

Madison County Coin Club

of Huntsville, Alabama



Volume 24, Issue 4

April 2024

**Our next meeting will be at the
South Huntsville Public Library
7901-L Bailey Cove Rd SE
Huntsville, AL 35802
On Monday April 15, 2024
from 6:00 – 7:30 Doors Open at 5:30**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2** [Some Scenes from our Last Meeting](#)
- 4** [Is There a Proper Way to Collect Coins?](#)
- 9** [My 1853 Type Set](#)
- 16** [Some Rare Notes from the State of Alabama](#)
- 19** [Have a Goldfish!](#)
- 22** [The British Royal Mint Llantrisant, Wales](#)
- 36** [Kutch 1936 5 Kori Coins](#)
- 52** [Buyer Beware](#)
- 53** [The Money Changer and his Wife](#)
- 54** [Can You Identify this Coin?](#)
- 56** [The Minute Man](#)
- 59** [ANA Coin Club Trivia for National Coin Week](#)
- 63** [Quiz Time: Pet Owners Independence Day](#)
- 70** [Members' Notices](#)

National Coin Week

**“A Hobby for a Changing World —
100 Years and Counting”**

April 21-27, 2024

From early civilization to today, the state of collecting coins has reflected societal trends, collaboration among collectors, and shifting interests. The 100th anniversary event will focus on how coinage and money have evolved and changed to embrace varying cultural values over time.

National Coin Week has been a long-standing tradition in the numismatic community, celebrating the art, history, and cultural significance of coins and currency for the past century. During National Coin Week we take the opportunity to reflect on the evolution of numismatics and the role it has played in connecting collectors, enthusiasts, and the public.

National Coin Week is sponsored by the American Numismatic Association (ANA). More information, resources and activities are available at www.NationalCoinWeek.org.

Some Scenes from our Last Meeting

The gang enjoying Show and Tell





Is There a Proper Way to Collect Coins, or Are You Doing It Right?

By Kurt Kelley

If you are putting a coin collection together, it is yours and no one can tell you the right way to do it. No matter if it is US coins, medals, tokens, paper money, Confederate pieces, foreign coins, ancients, colonials, theme coins, private minted, bullion, based on rarity, based on high end or low-end grading, or any other type I have left off. It is your collection. Build it with your interest and intensity. If you put effort into the collection others will be interested in what you are doing. The main thing is that you enjoy what you are doing. I have heard some say every coin in a series needs to be the same grade, why? If having a certain grade of a date is good for you than that is what you should do. I have different series that were collected in different grades, and some are a mix of grades. Right now, I'm working on the Seated Liberty Halves of 1839-1891. My area of preference is XF40-AU55, but if a MS coin presents itself for a stellar price and the eye appeal is good it will be added to my collection, and I'll be happy with it and all around it. On the same hand, if a VF35 has good eye appeal and is nice for the grade, it gets a new home also. It started collecting Barber Dimes at a local live auction in northwestern Illinois by getting 2 common dates in XF for under \$10 apiece. I looked at there being 74 coins in the series and figured I could afford that, so a collection was started. I started out as said in XF and soon found out there are virtually no XF Barber dimes. Everything is either worn out in G or VG or high-end MS coins. I didn't like the way the lower grades looked, so I went after the MS coins. It took me 30 years to finish my Barber dime set, 1982-2012. It became a labor of love, but I have to add that by no means did it get completed for \$10 per coin. I was recognized at national coin conventions as the Barber Dime Guy when walking up to dealer's tables, that reference has since dwindled but once in a while still hear it. Some fun stories there, but that will be saved for another time.

Collecting coins is supposed to be a stress reliever, so have fun with it. Don't worry if you are collecting the conventional correct way. The only thing to pass along here is a quote from Q. David Bowers: buy the best quality you can afford; it will appreciate more than a lesser grade coin. This was previous to slabbed coins and collecting the lowest grade coins available being something to do. I am amazed in the popularity of low-grade coins (fair 2 and almost good 3) bringing crazy high prices because it gets the new owner a new lower grade coin in their series. So, because of the times maybe Mr. Bowers statement is not as true as it once was, but how long is this fad going to be popular?

Our club is showing a resurgence in attendance for the last couple of months! This is awesome! The benefits of a healthy club are numerous. Some of these benefits are that there are many different collecting interests amongst the membership and getting everyone together brings that out. What this does is provide awareness to different genres of collecting. The presentation in March was Show and Tell, and some of the Show and Tell examples were:

- A. State of Alabama notes issued after the Civil War that have 4 known to exist, a \$20 note was present, 1 of 1 known.
- B. A 1600s uncirculated coin. Anyone interested in numismatics can just sit and relish the fact that this still exists.
- C. Tokens of shape for different services. Most were in the shape of a horse head and neck, one of a chick(en), and some other shapes from around the 1910 era.
- D. An 1858 slabbed type set. Along with other denominations present were a 3 cent silver and half dime. Both obsolete denominations.
- E. Foreign coins presented by country. Think of the diversity this represented.
- F. 1910 proof half dollar and proof cent. This is a couple more pieces toward the 5 coin silver proof set. The half had a mintage of 551, and the cent was 2405. Both pieces have only a few graded higher.
- G. Others that were in no way lesser pieces, but I don't remember them. My attention was probably taken by the pieces in hand that were being passed around the meeting.

Other than being at a major coin show where you would be able to see all of this in the same place. The wide variety of pieces brought for Show and Tell were impressive, IMO!

If a synopsis can be drawn from March's meeting it would be that our collecting goals are diverse, there is nothing better than anything else to collect; although, some may be of higher interest to an individual, or more popular to the club as a whole, and most important of all is that there is no right or wrong way of putting YOUR collection together. It's your collection, who else would be better at setting its parameters than you?

People might not want to collect what you do, but they will have respect and interest in what you've done. There is a lot that can be learned from what someone else has done. Whether it is what or what not to do, and that is an individual's choice. If you want to get intense and stressed out, go play golf... That is one thing that just baffles me. Why would anyone have a hobby that frustrates them as much as I hear

most golfers talk about being frustrated by their game? And then want to go again, and again??!! LOL!!



The 1910 Lincoln proof penny has a mintage of only 2,405.





Obverse of the Proof 1910 Half Dollar



Reverse of the Proof 1910 Half Dollar

My 1858 Type Set

By Doug Glandon

I have been a life-long coin collector with various interests that have changed over the years. Coins minted in the 19th century have been my main interest for several decades; however, one particular series that I have shied away from has been Seated Liberty coins. This changed after a visit to my local coin shop in July of 2019.

