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INTRODUCTION BY THE EDITOR: UNFOUNDED ASSUMPTIONS

Harry E. Salyards

During the recent "Subway Series," I read a poignant piece by *New York Times* columnist Bob Herbert. In it, he reminisced about the last all-New York World Series, in the fall of 1956. "The city was at the top of its game," Herbert wrote, "when the elegant Yankees of the Bronx were ushered into the raucous, rundown digs of their rivals from Brooklyn." It was taken as a matter of course that the President of the United States would throw out the first ball. "All of this seemed normal to New Yorkers in 1956...The city took greatness for granted."

Just as we have too often taken the greatness of EAC for granted. Just as we assumed that the camaraderie with which the Jack Robinson sale room glowed, back in January 1989, was indestructible. Just as we came to assume that each and every EAC Convention would be better than its immediate predecessor, and each EAC Sale would be replete with incredible treasures. Just as we lamented the Breen-Cohen rift, and assumed that its bickering would always be the exception within the club. Just as we assumed we'd never really have to face the rumors about Sheldon or Breen, so they could remain beloved gurus forever.

Assumptions.

But greatness is not built on assumptions. Greatness is the product of hard work, and stock-taking, and pulling together in pursuit of a goal. Returning to Bob Herbert's words, the fact that something has become part of a "comfortable, familiar, traditional ordinary life"--be that 1950s New York City baseball, or the EAC of the early 1990s--does not guarantee its continuance. No one could have guessed, in 1956, that an "unimaginable" 44 years would pass before the next Subway Series. Could anyone have imagined, in the heady days of 1989, that we in EAC would be *where we are today*?

Herbert concluded his column with these words: "Dodger fans went home after the seventh game with a familiar sense of disappointment. But they were heartened to read in the papers a few days later that the Dodgers were not planning a move to Los Angeles, because a new stadium in Brooklyn was assured."

So when EAC disappoints us, do we pitch in with rededicated effort to make it work, or do we throw up our hands and quit? Do we share the truth, or do we whisper comfortable rumors to each other?

Are we willing to work to sustain greatness, or will we become the Brooklyn Dodgers of numismatics, gone in the Long Night of the Whine?



Update on the 1809-1811 Half Cent Population

William R. Eckberg

The gathering of data on coin survivorship is a continuous process. I recently reported that the Early Classic Head half cents survive in proportion to their reported mintages and therefore that all were most likely struck in the year indicated on the coin (1). The data also provided evidence for the emission sequence for the 1809 half cents. I have continued collecting data during the five months since that article was submitted. My database now contains nearly 3% of the estimated surviving population, and the new data strengthen most of my conclusions. However, they render the Breen emission sequence for 1809 no longer tenable.

The Surviving Population

Table 1. Reported mintage and the observed population by date.

	mintage	% of total	expected	observed	χ^2
1809	1,154,572	80.6	414.2	396	0.801
1810	215,000	15.0	77.1	80	0.107
1811	63,140	4.4	22.7	38	10.399
Totals	1,432,712	100.0	514.0	514	11.306

The data shown in Table 1 represents a sample size nearly triple that described in my September article (1). The data affirm my earlier conclusions that 1809 and 1810 half cents survive in direct proportion to their original mintages. However, the much larger database demonstrates that the 1811 half cents survive in a *higher* proportion than the 1809 and 1810 as the earlier data hinted. This finding is like that for the 1796 and 1802 issues, indicating that dates recognized as scarce by the late 1850s-1870s were selectively saved as rarities. The data also show the 1811 C1 to be R4- and the C2 to be R2, with about 150 and 1,200 specimens, respectively.

The surviving population of 1809

Table 2. Estimated surviving population and mintages of 1809 half cent varieties

		number observed	estimated survivors	R	estimated mintage
1809	C1	1	50	5	3,600
	C2	13	570	3-	46,300
	C3	79	3,400	1	281,500
	C4	31	1,300	2	110,500
	C5	104	4,500	1	370,600
	C6	96	4,200	1	342,100
		324	14,100		1,154,600

The number of survivors and mintage were estimated from the surviving populations of each 1809 variety and are shown in Table 2. Survivor estimates are rounded to the nearest 10 (C1 and 2) or 100 (C3, 4, 5, and 6). The difference between the totals in Tables 1 and 2 represents the unattributable examples in the database. The reliability of an estimate is proportional to the square root of the sample size, so the

single survivor of the 1809 C1 does not make a statistically valid sample. Therefore, the surviving C1 population was estimated from survival data reported in the 1/200 Survey and elsewhere. It is the same as the estimate from the observed population, however. From these data, the C2 and C4 are somewhat commoner than has been previously reported. The larger database also shows that the surviving population of the C6 is distinctly larger than that of the C3.

Deliveries and Emission Sequence of 1809

The emission sequences proposed by Cohen, Breen and Manley were all inconsistent with the statistical sample and delivery dates and can be excluded by this analysis, though Breen's emission sequence fit much better than the others (1) and was the last one to be excluded as the database grew. Although die state evidence shows that C1 precedes C2 and that C2 precedes C3, no emission sequence in which C3 immediately follows C2 fit the data in the larger database. Therefore, the C2 reverse must have been used to strike the C3 after one or more intervening varieties were struck, as happened earlier with the stemless reverse of 1804-1806. The C1 must have been delivered with another variety, as there was no delivery small enough to have been composed of it alone. Since a tiny delivery could have been included with either the preceding or following variety, the C1 could have been delivered with the C4 or the C2. It might have preceded the C4, but the number of C1 specimens is so small that these possibilities cannot be distinguished by my analysis. Ron Manley (2) presents collateral evidence in support of the emission sequence I propose.

Table 3. The best fit emission sequence for the 1809 half cents.

Date	Deliveries	% total	observed	expected	χ^2	variety
March	120,000	10.4	31	33.7	0.216	C4
16-May	40,000	3.5	14	11.2	0.686	C1, 2
31-May	344,572	29.8	96	96.7	0.005	C6
Jun-Sep	392,000	34.0	104	110.2	0.344	C5
Oct-Dec	258,000	22.3	79	72.3	0.630	C3
Total	1,154,572	100.0	324	324.0	1.881	

Table 3 gives the emission sequence that is most consistent with the survival data and the collateral evidence (2). The sequence is C4>C1>C2>C6>C5>C3. Evidently, the C4 was the first variety delivered and was followed by the C1 and C2. Survivorship data indicate that this was followed sequentially by the C6 and C5; lastly, the C2 reverse was resurrected and mated with a new obverse to produce the C3.

Conclusions

I present new data confirming that the 1809-1810 half cents survive in proportion to their reported mintage and showing that the scarcer issues of 1811 survive in a higher proportion. I also provide a new emission sequence for the 1809 half cents.

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1. Eckberg, William R. 2000. Survival and mintage of the 1809-1811 half cents *Penny-Wise* XXXIV, 267.
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THE ECKBERG EMISSION SEQUENCE FOR 1809 HALF CENTS

Ron Manley

When Bill Eckberg first contacted me by e-mail on May 3rd of this year to discuss applying his statistical evidence to the emission sequence of 1809 half cents, my response to him was “your new 1809 data and analysis have a *long* road in front of them to convince me of *any* conclusive 1809 emission sequence”. Now, five months later, he has succeeded.

We know from die state evidence that the C2 variety followed C1 in the 1809 emission sequence (they share a common obverse). For similar reasons, we know that C3 followed C2 (they share a common reverse). Using these facts, along with Eckberg’s mintage estimates for each variety (1), the Mint’s detailed delivery records (2), and the assumption that each delivery of 1809 half cents corresponded to a single variety – with one exception (described below), I have systematically evaluated *all* possible 1809 emission sequences.

Whereas Eckberg assumed that the tiny C1 mintage was included with the C2 delivery, I did not. Instead, I assumed the C1 mintage *could* have been included in a delivery of a variety that immediately preceded it or followed it in the emission sequence. The *only* possible emission sequences I found were C4>C1>C2>C6>C5>C3 and C1>C4>C2>C6>C5>C3 – both proposed by Eckberg. There is no rational reason to expect the C4 mintage to have separated that of C1 and C2. However, there is some evidence against that possibility (see Table 1). Thus, *I am in complete agreement with Eckberg that the most likely 1809 emission sequence is C4>C1>C2>C6>C5>C3.*

Table 1. Correlative evidence in support of Eckberg’s 1809 emission sequence.

<u>Variety</u>	<u>Left base of M Punch</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Proximity of 9 to *13</u>	<u>Site of lowest curl</u>
C4	least deteriorated	close	distant	between 0 & 9
C1	deteriorated	close	distant	between 0 & 9
C2	deteriorated	close	distant	between 0 & 9
C6	more deteriorated	wide	distant	between 0 & 9
C5	more deteriorated	wide	close	between 0 & 9
C3	---	wide	close	above 0

I have observed five pieces of correlative evidence supporting Eckberg’s new 1809 emission sequence: 1) The right base of the M punch is broken on the reverse of all 1809 half cent dies. After its use on C4, its left base also deteriorated (see its right foot), showing that this reverse was made first. The left base of M has deteriorated further on C5 and C6, indicating these reverse dies were made last. 2) The dates for C1/C2 and C4 are closely spaced whereas the dates for C3, C5, and C6 are widely spaced, indicating that the C1/C2 and C4 obverses were made separately from the others. 3) The C5 obverse was finely cracked rim to rim through stars 4-6. If both it and the C6 obverse were available at the same time, the C6 obverse would most likely have been used first, due to C5 having this crack. 4) The 9 is close to the 13th star on only the C5 and C3 obverses – this suggests that these two dies were completed sequentially. 5) The C3 obverse is the only one of the five 1809 obverses that has its lowest curl above 0 in the date (all

others are centered between the 0 and 9). This suggests that it was made separately and, therefore, last. This evidence (except for point 3) is presented in Table 1.

Late die state (LDS) C3 survivors from heavily worn dies are quite scarce relative to similar LDS specimens of C4, C5, and C6 – although neither C3 die is known to have suffered catastrophic die failure. In addition, the C3 variety is the most available 1809 half cent variety in mint state. I believe both of these long-standing mysteries can be explained by the revelation that C3 was the last 1809 variety minted.

Eckberg's emission sequence (*I*) predicts the following original mintages for the six 1809 half cent varieties:

C1	~4,000
C2	~36,000
C3	258,000
C4	120,000
C5	392,000
C6	344,572

I have compared the fit of these mintages to the updated eBay database and to the original and updated Reynolds database (see Table 2 below). The Reynolds database resulted from notes kept on coins handled over a span of more than two decades by EAC copper dealer Tom Reynolds. His original data was included in the first of a series of *Penny-Wise* articles in 1989 (3). My thanks to Tom who has graciously provided updated data through September 2000, bringing the 1809 half cents now in his database to 309 coins (compared to 290 in the updated eBay database).

Table 2. The percent of total specimens predicted from Eckberg's emission sequence vs. that observed in the eBay and Reynolds databases.

<u>Variety</u>	<u>Eckberg sequence</u>	<u>EBay</u>	<u>Reynolds (1989)</u>	<u>Reynolds (2000)</u>
C1	0.4%	0.3%	0.8%	3.9%
C2	3.1%	4.1%	5.9%	6.8%
C3	22.3%	25.9%	19.3%	15.5%
C4	10.4%	8.3%	13.5%	12.9%
C5	34.0%	32.1%	34.5%	35.6%
C6	<u>29.8%</u>	<u>29.3%</u>	<u>26.0%</u>	<u>25.2%</u>
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.9%

Eckberg's emission sequence gives an excellent fit to both of these databases. It's easy to rationalize why the percentages for C1 and C2 are skewed upward in the Reynolds database – they are the scarcest 1809 varieties, and hence the most desirable for a copper dealer to stock!

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THE ORIGINAL MINTAGES OF HALF CENTS DATED 1825-1835

Ron Manley

My goal with this article is to use recently published data (1,2) to estimate the original mintage for each business-strike date in the late Classic Head series (1825-1835). Independent evidence supporting the existence of a large half cent melt first reported by R. W. Julian in 1972 (3) will also be introduced.

Recently, Bill Eckberg has published estimates of half cent survivors by type (1). He has observed that within a particular type, half cents generally survive in proportion to their original mintages. Eckberg has even found that each Coronet Head half cent date (1849-1857) "survives in proportion to the reported mintage", when known 1855 hoards are taken into account (2).

For late Classic Head half cents (dated 1825-1835), Eckberg has reported a survival rate of 2.3% (1). However, this survival rate yields nonsensical results when applied to individual dates within this group. The explanation for why this is so is not immediately obvious but becomes clear when explained below.

In Table 1, I have consolidated Bill Eckberg's published survivor estimates for individual half cent varieties dated 1825-1835 (2), creating survivor estimates by date. Although the total mintage reported for this group of coins has generally been accepted as correct, the number reported for individual dates has not. For example, Roger Cohen was aware that 1825 and 1826 half cents were of nearly equal availability (4), suggesting that much of the 1825-dated mintage was struck in 1826. Cohen estimated the actual 1825 mintage at about 148,000 pieces (4). In addition, the mintage reported for 1829 is considerably higher than expected from the number of 1829-dated survivors. It also is now recognized that the 1833 and 1834 mintages overlapped (5) and therefore individual mintages for these two dates cannot be determined based upon Red Book figures alone (6).

Table 1. Estimated Survivors by Date for 1825-1835

<u>Date</u>	<u>Est'd Survivors (2)</u>	<u>Red Book Mintage (6)</u>
1825	4,540	63,000
1826	3,910	234,000
1828	13,100	606,000
1829	3,800	487,000
1832	4,450	154,000
1833	4,600	120,000
1834	5,300	141,000
1835	8,900	398,000

As the half cents dated 1825 were the first minted in eleven years and as no half cents were reported for 1827, it is reasonable to conclude that the mintage reported for 1825-1826 is the total having those dates. Similarly, since there was a three year gap in mintage between 1829 and 1832, it follows that the half cents reported for 1828-1829 represents the entire mintage dated 1828 and 1829. That leaves the 1832-1835 mintage as a third distinct group. Survival rates for these three date groups can be calculated using Eckberg's data. I have done this in Table 2 below.

