



## FUN Club Newsletter

July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025

**The Summer FUN Show is July 10-12, Orange County Convention Center. See you there.**

IMPORTANT- Some of the FUN officers and board members are nearing the end of their career on the FUN board. We need FUN coin club members to step up and run for the FUN Board. This is a volunteer position and you would have to work at the FUN shows, however there are perks to the position such as First Class Hotel Room during the show and at board meetings, per diem, transportation costs covered, possible travel to a regional or national show where most of the expenses are covered, and meeting the principles of national numismatic magazines and organizations where you might make a special deal for your local coin club. Get in touch with a current FUN Board member, if you are interested. Talk to your club members about running for the FUN Board.

As Officers & Board change at your club, information is lost. Think about having all your officers write a "Job Description" for what they do, including names, phone numbers & emails for all their contacts. I don't receive some club newsletters when people change positions. Send me your club newsletter or a report on your club meeting every month. Please update your club information for the FUN website, meeting location, contacts, etc., with Steve Martin at [jmartin75@msn.com](mailto:jmartin75@msn.com). Some clubs have not updated their information in years. I sent out a update form last month and only 4 clubs replied.

**Free FUN Topics Magazine-** Your FUN member club can receive free FUN Topics magazines. Contact Jay Chamberlain [jcflcoins@comcast.net](mailto:jcflcoins@comcast.net) You just pay postage. A box of 50 costs your club \$20 P. & H.

**Alachua County Numismatic Association-** Alachua County Coin Club met for the first time in September 2024. It meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at the Fairfield Inn & Suites (3877 SW 37th Blvd, Gainesville) at 6:30 pm. President-John Darr; Vice President-Nate Glazer; Secretary-Nancy Darr; Treasurer-Gary Ross. Meetings include an educational presentation and a selling/buying opportunity for members and guests. Email: [alachuanumis@gmail.com](mailto:alachuanumis@gmail.com) Facebook: Alachua County Coin Club Annual dues: \$15. The Alachua County Coin Club met on 3/18. We now have 31 members. Discussion was held about possibly hosting a 1- or 2-day show in December, but a site has not been identified. Members are now taking advantage of the monthly "Share & Sell" where they can bring numismatic items to share and possibly sell during the meeting. Member Gary Melby did a presentation about Counterfeit Coins.

**Ancient City Coin Club-** had 40 members at their last meeting. They had a silver round door prize, 3 raffle prizes, and 50/50 drawing. [www.ancientcitycoinclub.com](http://www.ancientcitycoinclub.com)

**Brandon Coin Club-** meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month at St. Andrews United Methodist Church They had 35 members at their last meeting. There were door prizes, raffle prizes, and an auction. <https://brandoncoinclub.org>

**Casselberry Coin Club-** moved to the Casselberry Recreation center, 200 N Triplet Dr., Casselberry, FL 32707. They had a program on "Secrets of Coin Magic", by John Catiller. The meeting was on April 1st with an auction, a raffle and show and tell. [casselberrycoin@gmail.com](mailto:casselberrycoin@gmail.com)

**Central Florida Coin Club-** meets twice a month, on the 2nd and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month. This month there were no guests, but we did welcome one new member. We played our customary games of "Let's Make a Deal", Educational Certificate Drawing, the Membership Drawing and had 50/50 drawings at each meeting. We also had auctions and our raffle drawings at both of our meetings. This month we had several members share their finds and likes with us during our Show N Tell. John Dobbs gave a presentation on *"Improving a Coin Collection - From 55 years' experience with my own collecting journey"*. After his presentation, John answered questions for the members regarding his collecting experiences. Other news, CFCC will be moving their monthly coin show to a new venue starting in August. We are currently in negotiations and will update everyone as soon as we have a contract in hand.  
[www.centralfloridacoinclub.org](http://www.centralfloridacoinclub.org)

**Citrus County Coin Club-** had our meeting on June 5th. There were 26 members and 5 guests. We had an educational speaker, Ed Blomme, President of the Pasco coin Club. He spoke about the Standing Liberty Quarter. Member Pat Apel won the attendance American Silver Eagle. We had an awesome 90 lot auction, which was run by our President Bob Bandino. We reminded everyone of our bus trip to the F.U.N., on Thursday July 10th. It will make 2 pick-ups. Also, we have our show dates, which will be October 24th & 25th. [bbandino@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:bbandino@tampabay.rr.com)

