

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

NEWSLETTER 4-09
OCTOBER 2009

WWW.CUBANUMIS.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

NEWSLETTER INDEX

Page 3 MEMBER PROFILE.

Page 4 QUIZ? ANSWER on PAGE 12.

Page 5 CNA 1915-1958 CUBAN COIN TYPE SET BOOK.

Page 6 THE MAKING OF A COIN FOLDER.

Page 8-9 NUMISMATIC POETRY – 1869 Cuba y Puerto Rico PESO

Page 9-11 CNA NEWSLETTER ARTICLE INDEX.

Page 11 FROM THE KITCHEN.

Page 12-13 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Page 14-16 WANT ADS.

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. Nuestro 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 en los E.U.A. y no estamos afiliados a ninguna entidad de ningún otro país cuyo nombre en español pueda ser similar.)

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE 7th ANNUAL CNA MEETING, HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE FLORIDA UNITED NUMISMATISTS (FUN) COIN SHOW HELD IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA AT THE ORANGE COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER. COIN SHOW – JANUARY 7-10, 2010.

ANNUAL CNA MEETING – SATURDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 9th.

Members are encouraged to consider nomination for the following positions that are up for re-election: President, Secretary, Treasurer, and 4 directors. If you are interested, please contact Frank Putrow at 7275317337 or Fxputrow@aol.com, and he will provide you with the job responsibilities, or put you in contact with the incumbent.

Any organization needs fresh leadership to grow and prosper. Please consider this opportunity. The CNA Newsletter 1-10, released December 15th, will have further detail about the meeting, including the interesting auction that is held each year.

PLEASE REMIT YOUR 2009 CNA MEMBERSHIP DUES.

Regular membership is \$10 per year; Junior membership (17 years of age or younger) is FREE. Payments/applications should be mailed to our CNA Treasurer (Bob Freeman) at 523 N. Meridian Street, Tallahassee, FL. 32301-1281. Members who reside outside of the United States, or prefer not to mail a check, may pay, along with an extra dollar to PayPal, using the PayPal ID of Fxputrow@aol.com. The extra \$1 will cover the PayPal commission. Please use the CNA membership application if any personal information has changed, such as address, email, etc., and mail it to Bob Freeman with the check. If paying by PayPal, make the appropriate notation in the REMARKS section. IF you are not sure if you are current with your 2009 dues, please contact Frank Putrow at Fxputrow@aol.com or call 727 5317337.

NOTE: The CNA Cuban TYPE SET BOOK 1915-1958 (referenced in this newsletter) is available for a special price to paid-up CNA members.
If you are current with your dues –THANK YOU!!

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.

IF YOU ARE CURRENT WITH YOUR CNA DUES, AND HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR NEW LAMINATED MEMBERSHIP CARD, AND/OR YOUR “WOODEN” 5 CENTAVO NICKEL, PLEASE CONTACT FRANK PUTROW AT THE ABOVE INFORMATION.

CNA is looking for SPONSORS of interested numismatists on the island of Cuba.

Some of our CNA members, with contacts in Cuba, report that there are Cuban citizens who would very much like to become CNA members, and receive our CNA newsletters etc. However, they cannot afford the \$10 annual dues. Our CNA members would provide the names, addresses, etc. of the Cuban nationals, if a sponsor would pay their dues. The sponsor, in turn, would receive the name, address, etc. of the member that he/she sponsored, so they could communicate, if desired.

Interest in Cuba Numismatics has no borders. If you have an interest to sponsor someone, please submit the \$10 dues with your preference if you wish, or do not wish, to remain anonymous. The new member, and you, will be notified accordingly.

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:

Bob Susal Charter Member # 28

My father's parents came to the United States as indentured people. They settled in Lemont, Illinois, where my grandfather worked in the stone quarries. The time for hauling rock was from April to October, so they had time to garden and visit places which required no money from November to March. They did not have any money because the house they lived in was owned by the Company, and all the things that they needed was provided by the Company Store.

To help the family, my father earned some money helping people and working in a stable. After the third grade, he dropped out and became a full time wage earner.

My father and his brother left Lemont in 1910, and moved to Chicago, where they saw United States coins and currency for the first time. My father was drafted in the army, and upon his return, lived with his brother in Chicago.

My father collected coins and currency throughout his adult life, but in his later years, was forced to sell them to support himself.

