angle from lower left to upper right and nearly vertical polish lines behind portrait. The reverse is grainy and developing rust patches above H and A as on previous Use. Heavy polish lines from upper left to lower right. There are indistinct lumps above C, weaker than previous. This piece is incorrectly listed by PCGS as an Original. The polishing and rust show that it obviously is not.

**1840 Second Use (27203549).** The obverse is still fairly clean with light scattered polish lines and additional rust patches scattered in fields. The reverse is still grainy, but the graininess has been reduced by additional polishing with lines clearly visible from upper right to lower left around HALF CENT. Has developed rust patches at the top of H and A. Indistinct lumps above C.

**1848 Third Use (37113485).** The obverse is still fairly clean with light scattered polish lines and sharp die lines up from dentils under date. However, a large patch of rust has developed above the portrait to star eight. The reverse is still grainy and still has the patches of rust above H and A, however, these have been reduced by an odd circular polish. There is an indistinct lump between the C and the dentil above.

### Second Restrike Emission Sequence



First Restrike Reverse, left, doubling on right sides of HALF CENT. Second Restrike Reverse, right, spikes above RICA.

**Group A Restrikes – May 18, 1867 to March/April 1869.** Group A Second Restrikes are typified by a moderately rusted reverse. For the initial use on 1842 Second Restrikes, the reverse was lightly lapped in at least two different directions to lessen the rust and improve the mirror. Shortly after that use, Linderman realized the reverse was still too rusted, so it was again lapped, this time more heavily. These heavy lapping lines remain

visible on all Group A Restrikes, although they, along with the rust, are reduced by both die wear and subsequent polishings.

**1840 Initial Use (30451322, 21431799).** Obverse now has light rust with heavier pits and patches across the die. The reverse has heavy rust patches below the C and on the top of E of CENT, along with rusted areas below ED STA to the wreath below, around HA and the top of



F in HALF, most leaves in the wreath, and around most letters in the legend. Heavy rust pits are scattered around LF, NT and the adjacent wreath. Lapping lines are present across the die, predominantly on a 45° angle from lower left to upper right with another set on a 60° angle from upper left to lower right.

**1844 Initial Use (21200035).** Obverse has moderate rust across the die. The portrait is very grainy from fine rust. No apparent polishing lines. The reverse has again been lapped or polished, reducing rust on top of E, below ED STA to the wreath below, around HA and the top of F in HALF, etc. The rust pits around LF, NT and the adjacent wreath are still quite heavy.

**1845 Initial Use (30451377).** Obverse now has light rust across die with larger patches in all fields and scattered light polish lines. The reverse has been heavily lapped approximately on a 45° angle from lower left to upper right, but the angle was different enough that there are obvious lines from this lapping crossing those of the previous one. The lapping has reduced the rust around ED STA, HA, and the top of E. The heavy rust pits around LF, EN, and to the wreath appear a bit lighter. This and the next four uses are so nearly identical that they were likely part of a “batch striking.” This the second such “batch” struck, the first being the 1840s.

**1841 Initial Use (42180329).** Obverse has additional fine rust at the base of all dentils to stars and around date with scattered heavier pits in the fields. The reverse is essentially the same as previous

**1846 Initial Use (30451340).** Obverse has very strong lapping lines from the left dentils, through stars 5 and 6, the upper part of the head, to stars 10 and 11, and the dentils on right. There are heavy rust patches around stars 9 and 10 to top of head, a light patch in front of nose, and scattered pits and patches in all fields. The reverse is virtually the same as previous.

**1843 Initial Use (30451331).** Obverse uniformly rusted across all surfaces with vertical polish lines on top of head and scattered lines in the fields. The reverse is again essentially the same as previous.

**1831 Initial Use (30451303, 27392714).** Obverse has light rust patches in all fields – the same die state as the latest first restrikes with the then shattered Reverse of 1836. A light polishing has reduced the rust around ED STA, and HA. The heavy rust pits around LF, EN, and to the wreath appear about the same as previous.

**1836 Initial Use (32707990, 30451318).** Obverse has light rust across entire die. Reverse about the same as previous.

**1846 Second Use (40276534, 25281859).** Obverse the same as previous. The reverse has received another polishing, leaving nearly vertical lines above and through STA to wreath below (these lines are more visible on the 1846 and 1840, below). The polishing has reduced the heavy rust pits around LF, NT, and the wreath along with the rust below ED, around HA, the top of F, and below C. This use and the next five are so nearly identical that they are again likely from a striking batch – the third batch.

**1840 Second Use (39260551, 27384362).** Obverse has light scattered rust with scattered polish lines along with scattered rust pits and rust patches in all fields. Reverse same as previous.

**1844 Second Use (27384381).** Obverse and reverse as previous.

**1842 Initial Use (30451328).** Obverse and reverse as previous, with polish lines at STA perhaps fading a bit from die wear.

**1841 Second Use (30451325).** Obverse and reverse as previous.

**1847 Initial Use (25648121, 43778575, 27383835, 43829030).** Obverse has light rust across die with light, scattered polish lines. Reverse same as previous.

**1831 Second Use (32707982).** Obverse rust reduced by lapping with nearly vertical lapping lines in front of nose. Reverse rust patches below C and pits around LF, EN, and wreath fading from die wear and/or polishing. This could be part of the previous striking batch, but the reduction in rust is significant enough to suspect the reverse was again polished.

**1836 Second Use (21527097).** Obverse rust reduced by a light polishing or die wear. Reverse same as 1831 Second Use.

**1852 Initial Use (30451353).** Obverse has light rust patches in most fields, die states is similar to the First Restrike Third Use. Reverse same as 1831 Second Use.

**1848 Initial Use (30451345).** Obverse has scattered polish lines and rust across die with heavy rust patches in front of face, top of head towards stars 7, 8, and 9. Rust around back of head and stars. Reverse about the same as the 1831 and 1836 Second Use. The 1831 and 1836 Second Use along with the 1852 and 1848 Initial Use were apparently the fourth and final batch struck in late 1868 to around March of 1869 as Linderman is preparing to leave office.

**Group B – The Late Restrikes, April 1873 to November 1878.** The late Group B restrikes have a reverse that

has uniform heavy rust across all surfaces – fields, letters, wreath. The die rusted during storage and is clearly on top of and disrupting the lapping lines from the 1867 to 1869 strikings. Struck sometime after Linderman returns in April of 1873, likely May to June 1873.

**1842 Second Use (43203635).** Obverse rust a bit heavier with numerous heavy pits at top of head to stars 8, 9, and 10. The reverse is very grainy, with a particularly

heavy patch at CA to wreath below. The rust is clearly over top of and disrupting the 1867 – 1869 lapping lines.

**1846 Third Use (43203635).** Obverse has light rust across entire die. Reverse as previous with graininess perhaps fading a bit from striking.

**1848 Second Use (42287183).** Obverse has moderate rust across entire die. Reverse as previous with graininess fading a bit more.

\* \* \* \* \*

## HOW MANY MASTER COINS COULD BE STRUCK BEFORE HALF CENT DIES REQUIRED REPOLISHING?

Roger W. Burdette

Amidst all the exaggeration and argument about half cent master (proof) die states, strike detail and other subjects, one important piece of information is missing: namely, how many coins could be struck from a master (proof) coin die before it required repolishing? We really have no contemporary information on this. Roger Cohen estimated 600 strikes based on rarity of the original pieces, Walter Breen and others made indirect guesses, most didn't bother, and nothing remotely useful has surfaced in contemporary historical files.

The quantity of half cents produced between die polishing is important because much of the discussion about production sequences depends on assumptions that dies were repolished, or rebasined ("lapped" in obsolete terminology), or repaired. This is supposed to make it possible to tell when a die surface has changed and the relative clarity of fine detail has therefore been diminished. In fact, some fine details can be completely obliterated by excessive polishing pressure or uneven application of abrading tools. Localized polishing can also remove one defect but leave others intact.

The obvious answer to "when should a die be polished or resurfaced" is, in a practical view, nothing more than "when needed." Until the last couple of decades, there have been no empirical quality standards for the mirror surface on a U.S. proof coin. In turn, "when needed" is the opinion of a press operator, die setter, or other person charged with initial quality control of coins at the press during manufacture. Everything was adjusted by experience and examination of coins and dies. Until the 1870s the Chief Coiner's department was responsible for all of this work.<sup>1</sup> The department foreman likely kept a die journal tracking all use of dies, and shared this with the Engraver. None of these detailed records are known to have survived for the period in question.

Fortunately, we have one reliable U.S. Mint source for proof dies that can be used to estimate repolishing of half cent master (proof) coins: the proof coin notebook

<sup>1</sup> Tracking die use was later transferred to the Engraving Department so that there was a single source for die information. This had been recommended by Engraver Longacre in the early 1850s but not implemented until well after his death in 1869.



**Figure 1. Detail images of the bow on original half cent master (proof) coins, Cohen reverse B, from 1840, left and 1848. Was the die repolished between manufacture of these coins? (Cropped and enhanced to better show details by the author. Base images courtesy PCGS TrueView.)**



covering 1936 to 1942. This a pocket notebook kept by the medal press operator.<sup>2</sup> The little book shows proof dies by their number, status, and pieces struck. From this the number of proofs struck between polishing for most dies can be determined. As one might expect, the frequency of repolishing can vary with coin size and metal, among other variables. Typical pages for 1937 proof quarters are shown below.

For our purposes, data for quarter dollar proofs from 1936-1942 were used. These were selected for similarity of diameter, although a quarter's 0.900 fine silver is harder than annealed copper. Examination of data indicates that quarter dies were repolished after approximately 600 to 800 strikes when used on a hydraulic medal press. Presuming that die steel was of lower quality in the 1840s, when most of the half cent original master coins were made, that pure copper planchets were more malleable than silver alloy, and that use of a screw press provided inconsistent pressure, we might

reasonably estimate that repolishing was necessary every 300 to 400 strikes.<sup>3</sup> It must also be noted that small areas could be lightly polished to remove minor defects without requiring rebasing or repolishing the entire surface, provided the workman did not dig too deeply and thereby raise a mound on the coin surface. (See Figure 2, below, with the note that on September 28, 1937 Assistant Engraver Adam Pietz ruined a die by wearing away fine detail.<sup>4</sup>)

This estimate assumes that a die does not crack, and is not damaged during or between uses. It is a "best case" estimate which gives us a plausible upward boundary for master coins (proofs) made during the mid-nineteenth century. This information can be used in concert with examination of half cent and other master coins from that period to better estimate original production

3 Estimate based on information for Washington quarter proof die tables as published in Roger W. Burdette, *United States Proof Coins 1936-1942*.

4 Collectors of 1936-42 proof coins will notice that detail on all of these pieces is often inferior to ordinary circulation coins. This was caused by excessive polishing.

2 Roger W. Burdette, *United States Proof Coins 1936-1942*. Seneca Mill Press. 2016.

1937 Quarter Obverse					1937 Quarter Reverse				
To corner	No.	Remarks	Pieces Struck	H.R.D. TEST	To corner	No.	Remarks	Pieces Struck	H.R.D. TEST
Feb 27	1	Ground on base <del>retired</del> New, not plated	15		Feb 27	1	Ground on base <del>retired</del> New, not plated	15	
Mar 3	2	" " "	175		Mar 3	2	" " "	175	
" 8	2	Old, good repolished	371		" 8	2	Old, good repolished	371	
" 15	2	" " "	300		" 15	2	" " "	300	
" 25	2	" " "	200		" 25	2	" " "	200	
Apr. 22	2	" " "	235		Apr. 22	2	" cracked	85	
May 4	2	" " "	150		" 22	3	New cracked	250	
" 24	3	New " "	250		May 4	3	Old <del>good</del> <del>retired</del> cracked	150	
May 21	2	Old good repolished	250		" 21	4	New-sweiled-turned-man	250	
July 20	2	" " "	250		" 24	5	" good repolished	250	
July 22	3	" " "	100		July 20	4	Cracked (destroyed)	250	
Aug. 13	2	Worn out retired			" 22	5	Repolished	100	
Aug. 13	1	Tryout - These dies were rejected as unusable due to improper grinding on base (see entry for Feb 27) later another workman obtained good results from them	400		Aug. 13	5	Cracked (destroyed)	1	90
					" 13	1	Tryout - See note for No. 1 Obv. quarter	400	
Sept. 20	1		550		Sept. 20	203		550	
" 28	1	Retired. In trying to repolish Mr. Pietz wore away fine detail.			Oct. 15	1		500	
Oct. 15	3		500		Oct. 29	1	Retired - cracked	100	
Oct. 29	371		100		11-12-37	203		600	
					12-8-37	203		500	
					12-28-37	203			

Figure 2. Sample pages from the Philadelphia Mint Medal Department foreman's pocket notebook. This photo shows disposition of proof quarter dies for part of 1937. From these and similar pages for quarters from 1936-1942, we can estimate the quantity of proofs struck from a die between polishing cycles. Additional information includes the causes of condemnation and who was responsible for die handling mistakes. (Author's database. See the book *United States Proof Coins 1936-1942* for complete data in typeset form.)

and possible survival rates for these collector pieces. For example, if half cent original reverse (Cohen B) master dies were not repolished between 1840 and 1848, then it is likely that less than 400 total were struck. Knowing this could help focus attention on other aspects of the coins rather than on trying to extrapolate Dickeson's statement of "only 200 in number coined" in 1840, to subsequent years.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Montroville Wilson Dickeson, *American Numismatic Manual*. J.B. Lippincott & Co. Philadelphia. 1865. 216.

\* \* \* \*

### Editor's Comment to the Author

In rereading your article, the thought occurred to me that, while lower quality die steel + inconsistent striking pressure + softer planchets would certainly suggest a DIFFERENT total for 1850s half cents than the 600-800 range documented for proof quarters in the 1930s, the fact that there are THREE variables at work simultaneously seems to limit the ability to draw a solid quantitative conclusion. If the die steel was bad enough, why not 200, instead? If the striking pressure applied to those softer planchets was "gentle" enough, why not 900, instead?

