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## *Jan– Mar 2016*



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Bill Groom receives an award for his "Godly Coins & Tokens of America" Exhibit. A brief description of the exhibit is located on page 10. Image below is Bill's exhibit.



## Message From The Out Going President

We just put the coin show to bed and before I go to bed for two days here is a summary. As we were on the same weekend of the ANA show in Dallas, Texas we were down several dealers but had a few new ones. One new dealer from Florida told me that he and his wife have never been treated so good and the food, pizza, dealer reception and all the help was an unexpected treat and that they won't forget.

The show went smooth and we had a lot of great help I think more help than I can remember in recent history. Ben Gaddy and Mike McCormick two of our most valuable members and many other club members do so much to keep the show running smooth by helping the dealers, public and the show staff. The attendance was down to about 1200 - 1300 but with the show's conflicts that was expected. I can remember when there was just a few shows a year but now there is one or more every week. The beautiful weather may have had something with the attendance as many people probably just did not want to be inside.

I have been honored to be the TSNS president for 14 years and I appreciate everybody especially Gayle Pike and Dennis Schafluetzel for standing in for me when I was sick. I look forward to working for the new President Bob Hurst, TSNS and the show in the future I hope for many years.

Jim Ford



Jim Ford was presented this beautiful cut glass bowl for his services as President of TSNS for 14 years.





Mike McCormick is presented the TSNS Outstanding Member Award for 2015

### **From the Editor's Desk**

As most of you know, I made several mistakes in the December issue of the TSNS Newsletter. I want to apologize for these mistakes. I have no excuse for allowing this to happen but an insight we had a water issue in our house where a water line came loose and flooded over 70% of our house. I was working with contractors to bring our house back to the point before the flood. I was in a hurry to get the Newsletter to the printer and made a couple of mistakes. Sorry about that and will try to eliminate these concerns in the future. If you do see any errors that I have overlooked don't hesitate to send me an email.

Normally I do not talk about upcoming elections that we have this year but do not forget to go out and vote. You are the one that has to decide which candidate that you want to be in the White House but you need to go and vote on election day.

In this issue we have the opportunity of including photos of the Spring Show.

Of course I am always looking for ARTICLES to be used in the Newsletter so if you have any that you would like to share just let me know.

If you have any suggestions or recommendation for the Newsletter just let me know either call (321-258-0325) or email [rblackman@cfl.rr.com](mailto:rblackman@cfl.rr.com).

If you can attend any local coin shows in your area please do. They will be worth while and by getting to know the dealers that would be a great benefit.

As always be safe and aware of your surroundings when you are traveling to and from a show.

Take care. Ron Blackman

## **Message From the Incoming President**

I would like to thank everyone who voted for me for President of Tennessee State Numismatic Society. This organization has great potential; however, over the past few years it has been struggling and losing some of our best dealers. I would like everyone to know, this trend must stop and I will do everything that I can do to make this happen. Changes must and will be made.

If you have any suggestions, please email me at: [forvm@comcast.net](mailto:forvm@comcast.net)

I am looking forward to working with all of you.

Sincerely,

Bob Hurst

## **LARRY BRIGGS GIVEN SILVER DOLLAR AWARD**

The VAM Master Award was given to Larry Briggs by the Society of Silver Dollar Collectors Jan. 8 at the organization's meeting held in conjunction with the Florida United Numismatists convention in Tampa.

Considered the highest honor given by SSDC, it is a lifetime achievement award given to Morgan and Peace dollar variety specialists.

Briggs is president and CEO of Larry Briggs Coins in Lima, Ohio. He also heads the SEGS Grading Service.

In more than 50 years in numismatics, Briggs has been a teacher, researcher, author and authenticator. He has served as the head of the American Numismatic Association's authentication committee.

VAMs are silver dollar minting varieties. VAM stand for the last names of the authors of the standard guide to them, Leroy Van Allen and George Mallis.

Van Allen is one of the prior recipients of the SSDC VAM Master Award. The others are Jeff Oxman, Michael Fey, Bill Fivaz and Pete Bishal and are considered part of the SSDC Hall of Fame.

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## HIGH HONORS CONGRATULATIONS JOHN

John Danreuther was recently inducted into the PCGS Hall of Fame during the ANA's Chicago World's Fair of Money in August 2015. John lives in Memphis and is a Life Member (LM110) of TSNS. He has attended our show as a visiting dealer.

