

The Augusta Coin Club Meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the Month at America's Best Value Inn on Washington Road

## The Augusta Coin Club since 1959

**Pres. Steve Nix**  
**1<sup>st</sup> V.P. Glenn Sanders**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> V.P. Howard Black**  
**Sec. John T. Attaway**  
**Treas. Xavier Pique**  
**Sgt. in Arms: Bryan Hoyt**  
**and Joe Bert**



### Club Mailing Address

Augusta Coin Club  
P.O. Box 2084  
Evans, GA 30809

### Web site:

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

### Special Duties

Webmaster: Xavier Pique  
Newsletter editor, Arno Safran  
E-mail: [arnosafran@comcast.net](mailto:arnosafran@comcast.net)  
Bourse Chairman, David Chism  
Auction: Glenn Sanders  
Bids Recorder, David Chism

Volume 11, Number 3

THE AUGUSTA COIN CLUB MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

March, 2011

**Our Next Meeting is Thursday, March 17, 2011 from 6:30 to 9:30 PM**

## Club to Award Perfect Attendance Members a Free Year's Dues

### Club Meeting Calendar for 2011

Jan. 20	May 19	Sep. 15
Feb. 17	June 16	Oct. 20
<b>Mar. 17</b>	July 21	Nov. 17
Apr. 21	Aug. 18	Dec. 15

### Club News

At the Feb. 17 meeting President Steve Nix announced that starting this year all club members who attend every meeting in 2011 will receive a free year's dues for 2012. This is a result of the ACC Board's decision to eliminate the automatic presentation of the latest US Govt. issued Mint Sets to each member with perfect attendance. With annual sets now priced at \$31.95 plus shipping, the ACC Board deemed the expenditure to be somewhat extravagant during these still difficult economic times.

Bourse Chairman David Chism announced that our annual spring show is scheduled to be held on May 13 & 14, 2011, a Friday and Saturday at Patriot's Park in Columbia County, site of the previous two shows. This will be a make or break option for the slightly out of the way location if attendance fails to improve. At least half of our 125+ members were no shows at the fall, 2010 show.

Treasurer Xavier Pique reported a balance of \$9,886.57 at the February meeting. The club donated another \$500.00 in magazine subscriptions to the Evans Public Library which houses the club's numismatic library along with its other books on Coin Collecting in its Hobby section.

There was one **Show & Tell** exhibit. J.C. Williams displayed an interesting \$3.00 banknote produced for the Columbia Bank of Washington, DC issued in 1852 some ten years before Federal Greenbacks were introduced. **The Program** was an America's Pickers video produced by the History Channel that featured member Gordon Farmer's various collectibles. Xavier Pique set up the program by connecting the club's PowerPoint projector to the Laptop and two speakers in what proved to be an enjoyable insight into Gordon's many collecting interests. Thanks Gordon and Xavier.

(More Club News on page 3, column 2)

### Collecting Short Sets Satisfy Short Term Goals

By Arno Safran



**The obverses of a 1¢ Short Set removed from a Capital holder**  
1850 lg. 1¢, 1858 FE 1¢, 1903 Ind. 1¢ 1948 & 1974-S Lincoln 1¢s

The coins pictured above are relatively common examples of the final four major obverse US cent types. Coin collectors usually assemble sets by a series or by type. With US coins, this can be costly. In a series, the 'keys' and tougher dates can act as "stoppers"; coins so scarce--especially in the higher grades--as to be prohibitively expensive. If there is anything a collector cannot abide it is the inability to realize completion. Type collectors seemingly have the advantage here by merely choosing attractive common date specimens from a particular series (*as shown above*) to include in their set, but even they can be stymied by the increasing difficulty of finding decent specimens of especially early 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> Century US coinage due to their diminished supply and higher cost.

One way of getting around this problem is to assemble short sets. These can take the form of a denomination type set, limited in scope (*like the cents shown above*) or the affordable portion of a long running series; (*e.g., Buffalo nickels dates from 1934-1938*). Other options are selecting coins representative of a specific decade (*such as the 1930's*) or a year set of one's choice. In this article we will discuss some denominational type sets that can be completed and still appear both attractive and affordable.

(Continued on page 2, column 1)

**Collecting Short Sets by Type and Denomination**

(Continued from page 1, column 2)



**The same cent types now shown in the Capital holder**  
 1850 lg. 1¢, 1858 FE 1¢, 1903 Ind. 1¢ 1948 & 1974-S Lincoln 1¢s  
 [Reduced in size to fit in a single column]

Some years ago the Capital Plastics Company began issuing 2" x 6" Lucite holders to house limited type sets. For the cents they chose only one example for the large cent type and just four of the small cent issues; the Flying Eagle, Indian Head, Lincoln Wheat and Memorial reverse sub-types. They even reduced the diameter for the large cent slot from 29 mm to 27.5 mm to conform to the slightly smaller and more common Braided Hair type (1840-1857) because even back then, all the preceding types were far more costly in XF-45 or better.



