

# GNA Journal

VOLUME 58, ISSUE 2

JULY 2022

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# **Strong GNA Show**

It was great to have much of this year's Show return to normal. From Dealer setup day until the close on Sunday, the Bourse floor was busy with activity. The buzz on the Bourse floor could be felt as soon as the doors opened for dealer setup. The dealers were eager to get setup and start on the hunt for their customer want lists. While we did not have any educational programs this year, we were able to resume our annual YN program.

On Saturday, we held our YN meeting, and had over 50 kids attend. As in past years, Bob Hartje led the kids in an educational play; followed by Ralph Winter and John Phipps directing the rest of the



program. Throughout the Show, raffle tickets were sold with the proceeds supporting our YN Program. This year we raised more funds than any of the last 10 shows, if not the most ever.

Overall attendance was strong as ever with an attendance of over 2,000 during the Show's 3 days.

As long as the situation allows, we plan on adding back the educational programs in 2023. If there is a subject that you can teach your fellow numismatists on, we encourage you to volunteer and do your part making the GNA Show the best show in Georgia.

An extension of GNA's educational work are the exhibits. Exhibits are an opportunity to display a themed collection with a focus on teaching others about an area of numismatics.

Finally, we need volunteers every day of the Show. From setup day preparing for the dealers, through the close of the Show there is always something to do. If you plan on attending, please consider volunteering for even just 2 hours to help us make the GNA Show the best it can be.

Come see us at our next Show on April 14th - 16th, 2023

# **Lost and Found**

Our Bourse Manager, Chip Cutcliff, has several items that were left during the GNA Show. Please contact us at ccutcliff@gamoney.org if these items belong to you.

- Black, button up sweater
- Display case cover dropped in the parking lot,
- ♦ 8 1/2" x 11" coin collector's notebook of coins lists

# Low Country 2022 Summer Coin Show

July 29 Noon – 6PM

July 30 9AM – 6PM

July 31 10AM – 3PM



FREEDOM HALL Exhibit Building
Exchange Park Fairgrounds
9850 Hwy 78, Ladson, SC 29456
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www.lowcountrycoinclub.com
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(843) 797-1245 lmangie@aol.com

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# GNA 59th Annual Coin Show

**Show Calendar** 

**Greater Atlanta Coin Shows** 

Hilton Atlanta/Marietta Hotel/Conf. Center

500 Powder Springs Street, Marietta, GA

atlcoin@hotmail.com, www.atlcoins.com

8/14, 9/11, 10/9, 11/6, 12/11

Bob O'Brien: (770) 772-4359

April 14 - 16, 2023
Dalton Convention Center
2211 Dug Gap Battle Road, Dalton, GA
Show information: www.gamoney.org
Tom Youngblood: (770) 815-4042

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Steven Nix

fleetwoodcoins@hotmail.com

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David Marble dandmelbramı@hotmail.com

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678-363-0488

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# WARNER ROBINS Warner Robins Coin Club

Dale Scheuneman 478-922-3598 dales57chevys@gmail.com

# **Low Country Coin Show**

July 29 - 31, 2022 Exchange Park Fairgrounds 9850 Hwy 78, Ladson, SC 29456 Richard Smith: (843) 797-1245

# Warner Robins Coin Show

July 29 - 30, 2022 VFW, 1011 Corder Road Warner Robbins, Georgia 31093 Dale Scheuneman: (478) 922-3598

# Blue Ridge Numismatic Assoc. 63rd Annual Convention

August 4 - 6, 2022 Dalton Convention Center 2211 Dug Gap Battle Road, Dalton, GA Katie Williams: (423) 401-8363

# North Carolina Numismatic Association Annual Convention

Sept 30 - Oct 2, 2022 Cabarrus Area & Events Center 4751 Highway 49, Concord, NC Perry Siegel: (704) 488-4787

# Rome Coin Show

October 14 - 15, 2022 400 Civic Center, Rome, GA 30161 Tom Youngblood: (770) 815-4042

# South Carolina Numismatic Association Annual Convention

October 28 - 30, 2022 TD Convention Center 1 Exposition Drive, Greenville, SC 29607 Bill Latour : (843) 532-5089

# Eufaula, Alabama and Chattanooga, Tennessee Merchant Scrip

# Dennis Schafluetzel

Merchant scrip paper issues were money of necessity, as small change was not readily available in the expanding country. Prior to the Civil War, scrip was primarily issued at the order of a specific company or businessman with the name printed on it and hand signed by the principal officer. Today, most of the merchant scrip is rare or unique, and those issued by James G. L. Martin are no different.

