

Madison County Coin Club

of Huntsville, Alabama



Volume 17, Issue 6

July 2017

The President's Corner

The MCCC recently sponsored Stan Benedict to attend ANA Grading class in Dalton GA. Stan will share what he learned in Dalton with the club on Tuesday. Plan to join us to learn more about coin grading. We are all hoping for a speedy recovery for our treasurer, Mike Campbell after his recent surgery.

Kurt

What is "Movie Money"?

By
Bob Jaques

Last month, while visiting my CPA son Jon in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, he reached into his top desk drawer and pulled out a \$100 dollar bill. He handed it to me and asked, "What do you think of this note I found in a parking lot?"

I looked at it, turned it over in my hands and said that it was great to find a \$100 dollar note. He said, "Look at it closer." Upon closer scrutiny I could see the note was different in appearance from a genuine note. Jon pointed out the words on the top right front, "MOVIE MONEY".

This was new to me as I had never heard of this type. So now I was determined to find out about this interesting note. In the April 24th issue of *COIN WORLD* a short article appeared on this

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subject.

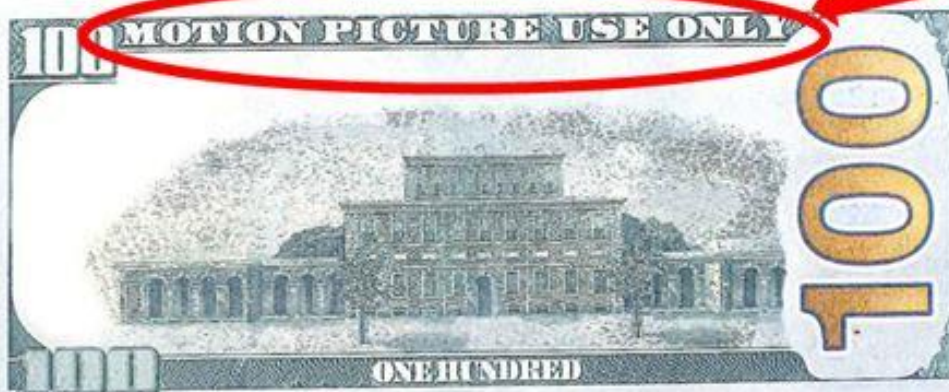
To quote from the article, "Prop money is not meant to be the real thing but to resemble it closely....will never have common security features such as watermarks, security threads, and holograms". The printing and use is governed by the Counterfeit Detection Act of 1992. To be caught trying to circulate "Movie or Prop Money" is a Federal offense and will be prosecuted severely.

Movie or Prop Money is not meant to be used to deceive people as genuine but to look realistic in films. One of the companies making this money is RJR Props and Set Dressing Services of Atlanta. To view their products visit their website <http://rjrprops.com>. So will Jon put this note into his currency collection as an oddity piece to look at only.





**FOR
MOTION
PICTURE
USE ONLY**



THOUGHTS ON THE FUNDAMENTALS OF GRADING U.S. COINS SEMINAR

DALTON, GEORGIA APRIL 19-20, 2017

STAN BENEDICT
MADISON COUNTY COIN CLUB

I was recently given the opportunity to attend the Grading Seminar in Dalton that was an American Numismatic Association class in conjunction with the Georgia Numismatic Association Show. I was fortunate to be awarded a scholarship award to cover the cost of the seminar from the Madison County Coin Club.

Thinking to give the better half a reprieve from being housebound and giving her an opportunity to pursue her own dream on furthering her Genealogy research, I asked her to come with me so she could have an uninterrupted two or three days without having to deal household pets and pests. This was not meant to be, the 'Name Withheld' Motel we stayed in had numerous problems maintaining their vaunted Wi-Fi service and created more confusion and frustration for Lorrie (the Better Half). Putting a brave face on the problem, the wife wholeheartedly provided comfort and support for my attending the Seminar, making sure that I had my jewelers loop, notepad, pen and assorted materials for the class. Made me remember my early days going to grade school when I was packed off to catch the bus for that hour long ride to school with my lunchbox, pencils, papers and the admonition to do well 'or else'! Oh well, such is life, one must revisit one's youth from time to time!