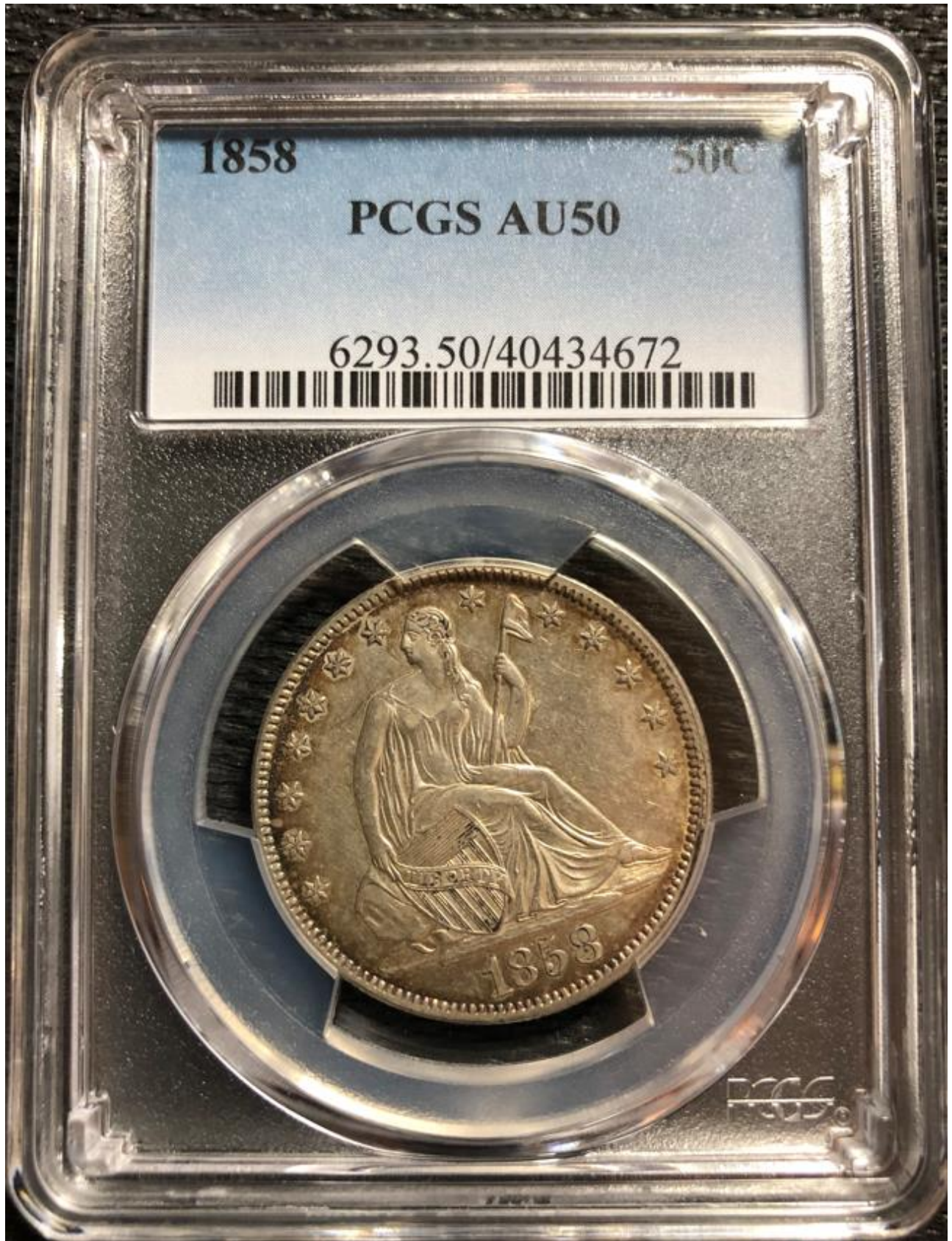
I received a message from Charles Cataldo (AL Coin & Silver) that a batch of my coins had been returned from the grading company. I promptly went to his shop to pick them up. While I was there, I noticed a really nice 1858 Seated Liberty (SL) Dime that had a wonderful patina. The toning was exquisite, and I told Charles, "I think I'm going to buy it!" Charles's reply was "Really?" So, I left his shop that day with my newly slabbed coins and an "1858 SL Dime".

After purchasing the Seated Liberty Dime, I decided it was time to add some SL coins to my collection and chose to pursue an 1858 Type Set. After choosing this year, I realized that the 1858 SL dollar would sadly be omitted from the type set. Now the quest was on to find the rest of the series.



In August of 2019, I purchased a beautiful SL Half Dollar that came from a private collection in Skaneateles, New York. I sent the coin to PCGS to be certified.





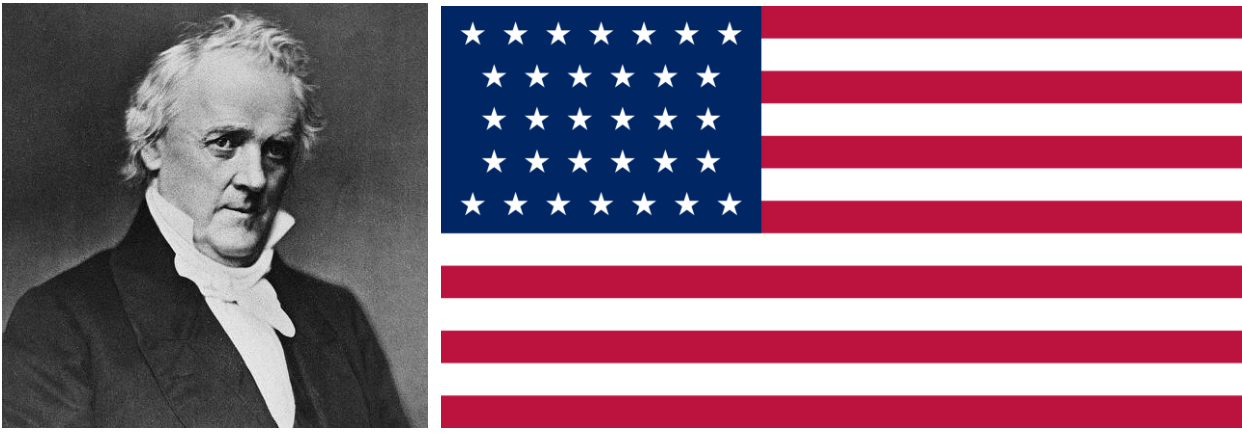
The next coin I acquired was the SL Quarter. I purchased this coin raw on eBay in April 2020 and had it certified later that year. The quarter came from Chase, Maryland.



My next acquisition was the SL Half Dime that I purchased on eBay in February 2021 from Hot Springs Village, Arkansas. This coin caught my eye because of its nice subdued toning.



In September 2023, I purchased a raw Flying Eagle Cent (FEC). I had a difficult time finding a nice original unblemished piece and was happy to acquire this one. This coin came from Sellersville, Pennsylvania. I hope to upgrade to an Almost Uncirculated (AU) example in the future.



James Buchanan was our 15th President in 1858. Our flag had 32 stars in use from 4 July 1853 thru 3 July 1859.

The complex block contains a black and white portrait of James Buchanan on the left and a 32-star American flag on the right. The flag features 32 white stars arranged in four rows of eight on a blue canton, with 13 red and white stripes.

The last coin I acquired was the Three Cent Silver (3CS) at auction in November 2023. This coin grades AU50 and came from from a private collection in Dallas, Texas.



Overall, it was a fun project assembling the 1858 Type Set. Having the 3CS and FEC as part of the set made it even more enjoyable to put together. Since starting this set, I have acquired a few more SL dimes and began collecting 3CS coins!

Happy Hunting!

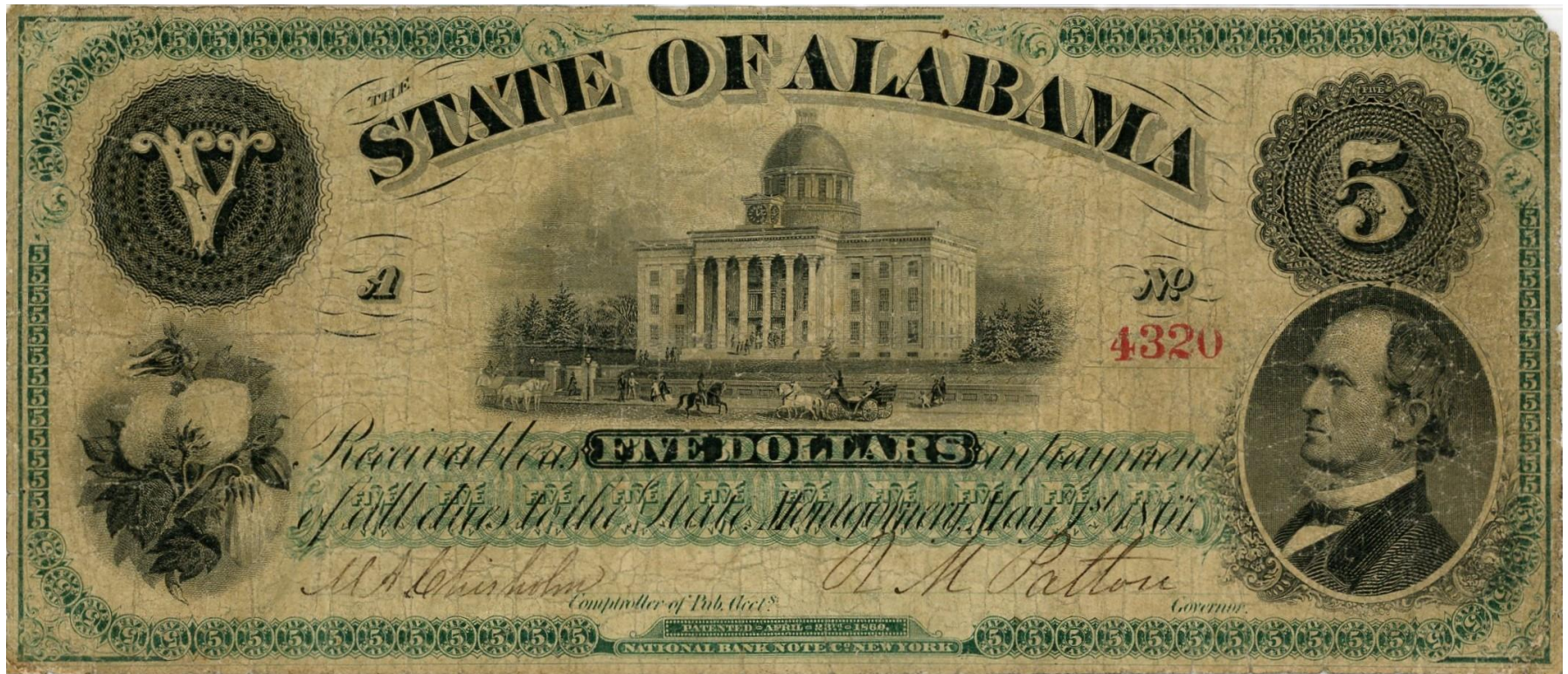
Mark Your Calendar!
HUNTSPEX 2024 -- Stamp, Postcard & Coin Show
June 1-2, 2024
Jaycee Community Building
John Hunt Park
2180 Airport Road
Huntsville, Alabama 35802
More information can be found at:

