

Madison County Coin Club

of Huntsville, Alabama



Volume 26, Issue 2

February 2026

**Our next meeting
will be at the
South Huntsville Public Library
7901-L Bailey Cove Rd SE
Huntsville, AL 35802
On
February 23, 2026
from 6:00 – 7:30
Doors Open at 5:30**

It's
Show and Tell Time
Please bring something to share.

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Membership Renewal



Membership to the club is open to all persons with an interest in numismatics. (The membership form for new members can be found at our website <http://mccc.anaclubs.org>). The club is financed by an annual subscription which is due in January each year. To renew, your dues can be paid at the next meeting, or if you wish, you can send your check to:

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

Please make check payable to
Madison County Coin Club.

Please support MCCC by promptly
renewing your membership.

The Grand Canyon

By Aaron Wales

My grandmother, Ann Fulmer, recently took a trip to the Grand Canyon with my cousin. For a souvenir, she brought back a coin of the Watchtower. It was one of my Christmas gifts this year.





The Watchtower was constructed in 1932. The architect, Mary Colter, indicated that it was a unique structure but was influenced by many she had seen including Hovenweep Castle and the Round Tower of Mesa Verde. Her goal was to build the structure with the techniques and styles of local tribes.

To achieve that goal, the tower was built to blend into the environment. Using mostly locally sourced rocks and reused timber, the tower appears to grow from the rim of the canyon itself. It is difficult to tell where the rock of the canyon walls end, and the tower begins. To obtain this result she insisted that the rocks not be cut or worked but instead maintain their weathered appearance.

The view from the Watchtower overlooks the eastern portion of Grand Canyon. From here, looking to the northeast you can see the Colorado River's transition from the narrow Marble Canyon to the north into the wider stretch of the Grand Canyon. The lower floor of the tower, the View Room, is modeled after a traditional Native American kiva, and hosts cultural demonstrations by indigenous artists. Inside the View Room one can glimpse views of the canyon through the different windows. The View Room was used as retail space for many years, but in 2015 it was returned to the open area that Colter had intended.

Colter incorporated intricate designs into the tower. For example, there are white decorative stones near the top, which fade out as the eye goes around the tower. She had seen this pattern at Chaco Canyon. Built-in cracks patterned from some of the ancient towers she had seen are deliberately designed as well. There are even petroglyphs on some of the stones.



I hope to travel there one day myself. Below is a photo my grandmother took while there. I imagine it's breathtaking.

A Penniless Mint

by Keith George

In mid-January, I found myself in Philadelphia as part of a work trip. A meeting that was cancelled opened up an afternoon and I decided to grab an Uber and head to the U.S. Mint to take the free self-guided tour. It had been more than fifteen years since my last visit and I did expect a few changes but what I found was in stark contrast to the memories of my last visit.

If you haven't been on the tour, I do recommend it. The lobby has several nice displays including the Collector's Corner that features many examples of United States coins including commemoratives and special issues. Looking up the wall, you'll see seven large glass mosaics created by Tiffany's to celebrate the opening of the current mint facility, the third in U.S. history.

The escalator takes you to the Mezzanine level where you'll find many mint artifacts including a screw type coin press and various "coins" in various stages of production from planchets to blanks with raised and lettered or reeded edges. Seeing actual Large Cent blanks at these various stages was intriguing.

The Mezzanine also features a small theater that shows a multimedia presentation that summarizes the forming of the mint by the founding fathers.

Another escalator ride takes you to the Gallery, a very long U-shaped corridor lined with displays that track the production process from the designing of coins (Art) through the making of dies, striking of coins, and processing them through inspection and bagging to prepare them for delivery to the Federal Reserve. As you make your way down the corridor, it becomes evident that the tour is designed to handle long lines of visitors. However, on this cold Wednesday afternoon in January, I saw less than a dozen visitors spread across both long sides of the corridor.

