

Madison County Coin Club

of Huntsville, Alabama



Volume 26, Issue 3

March 2026

President's Corner

After the delay the first meeting of the year was a huge success. It was great to see everyone out and there were a number of newcomers who I look forward to seeing in the future.

The next meeting is a very special one, we are taking time to celebrate the club's 25th anniversary. We will have important guests and will share memories from over the years. Please try to make it if you can.

-Nate

**Our next meeting will be at the
South Huntsville Public Library
7901-L Bailey Cove Rd SE,
Huntsville, AL 35802
On March 16, 2026, from 6:00 –
7:30**

Doors Open at 5:30

***The Club's Past,
Present, and Future***

**Featuring
*Richard Jozefiak***

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Some Scenes from our last Meeting



Last Meeting's Door Prizes



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

First Prize:	Kurt Kelley	Silver Eagle
Second Prize:	Monica Couch	Two 1/10-ounce silver eagles
Third Prize	Cornelious Adams	Alabama Innovation Dollar

West Point Wonders

By Stephen D'Angelo

Anyone who has looked at their pocket change has seen the 'P' and 'D' mint marks for Philadelphia and Denver and anyone who has purchased proof coins is also familiar with the 'S' mint mark for San Francisco, but the 'W' mint mark from West Point is far less common. In fact, few non-bullion coins have been minted with the 'W' mint mark, and they make an interesting mini-set for collectors to assemble.

The West Point Bullion Depository opened in 1937 and served as a storage facility for silver and gold for many years. While it did not officially become a branch mint until 1988, they minted Lincoln cents from 1974 to 1986 and Washington quarters from 1977 to 1979. These were all minted with no mint mark, so they appear to be from the Philadelphia mint.

The 'W' mint mark first appeared on a gold \$10 coin celebrating the 1994 Olympic Games in Los Angeles and later appears on American Eagle gold and silver coins as well as other bullion commemoratives.

The first appearance on a non-bullion coin for the 'W' mint mark was in 1996. The uncirculated mint set for that year included a bonus **uncirculated 1996-W Roosevelt dime** to commemorate the 50th year of the design. About 1.46 million of these were produced and they are easy to find.

It was not until 2014 when the mint mark appeared again on a **reverse proof silver 2014-W Kennedy half dollar** was included in a 50th anniversary four-coin set. The set also has a proof Philadelphia coin, silver uncirculated Denver coin, and enhanced uncirculated San Francisco coin. About 221,000 of these were produced and this handsome set is readily available on eBay.

In 2015, two different West Point coins were minted. The first was a **silver proof 2015-W Roosevelt dime** that was included in a March of Dimes three-coin set along with a reverse proof 2015-P Roosevelt dime and a commemorative silver dollar. 75,000 of these were produced. The second was an **enhanced uncirculated 2015-W Sacagawea dollar** that was included in the 2015 Coin and Currency set. 90,000 of these were produced.

In 2019, three Lincoln cents were minted. An **uncirculated 2019-W Lincoln cent** was included with the uncirculated mint set, a **proof 2019-W Lincoln cent** was included with the proof set, and a **reverse proof 2019-W Lincoln cent** was included with the silver proof set that year. Production on these is estimated at 346,000, 604,000, and 415,000 respectively. Prices on these coins rose rapidly in 2025 after the mint announced it was going to stop striking Lincoln cents for circulation.

In 2020, there were plans to mint three Jefferson nickels the same way, but the pandemic interfered and only two were produced. The **proof 2020-W Jefferson nickel** was included with the proof set, and the **reverse proof 2020-W Jefferson nickel** was included with the silver proof set that year. Production on these is estimated at 464,000 and 313,000 respectively.

The final ten 'W' mint mark coins were released only into circulation in 2019 and 2020. About 2 million of each of the 10 America the Beautiful series Washington quarters released during these years were mixed into the normal Philadelphia and Denver coin distributions. This may seem like a lot were produced, but it works out to about one quarter in every 185 (or one per 4.6 rolls) had the 'W' mint mark. Since these were only released into circulation, it is challenging to find them in high grades.

The quarters were initially released to coincide with the April 2019 Great American Coin Hunt, which the American Numismatic Association (ANA) sponsored, where coin dealers released valuable coins into circulation to encourage people to look at their change for treasures.

As a bonus item of interest, the 2020-W quarters all have a special 'V75' privy mark to honor the 75th anniversary of U.S. victory in World War II. This privy mark also appeared on some limited-edition American Eagles in gold and silver.

That wraps up the nineteen non-bullion 'W' mint mark coins released so far. Good luck hunting them down and adding them to your own collection!



Mint image of one of the 2020 quarters with the V75 privy mark

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/>

Checklist of non-bullion 'W' mint mark coins

	Coin	Where to Look
	1996-W Roosevelt dime (uncirculated)	1996 Uncirculated Mint Set
	2014-W Kennedy half dollar (silver reverse proof)	50 th Anniversary Kennedy half dollar set
	2015-W Sacagawea dollar (enhanced uncirculated)	2015 Coin and Currency Set
	2015-W Roosevelt dime (silver proof)	March of Dimes 3-coin set
	2019-W Lincoln cent (uncirculated)	2019 Uncirculated Mint Set
	2019-W Lincoln cent (proof)	2019 Proof Set
	2019-W Lincoln cent (reverse proof)	2019 Silver Proof Set
	2019-W Washington quarter "Lowell"	Released into circulated only
	2019-W Washington quarter "Memorial Park"	Released into circulated only
	2019-W Washington quarter "War in the Pacific"	Released into circulated only
	2019-W Washington quarter "San Antonio Missions"	Released into circulated only
	2019-W Washington quarter "River of No Return"	Released into circulated only
	2020-W Washington quarter "American Samoa"	Released into circulated only
	2020-W Washington quarter "Weir Farm"	Released into circulated only
	2020-W Washington quarter "Salt River Bay"	Released into circulated only
	2020-W Washington "Marsh Billings Rockefeller"	Released into circulated only
	2020-W Washington quarter "Tallgrass Prairie"	Released into circulated only
	2020-W Jefferson Nickel (proof)	2020 Proof Set
	2020-W Jefferson Nickel (reverse proof)	2020 Silver Proof Set

Madison County Coin Club Medals for 2026

By Todd Hutto

The Madison County Coin Club (MCCC) in Huntsville, Alabama, is releasing a series of 2026 club medals to commemorate its 25th anniversary. The octagonal medal will be available in silver, copper, and piedfort versions with very strict mintage limits. Members have reserved medals as part of a four-medal, member-only set that includes a silver piedfort version.

The MCCC commissioned Daniel Carr, owner of Moonlight Mint in Loveland, Colorado, to produce the medals. Similar to Robert Scot's early 19th-century coins, the obverse features a draped bust of Liberty, while the reverse boasts the heraldic eagle.



All were struck by Daniel Carr, of the Moonlight Mint, on the 20th of February 2026. A limited number of 4-coin sets were struck, as well as a number of individual medals. The medals have serial numbers struck on the edge. This is the first time Daniel Carr has serial numbered an octagonal medal. All the medals were struck on the Grabener Coin Press, pictured below.



The Moonlight Mint's Grabener Coin Press (Photo Credit: Moonlight Mint)

This specific Grabener Coin Press is the property of Daniel Carr. It was originally used at the U.S. Denver Mint for 15 years. Mr. Carr bought it and restored it.

Denver Mint Press #31824

- Model: GK MP 360 / 31824
- Built: 1986 in Germany
- Served at the U.S. Denver Mint from 1986–2001
- Sold as surplus in 2001, sat disassembled for years
- Purchased and restored by Daniel Carr of the Moonlight Mint in 2007–2008 (412 U.S. Mint blanks were found inside during restoration!)

This Coin Press Struck:

- All Denver Mint set coins
- Commemoratives
- Medals

This single machine is responsible for a huge portion of late-20th-century U.S. numismatic output.

What a Grabener Coin Press Is

A high-speed, high-tonnage coining press built by Grabener Press Systems (Gräbener) in Germany. These presses are used worldwide for striking circulation coins, commemoratives, and medals.

Key characteristics:

- Hydraulic or mechanical high-speed drive systems
- Press forces from ~400 tons to 3000 kN depending on model

(Moonlight Mint's unit: ~400 tons)

- Output up to 850 coins per minute on modern Minting Press Unit (MPU)-series machines
- Precision die alignment for consistent strikes
- Automated feeding fingers and ejector systems

Octagonal Copper Planchets

- 1) Normal planchet (0.093" before strike).
- 2) Thick planchet (0.125" before strike). Piedfort variety.

