

Vern Potter Currency & Collectibles

Devoted to Currencies of the United States and Ephemera of the Old West & Civil War

Vol. 29, No. 1 January 1, 2012

Prepared by

Vern Potter

P.O. Box 10040

Torrance, CA 90505-0740

Phone & FAX: 310-326-0406

Email: Vern@VernPotter.com

Website: www.VernPotter.com

We would like to take this opportunity to wish a HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR to each and every one of you!! As we look back over 2011, we must conclude that this past year has treated us very well indeed. When all of the economic turbulence the World has been experiencing is taken into consideration we believe we have been very fortunate to have been able to unite so many great clients with the items they had been looking for. We are very happy and thankful to have been a part of all these opportunities.

The shows attended this past Quarter were quite unusual in terms of the numerous changes that we experienced. The Sunday Anaheim shows continue to offer the opportunity to expand our presence in the collecting community and our ability to meet new faces. The location of new material at this venue, with the exception of the nice group of Fractional Notes purchased recently, still has room for improvement. The Buena Park Show also continued to show growth in terms of meeting new clients; hopefully the buying opportunities will also improve in the future. Our return for the March show is being impaired by the continuing schedule conflict with the CPMX Show in Chicago, a show that we regularly attend, but which falls on the same weekend as Buena Park. We will have to tough it out with the hope that this interference will resolve itself in the not too distant future.

The move of the PCDA Show to Chicago from St. Louis/St. Charles seems to have produced the shot in the arm that was needed to rejuvenate the enthusiasm that has waned in recent years. The Bourse was sold out well in advance and the public attendance was the best we have seen in some time. Buying opportunities rebounded, although not

to the level we had hoped for, and our public and dealer sales were close to the levels enjoyed in years past; all-in-all this appears to have been a good move!

Finally, we were disappointed that we were unable to attend what turned out to be the last of the Santa Clara Expos--- a venue that we have enjoyed for years but one that the promoters have elected to discontinue because of the declining dealer and public participation.

THE FOURTH QUARTER IN REVIEW

With that prolog, what follows is a show-by-show discussion of our final Quarter activities.

The Buena Park Coin and Stamp Show

October 1st and 2nd we were set up at the Retail Clerks Hall in Buena Park, CA for this semi-annual gathering. The Bourse appeared to be a sell out and public attendance was quite good on Saturday but more subdued on Sunday. Our goal of meeting new clients at each show was quite successful with good sales and conversation. The location of new material fell short of our goal but hopefully establishing these new contacts will be fruitful in the future. We will be unable to attend the March show at this location due to the conflict with the CPMX show in Chicago but we will return for the November show.

The October North County Monthly Coin Show

We were in attendance at this monthly gathering in the Embassy Suites Hotel in East Anaheim, CA on October 9th. Attendance was quite good with several new and returning visitors perusing our inventory. Sales were brisk for this small show with activities lasting well into the afternoon. No new material was located to add to our inventory.

The November North County Monthly Coin Show

On Sunday, November 6th, we returned to the Embassy Suites Hotel once again. The public attendance remained at a reasonably high level throughout the public hours with good sales recorded. No new items were purchased.

The PCDA International Currency and Coin Convention

This was the first show under the new banner of "The International Currency and Coin Convention" sponsored by the Professional Currency Dealers Association and was held at the Crown Plaza Hotel O'Hare in Rosemont, IL, a suburb of Chicago. The expanded Bourse was a sellout and all of the dealers we talked to seemed to be quite pleased with their results by the end of the show. The public participation was considerably improved over that experienced at the former location in St. Charles, MO; the largest being on Friday with a diminishing presence as the weekend progressed. Our sales were quite good with a major portion of them being made to visiting and participating dealers.

New material purchases were reasonably good and were highlighted by three high grade beauties from the Iron City Bank (two different \$5's and a companion \$10) and an elusive Norfolk Bank \$3, all from Connecticut, and two PMG graded Confederate notes, a T-7 and a T-31, both in VF condition. A good number of other examples were purchased, but overall we still fell short of our goal when a paucity of higher quality and scarcer material was experienced. We have reserved our same table location for next November's show and look forward to it with renewed enthusiasm.

The 25th Annual Fall Santa Clara Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Expo

As we noted in the last publication, we were not able to attend this presentation. We had fully expected to return for the Spring Show and found through an article in the Numismatic News that all future shows had been cancelled. We are indeed sorry to see this Bay Area show discontinued but understand their decision, based upon the diminishing public and dealer participation we have observed over the past couple of years. We will be maintaining our presence in the Bay Area, however, with our participation in the San Jose Coin Club show in late January each year; the details of this presentation are contained in our first Quarter show schedule detailed below.

The December North County Monthly Coin Show

We were unexpectedly absent from this Sunday, December 4th presentation at the Embassy Suites Hotel when on the preceding day my wife, underwent emergency surgery to resection a portion of her small bowel. She is recovering quite well but it is taking a slightly longer than expected period of time. As any senior citizen can attest---as we advance in years, our body just does not respond as rapidly as it did in our youth. We are planning her having recovered sufficiently to allow her to travel to the San Jose Show later in January.