Table 2. Calculated Survival Rates for 1825-1835 Half Cents

<u>Date Group</u>	<u>Est'd Survivors (2)</u>	<u>Red Book Mintages (6)</u>	<u>Calc'd Survival Rate</u>
1825-1826	8,450	297,000	2.85%
1828-1829	16,900	1,093,000	1.55%
1832-1835	23,250	813,000	2.86%
1825-1835	48,600	2,203,000	2.21%

One thing that immediately strikes the reader looking at the above Table is the essentially identical survival rates calculated for the first and third groups of half cents. Why should the survival rate calculated for the 1828-1829 half cents be so much lower?

In a 1972 article, R. W. Julian described a large melting of half cents (3). He wrote that "at least 234,000 pieces of the coins dated 1825 through 1828 were melted in 1830 or 1831. This is the first recorded melting of any American coin *before the pieces had been paid from the Mint*" (italics mine). I believe these coins *had* to have been dated 1828 and 1829 (the vast majority anyway). First, there simply weren't enough 1825 and 1826 half cents struck to realistically account for such a large melt (and the relatively large number of survivors). Secondly, I consider it highly probable that the 1825 and 1826-dated coins had already been "paid from the Mint" before the time of the melt. Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, the data presented in Table 2 support the conclusion that they were dated 1828-1829.

The "effective" mintage for 1828-1829 (calculated at a 2.85% survival rate) is 593,000 pieces – the number of 1828 and 1829 half cents I believe actually entered circulation. This suggests that approximately 500,000 half cents (a comfortably round number) dated 1828 and 1829 were included in the Mint melt of 1830 or 1831. I remind the reader that Julian had estimated the number melted as "at least 234,000" pieces (3).

According to Walter Breen (7), "hundreds of thousands of half cents" (presumably dated 1828 and 1829) were backlogged at the Mint in early 1832 (before the 1832-dated mintage began). At least 400,000 of these entered circulation as a result of an order placed by Washington Cilley of New York City (7). Over 80% of the reported 1828-1829 mintage can be accounted for between this large order and the number I have estimated as melted.

We can now calculate original mintages by date for the 1825-1835 half cents. This has been done in Table 3 below. I have taken the survival rate as 2.85% and extrapolated from the estimated survivors for each date found in Table 1.

Table 3. Original mintages estimated for 1825-1835 half cents

<u>Date</u>	<u>Est'd Survivors (2)</u>	<u>Est'd Original Mintages</u>
1825	4,540	159,000
1826	3,910	137,000
1828	13,100	460,000*
1829	3,800	133,000*
1832	4,450	156,000
1833	4,600	161,000
1834	5,300	186,000
1835	8,900	312,000

*The estimated number released, having survived the melt of 1830 or 31.

It is impossible to know for certain the exact 1828:1829 ratio of half cents included in the melt of 1830 or 1831. However, if the numbers reported for 1828 and 1829 accurately reflect the half cent coinage struck bearing these dates, then the 1828 half cents melted totaled ~146,000 pieces and the 1829 half cents melted ~354,000 pieces.

Could 487,000 half cents dated 1829 (the est'd number released + number melted) reasonably have been struck from a single die pair? Yes. Typical 1829 C1 survivors indicate this die pair was in press for a long time. Although most half cent dies lasted considerably less than 487,000 strikes, the reverse die used for 1833 C1, 1834 C1, and 1835 C1 lasted an estimated 510,000 strikes. Some earlier half cent dies (i.e., those used for the "stemless reverse" varieties) were especially long-lived.

Table 4. Apparent composition of the 1833-36 half cent deliveries

<u>Delivery Date</u>	<u>Reported</u>	<u>Apparent Composition</u>
1833	154,000	154,000 1832
1834	120,000	120,000 1833
1835	141,000	~41,000 1833 + ~100,000 1834
1836	398,000	~86,000 1834 + ~312,000 1835

Summary

I have presented compelling data that independently supports Julian's 1972 report of a large melt of late Classic Head half cents. The quantity melted is believed by the current author to have numbered 500,000 pieces. Reliable survival data indicates that essentially all of these were dated 1828 and 1829. These half cents were recorded but never entered circulation.

In addition, I have demonstrated why the survival rate for 1825-1835 half cents is better described as 2.85%, rather than 2.3% as reported recently by Eckberg (1). Meaningful estimates for the original mintages of the 1825-1835 half cents are reported here for the first time.

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PARMELEE, PLATE 9



THE RED BOOK'S HALF CENT MINTAGE FOR 1832-1833

Ron Manley

Beginning with the 1993 Red Book (1), the mintage figures listed for the 1832 and 1833 half cents were lowered from 154,000 to 51,000 for the 1832 date and from 120,000 to 103,000 for the 1833 date. No explanation for this change was given – only the usual disclaimer for the 1832-1835 mintage that these figures were “thought to be correct, although official mint records report these quantities for 1833-36 rather than 1832-35” (1). What happened?

I’ve been able to reconstruct why these changes were made. It is evident that the revised total of 154,000 pieces for the 1832-1833 mintage (51,000 + 103,000) is the same as that for the pre-1993 Red Book 1832 mintage alone. In effect, the pre-1993 Red Book mintage for 1833 ceased to exist! It is also apparent that the revised 1833:1832 mintage was listed as a precise 2:1 ratio. I have no doubts that this 2:1 ratio was the direct result of the division Walter Breen favored. On page 338 of his half cent book, Breen wrote “the 1833 is twice as often seen [from its single pair of dies] in all grades – aside from the hoard – as is the 1832 [from its three varieties]” (2).

I have recently estimated original mintages for each date in the late Classic Head group of half cents (3). For the total 1832-1835 mintage, I used in my calculations the traditional mintage figure of 813,000 pieces. This sum was accepted by both Cohen (4) and Breen (2) in their respective half cent books. However, on page 172 of his 1988 reference work, Breen made an obscure reference to the total 1831-1835 mintage for circulation being 693,000 pieces (5), rather than the 813,000 pieces found (for 1832-1835) in the 1992 Red Book (6) and earlier editions. The difference between these two mintages is again 120,000 pieces – the pre-1993 Red Book mintage for 1833. It became apparent that Breen’s 693,000 figure came as a result of an article written by R.W. Julian that appeared in the June 9, 1984 edition of *Numismatic News Weekly* (7).

The question facing half cent numismatists today is “Which numbers do we believe?”. Bill Eckberg has established through statistical means that half cent survivors within a particular type are generally proportional to their original mintages (8). Knowing this, I decided to do a comparison analysis using three different survivor databases to find the answer. For my exercise, only relative survivor data were needed.

All databases are flawed in one manner or another. The eBay database I used mostly represents raw, lower grade specimens (9). It is considered to be the most accurate for reasons previously given by Eckberg (8). The second database used was gathered over more than two decades by EAC dealer Tom Reynolds and represents collector-quality specimens (10). The Teletrade database represents certified half cents that were sold either by phone or Internet auction (11). Raw data are presented in Table 1. That for the 1832 and 1833 dates has been highlighted in bold.

Table 1. Comparison between Manley and revised Red Book mintages using three Survivor Databases

Date	Survivor Databases			Original Mintage Estimates	
	eBay (9)	Reynolds (10)	Teletrade (11)	Manley (3)	Revised Red Book (1)
1832	55	60	35	156,000	51,000
1833	54	47	49	161,000	103,000
1834	62	55	49	186,000	141,000
1835	112	113	92	312,000	398,000
1832+33	109	107	84	317,000	154,000

It is important to observe that the relative numbers in each of the three databases are reasonably consistent with one another, even though they represent coins from widely different sources. It should also be noted that all three databases (and my mintage estimates) predict the 1832:1833 ratio to be near 1:1, not 1:2 as indicated by the revised Red Book figures. Since this 1:2 ratio was evidently the result of Breen's erroneous opinion, I've combined the 1832 and 1833 figures (last line in Table 1) for further, more meaningful mintage comparisons.

My mintage estimates and all three databases predict a (1832+1833):1835 mintage ratio of about 1:1. However, the revised Red Book figures dismally predict a ratio approaching 1:3. Making another comparison, my mintage estimates and the three survivor databases all predict a (1832+1833):1834 ratio approaching 2:1. Again, the revised Red Book mintages fail miserably – predicting a ratio of just over 1:1.

One need only look at the ratio of 1834:1835 survivors to see that tens of thousands of 1834 half cents must have been included in the 398,000 listed as 1835 half cents in the Red Book. With that being the case, *the number of 1833 half cents had to have been much larger than 103,000* in order to preserve the approximate 1:1 ratio observed for 1833:1834 survivors.

In order to better illustrate the above arguments, I have normalized the raw data from Table 1, setting the 1835 values at 100. The normalized data are presented below in Table 2.

Table 2. Normalized 1832-35 data

Date	eBay	Reynolds	Teletrade	Manley	Revised Red Book
1832	49	53	38	50	13
1833	48	42	53	52	26
1834	55	49	53	60	35
1835	100	100	100	100	100
1832+33	97	95	91	102	39

I can only conclude that the mintages listed for 1832 and 1833 half cents in the 1993 Red Book and more recent editions are wrong. My analysis indicates the 154,000 half cents reported for 1833 were dated 1832 (3). The 120,000 half cents eliminated from the Red Book beginning with the 1993 edition did indeed exist. These were dated 1833 but delivered in 1834 (3).

Additional 1833 half cents were struck later and included with 1834 half cents in the mint report for 1835. Similarly, the mint report for 1836 included both 1834 and 1835 half cents.

It is my belief that the reduction in the late Classic Head half cent mintage introduced in the 1993 Red Book was based upon an unfortunate misinterpretation of Mint records. A simple analysis of relative survivor numbers indicates that the 1832-1835 half cents delivered from 1833-1836 numbered 813,000, as traditionally accepted, rather than 693,000.

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4. Roger S. Cohen, Jr., *American Half Cents – the "Little Half Sisters"*, 2nd edition, 1982, pp. 90-96.
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8. William R. Eckberg, "How Many Half Cents Are There?", *Penny-Wise*, Vol. XXXIV, No. 4, 172, 2000.
9. Provided courtesy of Bill Eckberg. Ebay data was gathered over a two month period in mid 2000.
10. Tom Reynolds, "Examining the Current Rarity Ratings, Part One: Half Cents", *Penny-Wise*, Vol. XXIII, No. 1, 4, 1989.
11. Data extends from Teletrade's inception through September 9, 2000.



NEW JERSEY COPPERS, PART 49: MARIS 20-N, 21-N and 21-P

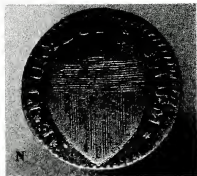
Ray Williams

As I write this, the time is now mid-October, the C-4 Convention and NJ Copper Symposium are only a month away. It's been my observation for the year 2000 that the quantities of available NJ Coppers have greatly diminished. I go to local and regional shows, and the few New Jersey's I see are the same low-grade common problem coins that have been in the same dealers' cases for two years. It's my hope that with all the colonial specialists and dealers drawn to Boston next month, I'll be able to add a variety to my collection. Even if I don't, the sharing of information and reunion with friends will make the trip worthwhile. See you all there!

Maris 20-N



It has been commonly accepted that the Maris 20-N, 21-N and 21-P are products of the Rahway Mint. Most appear to be close to the legal weight of 150 grains and I'm not aware of any that have under-types. The Maris 20 is known as the "drunken die cutters obverse" due to the horse's head being placed high in the field, while leaning back at an angle. The date numerals are poorly executed (the "1" looking like a blob and angled counter-clockwise) and the overall appearance is amateurish. The Maris 20 obverse is only known married to the N reverse.



Unlike the die just described, the N reverse is well executed. It is known as one of the "large shield" reverses. There are three "large shield" dies: Maris M, N and O. These are easily distinguished by the placement of the chief point of the shield to the legend. Reverse M has the chief point below the left upright of the second "U" in "PLURIBUS". On the N reverse, it's pointing to the bottom foot of the "S"; lastly, on the O reverse, its points between the "B" and "U" of "PLURIBUS".

The Maris 20-N has been traditionally listed as a rarity 4. As I've said before, it would be impossible for any definitive changes to be made, based on the number of collections in this census, for any rarities of 5 through 1. A rarity 4 it will stay. There are two 20-N's of significance that I don't their whereabouts: The Taylor and Norweb coins. Both are nice EF's. Please enlighten me if you know where they are... Here are the 20-N's in this census:

Maris #	Pseudonym	Condition	Pedigree	Comments
20-N	CA Collector #3	AU+	George Wait	Plate Coin for New Jersey's Money
20-N	Eastern Collector	AU		
20-N	Eastern Collector	AU		
20-N	Eastern Collector	EF+	B&M Garrett 10/80, lot 1413 ex Ellsworth, Windor, Mills	
20-N	NJHS	EF+	Frederick Canfield	
20-N	S Tanenbaum	EF+		
20-N	Groves Collection	EF	Stack's Oechsner 9/88 lot 1259; Spiro lot 1471	
20-N	Pacific Northwest Collector	EF	Terranova; Stack's 3/00, lot 1065; G. Perkins; Stack's 1/93, lot 994 (Star); B&M 11/90, lot 138 (Frontenac)	

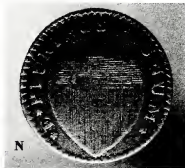
20-N	Henderson TX Collection	VF	Rinaldo; Frontenac	
20-N	Pacific Northwest Collector	VF	R. August	
20-N	Northeastern Collector	VF		
20-N	J Lorenzo	VF	Rock FPL #9, lot 268	
20-N	R August	VF		
20-N	R Moore	VF	Falmoth Stamp & Coin	
20-N	Maine Collector #1	VF	R August	
20-N	C Schettino	VF	Tom Rinaldo	
20-N	Ocean NJ Collector	VF	Ringo	
20-N	D Wierzba	VF	H Garrett, lot 1329; Stack's 2/64, lot 5	
20-N	Noted Midwest Collector	VF	B G Johnson; Virgil Brand	dark
20-N	NY Collector #4	F		
20-N	Kansas Collector #1	F		
20-N	R Blaha	F		
20-N	T Madigan	F	M. Wierzba; M&G 12/96, lot 335	
20-N	R Connell	F		
20-N	P Scherff	F	B&M	
20-N	E Kucia	F	Valenziano	
20-N	G Lyman	F	Centennial Auction 7/94, lot 129	
20-N	D Palmer	F	Stack's 5/91, lot 176	
20-N	L. Terrell	F	Grellman; Dooley	
20-N	L Terrell	F	Moore; B. Schoenwalter; ANA 1952 Downing	
20-N	C Young	F		
20-N	M Mayhugh	F	Stack's 9/97, lot 158	
20-N	Ray Williams	F	Beavertown Coins	
20-N	F McGrath	VG		
20-N	F McGrath	G+		
20-N	S Shaffer	AG		
20-N	ANS	Unknown		1 coin

Maris 21-N



The Maris 21 obverse is executed more skillfully than the Maris 20. It has long plow handles that extend below the "N" of "NOVA". The plow beam has a subtle "S curve" up toward the final "A" of "CAESAREA". The 6 in the date is too close to the 8 and leans far to the right. The horse's ears point to either side of the "C" in the legend, with the right ear pointing at the right side of the "C".