Octagonal Silver Planchets (.999)

- 3) Normal planchet (0.097" before strike).
- 4) Thick planchet (0.173" before strike). Piedfort variety.

Why not bring a friend to the next meeting?

The commemorative medal was created for the Madison County Coin Club in Huntsville, Alabama. It isn't U.S. currency — it's a club-issued medal celebrating their 25th anniversary (2001–2026).

🏠 **Obverse**

- “Madison County Coin Club – Huntsville, Alabama”
- A classical Liberty profile surrounded by stars
- Year: 2026

🦅 **Reverse**

- “Education – Public Service – Fellowship”
- A heraldic eagle with shield, arrows, and olive branch
- “United States of America – 2001 – 25th Anniversary – 2026”
- Banner: E Pluribus Unum

These kinds of pieces are typically made for club members, events, or collectors — more like a keepsake or token than spendable money.

The 2026 Madison County Coin Club 25th-anniversary medals were struck in very small mintages, making them legitimately scarce in the club-medal world.

Documented mintages

- Silver (1 oz .999) — 50 pieces of which 35 were included in member set
- Copper — 100 pieces
- Copper Piedfort (thick strike) — 60 pieces of which 35 were included in member set
- Silver Piedfort (2 oz .999) — 35 pieces (only in 4-medal set)
- Member-only 4-medal set includes an additional silver piedfort (a total of 35 sets were assembled)

These mintages place the medal firmly in the “micro-mintage” category — far scarcer than most club medals and even scarcer than many modern limited-edition bullion issues. Additionally, all the club medals are octagonal, which is rarely attempted due to production challenges involving the striking of octagonal planchets.

💰 Value

Because these are club medals, not U.S. currency, their value comes from:

- Mintage scarcity
- Designer premium (Daniel Carr pieces have a strong collector following)
- Local/regional interest
- Condition

Current market expectations

No public auction results exist yet for the 2026 issue, but we can infer value from:

- Prior Madison County Coin Club medals
- Other Daniel Carr low-mintage medals
- Typical club-medal secondary markets

Estimated ranges (realistic collector-to-collector pricing)

Version	Estimated Value Range	Why
Silver (1 oz)	\$125–\$225	Low mintage (50), Carr premium, silver content
Copper	\$20–\$40	Higher mintage (100), but still scarce
Copper Piedfort	\$40–\$75	Scarcer (60), piedforts attract specialists
Silver Piedfort (member-only)	\$250–\$400+	Ultra-low availability; strongest Carr-collector demand

These ranges will likely rise once the medals sell out and collectors who missed the issue start hunting for them.



The obverse of the 2026 medal.



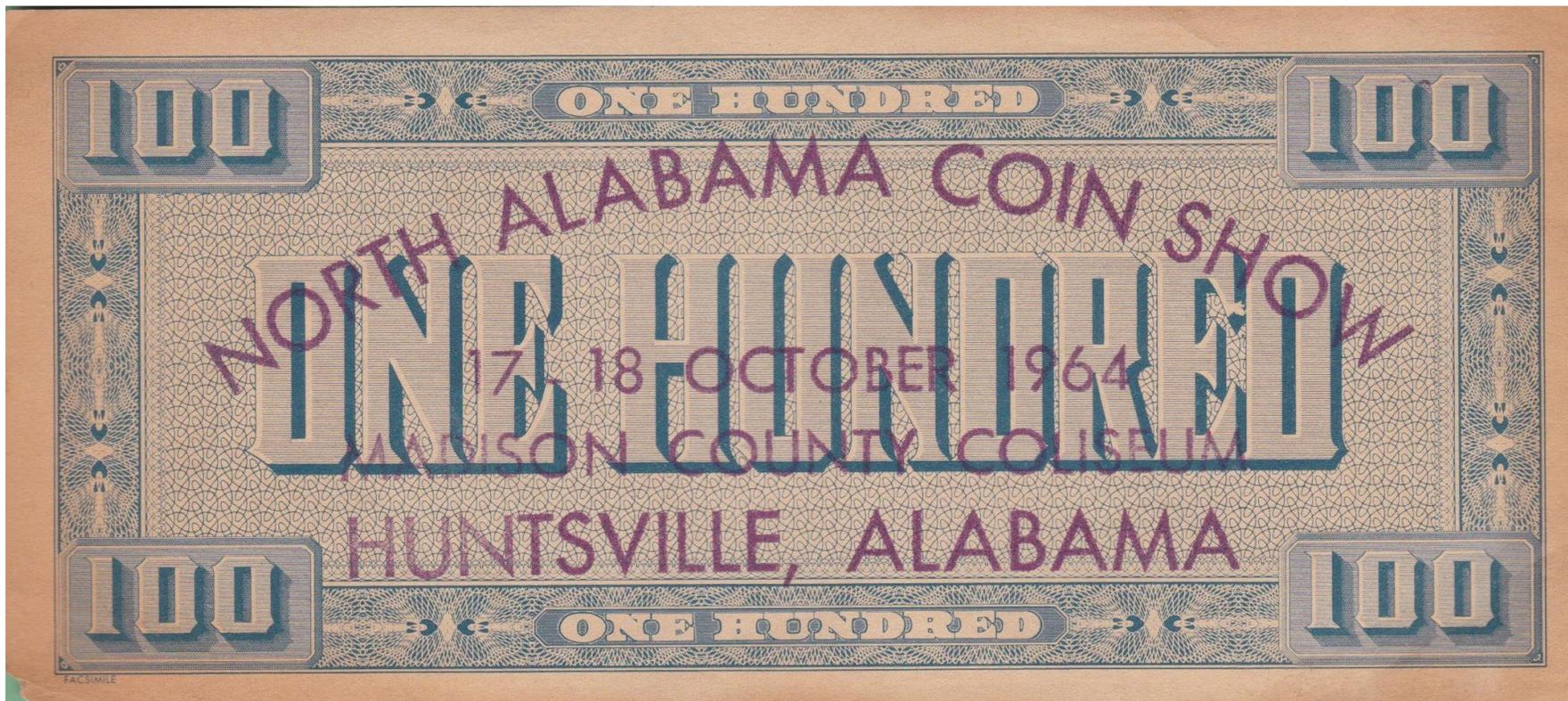
The reverse of the 2026 medal.

A Piece of Huntsville Memorabilia

By John Cieniewicz

I found a very interesting note. It is a facsimile of a CSA 100 note with an over stamp of a North Alabama Coin Show. No idea what club did this but it is a piece of Huntsville memorabilia





A Quarter Century of Numismatic Fellowship!

By Keith George

Hard to believe, but it's time to polish the silver (figuratively) and break out the proof sets—The Madison County Coin Club is officially turning 25!

To celebrate this milestone, our March meeting won't just be about the "heads and tails" of our collections; it's going to include the stories that brought us together.

We've spent two and a half decades trading tips, hunting for rarities, and building a community that's as solid as a Morgan Dollar.

Share Your "Mint" Memories

We want to hear from you! Whether you've been with us since the first meeting in 2001 or you just joined last year, we're asking members to come prepared to share a brief club memory.

Think back to:

- The "Big Find": A time a fellow member helped you identify a rare variety.
- The Auction Thrills: Sharing that one bidding war that still has us talking.
- The Friendships: A favorite conversation or a piece of advice that changed how you collect.
- The "Oops" Moments: Because we've all dropped a coin or two!



The following pages are a remembrance of the past 25 years of our club. See how many things you can remember. We will start with our first newsletter, some photos, and wrap up with some newsletter articles published over the years.

The Club's First Newsletter

from March 2001

Madison County Coin Club Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

Founded 2001

March 2001

Meeting Location: Senior Center
2200 Drake Ave. SW
Huntsville, AL 35805
256-880-7080

Meeting Dates: 4th Monday
of every month,
except holidays
Meeting Time: 6:30-8:30 P.M.

WELCOME!

By
Richard Jozefiak

Welcome to the first issue of the Madison County Coin Club (MCCC) Newsletter. The MCCC will have its first meeting on Monday, March 26, 2001 at the Senior Center in Huntsville. Meet in the classroom. Doors open at 6:00 P.M.

