



Indianapolis Coin Club

November
2002

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

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 30103, Indianapolis, IN 46230 Fax: 257-2220

ISNA SHOW A GREAT SUCCESS

The ISNA (Indiana State Numismatic Association) Show was, as usual, very exciting. There were 62 dealers, by my count, and I looked at almost every coin in the room, or at least it felt like it by Saturday evening. The prices were high, low, and reasonable, depending on your point of view. But there were many, many coins, some of which

were very high priced (valuable). The ICC had a table in the main room, courtesy of the ISNA. Thanks, ISNA!! Several of our members were on hand to man the table, including Richard Kinnett, Jim Luckey, Karl Kreck, Doc Gerth, and Allen Dove, and those were just the ones that I saw. There were others, including those of our

members who had dealer tables. Another of our members attending was Patti Finner. She was so busy with her ANA and other duties that I was only able to talk to her for a few minutes. It was great to see all of our members who attended. In my humble opinion it was another great show.
- Vinton Dove

Doc Gerth Takes Second Place at ISNA Show

Every year at the ISNA Show, there is an Exhibit contest with categories for both adult and junior members. This year, one of our very own illustrious collectors, Doc Gerth, narrowly missed best of show (by .08 of one point!) with his three and five cent display. His

exhibit included both coin and paper currency in these denominations. For his display, he received a silver bullion piece mounted in a plaque. First place was won by Rollie Finner, with a display of many pieces of the Forbes silver collection. Rollie Finner's wife, Patti, is

also an ICC member. His prize was a 1/10-ounce gold eagle. Adam Asbery, one of our junior members, received a participation award for his display on Buffalo Nickels, also. Good work, everyone!

**Remember to send in your dues and banquet money!
Fill out the form on the last page of this issue!**

Our next meetings are scheduled for Monday, November 25, and Monday, December 2 (banquet), 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, Vice President: Jim Roehrdanz, Secretary: Allen Dove, Treasurer: Vinton Dove, Sergeant-at-Arms: Jim Warden. Past President: Vinton Dove
Editor/Webmaster: Gail Phillips

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

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NEW WEBSITE LINKS! AT: WWW.INDIANAPOLISCOINCLUB.ORG

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.



From Our President

The October meeting turned out with more attendance than in months past. It probably was the coin auction which will be a monthly event starting in January. Dave Reid will draw up a set of rules which will be agreed upon by the other two auctioneers. Hopefully, this will add attendance to the meetings. Tom Ferwerda and Karl Kreck filled us in on the Christmas Party and the 2003 Coin Show, which they are chairing, respectively. Both are looking for helpers to assist them. The Christmas Party, which will be catered and have entertainment, will be December 2nd, at our meeting hall, at 6 pm. Please get your name in so Tom can plan for enough food. The November meeting is election night for our officers for 2003. If you have an idea for a program in 2003, get in touch with Jim Roehrdanz.

Jim Luckey



Secretary's Report

ICC Meeting Minutes for 10/28/02

The meeting was called to order by our president, Jim Luckey. The total attendance was 34.

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

Tom Ferwerda and Kurt Miller discussed the Christmas Banquet, December 2nd, at the meeting hall. They passed around a sign-up sheet and said that Gail Phillips, Newsletter Editor, has lined up the entertainment.

Karl Kreck discussed the 2003 ICC Coin Show and distributed fliers.

Jim announced that beginning next year, we will have a 30 minute auction every meeting.



Treasurer's Report

Receipts:

50/50 Drawing	\$	16.50
Edward Jones CD - Interest		449.23
- Principal		14,000.00

Total Receipts	\$14,465.73
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Disbursements:

Newsletter - Printing	51.89
- Postage	21.09
2003 ICC Show - Advertizing	50.40
- Room Deposit	200.00
Statehood Quarters -	
Mississippi P & D	18.00

Total Disbursements	\$341.38
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Net Receipts	\$14,124.35
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Balance in Checking - Nov. 5, 2002: \$17,013.19

We will have a set of rules drawn up.

ISNA's state coin show is Friday and Saturday, November 1st and 2nd. There will be exhibits and the ICC will have a table. A sign-up sheet was distributed.

Vinton Dove read the nominations for next year's officers.

Dave Reid conducted the auction.

Mississippi P & D quarters were distributed.

The winner of the 50/50 drawing was Thom Dixon.

Gail announced that the winner of the rebus puzzle challenge was Vinton.

