

Madison County Coin Club

of Huntsville, Alabama



Volume 23, Issue 5

May 2023

**Our next meeting
will be at the
South Huntsville Public
Library
7901-L Bailey Cove Rd SE
Huntsville, AL 35802
On
Monday
May 15, 2023
from 6:00 – 7:30
Doors Open at 5:30**

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The (Vice) President’s Corner

It seems the majority of folks in this country fashion themselves to be players of guitar. (Well, certainly many of them do *own* a guitar.)

And most folks believe they can drive a car better than others on the road. (Well, that *is* a comforting thought, since my friends, family and I are out there too.)

And it seems that about two-thirds of our citizens would say they collect coins. (Well, at some point they *have* tossed a coin in a drawer or several into a jar.)

Tossing an “unusual” coin in the back of a drawer or a bunch of them in a jar is a form of collecting, yes; but how many people research and seek out specific coins; carefully handle, enclose, and otherwise go to some effort to safeguard coins; and catalogue, display, and regularly read about, write about, or discuss coins

in (crazy) detail?

Not many, I think.

I'm a coin collector and believe I can fairly well lay claim to that title by showing you from my collection any number of striking (in my opinion!) little works of art from around the world and down through history . . . and can rattle on about them for hours.

Does that make me special?

Nope.

But pretty much every coin I collect *is* special; some more than others.

And every coin (or bill or exnumia) you collect is special too.

At the very least, a collected coin is immediately elevated at the moment of collection to a lofty status not shared by the untold masses of its less fortunate uncollected buddies whose condition and fate is, well, left to owners whose primary interest in a coin is in what it can buy. (Sad, isn't it?)

At May's MCCC meeting we're putting a focus on "show and tell."

Instead of a single speaker and single subject of interest, we want to see and hear about what you believe is special enough to collect and what makes it special to you.

Every coin may have a story, but telling it is the purview of its collector.

As always, what you show and what you tell is up to you.

No pressure for you to present, just encouragement for you to share.

Hmm, surely, I myself can find a specimen or two (or several!) to bring—and say a few words about.

You think? ☺

Wayne

At May's MCCC meeting we're putting a focus on "show and tell."

Some Scenes from our Last Meeting



The gang at the last meeting.

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



Harold and Todd receive their Educational Award for giving a presentation.

"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



Ben receives his Educational Award for giving his presentation on World War II currency.

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.

Where did the Phrase “a pretty penny” Come From?

By Monica Couch

If you look up the definition, it states, “a large, sizable amount of money; a high price.”

This phrase is an English idiom. Whenever a thing costs a lot of money, this idiom is appropriate to use. The word ‘pretty’ is an adjective. It means ‘attractive or beautiful’. However, the word pretty was initially used as an adverb in the 16th century. Hence, here, it is used as ‘significant’ or ‘enough’.

In the past, this phrase was used with variants such as “a fine penny” or “a fair penny.” It is said that all the forms of this phrase were used in the English language in the 18th century. The frequent usage of this phrase has been seen in many printed works throughout time.

Susanna Centlivre was an English poet, actress, and the most successful female playwright of the 18th century. She used this phrase in one of her comedies, *The Man’s Bewitch’d*. It was probably written in or around 1710. The phrase was contained in, “Why here may be a pretty penny towards, if the Devil don’t cross it.”

That usage isn’t exactly definitive, but we can be sure that Centlivre was using the expression with its current meaning as she used it again the following year (as ‘a fine penny’) in another comic play, called *Mar-plot*. The context of the 1711 usage was a scene where a character was predicting the certain winning of a wager: “I’m like to make a fine penny on’t.”

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



Pictured above Susanna Centlivre

Frederick Pilon was an Irish actor and a playwright who wrote several dramas. He used this phrase in the, *The Deaf Lover*, written in 1780. It appears as “a pretty penny” in this work.

Mary Anne Evans was a leading writer of the Victorian era. You may recognize her by her pen name, George Eliot. She used this phrase in one of her famous novels, *The Mill on the Floss*. It was first published in three volumes in 1860 and is said to be her most autobiographical novel. It contains the phrase, “That watered-silk she had on cost a pretty penny.”



Pictured above Mary Anne Evans

Since then, it has been continuously in use. Try and find a good opportunity this week to make use of “a pretty penny.”

Pennies from Heaven

By Aaron Wales

Have you ever heard the song *Pennies from Heaven*? It's a favorite of mine. It was our theme song during our spring break trip a few weeks ago. If you haven't listened in a while, you should. It's a great tune.

The music is by Arthur Johnston and lyrics are by Johnny Burke. The song was introduced by Bing Crosby in the film "Pennies From Heaven" (1936). It topped the charts for 10 weeks.