I began collecting coins and currency as I finished school and settled into my home in Downers Grove, Illinois. I added to my collection as we traveled to countries such as Canada, Mexico, and Ireland. I found that by collecting other country's coins and currency, I had a better understanding of the countries culture.

After retirement, I had more time to enhance my collection, and began to collect Cuban coins and currency.

This was prompted because of my marriage to Lisa, who was born in Cuba. Today, my wife Lisa, and I, are always looking to enhance our Cuban collection. We attend the annual CNA meeting in Orlando, FL. as well as Coin Shows throughout the United States.

I have discovered that the value of my collection, which is modest, is not the monetary amount, but the many memories of learning, discovering, and purchasing these treasures.

QUIZ: What is the origin of the name "CUBA"?

Answer found on page 6.

cost is \$17 each. For ordering information, visit www.cubanumis.com or contact Frank Putrow at Fxputrow@aol.com or 727 5317337.

The Making of a Coin Folder
By Jesus Inguanzo

From the first day that I started collecting Cuban coins, the most glaring lack was the fact that there were no coin folders to put my recently purchased coins. I searched and asked, and looked everywhere, and was able to find an old one, busted up into pieces made by Dansco probably about 50 years ago. I continued to search and look everywhere for a Cuba type set folder, even calling Dansco to see if they had any leftover from the original printing or if they were willing to make a new batch. The answer to both was NO.

At our first meeting of the Cuban Numismatic Association, I was hoping that somebody would know or want to make a Cuba coin folder, but no one had any great interest in taking on the adventure. After a while, though, Frank Putrow, our President, made the effort of contacting a number of coin folder companies and was finally able to get a quote from one of them at about \$50 a book for a minimum of 500. This was disappointing since I saw the making of a coin folder completely out of reach financially and an impossible dream.

At the January 2009 meeting, during a moment of absolute dementia, I volunteered to look into finding a less expensive way of completing this project. Although I had no idea or previous experience in doing any of this I set out to contact printing and die cut companies. Yellow pages, Google, friends, phone calls, driving from shop to shop; all dead ends. Nobody had ever done this before and they were either fearful of embarking on this project and/or simply did not want to do it.

Most of the places that I visited in the industrial area of Miami were out of a Harry Potter movie, surrounded by dilapidated warehouses, next to railroad tracks, under metro rail overpasses, or a few blocks away from the Amtrak station. Some of the doors I knocked on, looked like they hadn't been opened in weeks, with spider webs and several layers of dust on the windows. Some of these places looked like nobody had visited them in years and the people inside looked even more surprised than I was, that they finally had a warm body come indoors. As much as they wanted the business, they had no idea of what my project was, nor did they feel capable of undertaking it.

I was ready to have 20 individual dies made, buy the cardboard, print the titles of the coins in my computer, pasting them on top of a piece of cardboard, and make the coin holders by myself, in a home cottage industry production line; somehow making them pretty enough for professional appeal.

After visiting a large number of print shops and die cut companies, and showing them the scope of the work, I had almost given up; however, as if by divine guidance, I visited what I thought would be my last try at convincing somebody to do this for me. I dropped in on a shop next to the Amtrak station in Hialeah, the place looked abandoned on the outside, but

a busy, albeit, small print shop inside. I explained my project for the hundredth time, and although they were not receptive to being able to do the job, they said they used this great Cuban owned print and die company for all their die cut work. She was very kind, even calling their salesman, George Acosta, and setting up an appointment with him the very same day.

"If anybody can do this, Fastkit can" she told me in a very confident voice, trying to reassure this desperate looking face, on the verge of giving up. She saw my desperation, my frustration, my this is my last try look, so when making the call, maybe not wanting to be responsible for my throwing myself under a passing train out of frustration, she may have even stretched the nature of our relationship, just to make sure I was able to see George at Fastkit that day. That meeting turned out to be one of my greatest days as a numismatist.

As I explained what the project entailed, (for the 20th time in a week), I was surprised with the glow in his eyes, somebody actually took great interest in what we were trying to do. He called Jose Fernandez, one of the owners, into the meeting and his eyes also glowed in happiness, his father would love to have a Cuban type set book like that, with his own coins. He then called his father into the meeting, and as his father walked in, Jose is telling me "I don't care how much money you have, I don't care how much this is going to cost, and we are going to do this project and will figure out later how we are going to pay for it". They asked me to come back for a second meeting with David Barjun, the art director, so that we could start the art work process. Needless to say, I flew home to tell Dora and Frank.

