

Guban Numismatic Association

Seeking art in Money _ Windom in History

October 2005

NEWSLETTER 4-05

Editor – Frank Putrow

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CUBAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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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

Association of Collecting Clubs - www.collectors.org

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- Page 12-13 THE CUBAN MARKET, an insight by member Paul Karon. Paul is an atypical dealer/collector in worldwide prime quality numismatic items. Since 1978, he has assembled over 20 world class collections, of which many have been sold. His quality standards have gained him the reputation as one of the most reputable and knowledgeable dealer/collectors in the industry.

NOTE: This is a reprint from the 2-04 newsletter. It is replacing a scheduled article on Cuban Tokens, which was not completed in time for this newsletter

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EDITORS NOTE: CNA members, and other guest writers, are encouraged to submit articles for publication in our newsletter. The CNA, or your editor, does not substantiate or verify statements or data provided in these articles. At times, there may be information, dates, names, etc. that may not be absolute. Our readers are encouraged to use these articles for reference, and to further research the subject if they question any such matter. The writers may not wish to publicize their email address or telephone number, but any comments from the readers to the editor are welcome, and will be forwarded to the writer by the editor.

I have received feedback from members who would like to see more articles about paper money, tokens, bonds, proclamations, casino chips, etc. I have requested such assistance from knowledgeable sources in our CNA, but they are yet to be delivered. I will continue to concentrate and pursue these areas.

Please remember that your CNA is an associate member of LANSA (Latin America Paper Money Society), which maintains both a website AND a library. We are also members of ANA (American Numismatic Association) and ANS (American Numismatic Society). These international organizations maintain extensive libraries, and our CNA has access to their reference material. If any CNA member needs assistance obtaining documentation from any of our associate organizations, I can assist as necessary. Please note the reference websites on the face sheet of the newsletter.

CUBAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION (CNA) BEGINS MONTHLY MIAMI MEETINGS OCTOBER 5th.

The Cuban Numismatic Association (CNA) plans to develop a local Chapter in the Greater Miami Area. Four initial monthly meetings are scheduled from October, 2005 to January, 2006. The meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Municipios Cubanos en Exilio (Cuban Municipalities) Building, located at 4610 NW 7th Street, from 7:00 to 8:30pm. Refreshments will be served. The Cuban Municipalities facility, located in the general vicinity of the Miami Airport, is large enough for 100 attendees, easily accessible, and has ample parking.

The CNA was founded in January, 2004. It includes collectors of Cuban coins, paper currency, medals, relics, bonds, casino chips, and other items of private issue. Its charter is to encourage, promote, and dispense Cuban numismatic knowledge, culture, education, and fraternal relations among the numismatic community. Currently, about 31 of the 125 members reside in the Greater Miami area.

The CNA membership includes Cuban numismatic enthusiasts from 21 States, including Puerto Rico, a USA Military APO, as well as Canada, Cuba, England, Ireland, Mexico, Slovakia, and Spain. Most of the members are kept current primarily by the CNA quarterly newsletters, or email correspondence. However, there are small pockets of membership in some regions, which, with further development, may be considered for "future" Chapter development.

Local monthly meetings will give the opportunity to enhance the relationships among existing members, and to significantly increase membership among the many Cuban numismatists in the area. Presentations and auctions will make the meetings educational and enjoyable. In contrast, without a local chapter, the CNA members can only attend the annual CNA meetings scheduled in conjunction with the annual Florida United Numismatists (FUN) Coin

Shows, which are held in January each year. These meetings, such in Orlando, Fl. are not convenient for many members because of scheduling and/or travel distance.

When established, the Miami Chapter will elect its own vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. They will be responsible to the CNA Board of Directors for the daily operation of the chapter, including meetings, business, membership, etc. The Miami Vice-President will also be a member of the CNA Board of Directors.

The Miami Chapter meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, October 5th, November 2nd, December 7th, 2005 and January 4, 2006. The location is 4610 NW 7th Street, Miami, Fl. Meeting time is 7:00 to 8:30pm. In January, the Chapter will address conflicting meeting dates, since the Gold Coast Coin Club, Hollywood also meets on the first Wednesday of each month

Arrangements for the use of the Cuban Municipalities facility were made through the goodwill and support of member Mr. Revuelta and Mr. Brito.