Getting 'free' stuff

Government, Fed offer hobby-related info

The government or Federal Reserve won't give you money for free, but they will send you a wide variety of numismatic information, ranging from coin comic books to a video. The items come courtesy of the General Services Administration and the Federal Reserve System.

"Don't get ripped off" is the message behind *A Consumer's Guide to Investing and Collecting U.S. Currency*, prepared by Treasures of Antiquity, Inc. and the United States Postal Inspection Service.

The 24-page booklet, prepared in 1996, shows how to determine the value of paper money and discusses best practices for buying, selling and storing currency. It is available from the Federal Consumer Information Center in Pueblo, Colorado. You can telephone toll-free (800) FED-INFO between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Eastern Time, or access the information directly on the Internet at the Web address located in the box and the bottom of this page.

CBS News "Sunday Morning" anchor Charles Osgood narrates, "The Fed Today", a 13-minute video, available free from the Philadelphia Federal Reserve Bank. Osgood explains the workings of the Federal Reserve System and recaps its history from its founding in 1914. The Philadelphia Fed also offers an illustrated 14-page booklet on *Coins of the Ancient Mediterranean World*. The booklet, based on the Federal Reserve Bank's coin collection, traces the development of early coin economies from 700 B.C. to 100 A.D. You can write the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 10 Independence Mall, Philadelphia, PA 19106-1574, or telephone (215) 574-6000. Information on how to obtain the video can be obtained at the address listed in the box; the booklet is posted at another Web address, also listed.

The New York Federal Reserve Bank will give the *Key to the Gold Vault* to anyone who asks; contact them at 33 Liberty St. New York, NY 10045, or telephone (212) 720-6130. The booklet, revised in 1998, discusses the legendary vault's past and reveals its daily operations. The fully illustrated catalog can be accessed via the Internet at the Web site listed in the box.

The Atlanta Federal Reserve home to a fascinating money museum, offers *Dollars and Cents: Fundamental Facts about U.S. Money*; contact the bank at 1000 Peachtree St. N.E., Atlanta, GA 30309-4470, or tele-

phone (404) 498-8500.

The 20-page booklet, published in 2000, describes the types and features of current paper money and coins, tells how money is made and how it is placed in circulation. It also offers tips on how spot a counterfeit bill. It is readable via the Internet at the address listed in the box.

The Boston Federal Reserve Bank offers a glimpse at the fragility of the economy before the nation's central bank was established; contact the Boston Fed at 600 Atlantic Ave., Boston, MA 02106, or telephone (617) 973-3000.

Panic of 1907, a 20-page booklet, describes how the banking panic developed, spread and was eventually resolved. Even as the nation's millionaires pledge their fortunes to the economy, weary workers lined up outside New York City's tottering banks to withdraw their cash. The information can be located at the address listed.

Since at least the 1970's, the Federal Reserve System has published a series of surprisingly interesting comic books about cash, credit and the economy. Two notable ones, both offered by the New York bank, are *The Story of Money* and *Once Upon a Dime*.

The 24-page *The Story of Money* explains the purposes of money, the qualities that distinguish money from non-money and how the banking system creates money. *Once Upon a Dime*, a personal favorite last revised in 1990, presents a fable about how the island kingdom of Mazuma grew from a barter economy to a sophisticated modern system, with its own central bank. Write to the Public Information Department, Federal Reserve Bank of New York, 33 Liberty St., New York, NY 10045.

In addition to an extensive list of free publications, the individual Federal Reserve Banks also publish free quarterly "reviews". While largely technical, the reviews also occasionally publish historical articles of interest to collectors.

In spring 2000, for example, Minneapolis printed an article about how Boston banks weathered the Panic of 1837, an event that ushered in the Hard Times. All of the Fed banks can be accessed at <http://www.federalreserve.gov/otherfrb.htm>.

Reprinted from the Monday, July 15, 2002 Coin World article by Gerald Tebben, an editor for the *Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch*.