### Author's Reply to the Editor

Thanks for your comments. They are entirely appropri-

ate and reasonable. There is a considerable difference in die steel between my reference proof coin dates in the 1936-42 period. I resorted to that series because of its relative internal consistency over seven years, and the good die use and repolishing data for the coins. Another approach, and one that might yield a narrower boundary of number of pieces struck, is to look at the number of dies used for proof coins from the 1860s through 1890s. I have not explored this aspect, but parts of the data are available from the NNP database, and John Dannreuther's new gold and silver proof coins book, or I can search my database if any of your readers want to approach the task.

By using the above estimate for original, first restrike and second restrike half cents, we might find that certain assumptions will benefit from reconsideration, or at least additional contemplation.

Analogous estimates can be assembled for small cent, nickel, dime, and half dollar proofs, or coins of similar dimensions and alloy, by using the same 1936-1842 data set.

\* \* \* \* \*

## NEW DIE STATE OF 1804 CENT

Kevin Vinton

I am excited to report a newly discovered die state of the 1804 S-266 cent. This coin represents an intermediate state between the S-266B and S-266C die states, with the cud over RTY on the obverse, but the reverse cud only broken out over MER with a crack outlining where the rest of the cud eventually fills in on the usual C die state. I was amazed when I saw a picture of this coin posted on one of the online coin message boards. It was posted by a collector, a non-EAC member, who was just showing off his example of the date. The die state was reasonably clear in the photo but I was happy to work out a deal to acquire the coin and examine it in hand to confirm it was indeed what it appeared to be. For as famous a date as the 1804 is, and considering how long its die states have been described and collected, it's pretty incredible that such a thing was still out there in

the wild, waiting to be discovered.

1804 S-266, the sole die pair for the date, is the only variety of early date cent to have taken on subvariety designations for its various die states, namely S-266A, S-266B, and S-266C. The reason for this is that the three die states are all very distinctive and straightforward – perfect dies, one cud, two cuds – as well as fact that 1804 is popular key date with only one die pair, so it was nice to have a little more variety for collectors to pursue beyond a single date coin. With the discovery of this fourth die state, one that falls between the B and C states, it wasn't immediately clear how this new coin would fit into the S-266 subvariety attribution schema. While I felt this new die state was distinct and significant enough to warrant a separate subvariety designa-





tion, it didn't make sense to make it the new S-266C and change that common and well-known die state with two full cuds to S-266D. Instead, I propose to name this new die state "1804 S-266NC," where the NC can stand both for "Non-Collectible" which it currently is, as well as "Not quite C" as it comes right before the fully broken

out state of S-266C.

Following is a plate showing the now four known die states of the 1804 cent. I encourage everyone with an S-266C to double check his or her coin to see if it might be another S-266NC that was overlooked!

### Updated 1804 Die States

**S-266A**

Perfect dies. No cuds either side



**S-266B**

Cud over RTY. Crack tops of MERIC



**S-266NC**

Cud over RTY. Cud over MER, crack tops of IC to rim



**S-266C**

Cuds over RTY and MERIC



[266A, B, and C photos courtesy Collectors Universe]

## EAC PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Emily Matuska

EAC needs you! If I had artistic talent, I'd add a picture of Lady Liberty pointing towards you, similar to Uncle Sam.

EAC always needs help, but we're especially looking for help now. You'll see in this issue that we have a nominating committee. All of our elected offices are open for election at the beginning of 2023. Some of our current officers will not be running again, either because they are term-limited, or by their own choice. Some of our officers will hopefully be running again, but that doesn't mean you can't run, or that you can't help out in other ways.

If you aren't ready to take on an official position, you can help out in other ways. Let me know what your skills are that you are willing to share, or what kind of time you have to help, and we'll try to find something that you can do. There's a lot of help needed for conventions, and if you are planning on coming to next year's convention, I'm pretty certain that we can find something for you to help out with.

And speaking of conventions, special thanks go to Bob Kebler and all those who helped out with the St. Louis convention. There were a lot of people doing a lot of work, but special thanks go to Bob for being the one to step up and lead the event. Being the one in charge can be a little hectic, but I know I speak for many when I say that we appreciate those who stepped up and helped. It was great to get to see so many EAC friends after too long of a break.

One small way that you can help out is to get your membership renewed on time. Check out the date on your mailing label, and if it says "06/22" then your dues are past due. Getting your membership renewed on time is a huge help to those who keep the books. Trust me, I did that for several years, and it truly does make a difference.

Please consider helping out to keep our club going. We're all volunteers, and all of us are getting older. If you can't help out now, please don't dismiss the idea forever, as we seem to need some sort of new help every year. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

\* \* \* \* \*

## MINUTES OF THE EAC BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

May 14, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Emily Matuska at 7:39 A.M.

Officers, Members, and Guests Present: President Emily Matuska, Treasurer Grady Frisby, David Consolo, Carol Consolo, Ray Rouse, Tim Skinski, Craig Hamling, Greg Fitzgibbon, Russ Butcher, Ron Shintaku, Chris McCawley, Bob Kebler, Torey Denman, Mark Borckardt, Chris Pretsch, *Penny-Wise* Editor Harry Sal-yards, and Joe Pargola.

The minutes of the previous meeting as published in the July 2021 *Penny-Wise* were approved.

**The Treasurer's Report** was given by Grady Frisby and was approved. President Emily Matuska previously had asked the Treasurer to research ways in which our excess funds could be invested to generate additional income. The Treasurer contacted our banker and a separate division of J.P. Morgan-Chase reviewed our account. To

receive more than Money Market or CD rates, the Club would need to create a policy through a Board Resolution to place some of the funds in a separate brokerage account, to be invested in different bonds, for longer term down to middle and shorter duration investments. The Club would own these bonds and not have them as a book entry. The Club would need to understand that as with any investment there is always the potential for a loss in principal. A discussion among the Board members followed, and the consensus was that an investment account was not the way the Club should go, instead staying within the investment boundaries of FDIC-insured CDs and the use of a Money Market to provide some additional funds as rates continue to adjust. The Treasurer will seek additional information on those FDIC-insured products and report back to the Board.

**The Membership Report** was provided by Bim Gander, David Consolo, and Grady Frisby. Membership



is currently growing and we have approximately 995 members. This number changes quite frequently and so is a moving target, due to our Regional Chairpersons' efforts to reach out to prospective members.

**Sunshine Committee** Chairman David Consolo read the names of members who had passed away within the past year, and a moment of silence was observed in their memory. David encouraged all members, but particularly Regional officials, to reach out to him with news of ANY milestone events in members' lives, not just deaths.

**The Editor's Report** was given by Harry Salyards. The EAC Editor's Award for 2021 went to Lou Alfonso for his series of articles on subjects as diverse as the Great Comet most likely responsible for the 1807 S-271 to have been called the "comet" variety, early coin dealer tokens, and Oscar J. Pearl. Harry also noted that his new email address is [hesalyards@gmail.com](mailto:hesalyards@gmail.com).

**The Garvin Fund Report** was to have been presented by Vice President Lou Alfonso, but he was unable to attend due to illness. Treasurer Grady Frisby filled in for him. Grady reported one application this year from a young member. His name is C.J. Buchanan and his intention was to use the proceeds to pay for a course at the ANA Summer Seminar. His application was approved. President Emily Matuska reminded those members present to encourage others to consider an application for the Garvin Fund, and to contact Lou with any questions.

**Webmaster** Joe Pargola gave his general overview of happenings on our website. He said a change in one of the software programs had caused a few hiccups, but those have been fixed and everything is now running smoothly.

**Club Historian** Mark Borckardt said work is continuing with the Club History Project. He recently received a large amount of material from John and Mabel Ann Wright, which he is now going through.

**Regional Reports** were presented, as follows:

Region 1: Tim Skinski reported considerable interest in EAC and the benefits derived from becoming a member, with 12 new members added. He raised the possibility of the Club providing a Zoom meeting in a Region for those members unable to attend in person. Joe Pargola said he would need enough advance notice to assist the Chairperson in setting it up.

Region 2: Craig Hamling noted that the Covid pandemic had affected most shows and meetings in his area.

Region 3: Greg Fitzgibbon said that the last Whit-

man Show in Baltimore was attended by approximately 18 interested collectors.

Region 4: Greg Hannigan was not able to be present but sent a report that was presented by Emily Matuska. Greg has been using email format to reach out to interested copper collectors due to show cancellations.

Region 5: The report was given by Regional Secretary, Carol Consolo. She reported that Chairperson Monte Venier had to resign for personal reasons, and thus a new Chairperson would be needed. [Editor's Note: Mark Borckardt has agreed to fill out the remainder of Monte's term. He may be reached at [Numismatician@gmail.com](mailto:Numismatician@gmail.com).]

Region 6: Russ Butcher said big plans were underway for an EAC meeting at the Texas Numismatic Association Show in August.

Region 7: Ron Shintaku reported to the members that the Long Beach Show was returning after a two-year hiatus due to Covid. Ron said he was using educational talks at other shows and gatherings to encourage participation, and said the additional copies of *Penny-Wise* were very helpful in trying to recruit new members.

Region 8-In the absence of Matt Yohe, Webmaster Joe Pargola said he tries to coordinate with Matt in using the Website to the Club's benefit.

The Publications Committee chaired by Lou Alfonso did not have a report.

Literary Award: David Fanning indicated no award would be given this year.

The Convention 2022 report was given by Chairman Bob Kebler, who said that 246 persons had registered through the end of the day Friday. Room nights showed 405 signed up nights with 360 present room nights being used.

Educational Program Chairman Ray Rouse reported that in his opinion the sessions went well, but that one session will not be held due to a last-minute cancellation.

A report on the upcoming 2022 EAC Sale was given by Chris McCawley, who reported that the sale includes 450 lots. Thus far, there are 95 participant registrations on iCollector (online) and 100 registered bidders at the Convention. Chris said it should be an interesting and exciting sale.

Upcoming Convention Sites were discussed, with 2023 being in Portland, OR, where everything is progressing toward a positive and enjoyable convention

on the West Coast. Other sites under consideration are Memphis, TN (2024) and Pittsburgh, PA (2025). Phoenix, AZ or an alternate location in the Southwest was mentioned as a possibility for 2026.

#### **Old Business:**

President Emily Matuska stated that Coin Week was in breach of contract, for video services not provided for \$4000 paid to them on 12/30/2019. She will pursue this matter with them. Lianna Spurrier was mentioned as an alternative videographer for future EAC Conventions, and Emily will contact her, as well. She reminded the Board that the current Sale contract with Chris McCawley ends after the 2023 Sale, and volunteer(s) will be needed for the EAC Sale going forward. Joe Pargola offered his services with Photo Support.

#### **New Business:**

Emily called for volunteers to be part of the Nominating committee and Ray Rouse, Chris Pretsch and

Torey Denman said they would be glad to be on this committee.

A proposal on updating and changing/tweaking the Garvin Fund is being proposed by Vice President, Lou Alfonso. The purpose of his proposal is to expand the number of grants.

The issue of whether other coin clubs be permitted to join EAC as a club was raised. (We have had a specific request from the Nashua, NH club.) After discussion, the Board voted to allow this on a trial basis, with the two main provisos being that any such club would have to pay EAC member dues, and they could not bid in the EAC Sale.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Grady Frisby, Secretary Pro-Tem

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## **MINUTES OF THE 2022 EAC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**Saint Louis, Missouri, Sunday May 15**

Meeting commenced at 9:00 AM (CDT).

Bob Kebler acknowledged all those who helped out with the convention.

Grady presented the Treasurer's report. He reported that EAC is in good financial standing.

David Consolo asked for a moment of silence for recently deceased EAC members.

Grady reported that we currently have approximately 1000 members.

Harry Salyards announced that Lou Alfonso won this year's *Penny-Wise* Editor's Award.

One Garvin Fund applicant, Chris Buchanan (junior member), was given a grant to attend the ANA Summer Seminar.

Joe Pargola provided an update on the EACS web site.

Mark Borckardt reported continuing work on the EAC History. He acknowledged the recent donation of a considerable amount of archival material from John and Mabel Ann Wright. Dale Isaacs has also provided photographs from recent conventions.

Chris McCawley reported on the 2022 EAC Sale. There were 450 lots with a total hammer of \$375,000.

Dennis Fuoss reported that planning is underway for 2023 convention in Portland, Oregon.

Upcoming convention proposals for 2024 and 2025 are under consideration for Memphis, Tennessee, and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, respectively.

Bill Eckberg received the Herb Silberman award for extraordinary long-term service to EAC.

Bob Fagaly reported that 13 Boy Scouts (including 4 girls) achieved Coin Collecting Merit badges at the convention on Saturday.

The Ellsworth/Husak Faceoff was essentially tied, but Colonel Ellsworth won in a tiebreaker.

Tim Skinski provided a brief overview of Region 1 activities in New England.

Chris McCawley gave a preview of upcoming sales by Early Cents Auctions.

Shawn Yancey expressed his gratitude for all the prayers and support from the EAC community.

Joe Pargola reminded members that EAC Show Kits are available.

Steve Ellsworth announced the successful elimination of sales tax on coin and bullion sales in the state of Tennessee.

Rich Weber thanked and acknowledged Mike Packard for “Bangers,” Chris McCawley for EAC T-shirts, and John Bailey for sale lot viewing organization.

The meeting adjourned at 9:43 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim Skinski, Secretary Pro-Tem

\* \* \* \* \*

### **E.A.C. Editor’s Award for 2022**

Presented to

**Lou Alfonso**

For his exploration of Early Coin Dealer Tokens,  
The Astronomical Inspiration for the Sheldon-271 1807 “Comet” Cent,  
and his Remembrance of Oscar J. Pearl.