The Maris 21-N has traditionally been an R-2 and changes not. It's my opinion that there are a lot of traditional R-2's that are much more easily obtained than the 21-N (for what that's worth). Four significant coins are missing from this listing: one AU example from the Bareford Collection and three EF's from the Sherr, Roper and Douglas collections. Can anyone help on these? It's interesting to note here that although the 20-N, 21-N and 21-P are R-4, R-2 and R-5, respectively, the quantity of each variety in this census are essentially the same.



What does that say about the usefulness of this census? This census, or listing if you prefer, is a summary of the information of supplied by collectors like yourself, who wanted to share freely information about their collections. I think its fun to pull out your coins and see what others have, make comparisons, see who owns some of the famous coins, etc. Have fun! Now on to the 21-N's:

21-N	Eastern Collector	UNC	B&R Garrett 10/80 lot 1414; Ellsworth; Mills	
21-N	Noted Midwest Collector	AU	B G Johnson; Virgil Brand	
21-N	Maine Collector #1	EF		
21-N	J Lorenzo	EF	EAN	
21-N	Groves Collection	VF		
21-N	L Terrell	VF	M&G Griffiee, lot 326; B&M 1/89, lot 30	
21-N	S Tanenbaum	VF		
21-N	A Pietri	VF		
21-N	Kansas Collector #1	VF		
21-N	C Schettino	VF	R Flannigan	
21-N	T Madigan	VF	C Kirtley, MBS 157, lot 1069	
21-N	R August	VF		
21-N	R Moore	VF	Mituzas	
21-N	NY Collector #4	VF		
21-N	NH Collector #1	VF		
21-N	S Schaffer	VF		
21-N	Ocean NJ Collector	VF	B&M 6/85, lot 2330	
21-N	D Wierzba	VF		
21-N	M Wierzba	VF	Rinaldo	
21-N	Noted Midwest Collector	VF	B G Johnson; Virgil Brand	
21-N	M Mayhugh	VF		
21-N	E Kucia	F	Valenziano	
21-N	Northeastern Collector	F		
21-N	NJHS	F	Frederick Canfield	
21-N	CT State Library	F		
21-N	M Chusid	F		
21-N	P Scherff	F	Rinaldo	
21-N	E Stecewicz	F	B Miller	
21-N	Ray Williams	F	S Peck, B&M 3/90, lot 1224; Boyd Brand & Ryder	
21-N	NJHS	VG	Frederick Canfield	
21-N	NJHS	VG	Frederick Canfield	
21-N	D Palmer	VG		
21-N	R Connell	G		
21-N	K Schlemmer	EF	D Oakes	Holed & Plugged
21-N	F McGrath	AG		
21-N	T Madigan	VF	D Palmer	Encrusted
21-N	K Schlemmer	VG	N Peters	Holed
21-N	ANS	Unknown		2 Coins

Maris 21-P



Lastly for today is the Maris 21-P. The P reverse has a medium sized shield that is convex, resulting in the rapid wear of the shield design. The shield is symmetrical, nicely shaped, having the three points all about equal in height. The legend is spaced proportionately, punctuated by stars. The shield is placed ever so slightly low within the legend.

How many of you are aware of the mistake Dr. Maris made on his plate of New Jersey's? For Maris Obverses 60 and 61, he labeled their corresponding reverse: "Maris P" – it should have read "Maris p" because the uppercase (capital) P was used in earlier varieties. Is it a coincidence that Dr. Maris made a spelling mistake on the same die that the engraver made a spelling mistake a hundred years earlier?



If you are aware of any significant 21-P's not listed below, please let me know:

Maris #	Pseudonym	Condition	Pedigree	Comments
21-P	R August	UNC		
21-P	Western Collector	AU+		
21-P	Eastern Collector	AU+	Windsor; Spinet	
21-P	CA Collector #3	AU	Maris; Garrett	Maris Obverse Plate Coin
21-P	Eastern Collector	AU		
21-P	Noted Midwest Collector	EF	B G Johnson; Virgil Brand	
21-P	Northeastern Collector	EF	N Pullen	
21-P	P Scherff	EF	Stack's 6/91, lot 1289	
21-P	M Wierzba	VF	M&G Barnes 10/96, lot 28	
21-P	Kansas Collector #1	VF		
21-P	Kansas Collector #1	VF		
21-P	J Lorenzo	VF	B&M Saccone Sale, lot 1577; B&M Taylor, lot 2188	
21-P	R Moore	VF	Weinberg	
21-P	NY Collector #4	VF		
21-P	C Schettino	VF	J Higgins, 95 FUN Show	
21-P	L Terrell	VF	B&M 3/95	
21-P	D Wierzba	F	Greenwald, lot 3149	
21-P	E Kucia	F	Valenziano	
21-P	S Martin	F		
21-P	F McGrath	F		
21-P	F McGrath	F		
21-P	CT State Library	F		
21-P	K Schlemmer	F	B&M 9/85, lot 680	
21-P	S Tanenbaum	F		
21-P	C Young	F		
21-P	NJHS	F	Frederick Canfield	
21-P	Noted Midwest Collector	F	B G Johnson; Virgil Brand	damaged
21-P	Ray Williams	F	R&J Rare Coin	

21-P	Ocean NJ Collector	VG	Ringo 3/89 FPL, lot 54
21-P	F McGrath	VG	
21-P	F McGrath	VG	
21-P	R Connell	VG	
21-P	D Palmer	G	
21-P	CT State Library	G	
21-P	S Schaffer	AG	
21-P	ANS	Unknown	

The next condition census in the January 2001 Issue of Penny-Wise will cover Maris 21.5-R, 23-P, 23-R, and 23.5-R. Any comments about these should be sent to me before December 15th. If you would like to become a part of this census, please contact me. Hope to see all the New Jersey collectors in Boston for the C-4 Convention.

Happy Hunting,

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Editor's Note: Ray's comment about the essentially-identical number of specimens reported here, for three varieties with very different rarity ratings, deserves emphasis. As Dave Bowers has repeatedly pointed out, collector surveys tend to level out the discrepancies between the availability of different dates or varieties. It doesn't matter if there are 75 of a given coin, or 750, or 7500--if 60 collectors want to own an example, they can all eventually have one, and the numbers reported in a survey such as this will be about the same for each coin.

This is also illustrated by one of the surveys taken by the Liberty Seated Collectors Club, of half dollars by date and mint. As reported in the March 1992 issue of *The Gobrecht Journal*, between 38 and 42 examples were reported of each of the following ("Trends" values are current):

1841 (original mintage=310,000; "Trends" value in EF-40=\$250)
 1882 (original mintage=5500; "Trends" value in EF-40=\$405)
 1842-O Large Date (original mintage=754,000; "Trends" value in EF-40=\$120)
 1873-S Arrows (original mintage=228,000; "Trends" value in EF-40=\$390)
 1871-CC (original mintage=153,950; "Trends" value in EF-40=\$1500)

As a long-time collector of the series, I might quibble a bit with a couple of these quotes; but the twelve-fold discrepancy in market value between the least and the most expensive is a fair reflection, I think, of their relative availability.

This notion of relative availability should be borne in mind in interpreting these census listings of Maris 20-N, 21-N, and 21-P, as well.

THE HALF CENT COINAGES OF 1831 – 1835

R. W. Julian

Editor's Note: Citing the recent controversies surrounding half cents issued in the late 1820s and early 1830s, Bob Julian submitted the following. He noted that it originally appeared in a 1986 issue of the short-lived New England Journal of Numismatics, adding "you will note that the 1831 is discussed at some length. There are also a number of facts not readily available to researchers." He also mentioned that the Redbook changed its reported mintage figures in the aftermath of his article on the same subject, published in The Numismatist for December 1991.

* * *

Over the past several decades the complaint has frequently been made that a certain coin is much more rare (or common) than the mintage figures show and therefore the figures are wrong. Almost invariably it turns out that the original figures are indeed correct and that other reasons are responsible for the seeming inconsistency. With the half cent mintage figures of the 1830s no such excuse is possible, since the Mint itself issued incorrect annual figures.

Proper understanding of the half cent coinage of the 1830s begins with the early years of the nineteenth century when the Mint was struggling to provide a circulating copper coinage. The half cent, unlike the cent, was always a difficult denomination to vend to the public after 1805 and from 1809 there was positive resistance on the part of banks and merchants to take them at all. The Mint normally was able to distribute half cents after 1809 only when they were out of cents. By 1811 matters had reached an impasse when the mint ran out of cent planchets (both cent and half cent blanks were imported from the Boulton firm of England) and had only half cents on hand. Due to the strong need for copper coin, banks did accept the half cents but made it clear that they did not want any more.

Dr. Samuel Moore became Director in mid-1824, replacing Robert Patterson – who had served since 1805, and immediately began to make changes in Mint policies. One such change introduced was striking half cents again, for the first time since 1811. Moore ordered ten tons of planchets (1.9 million) from Boulton and coinage commenced in December 1825. Despite the optimistic start, none of the half cents was distributed until after March 1826. The coinage of half cents from 1826 through 1829 proceeded fitfully as demand was erratic. In 1826 some 129,000 half cents left the Mint while in 1827 but 64,000 were vended. This rose to 149,000 in 1828 and 148,000 in 1829. The number distributed in 1830, however, fell to 92,000. There was an amazing recovery in 1831, with 336,000 half cents leaving the Mint. Known figures after 1831 are fragmentary.

One of the problems with mintage figures of the 1830s is the 'reform' introduced by Dr. Moore at the end of 1829. Annual reports would now no longer reflect the number of coins formally delivered by Chief Coiner Adam Eckfeldt but rather those actually struck during a given year. There was no problem with silver or gold coinage since these coins were delivered soon after being struck in order to pay off depositors, but there was no such urgency with copper coins. The 900,000 half cents on hand at the end of 1829 was a rather large hoard, considering that only 582,000 had been distributed from 1825 through 1830; Dr. Moore now called a temporary halt to the coinage. Towards the end of 1830 came a change that was to have some interesting consequences for the half cent coinage. In the late 1820s Chief Engraver William Kneass, together with Dr. Moore, began to introduce

changes to the faces of the coins. This was connected to a change in the minting technique itself and is best seen along the periphery of the faces. Instead of lines radiating out from a center point, the edge is now plain, with a row of beads or dots.

Kneass engraved dies for the half cent dated 1831 and asked Chief Coiner Eckfeldt to make a proper test of the revised design; 2,200 half cents were struck in 1831, according to Moore's annual report, but this coinage was never officially delivered, at least not in 1831 or 1832. For the time being, the 1831 half cents were kept by the Coiner, but requests for a new half cent were honored; such requests would have been made by numismatists and an occasional parent wanting a coin for a Christmas stocking. These requests, plus a few saved by Mint officials, would have been the source of the known non-proof specimens.

At the end of 1831, the Mint officially had on hand some 472,000 half cents, not including the ephemeral 1831 coinage of 2,200 pieces. Yet sometime towards the latter part of 1832, Dr. Moore ordered the resumption of coinage. Although the number vended in 1832 is not clearly known (but seems to have been less than 100,000 pieces) there was, on the surface, no reason whatsoever to resume minting this little-used coin. The reason for resuming coinage was based on a rather strange decision to melt the bulk of the old (pre-1830) half cents on hand and replace them with pieces struck using the revised design of 1831. Melting of half cents, as alloy for gold and silver coinage, began in 1830, but did not really get underway until mid-1832. By June 1833 the Melter & Refiner had used 160,186 struck half cents, mostly dating from 1828 and 1829. (233,342 planchets from the Boulton shipment of 1825 had already been melted for alloy by the end of 1829.)

Although coinage resumed in 1832, Dr. Moore did not follow his policy of reporting how many had been struck, leading to the belief that coinage may not have resumed until late December 1832. Coinage continued fitfully into 1833 and was finally accounted for on June 19, 1833, when the coiner was credited with delivering 154,000 half cents by director's warrant #133. It is interesting to note that a document, in the Mint archives, under date of June 19, 1833, specifically says that the coinage delivered that day (154,000 half cents) was struck in 1832 and 1833. This document, which has been published by Breen, does not mention the issue of 1831 at all, leading again to the conclusion that almost the entire half cent coinage of 1831 was melted for alloy.

Given the resumption of coinage in late 1832, one might assume that by June 1833 most, if not all, of the pre-1830 half cent coinage had either been vended to banks and merchants or melted for the precious metals coinage. This was not the case, however, as half cents of 1829 were still being shipped from the Mint in the latter part of 1833. It is thereby probable that the 160,186 pieces melted from 1830 through 1833 were the worst-looking pieces. Coiner's records nowhere mention the tiny coinage of 1831 half cents and it is highly likely that most of them were included by error with the struck pieces of 1828-1829 melted for alloy.

