

CUBAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
 IS A 501(c) 3 ORGANIZATION (see newsletter 2-07)
WWW.CUBANUMIS.COM

NEWSLETTER 2-11
APRIL 2011

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Fxputrow@aol.com

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Cuban Numismatic Association is a member of:
 Florida United Numismatists (FUN) – www.funtopic.com
 American Numismatic Association (ANA) – www.money.org
 American Numismatic Society (ANS) – www.numismatics.org
 Latin American Paper Money Society (LANSA) – www.lansa.bz

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FOR OUR SPANISH SPEAKING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS.

SALUDOS SOCIOS Y AMIGOS NUMISMATICOS

Bienvenidos a nuestra Asociación Numismática Cubana. Esta es nuestra primera comunicación en el idioma Español para beneficio de nuestros visitantes y socios de habla hispana, y aquellos de habla inglesa que deseen practicar su español. Nuestra Asociación esta formada por numismáticos de todas partes del mundo que tienen el interés común de estudiar, coleccionar, y compartir conocimientos y amistad con otros sobre la Numismática de la Isla de Cuba. La asociación está afiliada con American Numismatic Association (ANA), American Numismatic Society (ANS), Latin American Paper Money Society (LANSA) y Florida United Numismatists (FUN).

Somos una entidad sin fines de lucro y totalmente apolítica, fundada el 9 de Enero de 2004. uestros objetivo es el estudio de monedas, billetes, fichas, medallas, bonos, fichas de casino, documentos y, en general, todo lo referente a la Numismática de Cuba. Nos reunimos anualmente durante la convención de invierno de Florida Numismatic Association (FUN), usualmente en Orlando, Florida. La cuota anual de membresía regular es solamente \$ 10.00 US. El propósito de esta comunicación en español es invitar a todos los numismáticos de habla hispana a comunicarse con nosotros, si así lo desean y prefieren, en este idioma. También queremos explorar opiniones de los socios sobre comunicaciones en español.

Por favor envíen sus ideas, preguntas y comentarios a Frank Putrow, (Presidente)

Fxputrow@aol.com o al que suscribe, Rudy Valentín, (V.P.) Numisrev@verizon.net

(Nota: El nombre legal de nuestra Asociación es "Cuban Numismatic Association", somos una Asociación legalmente constituida el los E.U.A. y no estamos afiliados a ninguna entidad de ningún otro país cuyo nombre en español pueda ser similar.)

ANNUAL CNA MEETING HELD – SATURDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 8th, 2011.

1:00 pm, Room 5 in the Tampa, FL. Convention Center.

Attendees were welcomed by President Frank Putrow.

Minutes of January 9, 2010 7th Annual Meeting were read, and accepted as read.

Treasury report presented by Robert Freeman, CNA Treasurer.

Website (www.cubanumis.com) update presented by Stan Klein.

Putrow reported that there will be 5 remaining CNA commemorative coins/medals after the meeting. Also, there were 45 Cuba Type Set Books remaining of the original 500.

CNA membership remains about 153 members. New members are offset by departing members.

A moment of silence was held in respect for 4 CNA members who passed away in 2010. They were: Ed Roehrs, Ignatio Ortiz-Bello, Millard Sowell, and Jorge Rodriguez.

Nominations were requested to fill the positions of Vice-President, Secretary, and one Director. Nominations were also requested in the 4-10, and 1-11 CNA newsletters. There were no volunteers for the Vice-President's position, so Rudy Valentin retained the position. Joseph Algazi volunteered for the directorship, and Richard Schemitsch volunteered for the Secretary position. The three were subsequently sworn in by President Frank Putrow. In 2012, the positions of four Directors, the Treasurer, and the President will be up for election. Rudy Valentin gave a talk on "Open Our Minds", addressing the need to consider all Cuban coins and currency as Numismatic material.

Joe Algazi gave a talk on Cuban historical documents, presenting actual letters related to Ernest Hemingway. Putrow reported that the CNA had a complimentary table in the bourse and wooden 5 centavos, business cards and pamphlets were available. The Cuba Type Set books were also for sale for \$10 (members) and \$17 (non members).

After the formal meeting was adjourned, drawings and an auction was held. Door prizes (one for each attendee), donated by members, were \$164 in value. Good for the club items, donated by members, realized \$142 in the auction. Other items, donated by members and valued at \$110, were awarded in the 50/50 drawing, which also realized \$110. Two lucky winners won \$30 and \$25 respectively. A total of 18 quality items were auctioned and the proceeds went to the sellers.

At the CNA Annual meeting, the membership was advised that a “reminder” for CNA membership dues will be mailed to all members, who were not current with their dues. At this time, the reminders have been mailed. If you received the reminder, please complete the questionnaire and submit your dues without delay. Every other year, members who have not submitted dues or are not located, are purged from our CNA listings. A purge will take place in June, 2011.

**NOTE FROM ROBERT FREEMAN, CNA TREASURER
“Your partnership with the Cuban Numismatic Association”**

Many non-profit organizations hate this time of the year because it is time to solicit dues once again, and yep, your 2011 dues of \$10.00 are needed once again. These dues are still needed to grow the CNA. After all, we are serving the whole world!