Given at St. Louis, Missouri, May 15, 2022

Harry E. Salyards, Editor

\* \* \* \* \*



Courtesy of Heritage Galleries

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Grady Frisby

### Statement of Activity

January - December 2021

	Total
<b>REVENUE</b>	
Activities Income	11,756.47
Advertisements	4,875.00
Bourse Fees	2,240.00
Interest Earned	47.74
Medals Sales	53.00
Membership Dues	41,416.65
Thursday Reception	93.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>60,481.86</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>60,481.86</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
Accounting	4,545.00
Advertising & Marketing	4,585.45
Bank Service Charges	37.66
D&O Insurance	1,357.00
Dues and Subscriptions	341.29
Office Supplies	473.72
Postage	1,311.37
Printing - PW	35,221.92
Software	359.88
Sunshine Committee	250.00
Taxes & Licenses	100.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>48,583.29</b>
<b>NET OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>11,898.57</b>
<b>NET REVENUE</b>	<b>\$11,898.57</b>

# Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2021

	Total
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Bank Accounts</b>	
Chase Bank Checking x7317	101,245.06
Chase Bank Savings x6985	168,381.48
Garvin Account	73,914.47
<b>Total Chase Bank Savings x6985</b>	<b>242,295.95</b>
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>343,541.01</b>
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	
Accounts Receivable	1,632.81
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>1,632.81</b>
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
Inventory Asset	500.59
Undeposited Funds	75.14
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>575.73</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>345,749.55</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$345,749.55</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	
<b>Equity</b>	
Opening Garvin Fund Balance	67,564.32
Opening General Fund Balance	266,286.66
Net Revenue	11,898.57
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>345,749.55</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$345,749.55</b>



# Statement of Cash Flows

January - December 2021

	Total
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	
Net Revenue	11,898.57
Adjustments to reconcile Net Revenue to Net Cash provided by operations:	
Accounts Receivable	-1,632.81
Accounts Payable	-175.00
<b>Total Adjustments to reconcile Net Revenue to Net Cash provided by operations:</b>	<b>-1,807.81</b>
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>10,090.76</b>
<b>NET CASH INCREASE FOR PERIOD</b>	<b>10,090.76</b>
Cash at beginning of period	333,525.39
<b>CASH AT END OF PERIOD</b>	<b>\$343,616.15</b>



These are the winning bids as recognized by the auctioneer, and do not include the buyer's fee.



# EARLY CENTS AUCTIONS

# EAC 2022

## Prices Realized

Total Hammer Price \$346,235 Hammer + Buyers Premium \$ 398,170

Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price
1	360	38	240	78	650	116	360	154	480
2	340	39	175	79	250	117	170	155	160
3	360	40	1300	80	4600	118	6000	156	650
4	150	41	650	81	260	119	200	157	2000
5	180	42	220	82	320	120	190	158	2800
6	300	44	850	83	340	121	320	159	2200
7	240	45	340	84	650	122	700	160	850
8	135	46	120	85	300	123	500	161	480
9	50	47	460	86	140	124	150	162	1300
10	850	48	115	87	180	125	340	163	380
11	210	49	1000	88	600	126	170	164	180
12	320	50	500	89	400	127	130	165	850
13	360	51	150	90	1300	128	120	166	1600
14	550	52	360	91	170	129	420	167	2200
15	75	53	1000	92	400	130	280	168	5000
16	500	54	190	93	280	131	120	169	550
17	500	55	1900	94	200	132	85	170	12000
18	190	56	440	95	220	133	100	171	600
19	220	57	280	96	170	134	360	172	1000
20	360	58	320	97	120	135	180	173	3000
21	80	59	460	98	130	136	240	174	1700
22	3600	60	675	99	260	137	110	175	440
23	1900	61	380	100	280	138	2600	176	750
24	1250	62	190	101	300	139	22000	177	500
25	2200	63	650	103	240	140	320	178	1200
26	1700	64	600	104	2200	141	1500	179	350
27	650	65	420	105	130	143	2200	180	900
28	550	66	340	106	600	144	1000	181	4000
29	2000	68	1800	107	260	145	550	182	320
30	1500	69	2600	108	340	146	330	183	340
31	800	70	1300	109	110	147	250	184	28000
32	1300	71	300	110	380	148	4200	185	850
33	1100	72	600	111	120	149	240	186	150
34	180	73	220	112	120	150	1300	187	420
35	1100	74	2600	113	160	151	550	188	300
36	1000	75	900	114	230	152	400	189	700
37	750	76	800	115	400	153	950	190	5000

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONSIGN TO OUR NEXT AUCTION PLEASE CONTACT: [www.earlycentsauctions.com](http://www.earlycentsauctions.com) | [info@earlycentsauctions.com](mailto:info@earlycentsauctions.com) P.O. BOX 6400, Austin, TX 78762 Lucas Baldridge, Texas Auctioneer Lic#18106

Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price
191	650	262	160	323	320	381	170	440	50
192	340	263	850	324	460	382	110	441	160
193	380	264	950	325	550	383	550	442	500
194	900	265	4600	326	1300	384	170	443	210
195	320	266	260	327	170	385	130	444	340
196	650	267	950	328	480	386	150	445	1100
197	340	268	900	329	420	387	85	446	850
198	320	269	1000	330	70	388	95	447	550
199	4000	270	300	331	900	389	150	448	340
200	380	271	440	332	1300	390	70	449	200
201	280	272	750	333	280	391	320	450	320
202	300	273	420	334	190	392	380	451	700
203	170	274	750	335	1000	393	55		
204	280	275	3200	336	550	394	1000		
205	750	276	1000	337	360	395	800		
207	300	277	280	338	480	396	75		
208	320	278	320	339	180	397	80		
209	4000	279	180	340	340	399	60		
210	1400	280	650	341	750	400	110		
211	3000	281	190	342	440	401	440		
213	650	282	550	343	380	402	100		
214	320	283	800	344	280	403	1000		
215	5500	284	260	345	420	404	420		
216	1000	285	700	346	400	405	300		
217	340	286	420	347	850	406	420		
218	440	287	700	348	400	407	130		
219	340	288	340	349	420	408	300		
220	420	289	200	350	1100	409	100		
221	130	290	360	351	300	410	300		
222	4000	292	320	352	300	411	280		
224	550	293	340	353	360	412	180		
225	480	295	220	354	150	413	110		
226	240	296	220	355	460	414	300		
227	4000	297	380	356	850	415	160		
229	400	298	90	357	800	416	420		
230	280	299	650	358	850	417	170		
231	440	300	1100	359	120	418	260		
232	460	301	280	360	130	419	130		
233	500	302	1100	361	240	420	1000		
236	550	303	100	362	110	421	260		
238	850	304	700	363	160	422	420		
239	260	305	750	364	150	423	850		
240	440	306	800	365	460	424	380		
242	440	307	700	366	130	425	420		
243	2200	308	320	367	150	426	320		
244	100	309	550	368	185	427	70		
245	4400	310	3400	369	650	428	1000		
246	420	311	170	370	240	429	440		
247	240	312	95	371	480	430	220		
250	3200	313	600	372	130	431	220		
251	130	314	200	373	320	432	95		
253	180	315	260	374	190	433	400		
254	340	317	70	375	240	434	220		
255	850	318	340	376	400	435	800		
256	180	319	190	377	650	436	70		
258	400	320	420	378	100	437	550		
259	240	321	500	379	190	438	160		
260	190	322	950	380	60	439	120		

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF EAC OFFICERS 2023-2026

We need a new slate of National and Regional officers to direct EAC for the next three years. Every member is encouraged to nominate themselves or other club members to any position where they could help the club.

EAC has always been run by volunteers. Now is your chance to get involved and make a difference.

Nominations are needed for the following National Offices: President; Vice-President; Secretary; Treasurer.

Candidates for Regional Chairs and Regional Secretaries are needed for Region 1, New England (CT, MA, VT, NH, RI, ME); Region 2, New York-New Jersey (NY, NJ); Region 3, Mid-Atlantic (PA, DE, MD, DC, VA, WV, NC); Region 4, Southeast (SC, GA, FL, AL, MS, TN); Region 5, North Central (MI, OH, KY, IN, IL, WI, MN, IA, NE, SD, ND); Region 6, South Central (KS, MO, AR, LA, TX, OK, NM, CO); Region 7, West (WY, MT, ID, UT, NV, AZ, CA, OR, WA, AK, HI).

People to support the annual convention are needed as: Lot Viewing Chairman; Exhibits Chairman; and Education Chairman.

Other National Positions such as *Penny-Wise* Editor; Membership Chairman; Region 8 Chairman; Historian; and the Sunshine Committee are appointed positions for which volunteers are always welcome.

Nominations should include the position and the name, email address, and phone number of the nominee.

Please forward your nominations to one or all members of the nominating committee: Chris Pretsch ([prettsch@staleycap.com](mailto:prettsch@staleycap.com)); Torey Denman ([tdenman166@outlook.com](mailto:tdenman166@outlook.com)); Ray Rouse ([rayrbfl@gmail.com](mailto:rayrbfl@gmail.com)).

Election ballots will be in the January *Penny-Wise* and the results will be announced in April.

\* \* \* \* \*

## THE 2022 HALF CENT HAPPENING REPORT

Tim Skinski

After a three-year hiatus, Early American Coppers celebrated our “in person” convention in Saint Louis during May 12-15. Liz and I opted to drive out to the Midwest, in order to attend both the EAC convention and a professional conference in Nashville, which was held earlier that same week. We rolled into Missouri late on Wednesday evening, and were eager to see many old friends the next day. A quick perusal of the convention agenda the next morning revealed that convention chairman Bob Kebler and his family had planned far more interesting activities than time would permit.

On Thursday afternoon, Jim Carr reprised his father’s Counterfeit and Grading seminar to a packed room. Although I clearly need to do some remedial work on Large Cents, my personal seminar highlight was the attribution of the 1793 Liberty Cap Gallery Mint Half Cent, which was in Poor 1 condition. I guess those counterfeiters have a lot of time on their hands. Kudos to Jim for finding these challenging specimens for us!

Following the sumptuous convention banquet, the 37<sup>th</sup> annual Half Cent Happening was held on Thursday evening. Per tradition, six varieties were selected for the 2022 edition of the Happening. Four varieties (1794 C-7, 1795 C-5b, 1802/0 C-1, and 1804 C-7) had last appeared in the early 2000s. The 1809 C-6 and 1837

Half Cent Token were last included in 1996 and 1997, respectively.

Fifteen collectors registered as exhibitors this year. This reflected a slight decrease from 17 at the last non-virtual convention in 2019. Ballots were turned in by 24 guests, which was an increase over the 20 filed at EAC in Dayton. Mike “Half Cent Happening Emeritus” Packard and I were very pleased with the turnout, in comparison to recent years.

As in previous years, those viewing the coins were asked to fill out a score sheet on which they ranked the top five examples of each variety according to their own preference standards. These standards generally include strike, amount of wear, color, luster, surfaces, centering, die state, ownership pedigree, etc. Not all the voters filled in their ballots for all six varieties or for all five preferences, so the vote totals vary from variety to variety. When scoring the “ballots,” I have continued to use Mike Packard’s original scoring system. Five points were given to the scorer’s most preferred coin; four to the second preference, and so on. I then summed points across all the ballots for each variety to determine whose coin was most favored, second most preferred, etc. Here are the results:



### **1794 C-7, R5**

This is one of the so-called “High Relief Head” varieties with Small Edge Letters.

1. David Consolo’s variety received 89 points and 10 first place votes. This was the highest scoring coin of the entire Happening.
2. Russ Butcher’s example received 76 points and 7 first place votes.
3. John Bergner’s coin received 41 points and 3 first place votes for third place.
4. Greg Fitzgibbon’s specimen received 33 points
5. Mike Packard’s submission also garnered 33 points.

Honorable mention goes to Jim Swales’ piece, which had the other first place vote.

### **1795 C-5b, R4**

This coin is the No Pole (to Cap), plain edge, thick planchet variety.

1. Rod Widok’s submission attained the top spot with 81 points and 14 first place votes.
2. Russ Butcher’s variety achieved runner-up status with 67 points and 2 first place votes.
3. David Consolo’s example placed third with 52 points and 2 first place votes.
4. Bob Kebler’s coin finished in fourth place with 40 points.
5. Tim Skinski’s entry received 33 points and 3 first place votes.

### **1802/0 C-1, R6**

The C-1 is the 1802/0 overdate variety with “Reverse of 1800”.

1. David Consolo’s piece received 86 points and 10 first place votes.
2. Russ Butcher’s submission finished second with 86 points and 8 first place votes.
3. Mike Lawrence’s example tallied 51 points and 2 first place votes.
4. Jim Swales’ specimen finished fourth with 40 points and a first-place vote.
5. John Bergner’s submission finished with 23 points.

### **1804 C-7, R4**

The C-7 is one of the four “Spiked Chin” varieties for this date.

1. Russ Butcher’s “7a” example tallied 81 points

and 11 first place votes.

2. Greg Fitzgibbon’s specimen scored 67 points with 3 first place votes.
3. Bob Kebler’s submission attained a score of 36 points and a first-place vote.
4. Tim Skinski’s coin finished in fourth place with 22 points.
5. Mike Seymour’s variety scored 21 points, as well as a first-place vote.

Honorable mention goes to David Consolo’s coin, which had the other three first place votes.

### **1809 C-6, R1**

This is the “Normal Date” variety.

1. Russ Butcher’s submission had 75 points and 6 first place votes.
2. Mike Packard’s piece took the runner up spot with 55 points and also garnered 6 first place votes.
3. Greg Fitzgibbon’s “5” example tallied 49 points and 3 first place votes.
4. David Consolo’s coin had 35 points and 1 first place vote.
5. Greg Fitzgibbon’s “5a” variety scored 28 points and the other 4 first place votes.

### **1837 Half Cent Token (Hard Times Token), R2**

This token, which was not issued by the United States Mint, was struck privately and circulated during the economic depression of 1837.

1. Mike Packard’s coin achieved top of the table status with 70 points and 7 first place votes.
2. Russ Butcher’s submission achieved 50 points and 4 first place votes.
3. Greg Jablonski’s variety scored 48 points and 2 first place votes.
4. Greg Fitzgibbon’s specimen garnered 46 points and 2 first-place votes.
5. Bob Kebler’s “3a” example scored 23 points and 3 first-place votes.