Please contact Frank Putrow at <u>Fxputrow@aol.com</u> or 727 4635097(c), if you have questions or suggestions.

STATUS OF CUBAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Our membership drive has stalled in the last three months. We remain at 125 members, representing 21 states, a military APO, plus Puerto Rico, as well as 7 other countries. Our geographics inherently present organizational problems, since we cannot meet together on a regular basis, and many of our members find it prohibitive, for various reasons, to travel to our annual meetings. It is essential that we communicate with ALL members on a regular basis, and provide them with incentives to stay involved with our association. The quarterly newsletter is not sufficient to meet this objective. We are developing a chat room and bulletin board capabilities for our computer based members, and we will enhance our website for ease and contents. A local chapter of the CNA is being established for the Miami area, so that the members in the Miami area could meet on a more frequent basis. A library must be established, and stocked with reference material. Our most important long range objective is the establishment of a business operation, with staff, to serve our members. It will take planning, funding, and time to realize the business operation, but it is feasible and realistic because our membership consists of many dedicated numismatists who will respond to this challenge. Our websites www.cubannumismaticassociation or www.cubanumis.com contains an aggregate list of the membership, with the exception of the members who do not want their name listed. Please review the list. If you do not see the names of your friends and associates who might be interested, you can assist our membership drive by giving them an application. An application is provided as the last sheet of this newsletter. Our goal is to have 200 members by January 2006. Let's meet, and exceed that goal!!!

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Current members are reminded that their 2005 MEMBERSHIP DUES are due, effective January 1, 2005. The regular annual membership fee of \$10 (\$5 Jr.) may be paid by check and mailed to 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 \$11 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 2005 dues, please contact Frank Putrow at Fxputrow@aol.com or call 727 46375097 (cellular). Please pay dues NLT October 31, 2005.

TROUBLE GETTING THE CURRENT NEWSLETTER WHEN ACCESSING CNA WEBSITE??

Some members could have trouble getting newly added information on the CNA website. The problem is that some ISP providers, such as AOL, retain the Pages of Websites on your computer to speed up transmission. If you are an AOL subscriber, "REFRESH" your explorer connection by hitting "F5" while you are on the page that does not appear to be current.

WORLD COIN CATALOG (KRAUSE) to develop ON-LINE SUBSCRIPTION

World Coin (KP Books) is in the process of developing an on-line subscription website for the Standard Catalog of World Coins and Paper Money database. It could become a great asset for World Coin and Paper collectors, since the goal is to enhance collecting activity, including buying, selling, pricing, or simply talking (chat room) about World Numismatics.

AUCTION TO BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH CUBAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION MEETING AT FUN.

One of the highlights of our annual Cuban Numismatic Association (CNA) meeting, held in conjunction with the Florida United Numismatists (FUN) Coin Show, is our AUCTION. The upcoming 2006 FUN Coin Show will be held at the Orlando, FL. Convention Center on January 5-8, 2006. Our annual CNA General Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 7th, from 1:00 to 3:30pm. The meeting room at the Convention Center has not yet been assigned.

The Auction will be held after the General Meeting. Each member may assign up to three items to be auctioned. This year, we are asking for advance notification of the items that will be auctioned. If a member advises your editor of the items NLT December 10^{th} , 2005, they will be itemized in the January, 2006 newsletter, which should be received by all members during the last week of December. The items will each be assigned a Lot number, so they can also be quickly identified at the auction. This process with give the membership a few days to evaluate the items that will be in the auction, and provide the opportunity to consider availability, prices, etc. Unfortunately, photos of the items will not be provided at this time. However, future auctions may provide this feature.

Members, not attending the meeting/auction, may submit items to be auctioned. They must be sent prepaid to Frank Putrow, 2175 Oak Grove Dr., Clearwater, FL. 33764, NLT December 10th, 2005. Unsold items will be returned to the member at their expense. Proceeds from the auction will be mailed to the member using an official CNA check.

Name (Last, First)		
Item	Condition Reserve Price (if applicable) Lot# (by CNA	()
1.	\$	
2.	\$	
3.	\$	

Members who plan on attending the meeting/auction should forward the above information to Frank Putrow NLT December 10th, 2005. Email (<u>Fxputrow@aol.com</u>) is preferred, and USPS is the alternative.