Many artists have released the song. Frank Sinatra recorded the song for the first time with Nelson Riddle for his "Songs for Swingin' Lovers!" album (1956) and again with Count Basie for "Sinatra-Basie: An Historic Musical First" (1962). But I'm most fond of the Louis Prima version from 1957. You may recognize it especially around the holiday as it is featured in the movie *Elf*.



The lyrics are:

*If every time it rains, it rains, pennies from heaven (Shubby Dobby)
Don't you know each cloud contains pennies from heaven (Shubby Dobby)
You'll find your fortune falling all over town
Be sure that your umbrella is up up up upside down and...*

*Trade them for a package of sunshine and ravioli (Macaroni)
If you want the thing you love, you must have a pizzoli baby
And when you hear thunder, don't run under a tree
It's pennies from heaven, for you and for me*

Now come over here boy, Sam

*And every time it rains it rains
And don't you know each cloud contains
Every time it rains, it rains
And don't you know each cloud contains
You find your fortune falling
All over town, all over town, all over town
Be sure that your umbrella
Is upside down twiddily bop*

*Aha ba hizzie white
Eagle eye la homba lee
Zombalomba zompolot
Old wodilly boy oh
Ahhh bobba hoy boy
Ohhhh boy a hoy boy
Toddaly whoa, OOOOH!
I knew I'd get ya
I knew I'd get ya
Let's go, let's go*

*And you'll find your fortune falling all over town
In pennies from heaven
Pennies from heaven
The pennies from heaven
For you and me*

Use your favorite music service to listen and I hope you enjoy it.

A New Die Variety of the Guernsey

1885 Eight Doubles

By Harold Fears

The Guernsey 1885 eight doubles coin was minted by the Ralph Heaton Mint of Birmingham, England. Only 69,696 were struck. Advanced collectors of these coins have been aware since A.L.T. McCammon published his book, *"Currencies of the Anglo-Norman Isles"*, in 1984 that there were two varieties for this piece. The varieties, like most varieties for the Island of Guernsey, deal with the number of the leaves and berries of the wreaths found on both sides of the coin. Recently, I found a third variety which I would like to share with our dear readers.



The Reverse of the 1885 Eight Doubles

This time, the difference can be found on the obverse. Looking carefully, along the left branch, one can see that although the number of leaves and berries are the same as a Type 1 coin, there is a difference in the main stem. For the newly discovered Type 3 coin, a portion of the stem is covered by a leaf. See the picture below for a comparison of the three types.

1885 Eight Doubles Left Branch



Type 1



Type 2



Type 3

Note the stem emerging from the four leaves for the Type 1 and Type 2 coins. On the Type 3 coin, the stem merges from a leaf.

1885 Eight Doubles Right Branch



On the type 2 coin, the right third leaf is joined by a berry stem.



Also, on the type 1 and 2 coins, the bottom left leaf has been reworked.

1885 Eight Doubles Type 1

Right third leaf joined to main stem



1885 Eight Doubles Type 2

Right third leaf joined to berry stem.



1885 Eight Doubles Proof Type 3

Note the Left Branch Differs From Types 1 and 2



A Trip to the Money Museum

Colorado Springs, CO

From David Wales

th welded rim and loop. They were hand-engraved by skilled silversmiths, as the new nation had no mints capable of striking medals of the necessary size and quality, a problem that persisted even after the establishment of the U.S. Mint in 1792. The imagery on the medals was symbolically important – President Washington was depicted interacting as an equal with an Indian chief, with a “civilized” farming scene in the background. Hundreds were issued with the dates 1792, 1793 and 1795 for use by the government in diplomatic negotiations with the Indian nations. These impressive pieces were highly prized by their recipients, who wore them on ceremonial occasions and portraits and often passed them on to relatives as family heirlooms. They are extremely rare today with only a few dozen originals medals known.



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
MONEY MUSEUM



At least two of the Washington Indian Peace medals of 1792 were given to American Indian chiefs of the Iroquois nations – the most famous being the large medal presented to the famous and influential Seneca chief Sagoyewatha, known as Red Jacket, after he met President Washington at a peace conference in Philadelphia. He wore the medal for the rest of his life as evidence of the bond of peace and friendship established between the Iroquois nations and the people of the United States.



1792 HALF DISME

NGC AU58

ANA# 2011.24.1

Designs for the new U.S. coinage were approved April 2, 1792 after some interesting debates. The original idea was to feature an image of the current President on the obverse. However, President George Washington believed that such a system would be too monarchical since the portraits of living people on coins of that time portrayed monarchs. In the end an image of Lady Liberty was chosen, along with an eagle for the reverse of all but the copper issues. The 1792 half disme displayed here was donated to the American Numismatic Association by Steven Contursi of Rare Coin Wholesalers.