Web addresses for information

Consumer guide booklet: <http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov/press/nfcpubs/uscurrenc.txt>

"The Fed Today" video: <http://www.phil.frb.org/education/moneyconnection.html>

Ancient coins booklet: <http://www.phil.frb.org/education/medcoin.html>

New York Fed catalog: <http://www.newyorkfed.org/pihome/addpub/goldvault.pdf>

Dollars and Cents booklet: http://www.frbatlanta.org/invoke_brochure.cfm?objectid=83FD41F3-9AF0-11D5-898400508BB89A83&method=display_body

Panic of 1907 booklet: http://www.bos.frb.org/genpubs/ledger/ledger97/mlmd_w97.htm

Panic of 1837 article: <http://minneapolisfed.org/research/qr/qr2421.html>



Corner

John Maag's GERMAN EAST AFRICAN EMERGENCY COINAGE ISSUES

As Europe approached WWI after the assassination of Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand by Bosnian Serb radical Gavrilo Princip, the fate of German's colonies throughout the world, for the most part, was determined within weeks. Despite the buildup of the German Imperial Navy under Kaiser Wilhelm II and Admiral Tirpitz, the English Navy still controlled the seas. So, most of the colonies fell to one or another allied power, with the exception of Germany's largest and richest colony – German East Africa (modern day Tanzania). Instead of surrendering, this colony was the site of an extensive resistance campaign of guerilla warfare, a war that actually didn't end until after the surrender of Germany in Europe. Under General Paul Von Lettow Vorbeck, who utilized native African troops commanded by German officers, Von Lettow Vorbeck is credited with tying down as many as three hundred thousand allied troops through his tactics, all with a force of approximately fifteen thousand.

At the beginning of the war, German East Africa had approximately eight million inhabitants, but only about ten thousand Germans and other colonials. Under then Colonel Von Lettow Vorbeck's command, aside from local police, were three hundred German officers and 2500

Askari or native troops at the beginning. Von Lettow Vorbeck's campaign, utilizing a relatively small force, is quite a fascinating story, enough that there have been a number of books written regarding it such as "The Great War in Africa". However, this article will deal more with the coinage that took place during these years, which included the only emergency gold coinage in modern times, the fifteen rupien gold coin of 1916.

At the beginning of the war, with the break in links between Germany and its colony, an interim paper coinage was issued. However, paper coinage wasn't popular with the natives. At the time, it took five paper rupees to get one silver rupee. In December 1915, the geologist Dr. Akrenkel observed that at the railroad center of Tabora, they could create a makeshift mint at the railroad shops. The government had already moved their capital from the former one at Dar-Es-Salaam because its location was more endangered by foreign troops than this interior city. Mining engineer Dr. Schumacher observed that while they had no silver for coinage, they had a source for gold because of a significant gold mine in the area, approximately 170 kilometers northeast of Tabora. In a ten-day-long safari, 200 natives and twenty Germans brought gold bars worth almost one million marks (about \$250,000.00 value U.S.). As for the minor coinage, which consisted of five and twenty heller pieces, the source was scrap metal from shipwrecks, cartridge cases, etc. The five and twenty heller coins were struck with the same basic design, a crude German imperial crown on the obverse with the letters "DOA" (Deutsch Ost Afrika) with the letter "T" for Tabora. The reverses featured the denominations of five or twenty heller within a

wreath. Amazingly, for an emergency coinage, there are known mintage figures. According to the Kurr Jaeger "Die Deutschen Muenzen Seit 1871", the mintages were as follows: 1916 five heller – 302,000; 1916 twenty heller – four types – 724a, 725a, 726a, and 727a – all-inclusive – 325,940. The brass twenty heller had a total mintage of 1,307,760, which includes the 724b, 725b, and 726b types.



Varieties in these coins pretty much are related to either the size of the imperial crown or the metal composition. The shape of the "L"s in the word "heller" is also a factor to consider. There is no known breakdown for the individual types in terms of mintages, just the total for all types, although a few of the types are considered to be rare. The most common types are quite affordable, however. This is unusual for emergency or siege coinage. Consider, for example, the rarity of the coins that were issued by Napoleon's troops at the fortress of Zamosc or Cattaro in 1813, or the Austrian siege coins issued with portraits of Ferdinand I in 1848, at the siege of Mantua un-

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der Austrian General Gorzkowski. There were so many varieties in these German East African coins because the crudely made dies often broke. The natives liked the coins, and, after the war the Belgian and English troops who occupied the territory found them desirable as souvenirs. However, the most common types of these coins are listed at prices under ten dollars each in the current Standard Catalogue of World Coins.



Such is not true for the gold 15 rupien, which is a rare coin due to the low mintage and the fact that it was the only specifically colonial issue in gold for any German colony. A Singhalese gold worker from Zanzibar made the dies after a model from R. Vogt. The reason for striking the gold coins was to provide payment to the native troops – the plan was to give one of these gold coins to each member of these troops, about 15,000 in all. Additionally, the coins later went into general circulation.