Some Rare Notes from the State of Alabama

By David Hollander

On February 19, 1867, the Alabama Legislature enacted Act Number 615 authorizing Governor Robert Miller Patton to prepare, sign certificates (also called receipts), and distribute them in lieu of moneys that had not yet been collected by the state. The Act stated that the certificates would be valued at no less than \$5 and no more than \$500, and that the total amount would not exceed \$400,000. The certificates were printed by the National Banknote Company and are dated "May 1st, 1867".

The surviving certificates are extremely rare because almost all were redeemed.





A rare \$10 certificate from the State of Alabama



A rare \$20 certificate from the State of Alabama

Have a Goldfish!

By Randy Partin

This brass token, which is the size of a silver dollar, was issued by Schulien's, a tavern that was in Chicago, Illinois. This establishment was located at 1800 N. Halsted St. It has a great pictorial of a man smoking a cigar with his hand in a goldfish bowl saying, "Have a Goldfish!". Notice the one fish on the ground that has slopped out of the bowl. I knew this token must have an interesting story behind it and indeed it does.

Although the youth on American college campuses have, in the past, demonstrated some pretty weird trends, one of the most bizarre of these just might be goldfish eating. The culinary delight of goldfish eating had its beginning in the small Chicago tavern of Matt Schulien. Matt was well known for his deceptive pranks and would never miss an opportunity to entertain his customers with a bit of magic and fun. By what I've been able to find, this goldfish story began in 1923 when Matt was approached by a good friend of his with an idea for a terrific gag. The gimmick was to pretend to eat goldfish, but actually eat slices of carrot cut to an approximate fish size and shape. This trick, if performed quickly, would guarantee some alarming reactions from his clientele, and produce hours of fun for Matt. The results were overwhelming and soon the tavern was besieged by people from all over the area wanting to see this rumored exploit.

One day a prominent Chicago attorney had a young brother home from college on a holiday. He brought the young man to Matt's where the collegian was much impressed by the way Matt downed the "fish". Not knowing the nature of the gag, the impressionable college student returned to his large eastern university and started the famous goldfish eating fad but using real fish. It took little time for the mania to catch on and soon college students from all over had joined their Ivy League counterparts in the goldfish eating craze.

It wasn't until later when this same young man was back in Matt's that he finally learned of the gag that had been pulled on him. The student almost collapsed when he discovered that only educated Harvard and Yale boys ate real goldfish while bartenders ate only carrots. The popularity of goldfish swallowing soon dwindled. The background for this story is taken from an article originally written by Melvin & George Fuld in the 1950s for *The Numismatist*, the journal of the American Numismatic Association.



Notice the one fish on the ground that has slopped out of the bowl.



The British Royal Mint

Llantrisant, Wales

By Todd Hutto

They say that if you're a really bad person, that when you die, you end up in an unfortunate place. I've also heard that the worst punishment that you could experience there would consist of being forced to watch slide shows of other people's vacations. So, I'd like to tell you about my vacation! Luckily for you, this is not a slide show, although I have included some photos.

I visited my British relatives in Britain, and while there, was able to go visit the British Royal Mint, in Llantrisant, Wales. This was my second visit to the Mint and certainly won't be my last. My trip was in June of 2023, right after the official Coronation of the new King Charles III. For some reason, my invitation to the Coronation never showed up, so I didn't attend that.



Sign at the entrance to the Mint

There is a fee to enter and tour the Mint. While there, you get to see the production operation, the Mint Museum, the Mint Gift Shop, the Mint restaurant, and even the Mint restroom. For an extra fee, they will also allow you to strike a coin for yourself, on one of their giant hydraulic coining presses. There is absolutely no shortage of opportunities to separate yourself from any coins you may have brought with you. No worries, they also take credit cards.



Poster of the Royal Family at the Mint Entrance

As you enter the grounds of the Mint, the King, Queen and Royal Family are there to greet you. Watch out for the barbed wire hovering above them though, it's sharp!

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



One of the more terrifying prospects of visiting the Mint, is the remote chance that you might run into me. I'm the one on the right.

Why not bring a friend to the next meeting?



This is the entrance to the tour. The Mini car seen here, used to belong to one of the Beatles, and is completely covered with the old large size British pennies.

For security reasons, you are not allowed to take photos inside the production area. I'll attempt to provide a narrative for that.

The first room you are taken to, on the tour, is a display of coin dies and associated equipment from several centuries of Mint production. You can touch many of the displays, so it's a unique experience.

Next up was a viewing room overlooking the actual coin press equipment and operations area. Workers were noisily stamping out thousands of coins per hour. The viewing area is behind a glass wall, but you can definitely tell that the operations on the other side of the glass were loud. On the day I was there, they were producing the new bi-metal British one pound coin. Two separate large bins of small disks and larger rings were being dumped into hoppers feeding the presses. Those presses combined the brass outer ring, with the silver colored cupro-nickel inner disk, into a newly minted coin.

Once you leave the production viewing room, you are escorted into another display room, which also has the large single coin hydraulic press, on which, you can stamp out your own self struck coin (for a fee). I did this on both my visits. Next time you see me, ask to see the coins I struck, if you would like to see them. The pressure used for the stamping was 160 tons, around three times the normal pressure of the

rapid production presses.

Next, the Museum awaits you. At this point in the tour, cameras may be used. I've included a number of the Museum displays photos below. Enjoy the photos from my vacation!



A penny, struck by Queen Elizabeth

Visit to the Royal mint
of
Her Majesty Queen Mary
accompanied by their Royal Highnesses
Princess Elizabeth
and Princess Margaret Rose of England

13th December 1937.

Mary R

Elizabeth

Margaret Rose.

Princess Elizabeth first visited the Mint in 1937



George II Silver Type Set for 1716 – as struck



One 1933 Penny

If you have only heard of one rare coin, there is a good chance that it's the 1933 penny. Only around six or seven were made that year, but no detailed records were kept. And so we could not say for sure that they were all accounted for. The possibility that one might turn up in everyday use caused people to spend hours sifting through their coins in a vain attempt to find one.



Two gold trial plates, used to define purity standards for production



The Workbench of Benedetto Pistrucci (1783 – 1855) Master Engraver of the Mint

Interested in purchasing a club medal? 4 copper medals are available. Contact [Mike](#).