Apparently demand was strong enough for the half cent in the latter part of 1833 that Dr. Moore needed to write Matthew R. Boulton to ask for five tons of additional planchets. In his letter of August 20, 1833, Moore indicated that the chief coiner had specifically asked that the milling on the planchets be made "stronger," although this would contract the diameter a little. This was necessary because the 1825 planchets had not struck up well in 1832 and 1833 with the new die design of 1831. The "stronger" milling would have meant a

thicker rim before striking, which would have taken the revised die rims much better than the planchets of 1825. This in turn meant that the entire design struck up better.

Boulton first obtained the usual Welsh ingot copper and brought it to his manufactory for the necessary operations including rolling, cutting, and milling. The planchets were then carefully cleaned and packed into kegs for shipping. In late January 1834, workmen took the 29 casks of half cent blanks to Liverpool, where they were loaded on the *Napier*; it sailed for America on January 31. Arriving at the Philadelphia docks in less than two months, the kegs were unloaded on March 29.

Once the five tons of planchets were received at the Mint, one would think that coinage would commence. However, according to official records, the planchets were not even sent to the coining rooms by the Treasurer of the Mint until sometime in the second quarter of 1835, long after their receipt at the Mint. Yet, in the annual report for 1834 issued by director Moore, we find the inexplicable figure of 120,000 half cents being struck. It is true that Mint coinages of copper on rare occasion began before the copper was officially transferred to the Coiner, but this normally was a matter of days and never, except in this one case, in different years. The more usual case was for coinage to leave the Mint before it was reported as being struck, but this was a mere bookkeeping convention in use for many years. What, then, are we to make of the 120,000 reported coined?

Years ago, someone decided that the 120,000 figure for 1834 was actually that of 1833 and numismatists began to use this figure. It did make sense since coins of 1832 clearly existed in quantity and the Mint report for 1832 was silent on the subject. The researchers then moved the published figure for 1833, which actually covered 1832 and 1833, to just 1832. The 120,000 figure seems to represent the number of half cents struck in 1834 though this conflicts with later evidence. That they were not delivered in 1834 does show that demand was low in that year. The only distribution record found for this year indicates 42,000 pieces being shipped in the second quarter. The last half of 1833 had seen 189,000 being vended, which included a number of pieces dated 1829. The fragmentary records dealing with shipments of half cents after 1831 do not allow us the luxury of definitive statements but the 1829s were probably gone by the end of 1833 or early in 1834.

Regardless of the true number of half cents coined in 1834, coinage certainly resumed in 1835 in heavily increased quantities. Just why is not clear, since there was little or no demand. It is true that we do not have distribution records for 1835 or 1836, but as there were 452,500 on hand in January 1837, more than a year after coinage had ended, we are justified in assuming that the coinage of 1835 was made with little demand in sight. The number of half cents actually struck in 1835 (allowing the figure of 120,000 for 1834 to stand) is 419,000. Even here, however, there is still confusion. In mid-1835 Dr. Samuel Moore resigned as director and was replaced by Dr. Robert M. Patterson, who brought some fresh ideas of accounting to the Mint, including the idea that coinage and delivery should reflect the date of actual mintage. Yet, even in his first annual report Director Patterson did a very strange act by not reporting all the half cents delivered by Chief Coiner Eckfeldt on the final day of the year. Warrant #143 reported 539,000 half cents brought to the Treasurer ready for public distribution; curiously, Patterson did not report what his own signed warrant had said, but instead indicated 141,000 half cents for 1835. The 141,000 figure has been interpreted in the past to mean that this many had been struck in 1834.

This assumption was made in the belief that the 120,000 reported for 1834 had been meant for 1833 instead. Because we now know that the latter is incorrect, we are faced with two figures for 1834: 120,000 and 141,000.

For his 1836 Mint report, Dr. Patterson finally reported the missing 398,000 pieces from warrant #143. Present thinking is that all 398,000 pieces were dated 1835 and that figure is given in the Redbook along with the other erroneous figures from years past. There is always the odd possibility that Patterson held over the 398,000 half cents for reporting in order to inflate the number of coins struck in his own first full year of the directorship in 1836.

That 398,000 half cents were struck from just one obverse die in 1835 seems well beyond normal use for an obverse die of this period and throws open the whole question of mintage figures in 1834 and 1835. It is the opinion of this writer that part of the 398,000 pieces ought to be assigned to an 1834 obverse die but the known records do not give us any clue for a breakdown.

With the reporting of 398,000 half cents for 1836 we come to the end of a very confusing period of mintage reports. After 1836 there are no more lapses in the annual reports and Dr. Patterson went to great pains to impress upon branch Mint officials after 1837 that reports must be accurate and coinage struck by dies bearing the current date.

It will be clear to the reader that this paper has not solved all the questions concerning half cent coinage of 1831-1835, but rather has presented the known facts and eliminated many fallacies. In the future research may take the road of measuring half cent diameters in order to determine if the dies of 1833 were used on planchets delivered in 1834. There should be a detectable difference in the diameters. Another avenue of research would be a detailed census of surviving examples of 1832-1835 to find a possible pattern of mintage that varies from, or agrees with, figures in this article. Breen, in his superb work on United States half cents, for example, estimates that half cents of 1832 are seen than half as often as those of 1833. Does this then mean that about 50,000 half cents bearing the 1832 date were produced? Does it seem likely that nearly 400,000 half cents would be struck from the 1835 obverse die? These questions are left to future researchers.

HALF CENTS OF 1831-1835

YEAR	MINT REPORT	REDBOOK	COINER'S WARRANT
1831	2,200	2,200	--
1832	--	154,000	--
1833	154,000	120,000	154,000
1834	120,000	141,000	--
1835	141,000	398,000	541,000
1836	398,000	--	--
TOTALS	815,2000	815,2000	693,000

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WEST COAST REGIONAL MEETING REPORT

Phil Moore

Jon Warshawsky chaired the District 7 meeting at the Long Beach Coin Show, 7:00 PM, Friday, October 6, 2000. Those in attendance were:

Dan Demeo	Robert Kellert
Alan Meghriq	Tom Reynolds
Doug Bird	Ron Shintaku
Bill Yates	Bill Noyes
Paul Arthur Norris	Randle Fairchild
Ron Feuer	Jon Warshawsky

The meeting was called to order and each of the participants introduced themselves and stated their collecting interests. Then Jon asked if there were any new discoveries, of which there were none, but Bill Noyes commented that he had seen a lead counterfeit 1797 large cent that was an excellent reproduction.

The status of the upcoming Early Date Revision by Bowers & Merena was discussed. Dan Demeo had seen a preview of the manuscript and mentioned that the series will be renumbered by year rather than by the Sheldon numbering system. Bill Noyes stated that the new numbering system is supposed to be actual sequence of striking but is an opinion of Water Breen's that is not necessarily correct. Jon referred to Craig Sholley's research and added that if dies were removed and returned to service then the concept of an emission sequence may be invalid, defeating the purpose of Breen's renumbering.

It was brought up that in February 2001, Superior will be selling the Frankenfield collection which is a virtually complete collection of half cents and large cents by variety. It will contain some very rare items that have not come to market in quite some time such as the S15 and S37. Bill Noyes said the CQR will probably be withheld until after this sale. Also, the Goldbergs will be selling the Benson Collection of early coppers at the same time. This collection contains about 75 pieces that were purchased in the '40s and '50s.

Tom Reynolds said that he recently received Chain and Wreath electrotypes and discovered that they had been made from gallery mint pieces by coupling obverse and reverses without the copy stamps. He mentioned that there is someone in Southern Illinois producing these. He said that someone is also defacing the word COPY on Gallery Mint coins and antiquing them to make them look original.

Jon said keep an eye out for some articles on early copper collecting in upcoming issues of Numismatic News. Steve Carr may be continuing the Copper Sense articles, with a focus on the beginning copper collector.

Tom Reynolds also reminded everyone to write to their chairman or Board members to give their opinion on the new EAC sale rules, particularly the 10 & 10 commission rate and potential favoritism to large consignors.

Our next scheduled western regional meeting will be at Long Beach on Friday, February 9, 2001 at 7:00 PM.

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EARLY AMERICAN COPPERS, INC.

28TH ANNUAL CONVENTION Announcement

March 28th through April 1st, 2001

Holiday Inn Select, FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA

The 2001 EAC Convention should be the best ever. With a large number of EAC members living in the Mid-Atlantic region, it should also be one of the best attended. I believe that we have put together one of the strongest programs ever as well.

It will be held at the Holiday Inn Select, Fredericksburg, VA from March 28-April 1. The address and telephone number of the hotel are in the reservation form that follows. Rooms are \$85 for a standard and \$125 for a suite. This hotel is currently undergoing a major renovation that will be completed before the convention.

Fredericksburg is an historic city, conveniently located less than an hour from Washington, DC and the historic cities of Richmond (the Capitol of the Confederacy) and Charlottesville (homes of Jefferson and Madison). Close by are the **birthplaces of Washington and Lee** and the battlefields of **Chancellorsville** (where Stonewall Jackson was mortally wounded) and the **Wilderness**. Fredericksburg, itself, is loaded with historic houses and museums and was itself the site of major Civil War fighting.

We have planned a number of side trips and family outings (listed elsewhere in this issue). Col. Steve Ellsworth will guide a **tour of the Chancellorsville and Fredericksburg Battlefields on Wednesday afternoon**. If there is sufficient demand, we will offer a guided **tour to Monticello and Montpelier (Jefferson's and Madison's homes)**. We will also arrange for a guided tour of Fredericksburg. Unguided family jaunts can be made to **Washington, DC** and to **King's Dominion**, a major amusement park. Please use the signup sheets for these events so we will know what to expect. Please do not send money at this time.

Gail Baker of the ANA Education Office has generously scheduled an outstanding set of educational programs, including a very special half-day hands-on seminar on **EAC Grading and Counterfeit Detection**, featuring Mary Sauvain, Doug Bird and Steve Carr. If you wish to attend this seminar, please sign use the Special Event Signup Sheet that follows. A preliminary educational program also follows in this issue.

Fredericksburg is about 40 miles south of Washington, DC on Interstate 95. If you fly into Washington National or Dulles International Airports, you can either take a shuttle bus or rent a car at the airport. If you drive, pick up I 95 south of town and continue to exit at Route #3 West.

For more information or if you would like to volunteer to help, please contact me at:

William R. Eckberg
PO Box 25181
Alexandria, VA 22313
(781) 723-7932 (fax)
halfcent@Mac.com (email)

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**EARLY AMERICAN COPPERS, INC. ANNUAL CONVENTION
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

Gail Baker

Thursday, March 29

8 a.m. – 12 noon	EAC Grading and Counterfeit Detection . . . a hands-on seminar. Space is limited and pre-registration is required	Doug Bird, Mary Sauvain, Steve Carr
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Friday, March 30

2 – 3 p.m.	Middle Dale Large Cents	John Wright
7:15 – 8:15 p.m.	CQR – Past, Present and Future	Jack Robinson
8:30 – 9:30 p.m.	TBA	Craig Sholley

Saturday, March 31

11:00 a.m. – 12 noon	Collecting Early American Coppers	John Wright, Jerry Stublefield, Clay Everhart
1 – 2 p.m.	The Early Date Large Cents	Red Henry
3 – 4 p.m.	Half Cents	Bill Eckberg, Ron Manley, Mike Demling, Mike Packard

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LARGE CENT HAPPENING '01

Jon Warshawsky

Smoke-filled rooms, under-the-table payments, blatant favoritism, thinly veiled threats and political favors have never been part of the selection process for the varieties to be represented at the Large Cent Happening. Still, we (okay, I) liked Greg and Lisa Heim's open forum approach.

So:

In the interest of democracy, I have compiled a list of all large cent varieties represented in the LCH from its inception in 1994 (You remember: Clinton was president, slab grading was controversial, and you never received a dollar coin in change). Traditionally (since back in 1997) we have included a 200th birthday cent, so rest assured 1801 will be shown at the 2001 LCH. We also balance the six varieties so that two are Early Dates, two Middle and two Late. Given these parameters, we need to select the varieties for 2001.

1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
1793 S-1	1794 S-17a	1795 S-80	1794 S-48	1793 S-14	1793 S-5	1794 S-35
1798 S-144	1800 S-202	1807 S-271	1797 S-126	1798 S-186	1799 S-189	1800 S-193
1817 N-12	1817 N-14	1818 N-4	1825 N-7	1834 N-6	1822 N-9	1811 S-286
1820 N-6	1830 N-9	1829 N-7	1831 N-5	1839 N-1	1835 N-11	1823/2 N-1
1848 N-18	1846 N-21	1845 N-7	1846 N-26	1849 N-1	1846 N-13	1846 N-12
	1852 N-23	1849 N-3	1854 N-19	1853 N-32	1847 N-23	1848 N-42

If you have suggestions for varieties that you would like to see, please send me an email at jwarshawsky@dc.com. We will take exciting suggestions from anybody.

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HALF CENT HAPPENING '01

Greg and Lisa Heim

Based on our biases, and your input, these are the choices for the 2001 Half Cent Happening.

- 1) 1794 C-2a
- 2) 1807 C-1. Overall R1 whose last appearance was in 1986. We received the greatest number of requests for the 1807. Early Die States and Late Die States will be evaluated separately.
- 3) 1808 C-1. An R7 with a recent discovery. We urge those who own this coin to participate, even if you must do so through a representative. Its last appearance was in 1988.
- 4) 1825 C-1. An R3 whose last appearance was in 1989. We feel this was the best choice among the Classic Heads not shown in the last 10 years.
- 5) 1841 Proofs. Originals, First Restrikes, and Second Restrikes. Simply going down the line as 1840's were shown last year.

If you have any strong objections or desperately want to see a variety NOT on this list, get in touch with us. The final list will appear in the January 2001 P-W. Once again, our e-mail address is gangof4@optonline.net.

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CALL FOR EXHIBITS

Greg Heim, Lisa Heim, and Jon Warshawsky

First of all, we want to thank Jon for giving us a hand. It is nice to know that someone else will be able to help.