Looking forward to the class, I arrived in plenty of time (three minutes early) to find parking, locate the classroom and find a seat to only find out that the ANA had provided everything needed to learn and enjoy the Seminar. Notebook, pen and informative books and notes on grading

U.S. Coins were provided along with a bag of snacks for the two day event.

HORROR OF HORRORS, the first thing done after introduction of the two instructors (Rod Gillis and Bill Favas) and their assistant, we were given a test on, of all things, GRADING FUNDAMENTALS! After that, the real trial began. This was no pushover, relax and have a gab fest event, they ACTUALLY EXPECTED US TO PARTICIPATE AND LEARN SOMETHING!

From 9:00 to 5:00 with a short 5 – 10 minute break mid-morning, a lunch break and a short midafternoon break myself and the other 18 or 19 there were given instructions on grading techniques and then actually graded several sets of coins. The first series being Morgan Dollars! Now who doesn't appreciate seeing, holding and evaluating (think grading) solid silver one ounce coins? There is something about a silver dollar that brings out the collector in all of us.

First of course, we had to learn and understand the Sheldon System of grading and the history of Grading in the ANA. That, along with the ANA Grading Standards for United States Coins and some notes was it, we were thrown to the wolves and Graded those Morgan Dollars ALL ON OUR OWN! We valiantly went to it, naked eyeballing the coin and then using our loops to verify where and what we thought were defects. It was a learning experience to actually look at a coin that was all nicked and rubbed and find out it wasn't a circulated, worn coin but was actually a mint state (uncirculated) MS-60 to MS-61 or a low end MS-62 and that all those rub marks and nicks were actually coin to coin friction or coin to coin strikes in the minting and storing process plus a less than perfect full strike from the dies! Close examination would reveal no flat or worn areas caused by handling or commerce use. These ugly, and some were really ugly, coins were never used, mint state (uncirculated) coins! I guess there really is a reason there are 11 grades of MS uncirculated plus (low end, middle and high end) valuations for each one!

Some of our individual grades were 'on the money', the coin was actually

a MS-65 or an AU-55 or 58 or even a PO-1 (identified as to type and date) to AG-3 (about or almost good) through the G groups (good), VG (yep, very good), F (fine), VF and EF (very fine and extra fine) to AU (almost uncirculated) and the MS or mint state uncirculated coins – the 'cream of the crop, so to speak'!

After our individual efforts, we went on to 'group grading', that is finding consensus within our individual groups for a common grade for the coins. This is where the rubber met the road! Having five groups of four, and in one case three, individuals coming to an agreement on a coin's grade in one minute or less was sometimes like asking Congress to agree on a piece of legislature but we persevered and actually came up with a coin's grade! Having gone through five groupings of four coins each, the teams then had to actually give the grade score out for the instructors to see how well or not each group did and score the numbers correct (sometimes with modifiers, such as the coin could either be an AU-58 or a MS-62 as apart from a minuscule amount of wear on the highest point(s) of the coin it would have graded as an MS-65 (middle range uncirculated) the four grading criteria being the determinate factor. These are marks, strikes, luster and eye appeal. Eye appeal being the primary factor in grading.

Luster is the brilliance of the coin created during the mint process as the obverse and reverse dies strike the planchet creating the coin and marks are coin to coin friction or coin to coin striking during the minting process such as coins sliding over one another in the hopper or bag and strike being when one coin strikes another coin edge on when it falls from the mint into the hopper (for Mint State or MS coins). For circulated coins, marks are wear marks from handling, commercial handling and passing from hand to hand, in the pocket rubbing and numerous other ways coins can be handled, used or abused. In essence, the more 'wear', the lower grade or value the coin has.

