

Madison County Coin Club

of Huntsville, Alabama



Volume 25, Issue 7

July 2025

**Our next meeting
will be at the
South Huntsville Public Library
7901-L Bailey Cove Rd SE
Huntsville, AL 35802
On July 14, 2025
from 6:00 – 7:30
Doors Open at 5:30**

**Aaron Wales
Presents
*Elect to Collect:
A History of Coin Collecting***

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A 2025 Silver Eagle

By Michael S. Turrini

The package was simple, mailed via the United States Postal Service (USPS), and it arrived, as was informed, with one 2025 Silver Eagle.

A 2025 Silver Eagle. Just another modern bullion coin, one among hundreds of thousands.

But this Silver Eagle was unique. It is the final, last, and concluding remnant of the Lorian Numismatic Association (LNA) of Ohio. It is all that is left, and it was a departing gesture to the few remaining members.

Tracing a proud history back into the 1960s, with its famous corn roasts and wooden money issues, along with gathering monthly and at social events to revel in our 'world of money', the LNA came to an end.

There were no services, no 'celebration of life', or even a simple memorial, plus certainly no grave. LNA was dead, cold dead, and gone, 'gone with the wind,' to paraphrase a famous movie.

Across our grand nation plus into our northern neighbors in Canada, there are local coin clubs, some packed and excited with attendance and activities, some just getting by, and some, well, that struggle.

The reader might retort, "Why would a native Californian even bother with a small local coin club in the Buckeye State that he never attended?" Because I was a member, at a distance of thousands of miles, for over thirty years and over the three decades, I faithfully renewed plus carried correspondence with some who have joined the 'big coin club in the sky'. Once, I won the \$5.00 Door Prize, which was kindly mailed to me.

In my five-plus decades toiling for our 'world of money,' I have witnessed the death of local coin clubs, which is the best descriptive noun, and buried three local coin clubs.

These local coin clubs-- remote and far from the bright lights and glitter of national and mega-regional organizations with suit and tie elites-- are the 'grassroots' and 'the trenches' of our 'world of money'

These local coin clubs, collectively, have more members than the national and mega-regional organizations.

These local coin clubs offer the opening venture and opportunity for new hobbyists in a community center back room, church hall, veterans' building, or public library, all remote and far from the bright lights and glitter of the luminaries that command our 'world of money.' There, with those infamous metal folding chairs, a poorly made pot of coffee, and simple snacks from COSTCO or nearby Safeway, members-- just simple everyday guys and gals-- come together and share 'the world of money' and welcome others who wander through the door.

I have joined local coin clubs around California, across our grand nation, and even in our northern neighbor Canada because I believe in local coin clubs. It was over fifty years ago that I wandered through that proverbial door. My first mentors and most of my best friends are from those local coin clubs, yes, even in

New Hampshire, Alabama, Florida, Ontario, and elsewhere.

I am not dismissing the elites and luminaries of the distinguished national organization and the superior mega-regional organizations; rather, I am submitting to them this as a eulogy for a once simple local con club in The Buckeye State, now gone.

All that was left was a 2025 Silver Eagle. Not much of a testimonial or remembrance for those before who served and sustained over the decades the Lorain Numismatic Association.

For me, it shall endure in my vast accumulations as my most treasured Silver Eagle.



Some Scenes from our last Meeting



Preparing for the auction

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



Conner contemplates a bid

Inclement Weather Notice



If the Huntsville City Schools are closed due to inclement weather, then the Huntsville Senior Center is closed. There will be no club meeting if the Huntsville Senior Center is closed. Local TV and radio stations will give notice of any Huntsville school closure.

Kangaroo Jack

By Aaron Wales

At this month's MCCC auction, one of the auction items I brought home was an Australian coin. On the reverse is a kangaroo mid-air with the year 2017 and the silver content (1 oz 9999 fine silver). The kangaroo is imposed on textured sunrays. On the obverse is Elizabeth II's image and Australia 1 Dollar. It was minted in the Perth mint and the size is 40mm.