Honorable mentions go out to Joe Pargola’s and Bob Kebler’s “3” entries, which each received first place votes.

### **Counterfeit Detection/Half Cent Attribution**

Ed Fuhrman’s and Jack Young’s Attribution and Counterfeit Challenge table was so popular during the 2019 EAC Dayton, we included it again this year. Ed once again graciously manned this table during our en-



tire two-hour session, and both Jack and Ed provided our challenging specimens. Our winners were:

1. Jim Swales is our new titleholder with 8 correct answers out of 9.
2. Jim narrowly defeated our defending champion, David Consolo. David had 7 correct answers.
3. Mike Packard finished in third place with 5 correct answers.

Jack Young will be very pleased to learn that his three counterfeit half cents were correctly detected at a 75% rate by the participants. All three “Dark Side” counterfeit coins had been slabbed by professional grading services, so participants should take pride in their detection prowess.

Ed Fuhrman has already agreed to return to oversee this event at the 2023 EAC convention. We are also expecting the previous champions to return to defend and/or reclaim their titles in Portland, Oregon.

Friday was highlighted by EAC sale preparation and attending various Educational Presentations. John Bailey again did a terrific job overseeing the lot viewing table and coordinating his merry band of volunteers. The Early Cents Auctions crew put together another world class auction catalog. My personal favorite seminar was “WHOOOPS! Things that Went Wrong at the Mint”, which was presented by Mark and Tyler Klein, and Region 1 (New England)’s own Harry and Matt Channel. This presentation and hands-on error coin viewing was attended by an overflowing crowd.

On Saturday, Liz and I set out to see some of the Saint Louis area, before the much-anticipated EAC sale. We visited the awe-inspiring National Gateway Arch Park and also managed a side trip to experience the local tradition of Ted Drewes frozen custard. Yes, they do serve it upside down, but you need to eat it quickly in

the Saint Louis heat.



**(Jim Carr, Tim Skinski, David Consolo, Tony Anthony, Greg Fitzgibbon, Ed Fuhrman, Mike Packard, Russ Butcher, Joe Pargola at 2022 Half Cent Happening)**

In addition to all the exhibitors and guests, I wish to extend my extreme gratitude to all those who graciously donated their time on Thursday evening to make this an outstanding event. I cannot (and will not be able to) adequately name all, but do want to particularly recognize Ed Fuhrman, Jack Young, Bob Kebler, Mike Packard, David Consolo, Jim Carr, Greg Fitzgibbon, Tony Anthony, and Liz Skinski for their considerable contributions.

Please remember to mark your calendars for the 38<sup>th</sup> Happening at the 2023 convention in Portland, Oregon. If you have any suggestions or proposals for our 2023 Happening, please feel free to contact me via email at [tim.skinski@earthlink.net](mailto:tim.skinski@earthlink.net).





## COLONIAL EVENTS AT THE 2022 EAC CONVENTION

Craig McDonald

EAC held its 2022 Convention in St. Louis from May 10 – 13. Though the main activities didn't really begin until the reception and Happenings on Thursday evening, we had arranged to meet up at the hotel with Len Augsburg and drive to the Newman Library to make one final pass through their materials, to see if anything would be useful to the C4 Library. Making the trip with me were fellow C4 member Len Massa, and Jeff Rock representing the Conder Token Collector's Club. After a tour of the digitization lab, we wandered down some twisting turning hallways and finally into the room where the library materials were stored. Over the next two hours or so, we pored over the racks searching for Colonial related items our Library didn't already have, and one or two items which would be duplicates, but of very popular works. In all I would estimate we came away with about 20 items in total.

After the reception dinner on Thursday, it was time for the Happenings. Ray Williams has run the Colonial Happening for the last several years, but unfortunately he was unable to attend this year. So I volunteered to run it. The sign in list shows a total of 20 people who attended, but undoubtedly others popped their heads in for a few minutes along the way. One really exciting coin that was shared was the recently discovered new Fugio variety, Newman 23-E. Dennis Wierzba displayed and offered his thoughts on a Virginia halfpenny with a "RPS" counter stamp well placed across the obverse.

Friday morning was the C4 Region 8 meeting. There were about 15 people in attendance. After a round of introductions, we discussed the recently completed auction of Syd Martin's library. I gave a quick update on where we stand as far as planning for the October C4 Convention, and various other topics. We then opened the meeting for general discussion. One of the first questions asked was by a young man in attendance with his father. His question was basically, "What coins are considered Colonials?" This generated a good discussion from several in attendance.

The bourse was absolutely wonderful. I remember my first EAC Convention in 1983 at the LaGuardia Airport Sheraton. The bourse in St Louis was probably three or four times the size of that one. There were many familiar faces with tables, and while obviously the main concentration was on half cents and large cents, the number of Colonials was more than respectable. One especially wonderful table was that of Stack's. Kevin

Vinton and Vicken Yegparian were there showing some absolutely beautiful eye candy, in the form of selections from Syd Martin's New Jersey Collection, along with several Higley coppers and assorted other coins.

Unfortunately I had to fly home on Saturday afternoon, so I was unable to attend the EAC Sale or the General Meeting. But overall it was a very enjoyable time, and it was great to see so many familiar faces.

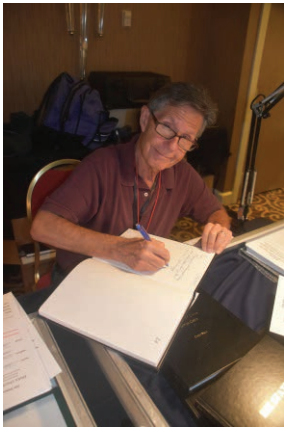


**Colonial Happening**



**Dennis Wierzba, Jeff Lipsky, Jeff Rock, Craig McDonald**





**Chuck Heck**



**Will Nipper and Len Mass**



**Vicken at Stack's table with some of the Martin Collection**



**Mike Demling**



**Mike Packard**

\* \* \* \* \*

## **MINT DIRECTOR J. ROSS SNOWDEN'S OPINION OF COIN COLLECTORS**

From *A Description of Ancient and Modern Coins in the Cabinet Collection of the Mint of the United States*. 1860. Lippincott, Philadelphia, PA.

In giving a history of the coins of the United States we shall not go so far into the details of the subject as to take notice of the different "varieties" caused by cracked dies, the addition or omission of a leaf in the laurel, a larger or smaller letter in the legend or inscription, and the countless other minute and scarcely definable differences which are found, upon close inspection, to exist in the coins of nearly every year in which they have been issued. These little technicalities may be important to those collectors of coins who pay more regard to the selfish desire of *having something which no one else possesses*, than to the historic or artistic interest which attaches to a coin.

## 2022 LARGE CENT HAPPENING RESULTS

David Johnson

The renewal of the Large Cent Happening during the 2022 Annual EAC Convention saw spirited competition and collector interest in the varieties featured this year. Although this year's entries did not rival our record number of entries last seen in 2019, Happening attendance and voting participation was still quite strong.

This Year's featured varieties were: 1794 S-21, 1794 S-35, 1798 S-175, 1800 S-202, 1830 N-4, 1831 N-9, 1840 N-2, and 1847 N-31.

Entries were scored on the basis of 5 points for the coin voted best, 4 points for the coin voted second best, and so on, with a total 5 available points per coin. The top 5 (receiving votes) coins in each category:

1794 S-21		1794 S-35	
Coin 2 Bob Klosterboer	77PTS	Coin 1 Terry Denman	82PTS
Coin 1 Terry Denman	76PTS	Coin 2 Harry Salyards	67PTS
Coin 3 Nathan Markowitz	45PTS		
1798 S-175		1800 S-202	
Coin 1 Terry Denman	78PTS	Coin 4 Joan Widok	65PTS
Coin 4 Rich Weber	58PTS	Coin 1 Terry Denman	53PTS
Coin 2 Bob Klosterboer	54PTS	Coin 3 Rich Weber	51PTS
Coin 3 Mark Verbeck	35PTS	Coin 4 Mark Verbeck	30PTS
1830 N-4		1831 N-9	
Coin 1 Terry Denman	71PTS	Coin 10 John McBride	45PTS
Coin 2 Terry Denman	47PTS	Coin 1 Bob Klosterboer	42PTS
Coin 4 Dennis Fuoss	36PTS	Coin 2 Bob Klosterboer	34PTS
Coin 6 Eugene Williams	36PTS	Coin 11 Eugene Williams	33PTS
Coin 5 John McBride	12PTS	Coin 9 David Heider	20PTS
1840 N-2		1847 N-31	
Coin 1 Steve Miller	81PTS	Coin 1 Steve Miller	81PTS
Coin 2 Gary Hahn	71PTS	Coin 2 Gary Hahn	67PTS
Coin 3 Joe Pargola	45PTS	Coin 3 Terry Denman	57PTS

Thanks to all the EAC members who participated and shared their coins during this year's Happening.

Special consideration goes out to all the volunteers who year after year step up and donate their time to make the Large Cent Happening a success.

**Important Announcement:** It is highly likely that I will **not** be able to attend the 2023 Portland Convention. I am looking for a volunteer to ensure that the Large Cent Happening will continue.

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## EAC 2022 PHOTOS BY DALE ISSAC





## EAC REGION 3 REPORTS

Ed Fox

**Baltimore, 20 November 2021**

On 20 November 2021, acting chair Ed Fox called the Whitman Baltimore Coin Show EAC Region 3 meeting to order at 1PM. It had been exactly two years since the last Baltimore Show and last EAC Region 3 meeting, and we were all glad to be able to resume our get-togethers. Due to proper COVID-19 concerns, several regulars sent regrets for not attending, including Region 3 chair Greg Fitzgibbon and members Bill McMahon and Mike Packard.

The following members / guests were present:

Richard Demott – Eagleville, PA  
Frederic Cook – Perry Hall, MD  
Lawrence Ink – Beltsville, MD  
Joe Pargola – Longhorne, PA  
Henry T. Hettger – Arlington, VA  
Craig Sholley – Carlisle, PA  
Frank Goss – Baltimore, MD  
John Bergnor – Dallas, TX  
Charles Stewart – Dallas, TX  
Ed Fox – Spencerville, MD

After the customary introduction of attendees and their respective numismatic interests, we had several discussions.

Richard addressed the questions of hardness of copper and also discussed a 1793 Liberty Cap cent and Chain S4.

Henry discussed variations of S241 and S231, questioning a possible new 1802 obverse.

Craig discussed the Fugio planchets, and remarked that from 1797 until the late 1830s, the Boulton company provided over two-thirds of the planchets to the Philadelphia Mint, at which time the Mint switched to Crocker Brothers as the sole supplier. Craig also discussed naming the 1787 Fugio cent as the first official U. S. coinage under the 1783 Articles of Confederation, as authorized by the Congress of the Confederation in 1787. He also covered the 1857 demonetization of foreign coins and the Big Melt of copper coinage. Craig indicated he thought about 70 to 80 million copper coins were melted to meet Civil War needs. In a similar vein, in 2007 the Mint published a rule prohibiting pre-1982 cents and nickels (both with high copper content) from being melted due to usage of copper by China.

We chatted briefly about the annual EAC 2022 conference in St. Louis. Most present indicated they would not attend due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

Show and Tell: Fugio Cents, a Vermont Ryder-Richardson RR-20 cent, and an 1817 N-12 large cent acquired at the Show.

The meeting adjourned at 1:49 PM.

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**Baltimore, 02 April 2022**

On 02 Apr 2022, chair Greg Fitzgibbon called the Whitman Baltimore Coin Show EAC Region 3 meeting to order at 1PM. As we learned from the Maryland Token Society, the group that met earlier in the same meeting room, long-time EAC and Region 3 member Frank Goss had passed away in January. Needless to say, we were all greatly saddened by this news and will miss Frank's presence and contributions.

The following members / guests were present:

Katie Robucci – Simsbury, CT (Guest)  
Mike Packard – Fairfax, VA  
Brian Bailey – Damascus, MD  
Fred Cook – Perry Hall, MD

Craig Sholley – Carlisle, PA  
Steve Ellsworth – Nashville, TN  
Ed Fox – Spencerville, MD  
Greg Fitzgibbon – Manassas, VA

After the customary introduction of attendees and their respective numismatic interests:

Greg – Colonials and Half Cents

Ed – Large cents especially the 1817 N12

Brian – English Coppers

Katie – Early American “pennies” and terminal die states

Mike – Half Cents

Fred – Half Cents (complete date) and Large Cents by variety

Craig – Fugios and “how he enjoys being a trouble maker”

#### Show and Tell:

Greg showed an 1814 S295 50% off center; an 1831 N12 large cent with a two-point cud, counter-stamped; and a Connecticut 1787 struck off center (Miller 13.17-r.5, rarity R6).

Ed showed a book he acquired at the show, *America's Copper Coinage 1783-1857*, Coinage of the Americas Conference ANS 1984; which included articles by Walter Breen, Roger S. Cohen, Jr., Denis W. Loring, Jules Reiver, Eric Newman, and others.

Brian showed a 1625 Charles II English Farthing.

Craig showed a Fugio Cent with a 1 over horizontal 1.

#### We had several discussions:

Discussed the EAC Convention in St. Louis, noting that iCollector has the online bidding for the sale and the catalog was available on iCollector.

Steve announced that there was going to be a “Cop-

per Grading Faceoff” – Side-by-side Whist match of early date large cents at the Central States Show as well as EAC 2022. He provided everyone with a copy of the March/April “Rare Coin Market Report” which has an article about the “Early Large Cents Rumble in the PCGS Set Registry Exhibition.”

It was mentioned that the Syd Martin Collection will be auctioned by Stack’s Bowers in multiple sales starting in August.

Craig offered a pair of brain teasers:

1. What were the first two coins made under federal law?
2. Where did “coppers” come from?

Meeting adjourned at 1:49; next meeting 11 June at 1PM, during the Whitman Baltimore Summer Expo.