Driving directions to the Senior Center: Take I-565 to Memorial Parkway (231) in Huntsville. Take Memorial Parkway South to the Drake Avenue Exit. Exit on Drake Avenue and go west about a ½ mile to the Senior Center. There is plenty of lighted parking in the lot.

Why a Coin Club in Madison County?

MCCC was founded to provide a forum for coin collectors, young and old, to have a fun time and share their knowledge and enjoyment of the hobby. The club is open to all people who like to collect any coins, medals, paper money, or any other numismatic material.

Most club meetings will have an educational speaker or video, club auction, refreshments, and time to share.

Please bring an item of interest to share with fellow club members during the mini-exhibit time.

The first meeting will explain how the club auction works, have membership sign-up, and refreshments.

MCCC is an ANA member club, but you do not need to be an ANA member to be a club member. The ANA is the national numismatic organization, and supports local clubs.

MCCC President

The current President of MCCC is Richard Jozefiak. He relocated to Madison County, AL this past summer with his family. They moved from Northern Virginia. Richard has been involved with coin collecting for over 25 years. He is an American Numismatic Association (ANA) member, and past District Delegate in Central Florida and Northern Virginia. He was appointed the ANA District Delegate for Northern Alabama in August 2000.

Young Numismatist Program (YN)

A Young Numismatist is known as a "YN" in the hobby. A YN is a person under 17 years of age.

MCCC has a YN program that awards YN auction dollars that YNs will use at the November meeting during the YN auction.

YNs earn auction dollars by coming to club meetings, bring in item(s) to share and tell about, helping with the club auction, and other things.

The purpose of the YN program is to encourage young people with a hobby that has positive values that they can develop now, and into their adult life.

How Can You Help?

The success of any club depends on people. The club will be what members want it to be. Clubs can be active, or exist only on paper. Please help out with your time and talent. If everyone does a small amount, it adds up quickly to a very successful and enjoyable club for all. Please help the YNs since they are the future of the hobby.

Questions or Comments?

Please call Richard at: 256-325-0037

MCCC mailing address:

MCCC
P.O. Box 6332
Huntsville, AL 35824

Meeting Dates for 2001

March 26	Introduction
April 23	Speaker- Richard Jozefiak First club auction
May 28	NO MEETING Holiday
June 25	Video Club auction
July 23	TBD Club auction
August 27	TBD Club auction
September 24	TBD Club auction
October 22	Nomination of officers for 2002 Club auction -Please bring donations for YN auction-
November 26	Pot-Luck Election of Officers for 2002 YN Auction
December 24	NO MEETING Holiday

MCCC would like to thank the Senior Center for their support in providing a meeting location at no cost.

Some Scenes Over the Years 2004



L to R: ANA RC for AL & GA Richard Jozefiak presents award to Mr. Mahlon Harva



Club members buying & selling at the meeting

2005



ANA Regional Coordinator for AL & GA presented **Ray Norwood** the ANA Regional Coordinator Award.



Chip and Charlie speaking to the club



Frank DuVall showing some interesting coins



2005 Officers (L to R): Ray Norwood, Michael Campbell, Harold Fears, Richard Jozefiak

2006



Frank tells his bizarre coin acquisition story.



Another coin deal is being brokered.



Robert discussing his Classic Commemorative Set.



Members taking a close look.





2008







2010





2011









2012





2014



2015



2016





MCCC Members at 15th Anniversary Celebration

2017



2018



At the October 23, 2018 meeting, MCCC President Kurt Springfield (L) presents David Hollander with an ANA Educational Award for his presentation to the club



*YN Nathaniel Benedict (L) and Stan Benedict (R) with Stan's Malaya 1939-1950 coin display.
(Nathaniel is Stan's grandson)*

2019



2020



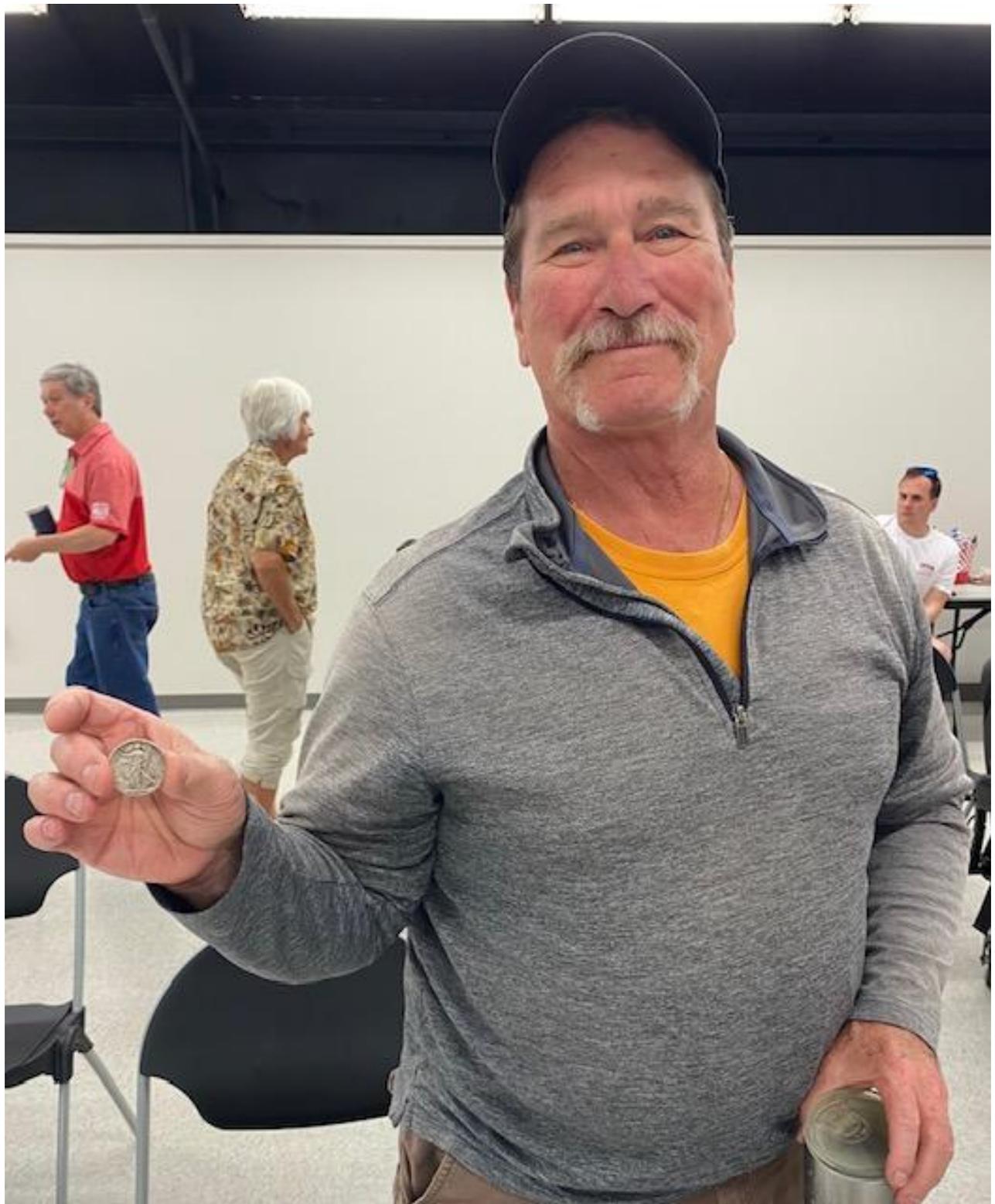
2021



Doug Glandon (R), Madison County Coin Club President, presents Wayne Koger with an ANA Educational Award for his 17AUG21 presentation on "Coin Collecting: I've Found the Edge! How About You?"

2022





First-time MCCC meeting attendee Dale Holcomb proudly shows his 1947 “Walker” door prize. Dale also joined the Club—before winning the Walker!



Doug Glandon (L), Madison County Coin Club President, presents Aaron Wales with an ANA Educational Award for his April 19, 2022 Club meeting presentation on “New in 22,” which nicely captured already issued and planned issues of 2022 new US coin designs.

