

# Madison County Coin Club of Huntsville, Alabama



Volume 13, Issue 4

April 2014

## The President's Corner

Thanks to Charles Cataldo for his state of the Coin Market presentation. This month's presentation will be a DVD on *Art of Making the Rare Coin Deal* by H. Robert Campbell. We also discuss the GNA show and how Bitcoins have gone to the dogs. Remember that we meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 22 April, and not the last Tuesday of the month.

Kurt

*"Numismatics, like some aspects of astronomy and natural history, remains a branch of learning in which the amateur can still do valuable work, and it is on the great collecting public, or rather on that part of which is interested in the subject at a scientific level, that the progress of numismatic science largely depends."*

Philip Grierson - Professor of Numismatics,  
University of Cambridge

## Charles Cataldo, Guest Speaker at March 25, 2014 Meeting

By Richard Jozefiak

Charles Cataldo, President of Alabama Coin & Silver Company of Huntsville, AL, was the special guest speaker at the Madison County Coin Club March 25, 2014 meeting. He provided his commercial numismatic insight on the current state of the coin market. He discussed what numismatic items are selling and what are not. A number of MCCC members asked questions of Charles on what he sees on the future movement of the numismatic market.

Charles also informed the group that he will be relocating his coin shop in or about May 2014. The current building his store is located on Bob Wallace Avenue, has been sold and will be torn down to allow new development. Charles will provide his new store address in the near future.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2** Some Scenes from the Last Meeting
- 4** National Coin Week Honors the Kennedy Half Dollar
- 7** Members Notices

## 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.

## Some Scenes from the Last Meeting



MCCC members at the meeting



(L) Harold Fears (MCCC Vice-President) and Charles Cataldo speaking





(L) Harold Fears presenting Charles Cataldo an ANA Educational Award for his presentation



(L) Richard Jozefiak, ANA District Representative for Alabama, presents Charles Cataldo the ANA Medal of Appreciation for his support of the MCCC

# **NATIONAL COIN WEEK HONORS 50 YEARS OF THE KENNEDY HALF DOLLAR.**

**By  
Bob Jaques**

A little known annual event, *NATIONAL COIN WEEK*, is sponsored by the American Numismatic Association (ANA) of Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The ANA was chartered by Congress in 1912, and is a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating people to study and collect money and related items.

This year *NATIONAL COIN WEEK* will be observed April 20 -26, and the theme is “Celebrating Civic Service” and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Kennedy Half Dollar.

In President Kennedy’s inaugural address, he inspired all of us to recognize the importance of civic action and public service. The President said, “Ask not what your Country can do for you – ask what you can do for your Country”. These words were challenging for each of us to do something for the public good.

Shortly after the popular young President was assassinated on November 22, 1963, there were demands on Congress to honor him on a coin. The quarter and half dollar were under consideration. It was decided by the end of December 1963 to honor President Kennedy on the half dollar, the largest coin in circulation.

The designer of the obverse, or front, was Gilroy Roberts, who was a sculptor for the U.S. Mint. Roberts used the portrait he had designed for a presidential medal to be used for the new half dollar.

The reverse was designed by Robert’s assistant Frank Gasparro, who also was a sculptor at the U.S. Mint. The reverse design is based on the presidential seal and has a field of 50 stars in a circle around the eagle. This coin has more stars than any other circulating coin.

The late President’s widow, Jacqueline, and his brother Bobby, both approved the design for the new coin.

By January 30, 1964, the U.S. Mints in Denver and Philadelphia began striking the new half dollar in 90% pure silver. Pictures of the new half dollar were printed in all the newspapers and the public was eager to own one when they became available.

Finally, it was announced by the U.S. Mint that banks would release the new coins to the public on March 24, 1964. People stood in long lines waiting for the banks to open with some lines extending around several blocks.

Eager citizens exhausted the supply of half dollars on the first day and many had to wait until the Mint could produce more coins. The Mint output for 1964 half dollars was a total of 429 million coins from both mints.

From 1965 thru 1970 the half dollars were minted in 40% silver. After 1970 they were made with a new clad construction consisting of a copper core sandwiched between a copper-nickel alloy.

Kennedy half dollars were last struck for circulation in 2002. After 2002, the Kennedy half dollars are being minted only for collectors and must be purchased directly from the U.S. Mint. Today there are very few half dollars in circulation.

