

# Madison County Coin Club

of Huntsville, Alabama



Volume 23, Issue 4

April 2023

**Our next meeting  
will be at the  
South Huntsville Public Library  
7901-L Bailey Cove Rd SE  
Huntsville, AL 35802  
On Monday  
April 17, 2023  
from 6:00 – 7:30  
Doors Open at 5:30**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 3** Some Scenes from our Last Meeting
- 6** Coin Club Medal Wins ANA Award
- 9** Pieces of Eight
- 12** All That Glitters is Not Gold
- 15** British Conder Tokens
- 19** Die Clashing on a Guernsey 1889 4 Doubles Coin
- 22** Reviews From Our Librarian
- 24** Can You Identify this Coin?
- 26** The Minute Man
- 27** Club Announcements

## "Our Money, Our Heritage, Our America" Theme for 2023 National Coin Week

The 100th annual National Coin Week is being celebrated April 16-22 with the theme "Our Money, Our Heritage, Our America." This weeklong celebration will focus on how United States coins, paper money and related objects tell the story of our country and help form our national identity. National Coin Week is sponsored by the American Numismatic Association (ANA). More information, resources and activities are available at [www.NationalCoinWeek.org](http://www.NationalCoinWeek.org).



## **The (Vice) President's Corner**

Given the enormity of potential knowledge in the universe and how little of it we can absorb in a lifetime, it comes as no surprise when we become aware of (yet another) something we didn't know anything about.

But what about when we focus in a good bit and consider *just* what we know about the numismatic universe—or even closer to home, just what we know about U.S issues?

I mean, how much can there be to know about the money produced by a single country that's only been around for two or three centuries?

The answer is, as I keep learning: tons, piles, volumes, oodles, etc.!

I know this and yet I'm still amazed at (yet another) upcoming afternoon at the MCCC offering a personal, hand-fed introduction to a subject that I had zero knowledge of.

Frankly, I had no idea what April's Club meeting presentation by Ben Crow, "Hawaii and North Africa Bills," was really going to be about.

I did wonder why Ben lumped such seemingly different geographical locations and nations together into an apparent mish-mash topic on currency.

Ha!

When I cleverly resorted to doing a Web search on the title, in a nanosecond I became aware of (yet another) corner of our hobby that I knew nothing about—and realized that Ben's presentation topic might be a good bit more logical than it appears at first glance.

If you want to become further enlightened—as do I, having had a stone turned over for me and finding curious stuff underneath begging for closer inspection—we'll see you on 17APR23.

