

**UTAH NUMISMATIC  
SOCIETY**

**The Mintmaster**



**ARE THE LINCOLN CENTS DAYS NUMBERED / DOGE**

**February 2025  
Volume 73 Issue 2**

# UTAH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

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The following appointed positions were approved and/or will be determined by our new President at our January meeting:

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# PRESIDENTS MESSAGE — February 2024

**Casey Hackford-Peer**

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Members,

Our January meeting was quite successful. Steven Cuthbert gave an excellent presentation on the Draper Mint and Swiss America products. We had 48 people in attendance and many of you renewed your dues for 2025. For those who have not yet paid their dues please do so ASAP. Last month, the board voted to show appreciation to our UNS speakers by providing them with an old UNS medal, a silver round, and 5 tickets to the drawing that month and we believe that will help ensure quality speakers all year long.

Finally, I want to give a special thanks to Brian Cole. On January 24th and 25th he was staffing the entrance table at the Coin Show and he was giving out a lot of information on UNS and really encouraging folks to join. Several people came in and found me to inquire about joining. I sure hope some of these folks actually join.

Thank You and I hope to see you this month.

Casey - President

## Contents & Agenda For February 11, 2025

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**Meeting , February 11, 2025, 7PM**

**Meeting location**

**Columbus Center—2530 South 500 East—Salt Lake City UT**



**You need to renew your UNS membership before our meeting on April 8th.**

**You may do so at our club meeting or by using the membership application on the last page of this MintMaster.**



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# Restrike, Novodel or Fantasy

Doug Nyholm



What are the definitions and differences between a restrike, novodel and fantasy coin?

Restrikes are defined as a coin minted using original dies at a later date. This definition appears to be cut and dry but depending upon the expert identifying the coins there can be differences in opinion. Such as the restrike can be struck from both obverse and reverse dies of the same year. This is usually easy to determine

from an obverse die which contains the date but can be very difficult to determine from the reverse die.



Novodel coins are described as those struck from copy dies that are very similar but slightly different from the original dies which were used for a particular series. This definition becomes very obscured when referring to such coins at the 1804

dollars. They have been referred to as both restrikes and novodels. In regard to the restrike term there were no original 1804 dollars struck in 1804. There were however 1803 dollars presumably struck in 1804. Then there were restrikes of the 1804 dollars struck in 1834 and again in the 1860's. Also the proof dollar dated 1801, 1802 and 1803 are more correctly referred to as Novodel coins since no proofs were ever struck in those years but decades later.

Finally, fantasy coins are those minted for denominations, or years that were never originally created or intended for use. Such a coin is the 1868 Large Cent which was most likely struck simply as an experiment or for some well connected collector who desired a unique coin. It definitely falls into a unique class of fantasy coins but it is a mint product.

There were several chapters in the reviewed book by Kevin Flynn on restrikes dedicated to the creation, why, and when about restrikes and novodel coins. I have just touched on the definitions and hopefully you are not completely confused. I personally am, to a point, a bit confused as to the nomenclature used in modern times about these coins because some definitely do not fall into these black and white definitions. That is just the nature of modern numismatics as it seems that everyone does not agree and perceptions do change.

#

## **MODERN ERROR CENTS**

**Doug Nyholm**

During our last meeting John Hinckley spoke of three recent errors in the Lincoln Cent series. In regard to modern errors I do not take a great deal of interest in them as to put it bluntly many of them seem to require a scanning electron microscope to identify them. Such errors as the 1955 DDO Lincoln or modern overdates or off metal strike or even mules are one thing but minor errors are in a collector class by themselves. However John's talk I found very interesting and so I searched the internet and published in this article are pictures of the three Lincoln Cents he discussed.

First, shown below is the 2023 "Extra V." The extra V can quite easily be seen to the right of the VDB and there appears to be an additional "V" which at first glance could appear as a simple scratch. Evidently this scratch is more than just a scratch as it is appearing on quite a number of coins as evidenced by a number of them being offered in eBay. Prices vary quite widely and if you are interested in this coin or minor errors I suggest that you check on-line listings.







