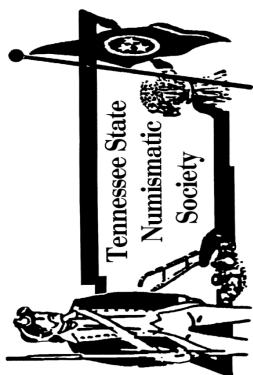


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# *TennCoin News*

## *Oct- Dec 2018*



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## TSNS President's Message for November 2018

We just finished our November show and by all accounts it was a great success. I had a dealer come to me and told me that his show was the best show that he has ever had, including FUN or Baltimore. Now that is a great show. On Friday, there was a nice surge in attendance. As I looked around on Friday, there were more people on the bourse floor than I had seen in a long time. I am in hopes that every dealer had a great show.

By the time you read this, the holidays will be over and I hope that everyone had a great Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza or whatever your faith celebrates. My hopes for a brighter and safer 2019 are with each and every one on of you.

TSNS is a super organization and has gone through some real problems in the past; however, they are all but over. The organization is solvent and solidly in the black now, something that has not happened in many years. I am very proud of our improvements.

The weather at the show on set-up was rainy and dreary, but we made our dealers happy and let them in early to set up and get out of the weather. We will always do this during inclement weather.

The attendance was great on Friday and Saturday with a little slower than normal on Sunday. Dealer attendance was down a little do to larger shows that took some of our dealers. This is a normal thing. There are organizations that float their shows and will drop it on top of others shows with not even a small thought. TSNS is always the last weekend of February or first weekend of March and the last weekend of October or first weekend of November depending on how the calendar dates fall and it will not change. Some dealers don't understand why we cannot move our show to accommodate the other, larger shows. Simply, our venue is booked solid before and after us and luckily we are locked in for that first weekend of those months.

At the upcoming March show, on Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, at our General Membership meeting which will be at 3 P.M. the membership who show up for the meeting will have the opportunity to vote on updating the much outdated by-laws of Tennessee State Numismatic Society. Copies of the proposed by-laws will be available in the office for anyone to look them over before the vote it taken. We would appreciate your attendance at the meeting and most importantly your vote for the by-laws.


As the next show is actually just around the corner, please put the dates of March 1-3, 2019 on your calendar. We will have many dealers eagerly waiting to sell, buy or trade with you.

You can contact me via email at: [forvm@comcast.net](mailto:forvm@comcast.net) at any time. I look forward to your comments, complaints or suggestions. Your thoughts will always be taken to the board of directors. **Continued next page**

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## President's Message for November 2018 (continued)

I hope to see all of you who are reading this, at the next TSNS show in March.

With Kindest Regards,

Bob Hurst

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**TennCoin News Editor & Webmaster:**  
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**Past President:** Jim Ford Ph: 423-902-3164

## Obituary for Blendell Irwin Brush

Blendell Sue Irwin Brush, 69, of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died peacefully on November 24, 2018 at Princess Anne Hospital in Virginia Beach. She was born in Abbeville, SC to the late John "Bill" Irwin and Gertrude C. Irwin. Mrs. Brush was an active member of Salem United Methodist Church, and an avid lover of animals and nature. She served in several cabinet positions of the Blue Ridge Numismatic Association, the Tennessee State Numismatic Society, as well as serving as a past president of the South Carolina Numismatic Association. Mrs. Brush retired from Michelin North America in September 2004 after over 30 years of service. Surviving Mrs. Brush is her husband of 44 years, Wendell ; her son, John S. Brush of Virginia Beach; her sister Glendell Carey; and grandsons, Wesley and Luke Brush.