*Answers: 1-The Massachusetts Cent and Half Cent were the first coins minted to the federal standards, which set the specs for the coinage. From 1787 to 1789, there was a copper panic in NY, NJ, Eastern PA, CT, and Massachusetts. (Massachusetts coinage was the first worldwide to bear the new denomination of a “cent”).*

*2-“Coppers” was a British slang term for the half penny coin*

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#### Baltimore, 11 June 2022

Region 3 chair Greg Fitzgibbon called the Whitman Baltimore Coin Show EAC meeting to order at 1PM. The following members / guests were present:

Katie Robucci – Simsbury, CT (New EAC Member – yea!)  
Fred Cook – Perry Hall, MD  
Craig Sholley – Carlisle, PA  
Scott Tyson – Etters, PA  
Joe Kane – Dewey Beach, DE  
Ed Fox – Spencerville, MD  
Greg Fitzgibbon – Manassas, VA

It was announced that the Maryland Token Society has given us a batch of dealer advertising tokens from the late Bob Johnson, EAC #1021. Bob had given the tokens to MTS, and they thought these tokens would be better placed in the hands of EAC. Members who wanted the tokens were free to take them.

The customary introduction of attendees and their respective numismatic interests:

- Greg – Colonials and Half Cents

- Ed – Large cents especially the 1817 N12
- Craig – Fugios and other copper material
- Katie – Early American cents and terminal die states
- Scott – Large Cents
- Fred – Half Cents (complete date) and Large Cents by variety
- Joe – Half Cents

EAC Annual Conventions – Greg mentioned that about 300 people attended EAC St. Louis and that the sale was good, with Internet participation via iCollector. The next Convention will be in Portland, OR, June 22-25, 2023. As for future conventions, nothing definite, but some considerations are Memphis, TN in 2024 and possibly Pittsburgh, PA in 2025.

We also discussed the current Baltimore coin show. Typical of the “summer” show, it was a slow day, with many dealers only staying two days and leaving the show early.

## Show and Tell:

- Ed showed a copy of Chuck Heck's *Die States of 1794 United States Large Cents*. Learning from the Region 8 Newsletter about Chuck's publication, he ordered it from Kolbe & Fanning Numismatic Booksellers and just received it prior to the Region 3 meeting. At first glance it appears to be an outstanding work for the study of 1794 Large Cents and needs to be in every collector's library. (Chuck reports in Region 8 a second printing has been ordered).
- Scott showed a British 1775 Georgius Librex coin
- Ed showed the advertising tokens of the late Bob Johnson
- Katie showed her recent acquisitions – a 1794 VG10 Large Cent and an 1813 Large Cent
- Craig showed a double struck and offset Connecticut 1787 copper mint error

Craig led a discussion of the Half Cent second restrikes, made 1867-1869 by Henry Linderman, suggesting that the restrikes were possibly on two-cent planchets, since the half cent and two-cent planchets were similar in size but different in metallic composition – the half cent being copper, the two-cent being copper, tin, and zinc. He mentioned the possibility of using X-ray fluorescence or a similar process to non-destructively determine the composition of the planchet used.

The upcoming sale of Connecticut coppers by Stack's Bowers was mentioned. Remembrances of the contributions of past members were offered. With regard to help in attributing coins, especially Scott's 1800 NC4 Large Cent, sending pictures to the "Copper Notes" Facebook group was suggested.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45. The next Baltimore Region 3 meeting will be 29 October at 1PM during the Whitman Baltimore Fall Expo.

## General Items of Interest:

\* \* \* \* \*

## SAVE THE DATES FOR FUTURE EAC CONVENTIONS

### 2023 EAC Convention - Portland, OR

Dates: Thursday, June 22 - Sunday June 25

Convention Chairman: Rory Lassetter  
([lassetter30@hotmail.com](mailto:lassetter30@hotmail.com))

Bourse Chair: Dennis Fuoss ([dfuoss92624@gmail.com](mailto:dfuoss92624@gmail.com))

Doubletree by Hilton, Portland  
1000 NE Multnomah St.  
Portland, OR 97232

Your Board is soliciting proposals for the 2024 and 2025 conventions. The 2017-2020 conventions were all held in the Northeast quadrant of the US. More than half of our membership lives in that quadrant of the country. Most aspects of the conventions are easy, as we have the

experience of having done this for 50 years. If you are interested in hosting, the local host's main duties are to pick the venue, arrange for security and select the food for the reception.

The most important criteria for a venue include: 1) a ballroom large enough for the bourse (should be at least 6500 sq. ft. and 8000 sq. ft. is better) 2) proximity to air travel. For security, dealers with inventory do not want to travel far from an airport. 3) proximity to interesting side trips. 4) dates must not conflict with Easter, Passover, Mothers' Day or the Central States convention.

If you are interested in hosting, please contact Emily Matuska ([ematuska2@gmail.com](mailto:ematuska2@gmail.com)) to discuss your ideas.

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## BOOK REVIEW

### *The Half Cent Handbook, Liberty Cap Varieties 1793-1797* by Ed Fuhrman

Kevin Vinton

With the highly anticipated third installment in his *Half Cent Handbook* series, Fuhrman tackles the earliest of the U.S. half cents, the Liberty Cap varieties of 1793 to 1797. In the past, the Liberty Cap half cents were arguably the least accessible of the various half cent types;

this due to their rarity, expense, and the often confusing technical aspects of the many varieties and subvarieties. While this complexity makes for a fun playground for the sophisticated half cent specialist, it is not so conducive to encouraging newer collectors to pursue these



coins further than just a one-off type example, or a date set at most. Ed's new book goes a long way to untangle some of this complexity and present the die varieties of the Liberty Cap half cents in a straightforward manner that will appeal to new and seasoned collectors alike.

Fuhrman follows the "C" numbers for die pairs as laid out by Roger Cohen, but wisely eschews Cohen's "a," "b," and "c" subvariety designations, opting instead to describe each known edge and planchet variation for each die pair while not attempting to shoehorn all those variations into rigid subvariety designations. This gives each individual collector the flexibility to decide for themselves how far into the variations of each die variety they wish to go without being beholden to a nearly impossible checklist. And there has always been debate among half cent specialists as to which of the edge and planchet variations should be considered actual "sub-varieties" as opposed to "mint errors" or "oddities" or something else. Ed's presentation allows for the collec-

tor to make his or her own determinations on these matters. There is no shortage of discussion of these many subvarieties in Fuhrman's book however, and it includes descriptions and illustrations of some exciting new discoveries including the 1795 C-6 No Pole with Lettered Edge that was discovered in 2018.

As with the previous *Half Cent Handbook* volumes, the book is profusely illustrated with high quality color photographs and is laid out in an attractive and easy to follow format. Ed once again includes a wealth of fascinating and educational commentary on all aspects of these coins including collecting advice, cherry-picking tips, market analysis, and lots of entertaining stories. Fuhrman's new book on Liberty Cap half cents is a significant and pivotal addition to the literature on these coins and highly recommended for any half cent collector. All three volumes in the *Half Cent Handbook* series have been excellent, but this is perhaps his best work yet.

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## BOOK REVIEW

### *Die States of 1794 United States Large Cents* by Chuck Heck

Bill Eckberg

You know you're in for an interesting ride when the first paragraph of Bob Grellman's *Foreword* describes the author as a "seriously flawed human being." Chuck's flaw is, of course, his obsessive desire to understand everything about the die states of his beloved 1794 large cents. I might concur with Bob's diagnosis, but there is a fine line between love and obsession, and I'm not sure which side of it Chuck is on. Perhaps both?

What about the book? Does it cover the topic in a clear and understandable manner? Absolutely. Are the images of good 21<sup>st</sup> century quality? Most definitely. Are they profuse? As a couple of relatively random examples, Chuck illustrates the development of the Sheldon-33 Wheelspoke with no fewer than eight reverse and two obverse photographs. S-21 is illustrated by no fewer than 20 images. While not all varieties are accorded that many visuals, all are described and illustrated in full. If you have seen Chuck's presentations at the Boyz of '94 meetings at EAC conventions, this level of detail will not surprise you.

Speaking of Chuck's presentations to the Boyz, his rather unique and engaging speaking style translates very well into print. This book is clearly written in

Chuck's voice, which makes it very readable for a book with so much technical information.

I want to make very clear that this is much more than a book about 1794 large cent clashmarks, cracks, and cuds. In the front matter, there are seven pages of definitions and explanations of what is to come, and a very long list of acknowledgements, including to many who I am sure don't recall what they provided him. Chuck has always been about the people in EAC, and even that comes through in his book.

In case anyone still thinks this is a book of pictures of die states, the first analysis of a specific variety does not begin until page 27. The first 26 pages include a history of the study of 1794s, a good summary of information about the U.S. Mint in its earliest days, an explanation of coinage dies and how and why they become damaged, and finally an explanation of his process for identifying marks on the coins that provide important evidence concerning the order in which different varieties and different examples of the same variety were coined. *There is a lot here for collectors like me who aren't deeply interested in 1794 large cents, but are interested in early mint technology in general.*

Nobody writes a coin book with the expectation of getting rich. Most hope to recoup as much as possible of their expenses by selling the books, but writing books such as this is always a labor of love, and it is obvious that a lot of love went into the writing of this one.

A final note: I'm told the print run was only 110 copies. The print run has sold out, but more are being printed. Check with Chuck if you want a copy. And you **SHOULD** want a copy.

\* \* \* \* \*

## AN INVITATION TO APPLY FOR A GARVIN FUND GRANT

Lou Alfonso and David Huang

As many of you know some years ago our late member, David Garvin, donated his copper collection to be sold at the 2005 EAC convention sale. The proceeds of over \$50,000 were set aside in our EAC savings account to be used for educational and related purposes. Any member of EAC who has been a member for at least one year may apply for a grant from the fund of up to \$1000 to defray the costs of a research project, writing an article, a trip to a coin convention, a museum that features coins of interest to EAC members, a grading or other numismatic class, just to name a few possibilities. The financial situation of the applicant is not a consid-

eration. All eligible members of EAC are encouraged to request an application, which can be obtained from either of the two Garvin Fund members, Lou Alfonso and David Huang. Grants are typically either \$500 or \$1,000 but may vary.

The only requirement is to subsequently write an article for *Penny-Wise* setting forth what the grant was used for and its results. Please consider making an application if you have an idea that would help you and be of interest to your fellow members of EAC.

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## CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following candidates have applied for membership in EAC since the last issue of *Penny-Wise*. Provided that no adverse comments on any particular individual are received by the Membership Committee before the October 2022 issue of *P-W*, all will be declared elected to full membership at that time. Chairman of the Membership Committee is Bim Gander, 12770 NW Steelhead Falls Drive, Terrebonne, OR 97760.

### New Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>City, State</u>	<u>Member #</u>
Steve Haley	Epsom, NH	6916
Basl Gugliotta	Winslow Twp., NJ	6917
Steven Wilberg	Waukesha, WI	6918
Mike Nixon	Pearland, TX	6919
Patruck Silva	Saint Clairsville, OH	6920
Scott Tyson	Etters, PA	6921
Neil Block	Radium Springs, NM	6922
Christopher Bower	New Palestine, IN	6923
Randall Duncan	Laurel Hill, FL	6924
Ryan Wood	Arlington, TX	6925
Evelyn Antonetti	Arlington Heights, IL	6926
Mark Strunsky	Middletown, NY	6927
Howard Lewis	Northfield, NH	6928
Katie Robucci	Farmington, CT	6929
Aaron Lancaster	Madison, WI	6930
Harlan Lancaster	Madison, WI	6931J
Hurst Barbee	Sealy, TX	6932
Barry Murphy	Lakewood Ranch, FL	6933
Matthew Chapman	Reno, NV	6934
Dale Trotter	Union Dale, PA	6935
Stanley Ferree	Milton, DE	6936
Brett Irick	Fremont, OH	6937
Bill Rucker	Fairview, TX	6938A
Melissa Hafer	Christianburg, VA	6939A
Seth Pearson	Fort Worth, TX	6940
Jason Friedman	Dallas, TX	6941
Bill Bostancic	Wooster, OH	6942
John McCurdy	Wood River, IL	6943J
Paxton Schroeder	Bartelso, IL	6944J
Stephen Soltis	Milan, MI	6946

### Returning Members

William C. Noyes	Monument Beach, MA	363
Michael Wierzba	Abington, MA	4236
Mike Stefano	Scherrville, IN	4675
Ralph Rucker	Fairview, TX	5663A
Tyler Klein	Bradford, TX	6187
Alice McCawley	Austin, TX	6463A
Glenn McCawley	Austin, TX	6464A
Jeff Starck	St. Louis, MO	6690



## HARD TIMES TALES: HT 303

Ray Rouse

HT 303 depicts “Peale’s Museum & Gallery of the Fine Arts.” This token has long been a source of confusion and misunderstandings. This is basically due to the fact that the founder of this New York museum, Rubens Peale, not only had a father, Charles Wilson Peale, who is known for starting the museum business in America, but he also had other family members who took part in the museum business. Thus, there was more than one Peale Museum. It was the family business. The following story is interesting to me in that it shows the great lengths and expense Charles Wilson Peale went to obtain specimens and promote his museum.

This tale really begins in 18<sup>th</sup> century Europe, where

a French naturalist, George Louis Leclerc, Comte du Buffon (1706-1778), published a huge nature study in which he claimed that America was without large powerful animals and that the American people were “feeble” compared to Europeans. Infuriated, Thomas Jefferson sent the Comte de Buffon, the body of a large bull moose (a creature larger than any extant European animal). Later, bones from an enormous animal found along the Ohio River in what was called Big Bone Lick, Kentucky were sent to Buffon. European naturalists puzzled over the bones and eventually decided that they were an extinct species of elephants resembling the woolly mammoths of Siberia. They became commonly known as mastodons.

Late in 1799, reports spread of large bones and teeth being found in New York’s Hudson River Valley. Enter Charles Wilson Peale, the father, a Philadelphia artist and naturalist who had opened the first museum in America, the Philadelphia Museum, in 1784. He rushed to the scene and purchased the bones and teeth for his museum. He also bought the right to excavate the site of the marl pit where the bones were found. Peale went even further and purchased the rights to two other nearby marl pits. Today Peale’s “Barber Farm Mastodon Exhumation Site” is on the National Registry of Historic Places.