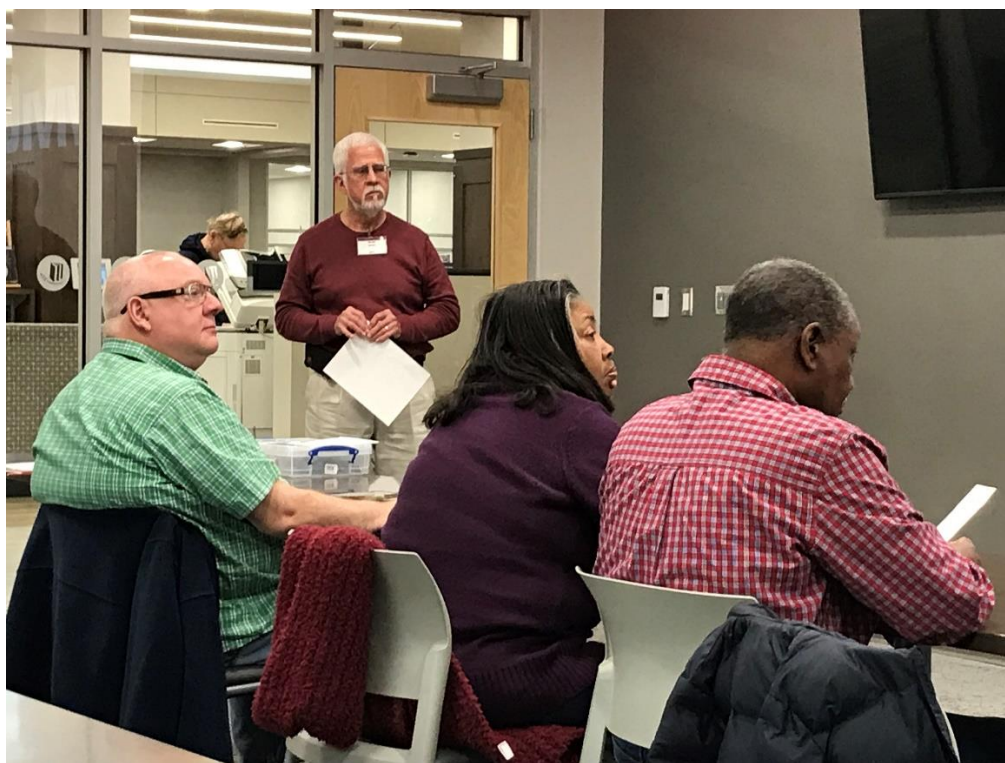
Wayne

## Some Scenes from our Last Meeting









## **Coin Club Medals Display Wins 2023 ANA National Coin Week Exhibit Award**

*By  
Richard Jozefiak*

At the American Numismatic Association (ANA) National Money Show in Phoenix, AZ held March 2-4, 2023, the author displayed his two-case competitive exhibit "Creating the Madison County Coin Club 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary/100<sup>th</sup> Meeting Three Medal Set".

The exhibit won the 2023 ANA National Coin Week exhibit first place award. The National Coin Week exhibit class is limited to a display of a value of up to \$250 (not counting the display case(s)). The first-place award includes a plaque, and an ANA Summer Seminar Scholarship. The scholarship includes round-trip travel to Colorado Springs, CO, registration for one summer seminar session, and room and board on the campus of Colorado College. The exhibit also won Third Place in The Arts class (Class 5).

The three-medal set was created for the April 2011, 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and 100<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Madison County Coin Club (meets in Huntsville, AL). Only 50 three-medal sets were produced by Coins for Anything, Inc. The medals were minted in antique copper, shiny silver color on brass and shiny gold color on brass. The exhibit displayed two sets of medals that show the obverse and reverse designs. The exhibit discusses how the medal design concept was done, die creation and finally the production of the club medals.





Case 1 Display  
(Photo by the author)



Case 2 Display  
(Photo by the author)



*ANA Governor Clifford Mishler (R) presents  
Richard Jozefiak the 2023 ANA National Coin Week Award  
(Photo by: Karen Jozefiak)*



# Pieces of Eight

*By  
Ann Fulmer*

In San Antonio at the Alamo, a period actor, had a display of items popular during the time of the Alamo. On the table were coins and one was a coin cut into pieces of eight. I found this coin and the story behind it fascinating and wanted to learn more. Hope you find it as interesting as I did.



*The Alamo*

The Spanish dollar coin was worth eight reales and could be physically cut into eight pieces, or "bits," to make change -- hence the colloquial name "pieces of eight." The dollar coin could also be cut into quarters, and "two bits" became American slang for a quarter dollar, or 25 cents.

Pieces of eight may sound like a made-up thing, but the coins are made of silver and were an official currency for the country of Spain and all her associated colonies and territories for centuries. From 1497 to 1864 this silver coin was in use as the Spanish dollar (AKA the real de ocho. Minted in the Spanish colonies from the mid-1500s through the late 1700s, these coins were cut from a bar (ingot) of silver and then were clipped to the proper weight (1/2, 1, 2, 4 or 8 reales.)

Why do they call it pieces of eight?

Unlike today, cutting money was not illegal. In fact, it was expected that to make change people literally cut the coins into eight pieces, or "bits." Hence, the British called the Spanish dollar a "Piece of Eight" (a coin worth eight pieces, or bits), and something valued at "two bits" cost a quarter of a dollar.





Early pieces of eight were handmade and known as cobs. Machine-made versions are of a higher quality. There are various varieties of this coin, versions of which were minted in Latin America as well as Spain. Spanish milled dollars are worth about \$50 to \$350.

