



Indianapolis Coin Club

September
2002

A.N.A. C-131170 - C.S.N.S.L-600 - I.S.N.A. LM 243

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Nominations and Volunteers Needed

TO ALL MEMBERS - READ THIS!!!!

The club is looking for members to serve on the Board of Directors next year. There are three major offices which need to be filled. They are Secretary, Treasurer and Newsletter Editor/Webmaster. All three positions require time spent working for the club during the month in addition to the time spent at the meetings. Allen Dove announced that he would not continue as Secretary next year. John Phillips said he will not be able to continue serving as Treasurer since his work schedule has changed, prohibiting him from

attending meetings. Gail Phillips, who has not only taken the newsletter to new heights, but has established our website and operated it for its entire life, has announced that she will not serve again next year as Newsletter Editor/Webmaster. All three of these individuals have done excellent work during their tenure in their positions. On behalf of the Club, I thank them for the many hours and excellent work they have contributed.

Call me, write me, or e-mail the Club website, Indianapolis_Coin_Club@att.net, if you are interested in being on the slate of nominees in December. My number and address are in the white pages. Vinton G. Dove, Nominating Committee Chairman

State's quarter gets a celebrity's welcome

Indianapolis Star and Wire Report, August 09, 2002

Ladies and gentlemen, start your collecting! Hoosiers can now secure a bit of Indiana history after the state's commemorative quarter was officially unveiled at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Hundreds attended a ceremony Thursday for the circulation debut, which began with a Brink's armored truck delivering the first batch across the track's start-finish line.

Gov. Frank O'Bannon followed closely behind in the back of a two-seat Indy car driven by racer Sarah Fisher.

The Speedway was chosen for the quarter's release because the coin features a modern-day Indy race car and the state's motto of "Crossroads of America."

"This coin will soon come into the hands of people not only around the country, but around the world," O'Bannon said. "You might say it will be our smallest, yet most visible, ambassador."

Hundreds of children at the Speedway received coupons that they later exchanged for free quarters courtesy of the U.S. Mint. The coins also were available at 13 state parks and the Indiana State Fair.

Our next meetings are scheduled for Monday, September 23, and Monday, October 28, at 7:00 PM at the Fireman's Union Hall Building, 748 Massachusetts Ave. at College Ave., Indianapolis. Parking is available in the lot west of the building and on the streets north and south of the building.

Officers: President: Jim Luckey, Acting Vice President: Jim Roehrdanz, Secretary: Allen Dove, Treasurer: John Phillips, Sergeant-at-Arms: Jim Warden. Past President: Vinton Dove
Editor/Webmaster: Gail Phillips

Directors: Karl Kreck, Lawrence Wisthoff, Donald Black, Coz Raimondi

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THE MONTHLY PLANCHET

The Indianapolis Coin Club is a non-profit, educational organization founded in 1939 for the purpose of educating people of all ages in the greater Indianapolis community about the coins they presently own or may wish to collect. We hold eleven monthly meetings each year (presently at the Firemen's Union Hall, 748 Massachusetts Ave.) during which various programs of an educational nature are held for the benefit of our membership and the general public. All meetings are open to the public and there is no charge for attendance unless a person wishes to become a member of the club. Adult annual dues are \$12.00 per year, junior membership dues are \$5.00 per year.

Get your newsletter in color! Visit our website at: www.indianapoliscoinclub.org



From Our President

The August meeting was held to a small group of our Coin Club members. Jim Warden's program was very enjoyable and informative. He talked about the Carson City mint, silver dollars, silver mining, and the politics surrounding silver at that time. The board will meet before the September meeting to conduct necessary business, tally the results of the Club survey, address attendance problems at our meetings, and to plan future coin auctions at our meetings. If you have some input, please step up and call or e-mail so you can be heard. Our election is slated for our November meeting. Vinton Dove is heading the nomination committee.

- Jim



Treasurer's Report September 2002

INCOME

50/50 Drawing	\$ 20.00
Total Income	\$ 20.00

EXPENDITURES

Newsletter Printing	\$ 48.30
Postage	22.20
Liability Insurance	226.00
Total Expenses	\$296.50

Net Expenses \$276.50

Balance in Checking as of 9-1-02 - \$3187.61



Secretary's Report

ICC Meeting Minutes for 8/26/02

The meeting was called to order by our president, Jim Luckey. The total attendance was 30.

The Secretary's and the Treasurer's reports were read.

Jim announced that we need a committee to nominate candidates for office. Vinton Dove volunteered to be on this Nominating Committee. Jim said that he was not pleased at how the State Quarter Ceremony went. It seemed like people didn't know what they were doing. Jim asked the members present at the meeting how many of them brought someone new with them. Jim also announced that the ICC coin show will take place on the third Sunday of March. Indiana-P & D quarters were distributed. Jim reiterated to the board members that the board meeting will be at 5:30 immediately before the next meeting.