Did you know:

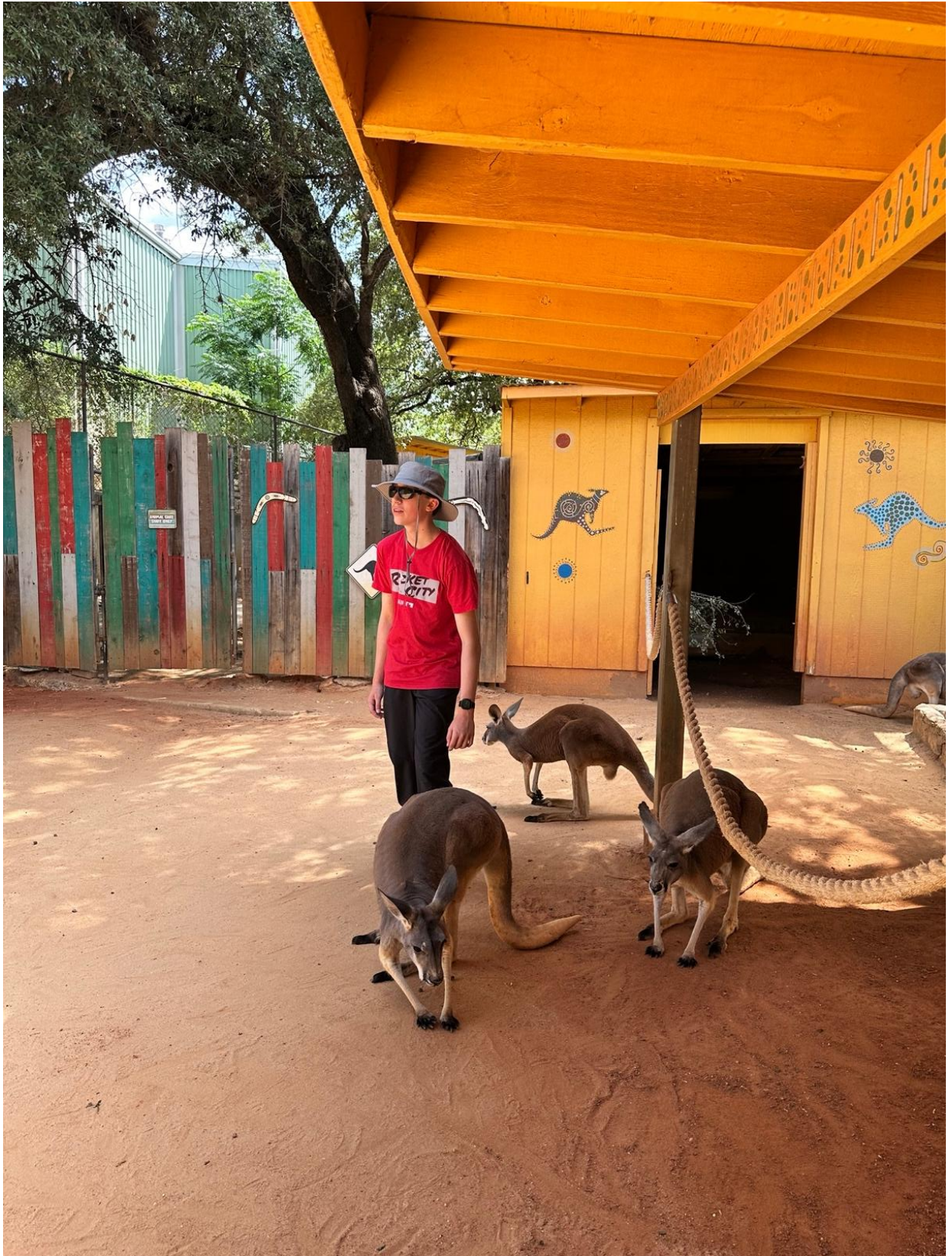
- Kangaroos belong to the animal family Macropus, literally "big foot." Thanks to their large feet, kangaroos can leap some 30 feet (9 meters) in a single bound, and travel more than 30 miles (48 kilometers) per hour.
- Kangaroos use their strong tails for balance while jumping.
- They are the tallest of all marsupials, standing over 6 feet tall.
- They live in small groups called troops or herds ("mobs" by Australians), typically made up of 50 or more animals.
- If threatened, kangaroos pound the ground with their strong feet in warning.
- Fighting kangaroos kick opponents and sometimes bite.
- Female kangaroos sport a pouch on their belly, made by a fold in the skin, to cradle baby kangaroos called joeys. Newborn joeys are just one inch long (2.5 centimeters) at birth, or about the size of a grape. After birth, joeys travel, unassisted, through their mom's thick fur to the comfort and safety of the pouch. At around 4 months, the joey emerges from the pouch for short trips and to graze on grass and small shrubs. At 10 months, the joey is mature enough to leave the pouch for good.