Trial strikes on a gold disk



Dies for the trial strikes above



Die

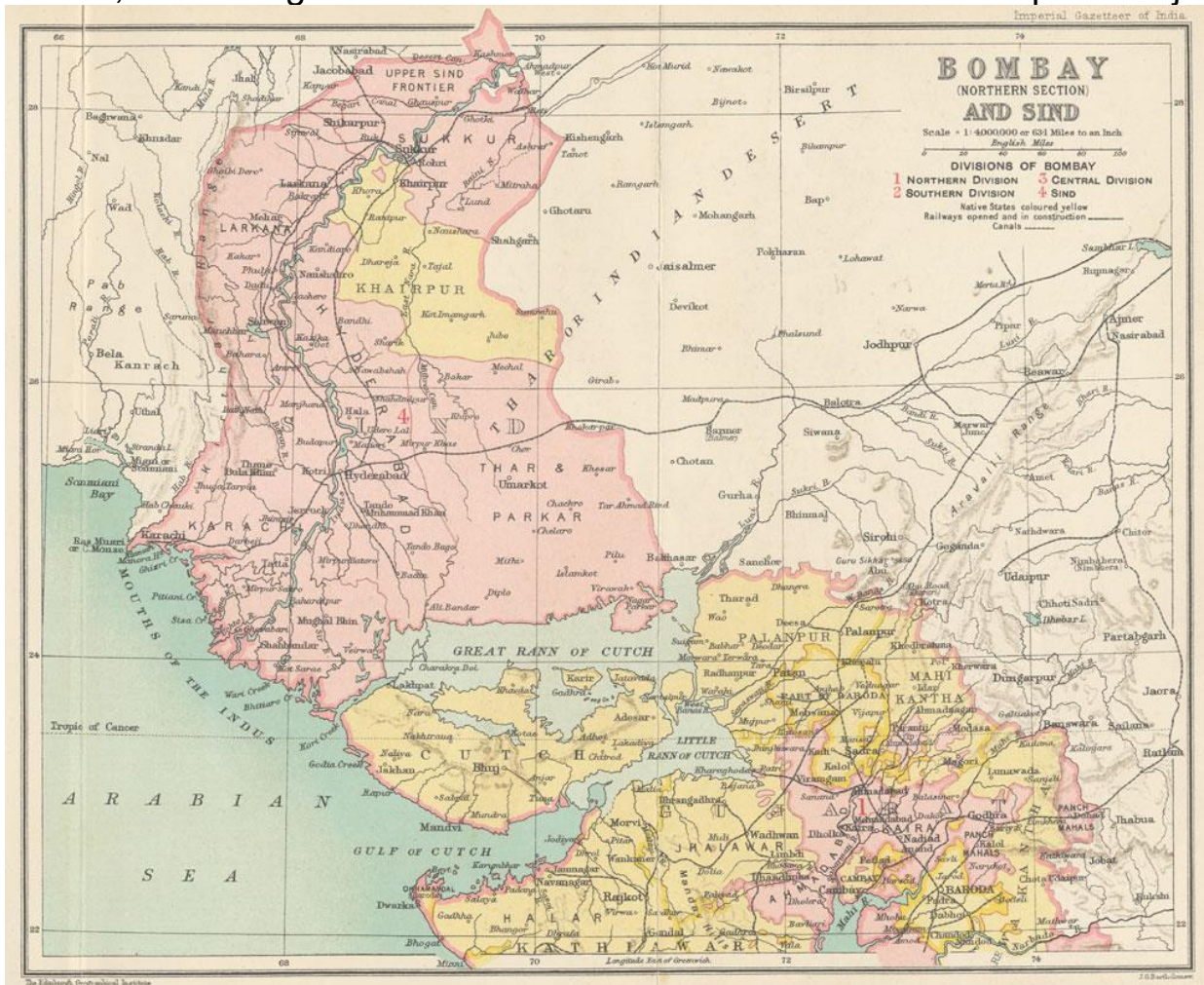


Strike

Kutch 1936 5 Kori Coins and The Year of the Four Kings

By H.K. Fears

Kutch (also spelled as Cutch or Kachchh) was a native princely state of India, located on the Arabian Sea. Kutch has a very long numismatic history and we will only touch on one year – or should I say two years? But first, a little background. Starting in 1862 milled Regal coins were minted both with the Queen Victoria's and with the Pragmulji II, the ruler of Kutch, name. From 1862 until India's independence in 1947, Kutch's coins had the Maharao's name on one side and the British ruler's name on the other. Maharao Pragmulji II successor was Khengarji III. Khengarji's reign was so long that his coins bore the name of Victoria, Edward VII, George V, Edward VIII, and George VI. All of these coins were minted at the capital Bhuj.



Kutch is on the coast of the Arabian Sea near Pakistan.

Today's topic will be the 1936 Kutch 5 kori coins. (For Kutch the unit denomination was the silver Kori. It was worth about one quarter of the Imperial Indian Rupee. It took 379 Kori to fetch 100 Imperial rupees.) The coins' obverse has the name and titles of the Maharaja, the denomination, the mint, and the date in the Vikram Samvat Era. This is written in Gujarati using the Devangari characters. The reverse side of the coin has the name and title of the British Sovereign, the name of the mint, and the date in the Christian Era. This is written in Urdu using a modified Persian script.



*Maharajadhiraj Mirza Maharao Shri Sir Khengarji III, Sawai Bahadur (1866-1942),
The Maharao of Cutch c. 1887
Royal Collection Trust / © His Majesty King Charles III 2023*

In 1936 a remarkable thing happened: Britain had three kings in succession. This had not happened before and it was brought about by an exceptional event that had also never happened before: a monarch of Great Britain gave up the throne.



1936 – The Year of the Three Kings

Unlike anywhere else in the British Empire, Kutch issued coins for all three kings in the same year, i.e., 1936. Since King George V died on January 20th, coins with his name were minted for only 20 days. And for next 10 months or so, coins were minted with King Edward's name. When George VI became king on December 11th, the coins were issued with his name for the next 20 days with the 1936 date. For the 1936 dated coin, we have three different reverses, that is, one for each sovereign's name.

We must also be aware that Vikram Samvat is a Hindu calendar historically used in Kutch. It is a solar calendar, using twelve to thirteen lunar months each solar sidereal year. (The year count of the Vikram Samvat calendar is usually 57 years ahead of the Gregorian calendar, except during January to March, when it is ahead by 56 years.) On the obverse side on the 5 kori coins, we have two different dates, one with the Vikram Samva year 1992 and the other with the Vikram Samva year 1993.

This gives us collectors four different coins to study – one for George V, two for Edward VIII, and one for George VI.

The Four Different Kutch 1936 5 Kori Coins			
Ruler	VS Date	1936 Dates	Number of Days
George V	1992	January 1 – January 20	20
Edward VIII	1992	January 21 – March 9	47
Edward VIII	1993	March 10 – December 11	279
George VI	1993	December 12 – December 31	20

One might ask, what are the mintages of these coins? Unfortunately, the Bhuj mint did not keep records. We do know from experience that the mintage of 1936 5 Kori with George V and George VI names are very low.

What does NGC have to say about the cost of these coins? In MS 60, the George V and George VI coins list for \$35 in a MS 60 grade. The Edward VIII coins, list for \$40 in a MS 60 grade. I'm sure this is because of the demand for Edward's coins. Searching will reveal that the easiest one to find is the 5 KORI, EDWARD VIII, 1936 / VS 1993 coin.

When collecting Kutch coins, both dates should be given. Here in the U.S. you might see a coin described as 5 KORI, GEORGE V, 1936 / VS 1992. In India, you will find it as 5 KORI, KHENGARJI / GEORGE V, 1992 VS / 1936 AD. Either way both dates should always be given along with the Monarch's name.

It is an interesting note that Kutch and some other princely states on the adjacent Kathiawar Peninsula, such as Junagadh, were using a monetary system distinct from the rest of India. While in the bulk of India, the people used rupees, annas, pai'sas and pies, in Kutch they had Koris, dhinglos, dokdas, and trambiyos. I bet you didn't know that! Either way, email your newsletter editor and I will enter you into a contest. One lucky winner will win a nice numismatic prize.

Let's take a look at these coins. Note the orientation of these pictures. On flea-bay, the images sometimes are rotated 90 degrees or even turned upside down. I have also seen many coins improperly identified. Sometimes the dates are wrong and even the ruling monarch is misidentified.



A Kutch 5 Kori coin

Let's identify this coin. We will start with the obverse side of the coin.

At the top of the inner circle, are the three symbols of Kutch, the Trident Trishula, Lunar Crescent, and the Katar Dagger. All silver milled coins from Kutch will have these.

Western Arabic	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Urdu	•	۱	۲	۳	۴	۵	۶	۷	۸	۹	۱۰
Devanagari Written	०	१	२	३	४	५	६	७	८	९	१०
Devanagari Coin											

Two different languages – two different calendars – two different number systems.



The Trishula is a divine Hindu symbol and has a number of interpretations in Hindu belief.

The crescent is a symbol of the Lunar dynasty, which is a legendary house of a warrior ruling caste mentioned in ancient Indian texts.

The Katar Dagger is unique to the Indian subcontinent and is the most famous and characteristic of Indian daggers.



The katar is a unique form of Indian dagger, in which the grip is perpendicular to the blade.