For me, it is a time of accomplishment, hope, anticipation, and fulfillment. We have 153 active members on our roles, and after selling 455 copies, we still have 45 Cuban “Type Set” books available for our members. The books are professionally done and will be much appreciated and rare research tools in the future.

We have a lot of work to do. There is a book on Cuban Coinage to write. There are some interactive projects on our website (www.Cubanumis.com) to design and implement.

We are here for the long term. We need you to be there with us!!

DUES to the Association can be deducted on your 1040 tax form in certain circumstances. CNA members, who pay dues and receive the newsletter by email, are considered members making charitable donations to the club, and the Association dues are deductible on their 1040 tax form. Those members, who pay dues, but request that newsletters be mailed to them, should assume they get value for their donations and therefore should not consider Association dues as deductible charitable donations.

Member Profile

Since the membership of CNA is so diverse, and separated geographically, it may be feasibly impossible for our members to meet and get to know one another. This section will highlight a member, or members, in each newsletter, providing a brief background of the person(s), so the membership may know a little about the person(s). It will be 100% voluntary. The officers and board members were first to provide their background, followed by the charter members, then the regular members.

The CNA is privileged to have members of various ethnic, economic, political, and educational backgrounds. Among the mix are: business executives, lawyers, medical doctors, and PhD's in religion, education, science, and government. The core of the CNA remains the “average” person,

with numismatic interests, but it is interesting to know that such a variety of collectors are on our membership rolls, such as:

WAYNE K. HOMREN - CNA Member#1151

Wayne was born on August 24, 1958, and raised in Pittsburgh PA, residing with his parents, sister and grandmothers. He collected Lincoln cents in Whitman penny albums and discovered foreign coins when his step-grandfather gave him a box of old coins, including a 1910 British Maundy set and an 1821 British Crown. He added to his collection with purchases from Littleton Coin Co., and gleanings from change received from the customers on his Pittsburgh Press newspaper route. In 1978 he was attending the University of Pittsburgh main campus (studying Math and Computer Science) when he read in the paper that Carnegie Museum was planning to deaccession its vast coin collection. Interviewed in the article was Glenn Mooney, a Westinghouse engineer and volunteer curator at the collection. Wayne found Glenn's number in the phone book and called to offer assistance. Glenn graciously invited him to his home to view his own collection. Meanwhile, he met Bill Hunter and other Western Pennsylvania Numismatic Society (WPNS) members, and collected a large number of signatures on a petition against the sale. Glenn sponsored Wayne as a WPNS member later that year. In subsequent years he would hold every position in the Society from Curator, Treasurer, Secretary, Vice-President and President. He became one of the first Life Members of WPNS and wrote an extensive history of the society's early years.

His numismatic interest turned to the U.S. Civil War and he began collections of Pittsburgh Civil War Tokens, Confederate paper money, civil war-era merchant scrip, and encased postage stamps. Other collections included Pittsburgh obsolete paper money, charge coins, and counterstamps.

While in college, he began a lifelong interest in numismatic literature, eventually forming one of the best private libraries in the country devoted to U.S. numismatics. Along the way he acquired libraries and books from collectors including James O. Sloss of Beaver, PA and Donald Miller of Indiana, PA. to build his library.

Wayne set up Rebellion Numismatics, buying numismatic literature from book dealers across the country and selling duplicates to WPNS members and thru other literature dealers.

Through his interest in numismatic literature and membership in the Numismatic Bibliomania Society (NBS), Wayne met and became friends with top numismatists across the country, including Eric P. Newman, John J. Ford, Q. David Bowers, Jules Reiver, and John Kraljevich, Jr.

He wrote articles for the NBS journal, The Asylum and in 1998 started the society's electronic newsletter, later named The E-Sylum. The online journal became popular among top numismatists from around the U.S. and the world, earning Wayne the prestigious Burnett Anderson Award for Excellence in Numismatic Writing, which was presented at the American Numismatic Association convention banquet in Baltimore, August 2, 2008.

He married Diana Lynn Robinson on July 5, 1997. They have three children. Wayne worked for a number of Pittsburgh startup companies including

Carnegie Group, Inc, FreeMarkets, and Lycos, where he was Sr. Product Manager for the internet search engine. He also worked as an equity research analyst for investment firm Parker/Hunter, covering telecommunications stocks including Verizon.

In 2006 the family moved to Northern Virginia where Wayne returned to his software roots, working for Digital Focus. There he took an overseas assignment, working in London for the summer of 2007. There he was welcomed by his British E-Sylum readers who invited him to their club meetings, coin shows, and homes. Today Wayne works for the U.S. Defense Department.

The bulk of his numismatic collections were sold in 2006 by American Numismatic Rarities (in a Chicago auction) and R.M. Smythe (New York). Proceeds helped fund the family's move to Virginia. Wayne continues his interest in numismatic through his library, the weekly E-Sylum and a new organization he founded in Northern Virginia, Nova Nummis, a monthly dinner social for serious numismatists.