James was a prosperous cotton merchant who had operations in Eufaula, Alabama and Chattanooga, Tennessee in the late 1850s. Martin certainly was a merchant of various kinds, as you will see from the newspaper clippings. He sold plows, was a baker, a confectioner, as well as other occupations, but mostly he was an insurance agent in Eufaula, representing

different companies including the Alabama Insurance Company of Montgomery. During the downturn of 1858, he issued scrip to maintain his business. The U.S. Census of Barbour County, Alabama lists Martin and family, shown at left. His income was listed at \$19,000 to \$20,000 which made him a prosperous man at the time.

```
Euf # 150 Merchant (19000-
20,000)

MARTIN, James G. L. 49 m Fr
Eliza
Jas. H. G.(Student) 15 m Ala
Selina V. 13 f "
Charles A. 12 m "
Willie S. 9 m "
Edward T. 4 m "
Eugene C. 2 m "
James 30 m NC
AUSTIN, Eliza J. 26 f NY
(Seamstress - ---300)
```

Martin's scrip is known in four denominations, \$0.25, \$0.50, \$1 and \$2 notes. There are two types of \$0.50 notes known, discernable by their different vignettes. There may have been two types of the \$0.25 notes, but only one type of the denomination was reported in the Alabama Notes and Scrip book by Walter Rosene, Jr. (1984) published by the Society of Paper Money Collectors, Inc. The scrip is also listed in the Tennessee Obsolete Paper Money 1800 – 1959 by Dennis Schafluetzel & Tom Carson. And again the identification is listed in the A Compressive Guide to Alabama Obsolete Notes 1818 – 1885 by William Gunther & Charles Derby. While the dollar notes are scarce, the fractional notes are rare and may be unique.

**C-M.JMa-25c<sup>1</sup>** \$0.25 Eufaula, J. G. L. Martin, January 23, 1858, cattle & wagon at center, woman on both ends. (Rosene-67-1) also (AO-181-\$.25a)<sup>2</sup>
Complements of R. M. Smythe auction 274 lot 2628
Schingoethe / Sedman / Schafluetzel Collection





**C-M.JMa-50c-2**<sup>1</sup> \$0.50 Eufaula, J. G. L. Martin, January 23, 1858, seated women & man center, farm girl left, woman with anchor right. (Rosene-Unl) also (AO-181-\$.50b)<sup>2</sup> Complements of R. M. Smythe auction 272 lot 2628 Schingoethe / Sedman / Carson / Schafluetzel / Collection

"Eufaula, Alabama and Chattanooga, Tennessee Merchant Scrip" (continued from page 4)



**C-M.JMa-50c-2<sup>1</sup>** \$0.50 Eufaula, J. G. L. Martin, January 23, 1858, seated women & man center, farm girl left, woman with anchor right. (Rosene-Unl) also (AO-181-\$.50b)<sup>2</sup> Complements of R. M. Smythe auction 272 lot 2628 Schingoethe / Sedman / Carson / Schafluetzel / Collection

**C-M.JMa-1**<sup>1</sup> \$1 Eufaula, J. G. L. Martin, January 23, 1858, Garland-3010 sailing ship center, woman with crown left, bee hive right (Rosene-67-3) also (AO-181-\$1a)<sup>2</sup> Compliments of Dennis Schafluetzel





**C-M.JMa-2**<sup>1</sup> \$2 Eufaula, J. G. L. Martin, January 23, 1858, Garland 3015 river scene with bridge center, Indian seated left, woman seated right, Poseidon right (Rosene-67-4) also (AO-181-\$2a)<sup>2</sup>
Compliments of Dennis Schafluetzel



Hi! I am Rusty Cumberledge, your Southeast Regional Representative for ANACS, wishing you the best for 2022!



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Denomination & ID	Serial #, if Known	# of Notes
\$0.25 C-M.JMa-25c	No Serial #	1
\$0.50 C-M.JMa-50c-1	No Serial #	1
\$0.50 C-M.JMa-50c-2	No Serial #	2
\$1 C-M.JMa-1	10, 140, 171, 326, 426	5
\$2 C-M.JMa-2	16, 40, 95, 190	4

The author of this article requests that if you know of any other Martin scrip, please contact him at:

dennis@schafluetzel.org (423) 653-7908

Many thanks to Charles Derby for information & additional serial numbers provided for this article.

