

The SJ CSRA CC of Aiken, SC meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at the Aiken Public Library

Pres. Steve Kuhl  
V.P. Pat James  
Sec. Jim Mullaney  
Treas. Chuck Goergen  
Sgt. in Arms: Jim Sproull



The Stephen James  
CSRA Coin Club of Aiken  
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Web site: [www.sjcsracc.org](http://www.sjcsracc.org)

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Show Chairman: Steve Kuhl  
Photos: Steve Kuhl  
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Web site: Susie Nulty (see above.)

Volume 15, No. 9

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

Sept. 2016

Our next meeting is Thurs. Sept..1 at the Aiken Public Library, starting time 6:45 PM

## It's Show time!!! Saturday, Sept. 10 at Odell Weeks Center

### 2016 Club Meeting Schedule

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

Event expected to have over 35 dealers sold by show time



Member Jerry Lipsky in the foreground browsing the bourse at last year's show

### Collecting the Coins of 1901: 115 Years Ago completed at a local club Show By Arno Safran



A 1901 Indian Head cent graded MS-64 Red Brown by NGC  
[Acquired at the recently held Augusta Coin Club Show]  
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view details.]

One of the benefits of attending our club show is getting the opportunity to observe lots of different numismatic items under one roof. At an event housing 35 dealers' tables, or more, the collector is likely to locate a coin, token or currency note that he/she has been unable to find at the local coin shop. It is a good idea to have a plan as to what you would like to acquire at the show, also a back-up group of dates or series should your primary search be unavailing. During the past four years the editor has observed that many of the once considered fairly common date US coins--in the grades that were affordable to most middle class collectors--have become harder to locate whereas certified uncirculated specimens grading MS-65 or better are available over the internet, at major auctions and at the larger regional shows albeit at exorbitant prices.

As a result of this disturbing trend the writer recommends that for early US type coins (1794 thru 1836), one should try to find problem-free certified coins grading VG-10 to VF-25; for mid to later 19th century, certified coins, from VF-30 to AU-50 and for late 19th Century thru 1933, certified examples from AU-55 to MS-64. An Indian Head cent certified MS-64RB (*Red Brown*) has lots of eye appeal yet is priced well below one grading MS-64 Red or higher.

At a recent club show, the writer acquired the 1901 Indian Head Cent shown above. While extremely common as a date with a reported mintage of over 769.6 million, (*a record number for the cent denomination up to that year*), it was needed in order to complete the year set started a number of years ago.

**Aiken, SC**  
**Coin Show**  
Sept. 10, 2016  
Sat. 9:00 - 4:00  
H. Odell Weeks Activity Center  
1700 Whiskey Road  
Aiken, SC 29803  
[www.aikencoinclub.org](http://www.aikencoinclub.org)  
[www.sjcsracc.org](http://www.sjcsracc.org)

## Shows Gives Collector first-hand look at Coins they may be seeking and the Coins of 1901

(Continued from page 1)



**A 1901 Liberty Head "V" nickel graded MS-62 by PCGS**  
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view details.]

It was at a local club show back in 1990 that the author acquired the lovely 1901 Liberty nickel shown above. The mintage for the date is listed at over 26 million. In that era, the nickel coin was the workhorse of the economy. Unlike the Indian Head cent which boasts a much larger collector base, those who fancy Liberty nickels (1883-1912) represent a much smaller group with the result that except for the key dates of the series (1885, 1886, 1912-D and S), the values have not risen very much over the years. However, this may soon change because during the past decade the writer has seen an increasing number of proof specimens appearing at shows in place of business strikes for all dates and not just for the keys. This would indicate that even many of the common date uncirculated business strikes have found homes due to the increased numbers of coin collectors that entered Numismatics after the statehood quarter program began in 1999. Despite these observations the 1901 "V" nickel in the same grade is now priced \$50.00 higher than it was a quarter of a century ago.



**A 1901 Barber dime graded MS-64+ by PCGS**  
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view details.]

Another way the collector can add to one's collection is over the internet. Back in 2001, few US dealers advertised their coins with digital images over the internet assuming they even had a web site. By 2004, the number of internet dealers increased ten fold but many only pictured their expensive coins. Today, most internet dealers image every coin in their inventory which gives the collector an opportunity to visualize the item in addition to the dealer's verbal description. That said, one must still examine the coin first-hand because internet images can occasionally be deceiving depending on the lighting that is used to create the photo. It used to take a week or more for a dealer to send a coin "on approval" to a potential customer but today, such shipments can be sent via two or three day Priority mail by various mailing agencies such as United Parcel Service (UPS) or FedEx, for example.

The 1901 Barber dime shown directly above was acquired in this manner. With a mintage of over 18.8 million, this is another extremely common date that is becoming harder to find displaying this quality.



**A 1901 Barber Quarter graded MS-64 by NGC**  
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view details.]

Sometimes, one has to attend a large show to find even a common date coin in order to complete a set. Such a show is either sponsored by the state or regional numismatic association like the GNA or the SCNA, the two closest to Aiken or a regional group such as the BRNA (for Blue Ridge Numismatic Assoc.) Two of the largest regional shows on the east coast are the F.U.N. Show (for Florida United Numismatists) and the Whitman Coin & Collectible Show held at the Baltimore Convention Center located in the Inner Harbor of that historic city. The last two named house fifteen rows of dealers' tables two to three city blocks long. It has been said that if one cannot find the coin you are looking for at FUN, it probably no longer exists. While not totally accurate, the adage describes the enormous magnitude of numismatic items being offered to the collector at these three to four day major events.

