

THE NORTHWEST COIN CLUB

Newsletter – December 2020

P.O. Box 18053 Minneapolis, MN 55418-0053



The **December Meeting** of the Northwest Coin Club will be conducted on Zoom at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, November 10, 2020. The Zoom invitation is expected to go out on Tuesday, December 8, 2020. Watch for that invitation.

William “Bill” Bierly
Author of *In God We Trust*

Our speaker for December will be Bill Bierly. This article about Bill appeared in CoinWeek for November 4, 2019.



William “Bill” Bierly was raised on a farm near Walkerton, Indiana. As a child, he heard stories from his grandparents about two of his great-grandfathers who had served in the Civil War. This led to a lifelong interest in that war and that period of history. At about age eight he began collecting coins from circulating change. Following high school Bierly attended Northwestern University for two years and then completed a degree in sociology and economic development with a minor in Chinese studies at Indiana University. He then worked in India for two years as a Peace Corps volunteer in a dairy development project.

Back in the United States his interest in coins was rekindled. He soon went abroad again, working for three years in Osaka, Japan. Then in the United States he operated a small business for five years, sold it, and entered graduate school, earning an MBA in finance from Indiana University and embarking on a 25-year career in commercial banking. With his overseas experience Bierly focused on international banking, particularly Japanese corporate business and Asian correspondent banking. He began his career at National Bank of Detroit and he worked with J. P. Morgan Chase for much of his career; at various times at the bank’s Detroit, Chicago, and Columbus, Ohio, offices, as well as traveling often to Asia.

While thus engaged, Bierly continued to pursue his coin hobby, eventually specializing in Civil War-era coinage – in particular, pattern coins. Today he is active in several coin groups and clubs, most notably the Central States Numismatic Society (CSNS), the American Numismatic Association, the American Numismatic Society (ANS), the Chicago Coin Club, the Michigan State Numismatic Society, and the Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists (PAN), as well as

the and the Liberty Seated Collectors Club. He sometimes exhibits his collection at major coin shows and frequently volunteers as an exhibit judge.

Bierly resides in LaPorte, Indiana. He has two children, as well as a granddaughter.