The highlight of this level is supposed to be the many long windows that overlook the factory floor. After my last visit, I recall my amazement at the incredible level of activity. Dozens of workers moving from station to station and literally thousands of freshly minted cents shooting out of the presses, through the annealing machines on the way to the huge bags that held an eye-widening number of 'pennies'. However, on this day, the presses were not pressing. The conveyors were not conveying. During my entire time on this level, I saw just two employees, both of whom seemed to be simply walking across the factory floor enroute to some other part of the

facility. Floor to ceiling storage shelves fifty feet tall and just as deep that spanned the entire front to back area of the factory floor were completely bare. I saw no coins at all. The Penny was gone. Yes, there are obviously other areas of coin production in this facility out of sight of the tour. I'm sure there were tens of thousands of coins being produced around me but what I saw was an empty factory full of only memories.





The saving grace of my visit was near the exit of the gift shop. Looking no different than those you would find in a laundromat or an 80s video arcade, stood two-dollar bill changers. Small handprinted signs indicated that the right-hand changer would dispense, at face value, 2025 American Women's quarters of the Stacy Park Milbern design but the left-hand machine suddenly took the look of a very loose, high jackpot slot machine as I read that it would dispense 2026 Semiquincentennial Quarters of

the Mayflower Compact design. I quickly grabbed a five-dollar bill from my wallet and ran it through the machine. Cha-Ching Ching Ching! Another five from my wallet but it wouldn't feed into the machine. The red 'Out of Service' light seemed blinding to me. I asked the staff to check it and waited patiently while one of the workers headed to the back and emerged with what looked to be a 8 x 8 plastic tub full of freshly minted coins. She unlocked the change machine and proceeded to put on a white cotton glove (a Mickey Mouse glove as my fiancé likes to tease me) and loaded several handfuls of coins before finally dumping the remainder into the hopper. I thanked her profusely and tried my luck with another \$5. Jackpot!

With a full roll of uncirculated quarters now in my possession, my moral compass began spinning. Do I keep running bills through the machine until it or my wallet is empty? Was that the last tub they had and my greed would deprive the next Numisnerd of the joy I was experiencing? As the battle between the angel on my right shoulder and the devil on my left raged on. . . I slipped another Lincoln Note into the changer and collected my 'winnings'. Still not totally confident in my decision, I reluctantly packed up my treasure and headed out into the cold.

Madison County Coin Club Website Update

Our club's website (<http://mccc.anaclubs.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.

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

View our previous presentations at: <http://mccc.anaclubs.org/programs/>

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 Mike Campbell, Aaron Wells, Jonathan Deller, Stanley Benedict, and Wayne Koger were able to identify the mystery coin, a 1 mil coin from the Palestine Mandate.



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 research 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



A Collection for Collectors at Heart!

I have a collection for collectors at heart! It includes: 1) 21 sets of 12 uncirculated \$1 gold clad presidential coins, 2) 22 single disk (wrapped) uncirculated \$1 gold clad presidential coins, 3) a handsome 18" by 11" walnut case (pictured.) Produced by Danbury Mint. That is Washington through Chester A. Arthur/Grover Cleveland, a total of 274 uncirculated coins. For sale at \$1000 OBO and can deliver to MCCC meeting. Contact Sara Baldwin 205 217 3221.