The gold coin comes in two varieties, the first variety having a total mintage of 6395, and the second having a total mintage of 9803. Both coins featured the design of a trumpeting elephant with Mount Kilimanjaro in the background and the date "1916 T". The reverse features the German imperial eagle with the legend "Deutsch Ost Afrika" and the denomination of 15 rupien. The variety comes about because of the placement of the arabesque extending from the right wing of the German eagle. In the first variety, it ends under the "A" in "Afrika", and in the second variety, it ends under the "T" in "Ost". Due to the primitive nature of the conditions under which the coins were struck, the gold was a reddish gold, containing copper and silver, since it could not be refined out of the gold.

Soon after Tabora was occupied by Belgian troops, Indian traders were asking 200 rupies each for the coins, so they have been considered rare from the beginning. In the present, the coin is now listed at almost two thousand dollars for an uncirculated example, and several hundred dollars for a circulated one, when it is available.

As for General Paul Von Lettow Vorbeck, after a long and successful campaign, he was the last German Commander in the field to lay down his arms. A truce courier arrived with a telegram announcing the armistice. It took several days to verify that it was true, and on November 25, 1918, the "Bush Ghost", as he was known, surrendered to General Van Deventer at Abercorn. Thirty German officers, 125 settlers, five German doctors, 1100 Askaris and 819 women laid down their 38 machine guns, an old naval cannon, and 2,000 rifles. General Von Lettow

Vorbeck lived until 1964, dying on March 9, 1964, just eleven days before his 94th birthday. Shortly after WWII, his one-time adversary, Field Marshal Jan Smuts sought him out. Reduced to poverty and starvation after Allied bombing and Gestapo house arrest, Smuts raised funds from sympathetic South Africans and he was given a lifetime pension and food parcels.

In Dar-Es-Salaam there is a memorial to the Askaris showing a native in full battle dress with an inscription in Swahili, Arabic, and English, drafted by Von Lettow Vorbeck. "In memory of native African troops who were the feet and hands of the army, and to all other men who served and died in German East Africa, your sons will remember your name." Though decades have passed since there was a German East Africa or Von Lettow Vorbeck's campaigns, the resulting emergency coinage is a tangible memento of this battle, which kept German East Africa the only German possession remaining in German hands until the end of the war.

**Indianapolis
Coin Club
Meetings in 2003**

Jan. 27	July 28
Feb. 24	Aug. 25
Mar. 24	Sep. 22
Apr. 28	Oct. 27
May 27 (Tues.)	
June 23	Nov. 24

**Dec. 1
Christmas Party**

KID'S CORNER



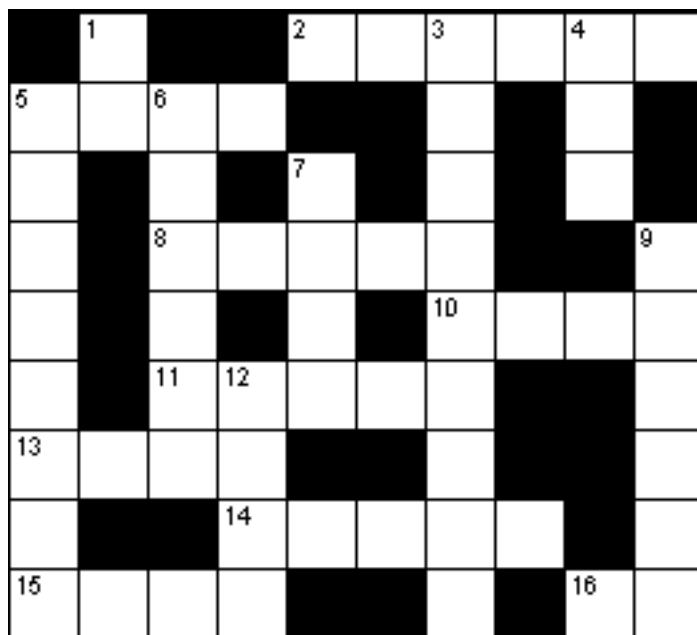
The 1933 Double Eagle Takes Flight!

An auction is where things are sold to the people who offer the most money. And an auction in New York on July 30, 2002, will be a very special event: the first and only time that a 1933 Double Eagle is sold!

Why has this coin never been sold before and what makes it so special? Here's the story. Double Eagles are gold coins marked "20 dollars." The first ones were struck in 1850 from gold mined during the California Gold Rush. These coins were made until 1933, during the Great Depression, when President Roosevelt ordered the United States Mint to stop making all gold coins.

