

# Madison County Coin Club

of Huntsville, Alabama



Volume 18, Issue 2

February 2018

## The President's Corner

What to know how the coin market is doing? This Tuesday's meeting will be a great time to find out. Charles Cataldo will give his annual state of the coin market presentation. Join us for this informative presentation.

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

## Austrian Two Schilling Commemoratives Part 2: Theodor Billroth

In last month's introduction to this series, we learned that from 1928 thru 1937 Austria produce commemorative 2 schillings silver coins. One commemorative was produced each year.

The second coin was struck to commemorate the centennial of the birth of the surgeon Theodor Billroth. With a mintage of 2,000,000 nice uncirculated examples can be purchase for under \$30.

**Theodor Billroth** (26 April 1829 – 6 February 1894) was a Prussian-born Austrian surgeon and amateur musician.

As a surgeon, he is generally regarded as the founding father of modern abdominal surgery. As a musician, he was a close friend and confidant of Johannes Brahms, a leading patron of the Viennese musical scene, and one of the first to attempt a scientific analysis of musicality.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1** Austrian Two Shillings Commemoratives Part 2
- 3** The Half That Wasn't to Be
- 7** 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual FUN Show
- 9** MCCC January Meeting
- 13** 54<sup>th</sup> GNA Show
- 15** The Confederate Catholic Rebel Crown

Continued on page 2



*The 1929 Austrian Two Schilling Commemorative*



*Theodor Billroth, considered the father of modern abdominal surgery, is honored on the Austrian 1929 two schilling coin.*

## **The Half That Wasn't To Be**

*By Doug Glandon*

I have been a life-long collector of Barber Halves, and like many collectors, always searching for a "better grade". In the case of the 1914 Half, I was looking to improve on my F-12 grade with a VF or better coin. I knew this was going to be a challenging task so I was being patient, hoping I would find one at a coin show or online. One evening, in June 2010, I was searching the internet for the elusive grade I was pursuing. To my surprise, I found an exquisite example in AU+ condition for sale on Ebay. It was a true auction, and I was fortunate to be the highest bidder (\$712) at the hammer. That was a bargain price for the grade!.