I recently visited a zoo in which there was a special opportunity to interact with kangaroos. We were instructed to only pet their backs. In the first image, you can see that they had recently been given a meal of what looked like lettuce. There was a designated roped off area that was considered off-limits so that the kangaroos could travel there and feel safe if needed. It was amazing to be up close with these animals.

I'm thankful for having this coin in my collection. It will help me remember my trip to the zoo and all the special memories we had there.

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





Washington D.C.

By Aaron Wales

From April 21-25, I visited Washington D.C. on a fieldtrip with my school. On Monday, we flew in and went right to The Air and Space Museum, where we saw a Blackbird, the Enola Gay, and the Discovery space shuttle. After that, we visited Mount Vernon, where we saw what George Washington's house and plantation were like. We ended the day with the Jefferson, FDR, and MLK Memorials. On Tuesday, we visited the Library of Congress and the Capital Building where we were able to see the rotunda and where the House of Representatives meet. After that, we went to the Holocaust Museum and ended the day with the WWII, Vietnam, Lincoln, and Korea Memorials.

On Wednesday, we were fortunate to tour the White House, where we were able to see many important state rooms. After that was Arlington Cemetery, where we got to see the changing of the guard. We ended the day with the Washington Monument and the Pentagon 9/11 Memorial. On Thursday, we started off with the Museum of the Bible and the National Archives and ended with the Smithsonian Natural History Museum.

While there, I was lucky enough to purchase a White House medal at a souvenir shop. The obverse shows a front view of the White House with the words "The United States of America" and "The White House." The reverse shows the seal of the president, which is used to represent the presidency, and the words "Seal of the President" and "Washington, D.C. ".

When we toured the White House, we started out with three rooms: the China Room, the Vermeil Room, and the library. In 1935, President FDR designated that room the official library of the White House and it consists of over 2,700 books that were selected by a committee appointed by Jacqueline Kennedy. The Vermeil Room consists of a collection of 18th to 20th century vermeil pieces that were given to the White House in 1958. This room also consists of portraits of many First Ladies. The China Room consists of pieces of China that were used by different White House families. First Lady Caroline Harrison set out to date the existing pieces of White House China in 1889 and starting in 1916, they were displayed in that room.





Vermeil Room



Library

After that, we walked upstairs and entered into the East Hall. The East Hall is the largest of the state floor rooms and hosts many gatherings and events like weddings, press conferences, and concerts. Furthermore, seven of the eight presidents who died in office have lain in repose in this room. The next three rooms we toured were the Green Room, the Red Room, and the Blue Room. All three of these rooms are known as parlor rooms which are usually used to welcome guests. The Green Room was used by Thomas Jefferson as a dining room, which included a round table, because he wanted to avoid sitting by rank. The Blue Room is known as the official reception room and was where the President and First Lady greeted visitors. Also, the chandelier is removed each year to accommodate the official White House Christmas tree. The Red Room, like the other rooms, is used for formal and informal events. It was used by Ulysses S. Grant to entertain his guests with Civil War stories and was where Rutherford B. Hayes took the oath of office.



Red Room

The last two rooms on the tour were the State Dining Room and the Entrance Hall. The State Dining room was originally used as an office by Thomas Jefferson but was made the primary dining room by James Madison. During a 1902 renovation, Teddy Roosevelt removed a grand staircase to enlarge the room and added animal heads throughout the room. Today, this room is used as a place for office meetings and houses the annual gingerbread house. The Entrance Hall was originally the main entrance to the executive mansion. Thomas Jefferson used this space to show off artifacts from the Lewis and Clark expedition and Andrew Jackson invited citizens to the entrance hall to take part in a 1,400-pound cheese gifted to him. Today, the space is mainly used for music and dancing.



