

## TREASURY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

August 2017

# NEWSLETTER

### **Inside this Newsletter . . .**

- **THA Lecture Series**
- **U.S. Mint 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**
- **Online Shopping on THA Site**

### **THA Lecture Series Update**

The next lecture in the THA Noontime Lecture Series will be on October 19. The speaker will be David K. Thomson, who will present his work on the role of Civil War financing via Treasury bond sales on development of world financial markets.

This is part of his path-breaking work in internationalizing the U.S. Civil War and showing the impact of the German and Dutch bond markets on the Union effort to finance the war effort.

Thomson has his Ph.D. from the University of Georgia and is a Visiting Assistant Professor at Sacred Heart University. He is an expert in the history of Treasury financing during the Civil War and is the author of numerous articles and book reviews regarding the Civil War era. This includes a recent entry in *The Cambridge History of the American Civil War* and an article in *The Journal of the Civil War Era*, "Like a Cord Through the Whole Country: Union Bonds and Financial Mobilization for Victory."

### **225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The United States Mint**

The United States Mint is celebrating its 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. The actual Anniversary was on April 2, 2017, but the Mint has held several programs for its employees and the general public to honor its history during much of this year, including releasing a new Liberty gold coin, a Liberty silver medal, and adding the "P" mint mark to the penny. Unlike past anniversaries, the Mint produced coins and medals that celebrated its 225 years of artistry and engineering.

The Act of April 2, 1792, which established the Mint of the United States, also decreed that coins had to carry "an impression emblematic of liberty, with an inscription of the word 'Liberty,' and the year of the coinage." It further provided for a reverse design on gold and silver coins of an eagle with the words "United States of America." (1 Stat. 246, 248) Other legends were legislated over the years.

The United States Mint released for sale the American Liberty 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gold Coin on April 6. This unique proof coin portrays an allegorical Liberty as an African-American woman. The obverse of

the coin depicts a profile of Liberty wearing a crown of stars with the founding date 1792 and inscriptions "Liberty," "In God We Trust," and the date of coinage, 2017. The reverse shows an eagle in flight and carries the legislated legends "United States of America" and "*E Pluribus Unum*," the content of the coin, and the denomination of the coin, \$100.

The gold coin was produced at the West Point Mint and carries its "W" mint mark. The one-ounce coin is .9999 fine 24-karat gold. Sale price of the coin is determined by the Mint's pricing schedule for coins containing gold. The current schedule may be found on the Mint's website at [https://catalog.usmint.gov/coins/gold-coins/?\\_ga=2.149301750.1788501077.1499871762-1603105910.1487969503](https://catalog.usmint.gov/coins/gold-coins/?_ga=2.149301750.1788501077.1499871762-1603105910.1487969503)

The American Liberty 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Silver Medal, issued on June 14, carries the same design as the gold coin. The legends on the medal are "Liberty" and "United States of America," the date of the Mint's founding, 1792, and the year of mintage 2017.

The one-ounce proof Anniversary Silver Medal is 99.9 percent silver and is produced at the Philadelphia Mint. It carries the "P" mint mark. The silver medal is currently priced at \$59.95.

A set of four Liberty silver medals in four different finishes from each of the four mints, Philadelphia, Denver, San Francisco, and West Point, will be released later this year.

A special 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary booklet, containing a very interesting history of the image of Liberty on American coins, accompanies each of the anniversary products.

Distinctively different figures of Liberty have been placed on American coins and medals since the founding of the United States Mint 225 years ago.

Acting Deputy Director of the United States Mint, David Motl, said of the anniversary Liberty design: "Both the American Liberty 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Silver Medal and the American Liberty 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gold Coin invigorate this motif with a stunning modern allegorical Lady Liberty. The image maintains an intimate connection with the history of this great Nation and our fundamental principles, while at the same time recognizing our forward-looking diverse and dynamic population."

Philadelphia Mint employees, who work in the city where the Mint began, voted to celebrate the 225<sup>th</sup> by adding the "P" mint mark to the penny but just for this anniversary year, 2017. The Philadelphia penny has never carried a mint mark before this

year. So, take a second look at those shiny new pennies you get in change!

Mint Curator Dr. Robert Goler presented a lecture on June 13 at the second 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lunch and Learn event at headquarters, describing why the Mint did not have much of a celebration and did not produce commemorative coins or medals at its earlier anniversaries. Its 50<sup>th</sup>, in 1842, went unnoticed and there was no mention in the Mint's annual report of the milestone.

