

# Madison County Coin Club of Huntsville, Alabama



Volume 11, Issue 10

November/December 2011

## The President's Corner

As I mentioned in last month's newsletter, the year is going by quickly and it is hard to believe that the next meeting is the final one for 2011.

This year has been a good one with very good programs and I thank each one that gave a presentation on their coin interests. Everyone has a good story to tell about their collection so please plan on giving a program next year.

Harold is doing a great job doing the newsletter and could use some help by submitting an article to him. How about writing an article about a coin you have, or found, or has an interesting.

The meeting this month is a bourse and a carry-in meal. In addition to something to share for a snack, be sure to bring in some coins you want to sell or trade. This is a great way to clean out those duplicates.

Mark your calendar and I will see you on **November 28th.**

Sincerely,  
Bob Jaques

## Excerpts from a "NUMISMATIC REMINISCENCES OF THE LAST SIXTY YEARS"

By a Coin Dealer

*The following is a small portion of a talk given in 1948 by a distinguished alumnus of Spink, Mr. Leonard Forrer. He describes his numismatic experiences from his first joining Spink in 1888, throughout the rest of his career.*

Foremost among collectors in the nineties was Sir John Evans, President of the London Numismatic Society for 25 years, from 1875 to 1902. Through his influence the Society obtained a Royal Charter from King Edward VII in 1904. His knowledge was prodigious. There was not a branch of numismatics with which he was not conversant. He collected Greek and, especially Roman aurei, early British, Anglo-Saxon, English medieval, stone implements, Celtic jewels and ornaments, weapons and relics of Great Britain and Ireland. Mr. S. M. Spink and I valued his collection for probate after his death, to the value of £145,000.

I shall ever remember with gratitude the encouragement I received from Sir John, translated into words in the Numismatic Chronicle, when I ventured on my Biographical Dictionary of Medallists. Sir John and Lady Evans often visited us at Gracechurch Street and later at Piccadilly. I recollect with what pleasure he exhibited, at every meeting of the Numismatic Society, his latest acquisitions, whether British or Roman.

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*The obverse of the 1887 John Evans President of the London Numismatic Society*



*The reverse of the 1887 John Evans President of the London Numismatic Society*

Once, Sir John gave me a commission for a very rare ancient British coin at a Munich sale, which turned out to be an electrotype, made by Ready, from a specimen still in his

collection. Sir John's unique collection of early British was ceded to the British Museum by his son Sir Arthur; the early prehistoric ornaments in gold went to the Ashmolean at Oxford.

We were entrusted with the sale of the English collection, which was purchased by Pierpont Morgan, senior (the American Railroad King) but which was brought back later by his son and sold conjointly to the British Museum and to Mr. R. C. Lockett. This collection comprised 4,222 pieces (279 AU, 3,422 AR and 51 AE), including two Henry III gold pennies (one from the Cuff and Wigan cabinets and the other acquired in Rome) 1, a gold florin of Edward III (only two known), half and quarter florins; nobles of second and third coinages; a half noble of the fourth issue; an unpublished noble and half of Richard II; a heavy noble and half of Henry IV with many other unique gold coins of Edward IV and V and a unique cinquefoil sovereign of Henry VII. In silver, English rarities from William Rufus to Charles II, including two portcullis groats. The Roman aurei were sold in Paris, except for a number of pieces retained by Sir Arthur.

The rarities disposed of, many of which were purchased by Mr. Robert Jameson of Paris, included an AU Balbinus (only two known), Didius Julianus, Didia Clara, Pescennius Niger, Victorianus Senior, Tetricus Senior, Magnia Urbica, Carausius, Allectus, and others. Some came from Francesco Gnechi of Milan, others from Paris sales and from finds in Egypt.

My contacts with Sir John were manifold. He has left in my heart an indelible sense of profound gratitude. In 1908, I dedicated to his memory an obituary notice, published in the *Gazette Numismatique Française* (1909), in which I gave a complete list of his scientific works from 1849 to 1907.

## 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:

Research Notices

Wanted Items

Trades Offered

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](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)

## November is Our Annual Pot Luck and Bourse Month



The November meeting is our annual end of the year potluck supper. The club will provide drinks, paper products and utensils. Please bring a dish to share with your fellow club members. It is also our bourse night. Come see what treasure you can find! We will also vote for next year's officers.

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





## 2011 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 24

HOW TO BUY COINS BY MIKE FORD

### FEBRUARY 21

STATE OF THE COIN MARKET BY CHARLES CATALDO

### MARCH 28

THE WAR OF PAPER MONEYS IN CIVIL WAR MADISON BY RICHARD JOZEFIAK

### APRIL 25

CELEBRATION OF THE CLUB'S 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY AND 100<sup>TH</sup> MEETING BY THE OFFICERS OF THE CLUB

### JUNE 27

ANNUAL POTLUCK AND BOURSE NIGHT

### JULY 25

Gold Dollars by Mike Ford.

### AUGUST 22

Ships in Space by Mark Larsen

### SEPTEMBER 26

Canadian Coins by Jin Keirstead

### OCTOBER 24

SPACE MEDALS AND COINS BY VERDERY ROBERSON

### NOVEMBER 28

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION AND BOURSE NIGHT

## CLUB OFFICERS

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

**VICE PRESIDENT:** MIKE FORD  
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**SECRETARY:** [Richard Jozefiak](mailto:analmrj@gmail.com) (analmrj@gmail.com)

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



## 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.

**Why not bring a friend to the next meeting?**