Madison County

Coin Club of Huntsville, Alabama



Volume 9, Issue 2

February 2009

The President's Corner

We had a very good meeting last month with new member John Lindberg presenting a fine program on "Photographing Coins". As an engineer, he designed and made a simple yet effective method of photographing coins on his kitchen table.

The next meeting promises to be another good one as member Charles Cataldo presents his annual "State of the Coin Market" program. Be sure to attend!

Part of the fun of being a member and coming to our club meetings is the opportunity to show, swap, and sell coins. However, in respect for those conducting the meeting, please give your full attention to the business of the club and refrain from disturbing others by selling or showing coins during the meeting.

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A Gem in Atlanta, the Monetary Museum of the Federal Reserve Bank

By Ricahrd Jozefiak

Where can you go in Atlanta, GA to lift a gold brick, see uncut sheets of \$5,000, \$10,000, and \$100,000 notes, and see the history of money use over the centuries? Why, at the Monetary Museum at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. The Monetary Museum is a little visited museum, but a gem in Atlanta. And it's Free!

The Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta is the Sixth District of the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank system. The U.S. Federal Reserve Bank is the bank that controls the release of U.S. paper money and coinage into circulation. It also sets the main interest rates for the U.S., and controls the monetary policy for the banking system and supervises banks.

The Monetary Museum is located in the Visitors Center of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. It is open to the public, and free. Due to the nature of this government facility, security is very tight.

The Monetary Museum consists of a number of different galleries. The exhibits are designed to appeal to the general public as well at the seasoned coin collector.

The public enters the Monetary Museum through the Main Lobby, where all people are required to go through an airport style security screening. An adult must show a government issued picture identification for a badge to the museum. Since the museum is in a government secured facility, cell phones and

A Gem in Atlanta continued from page 1

cameras are not allowed and must be checked into a locker

The self-guided tour begins in the Museum Room, where the story of "Money Over Time" is shown in a number of display cases. This tells the story of how money has been used over centuries, and the different types of money that have been used over time.



Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta (photo by author)

There are a number of different exhibits in the section, including one on myths and realities of the Federal Reserve System, the state quarters, and payment services of the future.

The next section of the museum is the Cash Corridor, where there are interesting coin and paper money exhibits. In this area, a person can lift a gold brick (27 pounds), with the current value of the gold brick being shown. The value of the bar changes as the price of gold changes in real time, and it is shown electronically. It is valued over \$300,000.

For coin collectors, there is a display of a complete collection (59 pieces) of Dahlonega Mint gold coins!

For coin collectors, there is a display of a complete collection (59 pieces) of Dahlonega Mint gold coins! This is a very rare exhibit. Also in the area are gold coins from Saint Gaudens, Bechtler, and Templeton Reid. This is an outstanding display of U.S. Mint and private gold coins produced in the Georgia area.

Paper money produced by the U.S. Bureau of Printing and Engraving is displayed in the Cash Corridor. On display are 1934 Series of uncut sheets (12 notes per sheet) of \$500; \$1,000; \$5,000; \$10,000 and \$100,000 Federal Reserve notes. Each note has a collector value far more than the face value of the note, but uncut sheets of these denominations are very rare.



Entrance to Visitors Center (photo by author)

The next section of the museum is the Supervision and Regulation, and Pocket Theater. There are two short videos that are shown "The Fed Today" and "Monetary Policy: Part Art, Part Science". The videos are about twenty minutes each, and interesting.

The final section of the museum is the Cash Processing Viewing Area. Here a person cannot only

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see, but touch a Cash Bus that is used to transport money. The Cash Bus on display was filled with \$5 Federal Reserve notes, with a value of \$2.35 million.

In this section, a person can also see through security glass the processing of checks, Cash Buses being moved, and other operations being performed by employees of the Federal Reserve Bank.

At the end of the visit when leaving the Visitors Center, free post cards and small bags of shredded money are available to take with you. A visit to the museum can take as little as an hour, to about half a day. Young children would probably not enjoy a visit, but children 12 and older would be appropriate.

The Monetary Museum is a gem in Atlanta, GA that offers outstanding exhibits and interesting displays for the general public to the serious numismatist. ■

Visit Information

Cost: FREE

Hours: 9 am to 4 pm

Days: Monday-Friday (closed on all legal holidays)

Location: 1000 Peachtree Street, N.E. Atlanta, GA 30309

MARTA Stop: Midtown (Bank is located across the street)

Phone: 404-498-8764

Web: www.frbatlanta.org

Notes:

- 1. No cameras allowed
- 2. No cell phones allowed
- 3. Lockers are available to secure items
- 4. Groups of 10 or more people must be scheduled
- 5. No gift shop or cafeteria
- 6. There is no public parking around the bank, but there are public parking lots within walking distance.