The next error John discussed was a 2024 cent missing the VDB letters completely. From what I have read this was probably caused by a grease filled die but collectors are scrambling to acquire one in any event. This is similar to several dates of Kennedy Half dollars with missing FG, Frank Gasparo designer initials. This coin is also available on eBay for various prices.



The final coin discussed was the 2024 -D Double Die Obverse Lincoln. Looking at the pictures here it definitely appears to be DDO, not as pronounced as the 1955 or 1972 but visible to the naked eye. I remember reading a few years ago that the mint took measures to eliminate future double dies but evidently they were not entirely successful. Once again this coin is being offered on eBay for widely ranging prices.

Just more evidence that if you look hard enough and long enough even today you may find something interesting. But when you consider that the mint strikes close to 5 Billion Lincoln Cents each year 100% perfection is impossible.



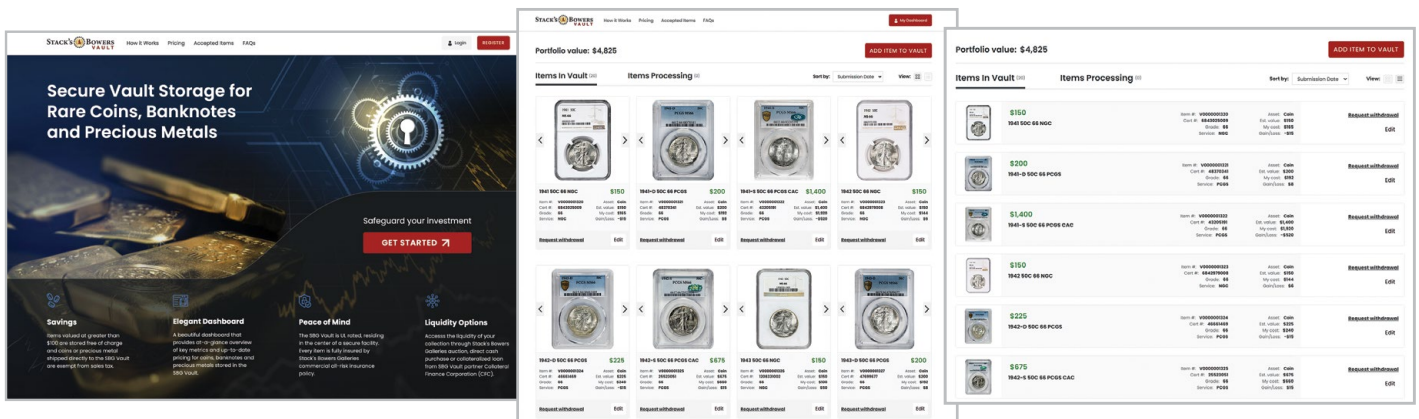




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**APPOINTED POSITION**

**Show Chairman John Hinckley johntheutahman@gmail.com**





**Promptness Prize:** 1937 Buffalo nickel  
**Junior Prize:** 1971 S proof slab nickel  
**Member Prize:** 1913 type II Buffalo nickel

- 1- 1983 P, D, S LA \$ OLY set
- 2- 2024 Innovation \$ Proof set
- 3- Sterling round So. Carolina
- 4- 1905 s Barber dime
- 5- 1962 Proof Franklin half
- 6- Sterling round West Virginia
- 7- 1964 Silver proof quarter
- 8- 1986 S pf. Liberty half
- 9- 1945 war-time silver nickel
- 10- 1963 Franklin half dollar
- 11- 1932 Washington quarter
- 12- 1976 D UNC IKE DOLLAR