At the time of the Mint's Centennial in 1892, the Mint was scrambling to design, engrave, and mint the Nation's first ever commemorative coins to be sold at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago to honor the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the discovery of America.

By the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Mint was celebrating its mint buildings and industrial arts on assay medals. The 1902 assay medal commemorated the opening of the third Philadelphia Mint at Spring Garden Street in 1901.

At its Bicentennial in 1992, the Mint's focus celebrated its vital role of producing coins for the Nation. There was a Mint-wide design competition that led to the striking of a special bronze commemorative medal that was sold to the public. A Philadelphia Mint police officer won the contest with his obverse design of minting the first coins with President George Washington's supply of silver. A headquarters secretary won a prize for her reverse design of a montage of coins. The medal and the winners were documented in the Mint's 1992 Annual Report. And, the San Francisco Mint employees designed and sold an anniversary commemorative T-shirt.

The Treasury Historical Association's Mint ornament became a popular bicentennial

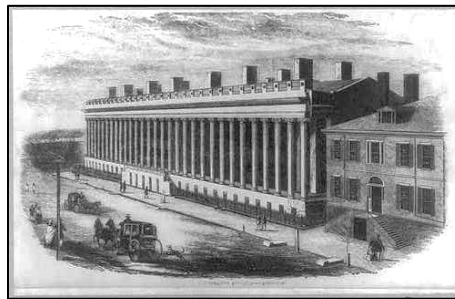


*THA's 1992 Mint Bicentennial Ornament*

memento. One of these ornaments was purchased for the 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary by a THA Board member and donated to the Mint Curator's Office as part of the Mint's permanent historic collection.

## Mills Wing Restoration Focuses on 1842 Style

As reported in our last newsletter, this year marks the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the completion of the "New Treasury Building," known today as the "Mills Wing" of the Treasury Building, the wing facing 15<sup>th</sup> Street and the center wing that bisects the building. When completed, the building was the most massive building in the local area.



*The New Treasury Building, c. 1842*

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the sandstone materials that were used for construction began to deteriorate on the street-side of the building, probably due to pollutants. In the 1830s, sandstone use was decreed by Congress, after it had recently authorized the purchase of a sandstone quarry in nearby Virginia, despite the relatively porous and poor quality of the stone for such massive buildings.

In the 1909 -1910 timeframe, the entire façade of the building facing 15<sup>th</sup> Street and the 36-foot high columns were replaced more stable granite that had been used for the other wings of the Treasury Building. Interestingly, the sandstone on the other sides of the building had not deteriorated, as can be viewed today in the courtyards.

It was during this time that the Department removed the lateral staircase that Robert Mills had designed for entering the building on what is now the second floor—then numbered as the first floor (in lieu of his desired grand staircase such as now exists on each of the later three wings of today's Treasury Building).

As part of the Treasury efforts to bring the Mills Wing back to its original design, a recent project was completed to install between the exterior columns decorative safety railings that were reproductions of

the original ornate ones which had been removed during the 1909 -1910 project to replace the sandstone façade materials and columns with those of granite.



*Reproduction of 1842 Original Railing  
Photo courtesy of Don Adams*

The Mills Wing contains a number of fireplaces, non-working today, some of which are plain and others with elaborate mantles and surrounds in an Etruscan style. The latter were designed by Ferdinand Pettrich, an expatriate Dresden-born sculptor who had been trained in Rome. There are nine surviving Etruscan mantels, all seemingly made of cast iron, their draped primitive human figures derived from pre-Roman Etruscan art. During recent renovation of the wing, great care was taken to restore and preserve the highly decorated materials.

During the greatly publicized controversy that occurred while the building was under construction, Congress and renowned architects whom the Congress engaged both criticized Robert Mills and his New Treasury Building, claiming that this huge Parthenon-like building would not be stable and would not last but a few years.

In the long run, obviously Mills won the battle with the Congress, was able to continue the building's construction, excelled in his profession, designing and supervising the construction of a number of other still-surviving buildings in Washington . . . and the long-standing Treasury Building's Mills wing certainly brought vindication to Mr. Mills with respect to the professional criticism he received from the Congress and his competitors in the architectural field.