Bob Hurst presenting plaque to Jerald Arden Freeman for his exhibit



Pizza provided by Larry Briggs and TSNS for dealer's setup



## CURRENCY COLLECTOR FAVORITES (continued)

### FEDERAL RESERVE BANK NOTES & FEDERAL RESERVE NOTES

Federal Reserve Bank Notes & Federal Reserve Notes are often lumped together since the only significant difference between them is that the reverse of the Federal Reserve Notes has the words “National Currency” and “Bank” removed. While there is something not too sexy about the Federal Reserve Note series, the backs of these Notes can leave you breathless. These were produced in two series, the 1914 (image below) and the 1915/1918. The fronts were a little non-descript, but the backs can be pieces of art, and most are pieces of art. These Notes cover everything from the lowly \$1 all the way to the \$10,000 Note. The engravings have artwork you can only find in Washington, D.C., no kidding! A real challenge for most collectors, the 1915/1918 series covers the \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20 and the \$50 denominations. Finishing this set alone would be a task, but doing it by districts could be a life-long endeavor! Eventually, most collectors decide that the series 1914 is itself a little more doable and tackle this one series and generally leave well enough alone. In the 1914 set, we only have a few Notes, such as the \$1, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and the \$100, which are considered the basic set. The 1914 series is complicated by the fact it also has added rarities such as the \$500 and \$1,000 as well as the \$5,000 and \$10,000. The Hundred is undoubtedly the nicest looking Note in the set. If you begin this set, just start with the basics, a denominational set. If you do go for it all, and attempt to get a “complete” set, you may be biting off more than you can chew, as there were not only 9 denominations produced, but in all 12 districts, as well as “Blue Seals” and “Red Seals”. This itself could be the beginnings of another “life-long” collection you may never finish, unless you have Warren Buffett backing your collection, dollar for dollar, and his bank account also.



## Obituary for Barry Ciociola

March 26, 1954 October 17, 2018

DURHAM: Barry Ciociola, 64, passed away on Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at SECU Jim & Betsy Bryan UNC Hospice Home in Pittsboro. He was born in Brooklyn, NY to the late Luca Girard Ciociola and Johanna Halkowicz Ciociola and was raised in Florida where he was a 1972 graduate of Plantation High School.

Mr. Ciociola is survived by his wife, Cindy Collins Ciociola; son, Bradley Ciociola and wife Ashley; daughters, Jennifer Lee and husband Leo, Katherine Moore and husband Joey; sister, Donna Hilliard and husband Steve; brother, Jeffrey Ciociola and wife Carol; and grandchildren, Carden Ciociola, Adalynn Ciociola, Harper Lee, Bruce Lee.



Mr. Ciociola was long-time resident of the Triangle where he was a local business owner dealing in collectible coins and paper money. He was past president and a long-term board member of the North Carolina Numismatic Association as well as a board member of the Blue Ridge Numismatic Association.

## YN Program Gayle Pike

The YN Program was held on Saturday at the TSNS show. There was a smaller than normal crowd. I think around 25 but several came in late. The good news was this was a first YN Program for many of them. They were an enthusiastic crowd. A couple of parents told me they had a soccer game but wanted to come for as long as they could. Each child was presented with a box set of nickels including several colorized ones. Sever club members went around to the dealers and collected items. We sincerely appreciate the generosity of the dealers. Items collected were divided into boxes. We had coin decorated boxes and filled them up and closed them. Then each child was allowed to pick a box and a coin map or folder.



We gave out Proof Dollar sets so we discussed the Presidential Dollar series. Each child received a colored Nickel set so we discussed the Westward Journey Nickel issues.



The highlight of the program was Smokey the Bear. A special set of coins honoring Smokey the Bear was awarded after the kids learned how a tiny burned bear cub was saved and became the symbol for fire prevention in the forest. The program seemed quite appropriate since wild fires were raging in California. At the end there were several better door prizes given out. Those that needed to leave for the soccer game were a bit late but we finished where they got to attend the entire program. Special thanks to all the dealers for donating to the YN Program. We also appreciate the help of the club members for volunteering to collect from the dealers for the program. We also thank Brenda Pike and Mary Ann Sande for filling the gift boxes.

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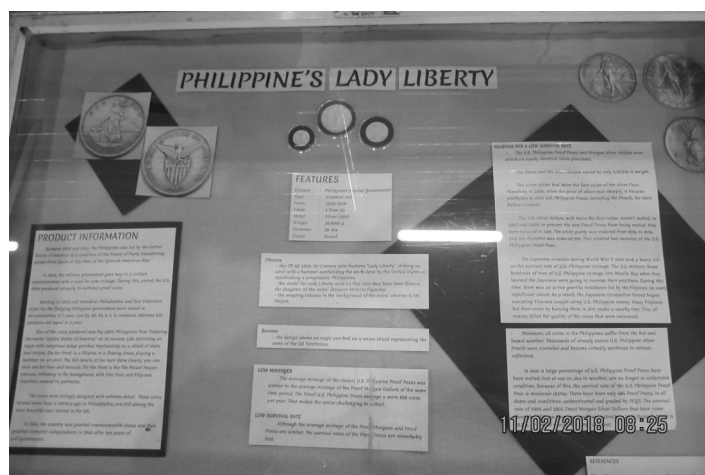


