

FRONT RANGE COIN CLUB

P.O. BOX 2284, LONGMONT, COLORADO 80502-2284

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website: <https://fronrangeclub.org>

Second Thursday of Each Month

August 2024

Attendance

19 members in attendance.

Meeting Minutes

Old Business:

Club VP Joe G. announced that the summer party planning was a hit. It was held at the Flight Deck Grill food truck at Vance Brand Airport in Longmont. The total cost was \$700 and 36-38 individuals attended. Thank you to Joe G. and all who planned the event and thank you to Alexa Coder for being an excellent host. I attended myself and had a very good time, it was much appreciated!

Tables for the FRCC Fall Show are sold out. Please contact show director Ken D. to be put on a waitlist should any come available.

New Business:

No new business was discussed at this meeting.

Presentation(s)

Member Cheryl V. shared that grading service ICG has a new president and grading finalizer, Austin Hutto, who worked with PCGS for 12 years. He is now working with ICG to improve grading consistency, turnaround time, costs, and overall quality and value to their customers. The brand has previously suffered from a diminished reputation due to grading inconsistency, sometimes “sloppy” work, but with Austin at the helm, the company’s intentions are to restore consumer confidence fully in the brand and increase value and competition in the marketplace. She also let us know that ICG is offering some grading discounts via Whatnot, so if you are interested in giving them a try, that may be a good place to start.

After discussion about ICG and another grading matter, Dan C. presented on his original 1921 Peace Dollar bronze casting that was discussed and written about from the prior month’s meeting. He explained that his piece is technically not the galvano, as that is in the possession of the U.S. Mint archives, but it is the original bronze casting of the reverse of the initially proposed design for the Peace Dollar, produced by Anthony de Francisci and James Earle Fraser. The difference between a galvano

and bronze casting is that a galvano is a large version of one side of a coin that is created via galvanic deposition, or electroplating, to apply a layer of metal to an original plaster piece. Eventually this results in a shell of copper, the galvano, that can be mounted to a reduction lathe to produce the master hub to create dies. The bronze casting is produced via traditional casting methods to fill a void in plaster to leave a metal rendering of the art, or in this case a large rendering of the coin's reverse design.

The Mint wanted to produce a new dollar that was commemorative of the end of World War 1, so they held a competition to select a design. James Earle Fraser, designer of the Buffalo Nickel, was chosen to run the competition. Many famous artists submitted designs, but ultimately de Francisci's design was chosen. He was asked to make some revisions to the design, which he did, and then he submitted the revisions to Fraser, and they were approved by the Secretary of the Treasury and President, and they were intended to go into production. Normally a galvano would be made from these plasters. It was very late in December in 1921, so the mint had bronze castings of the coin made in New York. Dan C. has a copy of a letter from December 29th that the Philadelphia Mint received the plasters and obverse bronze casting, but not the reverse bronze casting. In the letter, it described that the reverse casting was a failure, and that the reverse master hub would have to be produced from a galvano produced from the plaster the Mint had received. The obverse master hub would be produced from the bronze casting they received. Therefore, the obverse and reverse dies were created using two different methods. In the initial reverse

design, the eagle is clutching a broken sword. The public was outraged by the design because a broken sword was a sign of surrender and defeat, and World War 1 was supposed to be a victory resulting in peace.

The Mint only had a couple of days to correct this matter and get the coins into production, so they called on George T. Morgan to do hand engraving, as he was the best there was and no one was really doing hand engraving as much anymore at that point. He ground the sword off the one and only reverse master hub. They then produced a die that had a void from the grinding, and he hand engraved the eagle's talons and additional details into the master die, which was then used to create another hub to make all the rest of the dies to strike the 1921 Peace Dollar. There was a peace conference that President Harding was attending in January of 1922, so the Mint was committed to producing the coins prior to the end of the year and before President Harding went to the conference.