**February 2025 “Buy of the Month”**

**Asst. IKE Dollars. (Cheap!)**

**Thanks to Bruce Griggs our new curator for this months prizes**

# COIN QUIZ



General questions taken from Bowers "Empire Topics" #3 Oct-Dec 1958

1. When were the designers initials V.D.B. restored to the Lincoln Cent?

- A. 1909
- B. 1918
- C. 1922
- D. 1946

2. How many commemorative 1928 Hawaiian Commemorative Halves were coined?

- A. 10,008
- B. 2,100
- C. 25,018
- D. 36,000

3. In what year were the "Silly Head" and "Boobie Head" large cents coined?

- A. 1795
- B. 1816
- C. 1839
- D. 1843

4. What date in the Indian Head quarter eagle series is considered to be the rarest?

- A. 1908
- B. 1911-D
- C. 1925-D
- D. 1929

5. In what year did the "Mott Token" the first American Store Card appear?

- A. 1787
- B. 1789
- C. 1838
- D. 1861

6. What branch mint discontinued coinage operations in 1893?

- A. New Orleans
- B. Chrolette
- C. Dahlonega
- D. Carson City

7. Civil War Cents from which one of the following states are generally considered by collectors to be rare?

- A. Michigan
- B. Ohio
- C. New York
- D. New Hampshire





# UNS 2025 Monthly Schedule

	<b>February</b> <b>Speaker—Casey Hackford-Peer</b>	<b>March</b> <b>Auction</b>	<b>April</b> <b>Coin Show</b> <b>Speaker—FBI Agent re Hofmann</b> <b>Medal Voting</b>
<b>May</b> <b>UNS Birthday Bourse</b>	<b>June</b> <b>Youth Night—Dave Andrews</b> <b>NUTS Coin Show</b>	<b>July</b> <b>Picnic</b>	<b>August</b> <b>Speaker—TBA</b> <b>Treasure Hunt—Metal Decting</b>
<b>September</b> <b>Auction</b>	<b>October</b> <b>UNS Coin Show</b> <b>Speaker—TBA</b>	<b>November</b> <b>Speaker—TBA</b>	<b>December</b> <b>Christmas Dinner</b>

The By-Laws were amended to verify that incoming Officers and Board members would be sworn in during our December Holiday meeting. #

# BOOK REVIEW

Doug Nyholm

## Restrikes, Storied Treasures of the U.S. Mint

By Kevin Flynn

I just acquired my copy of “Restrikes, Storied Treasures of the U.S. Mint” by Kevin Flynn.

I ordered this book as soon as I saw it offered as when I read the title I was unaware of any previous work on the subject. We have all heard and are aware of restrikes but to find a work covering them in depth sounded like very interesting reading. I also felt that Kevin Flynn, whom has written several books, would cover the subject quite well as I noted that the book consisted of 466 pages.

I was not disappointed as virtually all of the restrikes produced by the U.S. Mint from the early 1830's through 1885 were covered. Yes there are several coins dated prior to 1830 but their restrikes were created in later years.

There are 45 different restrikes covered, many of them are discussed by 10-20 pages each with some by just a couple of pages but non-the-less Kevin's research is very complete with documentation of how to identify restrikes from originals where necessary. This is not as easy as one might think initially which he discussed the 1851 and 1852 Silver dollars extensively. Other interesting chapters include the 1856 Cent, Confederate restrikes, No Motto Liberty Seated Halves and many more. His introductory chapters about the subject matter contain much information to contemplate and consider what was going on at the mint during the years these interesting coins were created. This book fills a gap which has not been covered in detail and falls into minting in the 19th century along with overdates and patterns.

This book is softcover and in black and white consisting of 466 pages and is available directly from the author for \$75 plus \$5 shipping. Kevin Flynn, P.O. box 1043, Troy VA 22974. I highly recommend it and it is a great addition to my library.





## The Magnificent \$5 Silver Certificate K-A Block

By: Jeremy Dansie

In 1928, the United States BEP (Bureau of Engraving and Printing) began transitioning away from the then-standard large-size paper money, measuring 7-3/8 x 3-1/8 inches and used since the end of the Civil War. The newer, smaller size, measuring 6-1/8 x 2-5/8 inches, was created to reduce the cost of producing paper money.



