

The Blanchet



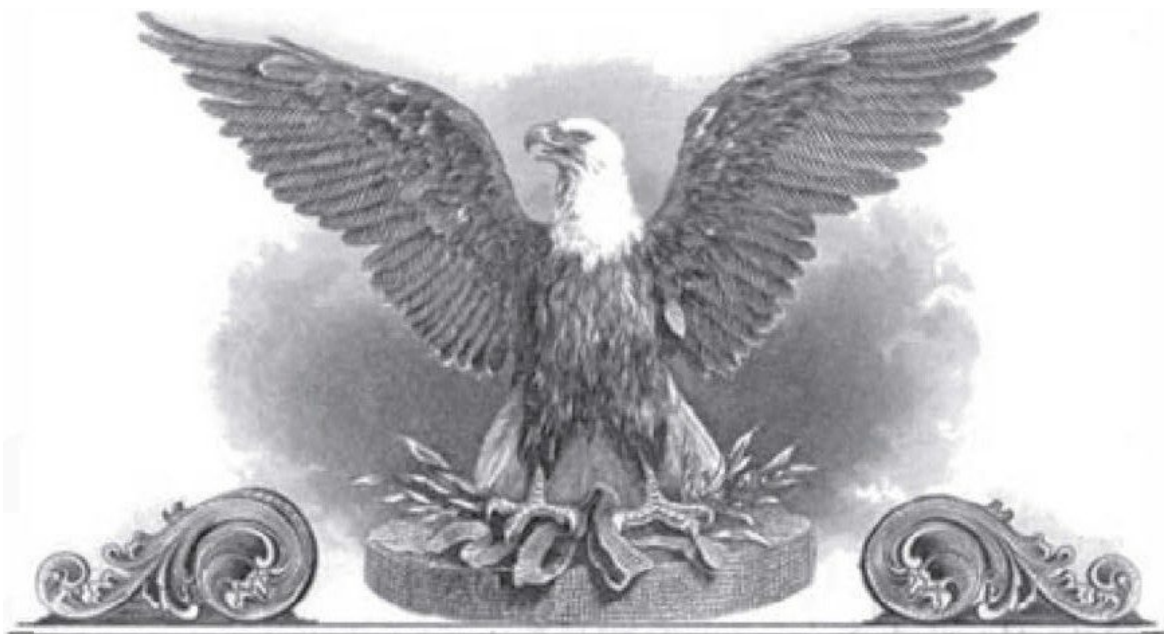
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Established 1939 and celebrating over 80 years of service
to the coin collector.



INDIANAPOLIS **COIN CLUB** E'std. 1939

The next meeting will be May 18th, 2026

Monthly meetings of the Indianapolis Coin Club are held the third Monday of each month (except December) at the Northside Events and Social Club, 2100 E. 71st Street in Indianapolis, IN 46220. The meetings consist of a business session, educational program, an intermission, and a numismatic auction. Doors open at 6:00 pm; the meeting will begin at 7:00 pm.



As hopefully all of our members know, the ICC has a library that is free to use for its members. The current list of library books is available on the ICC website. Jim Sukup usually brings a few books each month, but we want to make sure that everyone is aware of the books that are available. Email Jim prior to the meeting and he will bring your selection if it is available.

jsukup@rpiratings.com

This Month's Educational Program Will Be:



**“Indiana State Numismatic
Association Medals”
by Jeff Bercovitz**

A Few Words from Your President

Greetings Indianapolis Coin Club members! I am writing this president's message from Beijing, China! During my time here, I've been able to tour a couple of coin and currency museums, seeing exhibits such as the Thematic Exhibition on Millennium of the Birth of Paper Currency, and the Exhibition of Chinese Currency History, as well as viewing coins and numismatic items going back thousands of years.

Also, I was able to pay a visit to the (legitimate) coin market. This is set in what is basically a two-story shopping mall, with hundreds of 6x6 booths, all focus on one or more aspects of numismatics. At any one time, there are perhaps 200 - 300 dealers open, with space for close to 1,000. It is almost intimidating. Being married to someone who can translate is a blessing, but modern translating apps are quite helpful as well. In this marketplace, counterfeiting or selling fake goods is highly illegal, and I have not once found a fake item there. Indeed, in the past some dealers have been offended if I tested items with my Sigma. I had many interesting conversations, bought some items and even sold some, and saw some old friends.

When traveling to other cities or countries, always look for the opportunity to check out different areas of numismatic interest, be it museums, local mints, and coin shops or shows. You never know what you might find.

