

The Planchet

A Publication of the Indianapolis Coin Club

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Newsletter

February 2006

Membership numbers: ANA C-131170,

The Meetings of the Indianapolis Coin Club are held the fourth Monday of each month at the Nora Library at 8625 Guilford Avenue in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The Meetings consist of a business session, an intermission, educational program, and a numismatic auction. Doors open at 6:00pm, meeting will begin at 7:00pm.

**The next meeting will be
Monday,
February 27, 2006!**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

National Coin Week is April 9th through April 15th and the Indianapolis Coin Club is looking for volunteers to help. First thing we need is to form a committee that will meet right away. We need members that will be willing to make calls, setup events, distribute literature and coins, etc. We will also need everyone's help in making contacts with the media and places of interest, like banks, schools, libraries, museums, etc. The idea is to have a coordinated effort to create a buzz about town for one week and to draw new members to our club. If you are interested in helping this effort call Mark at (317) 837-5682 or see him at the February Meeting on the 27th. Let's make this a fun time for all!

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The 2005 Indianapolis Coin Club Officers and Board Members

President	Mark Eberhardt
Vice-President	Jim Roehrdanz
Secretary	Jim Goaziou
Treasurer	Karl Kreck
Editor	Amy Eberhardt
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Past President	Vinton Dove
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Board Member 2006-2007	Jim Fuson
Board Member 2006-2007	Cos Raimondi
Board Member 2006-2007	Charles Alber



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The Monthly Planchet is the official publication of the Indianapolis Coin Club. It is published monthly in Indianapolis, Indiana. All inquiries should be sent to ICC, P.O. Box 2897, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46206.



Secretary's Report January 23, 2006

The meeting was opened at 7:00pm by President Mark Eberhardt. Mark gave a short speech about what he hopes will happen in the Club over the next two years.

He hopes to increase membership and increase the Club's visibility in the Indianapolis area and in the numismatic world. He advanced several ideas, including an appearance on a radio station to promote numismatics and the Club, and a coin show in the spring of 2007.

The Secretary's report and Treasurer's report were read and accepted.

Mark announced that the Board of Directors had approved a deficit budget for 2006, which had funding for several projects. He then issued a challenge to the members of the Club to come up with fund raisers to balance the budget. The most appropriate fund raiser for a coin club is a coin show, and he urged the members to support the Show Committee in their efforts, both in planning and the operation of the show. Mark said the next Club Show would be in April 2007, since the lead time for advertising, etc., has precluded a Spring 2006 Show.

Past President Vinton Dove appealed to the members to help him find a location for the show. A good idea would be a High School gymnasium, where an Alumni or Parent group from school would offer food and drinks and the Club would run the show.

ICC Member and ISNA Vice President Cos Raimondi offered the assistance of the ISNA to our Club in every area, including contract negotiation and management of the show.

National Coin Week was announced to be April 9th-15th, 2006. Mark urged the club members to participate, and said the Club would try to put on a program for the Metropolitan area to raise awareness of numismatics and our Club.

After the break, Donn Wray gave the educational program. It was a very interesting presentation on Maria Theresa Thalers. He distributed a paper listing how to identify the different types and varieties, which he called "Ye Olde Cheat Sheet," and circulated several examples of the Thalers.

A spirited auction was run by President Eberhardt and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vinton Dove



Treasurer's Report January 2006

Income:

50/50 Drawing	\$ 28.00
ICC auction donation	\$ 4.00
New Advertiser	\$ 35.00
14 Membership Dues	\$168.00
1 Junior Membership	<u>\$ 5.00</u>
	\$240.00

Expenses:

WV-P Quarters	\$ 13.50
Newsletter Postage	\$ 31.20
Newsletter Printing	\$ 24.43
ANA Yearly Membership	<u>\$ 36.00</u>
	\$105.13

December Checkbook Balance	\$2,946.10
January Checkbook Balance	\$3,081.49

ICC CD Balance \$17,098.27

Respectfully Submitted,
Karl Kreck—Treasurer

**Educational
Program for
February is being
handled by
Jim Warden.**

THE NEW ORLEANS MINT

BY AMANDA RONDOT

The branch mint at New Orleans, LA was authorized by the Act of March 3, 1835 for the coinage of both silver and gold coins. The mints at Charlotte, NC and Dahlonega, GA were authorized by the same act, though they were established to mint only gold coinage. This act also placed the supervision of the branch mints under the Director of the Mint in Philadelphia and extended to the branch mints “the laws governing the Mint of the United States.”

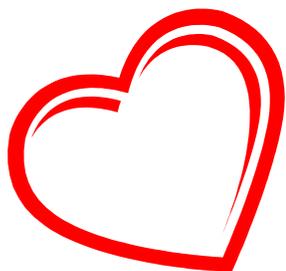
President Andrew Jackson supported the establishment of this mint in order to help with economic development in the West. New Orleans was chosen for the location, since a large amount of metal for coinage was imported through the port. In June of 1835, the city of New Orleans deeded property on the Mississippi River to the United States for the mint.

The mint building was designed by William Strickland in a Greek Revival style. Unfortunately, Strickland never went to New Orleans throughout the course of planning and construction. This resulted in structural problems with the building, because the foundation was not the type required for the local soil. The foundation was laid in 1835. Minting operations began in 1838, though the building was not yet complete. That year, only dimes were minted at New Orleans. The original machinery was hand operated. It was not until 1845 that steam presses were used at New Orleans.

In 1854, P.G.T. Beauregard was hired to fireproof the building and add structural supports. On January 31, 1861 the state of Louisiana took control of the mint. From March 31 to May 31, minting operations continued under the control of the Confederate States of America. Operations ceased when bullion for minting the coins ran out. Estimates place the amount of bullion coined by the Confederacy at over \$200,000. After coinage ended, the mint was used to house Confederate troops.

The Union captured New Orleans in 1862 and regained possession of the mint. Much of the machinery had been damaged in the war, requiring extensive repairs before operations could resume. The New Orleans Mint was reopened in 1876 as an assay office. Coinage was resumed in 1879 and continued until 1909, when officials decided that the Denver and San Francisco Mints could sufficiently handle demand for coinage. Throughout its years of operation, this mint produced gold dollars, quarter eagles, half eagles, eagles, and double eagles. Silver dollars, half dollars, quarters, dimes, and silver three-cent pieces were also coined.

The building again served as an assay office from 1909 to 1919. After that, the Veterans Bureau was granted use of portions of the building. Other uses of the building included a federal detention center and a coast guard receiving station. The building was closed for good in 1942. In 1966, the federal government transferred control of the New Orleans Mint building to the state of Louisiana. Restoration of the building did not begin until 1977, due to troubles with funding. Currently, the old New Orleans Mint building serves as a museum, housing both the Louisiana Historical Center and the Amistad Research Center.



Happy Valentine's Day