By 1801, Charles Wilson Peale had succeeded in getting most of the skeletons of two mastodons from the marl pits. He then set out to reconstruct them for his exhibit by filling in the missing parts with carved wooden pieces. One skeleton became a highlighted exhibit in his Philadelphia Museum, and in 1802 his sons Rembrandt and Rubens Peale took the other mastodon skeleton for a promotional tour in England.

In 1814, following the family business, Rembrandt Peale opened “Peale’s Baltimore Museum and Gallery of Fine Arts” at 225 North Holliday Street in downtown Baltimore. Not to be outdone, Rubens Peale established his own museum in 1825 at 252 Broadway in New York City.

All of these museums featured collections of snakes, lizards, insects, birds, minerals, etc., as well as paintings and Egyptian artifacts. Rubens Peale even had a mummy in his New York museum.

Thus there were three Peale museums, all in large cities. Charles Wilson Peale, the father, had a museum





in Philadelphia; one son, Rubens Peale, had a museum in New York; and another son, Rembrandt Peale, had established a museum in Baltimore. Other Peale family members including Raphael Peale and Charles Peale

Polk are associated with a failed 1796 attempt to start an earlier Baltimore museum.

When Charles Wilson Peale's Philadelphia Museum was incorporated in 1821, three of his sons, Raphael, Rembrandt, and Rubens Peale, as well as a son-in-law Coleman Sellers, were incorporators. I do not know of a family connection for the only other incorporator, Pierce Butler. Still museums certainly were the family business.

Luckily for us, two of the three museums issued tokens. HT 303 is from Rubens Peale's New York museum and is a large, impressive, 34.5mm, token commonly found in copper, although there are scarce white metal examples. Even though this token is dated 1825, Russell Rulau tells us that it was used by the New York museum from 1825 to 1841, thus he includes it in his Hard Times Token books.

Charles Wilson Peale's Philadelphia Museum produced a 32mm, copper token dated 1821 that is worth collecting as an adjunct to a Hard Times Token collection. Other numismatic items were also produced for the Philadelphia Museum, including 25 cent paper scrip notes good for admission to the museum. All of these other items from the original Philadelphia Museum are exceedingly rare today.

Why write about HT 303 and the Peale family now? Well, the Peale Museum in Baltimore, currently being called, "The Municipal Museum of the City of Baltimore," was a building built in 1814 specifically to be a museum and after other uses (such as the Baltimore City Hall) and after much abuse, its renovation has been completed, and it was scheduled to reopen on May 23 of this year. It might be worth a visit.

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## RARE BUT NOT VERY PRETTY

### COLLECTING KEY EARLY COPPERS ON A BUDGET

#### Part Two

Jon Truskey

In Part One I shared the story of how I cherry-picked three R4 or higher 1795 varieties for my collection. You can read about them in the April 2022 issue. Here in Part Two, I will focus on three rare varieties I acquired since the start of COVID.

#### Doubling down

Unlike the first three coins, these three were pur-

chased with both the seller and I knowing the variety that was up for sale. I believe I still acquired them for a very reasonable price. It seemed as if everyone was apprehensive about spending money during the pandemic, especially on non-essentials like half cents. No one knew how bad the situation was going to get. I noted what seemed to be a lack of coin buying activity, and thus a lack of competition, and decided to double down



on my collecting efforts. Ultimately, this strategy really paid off!

### **No chance, unless...**

The first indicator of this time period being a buyers' market was confirmed with the purchase of a Cohen-3. This particular coin is an R5+ (40 estimated) and I didn't think I had any chance of getting it at a decent price as a known variety. Yes, it is not very pretty. And yes, it is corroded to the point where its weight is only 73.4 grains, but it still has a readable date, and all of the important diagnostic devices are present.

Luckily my efforts to double down were not in vain. Bidding was practically non-existent, and I got it for \$280. This ended up being one of the bright spots in my Liberty Cap collecting venture and one of my rarer finds!

An interesting diagnostic feature that is seldom mentioned in the literature is that the number "1" in the

fraction is shifted to the right on the fraction bar. This is one of the methods I use to identify Cohen 3 reverses.

### **Beautiful Miss Liberty**



Next, I came across this Cohen-2a, R4 (76-200 estimated). I had been searching for a couple of years for a decent example of one of these at a reasonable price with no luck. Then this beauty came up for sale.

It has decent surfaces except for the planchet void under Miss Liberty's chin. To me, the mint error just added to its collectable value. An R4 with a mint error, all combined into one coin. What's not to love about that?

This was one of the nicer condition, low end, Cohen-2a coins I had seen in years, and for a nice price of \$350. One more rare variety crossed off of my list!

### **Maybe you can have it all**

The third example, in what by now I was joking-





ly calling my “COVID Collection,” is a C-6b in VG+ condition. It weighs 109.8 grains, even with the missing edge piece. I have seen C-6b’s advertised as R6, but with 50 examples now estimated according to Ed Fuhrman’s *The Half Cent Handbook*, I think Rarity 5 is

a closer estimate.

I paid more for this example than I normally would, but this coin had it all for me. First, it had rarity as an R5 coin. Second, its surfaces and features were in nicer condition than many I have seen. It also combined that rarity and condition with two mint errors: a dropped fragment on the edge, and what I believe are several planchet voids. Plus, it was from the “Furnace Run Collection.”

Because it had all these features going for it, I didn’t think that I had a shot at getting it. I almost didn’t even put in a bid. But my last two successful buys encouraged me to go for it. Once again bidding was minimal, and I won the auction for \$750. Yes!

And just like that I had successfully acquired another rare variety. It’s possible that the dropped fragment contributed to its lack of appeal to many potential buyers, but personally, I love these type of mint errors!

I first noticed this type of mint error in Bill Eckberg’s *The Half Cent* on page 43, where he shows an example. I then looked back at Walter Breen’s *Encyclopedia of United States Half Cents* and saw another on page 142 that I had previously missed. Breen thought this mint error was caused during striking, when the copper was not properly annealed, and some areas remained stress hardened and brittle, thus making them prone to cracking.

What really makes collecting some of these examples fun for me is the fact that in a normal year, one without a shortage of copper planchets, many of these coins would have been outright rejected by the mint as discards and recycled. But now 200+ years later, they are prized as a collectable category. I doubt that the mint workers would have ever imagined this situation!

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## LARGE CENT COIN BOARDS

Lou Alfonso

Over the years, there have been many different ways of organizing coin collections. Many coin collectors started by trying to fill a blue coin folder that they had been given as a gift or had purchased at a local store. It was not uncommon to go to a bank and bring home some rolls of cents and spend some quiet time searching through those rolls, using the “finds” to fill the holes in the little blue folder. As collectors got older or learned more about what they were collecting, they became interested in coin albums. These had an advantage over the folder as both sides of a coin could be viewed and there were clear sleeves that could be slid into the page to protect both sides of the coin. These albums could also be tucked away into a bookcase or drawer for later viewing and study. It’s often said that these little folders were what jump-started coin collecting in our country by emphasizing collecting by date and mint rather than just by type.

For collectors of early copper including large cents, there were not many options before the folders and albums came on the market. More advanced collectors could place their large cents or other early coppers into wooden cabinets which had trays that slid out like drawers. Each tray was divided into sections to hold individual coins. Other collectors had the option of placing their coins into the two-by-two inch envelopes that we are all familiar with and still in wide use. Some just put their collections into cigar or other boxes, and the reference to this makes for good reading in the beginning of Sheldon’s *Penny Whimsy*.

However, in the late 1920s another option became available for early copper collectors — large coin boards that were made and marketed by Martin Luther Beistle (Beistle Company) and later by Wayte Raymond (National Coin Albums). These were made for various denominations including large cents. They had holes on their sides to allow for storage in loose leaf binders or in albums that were also marketed. While these served a need, they were not inexpensive and did not find their way into the popular market places of the day. They generally served only folks who were already collectors.

In the early 1930s, Joseph K. Post of Neenah, Wisconsin, an engineer with Kimberly-Clark, invented and designed a board to hold “common” coins that were circulating at that time. The coins could fit into a frame so that a collection could be displayed on a wall or otherwise stored away. He received a copyright for

his boards in 1935. Under the name of the “Kent Coin Board,” Kent being his middle name, he had already implemented plans to market his invention. He hired the Whitman Publishing Company of Racine, Wisconsin to manufacture the boards. Post’s first boards were for Indian and Lincoln cent collections, and he made arrangements for them to be sold in newsstands, Five and Dime stores, stationery stores, and other retail outlets. The folks at Whitman decided that these boards were a potential money maker and they purchased the rights to the boards from Post in the latter part of 1935 and begin making and selling their boards with little change from what Polk had designed.

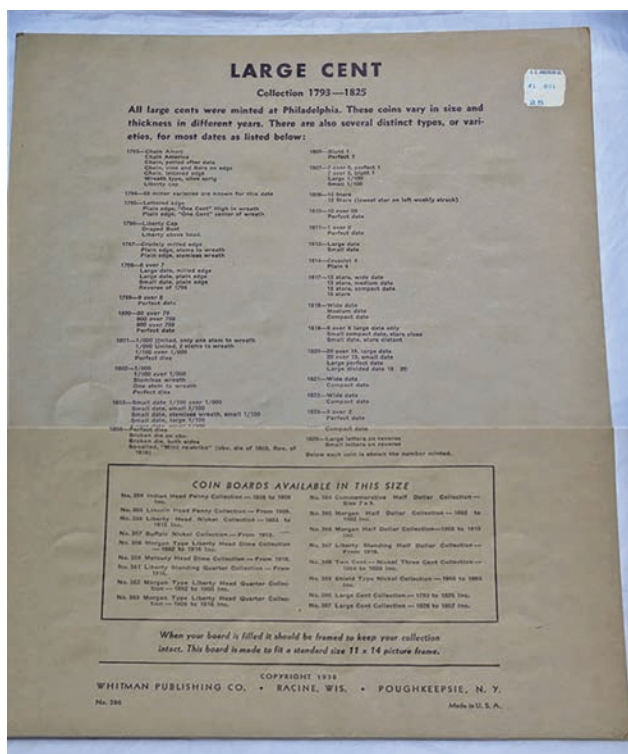
In 1938, Whitman received a copyright on their boards, having modified the boards that Polk had designed. They were specifically designed to be individually framed, and included the statement, “When your board is filled, it should be framed to keep your collection intact. This board is made to fit a standard size 11x14 picture frame.” Whitman also bound several boards into albums so that several collections could be kept together. Many old time collectors fondly remember hanging their completed Indian Cent or Lincoln Cent Board collection on a wall in their den or study.

The early boards by Whitman were made only for coins found in circulation; there were no coin boards for large cents. Richard Yeo (who used the modified name of R. S. Yeoman) was a principal at Whitman and had bet that these boards could be a hit with the general public. He was right! He worked on advertising and expanding the outlets where the boards were being sold. Many feel that these boards, and others made by companies such as Oberwise and the Lincoln Printing Company, were a major factor in coin collecting becoming a big hit with large parts of the general public. Those very early Whitman boards contained the statement, “Be sure to clean your coins thoroughly with vinegar or use a clean rubber eraser before placing them in the board.” Fortunately, that poor advice appeared on only the very early boards and was soon dropped. It did not appear on the large cent boards. The boards also had some errors, such as the mintage for the 1856 Flying Eagle on the Indian Cent boards being listed as three million, which was a repeat of the same error on the Kent boards.

As the boards became more popular, Whitman expanded its line to include large cents and other coins not found in general circulation. Whitman produced

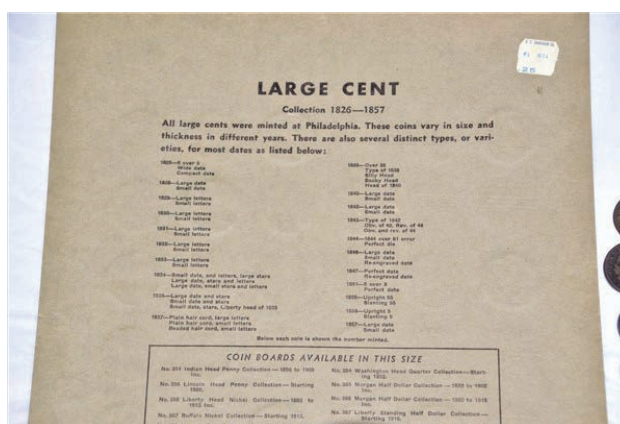


and sold two different large cent boards. The first was called "LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1793-1826" and the other "LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1826-1857." Each board was printed on cardboard with a blue background and white lettering and an opening for a coin of each date with the date printed under each opening. Each of the different large cent boards contained 42 openings— 32 for the dates in each sub set and 10 for varieties. The mintage rounded up to two or three numbers was printed under each date. At the bottom of each board was the space for 10 Varieties with the individual collector able to choose which variety was important enough to command a space on that board among the available ten.



Boards for non-circulating coins such as large cents were not as popular, and fewer quantities were sold. For example, the original coin boards for Indian or Lincoln Cents are common and easy to obtain on E-bay, at coin shows or at times from auctions. But the large cent boards are rare and seldom show up for sale. It took me well over two years to finally obtain one of each of the two Whitman large cent boards. My search included running ads in *Penny Wise*, emails to dealers and searching coin shows and e-bay listings. During that period, I only saw three large cent boards for sale, two of the later boards for the 1826 to 1857 large cents and one for the 1793 to 1825 cents. I received nearly a dozen replies from my *Penny Wise* ads but none of them related to the actual large cent boards. The usual reply had to do with the availability of an older large cent album. It appears that little is known about these large cents boards, which gave me the idea for this article.