2023





*Mike Campbell (L), Wayne Koger, and Harold Fears at MCCC Club Table
Richard Jozefiak (R) at ANA Membership Table*



2024













2025









COIN FROM *LUNDY* RE-KINDLED CHILDHOOD MEMORIES

By
Bob Jaques

Last April 13th thru the 15th, I attended the Georgia Numismatic Association annual Coin Show in Dalton, Georgia. It was a well-attended Show. Like all coin shows, I enjoy walking from dealer table to dealer table looking over the selection of coins for sale. Sometimes I do not look for anything in particular, but end up purchasing a coin that catches my eye. I am sure most collectors understand this buying method.

Foreign coins intrigue me and I like looking through foreign coin boxes and albums. While looking at some assorted foreign coins at my dealer friend Joe Messervy's table. I spotted a familiar coin that I had not seen since my teens. The coin was a "One Puffin" from Lundy and was in XF condition.

Most people have never heard of *LUNDY* or the Puffin denomination, so here is the story. Coins of *LUNDY* are unofficial issues from the Island of *Lundy*, which is located in the Bristol Channel off the West Coast of England. The Island was owned by a self-declared "King of Lundy" by the name of Martin Coles Harman. He issued two bronze coins the "half Puffin" and the "one Puffin", which circulated on the Island. The coins are dated 1929 and a portrait of Harman is on the obverse. These two coins had the same nominal value as the British half-penny and penny.

The coins were called the Puffin because it was the Island's main bird. Islanders traded Puffin feathers for food and other commodities. As you might guess, these coins landed Harman in trouble with the British authorities for "minting unauthorized money". Harman lost his case, was fined, and told to stop minting the coins. However, the coins were struck again in 1965, 1977, and 2011 as commemorative tokens and did not circulate. Harman died in 1954.

When I was a teenager and starting to collect coins, I sent off for advertised coins. Coin companies always sent coins on approval with my order and there was usually a coin from *LUNDY* included in the approvals.

I purchased my One Puffin *LUNDY* coin from Joe, and remembered my days of collecting many years ago. It is the only *LUNDY* coin in my collection.



The Half Puffin



The One Puffin



A puffin

The name Lundy is believed to come from the old Norse word for "puffin island"



Lundy is the largest island in the Bristol Channel.

I Was Lost, But Now I'm Found

By Doug Glandon

As part of our monthly coin meetings, we conduct a "Show & Tell" which gives our members an opportunity to share and discuss coins and other related items with the club. It also gives members exposure to different types of coins that they may not know existed. During our last meeting we had several interesting items presented by members.

Harold Fears presented a nice assortment of British pennies assembled in a plastic display case.



A British Penny

Harold also presented the “Pride of Two Nations” set that he had recently purchased while visiting the mint. The set consists of a one ounce silver American Eagle and a one ounce silver Canadian Maple Leaf. It is the first collaboration between the U.S. Mint and the Royal Canadian Mint.



2019 Pride of Two Nations Mint Set

Kurt Springfield presented a Commemorative coin from the Apollo 11 Moon Landing. The medal was designed by Italian sculptor, Constantino Affer and struck by A.E. Lorioli Fratelli of Milan. The medal is nicely detailed with a heavy 3-D relief of the moon's surface, an astronaut, and the moon lander. Above the word "APOLLO" you can see the earth on the right and the Apollo 11 on the left. The name of the artist who designed this image "Affer" is on the right edge. The reverse reads "APOLLO 11 FIRST MEN ON THE MOON, JULY 20th 1969" and the names of the three Apollo 11 astronauts.



Apollo 11 Moon Landing Commemorative Medal

I had planned to present my “customary” new Barber dime acquisition, but Harold’s and Kurt’s coins and medal were so unique and interesting, I decided to keep my coin in my pocket.

Later in the meeting, Bob Jaques presented a nice program on Apollo 11 medals to the club. After the meeting had adjourned, Bob, Kurt and I were having one final conversation in the parking lot before leaving. We discussed having lunch, so that I could present Bob with his program certificate. We made our plans and headed home.

Once I got home, I realized that I had misplaced the Barber dime I was going to use for Show & Tell. I checked my pockets, my book bag, and my car with no luck. Susan, my wife, could see the frustration on my face suggested that we should go check the parking lot at the Senior Center. We surveyed the parking lot, but came up empty. Afterwards, Susan said, “I’ll call the Senior Center in the morning and see if anyone found it and turned it in.” With a skeptical tone, I said, “Sure, you do that”. About 10:00 AM the next morning, Susan calls me at work and the first thing she says is “I found your coin!” I almost dropped the phone! She said that a gentleman, who was a member at the Senior Center had found it in the parking lot and had turned it in to “Lost and Found”. It left me almost speechless. I immediately left work

and went to the Senior Center to pick up my coin.



1916 Barber Dime

The coin had been sealed in an envelope with the finder's name and number written on the outside. I immediately called the gentleman that found my coin and thanked him over and over again. I even offered to buy him lunch, but he said that was not necessary. He said, "When I found the coin, I knew someone was missing it! So I turned it in..." He also told me that his inspiration for doing this was because he had misplaced his cell phone at the Senior Center a few days earlier and someone had turned it in to "Lost and Found". He wanted to return someone else's good deed with one of his own. His name is Jerry Mitchell. Thank you again, Mr. Mitchell!

"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

My 10th Birthday and the Coin Cache

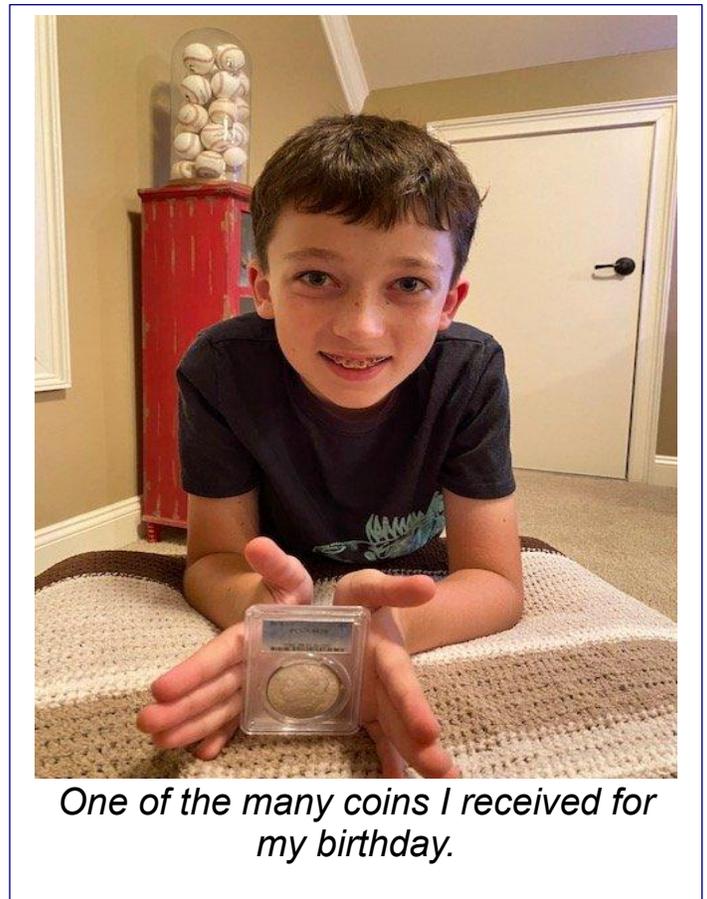
By Aaron Wales

This was my first birthday since joining the Madison County Coin Club. These are the special coins that I received as gifts. My uncle gave me a Buffalo nickel. It was from 1925. My aunt brought me a grab bag (aka Ziploc bag) packed to the brim with coins. Some were from my grandfather and those were mainly wheat cents. Also in the bag was a variety of foreign coins – even one from India. She also gave me a few rolls of nickels, dimes, and quarters. There were several I needed for my collection. A friend from school gave me a piece of foreign currency which was a Guatemalan 5 bill. It's very colorful. He is also a collector and shares my interest in currency. He focuses mainly on bills and is trying to obtain a bill from every country. My grandmother brought me a Carson City Morgan dollar from 1878. That was the first year they made them. My dad and I had seen this at a local shop and I somehow mentioned to her that I was interested in it. She must be a good listener.

My dad got me:

- Two copper American Eagle medals
- A two-cent coin
- An 1879 Carson City Morgan dollar
- Mercury dimes
- Silver Roosevelt dimes
- And many more

It's too difficult to pick a favorite coin. I like them all. It was a great birthday and my collection sure did grow. I'm looking forward to my next birthday. I hope I receive more coins next year.



