



ERNIE RICHARDS

COIN EXPERT

Ernie was born and raised in New London, Connecticut. Being so close to the Atlantic Ocean, he grew up with a keen interest in ancient and historical archaeology and at the early age of 15 learned how to scuba dive. Soon after, Ernie started free-diving to salvage the wrecks in the Thames River near his home in New London. These times had to end when Ernie was drafted and served a 4 year hitch with the Navy. The skills he learned, electronics theory and submarine technology, helped him find work when he went back to New London, working on the conventional and nuclear fleets there. But then Ernie read some magazine articles about salvage divers and treasure hunters down in Florida, and he caught the bug and moved his whole family. Over the next 20 years, whenever he got the chance, Ernie was out searching for and on ancient ship wrecks. Finding his first piece-of-eight aroused his curiosity about the symbols and markings stamped on the coin. This fascination with the origins of the coins and artifacts recovered from shipwrecks, and the ships themselves, has lead to Ernie being a top expert in the field of Numismatics, coins and their history.

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