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



1804 DOLLAR, COHEN SPECIMEN, TYPE I

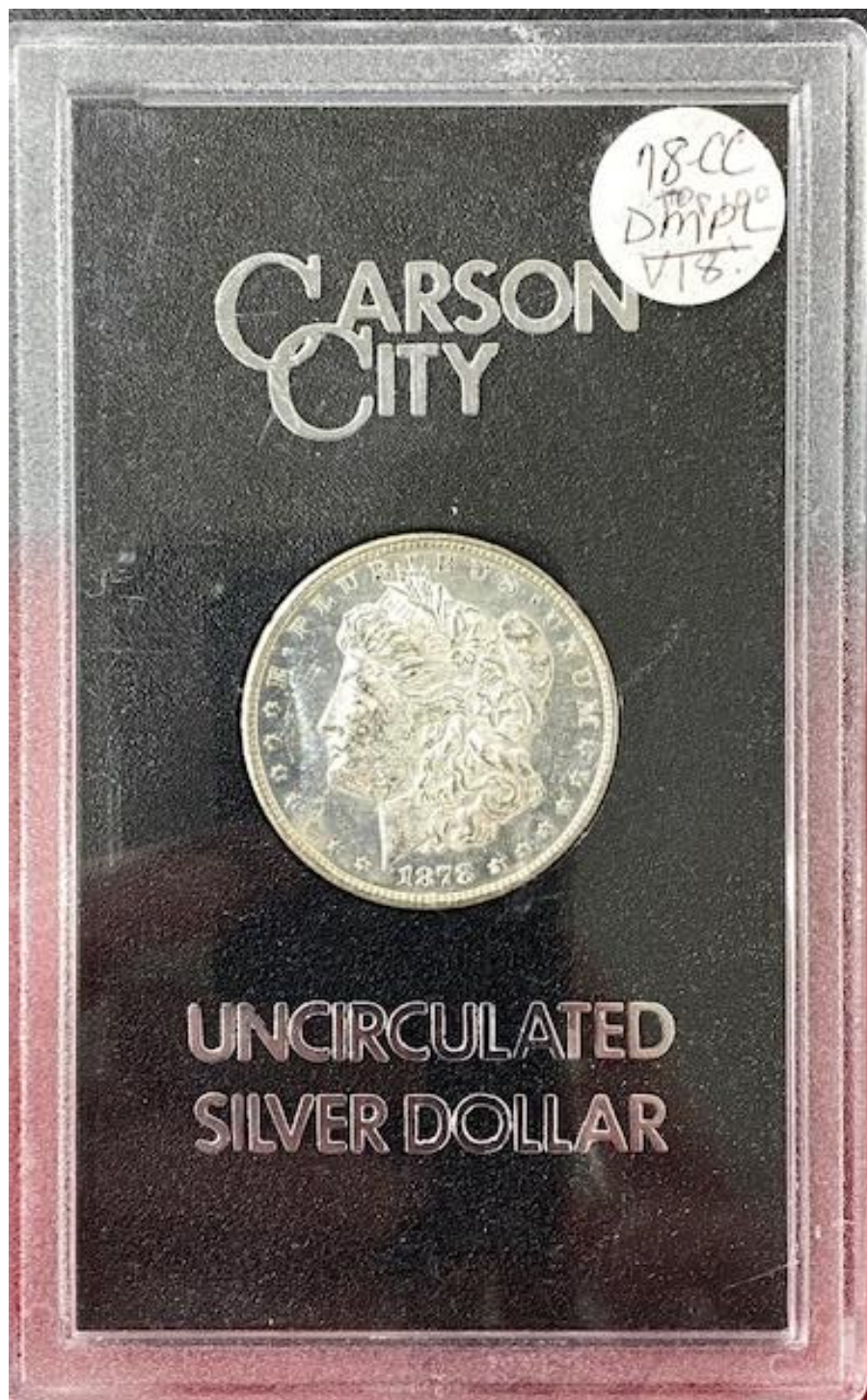
Struck at Mint in 1834-1835. First appears in 1865 in the possession of Colonel Mendes I. Cohen • Sold 1875 by Edward D. Cogan, Cohen Collection, Lot 535 (\$325) to Henry Adams (1875 – 76) • Sold again 1876 by Cogan, Adams Collection, Lot 356 (\$500) to Lorin G. Parmelee (1876 – 78) • Henry G. Sampson (1878) • Major William Boerum Wetmore (1878 – 1906) • Sold by Chapman brothers, Wetmore Collection, Lot 208 (\$720) to Thomas L. Elder (1906) • James H. Manning (1906 – 21) • Sold by B. Max Mehl, Manning Collection, Lot 778 (\$2500) to Elmer S. Sears (1921-22) • B. Max Mehl (1922) • Lammot DuPont (1922 – 52) • Willis H. du Pont (1952 – 1994) *Stolen in 1967, recovered in 1993* • ANA Edward Rochette Money Museum (1994 to present).