I have included images of my two boards including the front and back of each. The 1793 to 1825 board appears to be from an earlier edition than that of the 1826 to 1857 board, as the rear of the first board lists an in-





ventory of 17 available boards that Whitman was selling. The rear of the 1826 to 1857 board lists an increased inventory of 21 available boards. One of the fun parts of filling these boards is deciding which variety to include among the 10 options. The back of each board notes that all large cents were minted in Philadelphia. The note also states that the coins vary in size and thickness according to the different years and also notes that there are several distinct types, or varieties, for many dates. The various varieties are also listed. As an example, the 1793 to 1825 board notes that there are “60 minor varieties” of 1794 cents, five varieties of chain cents, only one type of wreath cent, different overdates, and various others. The later board mentions various overdates, large and small dates, and different obverse varieties. One of the varieties I thought would be fun to display would be the four major varieties of 1839 cents. One of the downsides of these boards is that they do not display the reverse of each cent. To solve that I decided to use a couple of the variety openings to show different reverses. The back of each of my boards has a small sticker showing it was sold for the price of 25 cents by the C.C. Anderson Co.

Some collectors are collecting not only coins, but also coin boards. Others just obtain a board or two to hold a collection or for display. A major reference book for coin boards was written by EAC'er David Lange and is called *Coin Collecting Boards of the 1930s and 1940s*. It is still available from various sources including e-bay

or from Mr. Lange directly via his website. Another reference is *Collecting Vintage Coins Boards, Albums, and Folders, 1930's to 1960's*, by Donald Kocken. I found the search for my two Whitman large cent coin boards to be a lot of fun and it also added to my historical knowledge of earlier times in the copper collecting journey. Of course, with prices having increased as much as they have regarding early copper, I do not intend to display these boards on a wall when they are filled; but rather, they will sit in a bank vault along with other coins to be viewed from time to time. If you decide to collect a board or two, I wish for you fun and enjoyment in your quest. Happy Hunting!

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Nancy R. Alfonso, editing

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Coincommunity.com/USCoins and Currency Forums, 03/20/2022, Commons Collection Wayte Raymond Coin Boards

The E-Sylum (5/3/2009), J. K. Post and R. S. Yeoman's Role in the development of the coin board, Ed Reiter, David Lange

Whitman.com website, [home/about us/history](https://www.whitman.com/home/about-us/history)

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### **An Exchange Between Craig Sholley and Harry Salyards On Clandestine Restriking at the Mint**

#### **Craig:**

Many are under the impression that James Ross Snowden lied about restriking. Nothing could be further from the truth. Snowden was one of the rare honest guys. Unfortunately, Taxay did an uncharacteristically sloppy job of covering this point, leaving many collectors with the wrong impression.

The fact is that JRS was totally above board about the restriking. He published a May 21, 1859 mint circular (<https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/book/579972>) offering to trade patterns for Washington medals that went out to known collectors. In a letter dated Jan 22, 1859, JRS had asked permission of Treasury Secretary Howell Cobb to do so; Cobb subsequently agreed. That letter is most

revealing:

“We are daily pressed upon by collectors of coins from all parts of the country either by letter or in person for specimens of pattern pieces of coins and rare types. A few of these having been in every case issued - some of them got into the hands of dealers and are sold at excessive prices. I propose, with your approbation, to check this traffic, and at the same time to gratify a taste which has lately greatly increased in the country, and seems to be increasing every day, namely by striking some of each kind and affixing a price to them, so that the profits may ensue to the benefit of the Mint Cabinet of coins and one which is the property of the United States, an exact account of which will be kept and rendered to the Department.”

The problem was this practice had become endemic at the mint. It was initially used to curry favor with influential persons to counter the frequent attacks by

Congress. By the 1840s, it was nothing more than a bad practice that mint officers considered a “prerogative” and which, sadly, the Mint Directors had no real way of stopping. JRS figured he might as well join them and at least get something out of a bad situation for the mint, hence the offer to trade patterns and restrikes for Washington medals. (Restriking for fun and profit continued until 1887 when Director Kimball was effective in getting new laws passed to put an end to the overt practice. Of course, it continues underground to this day.)

All of the stuff JRS restruck was totally above board. There are letters showing exactly what JRS traded, including 1838 and 1839 Gobrecht dollars, ring cent patterns, etc., etc. In fact, when a collector asked for a copper \$20 gold, he wrote to Cobb asking permission because he felt he did not have authority to strike off-metal pieces. That request was denied, likely filled later by Linderman, who had no such compunctions.

Who was doing the majority of the surreptitious restriking at this time? Henry Linderman. In the 1887 Mint Report, then-Director James P. Kimball went on a nine-page denunciation of the past practice of striking off-metal patterns and various other unofficial restrikes for collectors and mint officials.

Although Kimball did not name him directly, he most certainly “pointed the finger” directly at Henry Linderman. Quoting an article that had appeared in *The Nation*, Kimball noted that in 1859 to 1860 an estimated 50,000 dollars (obviously collector value, not face) of patterns were “struck and disposed of at the mint without any benefit to the Government at whose expense these were coined.” The quoted article went on to note that, “During Mr. Lincoln’s administration these abuses stopped, but of late years they have begun again. For example, numerous pattern dollars, struck between 1869 and 1874, have since turned up and passed into the hands of collectors, none of which appear in the Government collection.” Obviously, someone at the mint had “spilled the beans.”

If that’s not sufficient to solidly implicate Linderman, Kimball went on to relate that four complete sets of the coinage for the year 1868 were struck in aluminum and specially encased for the Secretary of the Treasury. Kimball then notes that one additional cased set “passed into other hands.” The “other hands” were, of course, Henry Linderman’s. In June 1887, Kimball stopped Lyman Low’s sale of the Linderman estate and had the Secret Service seize the illegal aluminum set.

Why didn’t JRS stop Linderman? He couldn’t. First, Linderman was very politically connected. Even more

problematic, Linderman had enlisted JRS’s nephew, A. Loudon Snowden, as an accomplice. So, naming or firing Linderman would not only create a political firestorm, ALS would go down with him, making family life quite unpleasant for poor Jimmy. He might as well take off for the Amazon ‘cause he sure wasn’t gonna be welcome in Philly!

Roger [Burdette] mentions none of this in his [January] article. Rather, he treats the “miracle of the boxes” as if they are self-contained. That makes it look like JRS had the proof half cent dies and had refused to strike pieces for those in the quoted letters. But that makes no sense. Why would he strike pieces for some and not others? The Snowden “restrike letters” clearly show that when collectors did not have Washington medals Snowden needed, he simply told them so and asked what else they had.

Further, why would Snowden refuse to “publicly” restrike half cents for trade and later do so surreptitiously? This is the same man who had asked permission to strike a copper \$20 gold for trade. Obviously, he had no issue striking anything for which he felt he had permission. This supposed scenario simply makes no sense.

Of course the real problem with the “miracle of the boxes” is the tale was told by Linderman. It was Linderman who found the boxes. It was Linderman who said they were sealed by Snowden. There is no other evidence. Linderman says Snowden made a list for the record, but it was lost. None of the witnesses ever say they saw Snowden seal the boxes or that his handwriting was on the box. We only have Henry’s word for that. How convenient, the same guy who struck 50K worth of collector coins for personal profit says this is what happened.

And, of course, Snowden, who wrote for permission on everything else regarding the restriking, never informs Cobb that he’s sealing up the restrike dies and placing them in the Director’s safe. And two subsequent directors, Pollock and Millward, never noticed the boxes in the safe or, if they did, never opened them. Must have been marked “Danger! Do Not Open! Spitting Cobras Inside!” Sure, I believe that.

...Just like with the Gobrecht dollars, the proof Braided Hair half cents show price declines whenever Linderman is at the mint. In fact, so many restrikes appeared at auction in 1879 and 1880 that common date Originals and all Restrikes (including those of the excessively rare 1842 and 1847) sold for just five to eight dollars. As with the Gobrecht dollars, Linderman’s restriking saturated the market.

Last, the story of Theodore Eckfeldt supposedly striking the 1804 Restrikes (and others) is likewise nonsense. It was almost certainly Linderman with Eckfeldt selling the pieces for him.

**Harry:**

While the evidence against Linderman is indeed conclusive, and Snowden MIGHT have been unaware of the half cent restriking going on, I still cannot accept the notion that he was totally innocent, or that he was always forthcoming in his response to collector requests.

In the course of researching my book on the Draped Bust/Small Eagle dollars (in press--should be out by mid-summer), I read all of the general correspondence in RG 104, boxes 55 through 61. Snowden could on occasion be generous; he could also be deliberately opaque. And there was more than a little of the sleazy lawyer about him, always labeling his output for favored collectors as "honoraria"--i.e., legally implying that there was no "quid-pro-quo" involved.

And he was just as full of denial about the restriking of 1804 dollars as he was about the restriking of half cents. His correspondence with Jeremiah Colburn grew particularly testy, since Colburn wasn't buying either story.

**Craig:**

Can't disagree with anything you've said. I read A LOT of Snowden's correspondence, certainly not as

much as you, but anything concerning mint equipment, etc. He sure could be one imperious summabeech.

What really struck me about the half cent denials was the letter to Cogan. Snowden strongly disliked dealers, yet he was quite cordial to Cogan when the latter wrote asking if restrikes were being made. Snowden acknowledged striking pattern cents, etc, and then asked if Cogan had anything to trade.

If Snowden would trade with Cogan, he'd pretty much trade with the devil. Snowden had to know that Cogan was one of the main outlets for Linderman's restrikes. How could he not? They appeared in every Cogan auction.

So, if he'd trade w/ Cogan, why the nasty response to Colburn & the governor? Makes no sense. They certainly had nice stuff for Snowden's Washington collection.

Yeah, I too think Snowden knew who was doing the restriking. You'd have to be near unconscious not to know. Snowden couldn't do anything because of Linderman's political connections and even more so because his nephew A. Loudon was Linderman's compatriot.

How would you like to be good ol' Jimmy at a family gathering after you fired Hank and he took A. L. down with him? And, he sure wouldn't be popular with the local politicos, either. Geez, might as well crawl in a hole and pull it in after you!!!

\* \* \* \* \*

**Jim Neiswinter** writes,

After I read your Introduction in the last *P-W*, I did some math. I was 30 when I joined EAC in 1982. Now I'm 70, so I've been a member for 40 years. Where did the time go?

I loved your story about the number of 1793 cents you saw at the 1982 convention. My first convention was the next year in NYC (I drove 30 minutes straight). I already had an interest in 1793 cents and I fully expected to buy my first one at that show, however I found the pickings very slim (in my price range anyway). I did finally buy an S11a from Bert Cohen.

Last November I went to the Baltimore show. I spoke

with Steve Fischer who always set up there with Jim McGuigan. I asked him if it would be ok if I called Jim. He said sure and gave me his number. A few days later, I called. Besides early copper, we had a common interest in baseball and going to different ballparks. The last thing he told me was that he wanted to live long enough to see his collection sold at the ANA in August.

I have wondered whether I sold my collection too soon, but I did have the enjoyment that Jim missed by seeing my cents sold to many friends and the prices they realized. Jan Valentine always says he's taking his coins and books with him. He has so many books that he will have to be buried in a mausoleum.

\* \* \* \* \*



## SWAPS AND SALES

EACers are invited to submit their ads for inclusion in this column. Ads up to twelve lines are free. ADS LARGER THAN 12 LINES MUST BE SUBMITTED CAMERA-READY OR AS ELECTRONIC FILES, AND PAID IN ADVANCE. A full-page ad is \$250. One-half page is \$125. Discounts are available for repeating ads. Ads should be limited to early American Coppers or tokens and books related to the same. ***Deadline for material to appear in the October, 2022 issue is September 30, 2022.*** All ads must include the individual membership number of a current member in good standing. Copy should be sent to the Editor, Harry E. Salyards, P.O. Box 1691, Hastings, NE 68902 or by email to [hesalyards@gmail.com](mailto:hesalyards@gmail.com).

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\* \* \* \* \*

### New Book on Late Date Large Cents

**Bob Grellman, EAC #575**

cell/text 407-221-1654 email: [jrgrellman@gmail.com](mailto:jrgrellman@gmail.com)

**Late Date Large Cent Book:** A new 2021 edition of *The Die Varieties of United States Large Cents 1840-1857* is available in digital format on the EAC website ([eacs.org](http://eacs.org)). I have a limited supply of hard copies available for \$125 delivered. The hard copies have photos, the digital format does not. Autographed on request.

\* \* \* \* \*

**A SMALL HOARD OF EAC COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS** which has been off the market for well over a decade will once again be offered to the general membership on a first-come, first-served basis! Order yours now, as there is no telling how long this limited supply will last!

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The medals are offered at \$5.00 each, plus postage. ALL PROCEEDS TO EAC!! Please place all medal

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Bim Gander, Membership Chair 12770 NW Steelhead Falls Drive Terrebonne, OR 97760

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**Al Boka, EAC #406**

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www.1794largecents.com

\* \* \* \* \*

**Tom Deck**

9755 Brewster Ct. Mobile, AL 36695

EAC #4574

### ***Cotton Liners For Sale***

For a limited time my wife has resumed making cotton liners for early copper storage. Rugged and high quality. Liners are a combination of cotton and interfacing, white fabric with white stitching. They are a bit thicker and stiffer than the ones Rod Burress used to sell. Prices are \$45/100, or \$25/50, plus exact shipping. Or you can send an SASE for a sample. We currently have a small supply available for immediate shipping; otherwise, there is a small lead time. Feel free to call or email for details.

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251-408-7806

\* \* \* \* \*

**Bob Gelman, EAC #728**

GENTEG@aol.com

*Large Sheldon Collection For Sale*

I am looking for a buyer for my 50+ years' collection: a nearly complete lower-grade Sheldon set. This set of 276 lovely ladies is listed as #16 in the 2021 issue of "The Score." These are nice coins. I have tried to use strict EAC grading. On a fixed income, the remaining vacancies in the series are out of my financial reach, and the children do not have the same enthusiasm that I had. There are many R5s and R6s in this collection. Many have pedigrees, but no CCs. Many have been out of circulation for over fifty years. Over the years, I have built this collection by buying from EAC Sales, Tom, Chris, and Doug. Most EAC dealers will recognize me.