State Dining Room

Overall, I really enjoyed my trip to D.C. and The White House. It was such an amazing experience, and I am so glad I was able to visit. I always take pleasure in being able to connect my trip to a coin and love to write articles about both. By writing articles, I am able to deepen my knowledge about where I visited which helps me to cherish the memory more. I had so much fun learning about the White House, and I hope you did too.

Going Down the Rabbit Hole: Some Observations on Various Russian 20 Kopeks

By H.K. Fears

Recently, I acquired a 1915 Italian 2 lira coin. I purchased it because I simply liked the design of it. Afterall, who doesn't like a nice quadriga race on a rainy Saturday afternoon. Somehow or the other, and maybe it was a discussion I had with Todd Hutto, I thought it would be nice to build a type-set of coins of the countries that participated in World War I. Just one silver from each country I thought would make a nice collection.



1915 Italian 2 Lira

The next coin I went after would be a coin from the Russian Empire. After doing a little price comparison of the Russian coins with a date of 1914, I soon realized that it would be a 20 kopeck coin. According to the NGC price sheet, a nice example could be had for under \$30.

Specifications of the 1914 Russian 20 kopeks	
Composition:	Silver
Fineness	0.5000
Weight	3.5992g
ASW	0.0579oz
Diameter	22mm

Russian Empire (1867-1914)



The obverse depicts the 1914 Coat of Arms of the Russia Empire.

The B and C are not Latin letters but Cyrillic. They are the initials of the last mint master of Imperial Russian, Victor Smirnov. He served in St. Petersburg during the period of 1913-1917.

The Last Imperial Russia Coat of Arms



Coat of arms from 1856-1916



Arms of Astrakhan, Siberia, Georgia, Finland, Kiev-Vladimir-Novgorod, Taurica, Poland and Kazan (seen clockwise).

There's a lot to see here.



The Reverse of the 20 kopek coin.

The mint mark is below the date. The 1914 issue was minted only in St. Petersburg.



The War Years (1915-1917)



The new reverse no longer depicts a mint mark.

This coin was minted from 1915-1917. After the start of the war Tsar Nicholas II renamed the city to Petrograd. He wanted to replace the German words *Sankt* and *Burg* with a Russian *Grad* and to honor Peter the Great, the city's founder. There are no mint marks on these issues.

**The Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic (RSFSR) period
(1921-1923)**



The new obverse



The State Emblem of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic consists of an image of a gold sickle and a hammer, placed cross on a cross, with handles down, on a red background in the sun and framed with ears, with the inscription: R.S.F.S.R. and WORKERS OF THE WORLD, UNITE!.



The new reverse

The red five-pointed star is a symbol of the triumph of the ideas of communism on the five continents of the globe.



Note the new spelling of KOPEEK.
The Russian orthography was made simpler
after the 1917 revolution.

The Soviet (USSR) period (1924-1931)

On December 30, 1922, the RSFSR, the Ukrainian SSR, the Byelorussian SSR and the Transcaucasian Socialist Federal Soviet Republic formed the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. New coins were minted in 1924.



The new obverse for the coins from 1924-1931



The new State Emblem along with the use of USSR now appears on the obverse



The 1924 emblem of the USSR with the familiar hammer and sickle. It is upon a globe, depicted within the rays of the Sun and framed by the heads of stalks of wheat. The ribbon is in seven sections, with the slogan “Workers of all countries, unite!” in the country’s six official languages. It is depicted on the obverse between 1924 – 1931 coins.