By the end of 1928, sheets of the new small-size notes were being printed, and in January 1929, the first serial numbers were applied to those sheets—a Series of 1928 \$1 Silver Certificates. The first serial numbers were printed on \$5 Federal Reserve Notes sheets in the following weeks. Serial numbers on \$10 and \$20 FRNs came next, followed by \$2 Legal Tender notes in April and \$5 Legal Tender and \$10 Gold Certificates in late May. By the end of 1929, sheets of all denominations of the Series of 1928 Gold Certificates and nearly all Federal Reserve Notes across all districts had been printed and were serial numbered.

It wasn't until 1934 that small-size \$5 Silver Certificates were printed, serial numbered, and released into circulation. By the end of 1934, more than 68,000,000 \$5 Silver Certificates had been produced, all receiving serial numbers from the A-A block. The term "block" refers to a combination of the prefix and suffix letters used in a serial number. For example, the note below with serial number A73706045A is from the A-A block.





Between 1934 and early 1953, serial numbers from twenty-one blocks were used on Series of 1934, 1934A, 1934B, 1934C, and 1934D \$5 Silver Certificates—A-A through V-A (“O-A” was not used)—with over two billion notes being produced.

Serial numbers within the K-A block were first assigned to the Series of 1934A \$5 Silver Certificates in mid-1942 and lasted through early 1946—nearly four years. No other block lasted more than two years; most were used up in less than a year. During WWII, \$5 Silver Certificate production severely decreased from over 112 million notes printed in 1942 to just over 30 million from 1943 to 1945, substantially prolonging the life of the K-A block.



In 1942, U.S. currency destined to be used in the WWII Pacific and European theaters began to be printed with different color seals and serial numbers to differentiate them from other U.S. currencies. All Silver Certificates that were to be used initially in North Africa were printed with yellow treasury seals, and \$1 Silver Certificates and \$5, \$10, & \$20 FRNs that were to be used in the Territory of Hawaii were printed with brown seals and serial numbers, along with “HAWAII” overprinted on both sides.





The reason for these changes was that if enemy forces in those areas captured a large amount of cash, the U.S. Government could quickly demonetize the currency with different color seals. Therefore, it couldn't be used to finance their war efforts against the U.S. and other Allied countries.

North Africa \$5 Silver Certificates bearing yellow seals were issued from 1942 to 1944 in six groups, and all were assigned serial numbers from the K-A block. Regular blue seal \$5 Silver Certificates were also produced between each North Africa run, creating five "gap runs" of serial numbers with blue seals between those with yellow seals. The first five groups of yellow seals and five blue seal gap runs were printed in 1942, while the sixth and final group of yellow seals were printed in 1943 and 1944. No blue seal \$5 Silver Certificates were printed again until 1945. Quantities of each yellow seal group and blue seal "gap runs" can be found in the table below.

Block	WWII-Era \$5 Silver Certificates	Official Low SN	Official High SN	Printed
K-A	North Africa Yellow Seal Range #1	K34 188 001A	K34 508 000A	320,000
	Blue Seal Gap Range #1	K34 508 001A	K36 420 000A	1,912,000
	North Africa Yellow Seal Range #2	K36 420 001A	K36 740 000A	320,000
	Blue Seal Gap Range #2	K36 740 001A	K37 464 000A	724,000
	North Africa Yellow Seal Range #3	K37 464 001A	K37 784 000A	320,000
	Blue Seal Gap Range #3	K37 784 001A	K40 068 000A	2,284,000
	North Africa Yellow Seal Range #4	K40 068 001A	K42 068 000A	2,000,000
	Blue Seal Gap Range #4	K42 068 001A	K43 152 000A	1,084,000
	North Africa Yellow Seal Range #5	K43 152 001A	K44 852 000A	1,700,000
	Blue Seal Gap Range #5	K44 852 001A	K53 984 000A	9,132,000
	North Africa Yellow Seal Range #6	K53 984 001A	K65 984 000A	12,000,000









These groups of yellow seal and blue seal serial numbers create additional collecting opportunities for more astute and advanced collectors. As most collectors don't pursue notes by serial range, with patience and perseverance, a collection of notes from all thirteen serial number groups, as shown below, can generally be assembled without any additional premium.

