

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB NEWS

Volume 21, Number 3

March, 2013



New to our club? Welcome!

We meet on the **3rd Wednesday each month**, at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. in Alexandria, VA. It's just off US 1 inside the Beltway, and there's plenty of free parking. Meetings are held in the Gold Room. Check the lobby bulletin board just to be sure! The bourse opens at 7:00 p.m. and members may display, trade, and sell coins during this time. Our auction starts about 8:10 p.m. Members and visitors can bid during the bourse and auction. Members are encouraged to submit coins to be included in future auctions – contact **Auction Chair Robin Borum** at Robin.Borum@verizon.net or 703-395-3269.

Next Meeting: March 20!

President:	Boots Barnes
Vice Pres/ANA Rep:	Frank Falgiano
Secretary:	Doug DeBarr
Treasurer:	Tom DeYoung
Auction Chair:	Robin Borum
Auctioneers:	Frank Falgiano Joel Cherry
Historian/CONECA Rep:	OPEN
ESNA Rep:	OPEN
MWNA Rep:	Jeff Saah
VNA Rep:	Joel Cherry
Microscope Coord:	Robert Mitchell
Refreshments Coordinators:	Doug DeBarr
Raffle/Door Prize Coordinators:	Ron Iliffe Bob Kimes
YN Director:	Pete Locke
Webmaster:	Mike Atkins
Newsletter Editor:	Noelle Locke

Tentative Meeting Agenda:

- 7:00pm Bourse opens – please help yourself to refreshments!
- 8:00pm Meeting begins: welcome, announcements, discussions, speakers.
- 8:10pm Auction begins. Door prize drawing and raffle held at intermission.
- 9:30pm Settlement of auction accounts, submission of coins for next auction, adjournment.

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Alexandria Coin Club

PO Box 1233 Alexandria, VA 22314

www.alexandriacoinclub.com

Member: ANA, ESNA, VNA



The Legacy of the Harp:

A Stroll Through the History of Irish Coins



Taking a “quick” historical look at Irish coinage and currency requires going back to the 10th century. Although different types of coins had been brought into the Emerald Isle from other countries, the first Irish coins were ordered by King Sihtric III and made by the Vikings in Dublin, about 997 AD.

In the 12th and 13th centuries, the coinage reflected the presence of the Anglo-Normans. The silver pieces were struck in places other than Dublin, and included half-pennies bearing a full frontal royal portrait rather than the typical profile. They usually included specific inscriptions, and a triangle can be found surrounding the featured monarch’s head.

Throughout the next couple of centuries, the influence of the Norman invasion dissipated and the Gaelic culture again came to life. There is little evidence of coins being minted during the years between 1310 and 1460. Money used consisted of a mix of coins from England and Scotland, as well as many counterfeits.

In 1531, England’s King Henry VIII declared himself King of Ireland, and a variety of coins was introduced. It is during this time that we see the famed Celtic harp pictured on Irish currency. It has remained an icon on Irish coins until the present time, where it is depicted on Irish Euro coins.

During the Cromwellian War of 1649 to 1653, coins were drastically simplified, showing that the government’s priorities lay elsewhere and that Ireland’s identity lay unresolved. When King James II took on the Irish helm, he had cannons and church bells melted to form coins known as “gun money.” It was removed from circulation after 1690, as its metal ultimately had no bearing on its value.



Gun Money Crown, 1690

Between 1657 and 1674 (just before and after the restoration of the monarchy in England) many small penny and two-penny tokens were issued. There are over 800 different issues and they include examples from every city, town, and village in Ireland!



Charles II half-penny, 1682

In 1680 Charles II granted a patent to strike halfpennies for Ireland, and there are issues dated each year between 1680 and 1684.

William and Mary ascended to the English throne in 1688 and by 1691 had taken control of Ireland. They produced a copper regal coinage of halfpennies in 1692, 1693 and 1694. After 1696 no further coinage was struck for Ireland until 1722.

An interesting twist occurs in 1722, when William Wood, a mine owner and obvious entrepreneur, obtained a patent to strike copper halfpennies and farthings for Ireland. The coins were produced in 1722 and 1723, but their quality was not at all admired. In 1724, Wood surrendered the patent, and many of the coins were shipped to the American colonies.



In 1736, King George II presided over issues of new half-pennies and farthings, which were produced until 1760. That year, a button maker from Dublin produced a series of copper half-pennies and farthings bearing the legend "Vox Populi" in place of the usual regal designation.

From 1766 until 1782, King George III issued copper half-pennies for Ireland. A large number of forgeries were made, both in Ireland and in America, where the "Georgius III Rex" was often transformed to "George President" and "George Washington."

In 1800, the Act of Union made Britain and Ireland one state, creating the United Kingdom. In 1826 the Irish currency was formally abolished. For the next century, Ireland used standard British sterling for coins and banknotes.

After a five-year Irish struggle for independence from Britain, the Irish Free State was formed in 1926. Developing new Irish coinage was a top priority and a committee took on the task, chaired by none other than Irish poet William Butler Yeats. It was decided that the Irish harp would continue to be used as the national symbol on the coinage, and that the reverse designs would feature a series of animals representing Ireland's long-standing agricultural economy.