NOTE: Donations are accepted and appreciated. They will be auctioned and ALL proceeds will be placed in the CNA Capital Building Fund. Donations will be confidential, and the donor will be provided a formal acknowledgement of the donation.

If you have any questions, please contact Frank Putrow at 727 4635097, or Fxputrow@aol.com.

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 will be given first opportunity to provide their background, followed by the charter, then the regular members.

RICHARD BECKER - Board Member

I was pleased to be asked to serve on the board of the Cuban Numismatic Association. I hope that my efforts will be an asset to the organization as we grow. Several years ago, when I first met Frank Putrow, our president and driving force behind this effort, I was immediately impressed by his energetic desire to form such a group. Since our organizational meeting, his enthusiasm has been multiplied many times by others with a similar dream. With this momentum, we can only grow and succeed.

My interest in collecting coins and currency began when I was stationed at Loring Air Force Base near Caribou, Maine in the late 1950's. During the long winter months there was little to do. I became interested in the occasional Canadian coin that I acquired and started attending a local coin club. This led to a deep interest in the coinage of the Canadian Maritime Provinces before they joined other provinces as a united Canada in 1867. In 1975, after ten years of research, I published the first, and only, in-depth study of the pre-confederation coinage of these provinces titled THE DECIMAL COINAGE OF NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. In 1967 I became a member of the Canadian Numismatic Association and serve on it's board as eastern U.S. director.. I am also a life member, and past president, of the Canadian Paper Money Society. For many years I have specialized in collecting the beautiful banknotes and scrip, especially from the Maritime Provinces.

It was actually through my collecting of these bank notes that I initially became interested in Cuban currency. In 1981, I was asked to display at the first International Paper Money exhibit (INTERPAM) in Toronto, Canada. This was quite an honor since all of the displays were non-competitive and by invitation only. My display of BANKNOTES OF THE MARITIME PROVINCES OF CANADA was situated next to one presented by the Banco Nacional de Cuba. This multi-

case display covered the whole range of Cuban notes. Of course, there were the current issues, but what caught my eye immediately were the very beautiful, early, and oh so large Banco Espanol de la Habana notes, 1869 revolutionary issues of the Junta Central Republicana de Cuba y Puerto Rico, 1891Treasury bonos, and the rare1905 issued notes of the Banco Nacional de Cuba. As I admired these foreign to my eyes, but beautiful notes, I chatted with the representative from the bank. He very graciously presented me with both a current type set of Cuban coins and several banknotes. I WAS HOOKED!! My interest in Canadian as well as Cuban coins and currency have continued during the ensuing almost 25 years. I attend most all of the annual Canadian Numismatic Association annual conventions and have been the eastern U.S. director of the Canadian Numismatic Association for the past 30+ years. I now have the honor to be a board member of the Cuban Numismatic Association (CNA), I realize that I shall have to be very diligent to keep both of my CNA files straight!

As my interest in Cuban banknotes has grown, I have been fortunate to acquire quite a few of the lovely first issues of Banco Espanol de Habana, many revolutionary issues from all the numerous periods of strife, as well as the elusive 1905 Banco Nacional de Cuba notes This keeps me adequately broke. I am also working with another CNA member cataloging the revolutionary bonos which have funded the several revolutions from 1869 to the present. We hope to publish this monograph in the near future.

CUBAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION (CNA) CENSUS

In the July #3-05 Newsletter, we reported that we would attempt to quantify the amount of Cuban 1897-98 and First Republic coins in the possession of CNA members. We realize that this is ultra-private information and membership normally would hold this information very close to their breast.

Your editor will be the only person to receive and read this information, and vows that the information will be destroyed once the quantities are entered into the master listing.

The names of the owners **WILL NOT** be recorded, and will remain anonymous. The quantities and grading of this population will give the CNA membership some idea of the quantities in the "marketplace" in contrast to the original mintage, reported by the US Philadelphia Mint.

It is reported that as many as 85-90% of the Cuban Silver Pesos (1915-1939) may have been melted down by the Cuban Government and/or individuals when the price of silver rose. It has also been perceived that many of the 1915-16 Gold Pesos may have been melted and/or used in jewelry.

