

SCRATCH

# They Love Coins (Just Not Bitcoin)

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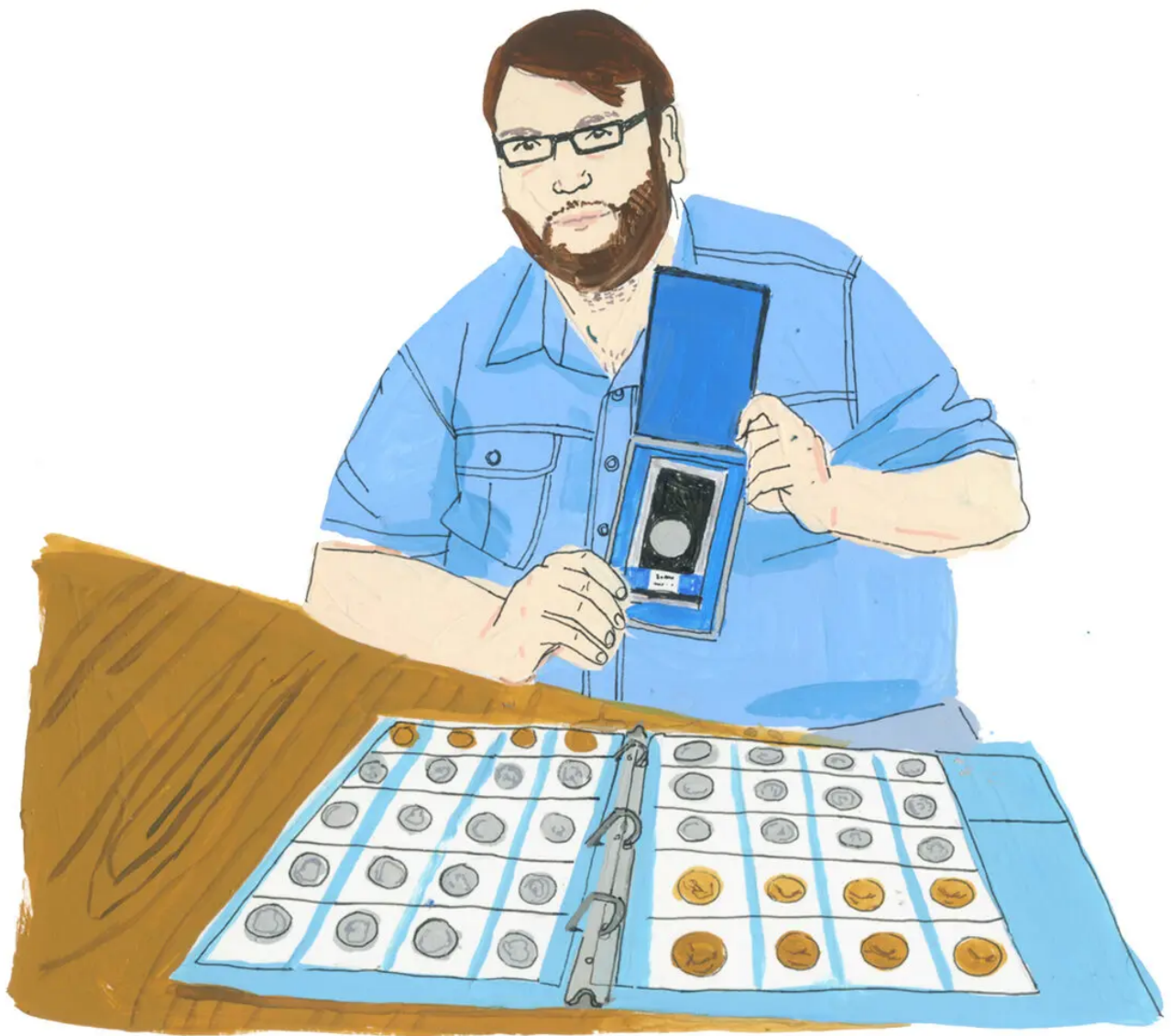


1806 Irish George III Farthing



1884 Morgan Dollar

Yes, crypto is soaring,  
but there's another  
form of currency that's  
experiencing a BOOM: the  
old-fashioned coin. Four  
millennial and Gen Z  
numismatists spoke to us  
about why they prefer  
coins they can touch.



“Coins are a terrible investment generally. You'd be better off putting your money in the stock market. I would consider them more of a store of wealth. But the main reason I buy them is because I like them.”

*“They’re little art objects you can hold in your hand.”*

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*“If I’m at a coin show it’s all guys. All white guys. On my internet groups, it’s mostly people my age and younger. It’s a different demographic depending where you are. The younger ones are more diverse.”*



"It's not cool like playing guitar.  
But if I show my friends who are  
not into coins a coin, they say,  
'Oh that's interesting.' But I  
don't know that I'd gain a bunch  
of followers on TikTok from it."

— JAMES CASTILLO, 34, PORTER COUNTY,  
INDIANA



1987 U.S. Constitution  
Silver Dollar

*"There's a lot of new people in the coin world."*

*They're all ages. There's a pretty solid base of people who are around my age."*



1916 Portuguese Republic 50 Centavos

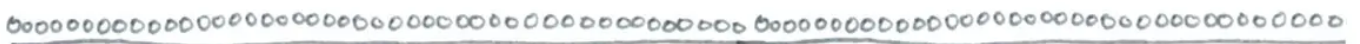


1590 Spanish Granada  
— 4 Reales

“ There's also a lot of new money from cryptocurrency where people are just randomly making millions of dollars and they don't know what to do with it, so they're trying to buy solid stuff.”

“I like coins for the aesthetics. I do not invest in cryptocurrency. I like something that you hold in your hand that other people have held in the past and bought stuff with or saved. I like the history.”

- REX GOLDBAUM, 23, SARASOTA, FLA.







1828-1832 Japanese  
Bunsei 2 Bu



“When I was little I got foreign coins from the tooth fairy, instead of spending money. So I called myself a coin collector from as soon as I was old enough to start losing teeth.”



“When I walk into a coin shop or onto the floor of a show, I stand out because not only am I young, I’m also female. But I know there are a lot of people who are trying to include more women and minority groups in the hobby.”

“There’s definitely a larger number of younger collectors out there than people think.”



2018/7 U.S. Nova  
Constellatio Quint  
Private Issue

*“A lot of people  
who are 15 to 25  
years old are selling  
pieces over Instagram  
and sharing their  
collections.”*

*— LIANNA SPURRIER, 24, LOUISVILLE, KY.*



*1878 Liberty  
Seated Half Dollar*





“This is a full-time job for me.  
I’m currently going to Florida Atlantic  
University and whatever my  
scholarships don’t pay for, coins pay  
for college.”



“EBay is a great place for coins. The only problem is, depending on what kind of seller you are, you’re paying anywhere from 8 to 13 percent when you sell a coin there. Instagram is hands-off, so it’s kind of like the Wild West, but I don’t have to give them 13 percent.”

“The Chinese coin market is hot, which is partially to do with the Bitcoin people. China has banned Bitcoin, so you gotta get your money out of Bitcoin. So they invest in real estate, art, or coins.”





1534 Siege of  
Munster 2 Thaler

*"I don't invest in  
crypto. What is  
the guarantor  
of the money?"*

*What was the guarantor of  
coins back in 1633? Its intrinsic  
metal value. As a dirty peasant  
I can hold it. It's silver. It's gold.  
It has value. Something we all  
agree on. What is crypto? It's  
a bunch of numbers — ones  
and twos."*

*- MATTHEW TAVORY, 21, LAKE  
WORTH, FLA.*