The coins were altered over the years to reflect historic evolution such as change of the official name of the country from the Irish Free State to The Republic of Ireland in 1938, and the use of the Irish designation of the country, *Eire*. But the basic design of the harp on the obverse and a variety of fauna and flora on the reverse remained primarily constant, except for commemorative issues.

In September of 1999, the Irish Euro was initiated. While sharing a common image on the reverse, the Irish Euros in all denominations picture the nationally treasured harp on the obverse.



A Lyre Linked with Eire

Although its origins are not crystal clear, the harp was officially adopted as the symbol of the Kingdom of Ireland established by Henry VIII in 1541. The arms were incorporated into the unified Royal Coats of Arms of England, Ireland and Scotland upon the union of the three kingdoms in 1603. Upon the secession of the Irish Free State from the UK in 1922, the harp was taken as the emblem of the independent Irish state.

Today, the image of the harp is used on the coins, passports, and official seals of the Republic of Ireland, and is incorporated into the emblems of many Irish organizations. The harp is frequently used in the logos of Irish companies, such as Guinness and Ryanair.

Mark Your Calendars – Upcoming Shows and Events!

Warrenton Coin Club Show	4/13 9:30 – 4	St. John Catholic Church 121 John E. Mann Street Warrenton, VA	Tony Tripi 540-347-2567 tripi@earthlink.net
The Baltimore Monthly Coin and Stamp Show	4/21 10 – 4	The Hilton Pikesville 1726 Reistertown Rd Baltimore, MD	James Reeves 814-599-9546 jreevesandcompany@hotmail.com
Vienna Quarterly Coin & Stamp Show	4/ 27 10 – 6 4/28 10 – 4	Vienna Community Center 120 Cherry Street Vienna, VA	Darren Coker 703-532-6640 darrencoker@aol.com
Middle River Coin Club Show	4/28 10 – 3	Victory Villa Community Center 404 Compass Road Middle River, MD	Wendell Petri 410-254-3955 pennsylpete@comcast.net
Richmond Coin Club Coin & Currency Show	5/3 10 – 6 5/ 4 10 – 6 5/ 5 10 – 3	Clarion Hotel 3207 North Boulevard Richmond, VA	William Scott 804-350-1140 woscott1@verizon.net

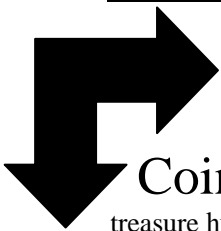


Have a Question? Need Some Help? Contact an ACC Dealer!

Robin Borum	Robin Borum Rare Coins	703-395-3269	rborum@verizon.net
Joel P. Cherry	MERCURY Numismatics	703-876-9450	joel.cherry@cox.net
Frank Falgiano	CEFCO Enterprises	703-491-1017	
Mike W. Hess	Classic Coins & Collectibles	703-330-3747	
J.W. Kennedy	Kennedy's Stamps and Coins	703-569-7300	
John Koebert	Butternut	703-802-0252	
John Manley	German Coins	202-546-5256	
Bob Mitchell	RKT Coins	703-268-5234	RKTcoins@cox.net
Mike Olson	MCO Consultants – Numismatics	703-644-5375	
Bob Patterson	Bob's Coins	703-490-1222	
Andy & Alynne Skrabalak	Angel Dee's Coins and Collectibles	703- 580-6969	www.angeldees.com
T.J. Shea	Penny Pincher Coins	703-383-1414	
George Watson	George A. Watson	703-843-7072	
Wayne Wilcox	Wayne's Coin & Currency	703-920-2385	
Jason Zeibel	Z&Z Coins	703-598-1340	
John Sullivan	Cameo Coins and Collectibles	703-281-7053	camcoins@aol.com