A Census Sheet is attached in MS Excel format. Please take a few minutes and enter the respective coins in your possession at this time. I am also asking the dealers to enter their inventory, so that a spot total can be made at this time. The census sheet may be emailed (Fxputrow@aol.com) or USPS delivered to Frank Putrow, 2175 Oak Grove Dr., Clearwater, FL. 33764.

The census will officially end on October 31, 2005, at which time the report will be summarized. The report will be included in the January #1-06 newsletter, which will be delivered to membership the latter part of December, 2005.

Other sources available to quantify CERTIFIED Cuban Coins are PCGS and NGC. Their population reports are up to date, per PCGS and NGC, and are available to members of their services. ANACS was recently sold, and the new owners are reportedly considering a web-based population report of Foreign Coins. Your editor will contact these three companies for an official status of these services, and report the replies in the next newsletter.

PLEASE consider this census! Confidentiality is guaranteed, and it could result in pricing considerations in future World Coin Catalogs (Krause).

			G-	MS60-					MS67-
TYPE	KM#	Proof	AU	62	MS63	MS64	MS65	MS66	69
1915 Star HR Peso	15.1								
1915 Star LR Peso	15.2								
1916 Star Peso	15.2								
1932 Star Peso	15.2								
1933 Star Peso	15.2								
1934 Star Peso	15.2								
1934 ABC Peso	22								
1935 ABC Peso	22								
1936 ABC Peso	22								
1937 ABC Peso	22								
1938 ABC Peso	22								
1939 ABC Peso	22								
1953 Marti Peso	29								
1897 Souvenir	M1								
1897 Souvenir	M2								
1897 Souvenir	МЗ								
1898 Peso	8								
1915 Marti Gold									
Peso	16								
1916 Marti Gold	10								
Peso	16								
1915 Marti Gold 2P	17								
1916 Marti Gold 2P	17								
1915 Marti Gold 4P	18								
1916 Marti Gold 4P	18								
1915 Marti Gold 5P	19								
1916 Marti Gold 5P	19								
1915 Marti Gold									
10P	20								
1916 Marti Gold									
10P	20								
1915 Marti Gold	04								
20P 1916 Marti Gold	21								
20P	21								
∠ UP	21								

The above information provided on this census is confidential and will be destroyed immediately after the totals are transferred to the master summary.

Collecting Cuban casino chips: The unique hobby of collecting Cuban Casino chips By Dr. Luis A Alvarez and Frank Hinrichs

More and more people have discovered the passion and fun of collecting casino chips. Fifteen years ago, casino chip collectors in the United States numbered fewer than 25. Many of them were gamblers who slipped a chip into their pocket as a memento of the action. Today, there are approximately 2,500 active members in the nonprofit Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club (CC>CC), which is the largest specialty club within the American Numismatic Association. As interest and the number of collectors have grown, so have chip prices. Don't be surprised to see collectors, bidding at auctions of casino chip club conventions, amounts up to \$50,000 and more for casino chips.

How do you explain this unbelievable growth of a hobby that even long time collectors thought they were the only ones collecting these round pieces of clay and plastic stamped with the names of long-forgotten casino? Probably the main reason is not as romantic as the rest. The main reason is the internet and more specifically, ebay.com, which has provided collectors with a vehicle of communication. Other reasons are that collectors are drawn to the vivid history of towns like Las Vegas and Atlantic City, or love to own chips from casinos associated with gangsters and celebrities, such as Bugsy Siegel's Flamingo or Al Capone's Floridian Casino in Miami. Another reason is the more appealing quality and design of gambling chips in the last decades allowing manufacturers to produce chips with beautiful full-color designs and photographs.

With an estimated number of 12,000 legal and illegal casinos known to have operated worldwide in the last century, most collectors specialize on a specific region or theme. Top of the list are the chips from Las Vegas and other famous towns from Nevada, followed by Atlantic City, riverboats, Colorado, Indian reservations, cruise ships and non-U.S. casino. An extremely appealing niche within the non-U.S. casino segment is the area of Cuban casino chips. It was December 31, 1958, New Year's Eve, in Cuba. Thousands of partiers were gambling in the island's famous Havana casinos, including the Riviera, Tropicana, Hilton and Capri. The reveling ended, however, with word going around that Cuban President and Dictator Fulgencio Batista had fled the country, leaving it to revolutionaries led by Fidel Castro and Ernesto "Che" Guevara. With a new government poised to take control of the island in the coming days, Cuban peasants sacked the casinos that had long barred them from entering. Nearly 50 years later, the value of those chips has been restored many times over. It's not the value of Cuban chips, however, that attract the approximately 25 serious Cuban chip collectors around the world. Apart from their artwork and true beauty it's the fact that casino business is interwoven with the history of Cuba. Cuba is one of the few places around the globe where there was an immediate cessation of gambling, starting with the Revolution at midnight on December 31, 1958, and still in place today.