Every year you hear the usual line of how educational it is to exhibit, blah, blah, blah. Well it is true and quite frankly there are not enough EAC'ers who are taking the time to exhibit, especially at the national level. There is a feeling that the folks who run the exhibits should do something to cultivate this: we agree.

This year we are going to offer voluntary exhibit judging based on ANA Standards. There will also be some awards to go with them. We (Greg and Lisa) are certified ANA Exhibit Judges and I know there will be several others in attendance.

Now if you do not want your exhibit judged, that is fine. However, if there are space considerations, those exhibits wishing to be judged will take priority.

We only have this issue and the January issue of P-W to request exhibits, so it is not too early to reserve a slot. Let us know how many cases you need and the title of the exhibit.

If you any questions, do not hesitate to contact us: Greg and Lisa's e-mail address is gandgf4@optonline.net. Our snail mail address is: PO Box 7652, North Brunswick, NJ 08902-7652.

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ROD BURRESS, EAC #109 9743 Leacrest Cincinnati, OH 45215

For Sale

#4 Soft Jewelers Brush	\$8.50 each			
Jewelers Tissue	4 x 4 inch sheets	box of 1000	\$7.00	pkg of 250 \$2.50
Xylol 4 oz bottle plus 100 wooden stick Q-tips			\$3.00	
Acetone 4 oz bottle plus 100 wooden stick Q-tips			\$3.00	
Wooden Stick Q-tips	\$4.50 per 500		\$8.50 per 1000	
Blue Ribbon Coin Conditioner (bought small qty at prem price)				\$13.00 ea
Cast iron Notary Machine unconverted	for the do-it-yourselfer			\$16.00
Double Row Coin Storage Box for 2 x 2 holders	14-inches long			color red
Premium quality heavy duty	103 pasteboard			\$4.25 each
Heavy Duty 28 lb Kraft 2 x 2 Coin Envelopes	colors gray, white, brown			
Pkg of 100	\$3.25	box of 800	\$21.00	send SASE for sample
Cotton Liners 100 percent soft cotton flannel interior				Fit inside
Standard 2 x 2 Coin Envelopes	SASE for sample		\$25.00	pkg of 100
VIGOR 10X Triplet magnifying glass	very high quality optics			best glass
On market to my knowledge for its size and price				
extra wide 13/16 inch lens	aplanatic, achromatic			\$39.00 each with cord
Attribution Guide for Matron Head Cents	1816-1835			\$4.00 approx 37 pgs
Superior Galleries Auction Catalogues	Please call or write			

Add \$4.25 per order (\$5.00 western states) for shipping. Shipping by UPS – You must give a street address.

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The Happenings at EAC

Mike Packard

The Happenings for EAC 2001 seem to be falling into place pretty well. Elsewhere in this issue you will find Greg and Lisa Heim's listing of proposed half cent varieties and Jon Warshawsky's request for input on large cent varieties. Ray Williams is looking for a colonial person to run the Colonial Happening because Dennis Wierzbza might not make it to the 2001 EAC convention. If you have a desire to run the Colonial Happening, let him know. Meanwhile, if you have a preference for colonial varieties to be included in that Happening, please contact Ray Williams at 924 Norway Ave., Trenton, NJ 08629. If Greg, Lisa, and Jon do not get their notices in this issue of Penny-Wise, send your preferences to me (4905 Village Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030) and I will pass them along to the appropriate person.

I plan to have a list of all the Happening varieties printed in the January 2001 Penny-Wise. If you have a specimen of a variety being shown, please bring it. Every coin has a story to tell, and, even if your specimen is not the highest graded, it may have some unusual striking characteristic that makes it interesting to people there. Besides, a part of the joy of collecting is sharing your collection with others. We are very fortunate that some members with outstanding coins actively participate in the Happenings every year. I love seeing their coins as does everyone else. But I also bring my specimens. Some of my coins are pretty nice and some are dogs. You rarely see my name amongst those whose coins are preferred by the majority of Happening coin viewers. That is fine. I enjoy my coins. I enjoy looking at other collectors' coins, and I enjoy sharing my coins with them. I'd like to look at yours too, so bring them along.

There is always a need for monitors. If you are willing to be a monitor, please contact Greg, Lisa, Jon, Ray, or me.

We are going to depart from the usual Happening routine a little this year.

First, we are going to allow those who bring coins to share to enter the Happening rooms first so we can get organized. Only after we feel ready will we open the doors for everyone else.

Second, my preference is to bring back a tradition we had with the early Half Cent Happenings--to have each member and guest stand, introduce themselves, and tell the rest of us where they are from and what they collect. We now do this at the general meeting on Sunday morning, but I think having introductions early in the Convention makes those attending for the first time feel more welcome and lets them put faces with names they read about in the pages of Penny-Wise. It is time consuming and I am willing to hear others' opinions as to the desirability of this proposed change.

Third, I have witnessed and heard a few complaints that some people crowd around tables that hold the scarcer or more interesting varieties and deny others of a quick look at coins they very much want to see. This year, for the first 20 minutes or so of the viewing period, we will not have crowding around any table. You will be asked to move around the room in one direction and to take a quick look at the various specimens of each variety on display. Once all those in attendance at the beginning of the viewing period have had a chance to take a quick look at all the coins, you may return to the tables of your choice to more closely study and enjoy the specimens there.

Common Cents Report

Common Cents is a semi-annual report published in November and May of each year. It is dedicated to establishing a census of Late Date varieties and to provide some insight into the availability of each variety type. Currently we have 37 collections with over 8,000 specimens listed and growing . . . All Late Date collections are welcome whether you only have a couple of varieties or nearing completion. The only prerequisite is that you are an EAC member in good standing. Copies are limited to members and your privacy is insured as no part of your address is published.

Come and join us. Either send for a variety data sheet, photo copy the data sheet printed in July or September 2000 issue's, send me an email or simply list on a plain sheet of paper the variety with the highest grade you have for that variety. I will respond to/acknowledge all submissions immediately with a status of where your collection places within the group and a copy of our latest issue. Deadline for submissions/updates is two weeks prior to publication date.

Common Cents - Fred Iskra, EAC #3124 - 236 E. Rooney Ave. - Appleton, MN 56208 - fiskra@fedtel.net

TOP TEN REASONS TO CONSIGN TO THIS YEAR'S EAC SALE

10. Your duplicates go to a good, caring home. Don't you wish giving away stray kittens was this easy?

9. One hundred percent of the proceeds from the sale go to benefit the club.

8. Liberal use of photography.... Bob prefers the term
Republican use of photography....

7. Fair commission rates:

Average lot value:	\$500 or over	0% Seller's fee
	\$100 or over	5% Seller's fee
	Under \$100	10% Seller's fee

Fair for you and fair for the club!

6. A whole roomfull of Early American Copper Club members anxious to buy your Cents, Half Cents, Hard Times Tokens, or Colonials.

5. Prompt settlement. You will receive full settlement for your consignment no later than 45 days after the sale.

4. We guarantee: No coin will be described "one of only 18 graded MS65 by PCGS," or "housed in an attractive Accugrade Holder".

3. We like some coins better than others (don't you?), but we try to treat all consignors pretty much the same (except for Col. Ellsworth from whom we will no longer be accepting Civil War battlefield bullets as Early American Coppers!)

2. Consignments will be accepted up through the FUN show in January by which time DWL should have perfected his Jimmy Buffett impersonation.

1. More beer lots = higher buyers.

You can contact Chris McCawley or Bob Grellman to discuss consigning to this year's sale. Or mail consignments to Bob's Florida address.

Chris McCawley
405-341-2213

M&G
P.O. Box 951988
Lake Mary FL 32795

Bob Grellman
407-321-8747

OBITUARY: JOHN BERGMAN, EAC #659

Fred Lake wrote,

I have just been informed that John Bergman passed away October 18 after a brief bout with cancer.

John was a fine friend, a wonderful bibliophile and a true gentleman. His knowledge of numismatic literature was of the highest degree and he used that knowledge to advance interest in this arena throughout the numismatic world.

His contributions to the Numismatic Bibliomania Society included duties as an Officer of the Society and as a writer over many years.

John's passing is a loss to me, personally, and to the numismatic community as a whole.

This is a salute to a true "Bibliomaniac".

... Dan Demeo added,

On Monday, October 23, I attended the service for John Bergman, who passed away last week (October 18) at age 56. John no longer collected the half cents that had been his passion in earlier years, but concentrated on books—collecting numismatic books was an avocation which became a vocation after his retirement two years ago. John still liked copper, though, whether it was a large cent I might show him or an ancient Ptolemaic bronze he would find at a show. The service and interment were at Forest Lawn, Cypress, CA, a few miles east of John's home in Lakewood. In attendance were his parents, wife, son (Jim, formerly EAC #1825) and daughter, and grandson. A number of John's former co-workers also attended, as well as numerous friends and neighbors.

The foyer of the church had several displays of Bergman family photos, spanning over 50 years, from photos of young John, to recent photos with his grandson, Brett. Dr. Paul Estebo of New Hope Community Church in Santa Ana, CA, officiated. The memorial booklet included these thoughts, written by John.

I BELIEVE

Our plane left Baltimore as the sun rose. Just before leveling-out, we broke through the grayness. The clouds formed an awe-inspiring cottony sea, the puffy tops whitened by the sun, motionless and seemingly stopped in time. It was truly a religious experience that I desperately wanted to share with another soul. I looked about anxiously and was crushed to see the person in the seat next to me asleep and oblivious to this miracle of GOD. I am compelled to write this pitiful description of one glorious event so that I might never forget the fleeting moment in time when all petty human thoughts left me. I thank you LORD.

John Bergman
1996

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NEW CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following persons have applied for membership in EAC since the last issue of P-W. Provided that no adverse comments on any particular individual are received by the membership committee before the November issue of P-W, all will be declared elected to full membership at that time. Chairman of the Membership Committee is Rod Burress, 9743 Leacrest, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215.

NAME	CITY, STATE	MEMBER #
F. Lee Neal	Brookhaven, MS	4868
Shane Downing	Torrance, CA	4869
Chick McCormick	Colorado Springs, CO	4870
Alan McKeever	Cincinnati, OH	4871
Joel Cherry	Falls Church, VA	4872
Fred Willey	Las Vegas, NV	4873
Dennis Hruby	Fenton, MO	4874
Kraig Derstler	New Orleans, LA	4875
Scott F. Derrish	Lititz, PA	4876
A. Pat Chambers	Fort Smith, AR	4877

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EAC MEETING AT P.A.N.

Carl Huszar

Friends and members of EAC met at the P.A.N. Show on October 14, at the Expo Mart in Monroeville, PA. The following members and guests were in attendance:

Jerry Kochel	Kerry Wetterstrom
Dick Duncan	Carl Huszar
Terry Stefl	

Although our meeting was informal, the discussion was both lively and informative. Jerry Kochel and Dick Duncan gave us some background information on their copper exhibits they prepared for the show. Jerry opined that such exhibits are excellent sources of information and more of them should be on display at coin shows. he explained that he will be offering a seminar at the next EAC convention on this very topic, hopefully to create an interest in knowing how to properly prepare an exhibit. I agreed that this was a dimension of the hobby that can be used to create excitement and at the same time further everyone's numismatic knowledge base.

Kudos were extended to Craig Sholley for his research and his recent article in Penny-Wise titled "Adam Eckfeldt, Mint Engraver?" Our group was interested in the fact that this scholarly research makes an attempt to correct and improve upon information we have about the history of early copper.

Concern was expressed that Penny-Wise in its current format wasn't user friendly. Jerry Kochel suggested that a bound publication would be handy and more prone to be placed on a ready reference shelf at home. Dick Duncan, who is also the editor of PAN's publication,

The Clarion, told the group what his experience has been in preparing a bound publication for his membership.

There were no major finds reported at the show. However, I was given the opportunity to view and inspect a 1796 with pole half cent one of our members just happened to have in his pocket!! Just enough copper heaven to make my day!

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ANNOUNCING THE EARLY COPPER COURSE AT THE 2001 ANA SUMMER SEMINAR

Gail Baker

Each summer the American Numismatic Association holds a two-week Seminar on the campus of The Colorado College in beautiful Colorado Springs. Students attend week-long classes on a wide and varied selection on numismatic topics suited for anyone from the curious beginner to the most advanced numismatist. The low weekly fee of \$510 includes tuition, a room at the college and all-you-can-eat meals in the college cafeteria.

2001's course catalog includes: "**Early American Copper Coinage.**" This course will introduce you to the world of collecting half cents, large cents and Hard Times tokens. Students will learn about the different types of copper coins that circulated in the early years of our nation, how to identify (attribute) them, how to grade them (technical, EAC and market grading) and how to preserve them. The course also will cover the early copper minting process, collecting history, literature and copper ethics.

Bring a loupe you feel comfortable using and your early copper coins.

Instructors: EAC'ers Stephen M. Carr, collector and author; and Douglas F. Bird, collector and professional dealer, specializing in early American copper coins.

The class will be held during session two of the Seminar, July 7 to 13, 2001.

Doug and Steve will also offer a mini-seminar on the same topic during session one, June 30 to July 6, 2001. Mini-seminars are introductory, hands-on courses taught in two or three evening-long sessions. They allow students to study more than one area of interest, or survey something completely new. Mini-seminars meet in the evenings after dinner. Class size is limited to 15 students and pre-registration is required. There is a fee of \$35 for each mini-seminar.

Course catalogs and registration forms are available by calling the ANA at 800-367-9723 extension 126 or on the web at [www.money.org].

The purpose of this announcement is two-fold. We hope EAC will support this course by 1) including information and a course description in the Penny-Wise; and 2) offering a scholarship to a student who attends the course. Please let us know if you have any questions – and thank you for your consideration.