EDITORS NOTE: Wayne is the editor of the E-SYLUM WEEKLEY, an electronic publication of bibliomania articles. It is an extensive publication, and professional in all respects.

Information about the Numismatic Bibliomania Society (NBS) is available at <http://www.coinbooks.org/esylum/index.html>

WHY DID THE S.S. CENTRAL AMERICA SINK? By Wayne Homren

Leon Worden writes: "Thank you for providing a forum that allows me to engage in some wild & crazy speculation. I came across the following item in the Aug. 25, 1854, edition of an old broadsheet newspaper from New York, The National Intelligencer: "The steamer George Law arrived at New York yesterday with San Francisco dates to the 1st inst. She brings three hundred passengers, and about \$1,200,000 in gold."

"As you may know, in 1857, the George Law was rechristened the S.S. Central America, and later that year, loaded with 500 passengers (578 total passengers and crew) and \$1.6 million in gold that had been consigned to banks in New York, she sank.

"In his 1998 bestseller, "Ship of Gold," author Gary Kinder writes that the bow of the S.S. Central America was riding high off the water when she departed Panama for Cuba. I ask: Why? I mean, sure, maybe her engine and boiler works weighed 750 tons, but so what? If her passenger count and cargo weight were within design tolerance and evenly distributed throughout the ship, wouldn't she have been riding at even keel? (or whatever you call it - I'm not seaworthy.)

"Kinder suggests that because of the way the ship was riding, the boiler room flooded more quickly than it might have, after she sprung a leak in a Category 2 hurricane. The bucket brigade couldn't bail fast enough, and if my memory serves, it took her three days to sink, by which time the storm had subsided.

"Within months, the insurance companies that covered the banks' gold shipments had covered the banks' losses. One hundred thirty years later, when Tommy Thompson began to pull the \$1.6 million in gold (face value)

from the bowels of the ocean, the successors to those insurance companies filed a claim in federal court against the gold itself and eventually won a percentage of it.

Now for my crazy speculation. Why was the S.S. Central America riding high? Why was she carrying more than half again as many passengers and one-third more gold (by weight, since it is gold) on a trip in 1857 than she carried in on a trip in 1854? Was she stuffed beyond design capacity? If so, was it the steamship's standard operating procedure at the time to overload her?

Alternately, did some enthusiastic bankers (notice I didn't say "greedy") convince (notice I didn't say "bribe") some dockworkers and ship's crew to overload the ship with gold? "And if she was overloaded, with or without the complicity of the bankers, were the insurance companies that covered the bank's losses entitled to a share of Tommy Thompson's treasure?

"I wonder. If the steamship company's employees overloaded the ship beyond her design capacity, it would seem to me that they could be guilty of criminal negligence at best (not to mention wrongful death), and the proper claim would be against the steamship company or its heirs and assigns -- not the gold. And if the bankers played a role in the overloading of the ship, surely they would have been in breach of contract under their insurance policies, and the insurers would have borne no responsibility to cover their losses. The insurance companies' payout would have been improper.

"My own problem with this theory is that I have only two points of reference. I have only two sets of numbers -- an 1854 shipment (300 passengers, \$1.2 million in gold) and an 1857 shipment (500 passengers, \$1.6 million in gold). I don't know what was "average," and I don't know the ship's design capacity. Does any subscriber know these answers?

"Finally, why should anyone care after all these years? Well ... Kinder's book, "approved" by Tommy Thompson prior to publication, reports that there is a lot of gold that Thompson left down there at the bottom of the sea. A couple of years ago, Thompson formed a new "exploration" company, ostensibly to bring it up. The insurance companies could come knocking again. Maybe I should run this one past Tommy Thompson's attorneys..."

Editors note: There are still tons of sunken gold in the seas surrounding Cuba.



The lawyers must be chomping at the bit!

Grading Cuban Coins, compliments of CoinsofCuba website.

The art of coin grading, although still subjective, has been facilitated in recent decades by the development and adoption of standard grading scales. The most commonly used scale, originally developed by Dr. William H. Sheldon, is the 70 point numerical grading system that has been widely adopted since 1970. However, in order to assign numerical grades to coins, it is essential to know what to look for in the coin being graded. What are the high points? What areas are the most susceptible to abrasions, rubbing and flattening? May of these questions have been answered for US coins in comprehensive grading guides such as Photograde and the ANA Grading Standards for US Coins. For foreign coins, and Cuban coins in particular, published information is very scarce if not inexistent. The grading guide below, although not official or comprehensive, will hopefully assist those interested in grading Cuban coins from the First Republic (1915-1961). This first post focuses on Star coinage, although some elements will likely apply to other series, since the coat of arms is almost ubiquitously present on the reverse of most coins from the Republican period. Grading of ABC Pesos, Marti Centennial coins and Gold coinage will be covered in future posts. Finally, it is worth stressing once again that grading is subjective and that other factors may influence the overall grade and value of a coin, including environmental damage, improper cleaning or handling, nicks, marks and other kinds of injuries, as well as eye appeal.