Before the Revolution, especially in the late 1950's, Havana was a world boomtown of gambling, with a total of about 80 known legal and illegal casinos that existed in Cuba from 1840 to 1958. While some places like the Gran Casino Nacional, the Tropicana, and Sans Souci have a longer gambling history, the real boom began when Senator Kefauver

started to shut down illegal gaming across the United States in the 1950's. Casino owners were only left with two nearby areas in which to relocate locally: Havana and Nevada. It was just logical that Cuba caught the Mafia's interest as well. Meyer Lansky, who bankrolled Bugsy Siegel's Flamingo, set up operations in both Las Vegas and Havana. He soon rose in the hierarchy and became the godfather of Havana and key mob player on an island, just 90 miles south of Florida, but free of U.S. legislation hindering their key activities (drugs, prostitution and gambling) to generate income. Enormous U.S. money was invested into new five star hotels with gambling palaces and world class shows of the highest international standards, where stars like Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra and other celebrities were flown in to entertain mainly wealthy U.S. tourists and Cubans.

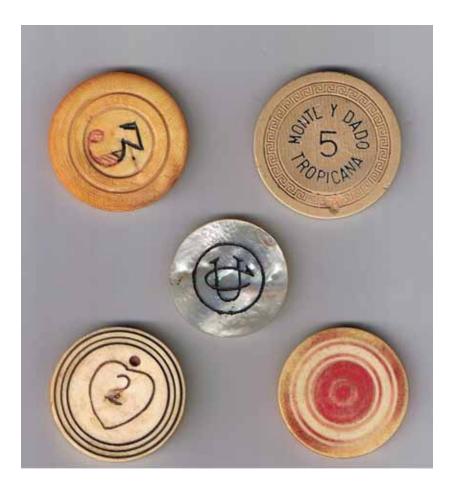
The best known Cuban casinos and chips are either part of the traditional night clubs like "Tropicana", "Sans Souci", "Montmarte", "Gran Casino Nacional" or extend the offer of world class hotels like "Nacional de Cuba", "Havana Hilton", "Capri", "Riviera", "Sevilla Biltmore", "Comodoro", "Deauville", "Plaza" or "St. John's". Some collectible chips have even never seen a gaming table such as the chips from "Casino del Rio". The "Casino del Rio" was the latest large nightclub and gambling project practically finished and was supposed to be inaugurated in the presence of numerous U.S. celebrities, but Fidel Castro's advancing rebel troops were quicker, and the only living reminder of "Casino del Rio" are its obsolete casino chips. The involvement of the Mafia in Havana's hotel, show and gaming business was well known by U.S. government authorities. All key gaming operations were run by Americans with dubious track records and strong stakes in the U.S. gaming business such as Santo Traficante ("Sans Souci"), Lefty Clark alias William Gusto alias Frank Bischoff ("Tropicana" and "Sans Souci"), Meyer Lansky ("Riviera" and part of "Capri"), Wilbur Clark ("Casino International, Hotel Nacional"), Nicolas di Costanzo and Charles Turin ("Capri"), Jake Lansky brother of Meyer Lansky ("National Casino") and "Havana Hilton" formerly operated by Senator Kenneth Johnson of Nevada and Sidney Arce of New York.