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A VISIT TO GALLERY MINT MUSEUM

Bob Huisman

Like other EAC'ers, I have purchased "coins" from the Gallery Mint Museum. I know that this may be a touchy subject for some of you, but I think that this group has allowed me to own some "classic rarities" that I would have never been able to own otherwise. Well, having said that, I receive the Gallery Mint Museum Newsletter on a regular basis. Very informative, with a friendly, 'down-home' kind of style that is very interesting. In each newsletter, they invite anyone to visit them in Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

Last February, while on a job assignment, I decided to take them up on their offer. Along with a fellow employee, I visited the museum on a crisp, cool Saturday. After a little searching, we located the facility which was nestled in the beautiful back country outside of the town. My first impression was that the buildings were more like storage buildings for farm machinery or hay than a museum. It did not appear that anyone was there but we walked around, knocking on doors and looking into windows. Now I had called earlier in the week and was assured that someone would be there to greet us. After several minutes we met Mr. Joe Rust, one of the founders of the museum. Apparently, Joe was unaware of our visit and apologized for not having the operation in a state of readiness for us. He was the only one there at the time but he gladly gave us a tour. He took us through the various shops, stopping at every piece of equipment, giving us the story behind each. There were screw presses which were used to create those lovely GM coppers, the same technology that was used to create the originals during the early days of the US Mint. Among the other machinery was a recently purchased (huge) San Francisco Mint press, and what is believed to be an original US Mint steam press from the 1830's. The steam press was being repaired by Joe, who had his work cut out for him. There are no known parts or schematics for this press so Joe was fabricating parts based on his understanding of the mechanics. I went over and touched it to feel all that history at my fingertips. It was pretty obvious that Joe loves this type of work. He stated that he was always curious about what makes machinery work and he loves the challenge of coming up with a part to solve a mechanical problem. He has faced many challenges since GMM started its operation.

While walking through the machinery rooms I had a very weird feeling that I was stepping back into history. According to Joe, the way he was dealing with various problems must have been similar to those facing the early Mint employees. With nothing to go by, one was left to one's own ingenuity. This idea would be echoed by Ron Landis when talking about the engraving process. Seeing how the rooms were set up, the layout of the machinery and the plans for expansion, I could not shake the feeling that this was something very special.

Joe took us into the engraving room where we met Ron Landis. This was a workshop that did not seem to be very modern. In fact, I thought I was back in the early 19th Century. A simple workbench, low light, a high stool-type chair, various dies and delicate tools, and an individual who looked like a character out of a Dickens story. Ron was busy creating an obverse die but he stopped to talk to us about the engraving process. He answered all our questions and he expressed his opinion about what should appear on our country's coins. He shared with us his experience with the government's process for approving coin designs. It is obvious that he is a passionate man. We were treated to a special preview of his latest creation, a series of ancient Athenian silver coins. Beautiful! Created using the same techniques that were employed by the ancient Greeks. Ron and Joe spoke of their goal to create a museum that exhibited the minting processes throughout history. They have

purchased a tract of land for this purpose. If I am not mistaken, there was such an exhibit at this year's Philadelphia Convention.

Well, after approximately 4 hours, we gave our thanks to Joe and Ron for their hospitality and willingness to share their collective experience and bid them a fond farewell. I will never forget this trip. I believe that I was allowed to see something very special. Two men who believe that our coinage and our country's history are intertwined and are keeping the candle burning in this arena. I encourage everyone to visit the Gallery Mint Museum if they are anywhere near the northwest corner of Arkansas (or the southwest corner of Missouri). Check out their website if you are so inclined. If you visit the museum, you will not be disappointed.

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COUNTERSTAMPED LARGE CENTS WANTED

For my personal collection, which I have been gathering since 1955, I desire to purchase counterstamped large cents of all dates with the names and addresses of individuals, or individuals and their specialties, merchants, political slogans, and motifs. At this point, I am not interested in stray initials, numbers or names that cannot be identified as to geographical location or trade. I would be pleased to make an offer for coins submitted to me, or invite you to send them on approval with an invoice. I am not looking for any bargains and will pay any reasonable price, as they are not for resale. Please let me hear from you. All correspondence will be answered.

David Bowers, EAC #204
c/o Bowers and Merena Galleries, Inc.
Box 1224, Wolfeboro, NH 03894

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THE MINT COMPLAINS TO CROCKER BROTHERS ABOUT CORROSION-DAMAGED PLANCHETS (1847)

Editor's Note: Henry Hettger discovered the following letter in the National Archives; Dave Bowers submitted it to Penny-Wise.

It appears that two different hands contributed to its composition, and the critical comments were all contributed by the second writer. To those unfamiliar with reading 19th century script, my reading is as follows:

Gentlemen,

I have received the 41 kegs copper planchets forwarded by you per Brig Sulla, and will attend to your directions in regards to ~~the payment of the invoices thereof.~~ paying for them. Some of the kegs have been wet and the planchets soiled. Be pleased to urge the captain, of Repel, not to place your kegs in the bottom of their hold where the bilge water seems to stain them.

The Mother of All Large Cents: An English Halfpenny of King Charles II

Red Henry

Where did our large cents come from? What was their earliest ancestor? Or, in other words, who in our culture first made copper coins of their size and weight, and why?

Some could say that large cents exist because the U.S. mint made government-authorized copper coinage, at certain legal weights, beginning in 1793. However, for over a century before that time, copper coins very similar to large cents had been made and used by English-speaking people.

The closest ancestor of our early cents was the copper English halfpenny. This denomination provided small change for England and Colonial America, and helped to improve the life of people everywhere. "Small change?" you may ask, "How did that improve anyone's standard of living?"

Well, just consider what life was like before there was plentiful small change. For example, In seventeenth and eighteenth century England, employers frequently lacked the correct change to pay their workmen, so several men's salaries were often paid in one undivided lump sum, using a silver coin. How could those workman split up the money among themselves?

One common way of splitting the money was to proceed to the nearest tavern, and buy each man a drink, or two, or more... so that by the time the men got home, there was little left for their families to live on for the next week. In addition, of course, the "head of the household" was in a state conducive to abuse of other family members and to all the social destruction which that implies.

Then, consider the plight of those buying food and clothing with the few silver pieces that did make it back to the home. Most purchases made by the common people involved small sums of money. But since merchants frequently lacked enough low-denomination coins to make exact change for their customers, the customer had a hard choice between accepting being "short-changed" or shopping elsewhere, at another establishment where the same thing would likely happen. The lack of small change was tragic for people who were already at the edge of survival, and had a depressing effect at all levels of commercial life.

For centuries, this situation saw little improvement. The nobility and their lackeys who ran European kingdoms paid scant attention to the monetary needs of the common people. In many countries, only gold and silver were coined into money, and this money was usually possessed only by those who, by birth or bribery, "deserved" it. The basis of English coinage for several hundred years was the silver penny, and since smaller coins were rarely produced, these thin little pennies had to be cut by hand into half-pennies and "fourthings" or farthings, tiny fragments of silver difficult to count and easy to lose. Since any money at all was hard to come by for the common people, they were forced into a barter economy, that is, a situation in which the sharpest traders victimized everyone else.



(Scans about 200% actual size)

As the stirrings of political and economic freedom awoke in seventeenth-century England, the government became responsive for the first time to the crying need for small change. During the reign of King Charles II, two coinage revolutions took place. First, regular milled coinage began, superseding the old hammered coins with the better-struck products of a coin press. Second (and of particular interest to us), in the year 1672 a large issue was begun of copper halfpennies and farthings. Nothing quite like them had been made in England before.

Full-size scans of a halfpenny and a farthing are given at right. Do these coins resemble any that you're familiar with? The sizes of these copper coins are obvious. The thickness and weight of this halfpenny lie between those of our lettered-edge and plain-edge large cents. The farthing weighs just a little more than my least-worn half cent (1804 B-11). The resemblance is not accidental. These two coins of Charles II are the earliest direct ancestors of our Early American copper coinage.

The English government continued to issue copper halfpennies and farthings. It is not too difficult to build a "family tree" of large cent ancestors by assembling a type set of halfpennies, or at least to find a coin from each sovereign under whom they were made. Halfpennies of Charles II (dated 1672-79) and of William and Mary (dated 1694 only) are scarce now. The easiest halfpennies to find are from the reigns of William III (dated 1695-1701) and George I, II, and III (dated 1717-1807). For a half cent "family tree," farthings from each ruler are usually a bit scarcer, although for Charles II they are comparatively plentiful. I found five of Charles's farthings before I ever saw one of his halfpennies.

Frequently, there was no copper coinage for several years at a time, and no regular English copper was made at all for James II (1685-88) or for Anne (1702-14), aside from a few proof farthings during the latter's reign. In fact, for over a hundred years, the mintages remained too sporadic to completely satisfy the people's needs. However, to make up for the perennial shortage of small change, a great many enterprising individuals produced imitation or counterfeit halfpennies. This coinage, and the private Conder tokens of the late 1700s, provide us today with other interesting fields of collecting. The English and Irish halfpennies, halfpenny tokens, and imitations provided the people in England and America with a much-needed medium of exchange, and bitter complaints were heard in America and Ireland when the copper coinage which the government or others provided was lacking or of low quality.

When the United States government was ready to begin copper coinage, there was good reason to make coins resembling those which people already knew and would accept. Our beloved large cents and half cents were the result. Frustration with many cheap, lightweight halfpennies of the Colonial and early Federal periods led to adoption at first of an unrealistically high weight for the American cent, in order to insure its acceptance. Even at a reduced weight after 1795, the cent was expensive to produce and inconveniently heavy, large factors in the coin's discontinuance after 1857.

Were our large cents first made in 1793? Yes, but they didn't come from a vacuum. They were the last and greatest representatives in a long history of copper coinage—the money of the people—stretching back to 1672. The copper halfpenny of King Charles II is truly the Mother of All Large Cents.



Halfpenny, 1672



Farthing, 1675

A MARIS COLLECTION COIN REAPPEARS -- AFTER 114 YEARS!

Anthony J. Terranova

Sometimes things appear, and then disappear for 114 years or so.

This is the so-called 1818 "14 Star" obverse, also known as the "Continuous Wreath" reverse. It last appeared in H. P. Smith's June 21, 1886 sale of the Maris collection, lot 284, and was plated therein (reverse only).

It has been missing since that time. Since then, another example has been discovered, but this remains the finest known.

I thought I would share this with the membership. I'm donating the original of the photograph to the E.A.C. Library.



EAC Sale '01: One Board Member's Opinion

Jon Warshawsky

March Wells' letter in the September 15th *Penny-Wise* requested a reply from the regional chairmen regarding possible changes to the M&G proposal. As a voting member of the board, this letter represents my response. I have heard from a few members of the West region (Region 7) who agree and disagree with the decision to change the format of the EAC Sale. While I subscribe to democracy and some degree of diplomacy, I will almost definitely step on some toes with what follows. Please wear shoes when you read to avoid injury.

First, I am immensely disappointed that the decision has been positioned by some as a referendum on Tom Reynolds' integrity or expertise. No one that I know has questioned either. I have bought a number of large cents from Tom, and in all cases they were attributed and graded properly. When I joined EAC in 1990 and began collecting 1794 cents, I additionally found Tom to be a great source of information and – of equal importance – a low- or non-pressure seller who wants to build long-term relationships. In short, Tom is great for the hobby and for this organization. The decision to change the EAC Sale format was driven by the format of the sale, not the competence of the cataloguer. No one is persecuting Tom.

Second, the process by which the decision was made offended many, because it was perceived as abrupt and made without consultation of the membership as a whole. At the ANA meeting, March apologized to Tom on behalf of the EAC Board. This was appropriate – we did not initiate the process early enough or with proper communication. I will add my voice to March's apology.

However, the decision to change the EAC Sale format remains in my opinion the right one, and I continue to support the Board's decision with the commission structure as originally proposed for the two-year arrangement approved in April.

What are we leaving behind with this two-year change?

As an EAC member since 1990, I have purchased exactly one coin (for \$880) from the EAC Sale and consigned exactly none (0). In the same period, I have spent tens of thousands of dollars for coins in Superior and Bowers & Merena auctions, which I have complemented with individual purchases from Tom, CVM and more recently Doug Bird – access to honest coin dealers (which I had once thought was an oxymoron) is reason enough to send in my EAC dues every year. I have also consigned coins to both Superior and Bowers & Merena as well, again for what I consider to be significant money. Moreover, I consider the EAC Sale the most deadlly dull part of each EAC convention. Anyone who attended the second Robbie Brown sale at Superior will recall both the energy and community in the auction room. Anyone who attended the last several EAC sales and stayed for a significant part of them has my sympathy (and no, this is not an attack on our auctioneers...)

Realistically, I attend EAC because it provides a much more fascinating environment than the regional conventions. While ANA shows retain some amount of class, Long Beach, for example, leaves one with the nagging feeling of having

attended a flea market. There is nothing wrong with flea markets, if you like to attend them – but I generally attend EAC on my vacation time and at personal expense. I cannot justify flying from California to Boston or Florida or Ohio or Maryland year after year to see a parade of corroded or problem large cents pass to the book. Numismatics is entertainment. Like many of your readers, I have extremely limited time to travel to coin shows. Sales with only one or a handful of quality large cents waste my time, because competition invariably sets many of them beyond my real or set budget.

My view? EAC members recognize quality coins (in all grades) and depend on this organization for access to these quality coins. EAC members also value the experience, and following the bids in our current, unattractive catalogues does not constitute a “bargain”, notwithstanding the commission structure. We presently have a wonderful commission structure and have produced a string of lackluster sales.

Time for a two-year change? Absolutely. In my opinion, expert cataloguing has not saved the EAC Sale from becoming an extension of the bourse floor. Could Tom’s cataloguing in a different format produce the kind of sale EAC needs? Absolutely. In the interim, M&G has provided favorable terms to EAC in order to demonstrate to this organization how it can offer a better product. In 2002, our two-years of the 10/10 fee structure should be evaluated: are we, as EAC, satisfied customers? Do we have better coins available to us? Are we being educated and – okay – entertained by the EAC Sale?

For 2003, I would move that the Board solicit proposals from Tom, M&G and other parties to catalogue the sale. In my real business life, I write responses to proposals for client work more or less every month. Clients preferring to work with other firms have the opportunity to select them over us, even though we are nice people (except when we write to hobby publications) and good at what we do. I love EAC and I love numismatics, but we need two years of change. EAC should keep its great traditions – camaraderie and this publication – while reinventing itself.