On the reverse, the high points of the coat of arms are most susceptible to wear. The palm tree, the key and the star on the Phrygian cap are key elements to consider when grading of Cuban coins. The wreath and the fasces are also susceptible to wear. For higher grades in particular, it is imperative to take a close look at the obverse as wear and blemishes will usually be visible on the high points of the Star on the obverse, especially on the ridges and center of the star.

The accompanying table describes and pictures some of the differences among a range of condition or grades. As usual, comments and/or suggestions would be appreciated.

Grade	Reverse	Detail
Very Good (VG8)		
The rim will be full and all the letters and date will be clear and visible.		
Rev: Slight detail in wreath will show. Most vertical lines in the fasces will not be visible, and the diagonal and horizontal bands will be worn nearly flat.		
Obv: Star will be worn nearly flat but will be visible and completely outlined.		

Fine (F12)

Rev: Parts of the key and palm tree will be worn smooth, but the outline may be visible. The star on the Phrygian cap will be worn smooth. Detail in wreath will show, although the ends of leaves will show considerable wear.

Obv: Star will be well worn but completely outlined and visible. Star lines running to the center (valleys) will also be visible.



Very Fine (VF20)

Rev: The key and the star in the Phrygian cap will be worn but visible. Details may not be visible. All vertical lines in the fasces will show.

Obv: Star will show signs of wear, but all valleys and ridges will be visible.



Extra Fine (EF45)

Rev: High points of the key and the Phrygian cap will be lightly worn but will show all details. Details of the palm tree will also show.

Obv: Slight wear will show on Star ridges and center.



**About Uncirculated
(AU58)**

Rev: Only traces of wear will be visible on the Phrygian cap, the key and the palm tree.

Obv: The ridges and center of the Star will show only a trace of wear. Mint luster still present.



**Uncirculated / Mint
State**

These coins have never been circulated, but the presence of bag marks and abrasions can affect the grade, most noticeably on the star.

MS60 (Typical) No trace of wear, but with blemishes.

MS65 (Choice) Nearly perfect with some small blemish. A few barely noticeable marks may be present. Has full mint luster but may be uneven or toned.



BUYER BEWARE!!

Rogue travel agencies are aggressively soliciting exhibitors and attendees of Coin/Money Shows, reports Florida United Numismatists (FUN).

It is important to note that the information these rouge agencies provide is often completely untrue, usually involving non-existent room blocks and false rates. The OFFICIAL hotels in Orlando, FL. have confirmed that they have not contracted lower rates with any of these rogue agencies. This is probably going on in most cities where major shows are held

Don't fall for their deceptive sales pitch! Even if an agency assures you that you have a "confirmed" reservation at a particular hotel, it is possible that you will be walked to a completely different hotel once you arrive in the city housing the Show. Giving your credit card information is strongly advised against.

CAVEAT EMPTOR! Verify! Verify!

CNA now on FACEBOOK!

Your CNA has advanced to FACEBOOK, the land of our children and grandchildren. Give it a try. You must be a member of FACEBOOK to get started. If I can do it, anyone can do it (F. Putrow).

CUBAN NUMISMAIC ASSOCIATION.

You have a story, pictures, or comment? Post It! You can use it to sell, buy or trade. Tell us about that trip or experience. Looking forward to seeing that post!

Our thanks to Jesus Inguanzo for setting it up!

QUIZ: Who is Jose Curbelo? What do we know about him? Look for his ad in this newsletter: Wanted #5. Answer found on page 12.

CUBA NUMIS/NEWS CAPSULE

A Section of the CNA Newsletter presented by contributors with interesting short stories.

A very interesting item was recently listed and sold on Ebay # 330540032798. It is definitely “one of a kind”. The 1897 Souvenir Peso was sliced open and made into a locket. It sold for \$260, after 16 bids.

The seller wrote “

Here is the RARE Type II 1897 Cuban Souvenir silver peso coin in a way that you have probably never seen! This is an authentic coin that has been hollowed out and made into a locket with an engraved inside cover. This was done in the 1897 era--not recently. It's kind of a shame since this coin has such a low mintage, but this is quite possibly the ONLY one like this that was made into a locket. I have to admit--it is very well made! The hinge and the way it opens/closes is very well done. There is a 'lip' to put a picture on the inside as well. I had a coin shop weigh this and there is a 1/2 ounce of silver in this coin. I don't know if there will be any demand for this, but I figured since there was such a low mintage of this coin to begin with, and since this is very well done, I figured I would give it a shot!”.



25 YEARS AGO (May 1976 . FromWorld Coin)

Silver was \$4.00 an ounce. Cuban silver coins were worth three times face value.

Cuban gold coins were worth seven times their face value.

Many gold coins were melted down in the late 1930's, and many silver coins were melted down between 1950-1954. The ABC pesos were not intended for circulation, but as a backing for Cuban silver certificates.