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John Paul  
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Bob Hurst with  
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## CURRENCY COLLECTOR FAVORITES (continued)

### GOLD CERTIFICATES

There is something about Gold Certificates that just makes you want to buy them all. There are many different designs to choose from, and they are all beautiful. From 1882 to 1922, this series has captivated collectors' imaginations for various reasons, mostly, I guess, visions of the "Wild West" with poker players puffing on cigars and throwing down fistfuls of \$20 Gold coins and \$20 Gold Certificates at a game of cards just for fun and relaxation. How exciting! These Notes were produced from the \$10 right up to the \$1,000 and not all are expensive. The Tens, Twenties, and Fifties are all pretty affordable, while the Hundreds and Thousands get a little bit "out there" price wise. The \$100 is on most collectors' want lists, and within most investors' and collectors' budgets, while the \$1,000, well, not so much. The \$1,000 (which features a portrait of Alexander Hamilton on the front) is a rather formidable Note, and prices can run to the tens of thousands! These Notes generally are only available in auctions, and only at the biggest of shows across the country. The \$10 and \$20 without a doubt, can fit all budgets and run a few hundred dollars, while the \$50 and \$100 are only a little more expensive, at maybe \$500 to a few thousand in the upper grades to maybe XF. All the Gold Certificates (image below) have ornate gold colored backs, which makes them so attractive and quite an enjoyable series.

PCGS has graded nearly 3,000 (2,949) Gold Certificates, while PMG has reached a total of 4,888.

Continued  
page 20



## CURRENCY COLLECTOR FAVORITES

By Barry Ciociola

As with every collection, a limit is usually set at a certain price which the collector/investor decides can't be crossed. Most likely, at some point in time, that certain favorite item comes along, and the decision to cross that limit is made. Usually in the beginning, in my experience with clients, the limit is set around \$1,000, but soon enough, that special item is encountered, and the limit is set aside and the item is purchased. Below are a few examples of collector favorites which have, on may occasions, pushed enthusiasts past their initial purchasing thresholds.

### NATIONAL GOLD BANK NOTES

Nothing makes a collector or dealer take notice faster than when someone mentions a National Currency Gold Certificate, often referred to as a National Gold Bank Note. Heads turn! People get serious when it comes to these rare Notes, which are so rarely encountered that they are bought or sold mostly in auctions. The series was only made in 1870, and primarily for California Gold Banks of the National Currency time period. There were a few banks outside California that had issued these Notes, but they are rarely ever seen. Each denomination (\$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100) feature very ornate backs of the same collage of real US Gold coins pictured in very intricate detail including all Gold coin denominations, dominated by the 1871 \$20 Liberty (image below). Most collectors may never even see one, but if you do, you will swear you will buy one someday.

These are extremely expensive in every grade and in Uncirculated, almost unheard of! PCGA has graded a total of 65 in all grades, and PMG has graded 104. (NOTE: these figures might have changed since this article was published.)



Continued page 17

## What's Happening

Jan 10—Jan 13, 2019	Florida United Numismatists FUN Coin Show, Orange County Convention Center, 9800 International Dr, Orlando, FL 32819 PH: 407-321-8747
Jan 25—Jan 27 2019	Middle Georgia Coin & Currency Show Georgia National Fairgrounds, 301 Larry Walker Parkway, Perry, GA 31069 PH: 478-320-7850
Feb 1—Feb 3, 2019	Low Country Coin Show, Exchange Park Fairgrounds, 9850 Hwy 78. Ladson, SC 29456 PH: 843-797-1245
Feb 8—Feb 10, 2019	Charlotte Coin Club Annual Show, Park Expo and Conference Center, 800 Brair Creek Rd, Charlotte, NC 28205. PH: 704-641-2959
Feb 16, 2019	Cookeville Coin Show, County Parks and Recreation Building, 240 Carlen Drive, Cookeville, TN 38501. PH 931-520-6477
Mar 1—3, 2019	TSNS Annual Spring Show, Camp Jordan Arena, 323 Camp Jordan Parkway, East Ridge, TN 37412. PH: 321-427-6474
Mar 14-16, 2019	Nashville BFC&CC Coin Show and Auction, Williamson Country Agriculture Expo Park, 4215 Long Lane, Franklin, TN 37064 PH: 703-802-0252
Apr 12-14, 2019	Georgia Numismatic Association Anniversary Coin Show, NW Georgia Trade & Convention Centre, 2211 Dug Gap Battle Rd, Dalton, GA 30720 PH: 770-639-0190

