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The Meetings of the Indianapolis Coin Club for June and July 2006 will be held the fourth Monday of each month at the Warren Library at 9701 E. 21st Street 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,
June 26, 2006!**

Indianapolis Coin Club meets at Warren Library

The ICC will meet for two meetings on the East side of the City for June and July. The address is: 9701 E. 21st Street. If you have access to a computer you can Mapquest the address for directions. If not, there is a map on Page 7 of this newsletter. Hopefully everyone will be able to find it with no problems. We are to come in through the South Door.

The ICC will resume its regular meetings at the Nora Library in August. We look forward to seeing all of you there in June and July!

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Standing Liberty Quarters

By Mike Schmidt

1916 would mark the twenty-fifth year since the adoption of the Barber Quarter. The Act of 1890 gave the Secretary of the Treasury the power to now change the coinage design. The Act did not make these changes mandatory but in the early years of the twentieth century the officials at the Treasury did take the viewpoint that it was obligatory. So ignoring the results of twenty five years earlier, on December 28, 1915 a new design competition was announced.

The competition must have been another “by invitation only” contest because it ended and the decision was made VERY quickly. The final selection of the new design was approved on February 28, 1916, just two months after the announcement of the contest. Charles Barber was informed of the selection of the new design on March 3rd and galvanos suitable for reduction to master hubs were finished by the end of May.

Hermon MacNeil’s design was a major break from the traditional designs formerly seen, and it also bears a great deal of symbolism reflection upon the current world events.

Liberty is depicted in a standing pose in a passage through a half height wall. In her right hand she holds the olive branch of peace but as she gazes off to the East (viewers right) towards Europe where the “War to end all wars” was raging, she is uncloaking a shield of defense. This shows that though peace is preferred, we are aware of what is occurring and are preparing for the defense of our country. The wall has the motto IN GOD WE TRUST along the top and either side of the opening is flanked by stars, seven left, six right. The date appears on the face of the step under Liberty’s feet. The word LIBERTY arcs over the top half of the coin and the entire design is surrounded by a beaded border of alternating round and rectangular beads.

The reverse is a little more traditional with an image of an eagle in flight, wings fully outstretched and at the top of their beat. UNITED STATES follows the curve of the rim from ten o’clock to two o’clock with OF AMERICA below it in tow lines. The denomination QUARTER DOLLAR is at the bottom of the coin. The two groups of words are separated by 13 stars, seven on the left and six on the right. The motto E PLURIBUS UNUM in very small letters is found below AMERICA and between the eagles wings. This coin is the first time in US coinage where, for artistic purposes, the Latin letter V is used instead of U in the legends. That feature is usually mentioned frequently in reference to the Peace Dollar where it is used once, but almost never mentioned in the case of the Standing Quarter where it is done FOUR times.

Although they had the galvanos and the capability of creating dies and starting production in June, no Standing Liberty Quarters were struck until December 16th and only 52,000 were produced before the end of 1916, all from Philadelphia. These coins were not released into circulation until January 17, 1917 along with the first production run of 1917 dated coins.

For some reason between the striking of the first 1916 quarters and the beginning of the 1917 production, the obverse design was modified slightly. (That is probably why the 1916 had such a small mintage.) Liberty was shifted a little higher and her head now breaks through the beaded border. (IT was complete and unbroken above her head on the 1916 coins.) Slight changes were also made to the leaves in the olive branch and in the fold of her gown to the left of her right foot. All three mints produced this new modified design with approximately 12 million coins being struck.

The new design was also apparently not satisfac-

tory because on January 11, 1917 the Mint Director again asked permission to modify the design. This time though, permission would have to come by way of legislation because the coins were already in production and the 25 year rule now applied.

One interesting feature of the new design was that Liberty's shield was not the only thing uncovered. Liberty's right breast was shown completely bare. Traditionally it has been said that this "indecent" resulted in a great public outcry demanding that the design be changed. Walter Breen claims that the drive to change the design was spearheaded by the Society for the Suppression of Vice, a group of self appointed keepers of the nations morals.