John Dannreuther, "JD" as he's known in the industry, has been involved with coins nearly his entire life, as he started helping his father in their mail order coin business (V.J. Dannreuther and Sons) in 1956 at the age of 8 years old. He became a full time dealer in 1973, and worked for Jim Halperin at New England Rare Coin Galleries until starting his own business in 1979. In his career,

John has handled many of rarest U.S. coins and has always been known for his keen eye for quality and his vast numismatic knowledge. He has attended virtually every major auction since the 1970's, taking copious notes for his ongoing research. For the past several decades, he has been considered one of the top numismatic researchers of all-time. He is the "go to guy" for questions regarding 1792-1964 proof coinage, a subject for which he is currently in process of publishing a massive four volume definitive encyclopedia. In 1986, John was one of the founders of the Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS), for which he still serves as the consultant and final say on questions relating to proof coin status. \*\* some narrative from PCGS website



### What's Happening

**March 12, 2016** Coin Show. Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike. Knoxville, TN(PH: 865-660-8692) Email: [beavercreekcoins@bellsouth.net](mailto:beavercreekcoins@bellsouth.net)

**April 9, 2016** Coin Show. Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike. Knoxville, TN(PH: 865-660-8692) Email: [beavercreekcoins@bellsouth.net](mailto:beavercreekcoins@bellsouth.net)

**April 15-17, 2016** Georgia Numismatic Association (GNA) 52nd Annual Coin Show. NW Georgia Trade and Convention Center, 2211 Dug Gap Battle Road. Dalton, GA PH: 770-639-0190 Web Site: [www.gamoney.org](http://www.gamoney.org)

**May 7, 2016** Coin Show. Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike. Knoxville, TN(PH: 865-660-8692) Email: [beavercreekcoins@bellsouth.net](mailto:beavercreekcoins@bellsouth.net)

**Continued next page 9**

**Young Numismatist Program**  
**The Choices for a Woman to be on \$10 Bill**  
By Gayle Pike

The TSNS YN Program had about 40 Young Numismatists and about that many parents. Thanks for helping make the program a success goes to the dealers who donated coins and supplies to the program. William Swoford and Richard White from the local club also helped.

There has been much talk of the redesign of the \$10 bill and replacing Hamilton with a vignette of a woman. A poll had been done in a national magazine and there were 5 women in the lead. They were Susan B. Anthony, Harriet Tubman, Sacagawea, Eleanor B. Roosevelt and Amelia Earhart. Two women (Susan B. Anthony and Sacagawea) already have appeared on a coin but are top contenders.

We started with a brief biography of each woman. The biographies were not as brief as for this article.

Susan B. Anthony was born in 1820 in Adams, Massachusetts. She had 6 brothers and sisters and some were active in the civil rights movement. Later when her family lost almost every thing due to the economy, she started teaching to help pay off her fathers debt. She was a very intelligent woman. She felt women should receive equal pay for equal work and she felt women should be able to vote which at the time they could not. She spent the rest of her life working to get the vote for women. She died in 1906. She made progress but it would take another 14 years before women got the right to vote. I learned something I did not know doing this program and that was the B in her name stood for Brownell.

The next lady we talked about was Harriet Tubman. She was born as a slave in 1820 on a plantation in Maryland. She grew up a slave living in a 1 room cabin with her family which included 11 children. At the age of 13 Harriet received a terrible head injury that left her with dizzy spells for the rest of her life. In 1849 Harriett decided to escape slavery. She made it to Pennsylvania and was free. Harriett became famous as a conductor for the underground rail road leading slaves to freedom. She risk her life and freedom for others. During the Civil War she was a nurse and a spy for the North. After the war she lived in New York with her family and helped poor and sick people. She continued to speak out for equal rights for blacks and women. She died March 10, 1913 in Auburn, New York.

**continued on page 8**

## Young Numismatist Program

### The Choices for a Woman to be on \$10 Bill (continued)

Eleanor Roosevelt was born in 1884 into a wealthy New York family. She did not have a very happy childhood. Her mother was said to be disappointed in not having a beautiful and graceful daughter. She lived with her grandmother after her parents died. Her grandmother sent her to a boarding school in England. She returned to New York a different person. More assertive and independent. Three years later she married her 5<sup>th</sup> cousin, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. When he became President she wanted to be a first lady known for more than giving parties. During WW II she joined the Red Cross and traveled the Pacific visiting wounded soldiers. She became politically active after the war. When Franklin was stricken with polio she worked side by side with him. She was interested in furthering women's issues. When FDR died of a stroke in April of 1945 she was sad but wanted to continue his work. She wrote several books. She died November 7, 1962. Time magazine called her "the worlds most admired and talked about woman".