Serious collectors believe that there must be at least 1,000 different obsolete chips from Cuban casinos. The "Tropicana" itself, with a longer track record, issued more than 70 chips between 1941 and 1958. For collectors, the most popular Cuban chips are the ones that have the word Havana, or in some cases, Habana, printed on them. Most Cuban chips currently sell in the range from \$20 to \$50, but some scarce ones, like the chips from the Havana Yacht Club (considered Havana's premier private social club with a small casino for members in the 1940s), could easily break the \$600 bar. Another chip that is prized in the same range is the extremely rare limited edition commemorative chip issued for a special event of the Capri Casino showing the portrait of its host, the actor of B-movies George Raft. The most expensive Cuban chip sold on ebay in the last two years was one of the scarce crest and seal type casino chips from former Havana Yacht Club that was sold for about \$800. Outside of ebay, among serious collectors, the value of chips can go much higher. Ivory chips from "Club Union" in Santiago de Cuba, with 50 and 100 denominations, easily go for \$1,500 to \$2,000. Other rare chips can go much higher than

that. Also, private sets of chips made especially for VIPs in Cuba can go for many thousands of dollars, and these tend to be some of the most beautiful chips in the world. Higher denomination chips are particularly valuable to collectors due to their rareness. Most gamblers have 'walked out' a \$1 chip, but how many would leave the casino with a \$100 chip in their pocket? Few Cuban chips are in the hands of collectors today, but many collectors believe that warehouses full of chips could come onto the market should Cuba be liberated and opened to the United States. This uncertainty about the real numbers of casino chips available from Cuba in the future has caused collectors to be very cautious when it comes to breaking certain price levels beyond \$500. On the other hand this potential liberation of Cuba bears an enormous potential for significant price increases. Cubans are notorious collectors. It has been part of the culture, but the 12 million Cubans living on the island currently cannot afford such a hobby and have more pressing day-to-day priorities. But, imagine a freed economy and income levels on the island rising! I am sure that the casino chips, and its link to Pre Castro times will catch their attention and the community of Cuban casino chip collectors will grow enormously.

In comparison to most countries, this small "third world country" island that we call Cuba, comes to its history and evolution, particularly when it comes to gaming, casinos and chips. Cuba's chips go back to the 1800s and possibly before. Ivory chips, Mother of Pearl chips, crest and seal chips are all chips from centuries ago; something found only in the most advanced countries. Also, in Cuba, you had games that originated in Cuba used initially in the "street corners", which were later incorporated into the actual casinos. Even before its closing, in the 50's, Tropicana had chips used for playing those native Cuban games. Of these "Monte y Dados" and "El tres," among others, were the most common ones. Also, of great interest was the amount of money that went through those casinos, even when compared to USA casinos. There are Ivories and MOP chips with denominations of 50, 100, and 500, these being from previous century. In this century, there are chips with denominations of up to \$1,000 pesos in numerous casinos. It is significant to note all the peso denominations were equivalent (1:1) to the US dollars during most of this time period. At the time that these casinos had these denominations, few casinos in the US had chips of such high denominations. Imagine the true acquisitive power of those high denomination chips over 100-150 years ago!!



Independently from what the future brings for Cuban casino chips, today it's a fascinating hobby that gives many people a kick out of growing their collections and hunting the little obsolete treasures from Cuba's pre Castro gambling history.

THE CUBAN MARKET

by member Paul Karon.

instances.

The Cuban coin market is in the middle of a large transition. In the past, dealers would strive to keep a reasonable inventory for this ever growing market. However, the auction companies have taken over and the dealers are more or less at their mercy. Auctions have always been a seasonal business. High season usually begins by the first of November and continues until the end of April. Most important Cuban material surfaces during these months. EBAY is what is new in Cuban coinage. The problem is that few high quality coins are sold through this venue. The future of EBAY, however, looks good even though it might ultimately work better with encapsulated coins (less buyer risk). The Cuban series is short and very limited. Collectors will be come more quality conscious because the series is so small. Collectors should strive to purchase the best coins available the first time and avoid upgrading except in special

If Cuba ever returns to a free enterprise system, the numismatic climate would improve dramatically.

Lastly, the supply is equal to the demand on all Cuban gold. We should see the demand grow in the next 12 months......Higher prices should be expected!!

OTHER NEWS

The Cuban Philatelic (Stamp) Society of America (CPSA) is active and many of our CNA members also belong to this distinguished organization. For more information, visit the website www.philat.com/cpsa. The editor of the Cuban Philatelist, and President of the Society is Dr. Yamil H. Kouri (yhkouri@masmed.org). Another website, maintained by fellow CNA member Ignacio Ortiz-Bello, provides additional philatelic information. See www.mimecanicapopular.com/filatelia.php

The Cuban Numismatic Association has received a quote from Silvertowne Mint to manufacture 1 troy ounce .999 silver coins to commemorate our Association founding on January 9, 2004. The quote included the one-time die charges (\$300-\$800), current \$7.01 silver price per ounce, \$2.50 each fabrication charge, and \$.75 each capsulation charge. Estimating that the die charge will be \$300, and 150 will be ordered, the individual cost would be \$12.25 each. The sale price to membership would probably be \$20 each, with the balance going into the CNA Capital Building Fund. These coins would be unique and collectors items.

