

# Cumberland Coins

## The Volunteer Coin Club Newsletter

June, 2017

### Next Meeting

Our next meeting will on Tuesday June 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:30. The meeting is will be held at the 127 Senior Center on Highway 127 (Main Street) South of town. Doors open at 6:00.

This month we will have our usual business meeting, show and tell, raffle, member prize drawing, and auction. I also expect some sort of update on the picnic plans for August.

Also, please note below the item from the Cookeville Coin Club. It looks like they are trying something a little different. It will be interesting to see how it works out.

### Cookeville Coin Club Info

The Cookeville Coin Club will have a mini coin show Jun 27<sup>th</sup> 5 pm to 8 pm at Shoney's Restaurant 880 S. Jefferson in Cookeville.

All members are eligible to bring items to sell at the show. There is no charge for tables.

This is a limited space area but every effort will be made to make room for everyone. However due to this first come first to get tables.

Admission will be open to the public. You are encouraged to come early and eat.

### Coin Lore

#### The New Hampshire Civil War Token

*by Bill Groom*

Only one New Hampshire merchant is known to have issued a token during the Civil War years, 1861-65. This was A.W. Gale of Concord. The token, his store card, states that he was a "restorator" which translates to his being a restaurateur. Albert W. Gale appears in but a few online sources, and scant information is available. Here's his card.



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This is the only Civil War token issued in the entire state of New Hampshire, and, unlike most merchant tokens, there is but one variety. Some merchants issued many varieties in metals other than copper, often combining their advertising card with patriotic slogans and pictorials. Single merchant town and state tokens tend to be more prized and valued by collectors. As is the case with coins, higher grade tokens are likewise prized.

Pioneer catalogers of Civil War tokens, George and Melvin Fuld, designated Gale's token as "NH 120 A-1a." NH is of course the state. The "120" is a number that was randomly ascribed to Concord, the town/city. The letter "A" indicates the merchant, in this case, Gale. The number "1" notes a designated variety, and the lower case "a" indicates copper. The Fuld's estimated this to be a Rarity 5 or "R5" which translates to a population of 76-200 pieces. This estimate has withstood the test of time, despite the fact that a mini-hoard of specimens entered the market about fifty years ago. Consequently, most pieces extant are in higher grades. Many were spotty, due to poor storage issues.

In today's market, the Gale tokens will generally sell in the \$150 to \$400 range or more, depending on condition. A certified MS-64 specimen just realized \$400 at auction. Other single-merchant-state Civil War tokens, like those from Kansas and Alabama, presently change hands for thousands of dollars; this, even in circulated condition.

Don't be discouraged by the high costs for rare Civil War tokens. There are literally many hundreds of common but popular tokens from this era that can be bought in the \$20-\$50 range. Any collector wanting to learn more about these historically interesting tokens would do well to visit the website of the Civil War Token Society.

### Area Coin Shows

- June 27      **Cookeville;** Mini show, 5pm – 8pm, Shoney's Restaurant, 880 S. Jefferson  
(See item above.)
- July 1        **Knoxville;** Coin Show, Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike  
(I-40 exit #378).
- August 5     **Knoxville;** Coin Show, Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike  
(I-40 exit #378).
- August 18-20 **Dolton, GA;** Blue Ridge Numismatic Association (BRNA) 57th Anniversary Annual  
Convention. Northwest Georgia Trade and Convention Center, 2211 Dug Gap Battle Rd.  
I-75, Exit 333.

For more information on some of these shows see <http://www.tsns.org/Tennessee Club Shows.html>

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### This Month's Raffle Prizes

|         |                         | Est. Grade |
|---------|-------------------------|------------|
| 1900-O  | Morgan Dollar           | Good       |
| 1922-D  | Peace Dollar            | VF         |
| 1907-D  | Barber Half             | VG         |
| 1858 sl | Flying Eagle Cent       | Good       |
| 1937    | Buffalo Nickel (slider) | Good       |
|         |                         |            |

### **Door Prize**

1963 French 5 Francs  
(resembles Walking  
Liberty) - Unc