As of this writing, the U.S. Mint is considering several ways to honor the 50 years of the Kennedy Half Dollar. One idea is to make a special coin with a double date 1964 – 2014 in either silver or gold. But a decision has not been reached yet.



## MCCC is now on Facebook



The Madison County Coin Club is now on Facebook. The newly created Facebook page has pictures of recent meetings, schedules of upcoming events like the Huntsville Coin show, and post from members. Navigate to:  
<http://www.facebook.com/MadisonCountyCoinClub> .

Post comments - Visit the page and don't forget to "Like" us.

## CLUB OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT:** [KURT SPRINGFIELD](mailto:kurt.springfield@dr-inc.com) (kurt.springfield@dr-inc.com)

**VICE PRESIDENT:** [Harold Fears](mailto:hkfears@knology.net) (hkfears@knology.net)

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

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

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



## The Club's Ten Year Anniversary Medal

The club had medals minted for the club's ten year anniversary. The medals are 1.75 inches in diameter and come in nickel, copper, and a golden material. If interested in owning these medals, see Richard at the meeting.



## Membership Dues

Your 2014 dues can be paid at the next meeting, or if you wish, you can send in your check to:

Mike Campbell  
15073 Ashmont Blvd  
Huntsville, AL 35803

Membership	Amount Due
Regular	<b>\$15.00</b>
	<b>Senior Rate</b>
	<b>\$12.00</b>
Spouse (same address as Regular member)	<b>\$5.00</b>
Young Numismatist (YN)- Persons 17 years or younger.	<b>\$5.00</b>
Young Numismatist	<b>\$5.00</b>
Young Numismatist	<b>\$5.00</b>
Family (all members of a family with the same address)	<b>\$25.00</b>

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

## 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](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.

**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)

**Selling Uncirculated set of Lincoln Cents 1934-1964:** All dates and mints from 1934 to 1964 with the exception of a missing 1960 small date. All cents grade from MS60 to MS65. Most are higher grade. Will sell all for \$175.00. If interested, let me know and I will bring to the next coin club meeting! Mike Ford 256-783-5433

## April is Obsolete Denomination Month

March is obsolete denomination month. So whether if you wish to trade, sell, or buy some two cents, three cents, or twenty cent pieces, the coin club's March meeting is the place to be!



*An 1833 half dime*

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

# 2014 Madison County Coin Club Program

## Refreshments and Programs Schedule

**NOTE: Meeting Day is the 4<sup>th</sup> TUESDAY of the month**

Meeting Date	Refreshments- Name Top Door Prize	Program- Title and Name
<b>January 28</b>	<i>Kurt Springfield</i> Top Door Prize- Morgan Dollar	<b><i>German Coins- Stan Benedict</i></b>
<b>February 25</b>	<i>Richard Jozefiak</i>  Top Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	<b>ANA President Walter Ostromecki, program on</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ANA Update</li> <li>2. Dumb Coins</li> <li>3. Awards</li> </ol>
<b>March 25</b>	<i>Bob Jaques</i> Top Door Prize- Morgan Dollar	<b><i>The State of the Coin Market- Charles Cataldo</i></b>
<b>April 22</b>	<i>Richard Jozefiak</i>  Top Door Prize- Franklin Half Dollar	<b><i>DVD- Art of Making the Rare Coin Deal by H. Robert Campbell (past ANA President)- Jozefiak</i></b>
<b>May- NO MEETING</b>		
<b>June 24</b>	<b>4th of July Pot Luck and Buy, Sell &amp; Trade Night</b> Top Door Prize- Franklin Half Dollar	
<b>July 22</b>	<i>Robert Franklin</i> Top Door Prize- Franklin Half Dollar	<b>Open</b>
<b>August 26</b>	<i>John Lindburg</i> Top Door Prize- Morgan Dollar	<b>Examples of WWII Philippine Guerilla Currency- Bob Jaques</b>
<b>September 23</b>	<b>Open</b> Top Door Prize- Franklin Half Dollar	<b>Open</b>
<b>October 28</b>	<i>Harold Fears</i> <b>Nomination of 2015 Officers</b> Top Door Prize- Morgan Dollar	<b>Coins from Rhodesia- Harold Fears</b>
<b>November 25</b>	<b>Holiday Pot Luck and Buy, Sell &amp; Trade Night</b> <b>Election of 2015 Officers</b> Top Door Prize- Morgan Dollar	
<b>December- NO MEETING</b>		