

Madison County Coin Club

of Huntsville, Alabama



Volume 19, Issue 5

May/June 2019

The President's Corner

Hey Everyone!

Hope you're having a great summer! We have some really interesting topics being presented this summer and fall! Space Program Medals, German Marks, Barber Half Dollars, and American Currency! Make sure you don't miss these programs! I also want to thank everyone for providing interesting articles for our newsletter! If you have a topic or a personal coin story you would like to share with the club, please send it to [Harold Fears](#) to be included in an upcoming newsletter.

Doug

June is our Annual Auction and Pot Luck Celebration



The June meeting is our annual mid-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 auction and bourse night. Come see what treasure you can find!

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"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

The Commemorative Coins of the Weimar Republic: Part 5 – the 450th Anniversary of Founding of the University of Tübingen

Our numismatic travels thru the coinage of the Weimar Republic takes us this month to visit two coins minted in 1927. A 3 mark and a 5 mark coin was issued for the 450th Anniversary of Founding of the University of Tübingen.

Eberhard I of Württemberg, also known as *Eberhard im Bart* (Eberhard the Bearded), became Count of Württemberg in 1457. Later he gave charters to the cities of Stuttgart and Tübingen and founded the University of Tübingen in 1477. For both coins, the obverse has a dexter bust of Eberhard with the inscription 450 JAHRE UNIVERSITAT TUBINGEN, EBERHARD IM BART. The reverse depicts the German eagle, date, denomination and lettering. Both coins have the F mintmark (Stuttgart). The three mark coin with a mintage of 50,000 while the larger five mark coin has a mintage of 40,000.



The University of Tübingen is a public research university located in the city of Tübingen, Baden-Württemberg, Germany.

EBERHARDVS BARBATVS
DVX WIRTEMBERGENSIS,
ANNO 1X97.



Eberhard im Bart found the university in 1497



Eberhard the Bearded is depicted on this 1927 commemorative. Also note that the edge inscription “EINIGKEIT UND RECHT UND FREIHEIT” means “Unity and Justice and Freedom.”



The three mark coin has a mintage of 50,000. NGC states that in MS-60 the coin has a value of \$1200.

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



The five mark coin has a mintage of 40,000. NGC states that in MS-60 the coin has a value of \$1200.

Why not bring a friend to the next meeting?

COIN FROM *LUNDY* RE-KINDLED CHILDHOOD MEMORIES

By
Bob Jaques

Last April 13th thru the 15th, I attended the Georgia Numismatic Association annual Coin Show in Dalton, Georgia. It was a well-attended Show. Like all coin shows, I enjoy walking from dealer table to dealer table looking over the selection of coins for sale. Sometimes I do not look for anything in particular, but end up purchasing a coin that catches my eye. I am sure most collectors understand this buying method.

Foreign coins intrigue me and I like looking through foreign coin boxes and albums. While looking at some assorted foreign coins at my dealer friend Joe Messervy's table, I spotted a familiar coin that I had not seen since my teens. The coin was a "One Puffin" from Lundy and was in XF condition.

Most people have never heard of *LUNDY* or the Puffin denomination, so here is the story. Coins of *LUNDY* are unofficial issues from the Island of *Lundy*, which is located in the Bristol Channel off the West Coast of England. The Island was owned by a self-declared "King of Lundy" by the name of Martin Coles Harman. He issued two bronze coins the "half Puffin" and the "one Puffin", which circulated on the Island. The coins are dated 1929 and a portrait of Harman is on the obverse. These two coins had the same nominal value as the British half-penny and penny.

The coins were called the Puffin because it was the Island's main bird. Islanders traded Puffin feathers for food and other commodities. As you might guess, these coins landed Harman in trouble with the British authorities for "minting unauthorized money". Harman lost his case, was fined, and told to stop minting the coins. However, the coins were struck again in 1965, 1977, and 2011 as commemorative tokens and did not circulate. Harman died in 1954.

When I was a teenager and starting to collect coins, I sent off for advertised coins. Coin companies always sent coins on approval with my order and there was usually a coin from *LUNDY* included in the approvals. I purchased my One Puffin *LUNDY* coin from Joe, and remembered my days of collecting many years ago. It is the only *LUNDY* coin in my collection.