I'll be back in time for the meeting this Monday. Hope to see you all there!

Andy Nahrwold
ICC President



A Truly Forgotten Colony: Demerara & Essequibo

By Mark Benvenuto

Collectors of foreign coins sometime focus on a specific nation, and sometimes jump about the world, trying perhaps to connect the older coins of a foreign land to a modern-day nation or colony. Part of the fun can be finding a colonial land, now evolved into a free nation, that has basically been forgotten by most of us, with the possible exception of students of history. German East Africa and British Honduras probably qualify as two. But one that came and went remarkably quickly was the British colony of Demerara and Essequibo.

Britain had lost us, the United States, by 1781, but was still deeply involved in owning and administering a colonial empire when the Netherlands transferred the colonies of Demerara and Essequibo to Britain in 1812, finally formalizing the transfer in 1814. If you are still wondering just where in the wide world this is, well, look to modern-day Guyana, on the northern coast of South America. For almost twenty years, this was Britain's toehold on the South American continent. And yes, right after folding it into its empire, a series of British coins was produced for this new land, a holding that was big on plantation farming of a few crops, namely sugarcane, cocoa, coffee, and cotton.

Since Britain had acquired this colony from the Dutch, it makes a bit of sense that Dutch coins continued to be used in it, at least for some time. But the Royal Mint did get into the game quickly, producing a series of coins for which 3 bits were equal to 15 stiver, and for which 20 stiver was equal to one guilder. This may be the only time in which British coins sported Dutch denominations.

British Stiver

Arguably the easiest of these colonial pieces a person can acquire today is the copper one-stiver, which was pretty low on the ladder, as far as value goes. But the colony never had all that many people in it who may have used coins on a daily basis. It is a grim fact that of the estimated 80,000 people living in it back then, as many as 77,000 were enslaved persons who had been hauled over from Africa, or whose ancestors had been. A life of hard, unrelenting toil didn't lend itself to making and spending a great deal of money.

The stiver was a copper piece about the size of a modern United States half dollar – or more appropriately to its time, about the size of a United States large cent. As might be expected, the obverse is dominated by a bust of the monarch, who was King George III at the outset of this new colony. The reverse can be considered rather traditional. It sports a crown above the words “One Stiver” surrounded by a wreath, all of that surrounded by the words, “Colonies of Essequibo & Demerary Token” and the date. The slight differences in spellings are the sort that were common at that time.

There were silver pieces made for the colony as well, as well as an over-stamp used on gold coins, for the larger transactions that took place. All of these are scarce today, and perhaps obviously the gold pieces are expensive. But overall, the collector base for any of these is so thin that a person who is patient in their collecting might be pleasantly surprised at the cost of anything they can find.

British Guiana

The colony evolved further in 1831, becoming British Guiana, although the production and export of the four just-mentioned cash crops really didn't decrease in any way. At the time of this change over, the monetary system did hang on for some further years, but eventually changed to one most of us today would consider far more recognizable. We mean the new one was based on the British Guiana dollar. This is a somewhat more common set of coins for a collector to hunt down today. Thus, with this switch, the stiver and its pals faded into history.

Guyana, free and in the clear, 1966

The modern nation of Guyana shed its last colonial vestiges in 1966, and certainly has coins produced for everyday use. They too don't have a very broad collector base. But the short-lived and almost-forgotten colony of Demerara-Essequibo? Well, these could indeed be fun coins to hunt down.

½ stiver



1 stiver



Photos courtesy of WorldCoinGallery.com



22 guilders, or one joe – note of Demerary and Essequibo (Boling collection)

The 2026 Indianapolis Coin Club Officers and Board Members

President	Andy Nahrwold	Board Member 2025-2026	Chris Bower
Vice-President	Donn Wray	Board Member 2025-2026	Vinton Dove
Secretary	Jim Sukup	Board Member 2025-2026	Jim Roehrdanz
Treasurer	Gerald Coraz	Board Member 2026-2027	Jeff Bercovitz
Newsletter Editor	Joseph Boling	Board Member 2026-2027	Scott Grant
Past President	Sharon Bower	Board Member 2026-2027	Steve Howery
Sergeant-at-Arms	Jim Warden		

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The cost is only \$35.00 for a business card size ad; \$50 for a half page; \$100 for a full page; each for eleven issues!