FIRST QUARTER 2012 SHOW SCHEDULE

With the advent of the New Year, we were poised to expand our show schedule somewhat. Some of these plans had to be modified because of the Dee's visit to the ER in December. As a result, here is our modified schedule.

The 2012 FUN Show

We included this show in our last Newsletter to allow time for advanced planning, noting that we had secured our table and airline reservations and would be attending this early January cornerstone show. Dee's recuperation must now take precedence over these earlier plans making it impossible for us to attend this year's show. We fully intend to be there next January, however.

The January North County Monthly Coin Show

On January 8th we will be at this one-day show in the Embassy Suites Hotel located at 3100 Frontera Street, adjacent to the 91 Freeway, at the Glassel Street off ramp. The public hours will be from 9 am until about 3 pm and my table will be located in the center of the North wall, to the left of the Bourse entrance. We will be presenting our complete selection of U.S. currencies.

The 44th Annual San Jose Coin and Collectibles Show

We will be holding a table at this San Jose Coin Club annual presentation at what will now be the only Bay Area show that we will be attending this year. The show will again be presented in the Doubletree Hotel, 2050 Gateway Place, San Jose, CA. Our table assignment will be as it was last year, #206, located in the center of the Bourse. We will be presenting our currency and postal & express history inventories.

An Early Bird Badge will be available for a fee of \$40 allowing entrance during the

dealer setup hours, currently scheduled for 6 pm until 8 pm on Thursday, January 26th. The public hours will be from 10 am until 6 pm daily Friday, January 27th through the 29th except on Sunday when the doors will close at 4 pm.

The 48th Annual Spring Long Beach Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Expo & LOBEX III

February 2nd through the 4th we will be returning to the Long Beach Convention Center in Long Beach, CA for this Annual Spring Expo. Our booth, #445, will be located against the wall to the right of the Bourse entrance, about half way down the first aisle. The Bourse hours will be from 10 am to 6:30 pm daily except Saturday, when the doors will close at 5 pm. We will be featuring our complete collectibles inventory including U.S. currency, postal & express history, mining and railroad stock certificates, selected maps and California ephemera.

The February North County Monthly Coin Show

On February 12th we return to the Embassy Suites Hotel in Anaheim adjacent to the 91 Freeway, at the Glassel off ramp for this monthly one-day gathering. The Bourse hours will be from 9 am until about 3 pm; our table location will be as usual, to the left of the entrance, in the center of the wall. We will be offering our complete currency inventory.

The Los Angeles International Paper Money & Coin Show

On February 18th and 19th we will be set up in the Grand Ballroom of the La Quinta Inn located at 5729 W. Century Blvd, near the entrance to LAX. The show hours will be from 9 am until 5 pm on Saturday and 10 am to 4 pm on Sunday. We have been assigned table "F" located just to the left of the Bourse entrance. Our complete currency inventory will be available at this venue.

The March North County Monthly Coin Show

March 4th we return to the Embassy Suites Hotel located at the Glassel exit off of the 91 Freeway for this Sunday-only show. The Bourse hours will be from 9 am until about 3 pm and our table location will be in the center of the wall to the left of the entrance. As is usual for this location, we will be offering our complete currency inventory.

The 18th Annual Chicago Paper Money Exposition

March 8th through the 11th we will be attending this Exposition hosted at the Crown Plaza Chicago O'Hare hotel located

at 5440 North River Road in Rosemont, IL. We will be occupying table #12, as we did last year, against the wall to the right of the Bourse entrance. The show will be open for Professional Preview from 2 pm until 6 pm on Thursday, March 8th for a \$50 fee. The public will be admitted Friday through Sunday from 10 am until 6 pm daily except Sunday, March 11th when the doors will close at 1 pm. We will be offering our complete U.S. currency inventory during the show.

The Spring Santa Clara Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Expo

This and subsequent presentations scheduled for this location have been cancelled by the promoters. We are sorry to see this show fall by the wayside but hope to see you at the annual January San Jose Coin Club Show instead.

The April North County Monthly Coin Show

This monthly gathering is scheduled for Sunday, April 1st. **Please note that this date has been revised to April 15th** and is being included here for your advanced planning. The Embassy Suites Hotel located just east of the Glassel Street off ramp from the 91 Freeway will host this one-day show with the public being admitted from 9 am until about 3 pm; our table will be located in the center of the wall to the left of the Bourse entrance. Our complete currency inventory will be available for your review at this location.

CLOSING THOUGHTS

All of the material purchased during the Quarter was attributed and integrated into our Website by mid-November. The incorporation of this material into the newly adopted "New Purchases" pages, the latest format modification implemented, has been well received by the Site visitors that have communicated with us on this new feature. In addition, a couple of incomplete links were discovered and corrected bringing everything on the Site up to date and available for your review.

Our adoption of the new software and the computer upgrading that was discussed last time have gone better than expected and are now fully integrated and operational. Only a periodic reformatting of some of the older files has slowed what has otherwise been an unexpectedly smooth transition.

We again wish to extend to you and yours a **Very Happy New Year** as we enter 2012. We look forward to seeing or chatting with you very soon.