The problem there is no evidence of any such outcry. There has not been a single contemporary published account of a complaint about the bare breast located. No editorials, no letters to the editor in newspapers or magazines, and with the supposed pressure placed on legislatures, not one word about it is in the Congressional Record. So what is the true story behind the change?

On April 16th, Secretary of the Treasury W.G. McAdoo submitted a legislative draft requesting these changes be made: The curvature of the fields should be increased, the eagle on the reverse should be placed higher in the field, and three of the stars should be placed below the eagle. It also directed that NO changes other than those specified should be made. This act was passed on July 9, 1917 and Hermon MacNeil was asked to make the revisions to his design. MacNeil quickly made the requested alterations but in addition he also made the unauthorized change of clothing Liberty in a coat of chain mail. Technically this makes all of the later Standing Liberty Quarters illegal.

So is this change wasn't requested, why was it done? It probably is related to the military protectionist theme of the design. By the time the changes were approved, the United States had entered World War I. America was now at war, and it wouldn't make much sense to go to war without

protective clothing.

Unfortunately, one change that needed to be made wasn't. Like the Buffalo Nickels the date on the step is the highest point on the coin and it wore off very quickly. The shortcoming was not corrected until 1925 when they recessed the area under the step.

Other than the 1916 issue there is only one other coin that is out of the reach of the average collector, the 1918/7-S. In late 1917 the mint was producing both 1917 dated dies for current production and a stockpile of 1918 dies so that coinage could continue uninterrupted after the turn of the year. One die which was initially hubbed with a 1917 hub came back from being annealed (softened) and was mated with a 1918 dated hub in error. That die was then given an "S" mintmark and was shipped to San Francisco. (A similar error occurred on the Buffalo Nickel that year but it was struck in Denver. During both the first and second world wars the mint was so pressed for production capacity that quality control slipped and several errors of this type were produced both on US coins and on the coins that the mint was producing for other countries.) The overdate was not discovered until several years later, so most of them entered circulation and uncirculated specimens are very rare. The high date also meant that many of them have probably had their dates worn off and are no longer identifiable. (Unlike the 1916 quarter or the 18/7-D nickel there is no design or die feature that will allow a dateless 18/7-S quarter to be identified.)

With the advent of the great depression, demand for coins declined and no quarters were struck in 1931. In 1932 an act of Congress temporarily caused a new design to commemorate the bicentennial of the birth of George Washington was produced. When more quarters were needed again in 1934 public sentiment and the political riskiness of removing Washington caused the decision to end the Standing Liberty design instead, cutting its run short after only 15 years.



Secretary's Report May 22, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Mark Eberhardt. Three visitors were introduced: Terry

Fault, Basil Worl and Richard "Doc" Harrison.

The Secretary's Report and the Treasurer's Report were read and accepted.

Old Business - None.

Under New Business, Mark announced that the Summer Social would be held on Saturday, July 8th at the Hummel Park in Plainfield from Noon to 4:00pm. A sign-up sheet was available for prospective attendees. Mark said that the committee was planning to have games and prizes for those who wanted to participate.

Basil Worl was announced as the Club's newest member.

June will be "Juniors Month." Juniors are invited to bring a numismatic item and tell the members about it or just to discuss their collection.

The June and July meetings will be held at the Warren Library, 9701 East 21st Street. Bill Phillips suggested that it would be easier to access the meeting room by entering the rear door of the Library building.

After the break, Director Dave Reid, presented the Educational Program. He gave a slide presentation and talk on Two Cent and Three Cent Pieces issued by the U.S. He also brought several pieces for display. His program was very informative and interesting.