Surprisingly, every group would get some right and others wrong and sometimes all groups arrived at the same grade either correct or not! These groups were a mixed lot, some with novice collectors, serious

collectors, coin shop owners and dealers. As we were told in the beginning of the Seminar, all anyone needs is a good naked eye, a 7.5 to 10 power loop and a rating guide such as the ANA Grading Standards (for U.S. Coins) and twenty years' experience! Very few of us had the last but we were able to develop and use the naked eye to determine the type of marks (wear or mint state coin to coin friction or strikes) and do a halfway decent job. Experience comes with practice checking coins on a day to day basis. Wear marks show up as a difference in color to the naked eye where the original luster is worn away. Mint state coins with marks do not have a change in color, the luster remains. The die strikes can be anywhere from a full strike (direct and at the correct pressure) to anywhere less than a full or direct strike and at less than correct pressure. Weak strikes show up as loss of detail and also loss of luster though the luster, or brilliance, from the strike is there. A full strike is direct and at full pressure dies to planchet and gives excellent detail of the coin and a higher luster.

WE learn, oh we learn and just when we think we've got it, they throw in another group of coins with that group's inherent grading techniques! WELCOME to the Walking Liberty Half Dollars! Another beautiful coin to blunt our budding grading expertise on! An introduction to this beautiful coin and the assorted marks and wear patterns to evaluate and grade, first individually as before and then by group consensus. A bit better this time in reaching a consensus but some of us would still under or overvalue the coin, normal, we all see things in our own light but we are coming closer and closer together both as individuals and as group to group. I guess practice (experience) does play a major part in this.

Such went day one, about three hours of instruction, example time and the rest in evaluation of the different coins in a series. Then homework, yes, homework! Read and review the handouts.

Day two began much the same as day one with the exception we went over the homework assignment and then into more instructions on different grading techniques and terms. Less time learning (we already had most of the basic by now) and more on individual methods of spotting

wear patterns and weak strikes on the assorted coin series. More intense grading exercises this day as we had a lot more coin types to cover from Mercury dimes to Buffalo nickels, Lincoln cents and Gold Double Eagles (Saint- Gaudens and Liberty Heads) The gold coins having a more forgiving grade system than the others due to the intrinsic value and softness of the metal.

Again, a good time was had by all though the groups were reassembled to help spread cross training throughout the whole class. Lots of time on individual and group grading and then the final exam! Same exam as taken BEFORE any instruction but a lot simpler to answer at the end of day two. I would highly recommend this course (seminar) to any collector who wants to learn more (and hopefully work to teach others) in enhancing this hobby of coin collecting whether for fun or profit.

These same grading techniques can also apply to World Coins or Individual Countries.

MCCC July 25 Meeting

By

Richard Jozefiak

Stan Benedict will be giving his program on “ANA Grading Class in Dalton, GA” at the July 25 meeting. Stan was the recipient of the MCCC scholarship to attend the ANA Grading Class held before the start of the 53rd Georgia Numismatic Association Coin & Current Show April 21-23 in Dalton, GA.

MCCC June 27, 2017 Meeting

Kathy Campbell, wife of our longtime member and club treasurer Mike Campbell, gave us an update of the successful back surgery Mike had that day. Mike will be recovering for the next two to three months. A get well card was signed by the members at the meeting for Mike, and Kathy took the card to him. We wish Mike a speedy recovery.

The club held its annual 4th of July Pot Luck, and there was plenty of food. Thank you to all the members that brought food to share. The club provided the drinks.



Members enjoying the 4th of July Pot Luck dinner



Club members examining a coin

A number of members set up areas on tables and sold coins to their fellow members. The club's semi-annual auction was held with many lots for sale. All but one lot was sold during the auction. The club auction is always an exciting event.



