

Cumberland Coins

The Volunteer Coin Club Newsletter February, 2019

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will on Tuesday February 12th starting at 6:30. The meeting will be held at the 127 Senior Center on Highway 127 (Main Street) South of town. Doors open at 6:00.

Next month is the elections of officers for 2019 so we will be looking for nominees at this meeting. That also means that the 2019 dues will be due in April. I will be accepting dues at the meeting if you want to get them paid early. Dues are still \$10.00, \$15.00 for couples and \$5.00 for juniors.

We will also have our business meeting, show and tell, raffle, member prize drawing, and auction.

Coin Lore

Civil War Pacifist Tokens *by Bill Groom*

When the Civil War broke out in 1861, coins were increasingly hoarded, and emergency money, largely in the form of tokens and paper scrip, were needed for commerce in the Union. The Confederacy depended upon paper money, issued by the states and their newly founded government. As the war waged on, extending beyond the expectation of the Union, token issues increased, peaking in 1863. Most tokens were valued as a cent, but some higher denominations were issued.

Civil War tokens generally fit into two categories. Patriotic tokens displayed slogans that promoted the Union cause. Flags, cannon, ships and variety of military pictorials were commonly used. Lincoln and other famous Americans appeared on many, too. While Storecards also displayed patriotic sentiments, their primary purpose was to advertise products and services of local businesses. Storecards were accepted by customers in change; this, in effect as IOU's from the business.

In 1863, there was yet no end to the "Great War" in sight. Casualties were high, and the loss of loved ones weighed heavily upon families. Increasing numbers of northerners commenced to protest, and riots broke out in some cities. Relatively few Civil War tokens display pacifist themes. Below is a patriotic token that reads "Horrors of War, Blessings of Peace." Note that the reverse states "For Public Accommodation."

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The below storecard reads "Live and Let Live." It advertises the Washington Market in New York City. Note the nourishing vegetables and turkey, representing things to be thankful for.



As with most wars, there were people profiting from the sale of military goods. Many soldiers left their family farms and businesses to answer the call to patriotic duty. The pacifist token shown below, "Millions for Contractors" and "Not One Cent for the Widows" speaks to these conflicted values

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These pacifist tokens, while not blatant anti-war issues but more of a soft-sell, stand in stark contrast to the largely military and pro-Union messages appearing on the great majority of this genre. They're telling of a time when basic freedom, guaranteed by the Constitution, was tested to the breaking point and peoples' lives were tested and duly forfeited in the process.

Area Coin Shows

February 16, 2019 **Cookeville;** Coin Show, Upper Cumberland Coin Club. County Parks and Recreation Building. 240 Carlen Road #B. (**Note corrected date**)

March 1-3 **Chattanooga;** Tennessee State Numismatic Society (TSNS). Spring Coin Show. Camp Jordan Arena, I-75, Exit 1.

March 9 **Knoxville;** Coin Show, Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike (I-40 exit #378).

April 6 **Knoxville;** Coin Show, Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike (I-40 exit #378).

April 12-14 **Dalton, GA;** 55th Anniversary Georgia Numismatic Association, Northwest Georgia Trade & Convention Center, Dalton, GA, I-75, Exit 333.

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This Month's Raffle Prizes

		Est. Grade
1923	Peacecar (Peripheral Toning)	Unc
1902	Barber Half	VG
1837	Hard Times Token (Jacksonian Era)	VG
1913	Buffalo Nickel V-II (1st Year)	VG
1886 V-II, 1888 & 1905	Indian Cents	G- VG
1908-S & 1916	Barber Dime	VG

Door Prize

1 2003-S Lincoln Quarter
(silver) & Sacajawea \$1

Proof