I am always online. My email address is jwarshawsky@dc.com.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

GARRY APELIAN writes,

Since 1986 I have seen what has been going on with EAC. I am a former regional chairman and have these thoughts to offer.

We don't treat our premier members of EAC the way March Wells treated Tom Reynolds. As Chuck Heck stated in the last issue, "the board could have used more tact." That's a major understatement. We need to keep EAC out in front of the people, not in the back rooms; so this doesn't happen to another member like Tom.

The way the "Sheldon problem" was handled was poor. After the famous 'Sheldon is a Crook' editorial, many people in and out of EAC did not understand what was going on. Many I talked to at local shows were afraid any nice copper that had Sheldon's pedigree near it would be taken away and sent back to the ANS. The whole situation needed more explaining. When I finally wrote in to see if anyone could give us a history of the problem and maybe Sheldon's side of the story, I soon learned that Sheldon may not have been a crook. That there was plenty of defense for Sheldon and that a lot of people think he's innocent. How can you convict a man from the grave? Again, you don't treat your premier EAC members like garbage and then apologize later like you didn't know what was going on.

I for one think maybe it's time for some change at the top of EAC. Maybe some new blood. Until then there needs to be some more major fence mending done.

Editor's Reply:

No one realizes any more strongly than March Wells, that Tom Reynolds was not treated with due consideration. Implicit in his apology to Tom, sincerely offered and sincerely received, is that this *will not happen again*.

As for the "Sheldon problem," I first learned of it in a coffee shop conversation with Jeff Oliphant and Phil Ralls, at EAC '91. I well remember Phil's words: "I see no good whatsoever coming of this." For almost seven years, we officially tiptoed around the issue. There certainly could have been "more explaining"--but there's an understandable reluctance for people to talk on the record while litigation is in progress. "No good whatsoever" was, in fact, the result. And yes, people were understandably reluctant to commit 'big bucks' to coins with a Sheldon pedigree--because other people were at that very moment being burned for having purchased such coins. This was *fact*. And that was the *context* of my January 1998 editorial--to get us *off dead center* on this issue, even though that meant a less-worshipful view of William Sheldon.

As to the charge of which Sheldon stands accused (and indirectly convicted in a court of law), Bill Noyes alone has publicly stated his *reasons* for believing Sheldon

innocent, and we published Bill's essay in *Penny-Wise*. Whether that constituted "plenty of defense" is open to question. If anyone else has *evidence* to offer, I'd be delighted to see and publish it. But third-hand rumor and what "a lot of people think" doesn't cut it!

As Noyes pointed out, the fact that the ANS waited until Sheldon was long dead before challenging the ownership of certain ex-Sheldon coins was contemptible. But being contemptible doesn't negate the *evidence*: the falsified pedigrees, the 1970s letters that were presented in evidence at the Naftzger trial. . .Where is the *evidence* of Sheldon's innocence?

Sheldon was a scientist, and therefore understood that a man's work is subject to reinterpretation, and even rejection, "from the grave." History has not dealt kindly with his scientific research. Nor should it turn a blind eye to his character flaws. But none of that negates the magnificence of his written works on the early large cents, compared to which all other coin monographs past and present are like reading computer manuals! I believe that the *spirit of Penny Whimsy* lives on in EAC--and that's where our focus should continue to be. And just as with the 'Sale situation,' it's *time to move on*.

* * *

JOHN WARD writes,

The death of Tom Morley was a shock to all of the old timers who knew him--he was of our age or even younger!

Were you a member when Warren Lapp asked for autobiographies from EAC members? A few prominent members responded (including Walter Breen, whose story was/is as incredible as that of his incarcerated demise)! A family of Breens were survivors of the Donner Pass disaster/cannibalism story, and I have often wondered if Walter's progenitors were among them. Pete Smith should get on this!

Anyway, the point is that I do not think Tom Morley ever responded to the autobiographical request, so what we know is objective, not subjective. I knew that Tom had switched to collecting space memorabilia, because he kept after me for spacecraft models, etc. He did not realize that, as a mere contract editor/lead editor/editing supervisor/manager of the Technical Information/Public Affairs Office Contract at the Manned Spacecraft Center, I *saw* models of things, but I was *never given* models of things!

So, I think it's time to reissue Warren's request for autobiographical data from EAC members at all levels of collecting. It might fill some pages when you have some short issues, as well.

* * *

MIKE GEBHARDT writes,

I am enclosing the attached letter for your consideration. . . I thought it might give us all reason to reflect on those moments of sheer joy that drove us into (and hopefully keep us in) our hobby.

As background, I had inquired of Steve Ellsworth about the availability of a Fr-2 Chain cent he had had in his list. He responded that the coin was sold, but sent me on approval the other Chain cent referred to in my letter.

I don't want my letter to be seen as a commercial endorsement of a particular dealer. The story isn't about a dealer, just about a coin and its moment of discovery for me. In the midst of all the fuss we've been through recently, this letter might lighten some hearts, and I present it in that spirit.

Dear Steve,

Before deciding whether to purchase the Poor-1 Chain cent you sent me, I just had to determine the attribution. So out came Noyes, the magnifier, xylol, Blue Ribbon, the brush, my glasses, and of no less importance, the snifter of cognac.

The xylol removed a little greenish-brown dirt, which lifted easily due to the slick surface of the well-used coin. I immediately noticed the reeded edge [Editor's note: the Bars of the "Vine & Bars"], which was actually in rather good condition. I could only presume all Chains have such an edge, though there was no mention of this in Noyes. The slight application of Blue Ribbon afforded an interesting play of light on the surface. The obverse now showed the outlined mound of Liberty's unique silhouette. The faint remnant of where LIBERTY sat above the head was barely visible, but nothing was conclusive, yet. The reverse was similarly painted, and I was able to detect the O in the denominator, which did not appear to be of the larger type found on S-1: one down, three left.

After a light brushing and more playing with the light, I felt like an observer of an Impressionist painting at the Art Institute. Then instead of focusing on the details, I looked at it with less magnification. The arc of LIBERTY showed a blip where the R appeared higher than its surrounding letters. After another taste of cognac, same conclusion, by process of elimination. It's the S-3; at least I'm willing to say so with 70% certainty.

Another one of life's mysteries unraveled to my meager satisfaction. Every coin has its history. In the case of a Poor one, it has led a productive life in the commerce of our early nation. [Compared to this, pristine coins] have lived somewhat boring lives, safe from strife and sheltered from the rigors of daily usefulness. And somehow in the lineage of this coin's life as a collectible piece, it has come to me. I have decided to give it a decent home.

* * *

BOB HUISMAN writes,

Having read your comments in September's *Editor's Introduction*, I felt guilty that I have not been a more active member in EAC. It's true in all organizations that a small percentage "carry" the bulk of activities so EAC is no exception. I have contributed some comments in the past but, on the whole, I've been a member in name only.

I have not attended any of the EAC Conventions because my job has had me on the road for the literally half of the last 10 years. I have gone to several large shows and I have met several wonderful dealers, especially Tom Reynolds, who took the time to talk "Coppers" to me. I did buy a lovely coin from him but my purchase was certainly not equal to the amount of time he spent educating me. I will plan to attend the 2001 Convention in Fredricksburg (as it is in my own back yard) so I can meet other members and dealers and learn more about the hobby. I will bring my collection to share with others and I will make many new friends in the process.

I will also throw my in "two cents worth" on issues and controversies and encourage other members to do the same so the officers of EAC know how the MAJORITY of the membership really feels about what is going on. That is how the club grows. I would also like to add that we have to know when "to squeeze if off." No one should ever take it personally if something does not go his/her way, but no one should feel "targeted," either. This does nothing for EAC or those individuals involved. Anyway, isn't the idea to educate through the sharing of knowledge and information?

Unless I win the lottery, I will never be an owner of a "Top Ten" Copper but, like Clay Everhart, I love those in my collection. Those of us who have "minor" collections should feel proud to show them off to other members at every opportunity. Who knows, maybe someone will see a classic rarity that you may have overlooked! Contact Red Henry and Fred Iskra and send them the data from your collection. You will be doing everyone (including yourself) a tremendous favor. If everyone of the "98%" send an article or comment in once every two years, what a difference that would make to EAC. Think about it, you have an opinion when you read *Penny-Wise*. So share it with others!

* * *

BILL MCKIVOR writes,

Read your intro in P-W – always the first thing I read, I might add – and I totally agree with your viewpoint. All clubs seem to have the same problem – a few REALLY active folks, and a few that love what is happening – as long as they don't have to do it. There are quite a few people who simply do not feel that they have the "know how" to write a paper – I have certainly been in that group, and still am, as far as large cents are concerned. Others might have something to say, but feel that they would look foolish. Tough position to overcome. A newsletter I edited overcame part of the problem by asking specific members – different ones each time – to simply write a few lines about their favorite coin, or some such. Got people involved, even if in a small way. We can't all be numismatic researchers – but we can all contribute.

* * *

JON WARSHAWSKY writes,

I also wanted to congratulate you on Issue #200 of P-W. Even if the number holds no special significance, we all like round numbers, and it provides an excuse to let you know about the stuff I really like. Your Editor's Introductions are always well written and cut to the experience of collecting – which is the heart of it, I think, because price lists and attribution charts can grow stale for even the most addicted numismatist.

Thanks to James Livingston for sending along David Rittenhouse's obituary. It was a fascinating read, even with but one paragraph about the Mint, because I would have a hard time writing such extensive and articulate praise about any current public figure. By 1796 (!), both Rittenhouse and Ben Franklin seem to have been held in incredibly high regard, at least by one major source. Maybe people recognized that they were living in a very special time. It raises questions about awareness of history when not so many years have passed.

Also, Craig Sholley does his usual, impeccable job of casting the harsh light of reality into the sleepy corners of numismatic folklore, also known as "reference." I enjoyed his argument immensely. I was equally impressed to learn that our very own John Wright (p. 265) had alternated with Joseph Wright at the first Mint as an engraver. This would explain John's vast knowledge of numismatics and provides a stunning testimony to the longevity brought about by his hobby. It would not, though explain how John ended up writing about the middle dates.

* * * * *

FROM THE INTERNET

Bill Eckberg

EAC Region 8, an internet discussion site for EAC'ers, now has 265 members, up from 260 two months ago. Region 8 membership includes nearly all club officers. It is an interesting and useful weekly copper fix for many of its participants. No particular skills or interests are required other than the ability to use email and a current membership in EAC. To join Region 8, send an email to Region 8 chair, J. Mark Switzer, at dc18@olg.com. If you are already a member, send him some email for the next installment.

Edward Fuhrman wrote of his experiences at the ANA show in Philly. The show seemed to be full of positive energy. He cherry picked a nice 1804 C1 in VF LDS with choice color! He thinks that the EAC people made him feel like one of the family.

Tom Deck, Tom Turissini and **Eric Cheung** corresponded concerning unethical dealers on eBay/Yahoo and on nice Sheldon varieties they had recently obtained on eBay.

Jon Lusk reported requests for information that were obtained from the www.EACS.org website. One of which was for information on a Boston counterstamp. This provoked quick responses from **Phil Flanagan** and **Mike Greenspan**.

Tom Turissini asked for pedigree information on a proof 1841 large cent.

Lloyd Hurt reported a great time at the Blue Ridge show in Dalton, GA.

Tom Reynolds reported receiving two "electros" of a 1793 S-1 and 1793 S-11. They are not really electros but are cast pieces using Gallery Mint examples to make a mold for the casting. The mold uses the unmarked side of two pieces so that "Copy" does not show. After casting, they are copper plated. The pieces are crude but could easily be mistaken for electros. It is bad enough that we have to watch out for fake key dates, now we have to watch out for fakes of the fakes!! Amen to that!

Various Region 8 members have been providing their eBay usernames so that they can keep an eye on each other.

Dan Demeo reminded Region 8 that Bill Noyes designated him as the place to send corrections to his census.

Red Henry gave Region 8 the information on the downgrading of several Sheldon varieties from R6 to R5 before it appeared in P-W. He also reported on and announced several meetings. In a later posting, he reported on a number of LCs posted on eBay that were misdescribed.

Jeff Noonan discussed the changes to the EAC Sale and reported on an article from P-W in 1993 that discussed the previous change in Sale cataloger.

Your humble correspondent shamelessly plugged a CD by Red Henry, who was selling a bluegrass CD of his band (he plays mandolin), some of the proceeds of which go to support the Early Date Report.

Peter Koch wrote of his experiences at ANA Philly that the warm, ebullient meeting of EAC members was the hands-down highlight of the trip. He indicated that it is fun to play on eBay, but when you get serious you have to buy from EAC dealers. **Lloyd Hurt** agreed.

John Wright responded to a request from **Fred Iskra** who was looking for a website that shows pictures of large cents by varieties. He directed Fred to **Ron Guth's** site, www.CoinFacts.com, and stated that the pictures are just a SMALL PART of this treasure-trove of a Numismatic site!

Dan Trollan, **Mark Switzer** and **Doug Durasoff** all commented on coins removed from slabs and then given higher grades when posted on eBay and even occasionally when graded by EAC standards.

Ron Manley reported a quick guide for attributing 1809 half cents from the obverse.

Fred Iskra expects that the first issue of "Common Cents" will be published the first of November based on current data submissions and will therefore follow a November/May publication date time frame.

Clem Schettino pointed us to a rare, authentic slave badge he had available on eBay.

Denis Loring discussed the necessity of "original red" for a coin to grade above "60+". In his personal opinion: "I might call a REALLY flashy brown coin a "60++", maybe equivalent in some sense to a 63. To be 64 or better, though, there has to be some sort of original color (usually red but not always, e.g. the sea-green 1817 in the Halpern sale which was at least a 65)."

Dennis Fuoss reported on his experiences at the Portland, OR coin show.

H. Craig Hamling discussed the possibility of some coins being EAC graded higher than their slab grades and gave one example. He also asked when the eacs.org website would begin to allow links to and from member websites. This led to discussions from webmaster **Jon Lusk**, who asked for ideas from the Region 8 members and **Cindy (Bob?) Grellman, John Wright, John Heninger, Jack Wadlington** and **Fred Lake** responded.