Four months after my initial contact, 20 or 25 meetings later and the greatest cooperation I have ever received from a company who is trying to sell something to a customer on a job where they are going to lose more money than they planned on, I was able to hold in my hands this beautiful Cuba type set coin folder thanks to the efforts of many people.

Our many thanks need to go to Frank Putrow for not only writing the original draft of the Brief History of Cuban Numismatics, which is an important part of the coin folder, but most of all for having the vision and work ethic of having started and maintained the Cuban Numismatic Association in the United States, without which, none of this would have an official purpose. We need to acknowledge appreciation of the support given to this project by Emilio M. Ortiz, on his informative input and support for this project, and Robert Freeman, always ready to part with the Association's money for a good cause.

Our real heroes are the people at Fastkit, Jose Fernandez, who saw the importance of our project, and made the project financially feasible, David Barjun, who spent endless hours making our book look more beautiful than we could have ever dreamed of, Jerry Perez , copy editor, and last but not least, George Acosta who had the vision from the second he saw it, pushed the idea forward and has been on top of its production to fruition.

We finally did it, the books are done! Come and get them while they're hot!

NUMISMATIC POETRY

The Spanish/American war has been considered by some as “a very romantic war”. Of course, it was another era, another time, another people, and a different situation. Cuba and Puerto Rico were Spain’s last two possessions in the New World, and being small islands, the Metropolis had a significant advantage over them in their liberation quest.

Cubans and Puerto Ricans, who at the time were in the same predicament, got together in New York and united their military and financial forces to overcome the Metropolis superiority. The obvious idea was to liberate Cuba first and then liberate Puerto Rico, which at the time, had the largest and strongest Spanish defensive fortifications.

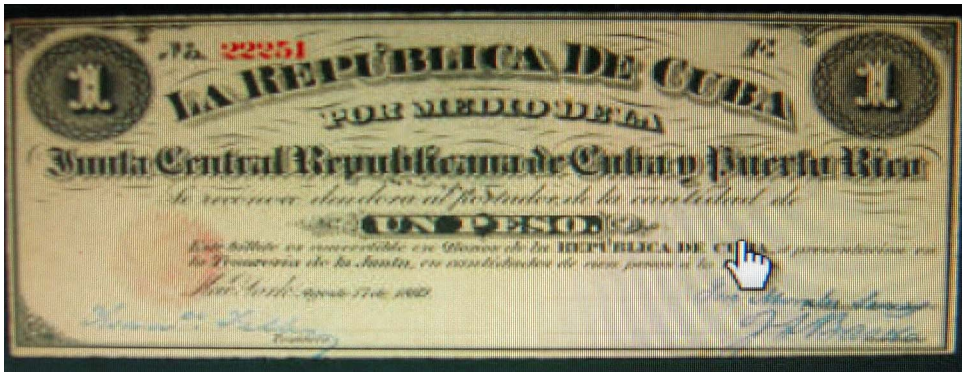
During that era, poetry was the “IN” art, and a big motivator. Jose Marti, “the apostle” of the Cuban liberation, used his prolific verse to inspire and send to war many young men to fight for liberty. It was also during that time, that a young talented girl from San German, Puerto Rico, met and married Benicio Tio, a young revolutionary journalist, who was born in Cuba. Her name was “Lola Rodriguez de Tio”. After being expelled from Puerto Rico by the local Spanish government for their liberal views, they established residence in Havana, Cuba.

Thousands of Puerto Ricans and many other Hispanics were fighting in Cuba against the Spaniards at that time. Of special mention was General Juan Rius Rivera, of Mayaguez, PR. He fought in all three Cuba liberation wars next to General Maceo and was the only foreigner that was invested to contend and aspire for the Presidency of the Cuban Republic.

After the war, he was the first governor of Havana under the temporary American occupation and later he was appointed the first Treasury Secretary of the Republic. His signature appears in many numismatic items, bonds, etc.