One of the many coins I received for my birthday.

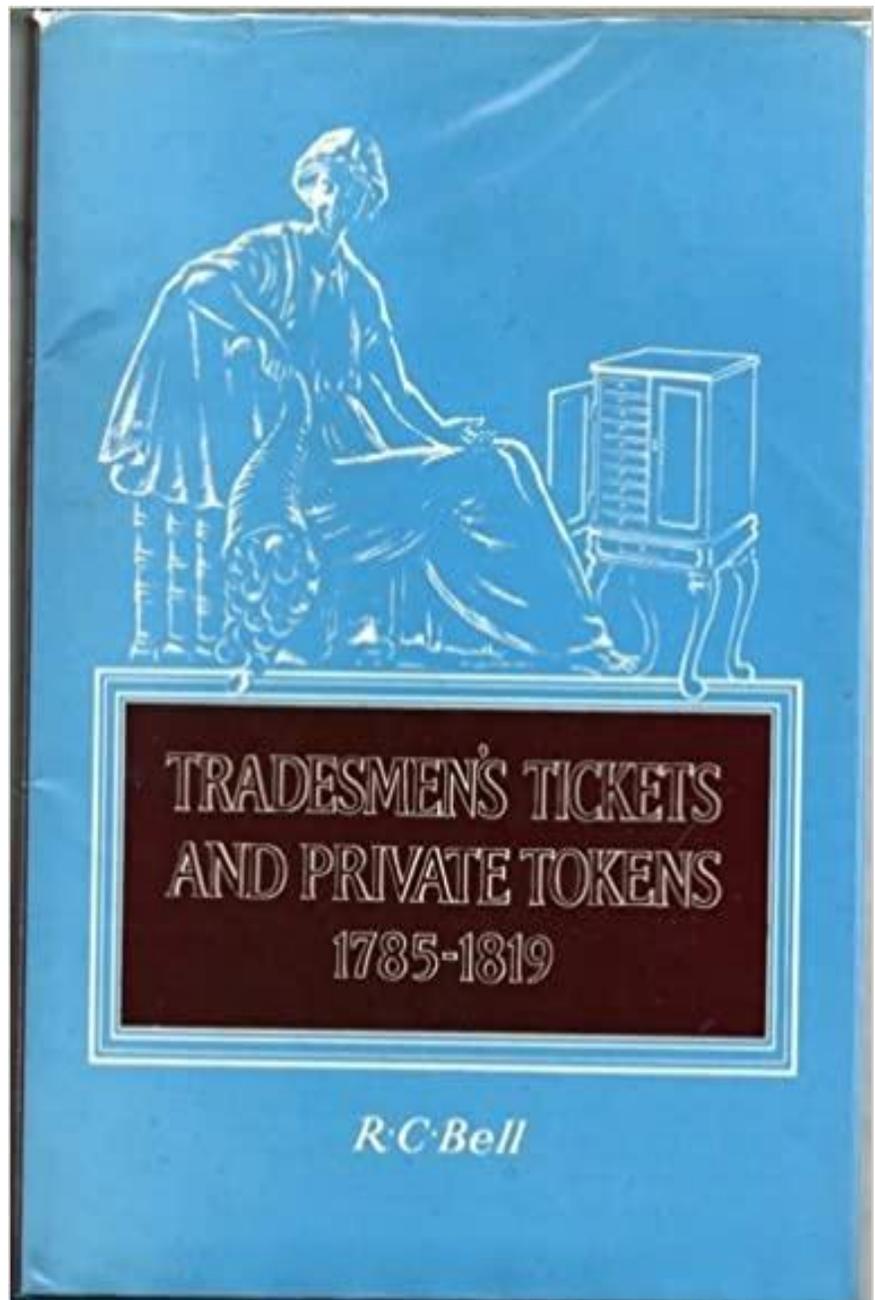
The 1879 J. Henry Numismatist Token

by H.K. Fears

Since the mid 1960s, Robert Bell's name has been synonymous with a generation of collectors of British trade tokens. For me his three books, *Commercial Coins 1787-1804*, *Unofficial Farthings 1820-1870* and *Tradesmen's Tickets and Private Tokens 1785-1819* are a must for any collector of this genre. When I recently purchased the Tradesmen's book, I was very eager to read it and see what I could learn.

When reading the book, I was pleasantly surprised to learn about a piece that was minted in 1879 from a die obtain from Matthew Young, a leading collector and dealer of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century. (A little research about Mr Young revealed that the 1838 auction sale by Sotheby's of his numismatic library lasted for four days and had 39 pages to list all of the numismatic literature items! Now, that's what I call a library.)

The token of interest is referred to as a J. Henry token. James Henry was a London dealer in coins and medals during the later part of the 19th century. He had acquired Young's die for the obverse and had it modified to include his legend. The obverse design portrays Moneta, the Goddess of Money, leaning against a pile of books, the source of



knowledge. She is holding a cornucopia from which falls a shower of coins. On the right is a coin cabinet belonging to Matthew Young. This design is on the cover of Bell's book.



The obverse of the token

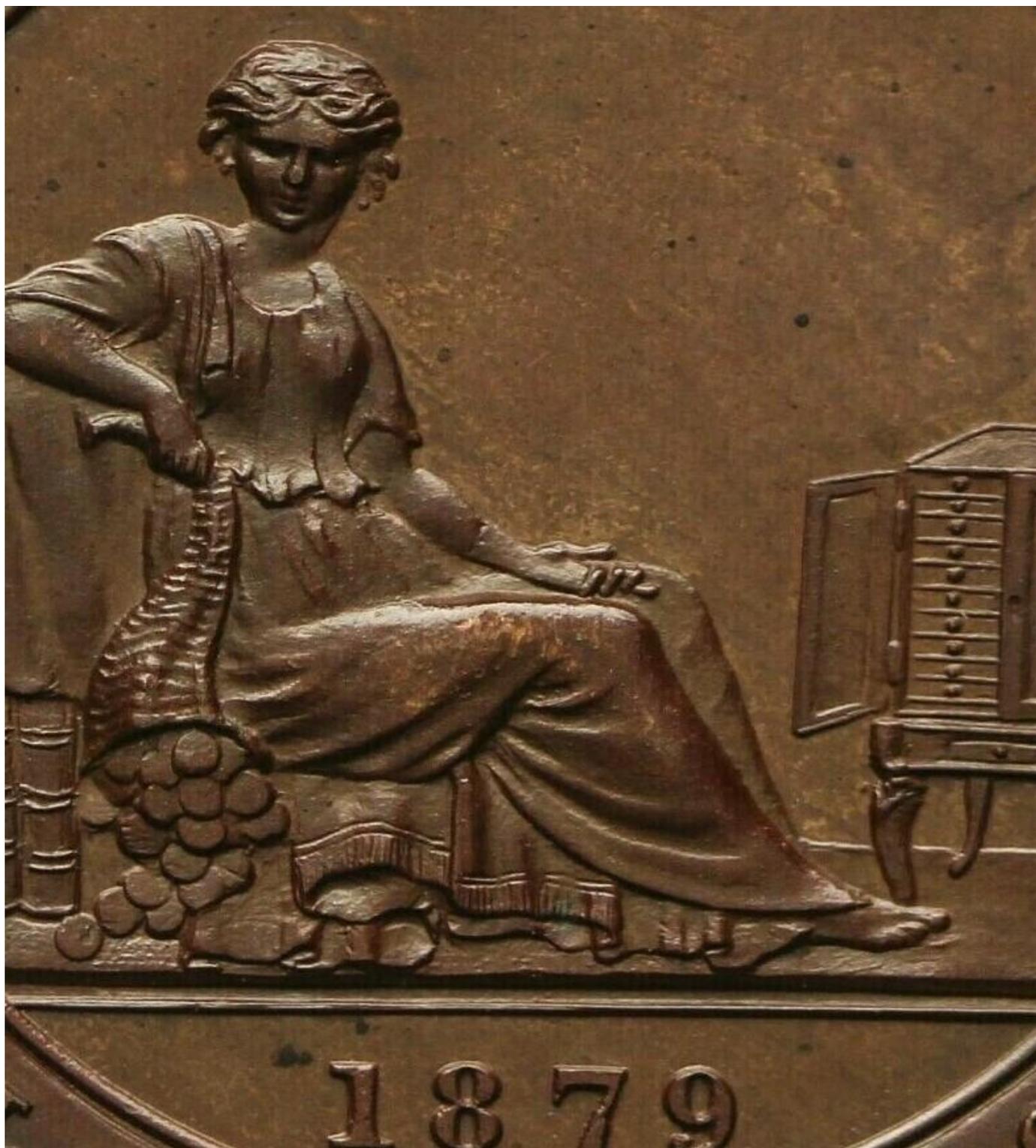
The token is considered to be a rare, with one hundred struck in bronze and another twelve in silver. Henry sold his bronze tokens for 5/- (five shillings) and the

silver for one guinea (twenty one shillings.) One thing to note is that this is the first token bearing the letters of a postal district of London (W.C.)

