

COLORADO SPRINGS NUMISMATIC SOCIETY



Volume LIII, Number 2

Our **February 2020** meeting will be held Sunday, **February 9, 2020, 2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.** in the **Colorado Springs Police Department, Gold Hill Division (South West) Community Room, 955 West Moreno Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80905.**

Guests are always welcome at all our regular meetings.

AGENDA

Introduction of guests and new members
Secretary's Report
Treasurer's Report
Old Business
New Business
February Exhibit Talks
Intermission Break
Presentation of Monthly Exhibit Award
Auction
Door Prizes, Membership & Raffle Drawing
Adjournment

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 12, 2020 MEETING OF THE COLORADO SPRINGS NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

George M., President, called the meeting to order.

Attendance: 25 members were present. No guests or New Members.

SECRETARY: The November 2019 Minutes and Secretary's Report, as contained in the January 2020 newsletter, were approved.

TREASURER: Elise P. presented the Treasurer's report on behalf of Wayne W. Report approved.

OLD BUSINESS: Bob C. Gave a report on the 2019 annual Christmas party held jointly by Colorado Springs Numismatic Society and Colorado Springs Coin Club.

NEW BUSINESS: George M. announced that 2020 dues (\$10) are due. Dues must be paid in or to qualify for membership and door prizes.

Dan U. shared A Look Back page from the December 25, 2019 Gazette. The text below a photo of a young girl holding her black cat and looking at her Christmas stocking hanging on a Christmas tree identified her as Judy Henderson, daughter of CSNS founder Bill Henderson. The photo is from the 1956 Henderson family Christmas. Members who know Judy shared endearing comments about her.

EXHIBIT TALKS: Summary of the four November exhibit talks:

Bob C – Low Mintage Depression Coins. Bob’s exhibit was inspired by his sister-in-law, who was born in 1933. U.S. coin production was low in 1931 – 1933 during the Great Depression. In 1933 only Philadelphia and Denver cents and San Francisco half dollars (only) were minted. No 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, or dollar coins were made. He brought in his cent and half-dollar albums to show the coins that were minted, and lack of those that weren’t.

George M – Civil War Tokens. George shared that there are over 10,000 varieties of Civil War tokens, either Patriotic or Merchant subjects. He also presented the grading book, “Making the Grade.”

Dan U – Miklos Horthy (1868 – 1957) Regent of the Kingdom of Hungary, 1920-1944. The exhibit included 2 crown size 5 Pengo coins from Hungary that feature M. Horthy and the 1957 book *The Bridge at Andau* by James B. Michener that chronicles the Hungarian Revolution of 1956 against communist rule and Soviet control. The silver alloy circulation strike was minted in 1939. The 1943 aluminum commemorative coin celebrated Horthy’s 75th birthday.

Kevin D. – U.S. Bullion Coins. Kevin provided an overview of the U.S. silver, gold and platinum bullion coins (1986 – present), including statutory legal authority, designs, and denominations.



The January exhibit award goes to Exhibit #1, Bob C.

AUCTION: 12 Auction lots, of which 8 sold.

PRIZES: Membership prize was won by George M. Door Prizes went to Dan U, Frank T, Robert D, Mike S, Marty A, Phil E, Milt N, and Gary F . Raffle prize winner was Marty A.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan U., Secretary

REMINISCING

As we Numismatists all should know —

Due to problems in production of the Buffalo Nickel at many of the mints, the Treasury Department wanted to replace the Buffalo Nickel with a new design commemorating Thomas Jefferson. In early 1938, the Treasury department held an open competition for all artists and sculptors to create the new design, requiring a portrait of Jefferson on the obverse and the image of Jefferson's home, Monticello, on the reverse along with the other standard requirements for all U.S. currency: year, motto IN GOD WE TRUST, the word LIBERTY, and the denomination FIVE CENTS.

Felix Schlag won the competition, though his image of Monticello was changed from a corner view to a full front view and other features of his original design were modified prior to release.

In October 1938, the Mint began producing the Jefferson Nickel. The initial composition was 75% copper and 25% nickel, though after December 7, 1941 the commodities needed for military armor in the war effort were steel and nickel, this was changed to 56% copper, 35% silver, and 7% manganese.

The coins produced were as bright and shiny as silver dimes, quarters and halves! Because these Silver War Nickels were worth more than face value, the Mint put a huge mintmark on each, right above Monticello on the reverse, so they could pull them out of circulation after the war.

In 1946, the mint returned the composition to the original mix of copper and nickel which remains in place today. The mintmark was also returned to the prewar style.

The Jefferson Silver War Nickels Set is a great gift for the beginning collector through the experienced numismatist!

I have often thought, regardless of its lesser value, the Silver War Nickel set within the Jefferson Nickel Collection set is one of the most beautiful sets of coins in a business strike or brilliant uncirculated condition with all its mint luster and full step status.

George MtfD