*New Treasury Building, painting by Ken Frye*

## Update on Treasury Library Initiative “Operation: Digitize!”

(Underlined words are hyperlinks to websites.)

The [Treasury Library](#) celebrated its bicentennial anniversary this year with events during National Library Week. On April 12<sup>th</sup>, Government Information Specialist David Greek presented *Operation: Digitize!*, a retrospective of the library’s multi-year scanning project. The library digitized approximately 70,000 pages of documents in two project phases. The result of the scanning project was the creation of digital surrogates in PDF of some of the library’s most unique, popular, and historical physical items.

Creating digital copies of physical items offers internal Treasury researchers, academic scholars, and the broader public a richer view into Treasury’s history. Specifically, by adding digitized files to the library’s catalog, digitization may increase discoverability of and access to historical documents. In addition, digitization of collections is important as a preservation strategy because it makes an electronic instance of formerly, and sometimes fragile, print-only content.

The first phase of the digitization project started in 2010 with a goal of scanning

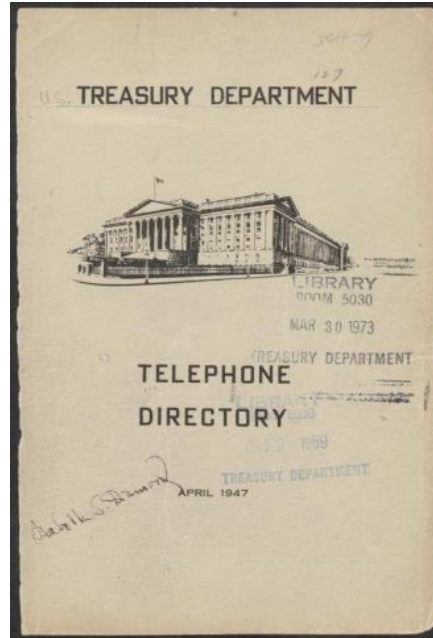
STATEMENT OF THE PUBLIC DEBT OF THE UNITED STATES AS OF 1st of January, 1969.	
<b>Debt bearing Cash Interest.</b>	
4 per cent. Bonds.....	437,139,200 00
4 per cent. Bonds, 1961.....	100,071,000 00
4 per cent. 2-10 Bonds.....	1,000,569,000 00
	93,107,000,000 00
<b>Debt bearing Currency Interest.</b>	
Certificates at 4 per cent.....	55,800,000 00
Short-Term Notes, at 3 per cent.....	14,000,000 00
	69,800,000 00
<b>Matured Debt not presented for payment.</b>	
3 per cent. 1-30 Notes, due August 15, 1967, and June and July, 1968.....	2,174,000 00
Corporate Income Bonds, matured June 15, July 15, August 15, October 15, November 15, 1967, May 15, August 15, September 1 and 15, and October 1 and 15, 1968.....	3,478,200 00
Bonds, Treasury Inflation.....	100,000 00
Treasury Notes, due July 17, 1965, and after Maturity.....	140,000 00
Bonds, April 15, 1942, January 15, 1947, and March 31, 1948.....	345,500 00
Treasury Notes, March 15, 1955.....	485,000 00
Temporary Loans.....	107,500 00
Certificates of Indebtedness.....	24,500 00
	7,465,200 00
<b>Debt bearing no Interest.</b>	
U. S. Notes.....	896,021,415 00
Federal Reserve Notes.....	74,512,717 00
Gold Certificates of Indebtedness.....	27,499,000 00
	998,033,132 00
4 per cent. (new) money) Bonds, issued to Public National Companies.....	50,000,000 00
Treasury Direct.....	3,403,838,402 00
Amount in Treasury, Cash.....	98,762,500 00
Amount in Treasury, Currency.....	13,043,000 00
	111,805,500 00
Amount of Debt, less Cash in Treasury.....	2,549,537,632 00

The foregoing is a correct statement of the Public Debt, as appears from the Books and Treasurer's Returns in the Department, on 1st of January, 1969.

HUGH McCULLOCH,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

collections of the [Monthly Statement of Public Debt](#), [Treasury Combined Statement of Receipts](#), [Treasury Reporting Rates of Exchange](#), the [Official Register of the United States](#), and the [Internal Revenue Cumulative Bulletin to the Treasury Department](#). In collaboration with the (then) Bureau of Public Debt’s [TreasuryDirect](#) specialists and the Government Publishing Office’s [FDsys](#) team, the library made these collections accessible to the public.