The Half Puffin

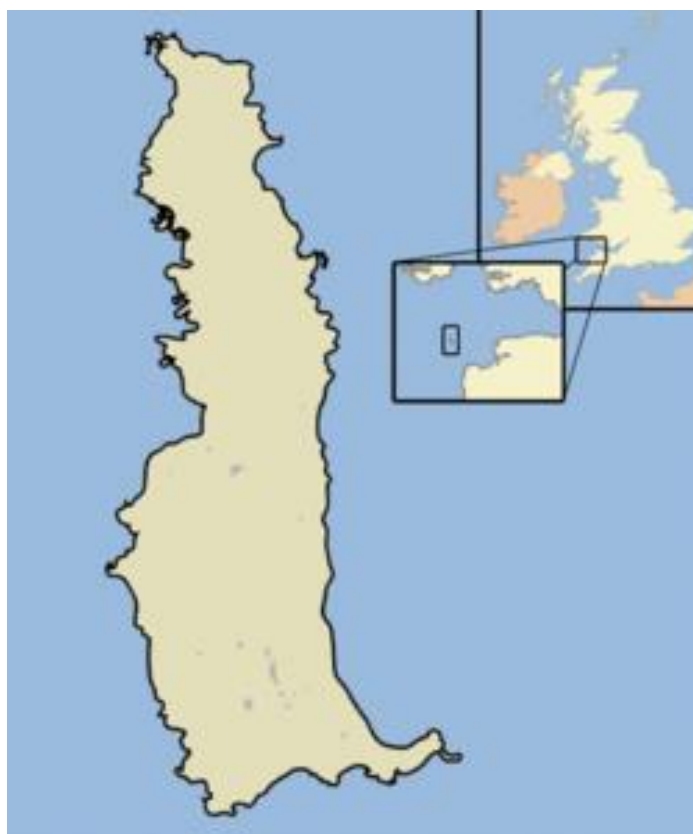


The One Puffin



A puffin

The name Lundy is believed to come from the old Norse word for "puffin island"



Lundy is the largest island in the Bristol Channel.

A Coin's Legacy

*By
Doug Glandon*

Over the past 18 years, I have purchased many coins on eBay. Most of my purchases have been good, but my most recent purchase goes straight to the top of the list: An 1894 Barber Dime. You may ask, "Why is this purchase at the top of my list?" This is because of the wonderful history and legacy that came with this coin. Here's the story...



1894 Barber Dime

After purchasing this dime, I began corresponding with the seller, Geoff Gattis, who is from Falmouth, Maine. Geoff told me that the coin was part of his grandfather's collection that he had inherited many years ago. His grandfather was the late George Tait. I ask Geoff if he would tell me about his grandfather and his collection. The story was so intriguing, that I wanted to share it with you. Here is the legacy of Mr. George Tait's collection in Geoff's own words:



George Tait Delivering Mail (~1926)

“My grandfather, George Tait, left me his coin collection in 1968. He collected coins beginning about 1895 when he was 19 and quit collecting in about 1915. He lived in Washington DC his entire life and worked as a postman. He was born in 1876 in a building that is located where the Library of Congress stands today, across the street from the Capitol. As a little boy he remembered the Washington Monument under construction in the early 1880's. He died in 1968 when I was 15.”



Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

"I started collecting when I was about 9, but my collection got a boost when I got a paper route hand delivering newspapers in the courthouse and hospital in 1966 – Transactions were all coins and I let people know I was a collector. I recently found my 1968 membership card to the Fort Lauderdale Coin Club and there was even a 1967 Newspaper photo of me and my mom looking at coin books.



Geoff (center) with his Grandparents (1957) Geoff reviewing coins (1967)

I shared my enthusiasm about coins with my grandad and at the time did not know he had a collection. I remember when he first brought out his collection - it was all in two cigar boxes. The coins were well organized in these boxes - there were about 250 coins. The dates in the collection were heavily weighted between the years 1885 and 1905, although the date range within the collection was 1806 to 1915.

While most of the coins were collected by him from circulation he did buy some coins. I specifically remember him showing me certain coins. He had an 1883 no cents where the gold coating had been partially worn away. I remember him showing me the writing on the edge of an 1806 half dollar. He liked the unusual ones like the two types of 3 cent pieces, the 20 cent coin and the two cent coins. I also remember him pointing out the 1877 Indian Head penny, while probably only VG, he had looked long and hard for that coin, and was proud of it.