During WWII, as a cost-saving measure, instead of retiring several master printing plates—used only to create production plates (used to print sheets of notes)—the BEP finished them and certified them as production plates (now referred to as Late-Finished Plates). One of these plates was the \$5 Silver Certificate faceplate with serial number 307, which was used as a Series of 1934 master plate to create 1934 production plates from April 1936 to January 1938. It was then altered to a Series of 1934A master plate and was used to create 1934A production plates until July 1942. On July 3, faceplate 307 was finished and certified as a production plate. Between July 9, 1942, and June 3, 1943, it was sent to press seven times before being canceled on June 19, 1943. During its time on the presses, it was used to print 569,244 \$5 Silver Certificates that were eventually serial numbered with yellow and blue seals, all within the K-A block, creating another exciting variety for collectors to pursue.





\$5 Silver Certificates with Late-Finished backplate 307 are known to exist with serial numbers from the pre-North Africa serial range; the first, second, and fifth blue seal “gap runs”; and the fourth, fifth, and sixth yellow seal serial number groups—a total of seven serial number ranges. While most advanced small-size variety collectors aim to acquire a Late-Finished Backplate 307 note with both seal colors, the most die-hard collectors seek one from each of the seven serial ranges and want to be the first to find one from a previously unknown range. More information on Late-Finished Backplate 307 can be found on the Paper Money Project website:

<https://www.papermoneyproject.com/5-silver-certs-lfp307>

Another \$5 Silver certificate variety from the K-A block was created when, in late 1944, the BEP salvaged an old master plate that had been retired in 1943, the \$5 backplate with serial number 637, and finished and certified it as a production plate and sent it to press in June 1945. As \$5 Late-Finished Backplate 637 was finished with a micro-size plate number, sheets printed from it mated with Series of 1934A \$5 Silver Certificate faces (with macro-size plate numbers) created mules.



In early 1946, Series of 1934B faceplates with Fred M. Vinson’s signature as Secretary of the Treasury were sent to the presses, and Series of 1934A faceplates began to be retired. The K-A block was still being used to serial number \$5 Silver Certificates; thus, both Series of 1934A and Series of 1934B notes with K-A block serial numbers were created.





Fortunately for collectors, Late-Finished Backplate 637 shared time on the presses with both Series of 1934A and Series of 1934B faceplates towards the end of the K-A block, creating two of the three rarest block/series combinations for blue seal BP 637 mules.




More information on the \$5 Silver Certificate Late-Finished Backplate 637 Mules can be found on the Paper Money Project website:

<https://www.papermoneyproject.com/5-silver-certs-637-mules>

Unfortunately, backplate 637 and Late-Finished (front) Plate 307 missed each other on the presses by two years. Thus, an FP 307 / BP 637 mule isn't possible, but I can't say I haven't dreamed about it once or twice.

Overall, the \$5 Silver Certificate K-A block offers small-size collectors the most diverse collecting options of any \$5 small-size notes. A complete set of K-A block notes with all types and varieties from each known serial range would comprise an astonishing 22 notes! How many can you find?