The decision to proceed with this project depends on the feedback from the CNA membership. The design of the coin is open to suggestions from membership, but the initial design is perceived as follows:

Reverse – Cuban crest, in either shaded or dark contrast.

Obverse- Cuban Numismatic Association in a circular design around the face of the coin, with "Founded 01-09-04" in the center of the coin.

Suggestions are appreciated. Depending on feedback, the Board of Directors will discuss this project at the January, 2006 Board meeting.

Counterfeit Coins from China on Ebay

Recently, a member emailed your president and asked "What can our CNA do to stop counterfeit coins selling on Ebay?

We have to defer to Ebay's procedures in this case. If they are contacted, they will bar the seller from listing any future items. The seller will probably reappear with another Ebay ID. MANY counterfeit coins are coming out of China, including American, Philippines, various gold coins, etc. Counterfeit coins also have been reported from Eastern European countries. The best remedy is to refer to the past sales of the lister. If they are more than 100, WITHOUT negative feedback, the coin will probably be genuine. Beware of the seller with a few sales. Also, remember the phrase "IF IT'S TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE, IT PROBABLY IS". CAVEAT EMPTOR (Buyer beware). Be aware that counterfeit coins are not only on Ebay; they are being sold at coin shows, auctions, etc.

WANT ADS

For Sale

- Cuban items for sale. Check out the website of Joseph and Patricia Espinosa at http://cgi6.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll? viewSellersOtherItems&include=0&userid=cubanitems&rows=50&since=-1&rd=1 Copy and paste the above two lines into destination., then GO.
- 2. Cuban certified "pre revolution centavos and pesos. Contact Frank Putrow at Fxputrow@aol.com or 727 5317337.
- 3. Cuban Pacification Medal, US Army, Service Bronze Medal "1906-1909". Both medal and ribbon are in excellent condition. The obverse has the Cuban shield flanked by two soldiers at an "at ease" position. Asking \$149.00, plus \$3.50 for shipping. Also have many other "condecoration" items for sale, including Military decorations, medals of honor, etc. Contact Rudy Valentin at Numisrev@msn.com
- 4. Cuban stocks and bonds. Also buy. Contact Lawrence Falater at 1 888 FALATER or 517 4378977; FAX 517 4378978. Address is PO 81, Allen, MI. 49227.
- 5. 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.
- 6. Cuba Bank Notes, including 1869 Junta Central Republicana de Cuba y Puerto Rico, 1869 Bond, 1896/97 Centavos and Pesos Banco Espanol de la Isla de Cuba, 1949-1960 Pesos (1-50), 1961-2004 Pesos (1-20), 1983 3 Peso, and 1985 Foreign Exchange Certificates (Series A-D). Contact Patricia Espinosa at Cuba@cubabanknotes.com
- 7. Cuba Prisoner of War Medal Bay of Pigs Liberation Medal. Individually serially numbered. View at www.exonumia.com/fs/cuba/htm
- 8. Cuba and World Coins. Order your free list at cidcorreo@msn.com or call 305 9756114 (weekends). J. Crespo CNA #54.
- 9. Cuban Collectibles N Things. http://stores.ebay.com/cubancollectiblesnthings
 Free S&H to all CNA members. Sarita
- 10. Virtual Coin Cabinet II, coin software. Create classy catalogs, professional labels, and up-to-date want lists. The most desirable function of this software is the creation of customized inserts for mylar coin flips. For more information, contact Data Ex Machina at www.dataxm.com. No phone calls Please.
- 11. Old Cuban bottles. Seven beer bottles, recovered from the bottom of the ocean 45 years ago, probably dated early 1900's. Also, a Cuban Pepsi and a rare Coke bottle, dated in the 1950's. Gorgeous colors. Contact Charles Franz at chuckfranz@yahoo.com
- 11. Hundreds of Numismatic (American and Foreign) Books, featuring selections from the library of Clarence Rareshide, are currently for sale. See www.lakebooks.com/current/html or contact Fred Lake for a listing at 727 3438055.
- 12. Latin American Bank Note Records. Catalogue of Latin American banknotes produced by the American Bank Note Company for 20 Latin American countries, including Cuba. Over 2000banknotes are listed from 272 banks and government issuing authorities. This 210 page catalogue is an essential reference

for any collector or historian of paper money. Price is \$42, plus \$5 S&H. Contact Ricardo M. Magan, tel #508 8806188 or Sally1904@comcast.net.