Even though almost half a million of these Double Eagles were struck in 1933, they were never issued as money because of the President's order. Instead, they were stored in Mint vaults—except for two that were saved for the Smithsonian Institution—until the Mint had them destroyed in 1937. All of the gold coins were melted down—except for ten of them, which secretly were stolen!

In 1944, King Farouk of Egypt bought one of the stolen Double Eagles from a coin dealer. He obeyed the law by asking the Treasury Department for a license that would let him take the coin to Egypt. Not realizing that the coin had



Across

2. What the flag's 50 stars stand for
5. Examination
8. Computer pointer
10. What they call me by
11. Land of King Farouk
13. Currency of the European Union
14. Live and _____.
15. Sell (past tense)
16. Not "is not"

Down

1. Myself
3. An exciting trip
4. Long period of time
5. Instructors
6. Season of this issue
7. Month of the big auction
9. Comes out to the public for the first time
12. Metal of the Double Eagle

been stolen, the Treasury Department mistakenly gave him the license.

A few days later, other 1933 Double Eagles appeared in a coin auction. When the Secret Service realized that all the 1933 Double Eagles were supposed to have been destroyed, they knew they must have been stolen. They found out who was selling the stolen coins and how they were stolen, but they couldn't convict him because too much time had passed since the robbery. But the coins were still stolen government property, and had to be returned. The government got all of them back by 1952—except the one King Farouk had bought and taken back home to Egypt.

Ten years after the king bought the coin (1954), a new government took over and the king's coin collection was put up for auction in Egypt. The United States government asked the new Egyptian government to give the coin back to us instead of letting it be sold. The Egyptian government did take it out of the auction, but

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then...it disappeared! It was never returned. More than 50 years later (1996), an English coin dealer was arrested in New York City while trying to sell a 1933 Double Eagle to Secret Service agents who were pretending to be coin collectors. The coin is one of the stolen coins and very probably the one from King Farouk's collection. But the United States had to prove in court that it still owned the coin. It took five years for everyone to agree what to do with the coin. It was settled that the government owned the coin, but that this one and only 1933 Double Eagle, after 69 years, should be issued and then sold in a public auction. What an interesting case! This legendary coin was made legally but couldn't be owned legally; was taken out of the country legally though it was stolen property; and now it can be bought legally—someone can buy and own what may be the most valuable gold coin in the world. Someone like you can go to Sotheby's in New York and try to win the bid—if you have a few million dollars in your piggy bank!

VINTON G. DOVE
 Certified Public Accountant
 Collecting U.S. Coins Since 1952

443 Wellington Road (317) 257-1906
 Indianapolis, IN 46260 Fax (317) 257-2220

October Puzzle Solution

A Light Purse is a Heavy Curse.

Vinton Dove was our prize winner last month. Allen had the correct answer, too!

This month's educational program will be presented by each member in attendance regarding their favorite coin or paper money series which they are collecting, why it's their favorite, where they stand in terms of assembling a complete collection, and how they acquire their pieces in the collection. A few short comments from everyone will be enough to fill our educational program time. Don't be shy, but be prepared!

Multi-Purpose Payment Coupon -
Send By Monday, Nov. 25 for Banquet
2003 Dues _____# of Adults @ \$12
_____# of Juniors @ \$5 (Due by Jan. 1)
Monday, December 2 Banquet Tickets
_____# @ \$10 each

6:00 PM
Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Member Number _____

Phone Number _____

email address _____

checks or money orders only -
(please don't send cash) to:
ICC, P O Box 30103,
Indianapolis, IN 46230

(317) 885-8065
885-8066

 **THE COIN INDEX**

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COZ RAIMONDI, PRESIDENT E-Mail: indexcoin@aol.com

Slate of Officers Announced

As you know, our club election will be held at the November 25th meeting. The slate of candidates are as follows: President - Jim Luckey, Vice President - Jim Roehrdanz, Treasurer - Tom Ferwerda, Secretary - Chris Clegg, Sergeant-At-Arms - Jim Warden, Editor/Webmaster - Gail Phillips (contract), Board of Directors: Allen Dove, Donald Black, Karl Kreck

Of course, Vinton Dove will continue to serve as Past President, and the other three board members, Charles Alber, Coz Raimondi, and Lawrence Wisthoff will be serving their second year of their two-year terms.

Nov 16-17 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. TA 12-15. FR