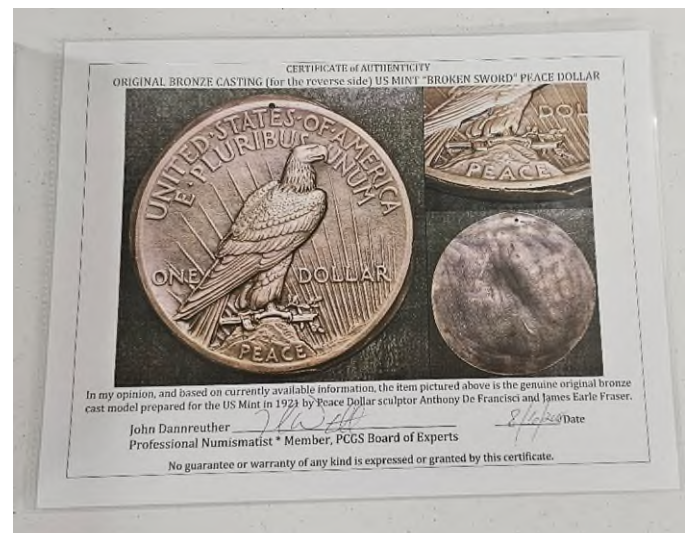
Additionally, Dan taught the club about how

the 1921 Peace Dollar is technically only half high relief. He pointed out that Morgan Dollars have a relief height of .015 inches from field to top of devices. The obverse of the 1921 Peace Dollar is .03 inches, but the reverse is still .015, same as all the other Morgan and Peace dollars. The bronze casting he has is 7 inches in diameter, and the coin is 1.5 inches, so exactly 5x larger. He found that when he 3D imaged the casting and shrunk it down by 5x to coin size, the reverse was also .03 inches, so de Francisci had intended for both sides of the coin to be high relief, but when the mint prepared the reduction lathe, they had already set the relief height of the reverse to be .15. They reduced the diameter by a factor of 5, but the relief height was reduced by a factor of 10. Thus, the coin is only half high relief since the reverse is the standard .015 inches for the era.

Ultimately, the piece that Dan has is the so-called “failed” casting that was mentioned in the letter from the Mint that he found. The edges are a little warped, so it would have to be adjusted to make it flat, which could have been the failure, but he’s not entirely certain why it was failed.

He then shared the story of how he acquired it again with full detail. He found it on eBay and studied the photos carefully and did some research. He saw it on a Wednesday, and it was scheduled to end on a Monday. He knew he needed to try to get ahold of it before Monday due to the likelihood that someone would recognize what it was. He offered the seller \$500 and \$125 for FedEx overnight shipping. The seller accepted and he got it on Friday and it in fact turned out to be genuine. He had further

communication with the seller and ended up paying an additional sum to make the deal more equitable to the seller, since the deal was completed outside of eBay. He then also sought certification or authentication, and he got John Dannreuther, PCGS Board of Experts to also validate and authenticate the piece, and he was willing to produce a certificate of authenticity for the casting. Thank you, Dan, for sharing the full story of your bronze casting with the club!



Treasurer’s Report

Bob L. gave the August financial report:

Current balance: \$17,761.37

Bob reports that all bills are current to date for 2024.

Bob is still collecting dues for 2024 membership if you haven’t yet paid or are joining. Dues are \$2 per person, or \$5 for a family membership.

Drawings/Door Prizes

The July silver coin drawing was held.
The coin won was an 1879 Morgan Dollar.
The winner was Bob L.!

The monthly door prize drawings were held.
The coins won were a silver quarter and a silver dime per winner.
The winners were Muriel K. & Dan C.!

The 3rd quarterly gold coin drawing will be held on September 12th, 2024, at the club meeting. The price per ticket is \$2.00. The prize will be a 2021 1/10th ounce gold Eagle.