The second phase of the digitization project primarily focused on two key collections of Treasury-related materials: telephone directories and pre-Federal Register regulations. These collections



concentrate on items documenting Treasury’s past, including changes to the organizational structure of the agency over time and law.

The majority of the PDFs from both phases of the digitization project have been uploaded to, and are now accessible via, the library’s catalog on the Treasury intranet.

The *Operation: Digitize!* presentation sparked the development of an exhibit showcasing fifteen digitized images from 1950s and 60s Treasury telephone directories, including art by Treasury employees. Themes in the exhibit include workplace safety awareness and incentive programs. The exhibit opened in the Treasury Library (Freedman’s Bank Building, Room 1020) in late July and will be on display for approximately one year.

The Treasury Library appreciates the generous financial support provided by the Treasury Historical Association during the project’s second phase.

To ask research questions or make arrangements to visit the exhibit, ask a Treasury librarian at (202) 622-0990 or [libraryreference@treasury.gov](mailto:libraryreference@treasury.gov).

*THA wishes to thank this article’s contributor, Katelyn DeLucca, Government Information Specialist, Office of Privacy, Transparency, and Records, Departmental Offices, Department of the Treasury*

## THA Seeking Nominees for 2018-19 Board of Directors

The current term of office for THA’s all-volunteer Board of Directors ends this coming December 31, and we are now seeking nominations to fill positions on the new 2018-19 Board. Members are asked to submit nominations for themselves or other members in good standing (with their concurrence, of course) by October 15.

The Board’s full strength is 15 director positions, with 6 being officers. The THA Board meets about every other month for an hour at noontime, usually in the Treasury Building. Board members can attend in person or via teleconference. It is not necessary to live in the metro-DC area to be a Board member.

The Board of Directors has two main responsibilities: (a) Setting the strategic direction for THA by identifying new projects and activities, and by managing THA’s finances and arranging for gifts for the Treasury Department’s historic preservation activities and curatorial collections; and, (b) because THA is an all-volunteer organization with day-to-day activities, devoting time to personally administer an approved project or activity (examples are promoting the membership program, organizing THA’s events such as the noontime lectures, marketing THA products, helping to manage fundraising campaigns, keeping financial records, managing public relations and communications, etc.). The amount of time expended is determined by each director, consistent with the program that he or she agrees to manage.

If you are interested in being nominated for appointment to the THA Board and have the interest, time, and willingness to take responsibility for a THA project or activity, if you wish to nominate another current THA member, or if you simply want to have more information about the Board’s responsibilities at this time, please contact THA’s Board Chairman Tom O’Malley, who can send you a document with further details. You may send him an email at [info@treasuryhistoricalassn.org](mailto:info@treasuryhistoricalassn.org) (please use subject line “THA Board”) or leave a voicemail message for him at (202) 298-0550.

The future of THA as a nonprofit organization, continuing its 44 years of assistance to the Treasury Department, is totally dependent upon a continued source of support of volunteers who serve on its Board of Directors

## Reminiscence of A Past Secretary's Departure

The article in THA's last newsletter about the departure event for Secretary Lew brought back recollections of another significant Secretarial departure for some of our readers. Secretary of the Treasury John B. Connally's farewell to Treasury staff was held outdoors on the South side of the Treasury Building on May 31, 1972.

A large assembly of employees of the Treasury Building and Annex gathered at the South plaza around the statue of Alexander Hamilton of the Treasury Building, spilling over into Hamilton Place and Sherman Park. At the top of the South portico, mounted just below the American flag, was the Lone Star flag of the State of Texas, the Secretary's home, certainly making the event one-of-a-kind.

John Connolly had been the Secretary of the Navy for the first year of President Kennedy's Administration, resigned to successfully run for Governor of Texas. He is recognizable to many as the man who accompanied President John F. Kennedy and First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy in the open-top limousine on the day of the Kennedy assassination. He was wounded on that fateful day of November 23, 1963.

In 1971, he was appointed by President Nixon as the Treasury Secretary, serving for a period of about 16 months. Shortly afterwards, he changed from the Democratic Party to the Republican Party.

At the massive gathering of employees, Secretary Connally appeared at the top of Treasury's South portico steps, and made a formal farewell address to the staff before setting off for Texas. He specifically thanked the employees for help on a number of particular programs that were of special interest to him and the President.