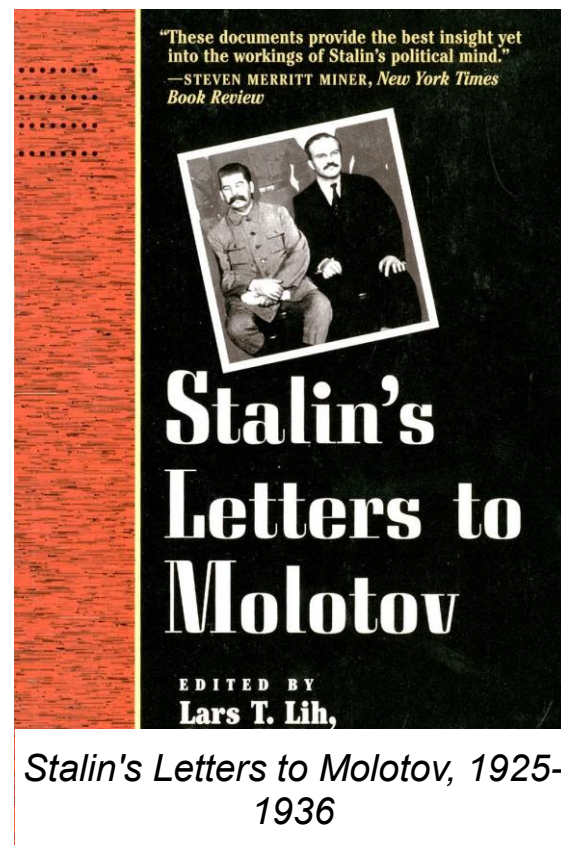
The new reverse is a much simpler design.



A much simpler design is depicted on the reverse

The Death Sentence Coins

The silver coins minted from 1923 to 1931 are among the last silver coins ever issued for general circulation by the USSR. Some coin companies now call these coin the **"death sentence"** coins. It is because of the executions ordered by **Joseph Stalin**. He targeted workers in the financial sector, who had failed to take all silver coins out of circulation. The historical documentation for these "death sentences" comes from letters written from Stalin to Vyacheslav Molotov, one of his closest supporters. Due to silver shortages and economic turmoil, Stalin had ordered the confiscation of all silver coins in order to melt them down and issue base metal replacements. However, collection efforts did not go to plan as the Russian people continued to hoard these more valuable silver coins. Because the "results of the battle against the coin shortage [were] almost nonexistent," Stalin ordered a purge of the finance ministry and central bank, and to **"definitely shoot two or three dozen wreckers** from these apparatus, **including several dozen common cashiers."**



Want to Learn More?

These are the best sites I found to learn more about these coins:

<https://www.russian-money.ru/>

<https://www.russian-money.ru/coins/sssrrublj-1921-1924/>

<https://www.raritetus.ru/stoimost-monet/money-sssr/>

<https://www.raritetus.ru/stoimost-monet/money-sssr/hodyachka/rsfsr/1-rubl-1922-pl-12773/>

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 the [newsletter editor](#) and we will publish the names of winners in our next newsletter.



Last month Aaron Wales, Stephen D'Angelo, Mike Campbell and Wayne Koger were able to identify the mystery coin, a 1913 Two Corona from Austria.

The image displays two views of a silver-colored coin. The top view shows the obverse, featuring a profile portrait of Emperor Franz Joseph I facing right. The inscription around the border reads "S.I.D.G.IMP.AVSTR.REX BOH.GAL.ILL.ETC.ET AP.PEX HVNG.FRANC.IOS.II". Below the portrait, the name "ST.SCHWABER" is visible. The bottom view shows the reverse, featuring the Imperial Austrian coat of arms (a double-headed eagle) under a crown. The inscription includes "II CORONÆ MDCCCXIII" at the top, "2" at the bottom left, "COR." at the bottom right, and "1913" at the very bottom.



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

World Coins, Tokens, Jade, Relics, etc. for sale

Contact: [Steve Young](#), P.O. Box 8031, Huntsville, AL 35808, 334-300-5409.

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



Canadian 2023/2024 Commemorative Dollar/Two Dollar Coins for Trade for 2025 U.S. Native American or Innovation Dollar Coins

I have a limited number of 2024 Canadian \$1 “Loonie” coins featuring King Charles’s effigy (4 available), 2023 100th Anniversary - Birth of Jean Paul Riopelle (4 available), 2023 CANADA \$2 NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY 2 Dollar Colorized Toonie Coins (4 available), and Canada \$2 Dollar Coin Toonie, Colorized Inuit Nunangat (4 available), all uncirculated acquired from a direct exchange during a visit to the Ottawa Royal Canadian Mint. I would like to trade for 2025 United States Native American and/or Innovation Dollar coins as they are released.