Wanted

- 1. Best prices paid for all Cuban Casino Chips. Email Dr. Luis A. Alvarez at Tecnamar@aol.com or 407 8768956.
- 2. 1937 ABC Peso in VF condition. Contact Tom Pickett at tepickett@sbcglobal.net
- 3. Modest collector desires Cuban coins with ships highlighted on obverse. Contact Bob Freeman at rafree@istal.com
- 4. Cuban 1932 20 centavo in BU (MS63) or better condition. Contact Juan Pena at 305 5519445.
- 5. Old Cuban bank checks, bills of exchange and similar 1950's revolutionary movements bonos, rarer banknotes, and post 1960 Cuban postage stamps with a political content. Contact Owain Gruffdd at Ogruffydd@hotmail.com or address at 58 Kimberly Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 4QU, England.
- 6. Cuban UNC P83, 1959 Series 500 pesos note. Contact Walter Bradford at Waltana02@msn.com
- 7. Cuban Souvenir Pat.97 dies numbers 4E/2c and 4G/2C. <u>Cidcorreo@msn.com</u> or call 305 9756114 (weekends).
- 8. Cuban coins, and coins from other countries as well. Will exchange with my surplus Cuban coins and currency, or will buy at fair prices. Contact Jorge Rodriguez at Toquen415@aol.com. If possible, please address email in Spanish.

For Trade

- 1. Trade your UNC. Cuban 1898 peso, 1877 Cuban Pattern, or rare early Cuban silver coins for my Cuban doubles, including proofs. Contact Carl at Carlme@earthlink.net or 282 6279443.
- 2. Castro era banknotes, blocks, replacements, and errors. Contact Robert Azpiazu at Fstctycurr@aug.com, or mail PO Box 1629, St. Augustine, FL. 32085.

Other

- 1. Selling and buying all Cuban coins, medals and tokens. George Manz Coins, www.georgemanzcoins.com or email George@georgemanzcoins.com in Regina, Canada. Telephone 306 3522337.
- 2. BOOK NOW AVAILABLE. Cobs, Pieces of Eight and Treasure Coins: The Early Spanish-American Mints and their Coinages 1536-1773. Written by CNA member Sewall Menzel. Hardback \$125. Contact David Brown Book Company at 800 7919354.

CUBAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

APPLICATION for MEMBERSHIP

www.cubannumismaticassociation.com or www.cubanumis.com

Background:

The Cuban Numismatic Association was founded on January 9, 2004 at the 2004 FUN Coin Show. It encompasses all Cuban coins, currency, medals, tokens, bonds, casino chips, and all other items of private issue. The goal of the Association is to encourage, promote and dispense Cuban numismatic knowledge, culture, education, and fraternal relations among the numismatic community.

A quarterly newsletter is issued to all members. The newsletter includes general information, tutorial topics, and a limited classified ad section. During the first few years of development, annual meetings will be held in conjunction with the January Florida United Numismatists, Inc. (FUN) Coin Show.

Regular Membership is \$10.00 per year person. Junior Membership (17 years of age or younger) is \$5.00 per year per person.

NOTE: Charter membership enrollment period ended June 30, 2004.

2005 Officers:

Frank Putrow – President, Email (<u>Fxputrow@aol.com</u>), Telephone #727 5317337.

Andres Rodriquez – Vice President

Secretary – Marysol Cayado

Treasurer – Robert Freeman

Board of Directors – Enrique Cayado, Richard Becker, Larry Casey, Steve Klein, and Emilio M. Ortiz.

Please detach below after completing the application. Mail to Robert Freeman, 523 Meridian St., Tallahassee, Fl., 32301-1281. Checks should be made out to Cuban Numismatic Association. Please direct any questions to Frank Putrow (Fxputrow@aol.com), or 727 5317337.