

# Madison County Coin Club

of Huntsville, Alabama



Volume 9, Issue 8

September 2009

## The President's Corner

We were much honored to have club member Frank DuVall present a program at last month's meeting on "The Good Old Days" of coin collecting. He showed us photographs of some of the rare coins he has owned and collected in his lifetime. What a unique collection!

I am pleased to see the number of guests and new members that have started coming to our meetings. Thanks to each of you for making them feel welcome. I have had several tell me they appreciated the friendliness of the club members.

We need more "show and tell" from the members, so please bring something of interest to the next meeting.

For those who were absent from the last meeting, I am proud to mention that Harold Fears, our newsletter editor, and our newsletter won first place in the National competition of newsletters by ANA for 2008. A hearty congratulations Harold!

See you at our next meeting on September 28th.

Sincerely,

Bob Jaques ■

## Richard Jozefiak Named the 2009 Outstanding District Representative

The mission of the American Numismatic Association Club Representative Program is to work directly with members and clubs to promote and expand the numismatic experience through the services and programs offered by the Association.

Designed to strengthen communication between the American Numismatic Association and its membership, the Representative Program utilizes the many talented and enthusiastic individuals involved in this fascinating hobby of numismatics. The primary strength of the program lies in this interaction, allowing collectors to voice their concerns about the hobby and helping them take advantage of the full range of benefits and services of the Association.

The Representative Program is structured with a National Coordinator selected to oversee District Representatives. Each representative has submitted an application for this important ANA club volunteer position.

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## A Request from the Senior Center

The Senior Center is hosting a Senior Prom Monday Sept 28. People arriving will be using the Drake Ave doors. The Senior Center has requested that all our members use the Ivy Street doors to enter for the September meeting. ■

## A 1986 Jersey Commemorative

*By Harold Fears*

In 1986, Jersey issued a two pounds coin for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the World Wildlife Fund depicting a pair of two pink pigeons. The pink pigeon (*Nesoenas mayeri*) is a native of the island of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean. It is one of the rarest birds in the world. In the 1980s there were only 15 in the wild. Without help from the Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust (JWPT) it would soon have been totally extinct. The JWPT was established in 1963 by the eminent zoologist and author Gerald Durrell. It is devoted to the concept of captive breeding of endangered species as an aid to their survival in the wild. In 1984 Gerald Durrell released the first 11 of 150 captive bred Pink Pigeons into the Pamplemousse Botanical Gardens in Mauritius as the first step of a major re-introduction program to save the species. The Pink Pigeon is named for its beautiful coloring. It has a light pink head, neck and under parts with a darker pink back and wings and a bright chestnut colored tail. Today there exist about 360 birds in the wild. ■



### Winners Announced in 2009 Outstanding Club Publications Contest

The American Numismatic Association announced the winners of its 2009 Outstanding Club Publications Contest during its District Representative meeting on Aug. 8 in Los Angeles. Each year, the ANA recognizes outstanding publications produced by member numismatic organizations. Submissions are judged in four categories: Local Clubs, Regional Clubs, Specialty Clubs and Electronic Newsletters.

#### Local Clubs:

1. First Place: "*Madison County Coin Club Newsletter*," Madison County Coin Club (Editor: Harold Fears)
2. Second Place: "*Albuquerque Coin Club Newsletter*," Albuquerque Coin Club (Editor: Robert Laetare)
3. Third Place: "*Augusta Coin Club Newsletter*," Augusta Coin Club (Editor: Arno Safran)

This is the second year in a row that our newsletter has won the Local Clubs competition. ■

Some Scenes from the Last Meeting



Visit us on the web at <http://mccc.anacclubs.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, Cupro-Nickel, bronze, Aluminum and the like. Contact Mark at [TheLarsens@bellsouth.net](mailto:TheLarsens@bellsouth.net)

**Looking for Alaskan Medals and Tokens.** Contact: Richard at [ANALMRJ@gmail.com](mailto:ANALMRJ@gmail.com) 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 [hkfears@knology.net](mailto:hkfears@knology.net) or 256-881-6268.