Sacagawea was a Shoshone woman who was an explorer, interpreter, and guide. She is best know for acting as guide and interpreter for Lewis and Clark. She was born in 1788 in what is now the state of Idaho. She lived with her family until her tribe was attacked by the Hidatsa and she was taken captive and taken all the way back to what is now North Dakota. She was about 11 years old. When she was still a young teenager she was sold to a French Canadian trapper named Toussaint Charbonneau. An expedition by Lewis and Clark arrived near where she lived looking for guides as they headed west. They hired Charbonneau and she went along to interpret. Her two month old son was carried on her back. She saved and helped them many times. In November of 1805 they reached the Pacific. They then returned home. Not much is know of her after this. Some reports say she lived only a few more years and died in 1812 and other say she lived till 1884. **continued on page 20**

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### What's Happening (continued)

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Visit website: [www.TSNS.org](http://www.TSNS.org) for a more up to date list of shows.

## Godly Coins & Tokens of America Exhibit Bill Groom

The currency used by any country is telling of a nation's history. This is a very fair statement, whether one is looking at coins from ancient Greece or the United States of America. Anyone who might happen to study early U.S. coins, be it nowadays or a thousand years from now, can clearly see that our history is rooted in Christianity. In today's world, there are all too many folks, including those in the publishing business, who would bury historical correctness in favor of promoting what they deem to be politically correct.

While it's true that the motto "In God We trust" was first placed on U.S. coins in 1864, my exhibit displayed a number of examples of much earlier coins, having a Godly connection. Many of our earliest coins, used in the Massachusetts Bay Colony were dated "1652 ... Ad Dom" which translates to "1652 ... Year of our Lord." Subsequent colonial coins, dating

**continued on next page**

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## Godly Coins & Tokens of America Exhibit (continued)

into the 1700's, clearly illustrate God's "all seeing eye" amid rays of light as a principal device. Regardless of one's present day feelings about religion, these coins are telling, historic artifacts.

From my personal, Christian perspective, I was saddened by a recent article that appeared in *\*Coin World\**. The article addressed the sale of an apparently unique, contemporary copy of a Nova Constellatio cent that realized thousands of dollars. The article made mention of the *\*all seeing eye\**, but it failed to mention Whose eye it is! The influence of the "PC police" nowadays is managing to erase the mere mention of God from the simple history of our coinage. Whether one looks to history, religion or both, it appears to me that *\*truth\** is becoming increasingly unpopular.

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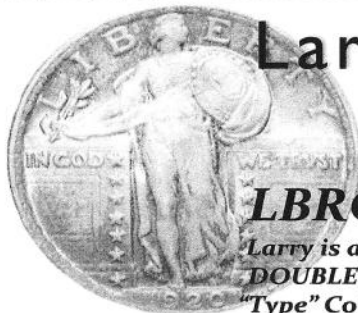


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## A Curious Tennessee Token

by Bill Groom

I recently rediscovered a token that I'd tossed in an old cigar box among many other curious pieces, over twenty years ago now. This box has long housed an assortment of *maverick* or unattributed tokens that puzzled me; this, during my pre-internet days. Opening that old box was akin to encountering a group of former acquaintances who looked familiar but about whom I knew so little. Over the years, the box and tokens therein have traveled hundreds of miles with me. The box was tucked into a carton of assorted possessions, only to have found its present resting place upon a bookshelf.

Being a longtime collector of Civil War tokens and other early merchant issues, I have many reference books in which these popular pieces are cataloged and described. The old cigar box housed tokens for which I then had no reference. Now, with the internet at my fingertips, I thought, "Let's see if I can learn something about some of these mavericks." One of the first to challenge me was the Tennessee token, pictured below ...

This dime-sized, aluminum token is what *exonumists* or token collectors commonly call a *good for*. The style of this one suggests that it was produced in the 1900-1910 era. At that time, a typical cigar or a drink could be had for a nickel. Tokens like this would be given out in change; this, likely at the discretion of a customer. It served as word-of-mouth advertising in addition to being a curiosity and a collectible. Of course, it would be redeemed, so locals would have accepted it as a nickel of sorts.