Michigan Statehood
Quarter Design
Proposals

Jim Roehrdanz introduced the month's featured speaker, Jim Warden, whose topic was the Carson City Mint. He discussed the history, the people involved, and the cities that sprung up, the coins produced, where the coins were shipped, and the dangers involved with mining.

The winner of the 50/50 drawing was Coz Raimondi.

Gail announced that the winner of the rebus puzzle challenge was John Hester.

Puzzle Page

This month's puzzle is a quote of Henry Ford's. Do the puzzle, win a prize! Good Luck!

August Puzzle Solution

Buy the coin,
not the holder.

John Hester was the August puzzle winner, but Allen Dove had the right answer, too! Good work, guys!



- F

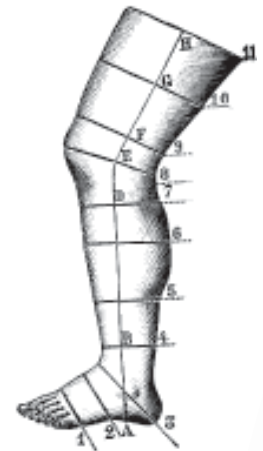
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- B



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U U U U U U



- M



- G



- H



Corner

John Maag's

Elvis Presley Coins

August 16th of this year marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the death of the "King of Rock and Roll", Elvis Aaron Presley, making this an appropriate time to reflect on Elvis as a subject on commemorative coins. None of these coins were issued by the United States. He was, however, honored on a United States postage stamp in 1993, approximately one year after the USPS conducted a contest to choose the depiction of Elvis on the stamp. Between the choices of the "young Elvis" and the "1970's Vegas Elvis", the "young Elvis" won out, so the stamp was issued with that depiction.

At this time, Elvis has been honored on a number of privately issued medals, on artistically altered Tennessee quarters, on Mardi Gras tokens, and on foreign commemorative coinage, but not on official US coins. As a subject for commemorative coinage, Elvis has been well-represented by two unlikely issuing countries - the Saint Thomas and Prince Islands, and the Marshall Islands. Saint Thomas and Prince is located off the west coast of Africa, about 150 miles west of the Guinea coast.

In 1993, the same year that the Elvis stamp appeared in the US,

Saint Thomas and Prince issued the following three commemorative coins featuring Elvis - a 500 dobra KM36 in copper-nickel, a 1000 dobra KM71 in silver, and a 25,000 dobra KM72 in gold. All coins feature the same full-facial portrait of the young Elvis in front of a 1950's style microphone. However, no mintage figures are listed for the three coins, even in the 2002 Standard Catalogue of World Coins, almost ten years after the coins were issued. How available the coins are can only be guessed at. While the copper-nickel and silver coins are readily available, the gold coin is rarely offered, either through price lists from dealers who handle modern gold coins, or at coin shows.

It is doubtful that residents of those islands ever get one of these coins in change, because, according to the latest figures from the exchange rates in World Coin News, it takes over nine thousand dobras to equal one US dollar. Therefore, these coins could be considered to be non-circulating legal tender coins. These were the only coins issued to honor Elvis by this country.

Another prolific coin issuer, the Marshall Islands, has issued a number of Elvis commemoratives, along with their extensive series of coins that honor everything from WWII airplanes to James Dean and Marilyn Monroe. The Republic of the Marshall Islands is one of four island groups that make up what is called Micronesia. It consists of 33 coral atolls and 1,150 islands or islets, and is halfway between

Australia and Hawaii. Of course, there might be some controversy about just how "coin-like" these issues are because of the limited redemption value they possess. To redeem the coins, one has to actually travel to the islands and redeem only one per day. Although denominated in dollars, since the actual currency there is the US dollar, they aren't very easy to spend or redeem. However, for this article, we'll put that controversy aside and describe the issues related to Elvis.

The first Elvis coins issued by the Marshall Islands were also issued in 1993, like the Saint Thomas and Prince issues, and similarly, no mintage figures are available for either those issues, or successive issues in 1995, 1996, and 1997. Unlike the Saint Thomas and Prince islands, which issued gold, no gold coins of Elvis were issued by the Marshall Islands - just copper-nickel, brass, and silver. Marshall Islands coins have been issued by the Roger Williams Mint and the Sunshine Mint, a private mint that marks their issues with an "S" mintmark - don't mistake it for San Francisco!

The first issues of 1993 are as follows: a copper-nickel \$5 KM 124, a brass \$10 KM 129, and a silver \$50 KM 130. All of these coins feature an older Elvis in profile, with small guitars at the sides of the coins. The reverse of these coins are all identical, with the coat of arms of the Marshall Islands. The same reverse design is utilized on all subsequent issues. Further is-

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

issues followed in 1995 - a copper-nickel \$5 KM 222, a brass \$10 KM 223, and a silver \$50 KM 224. Again, the design was Elvis in profile, Issues in 1996 are as follows: a copper-nickel \$5 KM 300, a brass \$10 KM 301, and a silver \$50 KM 302. However, these coins feature a full-facial portrait of a younger Elvis. The last issues to date were in 1997 - a copper-nickel \$5 KM 364, a brass \$10 KM 365, and a silver \$50 KM 366. The 1997 issues show Elvis in concert. However, there have been special three-coin proof sets of all the Elvis coins.