In May 1976, the trend of Cuban coins was as follows:

Unc. 1915 to 1952 10 centavos - \$2 to \$10(1916)

Unc 1915 to 1952 20 centavos - \$2 to \$20(1916). Unc 1932 20 centavo was \$75

Unc 1953 25 centavo - \$4

Unc 1915 40 centavo - \$6 to \$30(1920). Unc 1916 40 centavo was \$70

Unc 1953 50 centavo - \$6

Unc 1897 Souvenir Peso Type 1 - \$600, Types 2 & 3 - \$100

Unc 1898 Peso - \$500

Unc Star 1915 thru 1934 Pesos - \$30 to \$150(1916) Proof 1915-1916 - \$675 to \$1300(1916)

Unc ABC Pesos - \$80 to \$100. The Unc 1937 Peso was \$750

Unc Marti Peso - \$15

Unc 1915&1916 Gold Peso - \$250

Proof 1915&1916 - \$450

Unc 1915&1916 Gold 2 Peso - \$100 to \$130 (1915)

Proof 1915&1916 - \$375

Unc 1915&1916 Gold 4 Peso - \$200 to \$250(1915)

Proof 1915&1916 - n/a

Unc 1915&1916 Gold 5 Peso - \$75 to \$100(1915)

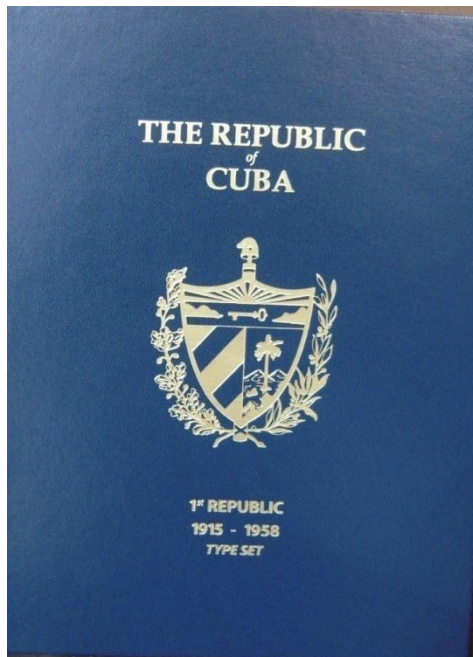
Proof 1915&1916 - n/a

Unc 1915&1916 Gold 10 Peso - \$125 to \$150(1915)

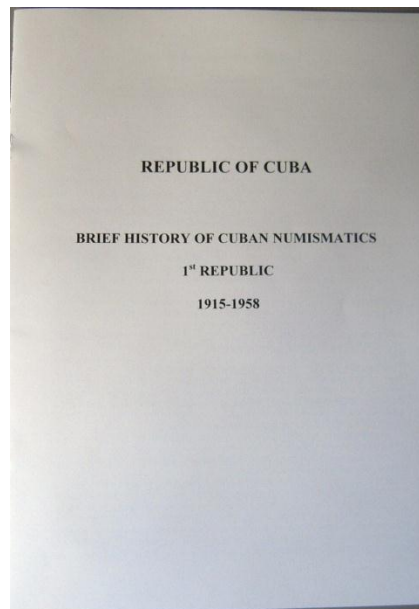
Proof 1915&1916 - n/a

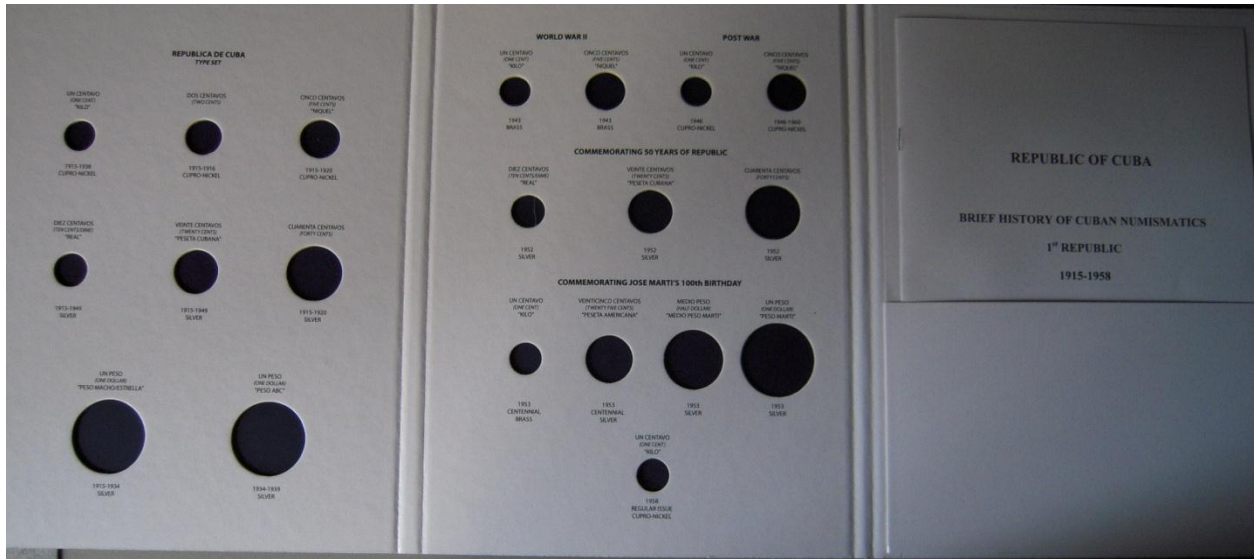
Unc 1915 Gold 20 Peso - \$400

Proof 1916 - \$40,000



CNA TYPE SET BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE





**THE CUBAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION IS PROUD
TO ANNOUNCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF CUBA 1ST REPUBLIC 1915-1958 TYPE SET BOOK.**

The book is 8 1/2" X 11 1/2", weighs 17 oz. and includes a booklet about the brief history of Cuban Numismatics. The book was designed for those "TYPE SET" collectors, who are not interested in collecting all the coins that make up the Cuban mintages. The book was designed for those "TYPE SET" collectors, who are not interested in collecting all the coins that make up the Cuban mintages.