Continued on page 17





## A Curious Tennessee Token (continued)

What probably caused me to buy this token some decades ago was the name, Climax Cafe. Why on earth would a restaurant choose such a provocative or suggestive name? Might it have been chosen from the perspective of the food on the menu, what with its life, that of the cow, the vegetable or the fruit having come to an end on a plate? Was roadkill on the menu? Was this name alluding to some form of epicurean ecstasy? Was the Climax Cafe located on a dead end street? The mind reels ...

Searching the internet has as yet provided no assured insight into the business known as the Climax Cafe. Obion, I learned, is a town situated in the northwest corner of Tennessee. As of 2010, it had some 1,100 residents. In looking at the history of the town, focusing upon the era that this token was issued, a clue as to the possible naming of the Climax Cafe presented itself. The following excerpt, penned by R.C. Forrester was found online, within *The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture*:

*In the early 1900s trouble loomed at Reelfoot Lake. Fishermen felt they had a natural right to fish the lake. However, lands beneath the lake's shallow waters had been claimed under the 1783 grants made prior to the earthquakes of 1811-12 that created the lake. In the meantime, settlers profited from the lake's bounty of fish and migrant waterfowl unmindful of previous claims. In the 1870s John Burdick established a dock and wholesale fish business at the lake.*

*In the 1890s James Harris of Tiptonville became interested in exploiting the timber and agricultural possibilities of the lake. Buying up most of the old land grants, Harris announced in 1899 that he would drain the lake. Opposed by Burdick and the fishermen, Harris's son won the initial legal battle when the lake was declared not navigable and thus subject to private ownership.*

*In 1907 Harris joined forces with the West Tennessee Land Company, which had acquired the remaining grants. Under pressure from the land company, Burdick chose to lease his property and obtained sole rights to purchase all lake fish, a move that embittered some of the fishermen.*

## A Curious Tennessee Token (continued)

*Emotions among some lake residents shifted toward a more violent solution to the dispute as they lost faith in legal remedies. Soon men wearing masks and gowns and calling themselves Night Riders, made vigilante raids around the lake, terrorizing those who opposed them and burning Burdick's dock.*

*On the night of October 19, 1908, Robert Z. Taylor and Quentin Rankin, attorneys for the land company, were taken from Ward's Hotel at Walnut Log by the Night Riders. When they refused demands to reopen the lake to fishing, Rankin was killed, and Taylor escaped into the water of the lake, surviving to tell the story.*

*Captured by the state militia, eight men were tried in Union City, and six of them were sentenced to hang, but the Tennessee Supreme Court overturned the verdict on several technicalities. The lake was later ruled navigable and incapable of private ownership. Today it is a part of Tennessee's park system, and its fish, game, and the winter presence of American bald eagles attract many visitors.*

Might the Climax Cafe have been a favorite haunt of the aforementioned Night Riders? Perhaps, the owner was a member of the Klan-like riders? An answer to that question and others posed by this token may never be found. **Thus, the mystery remains ... Anticlimactic, eh what?**

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Pictures from the YN Program. Gayle always has a good turn out for her YN Program. One of the item that was covered was the inclusion of a picture of a woman on one of the US currency. See related write up on page 7



## **Young Numismatist Program**

### **The Choices for a Woman to be on \$10 Bill (continued)**

The last lady we discussed was Amelia Earhart who was an aviator and born July 24, 1897 in Kansas. Her father was a lawyer and she spent much of her early life playing with her sister, Muriel. She studied many things and was interested in medical research until she took her first flight. She and her father were at an air show in California when she took her first flight. Only a few feet off the ground she said she knew she had to fly. She worked hard to take flying lessons and eventually bought her own plane. In 1928 she was the first woman to make a flight across the Atlantic. She was the navigator on the flight with 2 others. She was received as a hero when she came back to the US. But she wanted to fly and make the flight solo across the Atlantic. She became the second person after Lindberg and the only woman to fly solo across the Atlantic. She continued to fly and broke records and often spoke on women's rights. But she was not content. In June of 1937 Amelia and her Navigator, Fred Noonan took off from Miami, Florida to fly around the world. On July 2<sup>nd</sup> they left New Guinea for Howland Island in the Pacific and were never heard from again. There have been a lot of theories but nothing has ever been found of her plane.