Gail Baker reported some preliminary information on the educational programs at the EAC 2001 convention in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Details appear elsewhere in this issue of P-W.

Dennis Fuoss contributed an interesting piece on putting copper collecting in an investment perspective. He encouraged buying quality and holding for the long term. **Jeff Gresser** agreed.

Peter Koch noted that in the current (Oct. 2000) issue of The Numismatist, David Lange's regular feature, "From One To Seventy" was devoted to "grading Liberty Cap Half Cents."!!

Dan Trollan wrote that a couple of the guys are thinking of having a PRE-EAC Golf Game. Is anybody else interested? Contact him. High handicaps wanted.

John Heninger provided some comments on the quality of the 1793 cent and the half cent dies as well as the survival of Mint records.

Roxanne Goldberg, Greg Heim and **Red Henry** reported on goings-on at the Baltimore Show in late October.

Roxanne also reported on her continuing program of giving coins to kids and her quest for some Buffalo nickels and other copper and non-copper coins.

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SWAPS AND SALES

EAC'ers 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, AND PAID IN ADVANCE. Due to increased production costs, effective immediately, a full page ad is \$100. Graphic and halftone setup is an additional \$60 per page. One third page is \$35. Ads should be limited to early American Coppers or tokens. Deadline for material to appear in the January 15, 2001 issue is December 31, 2000. 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, 606 North Minnesota Avenue, Hastings, NE 68601.

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What others think of "The CENT Book" JOHN D. WRIGHT, EAC #7
MARK KLEIN: The CENT Book is all I'd dreamed it could be and more. Reading it is like enjoying a personal chat with John.
RICHARD STRILEY: Being a novice on large cents I found a number of other books confusing and hard to read. I have Adams, Breen, Grellman, Newcomb, Noyes, and Sheldon, but yours is the best.
JULES REIVER: Your book is wonderful. This is the first coin book I have ever seen which can be used to attribute coins without having my coins available for checking. Your pictures are so sharp that they make attributing an absolute pleasure.
SEE FOR YOURSELF - BUY YOUR OWN. See "The CENT Book" ad in this section.

What others think of "The CENT Book": Mabel Ann Wright, EAC #78
TOM DELOREY: I especially like the historical notes at the beginning of each date. It lends a warm, human touch that is missing from most numismatic literature published since Sheldon.
WARREN LAPP: I can see now why it took so long to get it into print. John didn't leave out a thing. I am amazed at the photos. The book is perfect in every way, which is what I would expect from JDW.
HERB SILBERMAN: Your book is beautiful! I congratulate you on the content.
TONY CARLOTTO: The CENT Book is fantastic. The year-by-year history is a very nice touch and keeps you reading.
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* * * * *

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I offer an attribution and grading service for Half Cents and Large Cents. This includes the variety designation, die state (if appropriate), and my opinion of the sharpness and net grade. This info will be placed on a personalized 2 x 2 card to accompany each coin. Price for the service is \$1 per coin, plus return postage. No quantity limit, fast service, lifetime guarantee.

Please note I am **sold out** of the Attribution Guide for United States Large Cents 1840 – 1857. Estimated publication date for the third edition is 2002.

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I am interested in acquiring ANY 1793 Wreath Cent (except S-6 and S-11c) in choice, true EF-40 to AU-58 (not "slab grade"). Well struck, good color, flawless fields, no rim dings. I will pay CQR "choice" +++. Particularly want Sheldon 5 Wreath in true 40 or better.

Also want 1652 Massachusetts colonial silver coinage – Oak & Pine Tree. EF-40 or better, full unclipped flan, well-struck and problem free. Particularly need OT 6 and 3 pence.

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* * * * *

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* * * * *

Below is a selection of coins from my collection. It includes items for those who have as well as those who have not. Full lists are available for Middle and Late Dates. All coins sold with full guarantee. All coins graded and attributed by Bob Grellman. Please add \$3.50 for postage and handling.

1818	N6 LDS	15/10	\$30	1834	N1	7	25
	N7 LDS	12/10	23	1834	N7	15	65
	N10	45/20	75 rim cut	1834	N8	6	49
	N10	50	220	1834	N2	25+	120
	N10	55	280	1834	N3	8	22
1819	N2	40/30	95	1834	N4	8	22
	N9	18/12+	45	1835	N1	35/15	45 lt scr
1820	N13	12/10	21	1835	N2	5	18
1821	N2	30/45	625	1835	N6	7	28
1822	N4	12+/10	35	1835	N7	25	85
1824	N2	15+	100	1835	N8	20	65
1824	N4	7+	25	1835	N14	35	210
1825	N1	4/3+	30	1836	N1	6+	16
1826	N3	15/10	55	1836	N2	12/10	34
1826	N4½	30/15	75	1836	N3	8	22
1826	N5½	12+	55	1836	N3	50/45	310 (cud)
1826	N6	40/35	295	1836	N4	5	12
1827	N1	45	925	1836	N5	4	11
1827	N1	40/35	450	1836	N6	12	35
1827	N6	6	16	1837	N1	12+	35
1827	N9	20/15	99	1837	N3	55/45+	240
1827	N11	30/15	65	1837	N4	30+	115
1828	N6	15+/12	34	1837	N5	7	18
1829	N1	15+	78	1837	N5	12/10	27
1829	N1	40/30	425	1837	N6	30	100
1829	N2	20	120	1837	N7	12/5	22
1829	N7	6	55	1837	N7	12	30
1830	N1	35/30+	195	1837	N8	30	85
1830	N4	25	100	1837	N9	30	95
1830	N8	6	17	1837	N9	35+	115
1830	N8	25+/20	95	1837	N9	8+	25
1831	N3	20	72	1837	N10	12/10	30
1831	N3	25	105	1837	N11	12	35
1831	N1	8	23	1837	N11	15+	59
1831	N12	30+	95	1837	N12	6+	15
1831	N1	25	110	1838	N1	6	15
1832	N3	8	22	1838	N1	12	39
1832	N3	15	60	1838	N2	8/7	25
1832	N3	25	110	1838	N3	12/10	38
1833	N7	12/10	50	1838	N3	15+	55
1833	N2	25+/20	95	1838	N4	7	24
1833	N3	40+	285	1838	N4	12/10	29
1833	N4	6	49	1838	N5	15/12	38
1833	N5	5	19	1838	N6	12/10	22
1833	N5	12/10	50	1838	N6	15	55
1833	N6	6	19	1838	N6	30/25	85

HENRY T. HETTGER, EAC #2349 P.O. Box 2018

Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 979-1942

1794 S-61 GD-6 Sharpness of VG, but some small areas of roughness	\$ 125
1798 S-146 R5 GD-4 Island under E is clear	115
1798 S-171 Cud obverse VF-35/12, edge ding, minor pitting, lovely portrait	175
1799/8 S-188 Fair ANACS Quite worn but smooth surfaces	895
1817 N-7 VF-35/25 smooth, edge ding, scarce with this sharpness	150
1829 N-5 Small letters reverse VF-20, nice coin	225
1839 N-7 PCGS VF-25, Hubscher as "XF", a new doubled die reverse	95
1839/6 N-1 State II, die break to nose, F-15 ANACS, full bands!	1,195
1844/81 N-2 PCGS VF-30 chocolate color	135
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EUGENE STERNLICHT, EAC #2131 9441 Evergreen #306 Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33324

Bowers & Ruddy, The Garrett Collection Sales I-IV, 1979 – 1981, PRL's, 4 catalogs, near-mint	\$ 50
Bowers & Merena, Harry W. Bass Sales I-II-III, 1999 – 2000, PRL's for I & II, mint	30
George Kolbe, Harry Bass Numismatic Library I-IV, including part III check plate, all with PRL's, near mint	40
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* * * * *

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To join us, just send for a collection listing sheet, or send any neat list giving the net grade of the best example of each early-date variety in your collection. We suggest that you have at least most of a date set (1793-1814) in order to join. Those joining now will receive a copy of our latest 48-page edition. Deadline for our next issue is January 20th, 2001, for publication on the 31st!

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redhenry@visuallink.com

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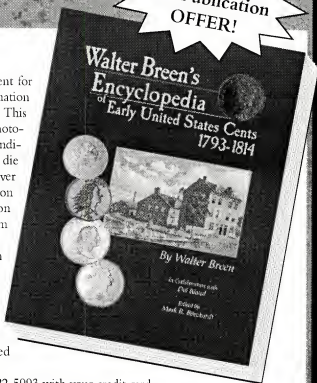
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PW1100

Jack H. Robinson, EAC #1308
JHRHTR@AOL.COM

P. O. Box 9426

McLean, Virginia 22102
703-821-1854, Anytime

CQR #17 is almost finished! Some refining and final responses to complete, but.... If you have not already done so, and if you want #17 ASAP, please send your check - NOW. It will help me with the mailing process, and you will get CQR #17 sooner than later. (First label printing pass will mail first)

Checks may be made payable to "Jack H. Robinson" or to "M&R".

CQR #17 will carry the date of 12/31/2000, and I hope to have them in the mail by mid-December 2000 - in time for Christmas 2000, and FUN 2001,

There are lots of changes in CQR #17. I will have re-established some of the middle grades, but not necessarily all of them. The intent (as expressed in communications received from subscribers) is to aid in the interpolation process, especially for newer EAC members (from whom I get the most comments). I, again, apologize for the delays, and the length of time since CQR #16, but market actions combined with personal circumstances have dictated action (or lack of action) well beyond any control that I would have preferred to see. i.e. More new pieces, broader activity, less politics and.....I offer:

- | | |
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S-1 VF-35



1794 Large Cent
S-33 VG-10



1794 Large Cent
S-40 VF-35



1797 Large Cent
S-120b XF-45



1798 Large Cent
S-163 VF-30



1798 Large Cent
S-183 VF-35



1799/8 Large Cent
S-188 VF-25



1799 Large Cent
S-189 VF-20



1800 Large Cent
S-191 XF-40



1800 Large Cent
S-197 AU-55



1801 Large Cent
S-216 MS-60



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N-1 MS-60



1816 Large Cent
N-3 AU-55



1817 Large Cent
N-17 XF-45



1818 Large Cent
N-4 F-12



1819 Large Cent
N-3 MS-63



1820 Large Cent
N-14 VF-35



1821 Large Cent
N-2 AU-58



1822 Large Cent
N-1 MS-62



1823 Large Cent
N-2 XF-45



1824 Large Cent
N-4 MS-60



1825 Large Cent
N-3 M MS-60



1827 Large Cent
N-10 VF-20



1828 Large Cent
N-11 MS-60



1829 Large Cent
N-4 XF-40



1830 Large Cent
N-9 VG-7



1832 Large Cent
N-2 E-M MS-60



1833 Large Cent
N-2 XF-40



1834 Large Cent
N-7 MS-62



1836 Large Cent
N-1 XF-45



1838 Large Cent
N-15 VF-25



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N-7 MS-60



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N-1 M VF-30



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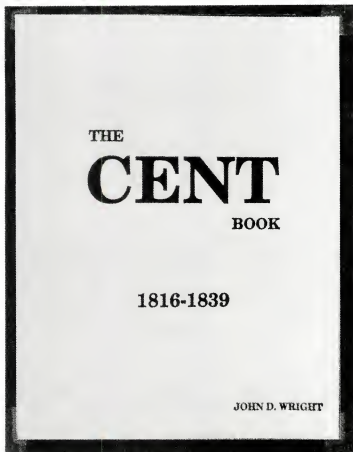
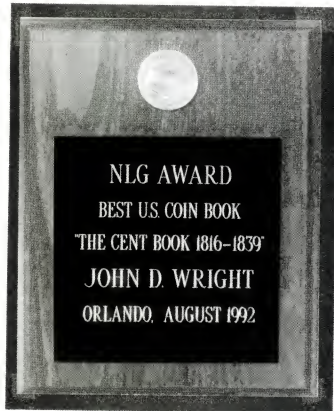
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We have tentatively planned several special programs and family events to coincide with the 2001 EAC Convention. We are unsure what kind of turnout to expect, and some will be able to accommodate only a limited number of attendees, so we are offering preregistration for these events. Costs are only estimated and may vary depending on the number of attendees.

They are:

- Wednesday 12pm-5pm *Fredericksburg/Chancellorsville Battlefield Tour*** (limited to 52),
Approximately \$15 per person; guide (Col. Steve Ellsworth), transportation, park fees.
- Thursday 8am-noon *EAC Hands-On Grading/Counterfeit Detection Seminar***: *Doug Bird, Mary Sauvain, Steve Carr; Cost: FREE to EAC members*
- Thursday 10am-4pm *Thomas Jefferson's Monticello***, (Limited to 13). *Approximately \$40 per person, transportation, park fees & lunch.*
- Friday 9:00am-5pm *Washington DC Tour***, *Self guided. (Train from Fredericksburg to Union Station, Washington). Approximately \$60 per person; Transportation & Lunch*
- Saturday 1pm-4pm *Guided Fredericksburg Tour***. *Approximately \$25 per person; transportation, guide & lunch.*
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Dealer Setup: Thursday, 1pm - 5pm.

Public hours are Friday 10am-5pm., Sat.10am-5pm, Sunday 10am-3pm.

Dealers may enter Fri. & Sat. 9am, Sun. 10am.

Tables will be sold to dealers on a first come basis. Table location will be by random drawing when possible at the good judgment of the Bourse Chair.

Security precautions will be taken to provide every dealer with a maximum of protection. Police Security will be continuous on the premises from Wednesday 8am to 6pm Sunday. However, there is no insurance carried by the coin show, its committee, the sponsoring club, nor the hotel. None of these mentioned parties will be held responsible for any loss, damage, or injury that might be sustained by those assigned space in the bourse, to their employees, or property, from any cause whatsoever, prior to, during, or subsequent to the period covered by this contract. The signature for he applicant and its acceptance by the Bourse Chair constitute a contract in accordance with the terms herein.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Applicant's Name

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Assistant's Name

Assistant's Name