The Spanish dollar, also known as the piece of eight (Spanish: Real de a ocho, Dólar, Peso duro, Peso fuerte or Peso), is a silver coin of approximately 38 mm (1.5 in) diameter worth eight Spanish reales.





Much of the silver for pieces of eight came from Silver Mountain in Bolivia. And yet the coin was used all over the globe because it was minted to a purer silver than other coins.

Many countries -even those not under Spanish control- used the Spanish dollar at various times. Because the purity was so consistent and because so many of them were minted, they became a common currency in Australia for a time and were quite popular in the American Colonies as well. In some territories a supplemental stamp was added to mark them as the local currency (unbeknownst to the Spanish).

American colonists would use the Spanish dollar alongside British currency, as it was against the law for them to create their own money and coins from England were not plentiful. It took eight reales, another Spanish currency, to make up one Spanish dollar. Thus, it was known as pieces of eight.

American colonists would sometimes cut the coins into 8 pieces like a pie in order to make change since smaller coins were often scarce. But the reason many people associate pieces of eight (and parrots) with pirates today is down to Long John Silver's pet parrot, Cap'n Flint, Treasure Island, who says on repeat, "pieces of eight!". Pieces of eight were so well known that when the U.S. became a nation and began to mint their own currency, they modeled them on this famed coin. The U.S. quarter at the time was worth 2 of those pie pieces from a piece of eight which is the reason they are sometimes referred to as "two bits" even today.

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Americans used foreign money until 1857 when the United States government passed a law forbidding it. Because it was the major circulating coin in Colonial America; in fact, it gained wide acceptance worldwide.

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

## ***All That Glitters is Not Gold***

By

*Aaron Wales and Monica Couch*

Coin enthusiasts have potentially come across a gold coin (or 2 or 3). Thinking of this prized possession makes me think of other things golden such as Golden Syrup (we do live in Alabama), Gold Fish (the sort that's cheddar and the kind you keep in an aquarium), and my favorite which is music. Music may seem far-fetched (or a stretch). But, it's not. I recently came across a piano piece with a title that has it in the name. It got me thinking, "what other songs have a similar title with gold included." Well, it turns out ALOT! So, I decided to spend some quality time listening to some of these songs and provide you with my top ten.

1. Golden Hour by JVKE
2. Goldfinger by Shirley Bassey
3. Golden Slumbers by The Beatles
4. When My Blue Moon Turns to Gold Again by Elvis Presley
5. Golden by Harry Styles
6. Gold by Imagine Dragons
7. Heart of Gold by Neil Young
8. Silver and Gold by Dolly Parton
9. Golden Years by David Bowie
10. Gold All Over the Ground by Brad Paisley



The above is obviously not an all-inclusive list but a scratching on the surface. Maybe you see your favorite or maybe you don't. If you haven't heard the above, use your favorite music service to listen. Let your mind be open to something new or different.... you may be surprised.

**Postscript by Monica Couch:**

You can readily tell that Aaron's parents have influenced his musical taste. Guilty as charged. If you haven't seen my car tag either coming or going to a coin club meeting, you should check out my license plate. It's always a James Bond theme. So, my No. 1 pick amongst these songs is and will always be Goldfinger by Shirley Bassey. That's for sentimental reasons and a long-time infatuation. There are a few other songs I would have considered of critical acclaim. But the above was not my list. It is difficult to believe Gold Dust Woman by Fleetwood Mac didn't make Aaron's cut. What a hit, right? But I have another favorite that wasn't a contender either. I'm impressed by new artists such as Kacey Musgraves with Golden Hour (the album has the same name). The song is just catchy and makes you want to tap your hand on the steering wheel. No matter your personal taste I'm sure there is a song listed that will brighten your day. That's one definition of golden: bright yellow; very happy.

**Inclement Weather Notice**

If the Huntsville Public Libraries are closed due to inclement weather, there will be no club meeting. Local TV and radio stations will give notice of any Huntsville school closure.