Next, let's take a look at the lettering on this coin. On the outside of the circle we read:

महाराजा धिराज मिरजां महाराउ श्री खेंगारजी सवाई बहादुर

In English this translates to:

Maharaja Dhiraj Mirza Maharao Shri Khengarji Sawai Bahadur

Let's take a closer look at this legend:

Word	Meaning
Maharaja	a title for "great ruler" or "great king"
Dhiraj	refers to qualities such as patience, wisdom, courage, and determination
Mirza	a Persian royal and noble title
Maharao	a variation on the Hindu royal title Maharaja, also meaning "great king"
Shri	a term used in Indian subcontinent as a polite form of address. It is equivalent to the English "Mr."
Khengarji	his name
Sawai	a title of honor given to him by the British in 1885
Bahadur	another title given to him by the British meaning hero

All our 1936 coins 5 kori coins will have this legend.

Next are three lines found in the center of the coin:

Text	Devanagari	English
कोरी पांच	Kori Paanch	Five Kori
कच्छ भुज	Kutch Bhuj	Bhuj, Kutch
१९९२	1992	VS 1992

For our four types, we have these two VS dates:



The VS 1992 date.



The VS 1993 date.

Urdu uses a Persian alphabet, which is a modified Arabic one. The script used is Nastaliq, which is a different style of calligraphy used for writing Persian.

Now, let's turn our attention to the reverse. Here the script is in written in Urdu using a Persian script. We read the text right to left.

Text	Urdu	English
جارج ۵	George V	George V
قیصر ہند	Kaisar Hind	Emperor of India
ب	Zarb	Minted (in)
بھج ۱۹۳۶	Bhuj 1936	Bhuj 1936

Kutch also issued a 1 and a 2 ½ Kori coins with Edward VIII name on them. However, the 5 kori coin is the only issue bearing the name of all three kings.



Kutch Edward VIII 1936 / VS 1992 1 Kori

Note that the King's regal number is in the first glyph on the first line. A very easy way to identify the sovereign.



George V



Edward VIII



George VI

Next, we will look at the date. Here we should see 1936 on the left-hand side of the Persian script.



The text reads "Minted (in) Bhuj 1936."



King George V 1936 / VS 1992



King George VI 1936 / VS 1993



Kutch 5 Kori Edward VIII 1936 / VS 1992



*The Edge Lettering is in English and Nagari: * KUTCH * कच्छ * BHUJ ** भुज ***



Kutch 5 Kori Edward VIII 1936 / VS 1993



Kutch 5 Kori Edward VIII 1936 / VS 1993

Other Places with Coins Bearing the name of Edward VIII

British Territories

1. British West Africa
2. East Africa
3. Fiji
4. New Guinea



India Princely States

1. Jaipur
2. Jodhpur



Buyer Beware

By Tony Swicer

Over the years I have heard stories of collectors who have purchased coins from dealers and then, for whatever reason, they want to return them. In most cases the dealer will not take back the coins. Is this right or wrong, or beyond that, what is the law? Well, there is no law. If you buy a coin today and bring it back within a few days, most dealers will take it back. Many will say, "You bought it, you own it". Most advertisers and the ANA suggest a two week return policy, providing you have not removed the coin from its original package or have not changed the surface of the coin. Remember that coin dealers are not Wal-Mart or Home Depot where they take back almost anything. Ask the dealer if he has a return policy. If not, you had better know what you are buying.

When you go to a coin show and agree on a coin, agree on the grade, and agree on a price, and purchase the coin, you have entered into a legal contract. Whatever happens after that in regard to the coin's grade or price is totally irrelevant. Ten dealers can tell you that you paid too much. You can send the coin to a grading service, and it comes back a lower grade or it does not grade for whatever reason. All this is totally irrelevant. You bought it, you own it. The only exception to this is if the coin is counterfeit. Then you can get your money back. Always get a receipt.

There are many dealers out there that sell properly graded coins, and there are many dealers that don't sell properly graded coins. The bottom line is that you either learn to grade coins or buy them already certified. As far as the price of the coin is concerned, if you do not know what the coin is worth, **DON'T BUY IT**. You cannot assume that the dealer is selling at a fair price, he may not be. You must know what the grade of the coin is and what it is worth or **DON'T BUY IT**.

The ANA Grading Guide is helpful in grading coins and joining your local coin club, going to coin shows, and studying lots of coins, all help hone your grading skills. Sending coins to a grading service and studying the resulting grades will help your skills. The best pricing guide is the Coin Dealer Newsletter (CDN) that all coin dealers use. If your cost of purchasing a coin is near these prices, then you are generally buying at a fair price. You can ask for old copies of the CDN from your local dealer or you can subscribe to the newsletter.

In conclusion, buying coins and building a nice collection is fun and can be rewarding but you must know what you are doing. You must know the grade of the coin that you are buying, and you must know if it is priced fairly. If you don't know these two things, **DON'T BUY THE COIN**. Most of the time you cannot return a coin. There is no law that says dealers must take back coins, it is up to the individual dealer.

The Money Changer and His Wife



The Money Changer and His Wife is a 1514 oil-on-panel painting by the Flemish Renaissance artist Quentin Matsys.

In his left hand *The Moneychanger* delicately holds a set of scales (*trebuchet*) and carefully weighs a coin, while his wife is distracted. On the desk are rings and a variety of silver and gold coins (*schillings*, *reales*, *écu au soleil* and *excelentes*)

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 and we will publish the names of winners in our next newsletter.



"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

Last month Monica Couch, Mike Campbell, Wayne Koger, and Stanley Benedict were able to identify the mystery coin, a 1953 2 Kroner coin from Denmark.



A 1953 2 Kroner coin from Denmark.

Icelandic
Coins
depict
marine
life.



The Minute Man

By Aaron Wales

3/18/24

We welcomed visitors to the meeting:

- Bentley and Bryan Gurlock. Bentley is a young numismatist. They enjoy collecting state quarters. They have been collecting for about one year. Their grand-father, John, is a dealer in Georgia.
- John Cressone visited and brought his daughter Chloe. They are extremely interested in wheat pennies.
- Paul Icolano attended as a friend of Don Adams.
- Garey Beal joined the club this month.

Upcoming Coin Shows:

- April 19-21, 2024 in Dalton, GA: <https://www.gamoney.org/coin-show/>
- June 1 -2, 2024

Saturday 10 am - 5 pm, Sunday 10 am - 3 pm

- Huntspex: Stamp, Postcard, Coin Show
 - <http://www.sefsc.org/huntspex.html>
 - There are currently 8 dealers signed up right now. Steve Young is one of the dealers. There is room/space for 2-3 more dealers.
 - Location: Jaycee's Building
 - There will be a table for the MCCC. There will be a sign-up for volunteers to man the table.

Newsletter:

- Please submit articles to Harold Fears.
 - One can view current and past newsletters on our club website at: <http://mccc.anaclubs.org>

Calendar:

- There is a slot for a presentation left which is 19-August.
- There are two slots for refreshments: 20 May, and 16 September.
- Please sign up if able.

2024 Medal:

- Silver Medal: There are 2 silver medals with flaws. One was sent back from the purchaser.
- Copper Medal: There are 4 remaining.
- The next auction will include 4 errors (June 2024).
- Note, one of the copper medals sold on eBay for \$50 and another for ~\$37.
- There is even an appetite for an individual that collects Coin Club medals. Apparently, Alabama coin club medals are rare.

Show and Tell was held amongst the group.

- Mike Campbell brought a light ring for photography.
- Harold Fears brought several coins from India to include rupees, pice, and anna.
 - These are primarily Kutch coins which is a province which used to be a princely state.
 - On the coins from Kutch, there were four different languages and they had two calendar systems.
 - Also, in 1936 there were 3 British kings.
- David Hollander brought an 1867 Certificate of Receipt 20 denomination signed by the Governor for the State of Alabama
 - In 1865, the Civil War had ended. A quarter of the people were on the verge of starvation. Alabama was not in the Union as they did not agree to the 13th amendment. There was a provisional governor appointed by the President. Patton was the governor and was a WHIG. There was no representation for Alabama in Congress at that time.
 - Alabama had no tax money and needed to pay debts. Therefore, certificates were issued via Act 615. They were from the National Bank Note Company in typically 5, 10, and 20 denominations. They were redeemed and are very rare.
 - For the 5 denominations, there are two known. For the 10 denomination there is one known. For the 20 denominations, there is one known (which is owned by David Hollander).