**The reverses of the same cent types in the Capital holder**  
 1850 lg. 1¢, 1858 FE 1¢, 1903 Ind. 1¢ 1948 & 1974-S Lincoln 1¢s

Eye appeal is an integral component of displaying one's collection and each collector eventually has to come to terms with the realities one's discretionary income imposes on their collecting criteria. Should one opt for quality or rarity, merely filling holes towards the goal of completion?

*A complete set of Barber Quarters (1892-1916) would be regarded by most collectors as an impressive achievement but what if the average grade for most dates and mint marked pieces fall within the range of VF-30 to EF-45 while the 1896-S; 1901-S and 1913-S grade only About Good-3. Those three "keys" probably cost more in AG than the all the others combined yet arguably would mar the overall appearance of the set. One has to question whether the enormous cost of the three low-end key date acquisitions were worth the financial stress put on the buyer since none of these keys are actually rare below the grade of VG-10.*

Applying the Short Set principle, one can find it easier to avoid this dilemma. While all of the dates shown above in the UNITED STATES TYPE CENTS Lucite holder are common, the quality of the five pieces ranging from AU-50 to MS-65 is high and appear well suited in appearance to each other. One might ask, this is all fine and good, but isn't the desire for acquiring "rarity" the main reasons people collect coins? The answer is Yes and No! Yes, if you can afford it, No, if you are more interested in the style of the coin's artwork, the history plus the economic and social conditions at the time these coinage types were made.

In addition to the cent types, Capital Plastics issued Short Set type holders for the nickel, dime, quarter and half dollar; the two last named in 4" x 6" holders.



**The Capital Holder Mini-Type set for 5¢ coinage**

What is particularly interesting about the five cent holder is the first designated type is not a nickel but the silver half dime. As a denomination that was only 16.5 mm in diameter for the early and scarcer series (*Flowing Hair thru Draped Bust*) and 15.5 for the more common *Capped Bust (1829-1837) and Liberty Seated series (1837-1873)*, the half dime has never enjoyed the popularity of its larger silver counterparts with the result that there are a still a number of bargains out there.



**The obverses of the five coins shown actual size removed from the holder**  
 From l to r: top: the 1872-S half dime, 1883 Shield nickel, 1907 Liberty 5¢, Bottom, 1929-S Buffalo nickel and 1946-D 5¢  
 [Magnify page to 200% to see details.]



**From l to r: top: Reverses of the 1872-S half dime, 1883 Shield nickel, 1907 Liberty 5¢, Bottom, 1929-S Buffalo nickel and 1946-D 5¢**  
 Notice the S Mint mark on the half dime is inside the wreath, not under it. The grades of the three older coins are Choice AU while both the Buffalo and Jefferson nickels are at least MS-63. The 1929-S Buffalo is not a scarce date but is comes weakly struck as shown. Well struck specimens are scarce however.

### Collecting Short Sets by Type and Denomination

(Continued from page 2, column 2)

For this issue, we will cover one more Short Set that is affordable and can appear attractive despite a greater disparity in the grades. It is the 10¢ denomination.



**A Short Set Capital Lucite Holder featuring the 10¢ denomination**

For the dimes issue, Capital chose to omit the Draped Bust series (1796-1807) due to the rarity of the earlier type. The set begins with the Capped Bust (1809-1837) followed by the Liberty Seated (1837-1891), the Barber Liberty Head (1892-1916), the Winged Liberty [AKA Mercury dime], (1916-1945) and the Roosevelt dime (1946 to date). Removed from the holder and enlarged to actual size one can see the dates and details of type more clearly.



**The Short Set of dimes in actual size (obverses) removed from the holder**  
From l to r: Top row: 1814 Capped Bust, 1875 Lib Std., 1916 Barber,  
Bottom row: 1943 Mercury, 1946-S Roosevelt  
[Magnify page to 200%, even 500% to view coin features more clearly.]



**The Short Set of US dimes (reverses) actual size**

The lowest grade coin in the set is the 1814 Bust dime. With a reported mintage of 421,500 it is still considered a common date and the large date variety (seen) also happens to be the more common compared with the scarcer small date variety. For years, this series remained underrated and under priced. The other four coins represent common dates as well; the 1875 with 10,350,000 minted is a borderline Unc, the Barber, an AU, the Mercury and Roosevelt both MS-65's each with fully split bands on the reverse. Despite the 1814 being only a VF, it is original and well struck and blends in with the rest of the set.