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 your answer to hkfears@gmail.com and we will publish the names of winners in our next newsletter.

Last month we did not have a winner. The coin is a 25 cents coin from Barbados.



*1973 Twenty-Five Cents
From Barbados*

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

The Minute Man

April 17, 2023

By Aaron Wales

Richard Jozefiak, the ANA District Rep for Alabama and Georgia attended the meeting. He had just come from the Dalton Show. He brought several fliers and coins from the show. He stated attendance was up to 2,000+. Note, next year is their 60th show and there will be special events planned. Richard is running for ANA Governor. There are 12 running for 7 slots. If you have an ANA membership, please vote. Votes must be submitted by July 1st (that's online or by mail). He noted extreme delays with mail being received. So, please take note of that.

October 25-29th, 2023 will be the International Money Expo in Nashville, TN at the Music City Center. Please plan to attend.

National Money Week is this week. The ANA trivia sheet is available. It has been emailed to the membership. We will be submitting answers on behalf of the club. Answers to trivia have been from Harold Fears and Monica/Aaron Wales. We will be submitting early in order for the mail to be received in Colorado Springs. If you have answers, please coordinate/ email the club secretary.

Summer Seminar will be this June. There are 2 1-week sessions. There are several scholarships available. If you know anyone interested, please encourage them to apply. Scholarship applicants have been minimal.

Remember to read the newsletter. There are great articles, and it includes a numismatic challenge. Also, submit an article for your fellow members to enjoy!

Please bring a show and share item for the next meeting and be prepared to tell a special story. The presenter for next month has had to cancel. There may just be fellowship with members.

Do not forget to plan for the combined stamp, postcard, and coin show June 3-4, 2023. This will be at the Jaycee Community Building. It's free admission.

Hours for Saturday will be 10-5 and Sunday will be 10-3. Tables are \$75 for a 6-foot table for dealers. There will be door prizes.

Ann Fulmer reminded members that the club has 138 books available for check-out. She's able to bring to the meeting and check-outs can be for 1 month. Please coordinate with her and she'll plan to bring the item to the meeting. If you didn't catch the newsletter, she is writing book reviews.

All visitors were welcomed to include Lee and Shana.

We had a wonderful presentation from Ben Crow on WWII and its relationship to currency in Hawaii and North Africa. It was extremely interesting and very educational.

The Alabama Coin and Silver business near the ALDI/Books a Million off the Parkway is opening back up. They have very limited days/hours. Currently, it's Mon-Wed 11-3.

Door Prizes awarded:

- Hong Kong Bank Note with a beautiful butterfly: Wayne Koger
- Quarter Silver Eagle from 2022: Mike Campbell
- Silver Eagle from 2013: Shana Thrasher

Attendance was: 19.

Post Meeting Note: All refreshment slots are full. Doug Glandon took 21-August and Chad Thrasher took 16-October.

The Club's Mailing Address:

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

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:	Shana Thrasher:	2013 Silver Eagle
Second Prize:	Mike Campbell:	2022 Quarter Silver Eagle
Third Prize:	Wayne Koger:	Hong Kong Bank Note

Members' Notices

Rules for users of the member notice page: All notices are free and should be directed to the editor, 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

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.

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/>

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	Fellowship Time
June 26	4th of July Potluck, Bourse Night, and Auction	
July 17	Aaron Wales	Aaron Wales Nickels
August 21	Doug Glandon	Steve Young Stories from Coin Shows
September 18	Don & Jennie Adams	David Hollander Banknotes
October 16	Chad Thrasher	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
June 3-4	HUNTSPEX 2023 Stamp, Post-card and Coin Show Jaycee Community Building 2180 Airport Road, SW Huntsville, AL 35802	Email: mcoreilly@yahoo.com
July 7-9	Alabama Numismatic Society Annual Convention Bessemer Civic Center 1130 9th Ave SW Bessemer, AL 35022	http://www.coin-zip.com/alabama-numismatic-society-convention-coin-show
August 3-5	BRNA Blue Ridge Coin Show Dalton Convention Center 2211 Tony Ingle Pkwy Dalton, GA 30720	https://brna.org/

Club Officers

President: [Doug Glandon](#)

Vice President: [Wayne Koger](#)

Secretary: Aaron Wales

Treasurer: [Mike Campbell](#)

Board Member: Kurt Springfield