I am interested in a single lot, private sale. Please, no consignments or auctions. To serious bidders only, I will send a description of each coin in this group. To the successful buyer, I will throw in my collection of copper catalogs and books. For anyone who is willing to travel to Western Pennsylvania, I can arrange an inspection. This lifetime collection goes to the first fair offer in writing. I reserve the right to reject any and all offers.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Michael S. Shutty, Jr., EAC #2790**

If you want to read something totally different and a bit radical, I think you will enjoy my new book. It is a heartfelt exploration of history as told by coins lost in the dirt. The book also explains how copper cents decay when confronted with Mother Nature. Finally, I examine the aesthetics of corrosion, born of the conflict between nature and man (wherein nature wins). Check it out & enjoy a great weekend read.

*LOST CENTS, DEAD OWNERS: Appreciating Coins in Decay.*

My book is available from Books123.org or from other Internet sellers like Amazon.com. It costs \$24.95 (less than a corroded Draped Bust cent).

\* \* \* \* \*

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\* \* \* \* \*



**New Book – Die States of 1794 US Large Cents** – by Chuck Heck is now sold out. Thanks to all who purchased one. A second printing is arriving in early July. Price is \$110 plus \$7 for shipping. For info, please contact:

**Chuck Heck, EAC #514**

703 Village Green Ln, Bluffton, SC 29909

561-628-5345

\* \* \* \* \*



*British and Irish Tradesmen and their Copper Tokens of 1787 – 1804*, a book by **Jon Lusk. (EAC #356)** It has been fifty years since a book dedicated to the subset of Dalton & Hamer tokens known as *Tradesmen's Tokens* has been published. The author of this work reveals discoveries concerning the issuers, their lives, names, and occupations. Tokens are pictured in large size, and in color, along with photographs of the edges unwrapped into a straight line. Variety identification photographs and availability ratings are included to assist the collector. Using inclusion criteria developed by the author, he suggests four collections of these tokens each containing from 110 to 248 pieces. This book was written for collectors, or those interested in history. Better yet, it is meant for those who are both. It is available from the author, [Jon@Lusk.cc](mailto:Jon@Lusk.cc). (400 pages, hardbound, 8½ x 11 -- \$109, free shipping in US)

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**Jack Conour**

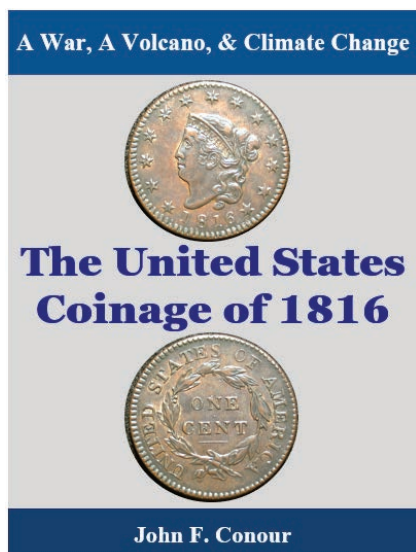
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"a great big BRAVO, WELL DONE!"

"Love the book and thank you for writing it."

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\* \* \* \* \*

**John Wnuk**, EAC #6895

(810) 358-0397 [Wnuk.John@Yahoo.com](mailto:Wnuk.John@Yahoo.com)

**Wanted for My Personal Collection**

1798 Draped Bust Large Cent: **S-144** die variety

Call, text, or email with details. Thank you.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Tom Webster**, EAC #5752

Phone 269-217-7700

email: [webs1873@gmail.com](mailto:webs1873@gmail.com)

P.O. Box 19501, Kalamazoo, MI 49019

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**Connecticut Copper 1785-1787 within Top to Middle of CC range in Choice, well struck, original surfaces, no rim dings or planchet cutter voids, please offer**

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- 1992 Rosa Americana reprint Thos. Elder catalog of 1920 Henry Miller Sale with plates.
- Unpublished Connecticut copper reference material that may be useful.

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**Robert Calderon**, EAC #5644

201-264-2427

[rjc463@gmail.com](mailto:rjc463@gmail.com)

1794 S22 large cent, ex Tom Reynolds, EAC 15, net 12     \$1,150

1796 S81 large cent, PCGS VG10, (#1392.10/82472653)     \$1,100

1857 N-4 small date large cent, mark free, ex Dan Holmes 2011, Herman Halpern 1988, includes Stack's and Goldberg lot tickets, Dan's envelope and J.R. Grellman attribution and grade card (EAC 60), also graded EAC 60 in both auctions, NGC 62 brown (#3730296-006), slab notes Holmes and Halpern pedigree. \$800.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Al Nelson**, EAC #5732

In upgrading my Middle Date Large Cents, I have accumulated many duplicates.

I will sell them to EAC members for what I paid for them.

If you are interested in receiving a list, please call me at (847) 746-8510. Thank you.

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\* \* \* \* \*

**Allan Davisson, EAC #3299 (Davisson's Ltd)      P.O. Box 323      Cold Spring, MN 56320**

British Trade Tokens have been a specialty of ours since the 1980's. Our auction catalogs each feature a changing array of these issues. Our emphasis is on what Americans call the "Conder" series. (Though James Conder was British, British collectors seem to never use his name to describe the series.)

We issue six auctions per year, a major sale of better quality material in early in the year and bi-monthly E-Auctions thereafter. All of our sales are issued in print as well as on the Internet at our website: [www.davcoin.com](http://www.davcoin.com)

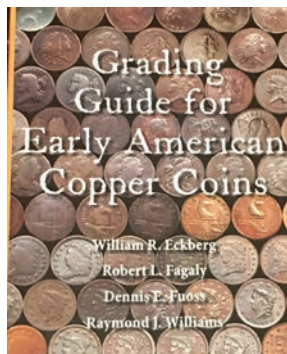
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Ron Gammill EAC #5321      PO Box 698      Schoolcraft, MI 49087

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Phone: (662)-736-3222

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**Keith Gilbert, EAC #5933**

5208 Wolf Run Village Lane  
(814) 218-9250

Erie, PA 16505

I am looking for middle date variety collectors willing to part with their duplicates,

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\* \* \* \* \*

**Todd Gredesky, EAC #2467**  
856-803-6102(cell)

P.O. Box 102

Woodbury, NJ 08096  
email: njtodd7@hotmail.com

1783 Chalmers Shilling (low grade)	\$1400
1797 Large Cent      S-138	\$300
1798 Large Cent      S-162	\$200

Wanted: Canadian Blacksmith tokens.

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**If your mailing address changes, be sure to notify the Treasurer promptly, as the United States Postal Service does not forward copies of *Penny-Wise*.**

**L. Michael Lawrence, EAC #3053**

email: [lmllibcap@gmail.com](mailto:lmllibcap@gmail.com)

phone: 319-364-5266 (landline, no texts)

I am interested in buying for my personal collection the following 1793 large cent electrotypes, Ex Jules Reiver, from the 2007 EAC Sale in St. Louis:

S-1 (lot 102)  
S-8 (lot 110)  
S-11c (lot 118)

Please email or call.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Ray Rouse, EAC #2675**

7568 Regency Lake Drive Boca Raton, FL 33433  
(954) 234-6240 [rayrbfl@gmail.com](mailto:rayrbfl@gmail.com)

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Copper copies of Massachusetts's silver coins as made by Edwin Bishop from Thomas Wyatt's counterfeit dies.

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**COL Steven K. Ellsworth, ret., EAC #1901L**

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1793 Sheldon 7, PCGS VG details. #35453.98/43990953	\$19,500.
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# Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4)

- Which of these coins was the first struck in the New World?
- Which of these were the first coins struck in what would eventually become the United States?
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- Which is the first American coin to include the famous motto, "e pluribus unum?"

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[www.colonialcoins.org](http://www.colonialcoins.org)



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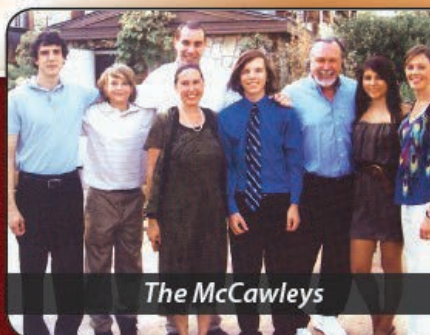


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The McCawleys

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1793 Half Cent  
MS66 Brown PCGS  
The Finest Known B-3, C-3



1794 B-2b, C-2a Half Cent  
MS63 Brown PCGS  
Remarkable Tab Double Strike



1794 B-6b, C-4a Half Cent  
MS66 Brown PCGS  
High Condition Census



1795 B-1, C-1 Lettered Edge Half Cent  
MS67 Brown PCGS  
The Finest Certified 1795 Half Cent



1795 B-5b, C-5b Half Cent  
MS66 Red and Brown PCGS  
Struck over a 1795 S-76b Cent



1796 B-1, C-1 Half Cent  
MS63 Brown PCGS  
Condition Census No Pole



1802/0 B-1, C-1 Half Cent  
VF30 PCGS  
Condition Census Old Reverse



1808/7 B-1, C-1 Half Cent  
XF40 PCGS  
The Discovery Specimen and Finest Known



1852 B-4, C-SR1 Half Cent  
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# The Sydney F. Martin Collection – Part I

Featured in the August 2022 Global Showcase Auction



Silver St. Patrick Farthing.  
Martin 1c.4-Ba.5.  
AU-53 (PCGS).  
*Ex Newman*



1737 Higley Copper.  
VALUE ME AS YOU PLEASE /  
I AM GOOD COPPER.  
VF-30 (PCGS).  
*Ex Roper*



1766 Pitt Halfpenny.  
MS-64 BN (PCGS).



Rhode Island Ship Medal.  
VLUGTENDE.  
AU-55 (PCGS).  
*The Only Example Known*



1786 New Jersey Copper.  
Immunis Columbia Obverse. Maris 3-C.  
AU-58+ (PCGS).  
*Ex Parmelee*



1786 New Jersey Copper.  
Washington Obverse. Maris 4-C.  
EF Details (PCGS).  
*Three Known, Ex Parsons*



1786 New Jersey Copper.  
Maris 21-N.  
MS-65+ RB (PCGS).  
*Finest Known*



1787 Massachusetts Cent.  
Ryder 4-J.  
MS-64 BN (PCGS).  
*Finest of Eight Known*



(1783) Libertas Americana Medal. Silver.  
MS-62 (PCGS).

**AUCTION: August 22-26 • Costa Mesa, CA | LOT VIEWING: August 15-19 • Rosemont, IL**

For More Information: 800.458.4646 CA • 800.566.2580 NY • [VYegparian@StacksBowers.com](mailto:VYegparian@StacksBowers.com) • [KVinton@StacksBowers.com](mailto:KVinton@StacksBowers.com)

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# Cool Coins & Coppers Gathering

SEPTEMBER 1-3, 2022

*featuring the auctions of*

THE COL. ELLSWORTH COLLECTION  
OF MIDDLE DATE LARGE CENTS  
THE DEL & LARRY BLAND COLLECTION  
OF 1794 CENTS  
& THE SAM NACOL COLLECTION  
OF LATE DATE CENTS

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## ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2022

Security Room Opens 2:00PM

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

Golf at Plum Creek Golf Club  
Meet in Hotel Lobby at 8:00AM

Dealer Setup at 2:00PM - 6:00PM

COOL DRINKS & HOT LINKS at  
Chris McCawleys House 6:00 PM - 9:00PM

*featuring*



TO CONSIGN TO OUR NEXT AUCTION PLEASE CONTACT

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[cmccawley@aol.com](mailto:cmccawley@aol.com) [friscomint@live.com](mailto:friscomint@live.com)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2022

Dealers at 8:00AM - 10:00AM  
Public Bourse Opens 10:00AM - 6:00PM



EARLY CENTS AUCTIONS

THE COL. ELLSWORTH Collection  
of Middle Date Large Cents  
6:30PM - 10:00PM

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2022

Dealers at 8:00AM - 10:00AM  
Public Bourse Opens 10:00AM - 3:00PM

The Del & Larry Bland Collection of 1794 Cents  
and The SAM NACOL COLLECTION of Late Dates

4:30PM

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# THE COL. ELLSWORTH COLLECTION OF MIDDLE DATE LARGE CENTS



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# 1794 LARGE CENTS FROM THE DEL & LARRY BLAND COLLECTION



1794 S-19b Head of 1793  
PCGS AU53  
CAC Approved  
Equal Finest Known

1794 S-32  
PCGS MS64+BN  
ex Brand-Starr

1794 S-34  
PCGS XF45  
ex Brand-Pearl  
Finest Available

1794 S-17a Head of 1793  
VF30  
ex Naftzger

1794 S-25  
MS60  
ex Sheldon-Naftzger  
Finest Known

1794 S-33 Wheelspoke  
PCGS VF35  
Finest Known

1794 S-35  
PCGS AU50  
ex Sheldon-Naftzger  
Equal Finest Available

1794 S-40 AU50  
ex Steigerwalt-Brand

1794 S-49  
PCGS AU58  
ex Gilbert-French  
Second Finest

1794 S-62  
PCGS MS63BN  
ex Garrett-Adams  
Finest Known

1794 S-38  
PCGS MS63BN  
ex Naftzger-Husak

1794 S-42  
AU50  
ex Oswald

1794 S-56  
PCGS MS62BN  
ex Haseltine-Newcomb  
Second Finest

1794 S-68  
NGC MS62BN  
ex Downing-Naftzger  
Finest Known

# LATE DATE LARGE CENTS FROM THE SAM NACOL COLLECTION



1846 N-3  
ANACS MS63RB

1847 N-11  
ANACS MS65BN  
Tied for CC#1

1851 N-10  
PCGS MS65RD



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### **1794 Half Cent – Spectacular Tab Double Strike**

**1794 Normal Head, Small Edge Letters.**

**Maris Second; Proskey 5: 4-A; Frossard-3; Ross 2-B; Gilbert-5; Empire-9; Cohen-2a; Breen-2b; Eckberg 2-B.**

*Ex: The Americana Sale (Stack's, 1/2007), lot 5428; McGuigan Sale (Heritage) 8/2022).*

Courtesy of Heritage Auctions.