*The obverse of the 1914 half*

*Continued on page 4*

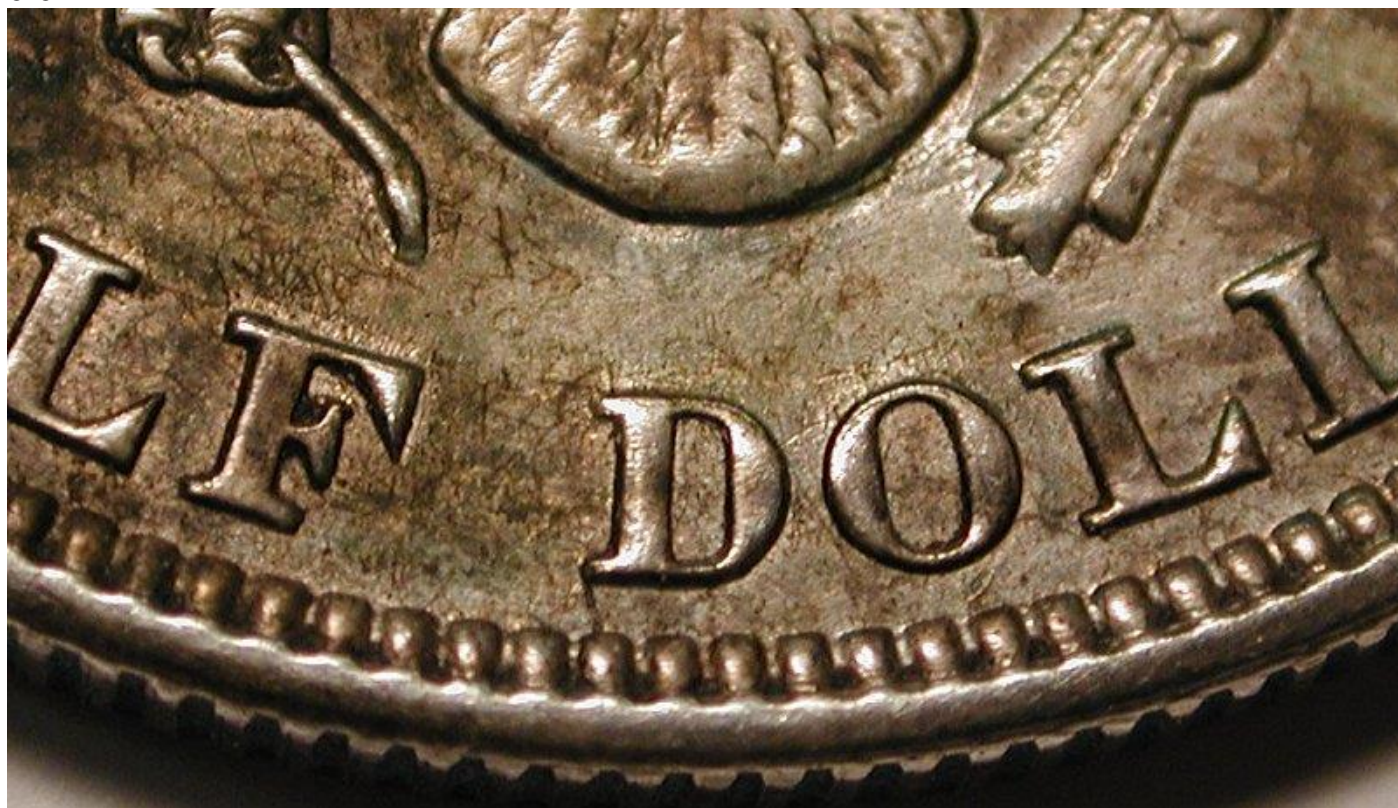


*The reverse of the 1914 half*

I received the coin about 5 days after auction and was very pleased with its sharp detail and patina! I estimated the grade to be at least AU-55. I promptly put the coin in my Dansco album and marked it off my "Need" list.

*Continued on page 5*

In 2017, through the urging of several collectors, and my wife, I began certifying my Barber Half collection through my local coin dealer. I began by selecting the highest grade coins first, which I immediately selected the 1914 Half to be included in my first batch to be graded. I removed the coin from my album and handed it to my coin dealer, who inspected the coin. He inspected the obverse, then flipped it over and began inspecting the reverse. After inspecting the coin, my dealer said, "I have some bad news for you...this is NOT a 1914 Half...it is a 1914-S with the mintmark removed..." My heart almost stopped! I said, "What?!? Let me see!!!". And he was correct; I could see a swallow trough where the mintmark was supposed to be. To say the least, I had been fooled, and was devastated. Since I had owned the coin for over 7 years and had little detail of the purchase, I had little recourse...or did I?



*The removed mint mark*

I decided that I wanted to help other collectors avoid my costly mistake. I attended the Knoxville Coin Show in February of this year, specifically to discuss the matter with the BCCS President, John Frost. I told him the above story and he agreed that my coin could be a learning tool for other collectors. He took the pictures used in this article.

*Continued on page 6*



*The trough*

I am sure many members can empathize with my misfortune, but if this article can keep just one collector from making the same mistake, it will give me solace.

**Visit us on the web at <http://mccc.anacclubs.org/>**

## **63<sup>rd</sup> Annual FUN Show**

**January 4-7, 2018**

**Tampa, FL**

*By Tony Swicer*

The 63<sup>rd</sup> annual FUN show was a tremendous success, with 1500 dealers (225 early birds) manning 597 dealer booths. Attendance was about 8000. There were 750+ people waiting to get in at the show opening ceremonies Thursday morning. Show Co-chairman, Nancy Casey and Bernie Ososky's theme was "March to FUN". They had the St. Andrews Bag Pipe Drum & Bugle Corp, a color guard, and a singer for the National Anthem.