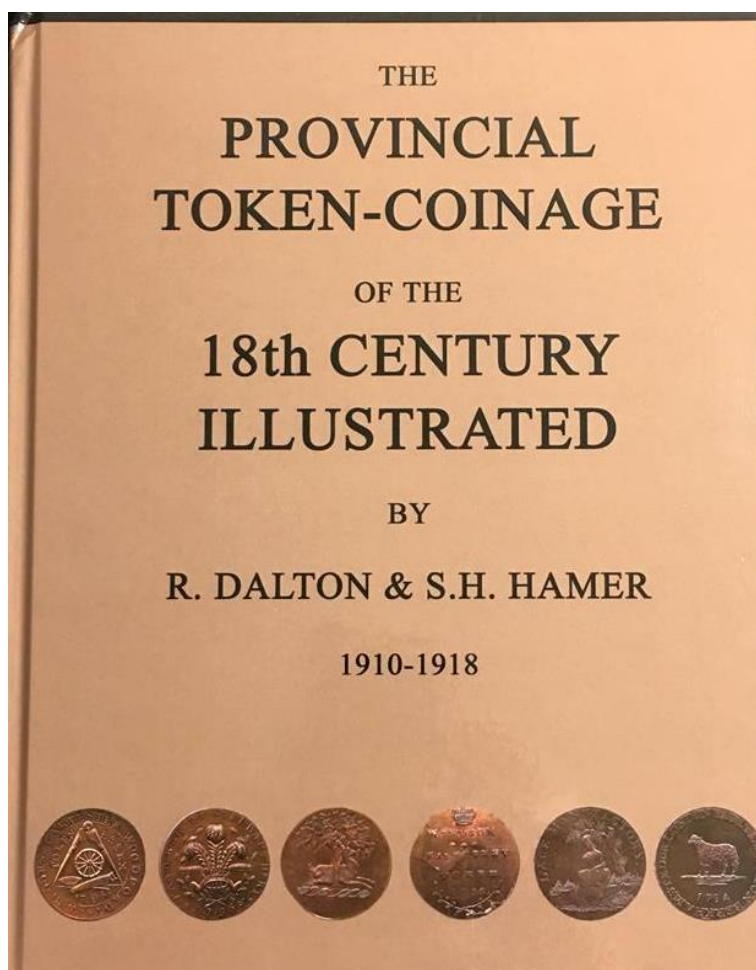
## **British Conder Tokens**

*By  
Todd Hutto*

Collected for over 230 years, Conder tokens, also known as 18th-century provincial tokens, were a form of privately minted token coinage struck and used during the latter part of the 18th century and the early part of the 19th century in England, Anglesey and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland.

The driving force behind the need for token coinage was the shortage of small denomination coins for everyday transactions. However, the demand was also fueled by other factors such as the Industrial Revolution, population growth, and the preponderance of counterfeit circulating coins. Because the government made little effort to resolve this coin shortage, private business owners and merchants took matters into their own hands, and the first tokens of this type were issued in 1787 to pay workers at the Parys Mine Company. By 1795, millions of tokens of a few thousand varying designs had been struck and were in common use throughout Great Britain.

Collecting Conder tokens has been popular since shortly after they were first manufactured, resulting in the availability today of many highly preserved examples for collectors. The demarcation of what is, or is not, considered a Conder token is somewhat unclear; however, most collectors consider Conder tokens to include those indexed originally by James Conder, or later by Dalton & Hamer.



Here's an interesting example of one of these fascinating items.

**British Conder Token - 1794 Half Penny - "A Map of France"**







'Honor' trodden underfoot, 'throne' turned upside down, 'FRA-NCE' (divided), 'RE|LI|GI|ON' cut in pieces, 'GLORY' defaced, 'FIRE' in each corner, murder (i.e. daggers) on every side, and bloodshed all over.

This token is cataloged in the Dalton & Hamer Middlesex Political & Social Series. This token was designed to make a satirical comment against the French, whose revolution had just overthrown the monarchy. Even though the British had a devastating civil war in the first half of the 1600's, resulting in the execution of King



Charles the First, they were generally shocked by the actions occurring during the French Revolution.