- Kurt Kelley is collecting a 1910 proof set (himself) in honor of his father's birth year. He recently acquired a cent and a half dollar.
 - Note, for the half dollar there were only 551 made.
 - They did make gold proofs at that time, but this collection is not gold.
 - It's important to note the PCGS and NGC differences in ranking sets. Be mindful that they may differ.
- Steve Young brought a coin from Europe from 1678 Nurnberg. At that time, most were using roller dyes which equated to curved coins. This was an advancement from the tree trunk and sledgehammer methodology in which individuals held pliers and too many got hit.
 - PCGS MS66 with a 10/0 which means 1 in that grade and none higher.
 - It has an approximate value of ~\$285.
- Randy Patton brought in tokens of unique shapes.
 - He brought in a Chic's café token from Cincinnati, OH in the form of a chicken.
 - It stated "Good for 5 cents in Trade"
 - Cincinnati was a hot bed for figural tokens.
 - He also brought in a book of horse head tokens with some from Michigan. These were either aluminum or brass. These were from the 1910-20 timeframe. Typical use would be a "buy one get a token for free" which one could use later. These would be good at cafes and bars.
 - He generally finds these at coin shows with a \$50-\$75 cost.
 - Note, all are struck and not cast.
- Wayne Koger brought in an album from his collection related to letters "I's to M's." This is a foreign coin portfolio. He was introduced to foreign coins at his first coin show. He was struck by the beauty and diversity of foreign coins. Each has its own story. He has attempted to collect from every country in the world, but that involves complexity due to nations that are no longer in existence, etc. He has since moved away from one per country. He has utilized Numista as a guide.
 - He does have some US coins that were from great-great grandparents which gave silver dollars for birthdays and Christmas gifts.
- Ann Fulmer told a story from 1951 in which she went to the Richard's theatre in Fayette, AL. She was about 7 years old at that time. She recovered a silver bracelet near the entrance to the theatre. No one at the theatre

said anyone reported a missing bracelet. At that time there was a radio-talk show that individuals could call in. Her mother called in to announce the found bracelet. An 80–90-year woman came to her home to retrieve the bracelet. It was her mother's and had a deep sentimental value. The woman gave her a reward of 3 silver dollars from 1863.

- Doug Glandon brought in an 1858 Type Set.

Reminder:

- The newsletter has the ANA coin club trivia. Please send in answers (you do not have to send in all 16) to myself. We will compile the answers and submit for the club. Try to pick one that interests you and research. Please send by the end of the month so that we can compile and attempt to verify answers. To date, responses have only been received from Harold Fears.
- The ANA is offering a discount on ANA membership preparation for Nation Coin Club Week. Please take advantage if you are not already a member.

Door Prizes:

- 3rd prize: Hong Kong \$50 Note: John Cressone
- 2nd prize: Quarter Eagle: Garey Beal
- 1st prize: American Eagle: Bryan Gurloch

Thanks to all who brought show and tell items. The meeting was a great success.

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 closure.

ANA Coin Club Trivia for National Coin Week

Aaron Wales

Below are the answers submitted for the ANA National Coin Week Club Trivia Challenge. The answer is underlined and italics. A special thank you to Harold Fears as the only other member that submitted answers. We have a token for National Coin Week to give you at the next meeting. Thank you for your participation. We'll look for new and exciting ways to get involvement next year.

- 1) Who was the first real-life female to be depicted on United States Federal circulating money? *Martha Washington*
 - 2) What denomination and "experimental" metal was famously used for a U.S. pattern coin that was distributed to members of the United States Congress in 1974? *1974 Aluminum cast*
 - 3) Which organization was the first to have customers pay to have their coins authenticated and graded? What was the first name that it was referred to (i.e. working name)? *The American Numismatic Association Certification Service (ANACS)*
 - 4) What organization was the first to encapsulate and grade coins? *ANACS*
 - 5) Who originated the idea of National Coin Week? Who was the ANA President at the time? *ANA Governor: Julius Guttag; President: Moritz Wormser*
 - 6) During the first year of National Coin Week, a semi-key coin from a popularly collected series was struck at a United States Mint facility. Name the year, mint, and denomination of this coin. *1924 San Francisco cent*
 - 7) During the first year of "National Coin Week," in order to have a complete set of U.S. minted coins from all of the U.S. Mint facilities, how many coins would be required? *For the year 1924:*
 - a. *3 pennies*
 - b. *3 nickels*
 - c. *3 dimes*
 - d. *3 quarters*
 - e. *0 half dollars*
 - f. *2 silver dollars*
 - g. *3 \$20 gold -- no other gold coins*
 - h. *1 Huguenot Commemorative*
 - i. *Total: 18*
 - 8) How many coins are required to have a complete set of each U.S. minted coins at all of the U.S. Mint facilities during the first year of "National Coin Week"? *For the year 1924:*
 - a. *3 pennies*
 - b. *3 nickels*
-

- c. 3 dimes
 - d. 3 quarters
 - e. 0 half dollars
 - f. 2 silver dollars
 - g. 3 \$20 gold -- no other gold coins
 - h. 1 Hugenot Commemorative
 - i. Total: 18
- 9) How many countries had coins struck at a U.S. Mint facility during the first year of “National Coin Week”? What were the countries? 5: Colombia, Nicaragua, Peru, Poland, Venezuela
- 10) What well-known die variety and denomination of U.S. coin was accidentally struck and then knowingly released by the U.S. Mint? (Hint: It was responsible for kicking off a nationwide coin hunt). This event led to the popular collecting of error and die variety coins among general collectors. 1943 bronze cent
- 11) The organization “The Combined Organization of Numismatic Error Collectors of America” (CONECA) has led research into the origins of many fantastic error coins. What organizations merged to become CONECA? When did this merger occur? CONE: Collectors of Numismatic Errors and NECA, Numismatic Error Collectors of America; Early in 1983 CONE and NECA merged
- 12) Which U.S. coin design had/has the longest continuous run without any artistic design changes? This excluded changes in the location of mint marks since they are not part of an artist’s design. The Lincoln Cent is approaching its 100th year of issue, making it by far the longest running United States coin design.
- 13) George Heath first proposed a periodical other than The Numismatist be the “official organ” of the American Numismatic Association. What was the name of this journal and who was the publisher? The American Numismatist; Publisher: American Numismatic Association
- 14) Members of the ANA during its first years of existence were a musical bunch – activities at conventions included musical performances. At the 1929 ANA convention, two numismatically related songs were sung at one evening’s events. What were the titles of the songs? “Coin Days” and “Coin Bugs”
- 15) The 1804 dollar, considered the “King of American Coins,” is so well known that by the end of the 20th century, it was used as a plot device in American television. What are the titles of the episodes of Murder, She Wrote, starring Angele Lansbury, that featured this coin? Always a Thief (1990) and Nailed (1995)
- 16) Since the 20th century, the United States government has been concerned with the legality of private ownership of unofficial released and pattern coins. What was the date and denomination of the coin that sold in 2002 for nearly \$8 million, but only after major legal battles? The 1993 Double Eagle

Door Prizes



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

First Prize:	Bryan Gurloch:	Silver Eagle
Second Prize:	Gary Bill:	Silver Quarter Eagle
Third Prize:	John Cressone:	Hong Kong \$50 Banknote

QUIZ TIME

Are you aware that April 18 has been designated as Pet Owners Independence Day? The theory behind this holiday is that for one day during the year, you would be allowed to change places with your pets. If you own a dog or a cat, you can stretch out on the floor of your house napping and warming your bones in the sun while your pet replaces you at work. If you have an aquarium and you can't swim, this could be difficult.



As a numismatist, you know that animals appear on paper money and coins. Based on the hints below, your job is to locate the animal design that appears on a particular piece of money.

1. This toothy animal first appeared on a five cent coin in 1937.

Animal: _____

Coin: _____

2. James Berry executed the design of a reptile on this five cent coin from the land of Kiwis.

Animal: _____

Coin: _____

3. A mythical type of lion appears on this square shaped coin from 1949.

Animal: _____

Coin: _____

4. The 1984 coin from this archipelago located south of India features a slow-moving sea creature on the reverse.

Animal: _____

Coin: _____

5. This coin from the "Green Mountain State" features an extinct animal on the reverse.

Animal: _____

Coin: _____

6. This 25 kuna bi-metallic coin minted in 2002 features an animal from which this county's monetary unit was named.

Animal: _____

Coin: _____

7. Two "big and bad" animals appear on the back of this 500 talonu note printed in 1993.

Animal: _____

Note: _____

8. A Chevrolet car was named after this animal that appears on a 1978 500 francs note from an African country.

Animal: _____

Note: _____

9. Many people have mistakenly thought the design on the reverse of this commemorative portrays a shark with its mouth open.

Animal: _____

Coin: _____

10. The reverse of this United States coin has a very busy design that includes Neptune, a mermaid and this large mammal.