1883 "Gold-Plated" V Nickel



1806 Bust Half Dollar



1875 Twenty Cent Piece



1877 Indian Head Penny

(All of the coins pictured above were found in circulation!)

My wife and I retired last year and neither of our adult sons has any interest in the coins. I have created 4 separate sample collections of US coins of each coin type – one master and 3 for prospective grandchildren. The rest I am selling and putting the proceeds into a fund for special family events. It was an amazing gift to be given and a wonderful window into an earlier time.” – Geoff Gattis.

Thank you Geoff for sharing your coin collecting experiences and the legacy of your grandfather’s collection with the numismatic community. Coin collecting is about preserving a piece of history. In this instance, that history has depth we rarely have the opportunity to obtain. I am honored to have a small piece of your family’s legacy in my collection.

My Visit to a Coin Shop in Bowling Green, KY

*By
Daryl Gahm*

As part of my travels, I had the good fortune to run into and interview Larry Williamson, one of the co-owners of A+ Coins. His wife, Mary, was in the back of the shop running the inventorying and office activities of the shop.

As we entered the store, we were greeted by Ringo, a combination boxer/lab/border collie mix. While on our visit there, Ringo seemed very lovable; however, very curious. Then, once the curiosity wore off, he went to the corner of the store and took a nap.

Larry & Mary started the store in 1996. Their current customers purchase raw gold & silver and also purchase coins to finish filling sets. When they first opened up the A+ Coin Shop, Larry stated that initially 90% of their business was collector coins and 10% gold & silver. Now, several years later, he stated that the business has reversed itself. Now, 10% of the business is collector coins and 90% is selling gold and silver.

Mr. Williamson pointed out that gold, silver, and coins are taxed in the state of Kentucky. When I asked about any unusual circumstances that he was aware of, he remembered from approximately 10 years ago that a complete stranger brought in a 1793 large cent. Larry pointed out that at that time that a large cent piece was the size of a half dollar. What was so unusual about this coin was that it was worth \$42,000 and the customer sold his coin, and used the money to pay for his daughter's college education. This seemed to be a "win/win" situation for everyone.

When I asked if anyone sells counterfeit dollars or coins, Mr. Williamson said counterfeit coins come in almost on a daily basis. He stated that he occasionally has display or sample coins, so that the customer can compare the difference between original money and counterfeit money.

Larry also pointed out that they purchased and sold Canadian money, and Canada is in the process of phasing out the \$ 5 bill.

We ended the interview, with this writer really impressed with the broad knowledge and expertise of Larry and Mary Williamson. (I think Ringo really keeps everyone in line.)

I would like to thank the owners for their gracious hospitality.



Ringo, the Star of the Shop

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.

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.

Coin Collecting 101

By Sandra Gahm



Coins have two sides a front and a back. In coin collecting the front of the coin (heads) is referred to as the **obverse** and the back of the coin (tails) is called the **reverse**.

MCCC June 25 Meeting

By
Richard Jozefiak

JUNE 25 MEETING

Annual Auction, Buy/Sell/Trade Night
And 4th of July Pot Luck!

Please bring a dish or dessert to share.
Drinks and paper products are provided by the club.

The program for the June meeting is the club's semiannual pot luck, Buy/Sell/Trade Night and Auction. *Members please bring food to share for 4-6 people.* The drinks will be provided, and the club provides the plates, cups, utensils, etc. for the pot luck.

Members are encouraged to bring in items they wish to sell or trade to other members. This is a great opportunity to be a coin dealer at NO cost! Table space is first come. People will start to arrive after 5:30 pm for set-up.

AUCTION RULES

Please remember that this is a cash auction, and money is collected for each lot as it sells. Small bills are very helpful. If you bring an item for the auction, please remember to complete the small auction form that identifies you and the item. Auction lots can be placed beginning at 6 pm. We try to keep the auction to about 50 lots. Guests can buy auction lots.

MCCC April 23, 2019 Meeting

We had 18 members and 2 guests attending. So far in 2019, the club has had 20 or more people at each meeting! Stan Benedict presentation was "*Back to Europe Again*". Stan talked about what he was planning to collect on his European trip that had to be cancelled due to his wife's untimely illness. Hopefully Stan will be able to go on his plan European trip in the near future. It was a very interesting presentation on what was not collected!