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# COIN SHOW



**South Carolina Numismatic Association** 50<sup>th</sup> Convention & Show

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Ortho Carolina Numismatic Pestion Creenville Convention **Greenville Convention Center** 1 Exposition Drive, Greenville, SC

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- **US Mint, Federal Reserve Museum (Atlanta)\***
- **SC Depart of Archives & History**
- ANA Roadshow and Exhibit 1913 Liberty Nickel, 1804 **Dollar and More.**
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\*Tentative pending Federal budget



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Bourse Info, e-mail:

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Merit Badge Info, e-mail: scna webmaster@yahoo.com



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# October 20th - 22nd Florida State Fairgrounds -- Florida Center Tampa, Florida

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# **Contact: Jim Fitzgerald**

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# "Did you know...volume 32"

# by Chip Cutcliff

<u>Did you know</u>... That there are a number of valuable Stone Mountain medal varieties created in the mid-twenties during and just after Gutzon Borglum, the initial sculptor on the confederate memorial project, designed the 1925 Stone Mountain Commemorative half dollar? The property needed for the sculpture was provided by the Venable family in 1916 to the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC). The onset of WW1 prevented an immediate start to the project. Borglum was hired in 1922 (dates vary) to create the largest sculpture ever attempted, to be carved into the granite monadnock that is Stone Mountain. Initial costs were estimated at 5 million dollars. Congress was petitioned and approved (unanimously) the minting of up to 5 million Stone Mountain Commemorative half dollar coins to be sold at a \$1 profit for each to raise the necessary funds. The driving force behind the overall funding of the project was initially the United Daughters of the Confederacy, with assistance from the Ku Klux Klan (which had been reorganized in 1915 at a meeting on top of Stone Mountain).

Initial funding was slow to materialize and half dollar sales were less than expected (due to small demand, only a little over 1.3 million commemorative halves were ever created). A number of medals were created over a 3-year period to assist in the raising of fuds for the project. Borglum designed the first medal himself, an octagonal bronze medal about the size of a half dollar. His signature is on the design. One side depicts Jefferson Davis, General Lee and Stonewall Jackson. The reverse design is worded as a commemoration to the valor of the southern soldier. It was the first piece in the "Founders Roll" project. The Children's Founders Roll was a program that allowed children under the age of 19 to donate one dollar to the memorial fund in the name of a confederate veteran and in return have their name and donation listed in the "Founders Roll" book that was to be displayed in the entrance to the memorial hall which was to be carved into the base of the mountain under the sculpture.

Borglum was terminated in 1925 for his inability to complete the project for a number of reasons, including the drain on his time by the commemorative half dollar project. He was replaced by Augustus Lukeman in April of 1925. Lukeman began his sculpting in September of 1926 after Borglum's start was removed from the mountain. The Founders Roll project continued. Lukeman created a round medal similar in size to Borglum's, which depicted the entrance to memorial hall on one side instead of the wording found on Borglum's initial design. There are at least 3 varieties. The first variety reads "Children's Founder Roll", is bronze and is the most common. It had the same one dollar donation cost and was undated. The second version read "Living Veterans Roll", was gold gilded, available to Civil War veterans only and

# **Touring the Dahlonega Gold Museum**

The Mint Act of 1835 ushered in three new US branch mints Charlotte, NC, Dahlonega, GA, and New Orleans, LA, to ease pressure on the nation's only mint at the time in Philadelphia. Along with a growing country and population, fresh deposits of gold had been discovered in Georgia and North Carolina and Philadelphia could no longer handle the workload. The resulting "gold rush" in the area began producing copious amounts of gold to assay and turn into coins. The Dahlonega Mint began actively coining gold from 1839 to 1861, (when all three of the branch mints stopped operations due to the civil war). During its

operations as a mint, 1,380,376 gold coins were minted in Dahlonega.



Individuals, families, school groups, coin clubs, mineralogists and others have come to Dahlonega to tour the Mint Museum and some of the gold mines and artifacts from this period. The Gold Museum is housed in the 1836 Lumpkin County Courthouse building

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located in the middle of the downtown Dahlonega square. Many articles and presentations by people who have visited the museum have piqued interest for many other groups.