The French Revolution was a period of radical political and societal change in France that began with the Estates General of 1789 and ended with the formation of the French Consulate in November 1799. Many of its ideas are considered fundamental principles of liberal democracy, while phrases like liberté, égalité, fraternité reappeared in other revolts, such as the 1917 Russian Revolution, and inspired campaigns for the abolition of slavery and universal suffrage. The values and institutions it created dominate French politics to this day.

Its causes are generally agreed to be a combination of social, political and economic factors, which the Ancien Régime proved unable to manage. In May 1789, widespread social distress led to the convocation of the Estates General, which was converted into a National Assembly in June of that year. Continuing unrest culminated in the Storming of the Bastille on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July, which led to a series of radical measures by the Assembly, including the abolition of feudalism, the imposition of state control over the Catholic Church in France, and extension of the right to vote.

The next three years were dominated by the struggle for political control, exacerbated by economic depression and civil disorder. External powers including Austria, Britain, and Prussia, sought to restore the Ancien Régime by force, while many French politicians saw war as the best way to unite the nation and preserve the revolution by exporting it to other countries. In April 1792, the combination of these factors resulted in the outbreak of the French Revolutionary Wars and on 22 September 1792, the monarchy was replaced by the French First Republic, followed by the execution of Louis XVI in January 1793.

The Paris-based Insurrection of 31 May – 2 June 1793 replaced the Girondins who dominated the National Assembly with the Committee of Public Safety, headed by Maximilien Robespierre. This sparked the Reign of Terror, an attempt to eradicate alleged "counter-revolutionaries"; by the time it ended in July 1794, over 16,600 had been executed in Paris and the provinces. As well as its external enemies, the Republic faced internal opposition from both Royalists and Jacobins and in order to deal with these threats, the French Directory took power in November 1795. Despite a series of military victories, many won by Napoleon Bonaparte, political divisions and economic stagnation resulted in the Directory being replaced by the Consulate in November 1799. This is generally seen as marking the end of the Revolutionary period.

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## Die Clashing on a Guernsey 1889 Four Doubles Coin

*By Harold Fears*

Recently while I was researching various Guernsey coins in my collection, I noticed that several of my coins had die clash errors. A **die clash** is a type of error coin that occurs when the two coin dies — the obverse and reverse dies — come together during striking without a planchet between them. When a planchet does come between the two dies, details of the obverse appear on the reverse and vice versa.



*This Guernsey 1889 four doubles has a die clash error.*





*Underneath the shield the date is partial visible.*



*The obverse has the bottom portion of the date.*





*On the reverse side of the coin,  
striations from the shield are visible near the letter.*

As a bonus on this coin, along with striations inside the 9 in the date, the digit has also been reworked.



## Notes From Our Librarian

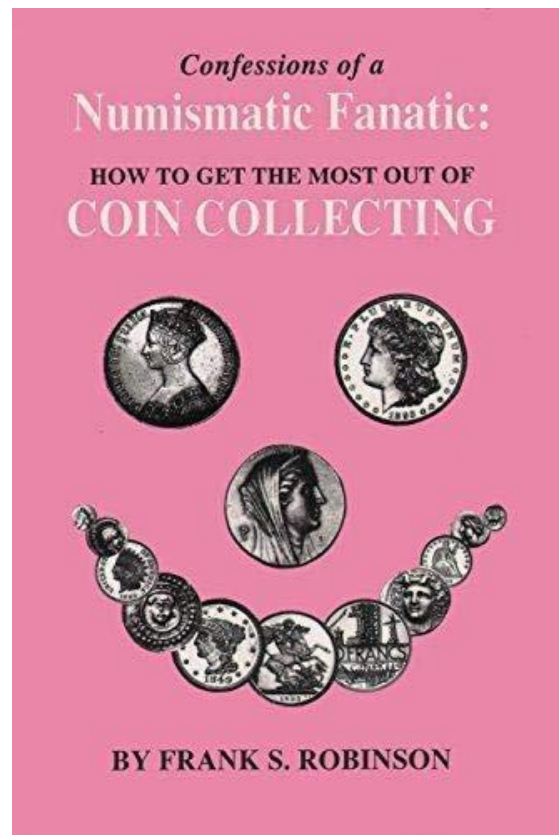
Madison County Coin Club members can access our lending library of more than 130 books, auction catalogs, and periodicals. The library features resources and materials on subjects including but not limited to U.S. and foreign coins, ancients, paper money, tokens, and medals. You can request materials by emailing the librarian, [Ann Fulmer](#). Library materials are checked out to members for a four-week period. You can email the librarian to renew items for another four-week period (as long as no other member has submitted a hold on the item/items). To return your items simply bring them to one of our meetings.

