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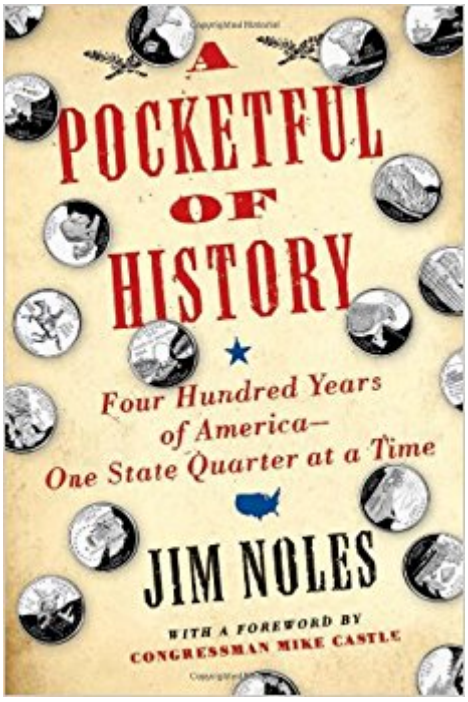
# A Pocketful Of History: Four Hundred Years Of America--One State Quarter At A Time

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## Synopsis

The U.S. Mint's Fifty State Quarters Program-its most ambitious program to date-has been a huge popular success. When the final state quarters are released in 2008, many thousands of individuals will have collected one commemorative quarter for each state in the Union. But what can we learn about our country's history and culture from 12.50 worth of quarters? A Pocketful of History tells the intriguing story behind each state's quarter: how each state chose its quarter's design; what is important about the people, scenes, or themes depicted on the coin; and what the collection tells us about how we view ourselves and our heritage. A Pocketful of History will guide readers on a fascinating journey through America's rich history of change.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In his latest, author and attorney Noles (Twenty-Three Minutes to Eternity: The Final Voyage of the Escort Carrier USS Liscome Bay) looks at the 50 State Quarters Program, which, over about ten years, has issued a quarter commemorating each state with a different design. Organized by issue date, each state quarter is given a few pages of background information, including the date of release, the number initially minted and the reasons behind its design. His work is full of information for both novice coin collectors and average Joes, and his otherwise dry account benefits occasionally from witty chapter subtitles and gentle mockery (Wisconsin’s state motto, "Forward!", appears to be exhorting a cow head, ear of corn and cheese round "to move along"). While some may assume that there is little mystery behind the state quarters series, Noles finds much to inform, and occasionally startle, making each entry a quick, fulfilling slice of American history. 50 b&w

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Ã¢â ¬Å“This book will be a necessity for collectors of the new quarters, and a good read for older schoolchildren, encapsulating a lot of state history in a readable and unique form.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Curled Up With a Good Book"Readers will encounter familiar information but also the new and unfamiliar and will come away with a greater appreciation of their pocket change and the valuable history it can offer."Ã¢â ¬â •Library JournalÃ¢â ¬Å“Even if you are just spending the commemorative quarters to buy soda, bottled water or candy, this book should be added to your personal library. It could be an important introduction to U.S. history for some child who otherwise might suffer from history phobiaÃ¢â ¬Â¦It is a fun and easy read full of information that seldom makes it into history text books.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Roanoke TimesÃ¢â ¬Å“Even though Noles claims he is not a coin collector himself, he writes with the passionate and attention to detail of a seasoned pro. His book is breezy, informative and fascinating.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Tucson Citizen 5/8/08Ã¢â ¬Å“Few of us ever bother to look at the loose change that jangles in our pockets and purses. Noles reminds us that whatÃ¢â ¬â„¢s inscribed on those coins says a lot about the kind of country we are, and what we hope to be.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Baton Rouge AdvocateÃ¢â ¬Å“Everyone who collected these quartersÃ¢â ¬â •and anyone who loves anecdotal American historyÃ¢â ¬â •will want to own and read Jim Noles A Pocketful of History.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Constant Reader column

The author explains the book he originally meant to write when he first thought of the idea, and then explains the way it is written because he learned the coin choices were not as simple as he initially expected. I like that the choices by the states surprised him, and it comes across in the writing. It is fascinating to learn what each state considered to be representative of their states. You learn history, politics and geography all at the same time as you are entertained.

I bought this book as a gift for my Dad as he collected the new quarters as they came out & I thought this would be interesting reading for him. He really enjoyed the trivia, & the little nugget sized knowledge tidbits. It is the kind of book you can sit down & read a page or two at a time, the kind that prompts you to do a follow-up search on some of the info contained. A good gift book for History buffs or coin collectors or trivia fans.

Great book for any history buff! Extremely well researched and written.

I bought this book as a gift for a friend who has about 5 sets of the state coins. He was delighted with it and has since told us how much he has learned from it, and how it has added to his interest in the coins. Each chapter gives information on the reason why the particular items were chosen for the coin by state. Based on his reaction to this gift, I would highly recommend it.

I got the book for my husband who is collecting the quarters and it has added some nice bits to his knowledge of the idea, execution and history of the program. As well, it has contributed to his knowledge on how each state decided on its design. There are a couple of incorrect facts (minor) but all, in all, a great book to give someone who has an interest in the state quarter program.

This is a great book. I bought several for Christmas gifts. You can read just a little at a time if your schedule is full, An excellent read!!!!

This was a fantastic book that should be required reading for all students. It gave a quick, 5 page, history of the quarter, that most people would never have known. I am giving this to all my grandkids for Christmas. The research the author did was incredible.

My Husband has been collecting the quarters for the 50 States and Territories; this book gives valuable and interesting information about each State.

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