After hearing all the biographies the kids were ask to vote for their favorite to be put on the \$10 bill. The voting sheet also had a place to write in someone other than those listed. There were 29 votes cast. One young person wrote in his grandmother.

The other votes were:

Susan B. Anthony	4 votes
Harriet Tubman	5 votes
Sacagawea	4 votes
Eleanor Roosevelt	7 votes
Amelia Earhart	8 votes

The winner by 1 vote was Amelia Earhart

After the voting we gave away coins. We played Vending machine where you press a letter then a number. Each child had an A, B, or C and also an individual number, on one side were coins with an individual number. The other side had piles of coins labeled A, B, and C. Each child having an A came up and made a selection from the A group. Then we did the B group and finally the C Group. Then the kids came up and matched their number with a group of coins having that number. We then did a few grand prize drawings. All kids left with some treasures to add to their collection or start a new one.

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## **INDUSTRY COUNCIL FOR TANGIBLE ASSETS (ICTA)**

The Industry Council for Tangible Assets recently received a donation from member Joey Ashley (Miller's Coin & Currency, with stores in Pooler, Georgia, and Cleveland, Tennessee) to help with an initiative to obtain a sales-tax exemption for precious-metals bullion, rare coins, and paper money in Tennessee. Shortly after receiving Joey's donation, ICTA StateNet® Region 4 volunteer Mike Mouret (Nashville Coin & Currency), who monitors the Tennessee legislature for any bills or regulations that may affect the state's coin community, contacted ICTA about bills seeking a sales-tax exemption for precious-metals bullion and rare coins. On the same day, member Mike Gambill (Coin Purse, Nashville) also contacted us about the bills. In short, Gambill has been engaged for the last couple of years in unsuccessful efforts to obtain a Tennessee sales-tax exemption for rare coins, paper money, and precious metals.

ICTA immediately started gathering information, learning that Representative Bud Hulsey introduced HB 1627: Taxes, Exemption and Credits on January 13, 2016. The bill was referred to the House Finance, Ways and Means Committee on January 20, 2016.

ICTA then contacted Tennessee State Numismatic Society president Jim Ford and bourse chairperson Gayle Pike, along with Blue Ridge Numismatic Association president Grant Campbell, and informed them about the introduced bill. Each organization pledged its support of ICTA's Tennessee initiative.

On February 1, 2016, ICTA's chief operating officer, David Crenshaw, spoke with Rep. Hulsey about HB 1627, offering ICTA's assistance in his efforts to get the bill passed. Rep. Hulsey was very appreciative of the contact, and said he would appreciate ICTA's help. The following day a telephone conference call took place with Rep. Hulsey, Robert Currey (assistant director, Tennessee General Assembly Fiscal Review Committee), ICTA treasurer Pat Heller, and David Crenshaw to discuss Fiscal Note HB 1627–SB 1610 estimates on state and local revenue reductions. Mr. Currey welcomed any further information that would aid the committee in reevaluating their estimates. ICTA immediately sent a package of very persuasive arguments for passage of a sales-tax exemption with supporting analyses to Rep. Hulsey, who personally delivered it to Mr. Curry.

On February 16 and 17, Crenshaw and Heller met with Tennessee Rep. Bud Hulsey in Nashville. They also met with the executive and assistant directors of the Tennessee General Assembly Fiscal Review

Committee, along with the staffer who wrote the bill's fiscal note. Additionally, Crenshaw, Heller, and Mike Mouret testified in support of the bill at the House Subcommittee on Finance, Ways and Means hearing on Wednesday, February 17. The meetings were very productive.

The fiscal review committee's executive director has agreed to reconsider its fiscal note, so at the hearing the subcommittee accepted Rep. Hulsey's request to table the bill pending the Fiscal Review Committee's assessment.

## ICTA (continued)

These kind of initiatives are expensive and ICTA needs your help to defray the costs—over \$3,000 has been spent so far. We appreciate any donation you can give ICTA. To make a contribution, please make a check payable to ICTA, and mail it to David Crenshaw, PO Box 237, Dacula, GA 30019. (Please write “TN H 1627” in the check’s memo space.) Thank you.

### HAVE YOU MOVED?

Have you missed any of the quarterly issue of the BRNA Journal and moved recently? Don’t forget to send your new address to the BRNA Secretary (Teresa), Email: [damronta@aol.com](mailto:damronta@aol.com). There has been several returns of the BRNA Journal from the Post Office due to incorrect addresses.

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