Members looking at auction lots on the auction table

FREE ANA GOLD MEMBERSHIPS!!

Richard Jozefiak has 6 vouchers left for a one year FREE ANA Gold (digital) membership. This is a \$28 value. Four people have signed up for the free ANA Gold membership at the June 27 meeting. If you are not a current ANA member, what better way to try an ANA membership for one year! The ANA provides many benefits and educational opportunities, and there are different membership levels. Please see Richard Jozefiak for a free voucher at the next meeting.

THE GREATEST HUMAN ADVENTURE IN MY LIFETIME- MAN ON THE MOON!

By
Bob Jaques

As I look back over years of man's exploits, I believe that witnessing on television the first moon landing by the astronauts of Apollo 11, was man's greatest accomplishment in my lifetime.



Last Thursday, July 20th marked the 48th anniversary of the Apollo 11 landing. With the Lunar Lander sitting on the surface of the moon and Astronaut Neil Armstrong descending the ladder to become the first man on the moon was exciting to watch.

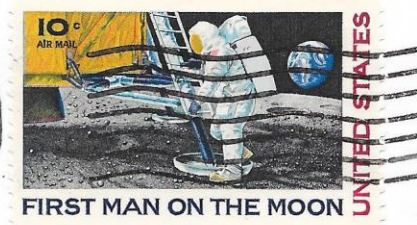
No matter what man achieves in future space flights and programs, the Apollo 11 mission will always be the first. Over 150 million people on worldwide television watched as Neil took that famous "one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind".

No other space flight produced as many tokens, medals, models, figures, stamps, and books as that of Apollo 11. The 10 cent large postage stamp showing Armstrong on the moon was printed from dies carried to moon on Apollo 11. The first day cover is neat and attractive (see photo).

NASA MANNED SPACECRAFT CENTER STAMP CLUB



OFFICIAL FIRST DAY COVER



NASA produced about 100,000 copper nickel medals that was made from metal carried on Apollo 11 to the moon and back. These are usually found in uncirculated condition as NASA gave them out at special events over the years since the Apollo 11 flight. They are eagerly sought after by collectors (see photo).

Some enterprising collector designed and printed a colorful piece of Apollo 11 currency that is a beautiful part of any Apollo 11 collection (see photo).

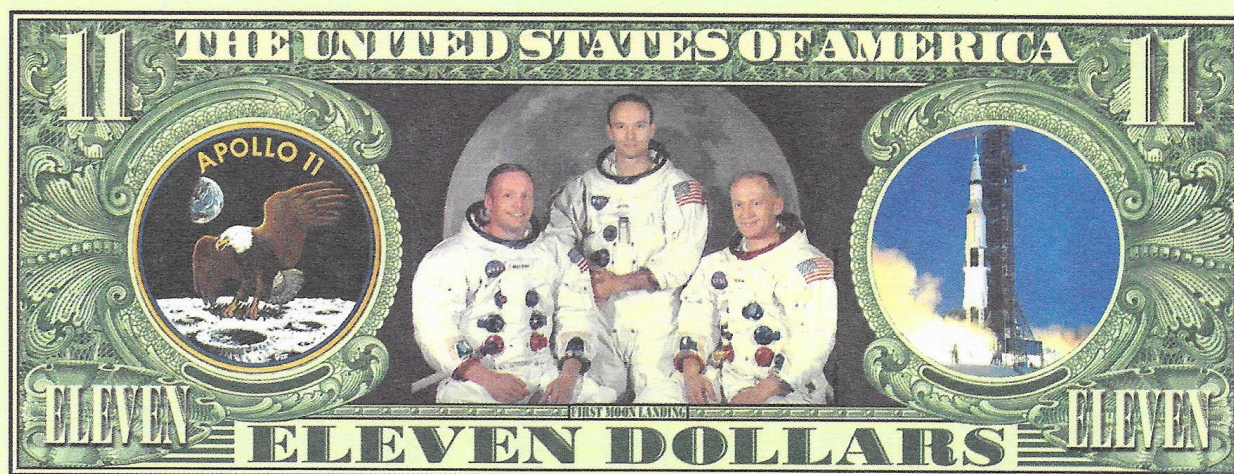
From a numismatic viewpoint, the insignia of the Apollo 11 mission was placed on the reverse of the Eisenhower dollar and the Susan B. Anthony dollar.