On June 16, 2022, 10 members of the Aiken, SC Gem Mineral and Fossil Society with members of the Aiken, SC coin club came to Dahlonega to see what all of this fuss was all about. John Kolmar and Herb Martin became the field trip committee leaders in order to make this visit a reality. They contacted Steve Nolte, a Dahlonega resident and Officer/Docent at the Gold Museum to help coordinate their visit. The Dahlonega Gold Museum prepared for the visit by assembling Museum Staff, Steve Nolte, and Richard Harris (a Gold

required a 5 dollar donation. On the memorial hall side the date 1927 is present and the initials "U.C.V." (United Confederate Veterans). The medals are considered rare. The third version reads "Children's Founder Roll", is also gold gilded and has the date 1927 and U.C.V. on the memorial steps side. It was also available for a 5 dollar donation, to adults 19 years of age and older. It is also considered rare and considered the "Gold Star" donation level. There is also rumored to be a version that has the State abbreviation struck into it next to the 1927 date, but this author has not been able to locate any specific information about it.

Unfortunately, Lukeman was also not able to complete the work, which was finally completed and dedicated in September of 1970. The planned Memorial Hall was never carved into the base. However, the Founders Roll book was created and is currently stored in the Georgia State Archives. Current retail values for the medals vary with design, with the most common being the undated round Children's Founders Roll medal designed by Lukeman that averages about \$50 in new, original condition. The octagonal Borglum medal in original condition is worth \$165 or so. The gilded Living Veterans Roll medal and the gilded "Gold Star" Children's Founders Roll medal, both with 1927 and U.V.C on the memorial side can be worth \$400-\$500 in original uncirculated condition. There were only 3,500 living veterans medals created compared to 35,622 Children's Founders Roll medals. All four discussed varieties are holed at the top for attachment of ribbons. If you happen to have one of the medals with the original envelope, cardboard mount, application form and information pamphlet about it, you can add hundreds of dollars to the value of the item. Who said Stone Mountain was just about a half dollar?

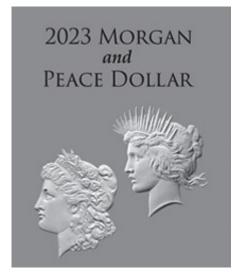
# **News from the US Mint**

The US Mint announced on June 29th that they will restart the Morgan and Peace

dollar series in 2023. They will produce a total of 5 collectables: an uncirculated and proof finish of both the Morgan and Peace designs as well as a special set containing 1 of each design in reverse proof.

What makes this decision so special from the US Mint? For the first time, they have offered the enrollment option for all of these. So there will be no need to plan and stress while you try to add these coins to your collection.

Have you secured your copies of the 2023 Morgan and Peace dollar commemoratives?



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# A Fun, Base-Metal Collection: The Modern Commemorative U.S. Half Dollars by Mark Benvenuto

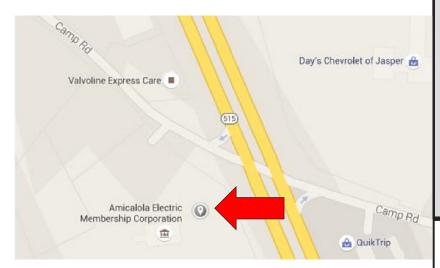
When it comes to under-used and under-spent United States coins, there's probably a healthy debate as to whether the half dollar or the golden dollar coin takes the cake. Neither of them are seen too much in pocket change, and any collector who claims to know where to get them probably has an 'in' with someone at a bank, credit union, or local business. When it comes to under-collected commemorative coins the US Mint has pounded out over the past few decades, the crown most likely goes to the half dollars, specifically those in uncirculated condition. Let's see though if this means there is an entire series out there waiting for us to collect, and if those coins are waiting with attractively low price tags attached.

Back to the beginning: The United States Mint had gotten back into the arena that is commemorative coinage in 1982, with a silver half dollar honoring General, then President Washington, or at least the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth. We'll give this coin a nod here, even though none were made as copper-nickel clad pieces. It's still rather affordable, with \$20 going a long way towards snagging one in either uncirculated or proof condition. But we want to focus on the base metal pieces, and that means...