Some members suggested we have a time for selling, swapping, and showing coins before the meeting. So let's say that from 6:00 P.M. until

6:25 P.M. that time can be used for a bourse time.

April is National Coin Month. Do you know anywhere a program or an exhibit can be presented?

Give it some thought.

We have had some excellent visitors at our meetings recently and I want to thank each of you for making them feel welcome.

See you at the next meeting on the 23rd.

Bob

Please bring a coin, medal, note, or something for Show-and-Tell.

It's easy, fun, and adds interest to our meeting.

The Jersey 1812, 1813, and 1814 Tokens

Part 2: The 1813 Half Penny Token

By Harold Fears

Besides the two silver tokens of 1813, various unofficial "Jersey" copper tokens issued by banks and firms appeared between the years 1812 and 1814. The reason for minting these and other copper 19th century tokens is detailed in *The Bazaar, the Exchange and Mart* of September 22, 1886 by Richard Thomas Samuel. He wrote:

"The issue of the regal copper coinage of 1797 (known as that of the 'Soho' type), supplied a great want in the national currency; but the expensive warfare of the period, in which this country was engaged, enhanced the price of copper, and much of that heavy coinage, consisting of twopenny and penny pieces, consequently found its way to the smelting houses; while the value of the tokens of the eighteenth century becoming intrinsically enhanced, large quantities of the more honest description of those pieces also disappeared; and the spurious ones, being decried by authority, likewise found their way to the melting-pot. Thus another deficiency in the quantity of the copper currency soon arose. Eventually, however, the price of copper fell, and then this branch of trade came comparatively depressed, so that, about the year 1811, the large copper companies and other firms, seeing that the change in the value of the metal afforded a favorable opportunity for supplying the deficiency in the circulating medium, took advantage of the circumstance, and commenced striking and issuing a fresh series of provincial copper coins, such pieces constituting the nineteenth century series of tokens proper, as it may be termed."

According to some, the Jersey copper tokens were probably all private issues. Others think that these were patterns to be approved by the Island authorities. Depending on your source there are various different issues of penny tokens that circulated on the island. However everyone will agree that there is only one half penny token.



The obverse of the 1813 half penny token

According to some, the Jersey copper tokens were probably all private issues. Others think that these were patterns to be approved by the Island authorities.



The reverse of the 1813 half penny token depicts the Prince of Wales plumes.

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Although the half penny is not the rarest token, this is still the most sought after token of the series, with perhaps only three or four examples available to collectors.

Please note that this particular example is from the Pridmore and McCammon collections and is depicted on the front cover of McCammon's book, *Currencies of the Anglo-Norman Isles.*

To learn more about 19th century British copper tokens in general, you need to the read the best book on the subject, *British Copper Tokens 1811-1820*, by Paul and Bente Withers. This book is fully illustrated and was written to set the standard. No numismatic library is complete without this book. ■



The tiny bronze coin, with a green throated carib and antilean crested hummingbirds on the reverse was minted for 12 years. Can you identify it? The solution will be published next month in the newsletter.

Coin Trivia

- 1. Who appears on the obverse of the Monroe Doctrine Centennial commemorative of 1923?
- 2. What American president's name appears twice on a 1985 Federal Reserve Note?
- 3. What are dime stock quarters?
- 4. Who was the designer of the Indian Cent?
- 5. What was the first nickel to have "In God We Trust" on it?



Answers:

- 1. James Monroe and John Quincy Adams
- 2. Abraham Lincoln
- 3. Quarters struck on quarter planchets struck from a dime-thickness planchet strip.
- 4. James Longrace
- 5. The Shield nickel from 1866 to 1883

Some Scenes from the Last Meeting









Visit us on the web at http://mccc.anaclubs.org/

Members' Notices

Rules for users of the member notice page: All notices are free and should be directed to the editor of the Madison County Coin Club newsletter (see back page for address). Notices will be limited to a maximum of 8 lines, including the name and contact information. The person entering the notice must answer all responses to notices. Preference will be given in the following order to notices when the page is oversubscribed in a single month:

- 1. Research Notices
- 2. Wanted Items
- 3. Trades Offered
- 4. For Sale Items

Looking for world coins or tokens with sailing ships, or dragons. Interested in crowns, and smaller denominations. Silver, Cupero-Nickel, bronze, Aluminum and the like. Contact Mark at TheLarsens@bellsouth.net

Looking for Alaskan Medals and Tokens. Contact: Richard at <u>ANALMRJ@gmail.com</u> or 256-337-5092

Looking for numismatic information concerning the Island of Jersey, Channel Islands. Especially interested in magazine or newspaper articles. Contact: Harold at <u>hkfears@knology.net</u> or 256-881-6268.