The 1901 Barber Quarter shown atop this column was acquired back in January of 2012 at the FUN show held at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, FL. The coin is wholly original in tone and problem-free. Compared with the key date 1901-S with a reported mintage of only 72,664, the mintage for the Philadelphia Mint issue was huge: 8.9 million. As a result it is moderately priced through MS-64 costing nine times less than what one would have to pay for the key date 1901-S in Good-4, which in that grade, is not considered rare.



**A 1901 Barber Half graded MS-63 by PCGS**  
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view details.]

At the May, 2015 Augusta Coin Club show, the writer came across this 1901 Barber half at one of the dealer's tables. With a mintage of 4,269,000, the 1901 boasts the fifth highest mintage of the 73 piece series (1892-1915). The Barber half is a beautifully designed coin and unlike the quarter, has no "stoppers" yet locating a choice certified specimen grading AU-58 thru MS-64 is becoming more and more difficult in today's competitive numismatic marketplace. Not all AU-58s are the same and that applies to the three higher indicated uncirculated grades as well. Using the proceeds from coins sold earlier, the writer was able to negotiate a fair price for the acquisition of this beauty, needing only the dollar to complete the 1901 set.

(Continued on page 3, column 1)

## Shows Gives Collector first-hand look at Coins they may be seeking and the Coins of 1901

(Continued from preceding page)



**A 1901-O Morgan \$1.00 graded MS-64+ by PCGS**  
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view details.]

Plentiful Morgan dollars were struck at all three Mints in 1901. These included more than 6.9 million in Philadelphia, a whopping 13.3 million at New Orleans and 2.2 million at San Francisco. Of the three, only those struck at the New Orleans facility are common in mint-state, (MS-60 or better) and still moderately priced thru MS-64. According to numismatic scholar, Q. David Bowers, author of *Silver Dollars and Trade Dollars of the United States*, he theorizes that unlike many of the multi-million Morgan Dollar mintages that found their way into mint sewn bags for later use, the 1901-P issues “were placed into circulation at or near the time of issue” or “probably melted under the Pitman Act of 1918”. Today the 1901-S has also increased in value quite a lot since 1992, the year Bowers’ massive two volume tome was published leaving the 1901-O as the only viable option for the collector of moderate means wishing to include a BU 1901 dollar into a year set (excluding gold).

If the writer had originally set out to acquire a 1901-O \$1.00 at the Augusta Coin Club show, it would probably have been the most likely coin to locate out of the six 1901 denominations. So, after adding both the 1901 Indian cent and later the Barber half, it was not surprising to come across a 1901-O Morgan dollar on the bourse floor at a modest price thereby completing the year set. This is another reason to attend a club show because you may never know what you swill find unless you do. Our club show is coming up fast. Happy hunting!



**A 1901 certified BU Year set (excluding gold)**  
[Enlarge page to fill monitor screen to view details.]

## STEPHEN JAMES CSRA COIN CLUB

### Regular Meeting August 4, 2016, Aiken County Library

President Steve Kuhl called the regular meeting of the club order at 6:45 p.m.

Jim Sproull reported that there were 17 members present and 7 guests. Jim announced the upcoming coin shows..

Pat James won the drawing for the members’ door prize, a 2016 Silver Britannia.

A motion was made by J.J. Engel, seconded by Marion Engel, and passed to dispense with the reading of the July 2016 minutes. A copy will be on file with the other club records and a copy will appear in the club newsletter. Treasurer Chuck Goergen reported that the Club’s bank balance was \$2187.90.

Steve Kuhl provided an update on the club’s September coin show that will be held Sept 10. We have 35 dealer tables reserved and 33 paid for, and are on track to have more dealer tables sold than ever before. Steve requested that all club members consider signing up to work for a few hours at the show. We especially need help setting up first thing in the morning and at the end of the day.

The September program for our club meeting will be on *Coins of the American Confederation* by Jim Barry. Arno Safran informed the club that the Augusta Coin Club will meet on August 18<sup>th</sup>. The program will be on “Collecting Odd Denomination US Coins”.

Arno Safran and Chuck Goergen shared show & tells with the rest of the club. Arno had a US year set from 1956, which was the first year where the San Francisco mint produced no coins for circulation. Chuck had a pair of coins that while both were valuable, they were a stark contrast despite similar designs. One was a certified 1916-D Mercury dime, graded AG-3. The other was a 2016-W Mercury dime (gold commemorative), in pristine condition. The US mint will also be issuing gold commemorative coins based on the Standing Liberty quarter and the Walking Liberty half-dollar later this year.

The club’s August program was a presentation by David Cashin, that was the conclusion of the program on the coins of Northeast India that was started in May. The program concluded with a unique coin David discovered, that actually refuted the previous understanding of history that 2 battles had occurred in the same location during a single ruler’s reign. Instead, it became clear that the occasion for putting new dates on the coins was the ruler’s marriage to a new queen, not a second battle.

Jim Mullaney won \$12 in the 50-50 drawing.

Following the auction, President Kuhl adjourned the meeting.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Jim Mullaney, Secretary*

**Photos from the Aug. 2 Meeting**  
(Courtesy of Steve Kuhl)

**Show & Tells**



1916-D and 2016 Mercury dimes obv. displayed by Chuck Goergen

**More photos from the Aug. 2 Meeting**



David and Margareta Cashin (right & center) discussing Coins of East India with guest (at left)



Arno Safran Displaying 1956 BU Mint Set in Capital Holder

**The Program**



Guest Speaker Dave Cashing discussing Coin from Jaintiapur



VP Pat James (center) surrounded by Ray and Rocio Talj, the new owners of Pat's Coin Shop

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**Saturday**  
**SEPTEMBER 10, 2016**

9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
**Odell Weeks Center**  
**Aiken, SC**  
Whiskey Rd (Route 19 South)  
across from Home Depot



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