**Clearwater Coin Club-** They moved to their new meeting hall, Clearwater Recreation Center, 2640 Sabal Springs Dr., 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays. Meetings start at 6:30PM. They had auctions, 77-lots & 68-lots, refreshments, silver coin raffle, 50-50 drawing, and membership door prize. The club had its election of officers for 2025. President – Daniel Greenough, VP- Patrick Apel. [clearwatercoinclub@yahoo.com](mailto:clearwatercoinclub@yahoo.com)

**Florida Token Society-** will meet on November 15<sup>th</sup> in S Daytona, FL. They will have lunch, a trading session, and an auction. Membership with FTS is only \$8. John & Nancy Wilson represented the Florida Token Society at FUN. [Tjohnnancyw@aol.com](mailto:Tjohnnancyw@aol.com)

**Ft Lauderdale Coin Club-** Their club meetings are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of every month. The monthly coin show is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month.  
[www.http://ftlauderdalecoinclub.com](http://ftlauderdalecoinclub.com)

**Ft. Myers Coin Club-** The June meeting of the Fort Myers Coin Club had 48 people in attendance. Tom Scopp did a PowerPoint presentation on the Patriotic American Eagle on Coins. And there was a 62 lot Auction and 60-item silent bid board refreshments were served, and six over eagles were raffled off. [jcflcoins@comcast.net](mailto:jcflcoins@comcast.net)

**Fort Walton Beach Coin Club-** 37 members and one guest attended the meeting. They had a silver dollar attendance prize and an auction. They had a presentation on “Theodore Roosevelt and the St. Gaudens Coin Design”. They are now meeting at American Legion Post 235, 105 Hollywood Blvd NW, Ft Walton Beach, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 6 PM Sharp.  
[www.fortwaltonbeachcoinclub.com](http://www.fortwaltonbeachcoinclub.com)

**Gold Coast Coin Club-** They meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays at a new location, 1301 S Ocean Dr., Hollywood, FL 33019. Their 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month coin show is at the Hollywood Rotary Club at 24<sup>th</sup> Ave and Taylor Street. [www.goldcoastcoinclub.com](http://www.goldcoastcoinclub.com)

**Greater Daytona Coin Club-** had a program on “Using Co-Pilot to make information tabs for coins, and how it works” by Bob Hawes. [bobcoin@earthlink.net](mailto:bobcoin@earthlink.net)

**Greater Jacksonville Coin Club –** had their spring “Mini-Show”. New officers for 2025 are President- Josh Pressel, VP- Adam Lemons, Treasurer- Charles Joseph, Secretary- Scott Stover, Membership Chair- Kyle McKnight, Show Chair- Barbara Bobbitt. Board members are Pete LaComb, Claude Nearon, Ed Rodriguez, Newsletter Editor- James Garcia, Educational Chair- John Hendricks.  
[greaterjacksonvillecoinclub@gmail.com](mailto:greaterjacksonvillecoinclub@gmail.com)

**Ocala Coin Club-** Their new meeting location is VFW, 4805 NE 36<sup>th</sup> Ave. Ocala, FL. They had 46 members, and 4 guests attended the meeting. They had a program on “An Overview of the Florida Legal Tender Act” by Richard Selvar, followed by door prizes, 50/50 drawing and the auction. [www.ocalacoinclub@gmail.com](mailto:www.ocalacoinclub@gmail.com)

**Palm Beach Coin Club-** They had 50 and 64 members at the meetings. Two new members joined in June. They had 10 slab door prizes, 3 slab silver dollar raffle prizes, and a cash jackpot. At the second meeting, Gregg Wagner had a program on “Classic Silver Commemorative Half Dollars”. The monthly coin show had 40 dealers manning 48 tables and about 350 attendees. [www.pbcc.anacclubs.org](http://www.pbcc.anacclubs.org)

**The Coin Club of Pasco County-** holds its monthly meetings on the second Thursday of each month. Doors open at 6:00 pm and the meeting starts at 6:30 pm. An auction and a raffle are usually held. The club strives to educate its members with a monthly talk by a member, on different topics of coin history or recent numismatic events. Visitors are welcome. The location is The Elks Lodge, 9135 Denton Ave., Hudson, FL 34667 (use side entrance). For information call Chuck 727 534-7597 or [www.PascoCoinClub.com](http://www.PascoCoinClub.com) Please call first to make sure the day hasn't changed.