The book is now available for purchase. Paid up CNA members may order a maximum of two for \$14 each, which includes Florida sales tax (where applicable), and S&H. International, excluding Canada – add \$5 for additional mailing costs. Non-CNA members cost is \$17 each. For ordering information, visit www.cubanumis.com or contact Frank Putrow at Fxputrow@aol.com or 727 5317337.

ONLY 45 BOOKS REMAINING. NO CURRENT PLANS TO REPRINT.

CUBA NOSTALGIA CELEBRATION to be held on MAY 20-22 in Coral Gables, FL.

The Annual Cuba Nostalgia Celebration will be held again this year, and the Cuban Numismatic Association will be there. We will have a table, from which select Cuban collectibles will be on display. The CNA Board of Directors will be there, as well as the Officers of the CNA. Stop by and meet them. There will be handouts and some lucky attendee will win a beautiful set of Cuban currency prints. Other prizes for the young ones.

ANSWER FROM QUIZ ON Page 9.

Pianist and band leader José Curbelo was born in Havana; he had a Cuban mother and a father who had been raised in America and played violin with the Havana Philharmonic. At eight, Curbelo began two years of study under composer Pedro Menendez and then attended the Molinas Conservatory in Havana. At 16, he played in bands around Havana and helped form the Havana

Riverside Orchestra. Following that group's tour of South America, he made his way to New York in 1939.

In New York, Curbelo found work in various bands and appeared at the El Morocco, among other places. José Morand, a band leader who later started the *Fiesta* label, gave him an early start. In 1942 Curbelo formed his own band and played initially at La Conga. A year at New York's Havana Madrid (1943-44) was followed by stints at Zanzibar and then an upstate gig at Grossingers Resort in the Catskills. The next couple of years he spent in Miami at the Clover Club and the Latin Quarter and in New York at La Conga again, Bill Miller's Riviera, and eventually the China Doll. In New York, at times, [Tito Puente](#), [Tito Rodriguez](#) and [Candido](#) joined the band.

Further engagements included in New York (La Martinique, Roseland, the Palladium and the Savoy), in Miami (the Sans Souci and Ciro's), in Las Vegas (the Sahara Hotel) and in Baltimore (the Chanticleer Club). In 1953, he reduced the band to a sextet and added jazzmen such as [Al Cohn](#) on tenor sax and Jack Hitchcock on trombone and vibes. Famous arrangers for the band include Rene Hernandez, [Chico O'Farrill](#), Puente, and Cohn. Like many of the top Cuban bandleaders of the day, Curbelo can lay claim to classical training as a youth, a variety of Latin influences.

In 1985, he was interviewed by Jo Werne while living in Miami. He talked about his life as a musician, but equally as important, his interests in Cuban coinage and currency. He stated that, at one time, he had “the most complete collection of Cuban paper money and coins in the world.” He recalled that Cuban silver and gold coins came to his attention as a boy in Cuba. After arriving in New York in 1939 with \$20 to his name, his career blossomed, and he began to collect Cuban money. He would sneak out of his office to visit a coin dealer to see a particular coin. He explained why Cuban coins in mint condition are rare. “Few coins were minted, and Cubans didn't collect their own money; they used them, put them in circulation.”

Curbelo spent a lot of money on coins over the years. He sold a sizable part of his collection to Texas publisher Amon Carter Jr. in 1969. “Today (1985), my collection would be worth \$2 million or more.” Cuban paper money is also important to Curbelo's collection. He told Ms. Werne that his biggest disappointment was the inability to purchase one of the two existing 1950 10,000 peso notes. He also collects Proclamation pieces.


Two things intrigue Curbelo about collecting coins and paper money. “You study the history of the country through the money. I learned more about Cuba's history through my hobby than I learned in school as a boy.”

Jose, who calls himself “American to the bone”, has an interesting family. His American grandfather fought alongside Teddy Roosevelt in the Spanish American War. He married a Cuban woman, and returned to America after the war. Their son, Jose's father, also went to Cuba and married a Cuban woman. Jose was born in Havana, as an American because of his father. When in New York, Jose met a Cuban-American woman, Orchid Rosas, and they were married a few months later. Orchid was born in Cuba, to American parents who were in the tobacco business.

Jose and his good friend, Desi Arnaz (I love Lucy) were never able to get rid of their thick Cuban accent, while Orchid spoke perfect English.

Jose Curbelo celebrated his 94th birthday in Miami on February 21, 2011.