1995 Three-Coin Proof Set



Elvis \$50 silver 1993 commemorative - Marshall Islands, Obverse & Reverse



Elvis \$5 cupronickel 1993 commemorative - Marshall Islands

**Doc Gerth Meets
Henrietta Fore**

After the formal presentation of the Indiana Quarter, a one-hour meeting was held for collectors and coin dealers. The meeting was coordinated by Henrietta Holsman Fore, Director of the Mint, and other US Mint personnel. Also in attendance, was the Director of the Chicago Federal Reserve Bank.



Future US Mint programs were discussed, including possible coin design changes. Members of the audience were asked for

ideas for future coin designs. It was also noted that contract money carriers cannot place a surcharge on coin deliveries.

Higley Copper

KID'S CORNER



C R K R I V E R L J Y T
 O X R R V M D E A J U W
 N D R E P Y R N C C R P
 S K D E W U U H I N N B
 T R C D K A R T G D E R
 I E K R R W C I Y R M P
 T M C Y W E D C T V T V
 U M J Q N C M M T A Q T
 T A T N G R N R R X N Y
 I H O F D L J Q T P L S
 O C X C H J E E R H T Y
 N L A T N E M A D N U F

Higley Copper

In January 1639, several English Puritan settlements joined together to officially form the colony of Connecticut. The origin of the word Connecticut comes from the Mohegan word "Quinnehtukqut," meaning "long river place" or "beside the long tidal river."

The set of laws that Connecticut adopted, known as "the Fundamental Orders," is said to be the earliest written constitution in North America! Under these laws, Connecticut was to govern itself, meaning its citizens were loyal to the colony, not to England. That's why Connecticut's nickname became "the Constitution State."

In another famous January--this one in 1788--the state of Connecticut joined the Union by signing the Constitution of the United States. It was the fifth state to ratify (sign) the Constitution.

Between these two important Januaries--after the colony was formed but before it joined the Union--the Higley copper was made, starting in 1737. The reason it was made in Connecticut is simple: Dr. Samuel Higley lived there and owned a copper mine there!

Since there was no United States, there was no official United States

CONNECTICUT	JANUARY
CONSTITUTION	PENCE
DEER	PURITANS
FUNDAMENTAL	RIVER
HAMMER	THREE



money. Britain didn't allow colonies to strike their own coins, but Britain was far away, and the colonists were loyal to the colony of Connecticut first. Higley had copper and he knew how to make it into coins, so he did. He valued the coppers at three pence each.

But there was a problem. He made so many of these coins that people began to think they weren't worth as much as three pence. To make people happy, Higley began to inscribe "Value me as you please" on the coins...though he put "I am good copper" on the back to ease their minds, and still used the Roman number III for three pence.

OBVERSE: The original inscription "the value of three pence" was soon changed--for the sake of those who weren't so sure the coin was worth three pence--to "value me as you please." Money talks!

REVERSE: Three hammers are shown on the reverse. The name "Connecticut" was changed to "I am good copper." In fact, the copper was so good that many of these coins were later melted down for other uses.



Iowa Statehood Quarter Design Proposals



Wisconsin Statehood Quarter Design Proposals

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THE COIN INDEX

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COS RAMOND, PRESIDENT E-Mail: coinindex@aol.com

This month's educational program will be presented by Don Wray. He will speak about "American Colonial Issue of the Phillipines" covering generally the period 1903 through World War II.
 Don't miss it!

Upcoming Coin Shows:

- Sept. 14-15 South Bend,** Coin & Currency Show. Comfort Suites, 52939 S.R. 933 N. Sat: 10AM-5PM; Sun: 10AM-3PM. Dave's Collectibles, Dave Brody, POB 724, South Bend, IN 46624. 219-272-9198. 12-15 tables. Free.
- Sept. 15 Ft. Wayne,** Old Fort Coin Club Fall Show. Allen County Fairgrounds, 2726 Carroll Rd. Hrs: 9AM-4PM. Old Fort Coin Club, Bill Haines, 10326 Old Leo Rd. #29, Ft. Wayne, IN 46825. PH: 1-260-484-7336. Email: billhaines2001@yahoo.com. 30 tables. Free.
- Sept. 28 Cloverdale,** Putnam County Coin Show. Ramada Inn, Hwy. 231 and I-70. Hrs.: 9AM-4PM. Putnam County Coin Club. Larry Creed, RR 13, Box 209, Brazil, IN 47834. PH: 765-672-8388. Email: coincollec@aol.com. 22 tables. Free.