2 Dollar Coin  
"Toonie"

**Looking for circulated contemporary Canadian coins.** Also have a few available, including some older items. Contact: Mike at [mcampbell7@juno.com](mailto:mcampbell7@juno.com)

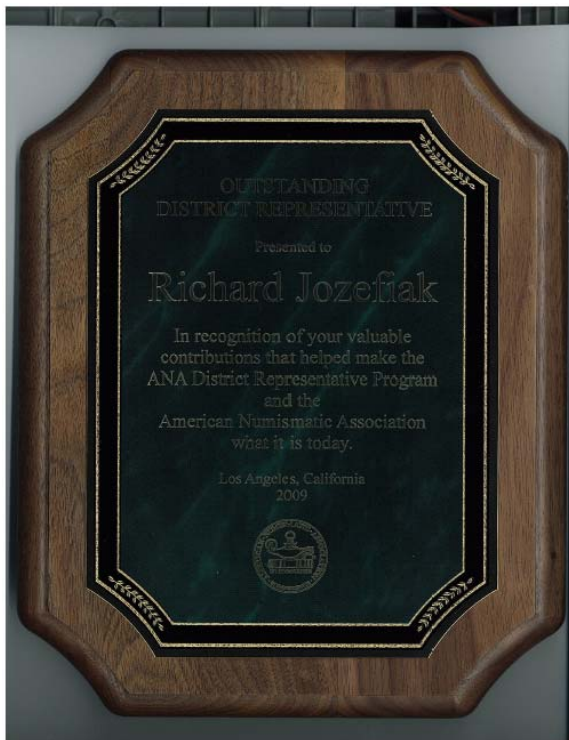
## September is Dime Month

September is dime month. So whether you wish to trade, sell, or buy some key dates, the coin club's August meeting is the place to be!



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

As many of you might know, Richard Jozefiak has been a District Representative for several years now. At the ANA's District Representative Meeting on August 8 in Los Angeles, it was announced that the 2009 Outstanding District Representative was Richard Jozefiak. His plaque reads as follows:



**Outstanding  
District Representative  
Presented to  
Richard Jozefiak  
In recognition of your valuable  
Contributions that helped make the  
ANA District Representative Program  
And the  
American Numismatic Association  
What it is today.  
Los Angeles, California  
2009**

Congratulations Richard for a great job! ■

## ARROWS BY DATE ON SEATED LIBERTY COINS TELL SILVER STORY

*By Bob Jaques*

As a young man just starting to collect type coins, I recall going to a coin shop to seek a coin with arrows on each side of the date for my type book. The Liberty Seated coins were the only ones with this unique feature. My first type coin with the arrows I bought was a VF 1854 quarter. I was sure proud of that quarter because it was different, and it remained in my collection for many years until I upgraded its condition.

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*By 1851, silver coins had almost vanished from circulation because their silver content was worth more than the face value of the coin.*

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Why were there arrows by the date and what did they mean? To understand the need for the arrows, we need to view the circumstances of the early 1850's. By 1851, silver coins had almost vanished from circulation because their silver content was worth more than the face value of the coin. Thus, thousands of all denomination silver coins were melted and few were actually circulating.



*The 1853 dime with arrows resembles the obverse of the half-dime, quarter, and half-dollar.*

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To stop this melting of silver coins, Congress passed a law on February 21, 1853 reducing the silver weight by approximately 7% from previous mintings. To denote this reduction in silver content, arrows were placed on each side of the date beginning April 1, 1853 and continuing thru December 31, 1855.