FROM THE KITCHEN – GREAT FOR LENT

Recipe this Week: Arroz and shrimp.	6 Servings
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium shrimp (2 lbs.) • 2/3 cups olive oil • 1/2 onions • 1 sprig parsley • 1 green pepper • 2 cloves garlic • 4 cups chicken broth • 1 cup dry wine • ¼ cup olives • 2 tbs. salt (approx.) • 1/2 tsp. saffron • 1/2 tsp. cumin • 1/4 tsp. pepper • 1 lb. rice • 1 can red peppers • 1 small can petit pois • 1 small can asparagus
<p>PREPARATION: Saute the onion, parsley, garlic, green pepper in the oil. Add the wine, salt, saffron, cumin, half the red peppers, the water from the red peppers and the petit pois. Bring to a boil and add the rice. Cook over low heat or in a 400°F oven for about 30 minutes. Add deveined shrimp. Cook another 15 minutes. While cooking, add small portions of water, as needed, so that the rice does not dry up. When done, place on serving dish and garnish with asparagus, olives and red pepper strips. ENJOY!!</p>	

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NOTE: Responses to Letters To The Editor are provided by CNA members, who volunteer their time, and have a variety of expertise. Some information may be misrepresented or partially incomplete. Although these situations are considered minimal, it may occur. In these situations, the CNA apologizes, but cannot be held responsible.

1. M. sent the following email:

I found an oddity that I had not heard of.

Attached is a photo of (2) 2 reales coins with lattice countermark that I just purchased in Colombia. As

you will notice the 1928 coin has a double countermark.
Have you ever seen something like this?



RESPONSE by R. Valentin, CNA Vice President

It is hard to notice any defect on a coin on line. However, counter-marks were made with a punch by hand and it is not rare to see a double struck mark. Try to imagine the process. If the first blow did not produce a clear impression, Hit it again! Nevertheless, in my opinion, this occurrence is of no numismatic importance and should not carry a separate or additional value for the piece,

#2. D. sent the following email:

Hi there!

I found a very old document on the internet, and I was wondering if the club is still around or has regular meetings.

Response by Editor

The Cuban Numismatic Association is very much alive. Check out www.cubanumis.com

#3. D. L. sent the following email:

As a member I was reading the last newsletter and was wondering if it would be possible to get some of the older articles written? According to the newsletter article index, I would be interested in the following articles:

- 2-07/14 1869 Paper Money Issues of Cuba
- 4-10/6 1905 Currency Pesos
- 4-10/6 1950 10,000 Pesos Specimen
- 4-10/5 Cuba Banknotes
- 1-08/7 First Bank Notes of the Cuban Republic
- 1-06/7 First Circulating Currencies

If you know of any other good sources for the early history of Cuban currency, please advise.

Response by editor

Thank you for the inquiry of Cuban currency.

These articles are easily accessible on our www.cubanumis.com website. Once on the site, click on newsletters, then pick the issue. For instance; the 1869 Paper Money article is located in newsletter 2-07, then go to page 14. You can "copy and paste" onto a blank sheet of your word processor and name the file yourself. Try it!!

Any of your other interests would be accessible in the same manner.

#4. J. K. sent the following email:

I noticed that for the 2C & other coins in a 1915 Proof set, they showed (3) categories Cuba/ Cuba CA & Cuba UC. What does that mean?

Response by E. M. Ortiz, CNA Director

CA stands for Cameo. UC stands for Ultra Cameo

#5. K. sent the following email:

I read your article *Cuban Coinage as an alternative), and have a question regarding a 1920 1 C Peso misprint. I did not see anything about the value of a misprint. My coin has clearly missed the entire mark on both sides, however the date of the coin was luckily struck.

Any idea what this is worth?

Response by editor

Thank you for the email and interest in the 1920 Cuban centavo. You specifically listed the 1920 1 centavo. I am not aware of any error coins of that denomination. However, a few of the 1920 5 centavos were minted without a "period" after the G on the obverse. The World Coin Catalog, by Krause, values this coin from \$1.75 (fair) to \$150 (uncirculated).

Are you aware that we have established a Cuban Numismatic Association (CNA), and are looking for new members?

#6. M. sent the following email:

I have a 5 centavos coin from 1915. Does it have any value?

