

THE

Indianapolis Coin Club		
Issue # 452	Newsletter	August 2004
Membership numbers: ANA C-131170, CSNS L-600, ISNA LM 243		

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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.

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The next meeting will be Monday, August 23, 2004

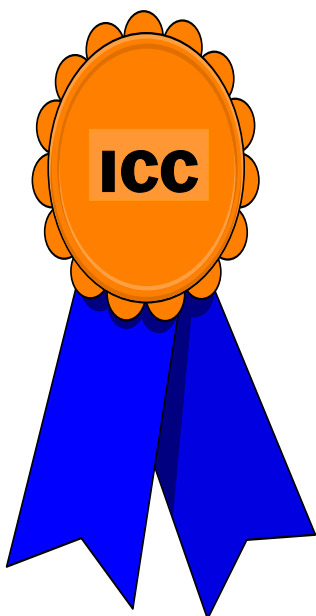
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OH, WHAT A NIGHT!

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July's meeting was an exciting night! The evening started out at 6:00pm with a number of members bringing in their exhibits to set-up. At 6:30pm it was looking like we would run out of table space for all the exhibits!

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By the time 7:00pm came around we were able to get all of the exhibits into place. This took some intricate planning since there was such a demand for exhibit space. There were so many exciting things on hand to view and discuss that Vinton had a hard time calling the meeting to order in a timely manner.

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There were a total of 15 exhibits and a wonderful turn out of members. I can't imagine what next year will bring! See a complete list of the winners and their exhibits in the Secretary's Report on Page 5.

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We need to give a special "Thank You" to all of the members that were present to help everyone get their exhibits set-up. We especially have to give a big "THANK YOU" to ICC Secretary Jim Goaziou for all of his hard work with the organization that was involved in this rather large undertaking. If it wasn't for all of his hard work and effort, this evening would not have been as successful as it was.

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Thanks Jim!



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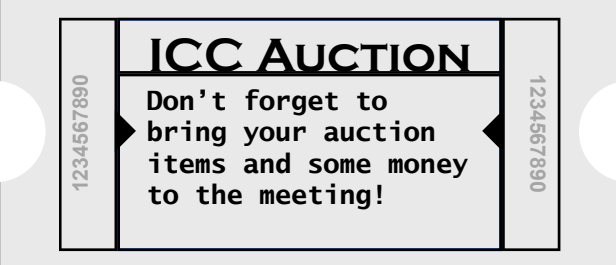
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ICC AUCTION

Don't forget to bring your auction items and some money to the meeting!

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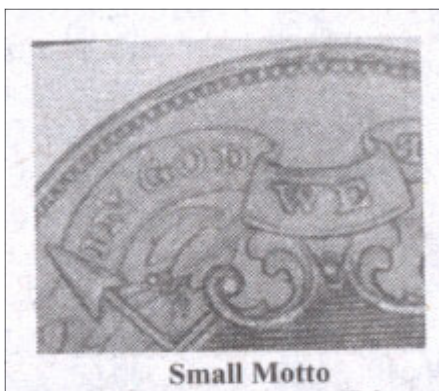
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The Monthly Planchet is the official publication of the Indianapolis Coin Club. It is published monthly in Indianapolis, Indiana. All inquiries should be sent to ICC, P.O. Box 2897, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46206.

Two Cent Pieces 1864-1873

By...Mike Schmidt

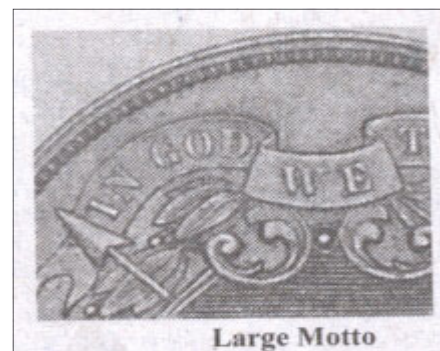
"What if our Republic were now shattered beyond reconstruction? Would not the antiquaries of succeeding centuries rightly reason from our past that we were a heaten nation?" This was part of a letter written by Rev M R Watkinson to the Secretary of the Treasury Salmon P Chase in 1862. In it the Rev maintains that being a "Christian" nation some statement of "our faith in God" should appear on the coinage. He suggests "Our God and Our Country". Secretary Chase agrees that this is a good idea. At the time the mint was working on a new coin, a two cent piece. Made from "french bronze" the new two cent piece, along with the new cent made from the same composition, would hopefully go a long way towards relieving the country from the coin shortage it had been suffering from since the war had begun. With the exception of the silver 3 cent piece all US coins before 1864 carried their full value in the metal content.