New Coin News

Persian Hoard of Gold Darics Discovered in Turkey:

<https://www.coinworld.com/news/world-coins/persian-hoard-of-gold-darics-discovered-in-turkey>

Winners Announced for 2024 Coin of the Year:

<https://www.numismaticnews.net/world-coins/winners-announced-for-2024-coin-of-the-year>

How Much Gold and Silver is in Olympic Medals:

<https://www.numismaticnews.net/coin-market/how-much-gold-and-silver-is-in-olympic-medals>

Are There Too Many Mints Today:

<https://www.numismaticnews.net/coin-market/are-there-too-many-mints-today>

Mint of Finland Closing Down Amid Falling Demand for Coins:

<https://www.coinworld.com/news/world-coins/mint-of-finland-closing-down-amid-falling-demand-for-coins>

Upcoming Programs

If you would be willing to present your favorite topic or show your collection, please let Joe Garguilo or Rebecca Murren know to schedule an event for you. If there is a topic or a discussion you would like to see/hear, let Joe or Rebecca know and they will try to get an outside presenter scheduled for a future meeting.

Local Area Coin Clubs

*On average, doors open 30 minutes before the start of the meeting:

Front Range Coin Club:

7:00 PM, Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 640 Alpine St, Longmont, CO;
2nd Thursday monthly. December TBD.

Northside Coin Club:

7:00 PM, Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, 12099 Lowell Blvd, Broomfield, CO;
2nd Tuesday monthly.

South Suburban Coin Club:

6:30 PM, 1000 Englewood Pkwy, Englewood, CO 80110;
2nd Thursday monthly.

Denver Coin Club:

7:00 PM, Salem United Church of Christ, 5300 E. Florida Ave, Denver, CO;
Last Thursday monthly.

Fort Collins Coin Club:

6:30 PM, Senior Center, 1200 Raintree Drive, Fort Collins, CO;
1st Friday monthly except July & December.

Greeley Coin Club:

7:00 PM, Moose Lodge, 3456 11th Ave, Evans, CO;
2nd Tuesday monthly. No meetings July and August.

Cheyenne Coin Club:

7:00 PM, Ascension Lutheran Church, 712 Storey Boulevard, Cheyenne, WY;
3rd Tuesday monthly.

December:

7 th	Fort Collins Coin Club Show Lincoln Center, Fort Collins, CO Jim O., 970-294-3385
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Contact Us (2023 FRCC Officers)

President:	Dave Jaeger davejaeg@gmail.com	970-310-4873
Vice President:	Joe Garguilo m5joe@yahoo.com	303-651-2877
Coin Show Dir:	Ken Davis krdavis334@msn.com	303-772-6706
Secretary:	Dalton Jenkins dalton@clodiusandco.com	303-646-7853
Treasurer:	Bob Liberatore ontimeappr@msn.com	303-651-1091
Newsletter:	Dalton Jenkins dalton@clodiusandco.com	303-646-7853

2024 Coin Shows**September:**

13 th -14 th	CHERPEX Jefferson County Fairgrounds Kenny L., 303-598-7198
21 st -22 nd	Front Range Coin Club Fall Show Boulder County Fairgrounds, Longmont, CO Ken D., 303-772-6706

October:

10 th -12 th	Denver Coin Expo National Western Complex, Denver, CO Neal H., 720-773-1175
21 st -22 nd	Western Slope Coin Club Fall Show Grand Junction, CO Lewis M., 970-640-3765
31 st -2 nd	Las Vegas National by CK Show Tuscany Casino, Las Vegas, NV Dawn, 888-330-5150

November:

8 th -10 th	Albuquerque Coin Club Fall Show Marriott Pyramid North, Albuquerque, NM Matt P., 505-270-8685
22 nd -23 rd	Cheyenne Coin, Currency, Tokens, & Collectibles Show Bill A., 307-630-2350

2022 FRCC Board of Directors

Director:	Dan Carr dcarr@MoonlightMint.com	970-667-7610
Director:	Glen Dinner gadfly8866@msn.com	970-301-2700
Director:	Ken Davis krdavis334@msn.com	303-772-6706
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The next FRCC Monthly Meeting will be held:

Thursday, September 12th, 2024 @ 7:00 PM

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 640 Alpine St, Longmont, CO 80504