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

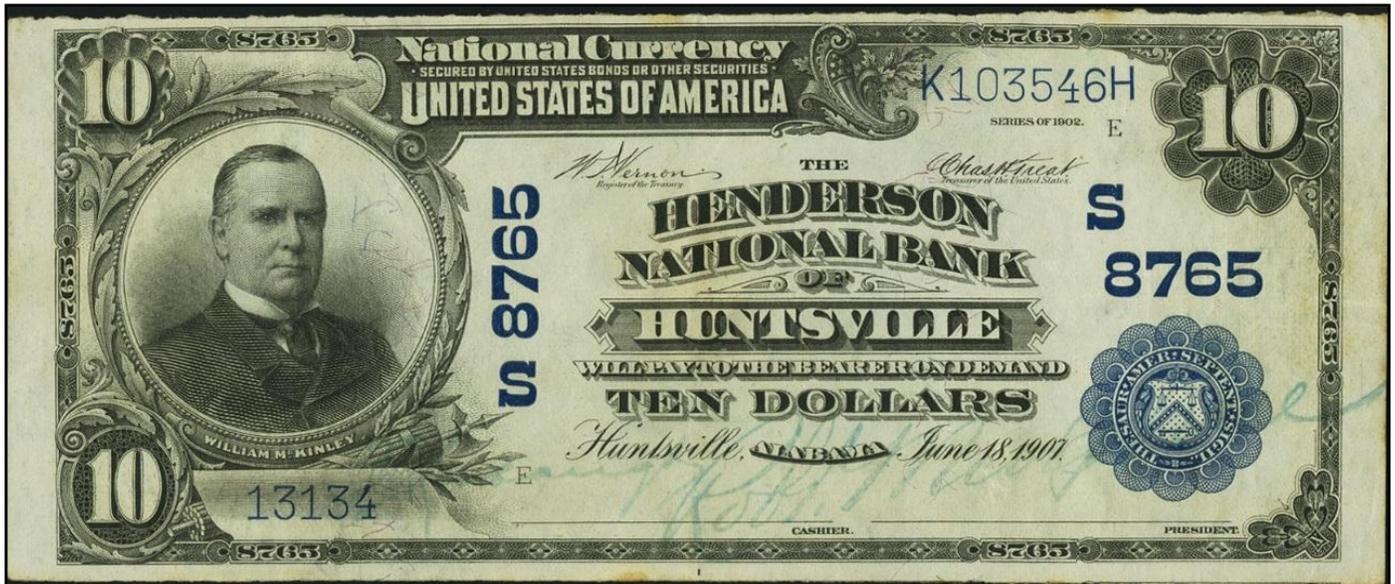
Looking for Alaskan Medals and Tokens



Contact: [Richard](#).

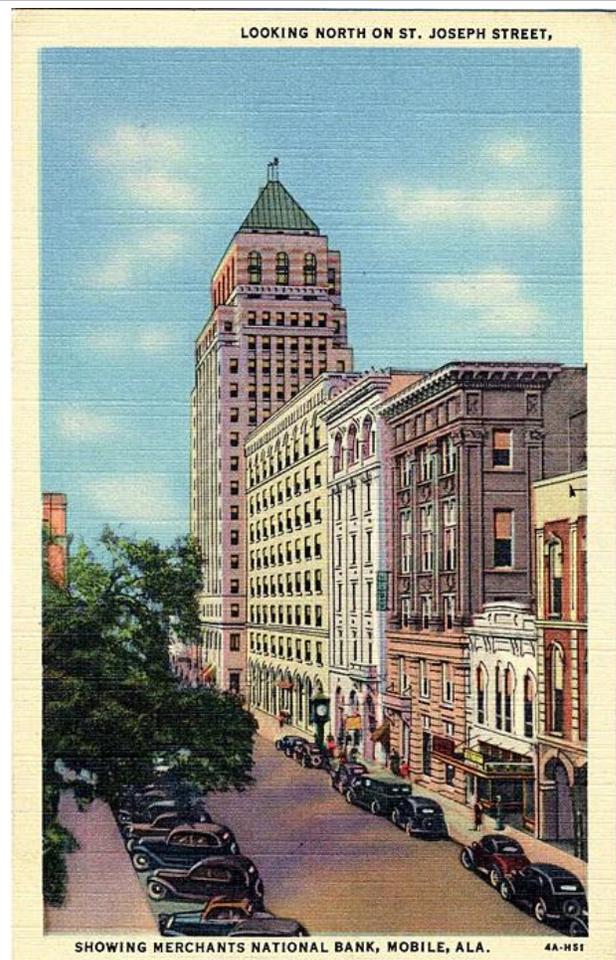


Wanted Alabama Large Size National Banknotes and better Alabama Obsolete Banknotes



Also, postcards portraying Alabama Banks.

Call David at 256-468-5891.