All the suffering and tragedy of the war moved Lola to write her most famous poem in her book “Mi Libro de Cuba” (My Book of Cuba), published in 1893 in Havana. The title of the poem is “A Cuba” (To Cuba). In its seventh verse, she wrote “*Cuba y Puerto Rico son de un pajarito las dos alas, reciben flores y balas en un mismo corazon*” (Cuba and Puerto Rico are the two wings of a bird, who receives in one heart all bullets and flowers).

This poem becomes numismatic because in 1869 the “JUNTA CENTRAL REPUBLICANA DE CUBA Y PUERTO RICO” emits their credit, receipts bills, redeemable in bonds of the Republic. (Pick #61 to #64.) These were issued in New York by the Junta, in one, five, ten and twenty pesos to allow the poor workers in the U.S. to buy them and redeem them when they had acquired enough to buy the smallest bond issued, which was 100 Pesos.flowers and bullets in the same heart.....and money in its same pocket for the same cause. (cont)



R. Valentin

Editors Note:

Related articles to this item can be found in:

**CNA Newsletter 5-09, page 5. Make no Mistake – 1869 Cuba Paper money vs. Receipts.
By Rudy Valentin, CNA Vice-president.**

**CNA Newsletter 3-06, page 7. Jose Morales – Lemus, signer of the 1869 Cuba 1000 Peso
Revolutionary Bond.**

**CNA Newsletter 2-07, page 14. The 1869 Paper Issues of the Republic of Cuba.
By Enrique Cayado, CNA Associate Director/Research.**

CNA NEWSLETTER ARTICLE INDEX

ISSUE/PAGE	DESCRIPTION
4-06/8	1870 Essai
4-07/14	1870 Patterns
1-04/4	1876 5 centavo
4-07/17	1920 Proofs
3-06/7	1869 1000 Peso Revolutionary Bond
2-07/14	1869 Paper Money Issues of Cuba
4-07/4	1869 5 Peso Error Note
3-04/3	ABC's – The story behind the ABC's
4-07/16	ABC Design
1-04/3	America's involvement in Cuba
2-07/12	Auction Results of Cuban Coins
3-08/18	Auction Results of Cuban Coins
3-09/8	Auction Results of Cuban Coins and Currency
2-08/9	Banco Espanol De La Isla De Cuba
1-09/6	Banco National De Cuba
3-05/6	Barber – Chief Engraver

1-09/5 Bill vs. Receipt
 3-05/10 Brand Collection Auction of 1964
 3-05/12 Buyer Beware
 4-05/8 Casino Chips
 1-08/9 Chronology of the Minting of the First Cuban Coinage
 3-04/2 Cobs, Pieces of Eight and Treasure Coins
 3-05/2 Commemorative Coins
 2-06/11 Commemorative CNA Coin
 3-08/12 & 1-09/4 Counterfeit Coins and Holders
 2-04/4 Cuban Coin Adventure
 3-05/8 Cuban Coins – A bit pricey
 4-08/6 Cuban Coins Host Unusual Native Species
 2-04/2 Cuban Market
 4-05/12 Cuban Market
 4-06/11 Cuban Mint Tour
 1-05/3 Currency – Collecting Cuban Currency
 1-04/5 Cuban Numismatics – Overview
 1-04/6 EBAY – Buying and Selling
 1-04/2 Embargo, as it applies to modern collectibles
 1-08/7 First Bank Notes of the Cuban Republic
 1-06/7 First Circulating Currencies
 1-05/7 First Strike of Cuban Coins

FROM THE KITCHEN

1-09/10 Cuban Custard “Natilla”
 4-09/11 Cuban Hamburger (Frita)
 3-09/6 Cuban Pork Chops with Mango Relish
 3-07/13 Flan
 4-06/10 Flan Cake
 4-07/20 Mojito
 4-06/10 Paella
 1-09/9 Palomilla Steak
 1-09/9 Pork Chunks
 2-08/12 Pork Leg (Stuffed)
 4-08/8 Pressed Cuban-Style Burger
 3-08/18 Rice Pudding
 1-08/17 Roast Pork
 1-07/11 Sautéed Fish and Tropical Salsa with Avocado and Greens Salad
 2-07/19 Ropa Vieja (Old Rags) with black beans and rice.
 2-07/20 Tres Leche Cake
 4-08/10 Arroz Con Pollo (Yellow Rice and Chicken)

1-04/8 Grading
 3-04/9 Grading 101
 3-07/10 Habana Real Hacienda Seal
 2-05/6 Keys of Cuba