Today the tokens are being sold for about \$125 in uncirculated condition.



The reverse



The obverse portrays Moneta, the Goddess of Money, holding a cornucopia from which falls a shower of coins.

Your Story and “The Story”

By Kurt Kelley

Do you remember what caused or started your interest in coins that you have? Was it because it's money and it is desirable, or do you like history? Maybe it was because you were given a starter coin by someone you revere, or was it a chance happening that a certain coin caught your fancy? Did a family member get you started or was it your own desire? There are countless reasons to start collecting coins, and it is usually fascinating to hear why and how it all started.

As for me, I got an old quarter in change in 1965. I had been saving my allowance for some time and had a half dollar. I got 10c a week, so to have that much at once was a large sum of money and unusual. I remember being at the Ben Franklin five and dime and bought some candy and maybe a trinket. There was literally no candy bar I remember at that time that cost over a nickel, so I was walking out of the store loaded! Anyway, I got this quarter in change. It was very worn and that got my attention. Later at home I looked at it closer and found it to be a 1936-p. In 1965 it was not yet 30 years old, but since I was only going to be 7, it seemed ancient. My Dad was a farmer and I remember sitting on the basement steps swinging my legs and talking to him while he was shaving at the mirror one night when he came in from chores. I remember telling him how old this coin was, and it intrigued me that it had been around so long. My Dad was born in 1910 and graduated high School in 1929. So, listening to me, he had to think what a snot nosed kid, he has no idea what old is. He never commented, or at least not verbally so I could hear.

From there I started going through any change I got the chance to. Lincoln cents were what I started on because I couldn't afford a larger denomination. As I got older other denominations became achievable. Years later as an adult I finished the Washington quarter set in Uncirculated condition and the last piece to complete my set was a 1936-D. It wasn't the 36-P but it was ironic, because it wasn't intentional, to be the same year as what started me collecting.

Collecting coins and being a numismatist is the difference between driving a car and owning a 1972 Chevelle. Appreciation of what it is and seeing the beauty of the object is what causes us to collect. You can call it a blessing or a curse that we, numismatists, have the eye for details and beauty, the interest in history and the curiosity and thirst for knowledge. The value of the coins we collect is to be considered, but most likely not the driving force that has us collecting.



1972 Chevelle

Acquiring new pieces for our collections becomes more of a hunt than an ownership need. As soon as we get a piece we have been wanting, it goes in a book or maybe a safe deposit box and we are off on the next quest. The memory of how we got it or the struggles to get there are the things that get most remembered.

A coin is just a piece of metal unless there is a story to go with it. The story makes the coin interesting. The story is what non-collectors want to hear more so than seeing the rare coin. Why is it rare, who owned it, what period of history did it circulate in, or why did it get made in the first place? Those stories and many more make the coin. Every coin has a story. Since you own it, it is up to you to bring attention to its story. That's all part of the fun!

Coins are meant to be shown and have their story told. Hoarding is of no value to our hobby nor the future of it. We are the curators of history; therefore, we are taking a place in history that the future might not know us by name, but we are a necessity of history and for "The Story" to go on.

Happy Hunting!

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

By Monica Couch

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

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

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

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

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

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Pictured above Susanna Centlivre

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

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



Pictured above Mary Anne Evans

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

Enhancing Your Collection

A Couple of Thoughts

By Michael S. Turrini

When your Columnist began his now five-decade journey into our 'world of money', it was quite common at local coin club meetings that anyone attending had his trusty RED BOOK, the indispensable 'bible' for United States numismatics.

Back when the now long-gone Napa Valley Coin Club was in its heydays, attracting attendance close to or over a hundred as well as massive auctions (a recent topic with previous 'Enhancing Your Collecting' Columns) plus several dealers, it seemed to be a 'sea of red' with everyone, or most everyone, having his trusty RED BOOK, ready.

Nowadays, at least, to my observations, RED BOOK has become a rarity of local coin club meetings, unless CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIST readers offer a unique perspective.

For one who pursuits United States coinages, the RED BOOK remains the 'bible'. Its pricing might be questionable; yet, it is packed with images, specifications, mintages, history, and more, as well as easy to refer and to read.

Now the current 2026 RED BOOK, referring to the standard edition, has been linked to the GREYSHEET. Each listing has a new column entry: 'GSID', 'GREYSHEET Identifications'.

The GREYSHEET has been recognized as the professional numismatic standard for decades. For those pursuing high end and superior quality----*MS 65 or better*----it is imperative. Now with the link in the RED BOOK, this enlarges and enlightens.

Simply stated, 'don't leave home without your RED BOOK'.

Continuing, your Columnist learned years ago that not all hobbyists collect the same or have the same pursuits. What floats one might sink another. But, as the former American Philatelic Society (APS) Executive Director Scott D. English preaches, *"I Do Not Care What You Collect, As Long As You Collect."*

There seems to be a tendency to dismiss or look down or chuckle or rudely remark when a fellow hobbyist shares his or her pursuit. This is wrong. Smile, listen, and say 'glad you are collecting'.

Your Columnist knows fellow collectors with, well, strange interests; but, so what, like Scott stated, "as long as you collect."

The novel and the best approach are an opening conversation comment expressed by the late Ray Mah of the North Shore (Vancouver, British Columbia) Numismatic Society whenever he met a fellow hobby sojourner: "*How Your Collecting Going?*"

The approach encourages 'collecting'. Yes, Morgan Dollars are hot, and now Lincoln Cents might be hot, too. But the 'world of money' is much more than the traditional and popular pursuits. From 'odd and curious' to tokens through fiscal documents, one can explore, and then enjoy, the pageantry and pleasure of the 'world of money'.

Again, your Columnist welcomes insights from CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIST readers. Insights and inquiries can be emailed to EMPERORI@juno.com.

With that, '**Work Hard. Play Fair. Give Back!**'

Inclement Weather Notice



If the South Huntsville Library is closed due to inclement weather, there will be no club meeting.

The Charlotte Mint

By Stephen D'Angelo

In July, my family was vacationing in Charlotte, North Carolina and while exploring downtown Charlotte, we learned of the Mint Museum. I initially assumed this was a family name, as I did not know that Charlotte had a mint. We were informed by a helpful gentleman at the information center that the museum has its roots in the United States Mint that was founded in Charlotte in 1837.

A little later that day, we pulled into the parking lot of the original Mint Museum on Randolph Road, a short drive outside of downtown. We then explored a piece of history.