Animal: _____

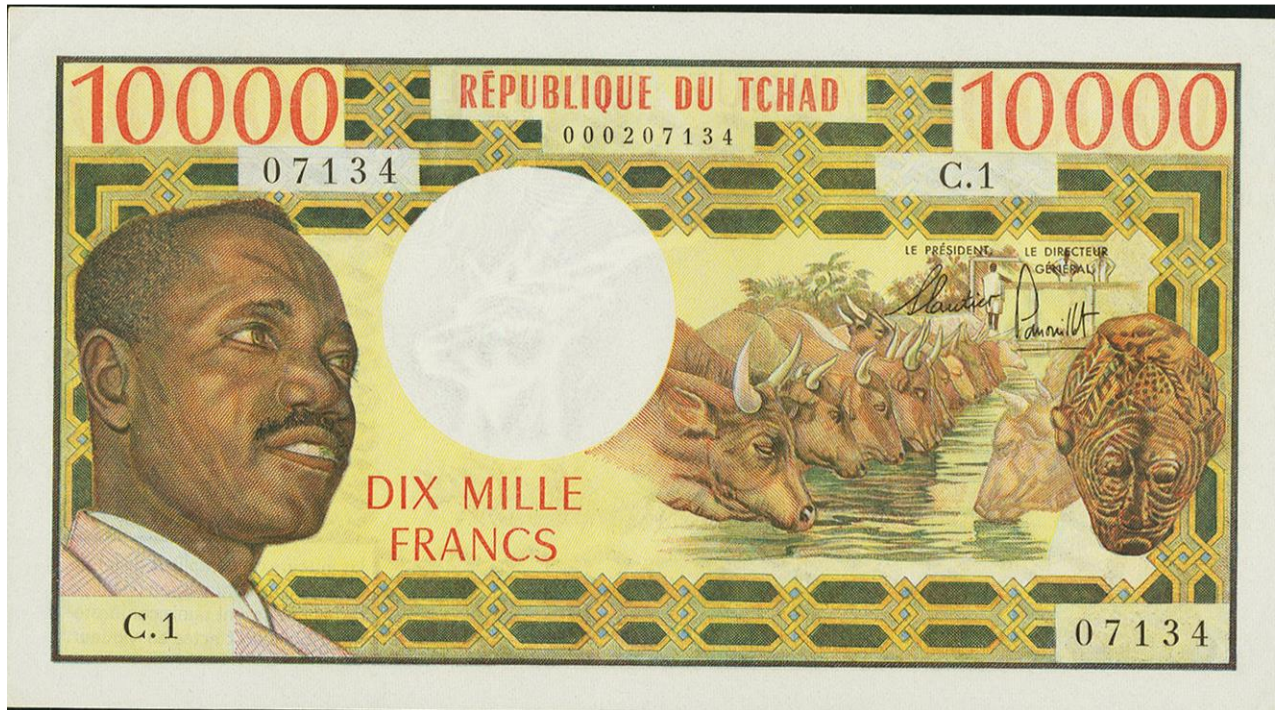
Coin: _____

Answers to last month's Quiz Time:

1. This paper currency features the assassinated President of a land-locked country in central Africa that at one time was the largest country of French Equatorial Africa.

Subject: Francois Tombalbaye

Note: Chad 10,000 francs 1971



2. This coin features the bust of a conquistador who was beheaded in Panama. The coin is known by many numismatists as the “Panama Pill.”

Subject: Balboa

Coin: Panama 2½ centesimos 1904

KM# 1



3. A commemorative gold coin that features a man who was shot at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo by Leon Czolgosz.

Subject: William McKinley

Coin: United States Louisiana Purchase Exposition dollar 1903

4. This 3 peso coin made of copper-nickel portrays a leader on the obverse that was executed while trying to start a revolution in Bolivia.

Subject: Che Guevara

Coin: Cuba 3 pesos 1990 KM# 346



5. The monarch on this crown died of natural causes. His reign lasted only 9 years after being the heir-apparent for 59 years.

Subject: Edward VII

Coin: Great Britain crown 1902 KM# 803

6. This coin, minted in 1913, has the image of Michael Feodorovich as well as this ruler who, along with his family, was killed in 1918.

Subject: Nicholas II

Coin: Russia ruble 1913 KM Y#70



7. A ten escudos piece, first minted in 1977, features this President of the Mozambican Liberation Front who was assassinated in Tanzania.

Subject: Eduardo Mondlane

Coin: Cape Verde 10 escudos 1977 KM# 19

8. It has always been rumored that the wife of the subject of this dollar coin had something to do with his demise in San Francisco because she did not allow an autopsy.

Subject: Warren Harding

Coin: United States Presidential dollar 2014



9. This 10 peso coin minted in 1960 features the conjoined busts of Francisco Madero and this “father of Mexican independence.”

Subject: Miguel Hidalgo

Coin: Mexico 10 pesos 1960 KM# 476



Members' Notices

Rules for users of the member notice page: All notices are free and should be directed to the [newsletter editor](#) of the Madison County Coin Club newsletter. 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

Buying Tokens

Contact me if you want to buy or sell tokens, medals, pinback buttons, encased coins, etc.

Randy Partin
P.O. Box 276
Scottsboro, AL 35768
AUBRPARTIN@GMAIL.COM



Antique British Coin Scale for Sale

Circa - 1890's to 1920's. Used by Banks and Retail Businesses to weight and count pre-decimal British silver coins.

Great working condition with original patina. Brass scale pan, cast iron frame, and wooden base. Very heavy, so local pickup is best.

13" tall – 9" wide

A wonderful gift for a British coin collector.

\$65

Please contact Todd Hutto at:
vanhut32@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 .

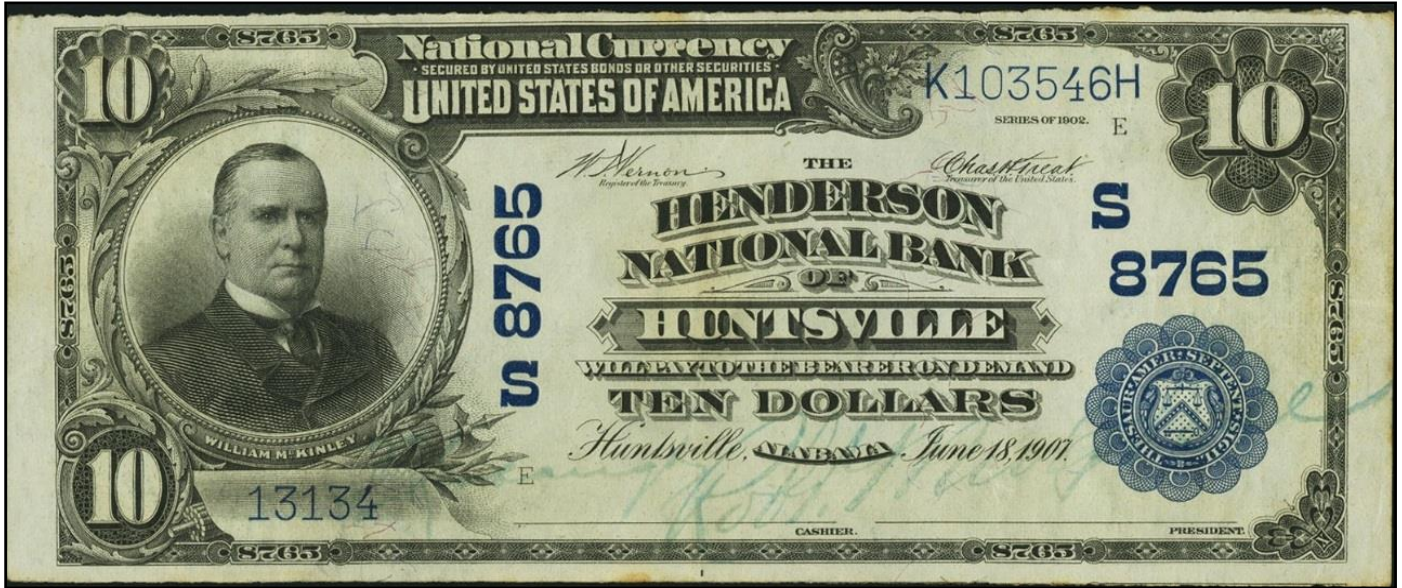
Looking for Alaskan Medals and Tokens



Contact: Richard @ ANALMRJ@gmail.com .