3-04/10	Luster
4-09/	Making of a Coin Folder
3-06/9	Medals – Moro Castle (1762)
1-06/8	Monetary Conversion after Spanish America War
4-09/8	Numismatic Poetry – 1869 Cuba y Puerto Rico Peso
2-04/4	Our Man in Cuba
2-07/8	Population Report of NGC and PCGS certified Cuban coins.
3-08/20	Proof – Proof Like – First Strike
2-04/11	Relief – High and Low
4-09/5	Republic of Cuba 1 st Republic 1915-1958 Type Set Book
4-09/6	Republic of Cuba Type Set Book – The Making of it.
3-08/10	Sea of Gold and Silver around Cuba
1-04/6	Souvenir Peso – 1897
2-04/6	Souvenir Peso – 1897, and 1898 Peso
2-05/5	Trafalgar – A rich Naval history
4-07/8	Tokens – Sugar Estates (Section 1)
1-08/9	Tokens – Sugar Estates (Section 2)
2-08/4	Tokens – Sugar Estates (Section 3)
3-08/5	Tokens – Sugar Estates (Section 4)
2-07/5	Tokens – Military and Post Exchanges
3-06/5	Tokens - Tobacco Plantations
3-07/5	Tokens - Transportation
2-06/6	Treasurer’s Report
4-08/3	Treasurer’s Report

Cuban Hamburger (Frita)



- 1 lb of ground beef.
- 1/4 cup of milk
- 1 cup of bread crumbs
- 1/4 cup finely chopped onion
- 1 egg
- 1/4 tsp ground pepper
- 2 teaspoons of salt
- 1/2 teaspoons paprika
- 6 small hamburger rolls
- 1 cup shoestring potatoes

PREPARATION:

Soak bread crumbs in milk and set aside. Beat eggs and mix with ground beef, chopped onion, ground pepper, salt and paprika. Mix in the soaked bread crumbs. Make six meatballs and refrigerate for 2 hours. In a fry pan or grill, flatten meatballs and cook until done. Set on hamburger rolls, add bed of fried shoestring potatoes and close bun. If desired, add ketchup, salt to taste and chopped onions.

ENJOY!!

ANSWER to quiz on Page 4:

The name “Cuba” comes from the Taino (indigenous peoples of the Caribbean), and though the exact meaning is unclear, it may be translated either as “where fertile land is abundant (cuboa)”, or as “great place (coabana)”. Additionally, there is the claim that the native inhabitants called the island “Cubagua” in the Columbus era starting in 1542.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

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 RL sent the following email

I am a grandson of the sculptor Philip Martiny, who was the sculptor for the 1897 Souvenir coin. Yesterday I came across your website for the Cuban Numismatic Association quite by accident. I was researching my grandfather by name on the internet and your website was among the results. At least your newsletter of April 2008 showed up. I was quite surprised when it did. I am the Ray Linder who donated many Philip Martiny studio photographs that I inherited to the Archives of American Art. I am up in years and I am 86 years old. I was quite surprised at your quiz question concerning the 1897 souvenir coin and also the Letter ToThe Editor No.4 also about the coin.

Amongst my grandfather's things was a copy of the 1897 coin which I have attached copies to this email. In your response to the Letter No. 4 by the editor it seems there are several types of the coin. I do not see the Pat 97 which you mention can be found at the base of the neck. I do not see how my coin could possibly be a fake since it has been in my family probably since 1897. I might add that I am descended from Martiny's first wife and that he left my grandmother in 1906 after 25 years and the coin has been in our possession since then. Can you tell me what this coin might be worth if anything? It is not my intention however to sell it. Years ago I had a coin collector in my office grade it as x-fine.

Any information you can give me on this would be appreciated. Thank you.

RESPONSE BY Frank Putrow.

Thank you very much for the email.

Your family history is very interesting. I hope that your grandfather spent some time with you and told you of his works.

Your Souvenir coin was minted to raise funds to fight the Spanish in Cuba, and was never intended as legal tender. The model was the daughter of a wealthy supporter of the Revolution.

It is a TYPE III Souvenir peso, identified by the location of the star next to the date, as well as the distance of the "7" from the letter "D" in LIBERTAD.