Continued on page 15

# SATURDAY SEPTMBER 17th

Pickens County Coin Club Fall Coin Show 2022



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# **PICKENS COUNTY COIN CLUB**

Contact Numbers (678) 478-2973 (706) 260-7053 Museum Docent and Geo-Physicist by training) to lead the Aiken team on their visit through the museum. Starting with a 20 minute film in the Gold Museum theatre, the visiting team gained a thorough background and context for the Gold Museum's existence, including the history of Dahlonega, the relocation of the Cherokee Indian Tribe from Georgia to lands west of the Mississippi River (Trail of Tears), area gold mines, and bringing them up to date on Gold Mining today in Dahlonega. Following the film, the visiting team examined actual samples of gold ore, folds gold, and the types of Quartz that contains most of the gold ore in this region.

Moving downstairs in the museum, the visitors found more information on the Cherokee Tribe exit from Georgia, the lottery process that gave thousands of individuals acres of Georgia land for farming or gold exploration, and a little of the rough and tumble 1800's community where the gold museum flourished. Finally, the team visited the coin room, where they could look at a collection of one of every year and type of gold coins minted in Dahlonega, some samples of gold nuggets from a few grams to a few pounds.



While the tour of the Gold Museum was the primary attraction for the visitors, they had plans to go on to visit the large underground tour of the Consolidated Gold Mine, the Crisson Gold Mine (still in operation today), and of course the history and culture of the Dahlonega area through visits to one or more of the Wineries and wine tasting opportunities available to them.

As background, the group from Aiken had previously listened to a presentation by Steve Kuhl, editor of the South Carolina Numismatic Association Journal, the SCANNER. Kuhl and Nolte collaborated in an extensive tour of the Dahlonega Gold Museum in early 2021, culminating in a superb article in the June 2021 edition of the SCANNER. Steve Nolte is a past Vice President of GNA and currently a GNA Governor in addition to serving as Vice President on the Board of the Friends of Dahlonega Gold Museum.



# **Contact**

Marc Kosanovich,
GNA Journal Editor
for more details:
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...we start with the 1986 half dollar that was part of the three coin set honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> year of the Statue of Liberty. The half dollar of the set is by far the most common of this trio, with almost 1 million uncirculated pieces minted, and just under 7 million proofs. Curiously, there is no real price difference between the two. We'll be hard pressed to spend \$10 on an attractive looking piece.

The next modern commemorative half dollar in the line-up will be the 1989 Bicentennial of Congress, which sports an image of the Statue of Freedom on its obverse and an image of the Capitol on the reverse. Mintages of the uncirculated and the proof versions are much lower for this issue, coming in at only 163,753 uncs, and 767K of the proofs. In an interesting twist, a scan down any of the major price lists indicates that either of these two versions of this half dollar cost about the same as the much more common Statue of Liberty half dollar.

Let's pause a minute and reflect on what this flat-line of prices means when we are presented with two coins of wildly different mintages. Putting it bluntly: not many people are collecting these. Many a dealer and collector have weighed in on rarity, and its connection to both supply and demand. We seem to have a case here in which the supply is indeed lower for one coin, but the demand does not seem to be all that high either. But hey, if we are trying to put together a collection, let's not complain about a low price for a fairly uncommon coin. When the mintages fall: This huge drop in Mint production can be a reason for us to look at this commemorative series as it continued to unfold. We might expect the mintage totals to continue their downward spiral. In a neat development, we'd be wrong. That's neat because it means there are still plenty of clad half dollars to collect, most of which don't cost too much at all. Where does the price start to rise?: With all these rather low mintages and wonderfully low prices, we have to imagine there is eventually a point when the price for these halves does finally go up. Lets look at 2011, with the three coin set commemorating the United States Army. The half dollar saw a production of 39,442 UNC pieces and 68,332 proofs. The price of two will run between \$50 and \$75. So yes, the price has risen, but these official numbers are far, far lower than what we might call the popular rarities, like the 1916-D Mercury dime, for example. And delightfully, they cost far, far less.

There are certainly more half dollars in this series than just those we have mentioned. The mintages of a couple of them go even lower than what we have seen. But when all the costs are tallied up, it looks like there is a fun, rather inexpensive series of United States fifty-cent pieces that we might just be tempted to collect, one that is seen by far too few of us. The best of luck to any of us who choose to take up the challenge.

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