Ann will be bringing *Confessions of a Numismatic Fanatic: How to get the Most out of Coin Collecting* and *Monumental Coins – Buildings and Structures on Ancient Coinage* to our March meeting.

*Ann Fulmer reviews:* Frank S. Robinson's  
**CONFESSIONS OF A NUMISMATIC  
FANATIC: HOW TO GET THE MOST  
OUT OF COIN COLLECTING**

A guide to anyone starting out coin collecting. It is filled with anecdotes, tips, and insights for all coin collectors. The brief history of numismatics revealed to me that the first coins were made in Asia Minor (modern Turkey) in Seventh Century, B.C. They were a mixture of silver and gold. There are chapters on: How coins are Made, The Role of Condition, All about Grading, and more.

For a new or a seasoned collector, the chapters on preserving and improving your collection are very well written. The author has been collecting coins since 1957 and his book is filled with useful information and is a good read.





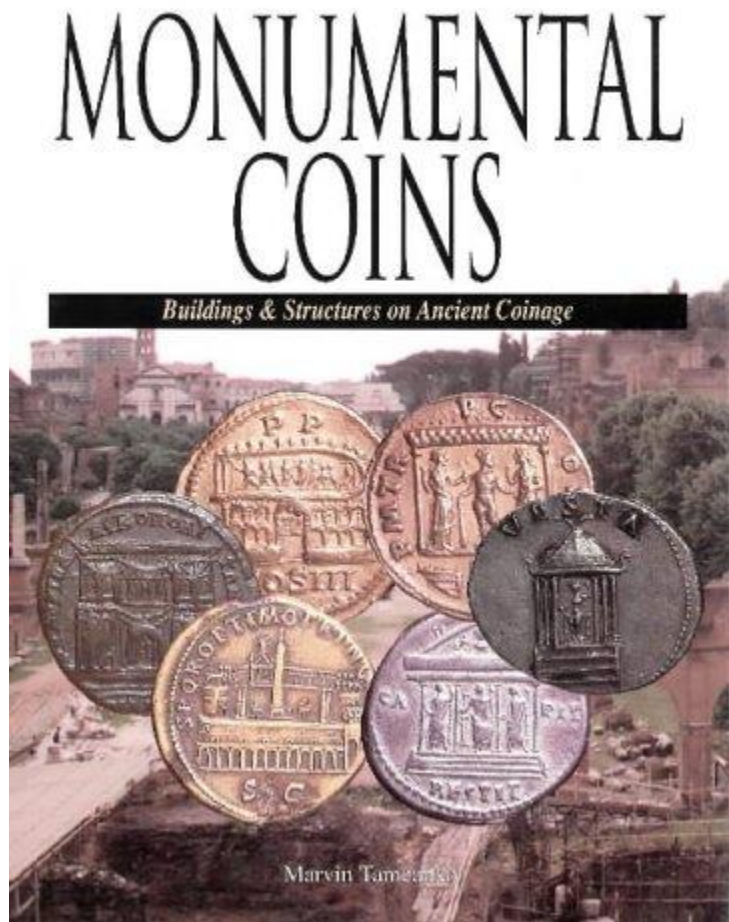
*Ann Fulmer reviews:* Marvin Tameanko's **Monumental Coins – Buildings and Structures on Ancient Coinage**

This is a fascinating book dealing with the many architectural wonders that have been portrayed on coins throughout history.

The illustrations of the coins are amazing, and the architect's drawings of the buildings, monuments, and other structures provide an understanding of why they were selected to be on a coin. The chapter I found most interesting was on Rome because I visited there 5 years ago and wish that I had read some of this book prior to going there. I walked where there were remains of many of the temples that are on coins in this book.