Small Motto

The continued circulation of the private issue bronze civil war tokens convinced the government that a fiat coinage was practical and that the government stamp could confer value to the coin as well as the metal content did. Along with the adoption of bronze for the one cent piece, legislation was passed for the creation of a two cent coin to be made of bronze as well. Several major designs were tested but the final choice was a design by the chief engraver James Longacre. The obverse shows a pair of crossed arrows behind a large US shield. Across the top of the shield is a ribbon bearing the new motto. Several mottos were tried including "Our God Our country", "God Liberty and Law", "God Our Trust", and the familiar "In God We Trust". (This motto was probably inspired by the fourth verse of the Star Spangled Banner which contains the line: "And this

be our motto In God Is Our Trust") Surrounding the shield is a wreath of laurel. The date is situated at the bottom below the shield. The Reverse consists of a wreath of wheat tied by a ribbon at the bottom which encloses the denomination 2 Cents. Between the wreath and the outer rim is UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. This reverse was very similar to one of the rejected pattern reverses. The two major differences between the two are the ends of the ribbon tying the wreath and the curvature of the word "cents". On the regular issue the denomination is gently curved while on the pattern die the word is bent almost into a U shape.




Large Motto

The first year of issue saw, what was for the time, an immense coinage. Over 28 million coins were struck. The coin was a success and was followed by large but declining mintages for the next two years. By 1867 the high coinages of the base metal coinages were finally supplying enough coins for general commerce. Production of two cent pieces began a steep decline dropping to under a million by 1869 and to only 62,000

by 1872. The coinage act of 1873 called for the discontinuance of several denominations that had outlived their usefulness. The two cent piece was one of those, but not before 300 proof coins were struck, all with a closed 3 logotype in which the 3 closely resembles an 8. Later collector demand for this caused the mint to make a clandestine restriking of the coin for sale to the collectors. This later restriking was easily identified though by the use of the open 3 logotype. Mintage of the restriking is uncertain but was somewhere between 300 and 600 coins.

There are several interesting varieties to be found in the two cent series. The most famous is the 1864 small motto. This coin is actually a mule and may not actually be a regular issue, the proof version almost certainly is not. The small motto obverse was actually a die intended for pattern coin use only. It comes, as a pattern in various alloys, mated with both the strongly curved "cents" reverse and the adopted design reverse. It also comes in the adopted bronze alloy with the strongly curved reverse. If it was combined, the adopted reverse in this alloy would be the small motto variety. As it is the only 1864 variety out of the 30 or so that are known that is truly scarce, and it never shows any signs of die deterioration which would account for the scarcity, this is quite likely the case.



Treasurer's Report - July 2004

Income:

Membership	\$12.00
50/50	
	<u>\$26.00</u>
	\$38.00

Expenses:

Funeral Flowers	\$ 72.03
Website Maintenance	\$120.00
Exhibition Night Awards	\$162.00
Refreshments	\$ 22.59
News Letter Printing	\$ 24.31
News Letter Postage	\$ 24.05
Texas Quarters	<u>\$ 12.25</u>
	\$437.23

Net Monthly Loss (\$399.23)

Checking Account Balance \$4,792.26

Respectfully Submitted by
Tom Ferwerda, Treasurer



Treasurer's Report - June 2004

Income:

Membership	\$36.00
(3 members)	
50/50	
	<u>\$13.00</u>
	\$49.00

Expenses:

Newsletter	\$16.80
Supplies	\$11.64
Quarters-Florida	<u>\$20.00</u>
	\$48.44

Net Monthly Gain \$0.56

Checking Account Balance \$5,191.49

Respectfully Submitted by
Tom Ferwerda, Treasurer

 ★ If anyone would like to submit an article for the ★
 ★ Monthly Planchet, please let me know. We are ★
 ★ always looking for educational articles on any ★
 ★ Numismatic material. There is a lot of knowledge ★
 ★ among the members of the club and we would like ★
 ★ for you to share your knowledge or story about this ★
 ★ wonderful hobby! All submittals need to be to me ★
 ★ by the 10th of each month. ★
 ★ Thanks, Amy Eberhardt (Editor) ★
 ★ P.O. Box 67 ★
 ★ Plainfield, IN 46168 ★
 ★ (317) 837-5682 ★
 ★ *****

 ★ **Don't forget the ANA** ★
 ★ **Meeting in Pittsburgh, PA** ★
 ★ **August 19-22!!** ★
 ★ *****



Secretary's Report for the meeting on July 26, 2004

President Dove opened the meeting promptly at 7:00 PM by welcoming 27 in attendance.