-to be continued-

### More Club News (Continued from page 1, column 1)

One of our guests was Rich Baker who spoke on behalf of the Boy Scout Merit Badge program. Coin Collecting is one of the many merit badges scouts can earn and requirements are featured in the Official Boy Scout Manual. VP Glenn Sanders reported on upcoming shows being held in Spartanburg, SC, Birmingham, AL and Camden, SC, the last and nearest to our region coming up on Sat. March, 19, two days after our upcoming March 17 meeting. Glenn also conducted the yearly audit and found everything in excellent order. He praised Treasurer Pique for his fine work as Treasurer. Thank You, Glenn for your continued service as auditor and informing us of all the upcoming shows within our region.

**The Prize winners** at the February 17 meeting were Cameron Holt and Leonard Sienkiewicz, each winning Franklin halves. Cameron also won the 50/50 drawing - \$81.00. Congratulations winners!. Our next meeting will be Thurs. March 17. The program will be on US Mint production.

Finally, if your address label has a **10** in bold face and underlined, it means you have yet to pay your 2010 dues.

### Kindly Patronize Our Dealers

Since 1941

**Clein's Rare Coins**

1255 Telfair St. Augusta, GA 30901

Buying & Selling U.S. Coins, Currency & Confederate  
- ALL GOLD & SILVER BULLION -  
(Eagles, K-Rands, Maple Leafs & Pandas)  
COIN APPRAISALS

**WAYNE DAMRON**  
Ph: (706) 722-9945  
Fax: (706) 722-9928  
Tue-Fri 10:30 AM - 4:30 PM  
Sat. 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

**ANA**  
LIFE MEMBER  
LM-4691

**Augusta Coin Exchange**

FINE RARE COINS

Buying U.S. Coins • Currency • Gold & Silver Bullion

Professional Coin Grading Service  
**PCGS**  
AUTHENTICATED DEALER

**Larry Lucree**

AUTHORIZED DEALER  
**NGC**  
Numismatic Guaranty Corporation

Ph: 706-210-5486 Hours: Mon - Fri 10:30am - 4:00pm  
Toll Free: 877-210-5485 Sat. 8:00am - 1:30pm

4015 Washington Rd • Martinez, GA 30907  
www.augustacoinexchange.com

Since 1941

**Clein's Rare Coins**

1255 Telfair St. Augusta, GA 30901

Buying & Selling U.S. Coins, Currency & Confederate  
- ALL GOLD & SILVER BULLION -  
(Eagles, K-Rands, Maple Leafs & Pandas)  
COIN APPRAISALS

**STEVE DAMRON**  
Ph: (706) 722-9945  
Fax: (706) 722-9928  
Tue-Fri 10:30 AM - 4:00 PM  
Sat. 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

**ANA**  
LIFE MEMBER

**NUMISMATICS IN PANAMA**

By Bill Myers



**Panama: 1974 and 2001 UN centesimos (1¢ sub-types)**  
[Magnify to 200% to see details more clearly.]

Courtesy of the U.S. Army I spent two weeks of June of 2008 in Panama on a humanitarian medical mission that delivered medical care to the local population in the David area, (on the Pacific Ocean near Costa Rica).

Panama currently uses U.S. currency, but previously used the Balboa, which is divisible into 100 centesimos. I did not expect to add to my numismatic collection while on this mission, but I did. All of the paper notes in Panama were U.S. dollars and showed more wear than the ones that are obtained in change in the United States. The coins available were a mix of U.S. and Panamanian coins. Coins of the same denomination were the same size and interchangeable.

The one centesimo coin (one cent) has the denomination “un centesimo” or “un centesimo de balboa” on the face and a portrait of Uracca on the reverse. Uracca was an Indian who massed an army of natives and drove out the Spanish from an area near Panama. I obtained three different types and 16 different dates (1966-2001). The earlier issues were made of bronze and the later issues are copper plated zinc. One interesting coin is the 1974 centesimo which was minted at the West Point Mint. Shown above are examples of the 1947 and 2001 1¢ Panamanian coins.



**Panama: 1993 and 2001 cinco centesimos (5¢ sub-types)**  
[Magnify to 200% to see details more clearly.]

The cinco centesimos coin (five cents) has the Panamanian Arms on the obverse and a “5” on the reverse, except for the 2001 coin which has a bust of Sara Sotillo. She was a black Panamanian educator and women’s suffragist. I obtained three types and 12 different dates (1962-2001).