The book contains so much history as it relates to the making of the early coins. At the end there are photos of many of the great coins containing so of the world's greatest ancient structures.

A very interesting read for anyone who likes history and architecture as it relates to coins.



Electricity can be dangerous. My nephew tried to stick a penny into a plug. Whoever said a penny doesn't go far didn't see him shoot across that floor. I told him he was grounded. Tim Allen

## Can You Identify This Coin?



In this section each month a new coin will be pictured, and your task is to see if you can identify it. Can you step up to this numismatic challenge every month? Email you answer to [hkfears@gmail.com](mailto:hkfears@gmail.com) and we will publish the names of winners in our next newsletter.



Last month's winner was Wayne Koger and Stanley Benedict. They both identified the coin as a 1928 One Condor from Ecuador.

Collectors should note that no more than 5,000 of these coins were placed in circulation. The majority is being held by the Central Bank of Ecuador as its gold reserve.



*1928 One Condor  
From Ecuador*

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

## **The Minute Man**

### **March 20, 2023, Madison County Coin Club Meeting Minutes**

***By Aaron Wales***

The local stamp club hosts a show at the Jaycees building (at the old airport) annually and would like to add coins to their show. It is run by Ray Patrosecka (President) and Michael O'Reilly. The show is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of June. There will be 24-hour security provided and free parking. The goal is to have 8 to 10 stamp dealers, postcard dealers, and coins dealers. The hope is with this size group the entire building can be utilized. Last year the show was approximately half stamps and half postcards. There will be 6-foot tables at \$75 each. Dealers can have up to 4 tables. They will accommodate a MCCC table to promote the club. One idea suggested was to have an exhibit at the MCCC booth as well. Please tell those you know about the show to help advertise and raise awareness.

Lifetime memberships have been awarded to Michael Turini and Charles Anderson. There are certificates for both that will be mailed with letters to announce the award and our appreciation for their continued support. We ask this be announced in the newsletter as well.

Newsletter submissions are requested. Please check out the newsletter for the meeting minutes.

ANA news:

1. Numismatic Diploma Program info is available. Learn more at [money.org](http://money.org) for how to obtain this certification and these online learning courses.
2. Club Trivia Challenge. This has a deadline of May 26th. The 15 questions will be in the April newsletter and emailed to the membership. We need support to answer the questions and make a submission (for the club). There will be a drawing for prizes. Please email [ella.mon-ica2@gmail.com](mailto:ella.mon-ica2@gmail.com) with answers.



3. National Coin Week programs. These are April 16-22. There are programs by day and how to register can be found when you visit [NationalCoinWeek.org](http://NationalCoinWeek.org).
  1. Bookmarks and buttons were available to hand out from ANA
4. ANA membership join/renew form is available. Online forms can be found at: <https://info.money.org/join>
5. Summer Seminar dates. You can email [seminars@money.org](mailto:seminars@money.org) for additional info.

Please coordinate with Ann Fulmer, the club librarian, to checkout items from the MCCC library. Checkout the next newsletter for some exciting book reviews.

The Dalton coin show is April 14<sup>th</sup> through April 16<sup>th</sup> next month. So, please make plans to support.

We welcomed visitors to include Mr. Bob Senn. There were 22 in attendance.

The insightful presentation was conducted by Harrison Knowlton. The presentation focused on counterfeit coins and currency and how to find determine counterfeits. The hands on items shared with the group was very educational.

Door prizes awarded included:

3<sup>rd</sup>: Hong Kong bank note with butterfly: Monica Couch

2<sup>nd</sup>: quarter eagle medal: Harrison Knowlton

1<sup>st</sup>: 2015 American eagle: Chad Thrasher

***Mark Your Calendar!***  
**Stamp, Postcard & Coin Show**  
**HUNTSPEX 2023**  
**June 3-4, 2023**  
**Jaycee Community Building**  
**John Hunt Park**  
**2180 Airport Road**  
**Huntsville, Alabama 35802**

## Last Month's Door Prize Winners



Each meeting the club gives away several door prizes. The winners of at our last meeting were:

First Prize:	Chad Thrasher	2015 Silver Eagle
Second Prize:	Harrison Knowlton	Quarter Eagle Medal
Third Prize:	Monica Couch	Hong Kong bank note with butterfly



## **Members' Notices**

Rules for users of the member notice page: All notices are free and should be directed to the editor, [hkfears@gmail.com](mailto:hkfears@gmail.com), 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](mailto:ANALMRJ@gmail.com) .