After presentation of the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports, attention was directed to "Exhibit Night." This was the 8th consecutive annual Exhibit Night held by the club.

Jim Goaziou outlined the exhibit categories, the trophies to be presented in each category and introduced the judges for the event. Judges were Donn Wray, Karl Kreck and Mark Eberhardt. The judges did not have exhibits. Each participant received a 2004 Silver Eagle as a participation award. Fifteen exhibits were entered by thirteen exhibitors, including Junior, Kurt Miller, who brought two exhibits.

Cos Raimondi provided cases for the evening. There were several three case exhibits and one 6-case display by Wendell Wolka. After the judging was completed, awards were presented in each category - 1st thru 4th in US and 1st and 2nd in Exonumia, World and Juniors. The each exhibitor was given the opportunity to explain their exhibit for the Club.

A listing of each exhibitor and the title of their exhibit follows:

- John Sundt / May 10th 1837 Hard Time Tokens
- Jim Luckey / Franklin Half Dollar Bell
- Wendell Wolka / Luther Medals
- Lawrence Wisthoff / Susan B. Anthony Dollars
- Robert Gerth / US Dimes - 1796 - 2004
- Lyle Pelkin / US John Reich Coins
- Lyle Pelkin / Newfoundland Coins
- Jim Fuson / 2 sets of Indian Head Cents
- Allen Dove / Mercury Dimes
- Kurt Miller / World War II Coins
- Kurt Miller / American Coins
- Keith Carver / Silver Dollars
- Jim Goaziou / Washington Quarters
- Vinton Dove / Lincoln Wheat Ear Cents
- Charles Alber / Numismatic Aviary

Trophies were presented to the following members based on the judging results:

- U. S. - 1st Place - Jim Goaziou
- 2nd Place - Robert Gerth
- 3rd Place - Vinton Dove
- 4th Place - Lawrence Wisthoff
- Junior - 1st Place - Kurt Miller
- 2nd Place - Kurt Miller
- World - 1st Place - Charles Alber
- 2nd Place - Lyle Pelkin
- Exonumia - 1st Place - Wendell Wolka
- 2nd Place - John Sundt

There was a dealer bourse at the meeting. The auction was called by Mark Eberhardt. Bill Halsman won the 50/50 drawing. The Club handed out a Mint State Texas "D" quarter to each person present. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
J. W. Goaziou, Secretary

UPCOMING SHOWS

August

- 21st** "Comfort Suites" South Bend IN, off of SR 31/33 North and Cleveland Rd. Hrs: 10am-5pm
- 22nd** "Wabash Valley Coin Club" Terra Haute IN, The Hulman Center 200 N. 8th St. Hrs: 9am-4pm
- 27th-29th** "Ohio Coin Exposition" Cleveland, OH Holiday Inn/Independence, 6001 Rockside Rd. Hrs: Fri. 1pm-5:30pm, Sat. 10am-5:30pm, Sun. 10am-3pm.
- 29th** "Cincinnati Greenhills Classic Coin & Stamp Show" G Greenhills, OH American Legion Post 530, 11100 Winton Rd. Hrs: 10am-4pm.

September

- 3rd-5th** "Ohio State Coin Show", Columbus, OH Clarian Hotel Dublin (was the Wyndham last year) 600 Metro Pl. North. Hrs: Fri. 10am-6pm, Sat. 10am-6pm and Sun. 10am-4pm.
- 12th** "71st Street Coin Show" Indianapolis, IN K of C Hall 2100 East 71st St. off Keystone Ave. Hrs 9am-3:45pm
- 18th** "Comfort Suites" South Bend, IN off of SR 31/33 North Exit 77 off Toll Rd, North of Roseland. Hrs: 10am- 5pm.
- 19th** "Blue Ribbon Monthly Coin Show" Toledo, OH St. Clements Hall 3030 Tremainsville Rd. Hrs: 9:30am- 3:30pm.
- 25th** "Putnam County Coin Club" Greencastle, IN 4-H Fair grounds just North of Greencastle on Hwy 231. Hrs: 9am-4pm.