The winner of the 50/50 drawing received \$28.00

As the last item of business, President Eberhardt ran a spirited auction. Most of the lots were sold, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vinton Dove



Treasurer's Report May 2006

Income:

50/50 Drawing	\$28.00
5 memberships	<u>\$60.00</u>
	\$88.00

Expenses:

Newsletter Postage	\$23.40
Newsletter Printing	\$21.69
Gazebo rental for picnic	\$30.00
NE-P Quarters	<u>\$13.50</u>
	\$88.59

April Checkbook balance
\$2,835.80

May Checkbook balance
\$2,835.21

ICC CD Balance \$17,226.85

Respectfully Submitted,
Karl Kreck

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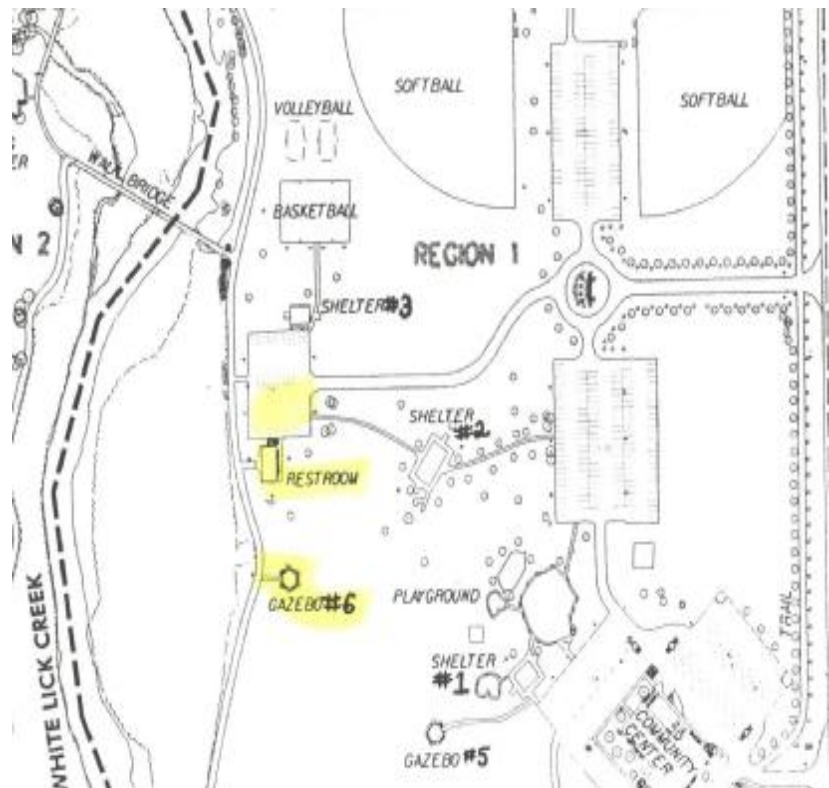
We encourage you to bring a few items to the June meeting that will be appropriate for our Junior members to purchase or be of interest for their collections.

Indianapolis Coin Club's Annual Summer Social



This map to the left shows Hummel Park in Plainfield. We will have our annual picnic here on July 8th from Noon - 4pm. We will have some activities for the kids and parents. Everyone is welcome to bring some games and balls along also. We would recommend bringing a lawn chair also. The Indianapolis Coin Club will provide the meat and drinks. Everyone attending should bring a dish to share, their own plates, utensils, and cups. There will be a sign up sheet at the meeting so we can get an estimated number of people attending. You can also email or call Amy Eberhardt at fubacoin@aol.com or (317) 837-5682 to RSVP. We look forward to sharing this time with you and your family.

This map shows the main entrance into the park. We will be having our picnic in Gazebo #6. When you come in the main entrance, please proceed to towards the back by the restrooms. There will be a sign on the Gazebo for the Indianapolis Coin Club.



Educational Program for June is: “junior’s Night”



The Indianapolis Coin Club is having Junior’s night for our June meeting. We will be giving out tickets for different things during the evening for drawings of: a Morgan Silver Dollar, Indiana Statehood Quarter Displays, and a 1941 to 1974 Lincoln Cent Book. Here is how each Junior can earn tickets:

- receive one ticket for coming to the meeting
- receive five tickets for bringing a show and tell item to the meeting
- receive one ticket for each coin correctly identified at the meeting

If each Junior does the above, they will have earned 11 chances to win one of the items for the drawing! WOW!!!!

Here is a map to the Warren Library for the June and July meetings