**World Coins, Tokens, Jade, Relics, etc. for sale.** Contact: Steve Young, P.O. Box 8031, Huntsville, AL 35808, 334-300-5409 [taegu steve@hotmail.com](mailto:taegu_steve@hotmail.com) .

## **The ANA eLearning Academy Courses**

Enjoy online courses and lectures from fellow collectors and experienced numismatists. The courses are free and open to the public. See <https://info.money.org/elearning> for details.

## ***Hey ANA Members***

Please send to [Mike Campbell](#) your ANA membership number. This helps our local club with our ANA Club Membership.

## 2023 Madison County Coin Club Program Refreshments and Programs Schedule

Meeting Date	Refreshments	Program
Jan 23	Wayne Koger	Harold Fears Foreign Coins with U.S. Mint Marks
February 20	Harrison Knowlton	Todd Hutto British Conder Tokens
March 20	Todd Hutto	Harrison Knowlton Counterfeit Coins & Currency
April 17	Ann Fulmer	Ben Crow Hawaii and North Africa Bills
May 15	Harrison Knowlton	Hal Pullum West Point Mint / Morgan Dollars
June 26	4th of July Potluck, Bourse Night, and Auction	
July 17	Aaron Wales	Aaron Wales Nickels
August 21		Steve Young Stories from Coin Shows
September 18	Don & Jennie Adams	David Hollander Banknotes
October 16		Todd Hutto Charles the First and the British Civil War
November 20	Thanksgiving Potluck, Bourse Night, and Auction Election of Officers	
December- NO MEETING		



## 2023 Coin Shows within Driving Distance from Huntsville

DATE	Location	Contact
April 14-16	Georgia Numismatic Association Coin Show <a href="#">Dalton Convention Center</a> 2211 Tony Ingle Pkwy Dalton, GA 30720	<a href="https://www.gam-oney.org/coin-show/">https://www.gam-oney.org/coin-show/</a>
June 3-4	<b>HUNTSPEX 2023 Stamp, Postcard and Coin Show</b>  <b>Jaycee Community Building</b> <b>2180 Airport Road, SW</b> <b>Huntsville, AL 35802</b>	Email: mcoreilly@yahoo.com
July 7-9	Alabama Numismatic Society Annual Convention Bessemer Civic Center 1130 9th Ave SW Bessemer, AL 35022	<a href="http://www.coin-zip.com/alabama-numismatic-society-convention-coin-show">http://www.coin-zip.com/alabama-numismatic-society-convention-coin-show</a>
August 3-5	BRNA Blue Ridge Coin Show <a href="#">Dalton Convention Center</a> 2211 Tony Ingle Pkwy Dalton, GA 30720	<a href="https://brna.org/">https://brna.org/</a>

## **Madison County Coin Club Website Update**

Our Madison County Coin Club website (<http://mccc.anacclubs.org/>) has two links that will give you access to all our previous newsletters dating back to 2005! We also have a link to programs that are presented at club meetings! This gives you an opportunity to read previous articles posted in our newsletters, as well as review recent programs. These resources can be very useful in increasing your knowledge on specific coins, a series, types, and other coin-related topics. Go check it out!

***Read our previous newsletters at:***  
**<http://mccc.anacclubs.org/newsletters/>**

***Read our previous programs at:***  
**<http://mccc.anacclubs.org/programs/>**

## **Club Officers**

President: [Doug Glandon](#)

Vice President: [Wayne Koger](#)

Secretary: Aaron Wales

Treasurer: [Mike Campbell](#)

Board Member: Kurt Springfield

## **The Club's Mailing Address:**

**Madison County Coin Club**  
P.O. Box 12242  
Huntsville, AL 35815