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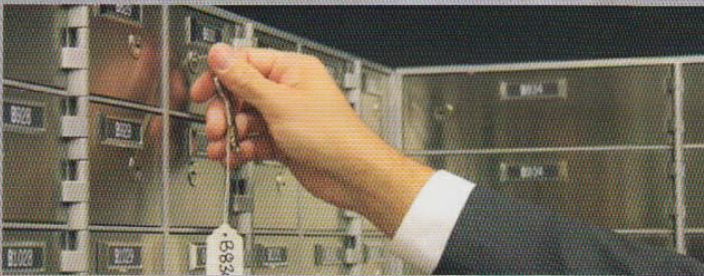
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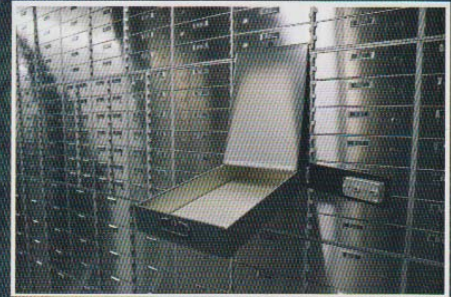
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## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

### DOGE and the Lincoln Cent

On the cover is the lowly Lincoln Cent. This coin may actually be in jeopardy as a result of our recent election and the creation of DOGE or the Department of Government Efficiency by President Trump and Elon Musk. I read that the cent may be targeted due to future attempts to reduce government costs. The article went on to say that the cost of minting (and distributing) of the cent costs 3.75 cents each. Other numbers noted in the press is as low as 2.1 cents but this may not include shipping and distribution. Still spending 2 or 3 cents on each penny is not very efficient.

The article went on to discuss the cents elimination and also stated that the cost of minting a nickel was 11.75 cents. Again, higher than I have heard, but still no matter what source you read both the cent and nickel cost more to mint than their value. Most countries have eliminated their low value coin denominations but should we?

Current production of cents have exceeded 4 billion coins per year with 2021 nearing 8 billion coins. This is more than half the entire mintage of coins of all denominations in a single year.

I noted in 2024 that I received a single 2024 dated cent and also only a single 2024 dime, I like cash but as with the general public I use plastic for the majority of my purchases and received far fewer coins in change than in the past. I do however cringe at the thought of a cashless society but would any of us really miss a penny? What do you think?

Sincerely

Doug Nyholm







# Got Stamps?



## Old letters – Old postcards?

Do you have an old collection or accumulation of stuff that you don't know what to do with? *I can help!* Call me to discuss what items you have. Whether you just want to know what the value is or if you want to sell them. We can discuss what options you have to dispose of your items or I can give you a free verbal appraisal based on the current market value. Either way you will know what you have and can then make intelligent decisions as to what to do with it. Give me a call. It will be worth your time.



Dave Blackhurst

801-580-9534



#

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**Ralph R. Muller**

**P.O. Box 9088**

**Salt Lake City, Utah 84109**

**801-581-0991**



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**Member ANA-UNS-OCC-SPMC-FCCB**

**E-mail [mullerralph@gmail.com](mailto:mullerralph@gmail.com)**

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**[robiewan@netzero.net](mailto:robiewan@netzero.net)**



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208-201-5007





# UNS Membership Application

**Application for membership in the “Utah Numismatic Society”**

**P.O. Box 65054, Salt Lake City, UT 84165**

Name(s) of Applicants: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## ANNUAL DUES

\$30 Family

\$20 Adult

\$5 Junior / Under 18

*By signing this application I acknowledge that I have never been convicted of a felony.*

## Where & When we meet:

Second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 P.M.

Columbus Center / 2530 South 500 East, SLC, UT 84115

## Quiz Answers

The Utah Numismatic Society is now enjoying its 74th year serving collectors in Utah. We sponsor an annual coin show held in Sandy which you may have attended. Our monthly meetings are held monthly on the second Tuesday in Salt Lake City. We have many knowledgeable, as well as novice and beginning collectors, in attendance every month.

Our monthly publication entitled “The Mint Master” contains interesting reading featuring articles such as the ‘Counterfeit Corner,’ ‘Book Reviews,’ ‘Young Numismatists,’ as well as many other numismatic news-worthy columns.

Our meetings include Bourse, Auctions, expert speakers as well as our annual “Youth Night” and “Summer Picnic.”

We invite you to attend one of our meetings held at the -

Columbus Center, 2530 S. 500 E., Salt Lake City.

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