If the coin is Almost Uncirculated (AU), it is not considered rare or valuable. There is a similar coin, which was recently sold on Ebay for \$275. (180400335912).

I am sorry that it is not worth more, especially since it was associated with the Martiny family.

#2. J.S. sent the following email:

I ran across the site for the Cuban Numismatic Association and found your name so I was wondering if I might impose and ask a question about coins produced by the Cuban Mint. Specifically, as I understand it, the Cuban Mint produced a series of colored commemorative Vietnam coins to honor the 2000 Olympic games. I am trying to track down one of these coins in particular and was wondering if you knew of a dealer who might have these coins from whom I might buy them legally. Also, do you know how to find out what the Cuban mint produces in the way of commemoratives regularly. Any information you can provide will be appreciated.

Response by Frank Putrow.

I apologize for the delay regarding your inquiry of the Vietnam Olympic coin. I did get a response from the Cuban Mint. They DID mint a single coin for Vietnam. It is KM #77 in the Standard World Coin Catalog. It is a 1998 100 Dong coin, commemorating the 2000 XXIV Olympics. It depicts a steeplechase horse and rider.

The Cuban Mint has not yet given me the other countries for which they also minted commemorative coins, or are currently in the process. They said that they would send it later.

Note: As of September 16, the commemoratives listed for other countries has not been received.

#3. A.G. sent the following email:

Did you know how much would be a Cuban Peso of 1898 = in = P ROOF?
Perfect conditions on today market PRICE.

Response by Frank Putrow.

Thanks for the email regarding your 1898 Peso Proof. In the Heritage Long Beach, CA Auction on June 2, 2008, a NGC PF63 1898 Peso Proof sold for \$8625.

If you own the Peso, I would suggest that you have it certified. If you are contemplating purchasing the coin, I would only purchase it after it was certified by NGC or PCGS. The possibility of counterfeiting always concerns me when a coin looks too good. The Chinese keep improving their conterefts, including proofs.

#4. Steph sent the following email:

Hello, I'm contacting you regarding a valuable Cuban Banknote. It is a 1978 never released Specimen, featuring Jose Marti on front, and Fidel Castro on the back. You can find it on this link (Ebay 320410113119). I just want some feedback on the item from someone who knows a bit more than me.

Response by Frank Putrow.

I apologize for the delay in responding to your inquiry regarding the Cuban specimen. I asked three members of our Cuban Numismatic Association (CNA) to comment on your inquiry. I received a single response.

The response only addressed the value of the specimen, which our member classified as overpriced at \$10. The paper is genuine, but since they were never circulated, there

are literally thousands of UNCIRCULATED of them in the marketplace.

WANT ADS

For Sale

1. Cuban NGC MS63 1915 10 Centavo (list \$450) - \$120, includes SH&I.
Cuban NGC MS62 1916 10 Centavo (list \$1200) - \$395, includes SH&I.
Cuban NGC MS63 1920 10 Centavo (list - \$650) - \$250, includes SH&I.
Cuban NGC MS61 1915HR 20 Centavo (list \$330) - \$125, includes SH&I.
Cuban NGC MS61 1915LR 20 Centavo (list \$95) - \$40, includes SH&I.
Cuban NGC MS62 1916 20 Centavo (list \$550) - \$250, includes SH&I.
Cuban NGC MS63 1920 20 Centavo (list \$325)- \$155, includes SH&I. 121508
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 Inguanzo 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.



CUBAN MEDAL – PATRIOTIC BREAST STAR

Silver gilt, 85 x 83mm. Eight-point starburst of solid rays with plain back showing fixed loop and hinged tunic pin. Affixed at center is a mural crown and palm wreath around a blue enamel oval bearing a tiny red star over the Cuban shield, the right half in red bearing a palm tree. No maker's name.

An exact duplicate recently sold at Stacks 01-12-09 Auction for \$169.

Owner will sell for \$150, plus S,H & I. Contact Frank Putrow at 727 5317337 or Fxputrow@aol.com. 062909

6. Cuba ND (1841) counter-marked on SPANISH 2 REALLES (1775) Madrid Mint. KM 1.1. Very Good. \$20. Contact Frank Putrow at Fxputrow@aol.com or 7275317337. 062909

7.

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 to 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.

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2. Colin Bruce II, CNA member, is looking for reference information on Cuban Military Medals, including Modern issues.

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