In addition to the dealers, we had the US Mint, Mike Bean and his Spider Press, Dennis Boggs as Abraham Lincoln, Ray Dillard and his elongated cents, Piedmont Gold Panners, and the "Treasure Trivia" in the "Kids & Coins" booth which had 181 kids go through. Coin World was there along with Krause Publications, all of the grading services, Coin Dealer Newsletter gave out their new retail coin price guide called "Coin & Currency- Market Review", and Wizard Supply. There were 24 club tables, 52 tables in the Ancient & Foreign section, and 64 tables in the Budget section.

*Continued on page 8*

The exhibit area had 48 exhibits in 214 cases, including 4 YN exhibitors, 5 club exhibits, and exhibitors from 12 states. The Best of Show went to, "Canadian Wrong Planchet Strikes". People's Choice Award went to. "Primitive Money from the Democratic Republic of the Congo". Over 200 voted for the people's choice award.

There were 15 educational seminars on a variety of numismatic subjects. Attendance was very good at the seminars ranging from 30 to 80. We had 42 attend the FUN Coin Club Get Together, 47 attended the Numismatic Ambassador Breakfast, sponsored by FUN, where ambassador plaques were awarded to Steve & Ray Feller, Brad Karoleff, Tom Mulvaney, Dennis Tucker, and Tom Uram. Clifford Mishler, the founder of the program was the Master of Ceremonies.

Four club busses sponsored by FUN, came to the show with 157 club members aboard.

FUN awarded 1 adult scholarship and 3 YN scholarships to the ANA Summer Seminar. 2 of the YN scholarships were funded by the Bill Calderazzo scholarship fund. The MS-65 Mercury Dime give away, sponsored by Richard Nachbar, had 10 new YN's sign up for FUN membership. The YN & Scout programs were on Saturday.

Heritage Auctions had another big multi-day auction, selling \$54,631,000 in coins and currency. Heritage once again, sponsored the Best of Show award which is an all expenses paid trip to the ANA summer seminar.

FUN currently has 3817 paid members. We will probably add 300 during the show.

Finally, please note that the next 3 January shows will be in Orlando. We look forward to seeing you in Orlando July 12-14, 2018 for Summer FUN.

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

## MCCC January 23 Meeting

*By Richard Jozefiak*

The January 23 meeting was the first club meeting of the year and had 11 members and guests present. I gave a presentation on "*My Numismatic Adventures in Australia*". My wife and I visited Sydney and Canberra Australia September 6-19, 2017. I found many interesting numismatic places that we toured: Royal Australian Mint (in Canberra, the federal capital of Australia), Sydney Mint, New South Wales Bank, and a number of coin shops.

Please bring your ANA Membership Card or ANA Number to the meeting. We need to sign the yearly ANA form, and MCCC receives a \$5 credit towards ANA club dues.



*MCCC Members at January 23 Meeting*

*Continued on page 10*

On September 11, I was the guest speaker at the Australian Numismatic Society (ANS) monthly meeting. I met about six ANA member at the meeting. I brought copies of the awarding winning *MCCC Newsletter* and *The Numismatist* and passed these out. One thing I learned in Australia is that the coin collectors I met strongly do not like “slabbed” coins and strongly disagree with the American grading companies using U.S. coin grade standards for Australian coins. The Australian coin grading standard is much tighter than the U.S. standard. Australian coins are stilled graded on “technical grade” versus in the U.S. “market grade”.