**Panama: 1982 and 2001 1/10 Balboa obverse sub-types**  
[Magnify to 200% to see details more clearly.]

(Continued on page 4, column 1)

**NUMISMATICS IN PANAMA** (Continued from previous page)

The *decimo de balboa* equal to 10 centesimos (shown at the bottom of column 1) has the Panamanian Arms on the obverse and a left facing bust of Balboa on the reverse. Balboa crossed the Isthmus of Panama on September 12, 1513 and was the first European to see the eastern shore of the Pacific Ocean. I obtained two different types and five different dates (1966-2001). The coins are composed of copper-nickel clad copper.

The *quarto de balboa* (25 cents) is also a copper-nickel clad copper coin. The obverse features the Panamanian Arms and the reverse has the left facing bust of Balboa, except for 2003 which features a tower and Spanish ruins and 2005 features a bridge that is labeled “Puente Del Rey”. I obtained four different types and six different dates (1968-2005).



**Panama: Quarto de Balboa older and newer obverse types above**  
**Portrait of Balboa ¼ Balboa + 2003 and 2005 25¢ reverses**  
[Magnify to 200% to see details more clearly.]

The largest coin in circulation is the copper-nickel clad copper *medio de balboa* (50 cents). Like the U.S. Kennedy half dollar it does not circulate much and I got most of them from the bank. The Panamanian Arms is on the obverse and the bust of Balboa on the reverse. I obtained two different types and 10 different dates from 1973-2001. I did obtain one from 1996 which only has a mintage of 200,000.



**Panamanian 50¢ obverse sub types**  
[Magnify to 200% to see details more clearly.]

Good thing I was able to find some coins to purchase. The only other thing I brought home was a lousy T-shirt.

References: In the Wilds of Nicaragua 1521-1524 at:  
<http://www.mainlesson.com/display.php?author=ober&book=desoto&story=wilds> From Defiant Cimarrones to Determined Canal Workers: Racial Identity in Panama by Gregory Cane at:  
[http://www.ncat.edu/iajs/research/Africans\\_in\\_Americas\\_Volume2/Ch10\\_From\\_Defiant.pdf](http://www.ncat.edu/iajs/research/Africans_in_Americas_Volume2/Ch10_From_Defiant.pdf) Vasco Nunez de Balboa <http://coloquio.com/famosos/balboa.html>

### PAGE FIVE- By Xavier Pique The Phrygian Cap and its Origins

"I had just turned 542 when the chanterelle mushrooms came up last June!" Everyone is familiar with the Smurfs, those little blue people with the pointy hats of TV fame in 1980's. What may not be common knowledge is that the type of hat they wear- also called a Phrygian Cap- has stood as a



Papa Smurf- Sporting the Phrygian Cap

symbol for liberty and has appeared in coinage, statues, government seals and other imagery for over 2500 years.

The **Phrygian cap** is a soft conical cap with the top pulled forward, associated in antiquity with the inhabitants of Phrygia, a region of central Turkey today. A similar cap called a Pilaeus was worn by ancient Greek sailors.

The earliest coinage displaying a hat of this type is from Macedonia,

Aineia, in the north of present day Greece, dating to circa 400



Caecilius Metellus Caprarius.  
Roman Denarius circa 125AD;  
Bust of Attis- Roman 200 AD



the pointy caps and helmets. During classical Roman times - about 2000 years ago- it was common for **manumitted** slaves (slaves who had been freed) to wear a Phrygian-style cap, therefore the cap became a powerful symbol for liberty.

The Phrygian Cap as a symbol of liberty was adopted by many countries since the 1700's, particularly France and the young United States- both countries having suffered the weight and excesses of monarchies, and therefore eager to proclaim liberty in every symbol and image possible. Coins are a powerful medium for portraying the soul of a nation, therefore those countries which earned their liberty by rebellion are quite likely to embrace the symbolism of the Phrygian cap.



Aeneas Coin- Greek Circa 400 BC



Amastris, Queen 300-285 BC . Didrachm. Paphlagonia, Greece

B.C. Aeneas was the famous Trojan-Roman hero, the son of Anchises and the goddess Venus-Aphrodite. Trojans who escaped the sack of Troy by the Greeks followed Aeneas in his travels, according to legend. This epic tale received classic statement in Virgil's *Aeneid*, an account of the wanderings of fugitive Aeneas till his settlement in Italy.

The Romans admired and shamelessly copied everything Greek, thus is not surprising to find Roman coinage with figures wearing



In the U.S.A., many coins include the Phrygian Cap, either worn by Lady Liberty, as in the Morgan Dollar (shown here) and the Liberty-head dime, or displayed on a staff-a powerful symbol dating back to the very beginnings of coinage. Papa Smurf and his blue pixie relatives would smurfully approve.