March Auction Lots					
#	Item	Description	Min Bid	Estim Val	Win Bid
1	25c	5pc,1934-S,36,36-S,37,38; avg VG-F		75	
2	\$1	1884-O MS62		55	
3	\$1	1898 AU55		45	
4	\$1	6pc, SBA-1979 & 1980 P,D,S UNC in folder		30	
5	\$1	1886 Silver Eagle UNC		45	
6	\$1	1889 in NGC MS62 holder		55	
7	1c	1907 MS63RB		50	
8	50c	1917-S Obv. G4		30	
9	50c	1943 MS64		65	
10	50c	1943 in PCGS MS65 holder	100	150	
11	Set	2011 Silver Proof Set		68	
12	25c	1936 in PCGS MS65 holder		100	
13	25c	1943-S in NGC MS65 holder		70	
14	25c	1946-S in PCGS MS65 holder		45	
15	25c	1947-S in PCGS MS65 holder		45	
16	25c	1950 in PCGS MS65 holder		50	
17	25c	1958 in NGC MS66 holder		45	
18	25c	1960-D in NGC MS66 holder		40	
19	1c	6pc,1910-S VG,11-S F,13-S VG,14-S VF,15-S VF,22-D EF	160	211	
20	1c	2pc, 1935-D in PCGS MS65RD holder,1938 MS65RD	40	55	
21	1c	4pc,2000-S,01-S,02-S,03-S all PCGS Proof 69 DCAM	110	162	
22	\$1	1878-S MS63PL	110	150	
23	\$1	1881-S MS64	65	85	
24	\$1	1923 MS63	45	60	
25	mixed	10pc,1971-S to 1975-S 1c & 5c all Gem Proof	25	35	
26	mixed	10pc,1971-S to 75-S 10c; 1971-S to 74-S,76-S; 25c all Proofs	40	50	
27	\$1	3pc, 1973-S, 74-S, 76-S; all Gem Proofs	20	30	
28	mixed	10pc,1987-S to 1991-S;1c & 5c, all Gem Proofs	25	35	
29	mixed	10pc,1987-S to 1991-S;10c & 25c, all Gem Proofs	40	47	
30	50c	5pc,1971-S to 1974-S,1976-S all Gem Proofs	25	30	
31	50c	5pc, 1987-S to 1991-S all Gem Proofs	30	40	
32	25c	5pc,1893-S,1907-O,2-1909-D,1911; avg F2-G4		38	
33	50c	1854-O VG8		40	
34	\$1	1881 VF20		35	
35	5c	88pc, 28-V nickels,14-Buffalos,46-Jeffersons; avg circ		50	
36	Set	1999 Silver Proof Set	75	125	
37	Comm	2009 Abraham Lincoln Silver Dollar, Proof		55	
38	1c	1863 MS60	45	100	
39	1c	1890 MS60	20	35	
40	1c	3pc, 1911-D VF30,1914 VF,1918 AU	26	51	
41	5c	2pc, 1845 & 1856 Half Dimes; both VF	40	65	

42	10c	2pc, 1851-O F, 1877-CC F	80	95	
43	25c	1928-D EF45	25	65	
44	25c	1929-S EF	24	40	
45	50c	1900-S F	35	60	
46	50c	1902-O F	52	65	
47	50c	1919-S F	46	90	
48	Sets	1965 & 1966 Special Mint Sets, UNC		23	
49	Sets	1967 SMS, 1969 Mint Set		23	
50	Sets	1971 & 1972 Proof Sets		16	
51	1c	2pc, 1935 BU, 1935-S MS60	16	50	
52	1c	3pc, 1936 P,D,& S; all BU	10	20	
53	1c	3pc, 1937 P,D,& S; all BU	12	24	
54	1c	2- 1938-S BU	15	25	
55	1c	2pc, 1940, 1941; Gem BU	9	16	
56	1c	2pc, 1942-D, 1942-S; Gem BU	12	25	



YN CORNER

Enjoy this article, excerpted from the ANA YN Newsletter.

Coin Roll Hunting

is like the Olympics of numismatics. Every time you open a roll, it is like a treasure hunt. You don't know whether you will find gold, or if you will find a steel washer. It is the most exciting, most rewarding, and the most risk-free game out there. It is just like playing the lottery, except it is open to all ages, and doesn't cost anything to play. I am going to give you the ins and outs of this exciting adventure.

All you need to do is exchange your money for other forms of money. Therefore, you can never lose. The first thing you will need is a little money to exchange for rolled coins. The prices for boxes of coins are as follows: Cents, \$25; Nickels, \$100; Dimes, \$250; Quarters, \$500; Halves, price varies, usually \$500. All you need to do to get these is to ask a teller at the local bank. The cents are usually available, but most of the others will need to be ordered from the Federal Reserve. The good thing is that they can usually get them in within a week or two. Sometimes, banks will tack on charges for ordering boxes of coins, so stick to a bank that doesn't do this.

Once you have the coin rolls, you will need to figure out what you are looking for. It entirely depends on the denomination. For cents, you are looking for wheat cents made from 1909 to 1958. There is also a fairly new craze going on where you hoard all pre-1982 cents, as they are worth 2.3 cents bullion each. You can also look for varieties and errors, commonly listed in the Red Book (Guide Book of United States Coins). For nickels, it mostly depends on you. For example, I hoard pre-1962 nickels, as this is the date range where you are most likely to find varieties, and rare dates such as the 1950-D, when only 2,650,030 were made. There is also the possibility of finding a silver nickel. These 35% silver nickels were made during the war, from 1942 to 1945. They were made of silver because of the need for nickel in the war effort.

Dimes, quarters, and half dollars are mostly searched for their silver (coins made before 1965 are 90% silver). In 1965, they changed the dime and the quarter to a clad composition, while the half dollar was reduced from 90% to 40% silver. From 1965 to 1970 the half dollar is 40% silver.

After you have searched through the coin rolls, you need to either roll them back up, or dump them in coin counting machines. Some banks have machines that their customers can use if they have an account. This is great, as these require no fee, and they are easy to use. If you don't have a bank around that has one of these, then you will have to roll them up. Now, I hope that you feel you have enough information to go coin roll hunting yourself. Have fun, and good luck! Happy collecting! *—Taylor Webb, ANA YN*