As the Apollo 11 50th anniversary nears, the U.S. Mint is issuing a set of three coins to honor this historic mission. A half dollar, a silver dollar, and a gold \$5 coin. The final designs have not been selected.

I believe these coins will be immensely popular, not only in the U.S. but from collectors all over the world. I hope the U.S. Mint realizes this and makes them available to all instead of just a few dealers.

As one whose interest in the space program was influenced by Apollo 11, I am eagerly waiting for the 50th anniversary set to be available.



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

For sale: Fire-Fyter heat-resistant lockbox. Outside dimensions 10x13x15 inches. Inside about 2/3 cubic foot. Exterior handles! Compare on Amazon.com at \$55. Contact Mike Campbell (mikathy48@gmail.com)

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](#)
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2017 Madison County Coin Club Program Refreshments and Programs Schedule

NOTE: Meeting Day is the 4th TUESDAY (NOT THE LAST) of the month

Meeting Date	Refreshments- Name	Program- Title and Name
January 24	<i>Richard Jozefiak</i> Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	<i>U.S. Mint Numismatic Update</i> <i>(presentation from U.S. Mint Forum in Philadelphia, PA on October 13, 2016)</i> Richard Jozefiak
February 28	<i>Harold Fears</i> Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	<i>The State of the Coin Market-</i> Charles Cataldo
March 28	<i>Stan Benedict</i> Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	<i>Ben Franklin Half Dollars</i> Daryl Gahm
April 25	<i>David Tully</i> Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	<i>Numismatic Finds on my Trip to France</i> Richard Jozefiak
May- NO MEETING		
June 27	4th of July Pot Luck, Bourse Night, and Auction Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	
July 25	TBD Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	ANA Grading Class in Dalton, GA Stan Benedict
August 22	Kim Biltz Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	The Gold Mint at Dahlonega, GA Bob Jaques
September 26	TBD Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	National Banks of Huntsville David Hollander
October 24	TBD Nomination of 2018 Officers Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	Trip to Singapore Stan Benedict
November 28	Holiday Pot Luck , Bourse Night, and Auction Election of 2018 Officers Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	
December- NO MEETING		

Last update: REV E, June 12, 2017

2017 Regional Coin Shows around Huntsville

Date(s)	Area	Location	Contact Info	Richard's Rating
Mar 3-5 Nov 3-5	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	++
March 9-11	Orlando, FL	ANA National Money Show Orange County Convention Center 9899 International Drive Orlando, FL 10 am – 6 pm (Thurs. & Fri.) 10 am – 5 pm (Sat.)	www.money.org	+++
March 11 May TBD Sept TBD Nov TBD	Trussville, AL	Central Alabama Coin Show Trussville Civic Center 9 am- 4 pm 5381 Trussville-Clay Rd Trussville, AL (NEW LOCATION) 38 tables	Carl Shory 205-612-5538	+
April 21-23	Dalton, GA	53rd 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	+++
July TBD	Bessemer, AL	Alabama State Coin Show 1130 Ninth Ave SW Bessemer, AL Bessemer Civic Center 10 am – 6 pm	Corbitt Chandler 205-939-1178 corbitchandler@bellsouth.net	++
Aug 18-20	Dalton, GA	58th 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	Ron Blackman Rblackman@cfl.rr.com 321-258-0325 www.brna.org	+++

NOTE: Before traveling any distance, it is recommended to check with the show contact to see if there are any changes.
Currently there are no local coin shows in Huntsville or Madison County

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- +++