*The 1853 Seated Liberty half-dollar showing arrows on the obverse and rays on the reverse.*

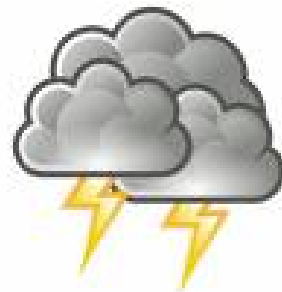
Surprisingly, the dollar silver content was unchanged, and the only coins minted with the arrows were the half-dime; dime; quarter; and half-dollar. In 1853, a new variety was introduced with the quarter and the half-dollar by adding rays around the eagle on the reverse and in addition to the arrows on the obverse. In 1854 and 1855 these rays were removed from the reverse and only the arrows on the obverse remained to denote the silver change.

The arrows by the date were again put on coins dated 1873 and 1874 when the Mint slightly increased the weight of the dime, quarter, and half-dollar by going to the Metric Standard. The arrows were to denote the new weights, but the weight change was so insignificant that the arrows were removed in late 1874.

Most of the coins with arrows are available for a type collection in all grades. And of course, their prices increase in proportion to their condition.

So the next time you see arrows by the dates on Seated Liberty coins, as Paul Harvey would say, "Now you know the rest of the story". ■

## 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. ■

## 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

COINS ON GLASS BY RICHARD JOZEFIAK

MARCH 23

STATE OF THE COIN MARKET BY CHARLES CATALDO

APRIL 27

EARLY DOLLARS BY MIKE FORD

JUNE 22

ANNUAL POTLUCK AND BOURSE NIGHT

JULY 27

TRADE DOLLARS BY DENNIS DELONG

AUGUST 24

THE GOOD OLD DAYS BY FRANK DUVALL

SEPTEMBER 28

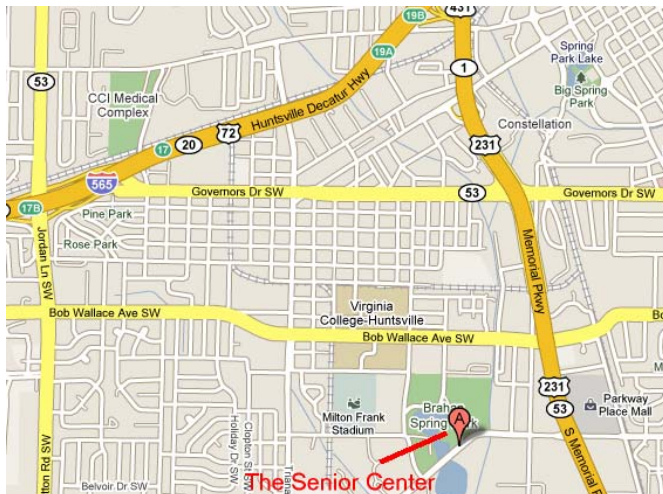
GUERNSEY COINS BY HAROLD FEARS

OCTOBER 26

COMMEMORATIVE HALVES BY ROBERT PATRICK

NOVEMBER 23

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION AND BOURSE NIGHT



## CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: [BOB JAQUES](mailto:rjapilot@charter.net) (rjapilot@charter.net)

VICE PRESIDENT: [Dennis DeLong](mailto:fastfords1@bellsouth.net) (fastfords1@bellsouth.net)

SECRETARY: [Richard Jozefiak](mailto:analmrj@gmail.com) (analmrj@gmail.com)

TREASURER: [Mike Campbell](mailto:mcampbell7@juno.com) (mcampbell7@juno.com)

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



## Can You Identify this Coin?



This proof one year type was issued in 1978. Can you identify it? The solution will be published next month in the newsletter.

Solution to last month's quiz: A 1969 dollar from Fiji.

## 2009 Coin Shows Around Huntsville, AL Area

Date(s)	Area	Location	Contact Info	Richard's Rating
Feb 14-15 Sept 19-20	Pelham (Birmingham), AL	Central AL Coin Show Civic Center 500 Amphitheater Road Pelham, AL Sa 10 am – 6 pm Su 10 am – 3 pm	Dr. Carl Shory 205-620-0560	★
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 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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