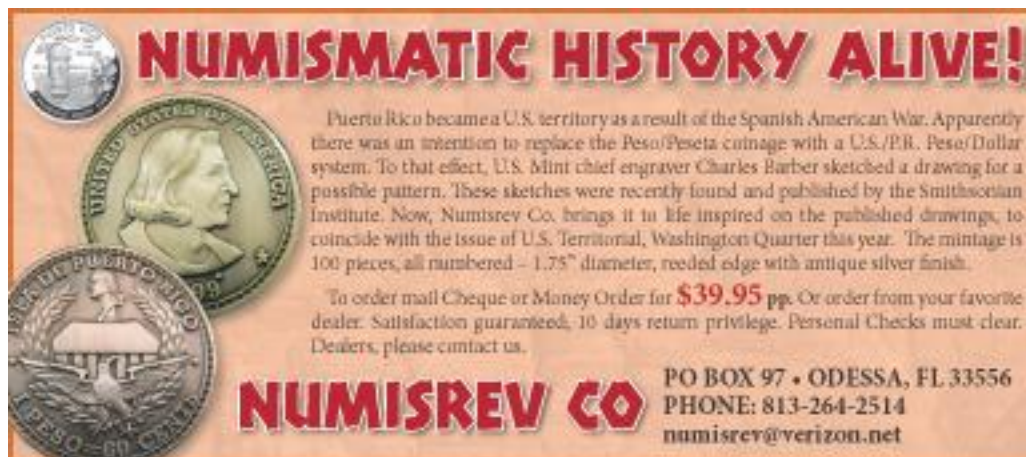
Response by editor

Thank you for the email regarding the Cuban 1915 5 centavo coin.

Probably, the coin is not worth much, unless it is Uncirculated, then the coin could be worth up to \$50. A Very Fine coin is worth \$1.50, and an Extra Fine coin could be worth up to \$4.50. You can use a US coin grading reference book to determine the grade.

For Sale

1. Cuban NGC MS61 1915 10 Centavo (list \$160) - \$85, includes SH&I.
Cuban NGC MS62 DARK 1916 10 Centavo (list \$1200) - \$395, includes SH&I.
Cuban NGC MS60 1916 20 Centavo (list \$250) - \$150. Includes SH&I.
Many other CERTIFIED Cuban centavos and pesos. 3-17-11
Contact Frank Putrow at Fxputrow@aol.com or 727 5317337.
2. Cuban VF – AU centavos (1c to 40c) for sale. 75% of Krause list. Many to choose from. Guaranteed satisfaction. Contact Jesus Inganzo at Guardafango@yahoo.com or 305 2237200. 070107
3. Cuba and World Coins. Order your free list at cidcorreo@msn.com or call 305 9756114 (weekends). J. Crespo CNA #54.
4. Cuban Collectibles N Things. <http://stores.ebay.com/collectcubadotcom>
Free S&H to all CNA members. Sarita 070107
- 5.



NUMISMATIC HISTORY ALIVE!

Puerto Rico became a U.S. territory as a result of the Spanish American War. Apparently there was an intention to replace the Peso/Peseta coinage with a U.S./P.R. Peso/Dollar system. To that effect, U.S. Mint chief engraver Charles Barber sketched a drawing for a possible pattern. These sketches were recently found and published by the Smithsonian Institute. Now, Numisrev Co. brings it in life inspired on the published drawings, to coincide with the issue of U.S. Territorial, Washington Quarter this year. The mintage is 100 pieces, all numbered - 1.75" diameter, reeded edge with antique silver finish.

To order mail Cheque or Money Order for **\$39.95 pp.** Or order from your favorite dealer. Satisfaction guaranteed, 10 days return privilege. Personal Checks must clear. Dealers, please contact us.

NUMISREV CO PO BOX 97 • ODESSA, FL 33556
PHONE: 813-264-2514
numisrev@verizon.net

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6. Spanish-American War Liberator Silver Medal. Cuba 1898. \$140, includes S&H. Contact Colin Bruce II at kandybruce@hotmail.com



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7. Dealer from Puerto Rico has for sale the elusive Cuban 1984 Aerostato (Balloon) peso. 787 7250036

Wanted

1. Modest collector desires Cuban coins with ships highlighted on obverse. Contact Bob Freeman at rafre5@hotmail.com
2. Modern Cuban Exchange, Visitor and minted coinage:
Paper Issue, 1995 Marti 1 Peso. Krause 114 (Specimen). Peso coin, INTUR 1989, Krause 580. Five Centavo coin, CUC type, 2006, Krause 575.2. Twenty five Centavo coin, CUC type, 2007, Krause 577.2, Fifty Centavo coin, CUC type, Krause 578. All 2008 paper and coin issues; CUC type and regular business strikes.
Contact Angel Giannotti at agiannotti@gmail.com.
3. 1937 ABC Peso and Gold 1915 4 Peso in VF-XF condition with no problems. Contact Tom Galway at tpgalway1@charter.net
4. Cuban 1997 (KM 708 & 709) Pope John Paul II 100 Gold Pesos. Contact L. Plonka (Canada) at leszekp@rogers.com or 905 6080747.
5. Serious Cuban currency collector needs two notes:
Cuban 1945 500 Peso (for circulation) silver certificate.
Junta Centro La Republica de Cuba y Puerto Rico 1869 20 Peso.
Call Jose Curbelo. 305 7707070.
6. I am interested in Cuban tokens. Please email me with information (types and prices) of tokens that you have for sale. Michael S. can be contacted at stadlerm@uni-bremen.de

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Other

1. Buying and selling all Cuban coins, medals, and tokens. George Manz Coins. www.georgemanzcoins.com or email George@georgemanzcoins.com in Regina, Canada. Telephone 306 3522337.
2. Numismatics- Exonomia of the West Indies, including many Cuban Tokens, inc. CNA Member. Contact cplante@ccapcable.com, or 4188498190

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