2026 Madison County Coin Club Program Refreshments and Programs Schedule

Meeting Date	Refreshments	Program
January 26		Meeting Cancelled
February 2	Harold Fears	Everyone <i>Show and Tell</i>
March 16	Provided by the Club	Richard Jozefiak, Mark Lighterman, and Donna Moon, an ANA Governor <i>The Club's Past and Future</i>
April 6		Stephen D'Angelo <i>TBD</i>
May 18		
June 15	Potluck, Bourse Night, and Auction	
July 20	Aaron Wales	Aaron Wales <i>TBD</i>
August 17		Everyone <i>Show and Tell</i>
September 21		David Hollander <i>The Wonderful World of Banknote Collecting</i>
October 19		Chad Thrasher <i>My Collecting Journey and What I Would Tell My Younger Self</i>
November 16	Thanksgiving Potluck, Bourse Night, and Auction Election of Officers	
December- NO MEETING		

Huntsville Stamp, Postcard & Coin Show

June 6-7, 2026

Jaycee Community Building

John Hunt Park
2180 Airport Road
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

Free Admission

Be sure to drop by our table!

More information can be found at:

<http://www.sefsc.org/huntspex.html>



2026 Coin Shows Within 3 Hour Driving Distance from Huntsville

Date(s)	Area	Show & Location	Contact Info	Richard's Rating
<p>Mar 6-8</p> <p>Nov TBD</p>	<p>Chattanooga, TN</p>	<p>Tennessee State Numismatic Society Camp Jordan Arena I-75, Exit 1 Chattanooga, TN Fri & Sat 10 am – 6 pm Sun 10 am – 3 pm</p>	<p>Bob Hurst 321-427-6474 forum@comcast.net www.tsns.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">++</p>
<p>April 17-19</p>	<p>Dalton, GA</p>	<p>62nd 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</p>	<p>Steven Nix 706-267-9602 fleetwoodcoins@hotmail.com www.gamoney.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+++</p>
<p>Jun 6-7</p>	<p>Huntsville, AL</p>	<p>HUNTSPEX 2026 Stamp, Postcard & Coin Show Jaycee Community Building 2180 Airport Road, SW Huntsville, AL 35802 Sat 10 am – 5 pm Sun 10 am – 3 pm</p>	<p>Mike O'Reilly 256-527-4601 mcoreilly@yahoo.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
<p>July TBD</p>	<p>Bessemer, AL</p>	<p>63rd Alabama State Coin Show 1130 Ninth Ave SW Bessemer, AL Bessemer Civic Center</p>	<p>Corbitt Chandler 205-616-9385 jcolyn@aol.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">++</p>

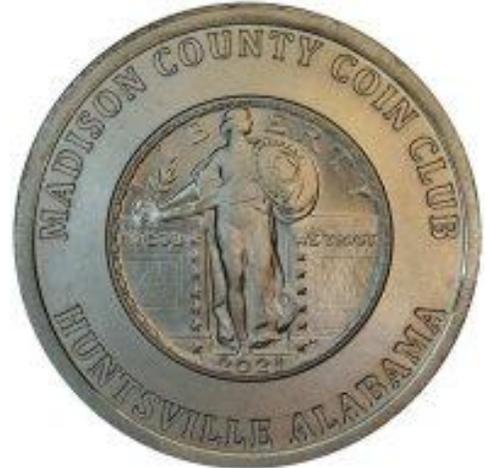
		10 am – 6 pm		
Aug 5-8	Dalton, GA	67th Blue Ridge Numismatic Association Coin Show Dalton Convention Center I-75 exit 333 2211 Dug Gap Battle Road Dalton, GA Fri-Sat 10 am – 6 pm Sun 10 am – 3 pm	Ronda Leeper 678-232-6982 ronda@leeper.biz www.brna.org	+++

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.anaclubs.org/>

Madison County Coin Club

For over twenty-five 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 B.](#)

Vice President: [Wayne K.](#)

Secretary: [Keith G.](#)

Treasurer: [Mike C.](#)

Board Member: [Kurt S.](#)

Librarian: [Ann F.](#)

Board Member: [Todd H.](#)

Membership Info: [Mike C.](#)

Newsletter Contact: [Harold F.](#)

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](#).