The Mint Museum, July 2025



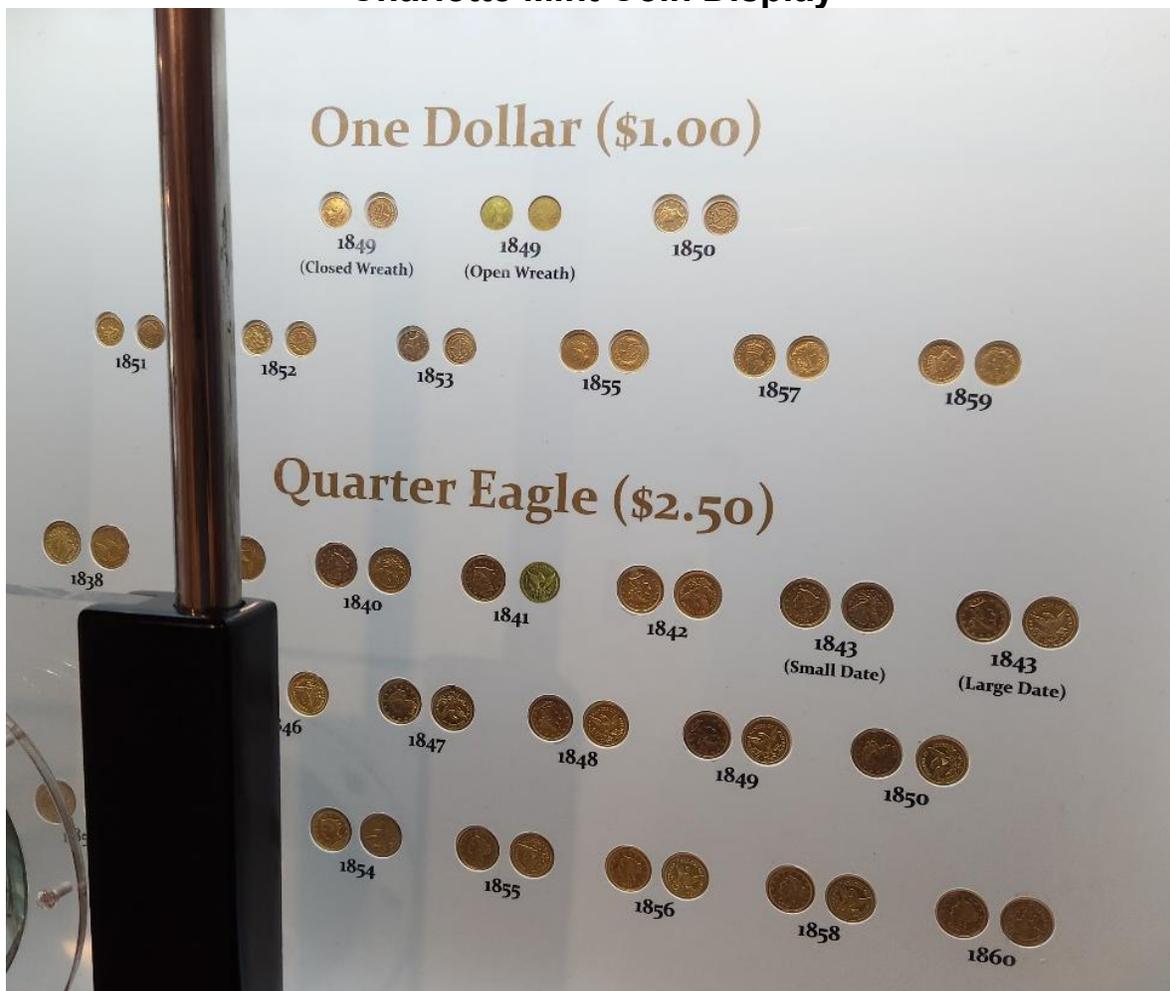
In 1799, gold was discovered in Cabarrus County, North Carolina when Conrad Reed found a 17-pound nugget and in 1803 the first gold rush in the States began. Surface mining was used until the late 1820's, then lode mine shaft mining took over as the surface mines were depleted. Due to the volume of gold and the difficulty of transport, the U.S. Mint decided to open a branch in Charlotte. The same act of congress in 1835, signed by Andrew Jackson, also opened a branch in Dahlonega, Georgia (a "D" mint mark), and New Orleans, Louisiana (an "O" mint mark).

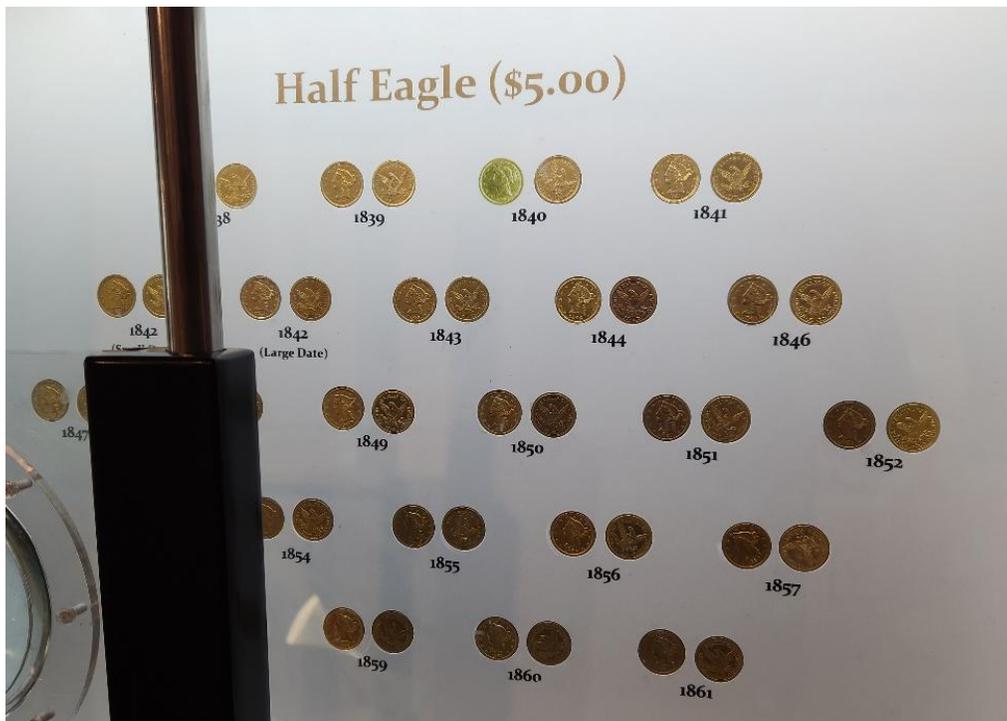
The Charlotte Mint produced its first coins, using a "C" mint mark starting on Dec 4, 1837. Initially, it minted "half-eagle" (\$5) and "quarter eagle" (\$2.50) gold coins. In 1849, they started minting one dollar (\$1) gold coins as well.

As a long-time coin collector, I wondered why I had not heard of the Charlotte Mint and the “C” mint mark before. A large part of the reason is that they only minted gold coins, and collecting gold isn’t for the casual coin collector. The other reason is the scarcity of these coins due to low mintages. During the 24 years of minting, the “half eagle” ranged from 4,500 to 84,000 per year with an average mintage of 36,000; the “quarter eagle” ranged from 4,800 to 28,000 per year with an average mintage of 9,000; and across 9 years the dollar coin ranged from 4,500 to 41,000 per year with an average mintage of 12,000. Even in average circulated condition and cleaned, these coins fetch market prices in the \$4,000 range and high-grade coins can reach 10 times that price.

The Mint Museum has a section on the old U.S Mint history downstairs that includes an almost complete display of two of each the coins minted there (obverse and reverse showing).