Keith George, keith@keithgeorge.net or text 334-717-9091.



Selling Alabama (Huntsville) Innovation Coins



If you are interested in acquiring the 2024 Alabama Innovation \$1 coin, please contact me. I'm selling them for \$3 each. These are the Philadelphia mint version, and I will bring them to the next Club meeting. If you want any via mail, there would be an additional shipping charge.

Please contact me at: VanHut32@gmail.com .

Thanks, Todd

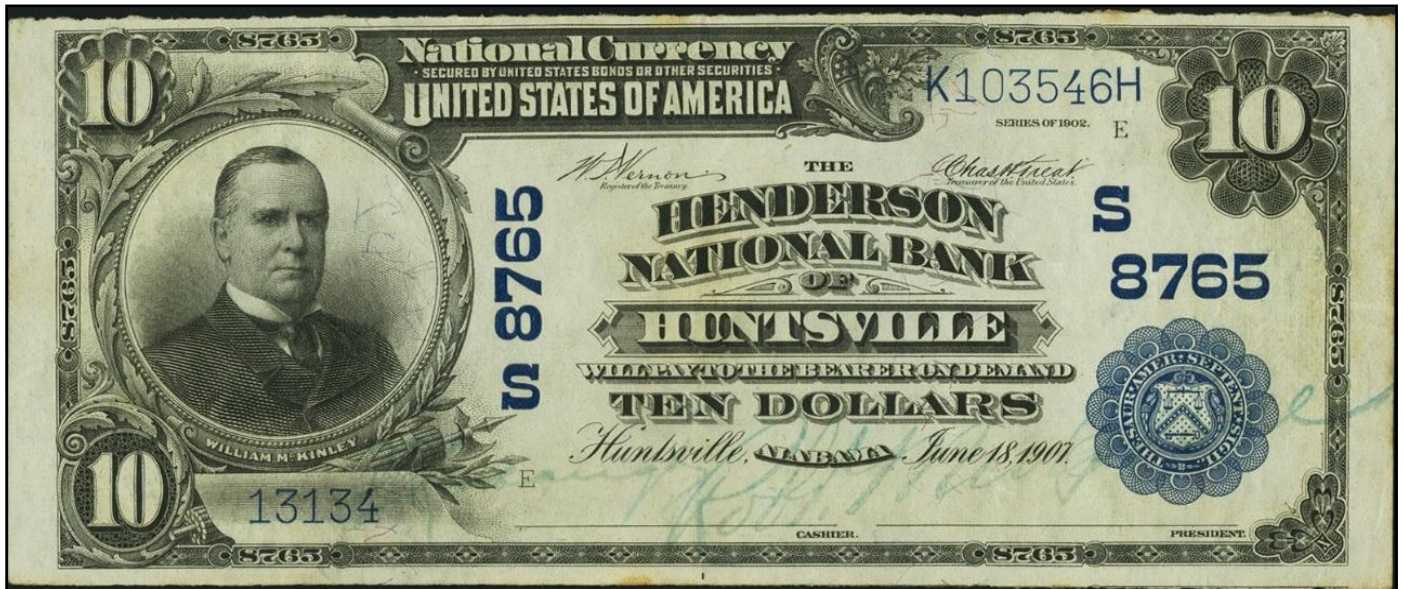
Looking for Alaskan Medals and Tokens



Contact: [Richard](#).