If you are aware of local shows that are not listed contact Ron Blackman Email: [rblackman@cfl.rr.com](mailto:rblackman@cfl.rr.com) and provide information needed Visit website: [www.TSNS.org](http://www.TSNS.org) for a more up to date list of shows.



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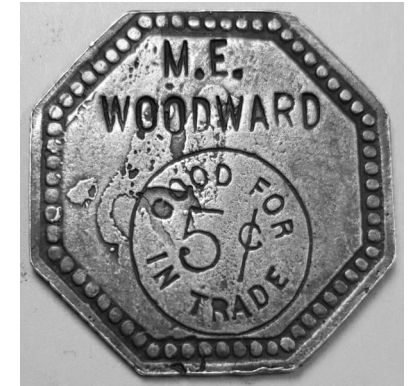
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## CONFEDERATE" FANTASY TOKENS

Here's another, relatively modern fantasy token, that has also fooled collectors and dealers, alike ...



For collectors who have a personal computer, here's an exercise that you can try. In your browsing window, type as shown: **token, "The Victorious Confederacy"** Be sure to use the quotation marks as that will greatly narrow your search for these key words, pertaining to the above token. The first of more than a hundred results should take you to a website called "Token Catalog." Clicking on this option will reveal confirming information about this particular fantasy token. Token Catalog is an amazing website that's constantly expanding, thanks to diligent token collectors. There are presently more than a half million listings! It's well worth exploring, and you can see what tokens, if any, have been posted from your home town. Just click on the **HOME** button, top left, to begin exploring.

Reputable coin dealers don't knowingly sell fakes or misrepresent what they are selling. Sadly, there are a great many fakes and misrepresented tokens, coins and other items to be found in flea markets, shops and more so in online marketing venues. Collectors who seek expensive pieces are wise to invest in knowledge beforehand. Buy books, establish relationships with knowledgeable collectors and dealers, join online forums (*Coin Community Forum* or *CoinTalk*), attend shows and join local clubs to expand your collecting resources. By practicing safe collecting, you're far less likely to be cheated and will more than likely avoid being discouraged with the hobby you enjoy. Then too, the more knowledge and resources you have, the more likely you are to make and acquire great pieces for your collection!

## "CONFEDERATE" FANTASY TOKENS

by Bill Groom

Fantasy tokens are modern creations that have the appearance of being old, looking like they might have been made in the 1800's. These alluring fakes can typically be found at flea markets, wherein exorbitant prices are sought for these seeming bits of American history. One group that's commonly seen are large, brass pieces that bespeak of the old west – saloons, brothels, Wells Fargo, the Pony Express, etc. These are produced by a California company and sold in bulk to marketers.

There's a more deceptive group that, at first glance, appear to be either Liberty Seated Half or Silver Dollars. These pieces appear to be well worn and engraved; this, which they are not. The recessed "engraving" was stamped into these silver-looking reproductions of nineteenth century coins. The unknown creator of these fantasy pieces used the names of actual Civil War soldiers in specific Confederate regiments in order to make these seeming "dog tags" look authentic. Here's an example ...



The above "coin" is fake, and the stamping was machine-made. These began to surface in the 1990's.

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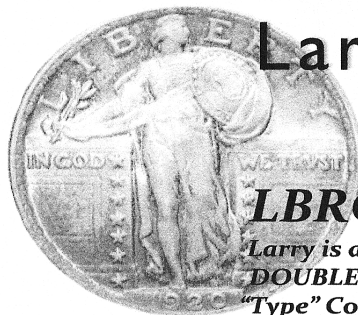
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