Charlotte Mint Coin Display





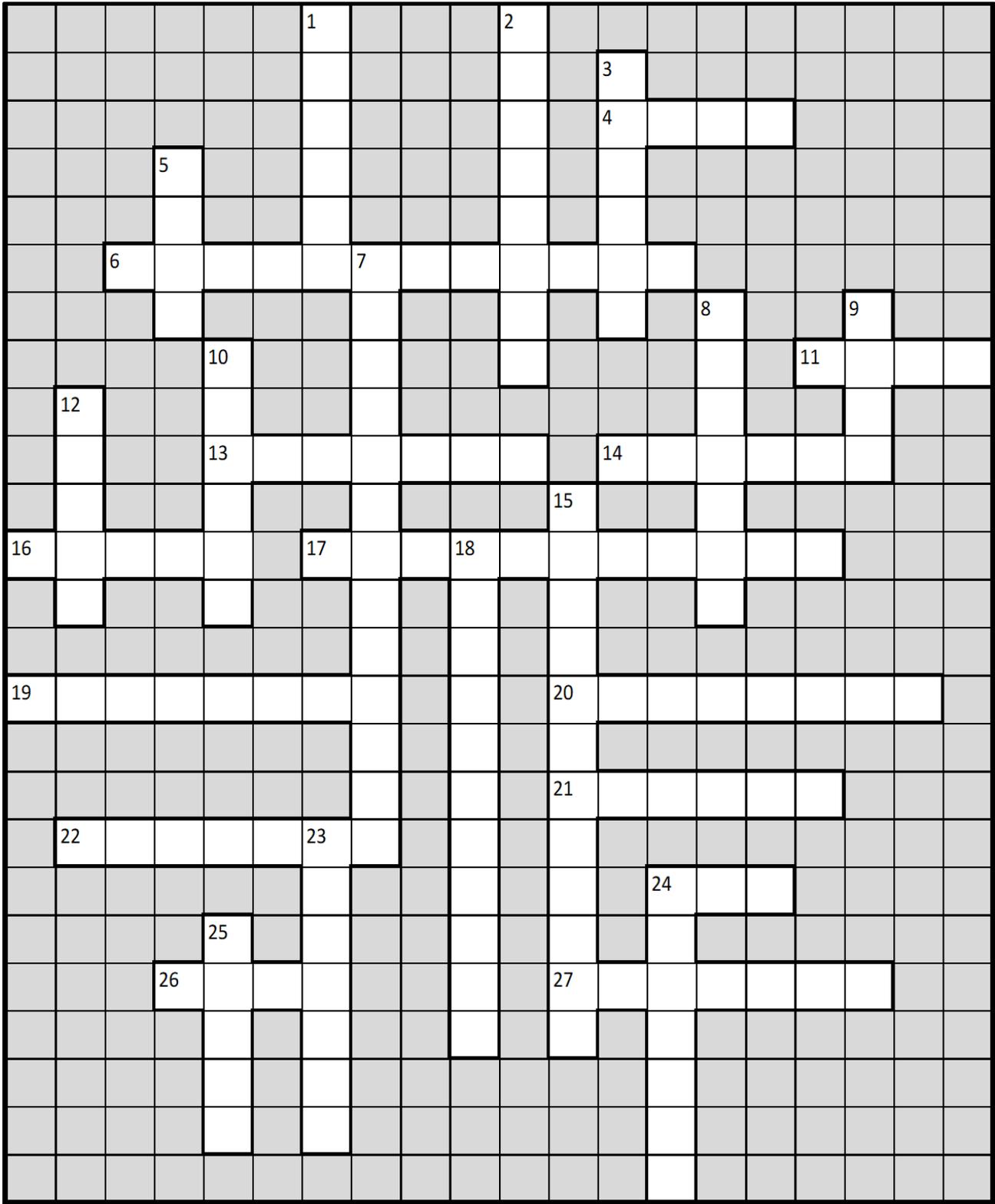
At the start of the Civil War in 1861, all three branch mints were shut down and the Charlotte Mint (and Dahlonega Mint) never minted another coin. The New Orleans mint was later reopened from 1879 to 1909.

The Charlotte Mint building was reopened after the Civil War as an U.S. Assay Office and remained in use until 1913 when the gold mines were depleted. After closing, the building was used as a Red Cross headquarters and even as a laboratory for Thomas Edison, then was vacant for about a decade until 1931, when plans were made to demolish the building.

Mary Myers Dwelle founded a group of citizens to save the building by having it moved from downtown to its current location in 1933. It opened in 1936 as the first museum of art in North Carolina. The museum has grown over the years and now has a huge, modern building in downtown Charlotte that showcases their art collection, while the old two-floor mint building specializes in ceramic and glass pieces as well as artifacts from around the world.

We left the Mint Museum, happy to have found something fun and unusual. There are some high-quality exhibits and if you make time to stop by and see the beautiful gold coins that showcase an underappreciated corner of the American coin history, I encourage you to also enjoy the rest of the museum's exhibits.

Aaron's Corny Coin Crossword



ACROSS

4. Third side of a coin
6. Never used
11. These place images on coins
13. U.S. coins must include this word
14. To stamp a planchet
16. Take a good close look with this
17. Always be alert to avoid this
19. Coin before it's struck
20. Shows where the coin was made
21. V
22. Process of producing coins
24. Encircles each side
26. Au
27. heads

DOWN

1. Morgan or peace for example
2. Face on a coin
3. Raised portion of a coin
5. It's not a penny
7. These honor someone or something
8. Four of these in a football game
9. Despite the name it's not made of mercury
10. Ag
12. Extra shiny
15. Face value
18. If you're reading this you must be one
23. Did yours earn an a, b, c, d, or f
24. Tails
25. In god we trust

"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



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, Jonathan Deller, and Wayne Koger were able to identify the mystery coin, a French 2 francs piece.



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

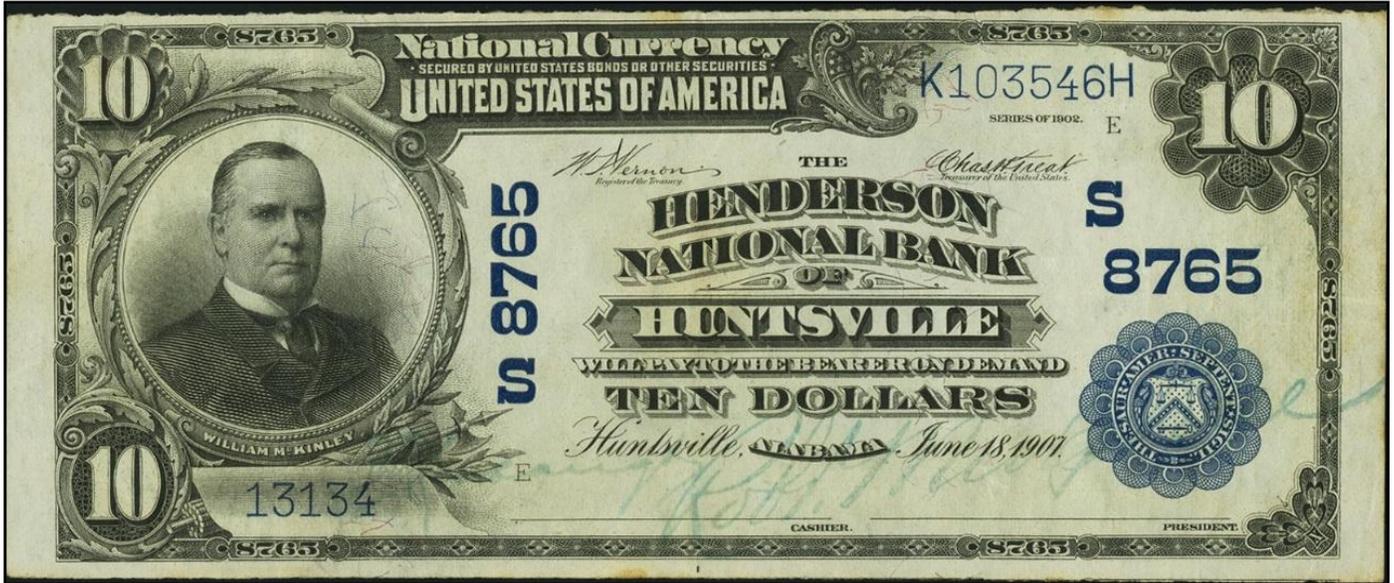
Looking for Alaskan Medals and Tokens



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 <i>The Club's Past, Present and Future</i>
April 6	Wayne Koger	Stephen D'Angelo <i>TBD</i>
May 18	Ann Fulmer	Kurt Kelley
June 15	Potluck, Bourse Night, and Auction	
July 20	Aaron Wales	Aaron Wales <i>TBD</i>
August 17	Chad Thrasher	Everyone <i>Show and Tell</i>
September 21		David Hollander <i>The Wonderful World of Banknote Collecting</i>
October 19	Keith George	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 Nov 13-15</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>++</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>+++</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>+</p>

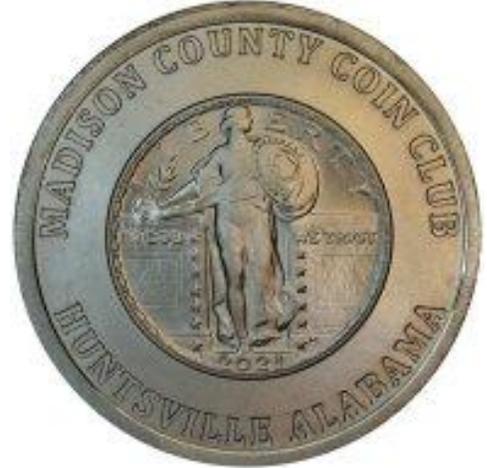
July 16-19	Bessemer, AL	63rd Alabama State Coin Show 1130 Ninth Ave SW Bessemer, AL Bessemer Civic Center 10 am – 6 pm	Corbitt Chandler 205-616-9385 jcolyn@aol.com	++
Aug 5-8	Dalton, GA	67th Blue Ridge Numismatic Association Coin Show Dalton Convention Center I-75 exit 333 2211 Dug Gap Battle Road Dalton, 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](#).