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Hello fellow numismatists! This is the second issue of *the Loupe*, my weekly newsletter and the official publication of Numismastery, an online course for beginner collectors who need help setting foot into their new found hobby. Before I begin, I would like to share with you some quick updates.

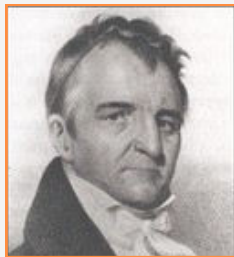
Up to this point, there are 28 subscribers for *the Loupe*, and the number is rapidly increasing. We now have our own website, where you can access the newsletter archives and give us your opinion on our publication. It would be doing us a huge favor to let us know what you think, so that we can improve *the Loupe* to fit your needs. The URL to our site is down below. Thanks for reading, and stay safe!

[www.theloupe.wixsite.com/theloupe](http://www.theloupe.wixsite.com/theloupe)  
[www.numismastery.weebly.com](http://www.numismastery.weebly.com)

- Timothy

## 2nd Chief Engravers

### William Kneass



1824 - 1840

- Modified Capped Bust
- \$5 and \$2.5 Gold Classic Head

## Classic Head Half Cent

Half cents, up to this point, had been in production for 16 years, as the Liberty Cap and Draped Bust design. Now, in 1809, the denomination saw its first lasting design, the Classic Head half cent.

Though the design Production lasted until 1836, the half cent was not struck for 16 of those years. Most of the 16 absent years had been the

result of the cease of production that lasted from 1812 to 1824.

The first proof half cents were struck in 1831, and proof restrikes were later made for that first year and 1836. Both years became key dates of the series, and are extremely scarce. But half cents from 1832 to 1835 are fairly common.

John Reich was the

engraver for the Classic Head design, which was used on both half cents and large cents, though it's use on the large cents began one year earlier.

Interestingly, the Classic Head large cent was replaced by the Matron Head design after just 7 years, unlike the half cent.

There are many varieties to collect in this series, adding some difficulty to those Half cent type set collectors.

One variety worth mentioning is the 1828 12 stars variety. What makes this variety so fascinating is how significant the mistake was. A mint engraver accidentally made an obverse die with 12 stars instead of 13.

## US Type Coins

### Fact file

1809 - 1836

Half cent

23.5 mm 5.44 g

G	F	VF	XF	AU	MS
50	70	80	120	175	900



▲ The 1828 12 stars variety. Notice how there are only 5 stars to the left of Lady Liberty. There is supposed to be a sixth star, with a total of 13.



# Numismatic News



tion for 35 years now, and of course the US mint wanted to do something to commemorate the ASE's anniversary. Their decision: a new reverse design.

To a lot of you, this would seem like and could very well be a bad idea. Everyone already cherished the traditional ASE design. Thankfully, the obverse remained the same.

The new design depicts the American Bald Eagle, descending with an olive branch in its talons. The new reverse will not be released until halfway through 2021, which will allow half of the 2021 ASEs to have the original obverse and reverse.

As planned, 2021 will host the final ATB quarter

of the series. 56 national parks made their appearance over its 11 years of production, with the Tuskegee Airmen quarter as the grand finale. Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site is located in Alabama, a short drive east of Montgomery.

The historic site marks the place where African Americans were granted permission to train for the Air Force, which was currently fighting in WWII.

Since 2010, the ATB quarters had been released at a rate of 5 designs per year. But for the year 2021, the Tuskegee Airmen quarter will be on its own.

After several months, the "Washington crossing the Delaware" design will take over. The Washington quarter had been rotating through series since 1999, and will finally rest.

On February 8, the Tuskegee Airmen quarter will be available for purchase on the US mint website with P, D, and S mintmarks in rolls and bags.



The Walking Liberty half dollar is acknowledged as one of the most popular series, right next to the Morgan and Peace dollars mentioned in the previous issue. And the obverse design's reincarnation in 1986 has greatly affected numismatics today, in a positive way.

The American Silver Eagle had been in produc-



## Guess the grade

What grade do you think the PCGS gave it? (answer at bottom of page)

## Silver Statistics

\$29.63 oz + \$4.25\*

Coin	Melt	Coin	Melt
War nickel	\$1.67	40% Kennedy	\$4.38
Dime	\$2.14	Half dollar	\$10.72
Quarter	\$5.36	Dollar	\$22.92

\* since previous issue

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

The ANA has over 28,000 members, and for a good reason. One of which is their monthly magazine, "the Numismatist". Other benefits include their member blog, forum, and messaging that allows you to interact with other people who have a common interest. If you want to join the ANA or will be joining, please email me.

[www.money.org](http://www.money.org)

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