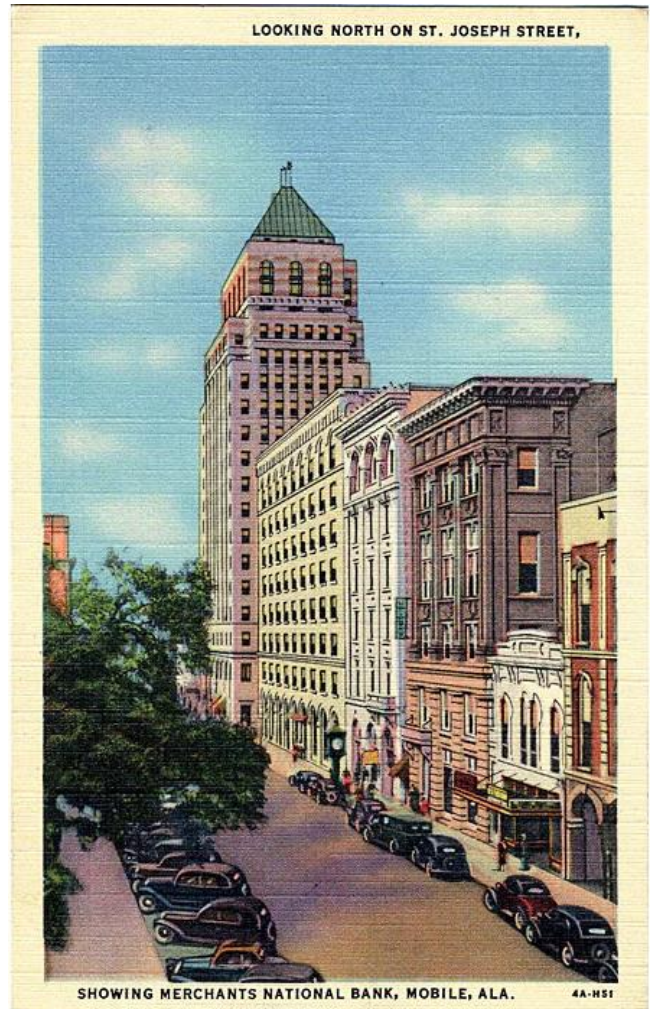


**Wanted Alabama Large Size National Banknotes and better
Alabama Obsolete Banknotes**



Also, postcards portraying Alabama Banks.

Call David at 256-468-5891.



Interested in Alabama Innovation \$1 Coins?



If you are interested in acquiring the 2024 Alabama Innovation \$1 coin, please contact me. I am looking forward to *sharing* the cost of the postage along with the savings of having a *bulk* order. I will be acquiring uncirculated examples along with the proof coins. When they become available, the US mint will be selling a roll of 25 coins for \$34.50 plus postage. If you just want one coin or more, let's talk.

Please contact Harold at: hkfears@gmail.com.

**Looking for the 2020 P and D
George H.W. Bush Presidential Dollar**



I'm looking for one each, P & D, George H.W. Bush dollar coins. Please contact Mike at: mikathy48@gmail.com .



**Just a few MCCC
Copper Medals are left.**

If you are interested in
purchasing a club medal for
\$15, contact Mike at:
[madisoncountycoinclub2020@
gmail.com](mailto:madisoncountycoinclub2020@gmail.com) .



2024 Madison County Coin Club Program Refreshments and Programs Schedule

Meeting Date	Refreshments	Program
Jan 22	Pat Douglas and Gerry Steele	Harold Fears <i>Coins of German East Africa</i>
February 19	Dale Holcomb	Kurt Kelley <i>Civil War Medals and Coinage</i>
March 18	Wayne Koger	Everyone <i>Show and Tell</i>
April 15	Harold Fears	Todd Hutto <i>The King with No Coins</i>
May 20		Chad Thrasher <i>TBD</i>
June 17	4th of July Potluck, Bourse Night, and Auction	
July 15	Aaron Wales	Aaron Wales <i>TBD</i>
August 19	Ann Fulmer	Everyone <i>Show and Tell</i>
September 16	Doug Glandon	David Hollander <i>Alabama Banknotes</i>
October 21		Steve Young <i>TBD</i>
November 18	Thanksgiving Potluck, Bourse Night, and Auction Election of Officers	
December- NO MEETING		

2024 Coin Shows Within Driving Distance From Huntsville

Date(s)	Area	Show & Location	Contact Info	Richard's Rating
April 19-21	Dalton, GA	60th 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	Steven Nix 706-267-9602 fleetwoodcoins@hotmail.com www.gamoney.org	+++
June 1-2	Huntsville, AL	HUNTSPEX 2024 Stamp, Postcard & Coin Show Jaycee Community Building 2180 Airport Road, SW Huntsville, AL 35802 Sat 10 am – 5 pm Sun 10 am – 3 pm	Mike O'Reilly 256-527-4601 mcoreilly@yahoo.com http://www.sefsc.org/huntspex.html	+
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	++
July 30-Aug 3	Dalton, GA	65th Blue Ridge 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	Ronda Leeper 678-232-6982 ronda@leeper.biz www.brna.org	+++

Nov 8-10	Chattanooga, TN	Tennessee State Numismatic Society Camp Jordan Arena I-75, Exit 1 Chattanooga, TN Fri & Sat 10 am – 6 pm Sun 10 am – 3 pm	Bob Hurst 321-427-6474 forum@comcast.net www.tsns.org	++
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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- +++

Mark Your Calendar!
Stamp, Postcard & Coin Show
HUNTSPEX 2024
June 1-2, 2024
Jaycee Community Building
John Hunt Park
2180 Airport Road
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

More information can be found at: <http://www.sefsc.org/huntspex.html>

Newsletter Articles

We always encourage and welcome new articles for *our* Newsletter. They can be on any numismatic topic. Articles can be of a research nature, or a simple "show and tell". They can be fun, or they can be serious. It's up to you! Here's a few ideas:

- *Finds at recent coin shows.*
- *Error and die varieties.*
- *A numismatic game, riddle, brain teaser, crossword, sudoku, etc.*
- *Research notes.*
- *New issues from around the world.*
- *A series on a particular issue.*
- *An interesting experienced on eBay.*
- *Numismatic definitions.*

Ideally, articles should be at least 1/2 page in length, and images are always helpful.

If you are interested in submitting an article, you can email me. You can also discuss ideas for regular feature columns with our board members.

Contact the [newsletter editor](#) with your idea.

Money Talks Radio Show Archive

In 1992, "Money Talks," a radio program on the history and lore of money, began broadcasting across the country on several local radio stations. The "Money Talks" broadcasts were typically 2-4 minutes long and consisted of coin stories that were recorded to educate and encourage interest in the hobby of numismatics. You could hear all these stories at <https://www.money.org/money-talks-radio-archive/> .

Madison County Coin Club

For over twenty years, the Madison County Coin Club has served the north Alabama community by bringing numismatists together for the love of coin collecting. The Club strives to impart knowledge to its members through presentations and personal experiences. Through the sharing of knowledge and experiences, it enhances and enriches coin collecting for the numismatic community. Speaking of our members, we have a vast group of collectors who collect all types of United States coins, as well as foreign coins. Many of our members collect coins from a certain era (19th century, for example), while others collect strictly modern coins. We also have members who collect only a certain type of coin (Seated Coins, Morgan Dollars, and Commemoratives, to name a few). Some members focus solely on foreign coins (for instance English, German, and Chinese) which can span many centuries. This diversification makes our club dynamic, providing something for every type of collector.



Members of the club enjoy several benefits:

- Monthly lectures, covering a range of numismatic topics.
- Access to the club's extensive numismatic library.
- Monthly notices via email of club events.
- Able to purchase club medals.

We are keen to encourage anybody with an interest in numismatics to join the club. We provide a warm and friendly welcome and are very keen to encourage those new to the study, collecting of coins, tokens, or banknotes.

The club is a member of the American Numismatic Association (Member #C-195870 Region 20, AL & GA), Alabama Numismatic Society (ANS), Georgia Numismatic Association (GNA), and the Florida United Numismatists (FUN).



The Club's Mailing Address:

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

Club Officers

President: [Wayne Koger](#)

Secretary: [Aaron Wales](#)

Board Member: [Kurt Springfield](#)

Newsletter Contact: [H.K. Fears](#)

Vice President:

Treasurer: [Mike Campbell](#)

Librarian: [Ann Fulmer](#)

Dues and Membership Info: [Mike Campbell](#)

Club Library

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 if no other member has submitted a hold on the item/items. To return your items simply bring them to one of our meetings.

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