*Obverse of Australian Coins from above*

*Continued on page 11*



Display case of Australian Numismatic Items I got during my trip in Australia



1988 Australian Special Commemorative Coins and Bank Notes Collection I got in Sydney

Continued on page 12



*Kurt Springfield (L) Presenting Richard with ANA Educational Award*

# **Georgia Numismatic Association 54<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Coin & Currency Show**

**Coming to the Dalton Convention Center**

**In Dalton, GA April 13-15, 2018**

*By Richard Jozefiak*

The Georgia Numismatic Association (GNA) 54<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Coin & Currency show will be held at the Dalton Convention Center in Dalton, GA April 13-15, 2018. Free appraisals of coins, paper money, medals and more will be available at the show during show hours. Special Show Guest- The United States Mint. The United States Mint will have exhibits and sales (during show hours). The GNA 54<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Coin & Currency show will have over 325 tables with over 500 coin dealers selling and buying rare coins, paper money, medals, tokens, gold and silver coins, and many other related items. Also, there will be an Exhibit Area with many numismatic exhibits prepared by GNA members. On Saturday there will be a number of free educational programs.

## **SPECIAL SHOW GUEST**

***UNITED STATES MINT!***

Mint exhibits and sales (during show hours)

The GNA 54<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Coin & Currency show is one of the ten largest non-profit coin shows in the country. There will be a number of coin grading services at the coin show available to evaluate coins. Location and hours:

## **Dalton Convention Center**

2211 Dug Gap Battle Road

Dalton, GA 30720

800-824-7469

**Located:** Exit 333 on I-75, go west ~1/2 mile

**Hours:** Fri & Sat 10 am – 6 pm, Sun 10 am – 3 pm

**Cost:** *FREE*

\*\*\*

*A government issued photo ID is required to be shown at the registration desk for people 18 years and older.*

*(Note: Early Bird on Thurs begins at 3 pm for \$50 badge)*

*Continued on page 14*

For additional show information and a list of scheduled Saturday programs, please go to the GNA web site: [www.gamoney.org](http://www.gamoney.org).

On Saturday, April 14, there will be a free Boy Scouts Merit Badge Program. Registration is 9:00 am at the registration desk and the program begins at 10:00 am.

On Saturday, April 14 at 1:00 pm, there will be a free, special Youth Program including a short presentation on coin collecting. Every person 18 years of age and younger will be given numismatic items such as coins, medals, tokens, paper money, coin books, coin folders, and more donated by GNA members and coin dealers.

The GNA 54<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Coin & Currency show is open to the public and there is no admission fee, but due to security requirement all attendees must register for a name badge and people 18 years and older must show a government issued photo identification. Security will be provided by both local police and private security service 24 hours a day during the convention.

The GNA is a member club of the ANA. Additional information can be found on the ANA web site: [www.money.org](http://www.money.org).

### **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](#)  
(KURTS98@COMCAST.NET)

VICE PRESIDENT: [Stan Benedict](#)  
(sebenup1@yahoo.com)

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

TREASURER: [Mike Campbell](#)  
(mikathy48@gmail.com)

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

## The Confederate Catholic Rebel Crown

By Allan Davisson

Plain, crude, uneven strike, rugged—why its appeal? What is its story? Of the five siege crowns issued in Ireland during the English Civil War, this piece is remarkable because of its religious connection. The 2006 sale of Lucien LaRiviere's comprehensive Irish collection had examples of all five Irish siege crowns. I was able to buy four, all except this one type that sold for many times estimate. I was simply outbid.



These coins are very rare, and rarely offered. So, when I had the chance to buy this one, I was keen, and successful.

It is easy to focus on the Civil War in England and not think as much about its impact on Ireland. In Ireland, a chief tension was between Irish Catholics on one side and English and Scottish Protestants on the other. Who would rule Ireland? The enmity between Protestants and Catholics burst open during the reign of Mary Tudor. It was in full bloom during the tempestuous reign of Charles I during the Civil War's *sturm und drang* chaos and Catholic forces rose up.

Their crown with its elegantly simple cross design was issued for their use in the Civil War—wars always cost money. Their forces were ultimately defeated by Cromwell but we still have this rare remnant of their history.

*Continued on page 16*

For me, an unextinguishable joy of making numismatics my profession has been handling coins with exceptional appeal -- magnificent history and often an amazing work of art from another era.