Inclement Weather Notice

If the Huntsville City Schools are closed due to inclement weather, then the Huntsville Senior Center is closed. There will be no club meeting if the Huntsville Senior Center is closed. Local TV and radio stations will give notice of any Huntsville school closure.

Membership Dues

Your 2009 dues can be paid at the next meeting, or if you wish, you can send in your check to:

Mike Campbell 801 Randall Road Huntsville, AL 35802

Membership	Amount Due	
Regular	\$15.00	
	Senior Rate	
	\$12.00	
Spouse (same address as	\$5.00	
Regular member)		
Young Numismatist (YN)-	\$5.00	
Persons17 years or younger.		
Young Numismatist	\$5.00	
Young Numismatist	\$5.00	
Family (all members of a	\$25.00	
family with the same address)		

Please make check payable to Madison County Coin Club. Please support MCCC by promptly renewing you membership.

CLUB OFFICERS

 PRESIDENT:
 BOB JAQUES (rjapilot@charter.net)

 VICE PRESIDENT:
 Dennis Delong (fastfords1@bellsouth.net)

 SECRETARY:
 Richard Jozefiak (analmrj@gmail.com)

 TREASURER:
 Mike Campbell (mcampbell7@juno.com)

 BOARD MEMBER:
 Mark Larson (thelarsens@bellsouth.net)

2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All meetings are held at the Senior Center in Huntsville in the Ceramics Room. We meet on the fourth Monday each month except for May and December. Meetings start at 6:30 and typically end around 8:30. The Thomas W. Davidson, Sr. Senior Center is located at 2200 Drake Ave. SW, Huntsville, AL 35803

JANUARY 26

Photographing Coins by John Lindberg

FEBRUARY 23

State of the Coin Market by Charles Cataldo.

MARCH 23

Early Dollars by Mike Ford

APRIL 27 Lincoln: His Legacy on 100 Years of Pennies by Bob Jaques

JUNE 22 Annual potluck and bourse night.

JULY 27

Open

AUGUST 24

Open

SEPTEMBER 28

Open.

OCTOBER 26 Commemorative Halves by Robert Patrick

NOVEMBER 23

Annual Thanksgiving celebration and bourse night.

February is British Commonwealth Month

February is British Commonwealth coin month. So whether if you wish to trade, sell, or buy some shillings, florins, or half crowns, the coin club's February meeting is the place to be!



Why not bring a friend to the next meeting?

2009 Coin Shows Around Huntsville, AL Area					
Date(s) Feb 14-15 Sept 19-20	Area Pelham (Birmingham), AL	Location Central AL Coin Show Civic Center 500 Amphitheater Road Pelham, AL Sa 10 am – 6 pm Su 10 am – 3 pm	Contact Info Dr. Carl Shory 205-620-0560	Richard's Rating	
Feb 21 March 14 April 11 May 23 June 13 July 11 August 15 Sept 5 Oct 17 Nov 14 Dec 19	Franklin, TN	Coin Show I-65 & Hwy 96 Best Western Hotel 1308 Murfreesboro Road Franklin, TN 9 am – 4 pm	Col. Tom Bass 615-740-7952 615-428-0125 tbass73142@aol.com	TBD	
Mar 6-8	Chattanooga, TN	Tennessee State Numismatic Society Camp Jordan Arena I-75 Exit 1 Chattanooga, TN	Gayle Pike 901-327-1703 901-210-7669 (cell) pikegk@aol.com www.tsns.org	TBD	
April 17-19	Dalton, GA	45 th Georgia Numismatic Association Coin Show Northwest Trade Center I-75 exit 333 2211 Dug Gap Battle Road Dalton, GA Fri- Sat 10 am – 6 pm Sun 10 am – 3 pm	Chip Cutcliff 770-421-8387 chascoins06@yahoo.com www.gamoney.org	* * *	
May 8-9 Oct 2-3	Huntsville, AL	Rocket City Coin Show Knights of Columbus Hall 3053 Leeman Ferry Road Huntsville, AL	Charles Cataldo AL Coin & Silver Co. 256-536-0262	*	
July 17-19	Bessemer, AL	Alabama State Coin Show 1130 Ninth Ave SW Bessemer, AL 10 am – 6 pm	Corbitt Chandler 205-939-1178 corbitchandler@bellsouth. net	☆ ☆	
Aug 21-23	Dalton, GA	50 th Blue Ridge Numismatic Association Coin Show Northwest Trade Center I-75 exit 333 2211 Dug Gap Battle Road Dalton, GA Fri-Sat 10 am – 6 pm Su 10 am – 3 pm	Bob Hurst 321-383-1742 forvm@cfl.rr.com www.brna.org	* * *	

Richard's Rating:



Small coin show, no educational programs

Medium/Large coin show, no educational programs

Large coin show, educational programs and/or exhibits. Worth the drive

TBD- Have not been to show