## New THA Website Feature: An Online Shopping Cart

Purchases of THA products can now be made by credit card on our secure link with the PayPal system (you do not need to have a PayPal account to use this). For those who prefer to send orders in by U.S. mail, a printable order form remains under the "Online Store" tab on our home page.

Periodic special discount sale pricing for members only will have special ordering instructions that are a bit different than regular online shopping cart purchasing, since we do not want to advertise to the public the reduced prices.

Please see the next page for a special sale pricing that is offered only to current members of THA.

## THA President's Message

Welcome to late summer!

Your Treasury Historical Association is busy working on projects that preserve the Treasury Building and celebrate and expand knowledge of Treasury's past.

Our new expanded website has gone live. Visit [www.treasuryhistoricalassn.org](http://www.treasuryhistoricalassn.org) to see the added content and our new store.

And, progress on producing an educational film on the Treasury Building's history continues nicely, with work on a seven-minute trailer highlighting what is yet to come, featuring former Treasury Secretaries James A. Baker III and Robert E. Rubin, along with Treasury Curator Richard Cote.

Further, the next lecture in the Noontime Series will be in October, exploring how the sales of Treasury bonds financed the Civil War.

All this is done with your support as THA members and donors, as well as with the time and effort of dedicated volunteers. Thank you, everyone! And, please consider becoming part of the Treasury Historical Association leadership. To keep the THA moving forward, it needs leaders like you.

As always, we welcome members' comments and interest. Feel free to contact me ([nollhc@msn.com](mailto:nollhc@msn.com)) or any Board member if you have any input on THA matters.

Thank you for your membership and for your continual service and support to the Department of the Treasury.

*Franklin Noll, President*

## From the Editor

Once again, I would like to invite all our members to submit for consideration in future newsletters short articles and photos about other subjects relating to Treasury Department and Treasury Building history. These could include, for example, articles about members' collections of Treasury memorabilia or anniversary articles about Treasury bureaus or major events or reminiscences of 25 or more years ago..

Also, we would be interested receiving any suggestions from members for topics that they might like to see covered in future THA newsletters. We will make every effort to research topics of interest and/or identify potential contributors who could create articles to cover such topics.

Thank you, in advance, for your feedback and suggestions on our newsletters.

*Jerry Auten, editor*

**Treasury Historical Association**  
**P.O. Box 28118**  
**Washington, DC 20038-8118**

*Message Line: (202) 298-0550*

*Website Address:*  
[www.treasuryhistoricalassn.org](http://www.treasuryhistoricalassn.org)

*E-mail Address:*  
[info@treasuryhistoricalassn.org](mailto:info@treasuryhistoricalassn.org)

# Treasury Building Christmas/Holiday Cards

**- Special Members-Only Limited Time Sale Price -**



*Merry Christmas  
and  
Best Wishes for the New Year*

*Seasons Greetings  
and  
Best Wishes for the New Year*

*Happy Holidays  
and  
Best Wishes for the New Year*

Three inside text options or blank inside for your personal greeting message.  
Top-fold cards measure about 4-1/4 x 5-1/2 inches; 10 with envelopes to a box.

Regular price is \$12. **Special THA member price through Sept. 30, 2017 is \$10**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Order Early;  
Supply is Limited !**

__ boxes "Merry ..."	__ boxes "Seasons ..."	__ boxes "Happy ..."	__ boxes blank inside
Total number of boxes: __ @ \$10 = \$ _____ + S&H \$ _____ = Total: \$ _____			

Shipping & Handling Fees to One USA Address:

1 box, \$3.50, 2 boxes, \$4.00; 3-4 boxes, \$4.50; 5-6 boxes, \$5.00; 7 or more boxes, \$6.00.

**Two ways to order:**

1. Mail your order and payment check to **Treasury Historical Assn., P.O. Box 28118, Washington, DC 20038-8118**

**OR**

2. Order online with your credit card, following these special instructions:
- A. Go to [www.treasuryhistoricalassn.org](http://www.treasuryhistoricalassn.org). Do NOT click on "Online Store"— discount pricing is not advertised publicly
  - B. Click on "Support Us" and scroll down the main Support Us page. Do not select from the drop-down options.
  - C. Click on "Donate" button and enter the quantity and type of cards ordering in the optional "Write a Note" box.
  - D. Be sure to include shipping and handling fee when you enter the total order amount in the U.S. dollar field.