I may "own" it for a brief time but while I can handle many wonderful coins I cannot afford to keep them for more than a relatively short period of time. But then, all of us who love coins know well that our ownership is a brief interlude in their journey through time.

I have a personal list of my hundred favorite British coins. This is on it.

### **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.

## 2018 Madison County Coin Club Program Refreshments and Programs Schedule

**NOTE: Meeting Day is the 4<sup>th</sup> TUESDAY (NOT THE LAST) of the month**

Meeting Date	Refreshments- Name	Program- Title and Name
January 23	Richard Jozefiak Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	My Numismatic Adventures in Australia - Richard Jozefiak
February 27	Wayne Koger Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	The State of the Coin Market- Charles Cataldo
March 27 *Special Guest Speaker*	TBD Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	The Many Ways To Collect Early Copper Coins- ANA Governor COL Steve Ellsworth
April 24	Doug Glandon/Julian Olander Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	1928-1937 Austrian 2 Schilling - Harold Fears
May- NO MEETING		
June 26	4th of July Pot Luck, Bourse Night, and Auction Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	
July 24	Don & Jinnie Adams Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	TBD Stan Benedict
August 28	Stan Benedict Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	TBD Bob Jaques
September 25	Bob Baker Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	TBD Doug/Julian
October 23	TBD Nomination of 2018 Officers Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	Paper Money- TBD David Hollander
November 27	Holiday Pot Luck , Bourse Night, and Auction Election of 2019 Officers Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	
December- NO MEETING		

## 2018 Coin Shows With In Driving Distance from Huntsville

<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Contact Info</b>	<b>Richard's Rating</b>
<b>Jan 4-7</b>	Tampa, FL	<b>Florida United Numismatics (FUN)</b> Tampa Convention Center 333 S. Franklin Street Tampa, FL	Cindy Wibker Cwibker.aol.com 407-321-8747 www.funtopics.com	<b>+++</b>
<b>Mar 2-4</b> <b>Nov 2-4</b>	Chattanooga, TN	<b>Tennessee State Numismatic Society</b> Camp Jordan Arena I-75, Exit 1 Chattanooga, TN	Bob Hurst 321-427-6474 forum@comcast.net www.tsns.org	<b>++</b>
<b>March 8-10</b>	Irving, TX	<b>ANA National Money Show</b> Irving Convention Center 500 W. Las Colinas Blvd 10 am – 6 pm (Thurs. & Fri.) 10 am – 5 pm (Sat.)	www.money.org 800-367-9723	<b>+++</b>
<b>April 13-15</b>	Dalton, GA	<b>54th Georgia Numismatic Association Coin Show</b> 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	<b>+++</b>
<b>April 19-21</b>	Franklin, TN	<b>1st Annual Coin, Stamp Collectible Show &amp; Convention</b> Williamson County Agricultural Expo Park 4215 Long Lane Franklin, TN Fri-Sat 9 am- 6 pm Sun 9 am- 4 pm	COL Steven Ellsworth, ret PO Box 2869 Brentwood, TN 37024 703-932-6331 ellsworth@money.org	This is a new show.
<b>July 20-22</b>	Bessemer, AL	<b>Alabama State Coin Show</b> 1130 Ninth Ave SW Bessemer, AL Bessemer Civic Center 10 am – 6 pm	Corbitt Chandler 205-939-1178 corbitchandler@bellsouth.net	<b>++</b>
<b>Aug 14-18</b>	Philadelphia, PA	<b>ANA World's Fair of Money</b> Philadelphia Convention Center Philadelphia, PA Tu 1 pm --5:30 pm W-F 10 am – 5:30 pm Sat 10 am-- 4 pm	www.money.org 800-367-9723	<b>+++</b>
<b>Aug 24-26</b>	Dalton, GA	<b>59th Blue Ridge Numismatic Association Coin Show</b> 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	<b>+++</b>

**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- +++