**Sarasota Coin Club** meets monthly at 7PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Sahib Shriners Hall on 600 N Beneva Rd. in Sarasota. Each meeting is hosted to about 30 members & guests, a raffle with 4x \$10 Gift vouchers & 4x 1oz Silver bullion coins

will be held as well as our approx. 50-coin auction. We discuss the state of the numismatic market, recent coin shows, we have a buy/sell board and sometimes enjoy a guest speaker. We hope to see you there & please know that visitors are always welcome! For more information, call 941-366-2191, visit [sarasotanutismatics.com](http://sarasotanutismatics.com) or email [Ryan@sarasotanutismatics.com](mailto:Ryan@sarasotanutismatics.com)

**South Brevard Coin Club-** had 47 members and 1 new member at the meeting. They had a raffle, door prizes, and a program on “Stock Certificates” by Juan M. The monthly show had 27 dealers and 209 people in attendance. New officers for 2025 are, President- Bob Senton, VP- Bill Peters, Chair of the Board- Jim Nuara, Secretary- Paula Davis, Treasurer- Tim Janecke. <http://southbrevardcoinclub.com>

**Tampa Bay Coin Club-** They meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month at St. Clements Episcopal Church, 706 113<sup>th</sup> Ave., Tampa, FL 33612. They had 45 members and 4 visitors at their meeting. The program was “The 3-Cent Nickels, 1865-1889” by YN Scotty Burkett. The silver raffle followed. [www.tampabaycoinclub.org](http://www.tampabaycoinclub.org)

**Treasure Coast Coin Club-** had a program on “History of the 1715 Fleet” by Jim Wilson. They had a 57-lot auction. [newsletter@treasurercoastcoinclub.org](mailto:newsletter@treasurercoastcoinclub.org)

**Venice Coin Club-** was attended by 33 members and 3 guests. We talked about any upcoming shows including Summer FUN. Discussed the price of gold and silver. Josilee Koch made us guess 'what is the mystery country?'. Tom Scopp did an encore presentation of "The American Eagle - The Bird Not the Coin". We also had a raffle and an auction. <http://realmwix.com/vccc>

## IN THE NEWS

### Precious Metals Dealer Sentenced to 65 Years in \$76 Million Gold and Silver Fraud

Robert Higgins gets 65 years for defrauding investors of \$76 million in gold, silver, and rare coins in one of the largest precious metals scams in U.S. history.

In a landmark sentencing, 69-year-old Robert L. Higgins, owner of First State Depository in Wilmington, Delaware (formerly in Florida), was handed the maximum 65-year federal prison sentence on June 17, 2025. Following an eight-day jury trial, he was convicted of mail and wire fraud and income tax evasion.

Higgins' depository once stored over \$100 million in client-held gold, silver bars, and coins. Over the course of a decade, he siphoned off at least \$76 million—more than 1,000 customer accounts were discovered missing metals.

His ill-gotten gains funded a lavish lifestyle: Hawaiian timeshares, foreign vacations, high-end toys, and more, all while underreporting income on federal tax filings.

U.S. District Judge Maryellen Noreika described the scope and brazenness of Higgins' scheme as “shocking,” branding it the largest theft from a precious-metals depository in U.S. history. The court also ordered Higgins to pay approximately \$76.5 million in restitution.

Acting U.S. Attorney Steinberg stated, "Higgins lied to, cheated, and stole from customers who placed their trust in him and his businesses during a 10-year fraud scheme. He took his customers' metals without their permission and used them to finance his personal life and keep his scheme going, all the while failing to report and pay his fair share of income taxes. By robbing his many victims of their hard-earned life savings and retirement funds, Higgins irreparably hurt hundreds of people and their families. I applaud the FBI and the IRS-Criminal Investigation Division for their hard work to hold Higgins accountable."