Members at the meeting April 23



MCCC President Doug Glandon (R) Presenting Stan with ANA Educational Award

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. 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 Alaskan Medals and Tokens. Contact: Richard at ANALMRJ@gmail.com or 256-337-5092

Need one coin, any denomination, from Solomon Islands and one from Tuvalu. Contact: Mike at mcampbell7@juno.com

Unslabbed Humor

by Sandra & Daryl Gahm

Jim worked at one of the premier coin grading agencies, PCGS, and was considered an expert in his field. Nancy and Frank also worked at PCGS as coin graders and were also considered experts in their field. Jim later stated to Frank, "I am going to ask Nancy out on a date. I am so excited I can hardly contain myself." Frank says, "Hope all goes well. Nancy is very nice."

A few days later, Frank bumps into Jim. Jim is really looking depressed. Frank then asked, "How did your date with Nancy go?" Jim said, "She left in a hurry and I don't know why." Frank asked, "What did you say to her?" Jim said, "Nothing really; I just told her she looked extra fine."

2019 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 22	Richard Jozefiak Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	Counterfeit Coins in the Numismatic Market and Collector by Impact- Richard Jozefiak
February 26	Wayne Koger Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	The State of the Coin Market by Charles Cataldo
March 26	Bob Baker Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	Liberty Seated Coins by Mike Campbell
April 23	Doug Glandon Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	Back to Europe again, almost! by Stan Benedict
May- NO MEETING		
June 25	4th of July Pot Luck, Bourse Night, and Auction Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	
July 23	Stan Benedict Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	Medals for Apollo 11 by Bob Jaques
August 27	TBD Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	Weimar Republic 3 Marks by Harold Fears
September 24 *Special Guest Speaker*	Ken & Cindy Walker Nomination of 2020 Officers Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	Program TBD by David Hollander
October 22	Julian Olander Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	Barber Half Dollars by Doug Glandon
November 26	Holiday Pot Luck , Bourse Night, and Auction Election of 2020 Officers Door Prize- American Silver Eagle	
December- NO MEETING		

Last update: June 23, 2019

2019 Coin Shows within Driving Distance from Huntsville

Date(s)	Area	Location	Contact Info	Richard's Rating
Mar 1-3 Nov TBD	Chattanooga, TN	Tennessee State Numismatic Society Camp Jordan Arena I-75, Exit 1 Chattanooga, TN	Bob Hurst 321-427-6474 forum@comcast.net www.tsns.org	Medium/Large coin show, no educational programs
March 9 May 18 September 21	Trussville, AL	Central Alabama Coin Show Trussville Civic Center 5381 Trussville-Clay Road Trussville, AL From I-59, Take Exit 141 9 am – 3 pm	Christopher Lambert alabamacoinshow@gmail.com	Small coin show, no educational programs
March 15-16	Franklin, TN	2nd Annual Coin, Stamp Collectible Show & Convention Williamson County Agricultural Expo Park 4215 Long Lane (Peytonsville Road Exit I-65) Franklin, TN Fri 9 am- 6 pm, Sat 9 am -4 pm Sun 9 am- 4 pm	COL Steven Ellsworth, ret PO Box 2869 Brentwood, TN 37024 703-932-6331 ellsworth@money.org	Small coin show, no educational programs
April 12-14	Dalton, GA	55th Georgia Numismatic Association Coin Show Dalton Convention 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	Large coin show, educational programs and/or exhibits.
June 15-16	Gadsden, AL	70th Annual Northeast Alabama Coin Show Gadsden Mall 1001 Rainbow Drive Gadsden, AL Sat-Sun 10 am- 9 pm	Blaine Smith 256-820-9691 blainelsmith@cableone.net Rainbow City Coin Club	Small coin show, no educational programs
July 19-21	Bessemer, AL	Alabama State Coin Show 1130 Ninth Ave SW Bessemer, AL Bessemer Civic Center 10 am – 6 pm	Corbitt Chandler 205-616-9385 jcolyn@aol.com	Medium/Large coin show, no educational programs
Aug 23-25	Dalton, GA	60th 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	Large coin show, educational programs and/or exhibits.