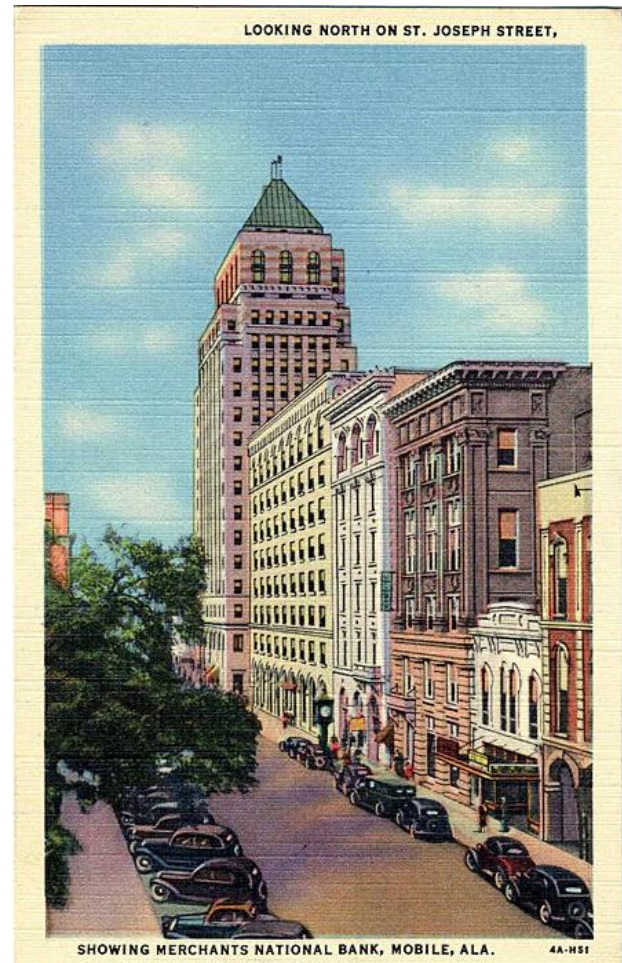


Wanted Alabama Large Size National Banknotes and better Alabama Obsolete Banknotes



Also, postcards portraying Alabama Banks.

Call David at 256-468-5891.



2025 Madison County Coin Club Program Refreshments and Programs Schedule

Meeting Date	Refreshments	Program
January 27	Harold Fears	Randy Partin <i>Civil War Dog Tags</i>
February 17	Shane and Laura Armstrong	Everyone <i>Show and Tell</i>
March 17	Wayne Koger	Todd Hutto <i>Counterfeit Coins</i>
April 21	Pat Douglas/George Steele	Kurt Kelley <i>Part 1- An unissued Confederate War Bond with a story to tell</i> <i>Part 2- The conception of the Lincoln cent</i>
May 19	Ann Fulmer	Chad Thrasher <i>Disappearing Denominations; Which Ones and Why?</i>
June 16	Potluck, Bourse Night, and Auction	
July 14	Aaron Wales	Aaron Wales <i>Elect to Collect: A History Of Coin Collecting</i>
August 18		Everyone <i>Show and Tell</i>
September 15	Doug Glandon	Nathan Burrows <i>TBD</i>
October 20	Keith George	David Hollander <i>The Wonderful World of Banknote Collecting</i>
November 17	Thanksgiving Potluck, Bourse Night, and Auction Election of Officers	
December- NO MEETING		

2025 Coin Shows Within Driving Distance of Huntsville				
Date(s)	Area	Show & Location	Contact Info	Richard's Rating
July 16-19	Bessemer, AL	62nd 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 31-Aug 2	Dalton, GA	66th 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	+++
Sept 4-6	Nashville, TN	The International Money Expo Music City Center 201 Rep. John Lewis Way S, Nashville, TN 37203	COL Steven Ellsworth, ret. 703-932-6331 ellsworth@imex.show www.imex.show	++

		Th-Sat 10 am – 5 pm		
Nov 7-9	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	++

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- +++

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

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: [Nathan Burrows](#)

Vice President: [Wayne Koger](#)

Secretary: Open at this time

Treasurer: [Mike Campbell](#)

Board Member: [Kurt Springfield](#)

Librarian: [Ann Fulmer](#)

Board Member: [Todd Hutto](#)

Membership Info: [Mike Campbell](#)

Newsletter Contact: [Harold Fears](#)

Club's YouTube Channel

You can subscribe to our YouTube Channel at [MCCC Meeting](#). There you will find links to both upcoming and past meetings.

Join the Club

The membership form can be found [here](#) on our [website](#).