Announcements

Here are some upcoming Midwest and national coin shows

Monthly – 2nd Sunday 9am-3pm – FUBA Coins show – 71st Street Events Center, where we meet

May

- 16 --Jasper Area Coin Club Show. Dubois County Museum, 2704 N. Newton St. Hrs:: 9am-2pm.
- 16 -- Lafayette Numismatic Soc Coin Show. River City Community Center, 2842 Old US 231. Hrs: 9am-2pm.
- 17 -- 67th Shelby County (OH) Coin Show. Shelby County Amer Leg, 1265 Fourth Ave. Sidney Hrs:10-3.
- 28-30 – Monroeville PA. PAN Spring Coin Show. Monroeville Conv Ctr, 209 Mall Blvd, Monroeville PA 15146 (Pittsburgh Exit 57, Penna Turnpike) Hrs: Thu 12-6, Fri 10-6, Sat 10-4 Free admission, parking .
- 31 -- Greenhills Classic Coin/Stamp/Jewelry Show, Amer Legion Post 530, 11100 Winton Rd, Cincinnati OH
Hrs: Sun 10-3:30

June

- 4-5 – 43rd Ann Greater Cincinnati Numis Expo. Sharonville Conv Ctr, 11355 Chester Rd.
Fri 10-6, Sat 10-3
- 7 -- Monroe MI. Monroe CC Annual Coin Show. Knights of Columbus, 202 W. Front St. Hrs: 10am-3pm.
- 20 – Lincoln IL. Railsplitter CC Spring Coin Show. Lincoln Banquet Center, 201 Madigan Drive. Hrs: 9-3pm.
- 28 -- Greenhills Classic Coin/Stamp/Jewelry Show, Amer Legion Post 530, 11100 Winton Rd, Cincinnati OH
Hrs: Sun 10-3:30

PLEASE try to have correct change for the auction, or at least use smaller bills, to pay for items that you win. Especially troublesome are \$50's and \$100's, which quickly drain the change that is available. That change is personal money, and it will be greatly appreciated by the changer and auction assistants if making change is easier and more efficient.

Editor's Note: The views expressed in any article are solely those of the author and do not represent the views of the ICC, nor does the ICC endorse any advertiser.

Treasurer's Report for April 2026

My report is as follows: the club currently has \$24,667.69 in its checking account. After the April, 2026 meeting, I deposited \$153 into the club account. Since then, I have written two checks. One to Jim Sukup to reimburse him for a club expense in the amount of \$15.83 and a second for room rental in the amount of \$100 for our upcoming May, 2026 meeting. That's all folks! Jerry Coraz

Your auction lots could be listed right here. Any active ICC member can put lots into our monthly auctions. Send them to the editor by the Wednesday before each month's meeting (joeboling@aol.com).

Indianapolis Coin Club

2026 Meeting Dates & Educational Programs

(If you have a program to offer, please contact Donn Wray at donn.wray@skofirm.com)

January 19, 2026 – meeting cancelled

February 16, 2026 – Joseph Boling – “Ryukyus Reversion Yen - 1972”

*Prize sponsor: Joseph Boling, 1936S Walking Liberty 50¢

March 16, 2026 – Donn Wray – “I see live people”

*Prize sponsor: Donn Wray, 1899 Barber half dollar

April 20, 2026 — the members present—extended Show and Tell

*Prize sponsor: Jim Sukup, 2010 silver Hot Springs, Arkansas Statehood quarter ultra cameo PF-69

May 18, 2026—Jeff Bercovitz — “Indiana State Numismatic Association Medals”

*Prize sponsor: Jeff Bercovitz, 1964 Kennedy half-dollar

June 15, 2026 — Chris Bower — “Clark-Gruber & Co., Reborn in Colorado”

*Prize sponsor: Chris Bower

July 20, 2026 — “”

*Prize sponsor:

August 17, 2026 – Louise Boling – “City Medals of Thérèse Dufresne”

*Prize sponsor: Louise Boling

September 21, 2026 – Exhibit Night

*Prize sponsor: Indianapolis Coin Club

October 19, 2026— “”

*Prize sponsor:

November 16, 2026 – The Annual State of the Hobby Address – Mark Eberhardt

*Prize sponsor:

Tuesday, December 1, 2026 – NO MEETING (no *Planchet*) - I.C.C. Holiday Banquet at [TBA], 6:00pm

Minutes of the ICC Meeting on April 20, 2026

Open - The meeting was held at the Northside Events and Social Club, 2100 E. 71 St., Indianapolis, Indiana, which was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by ICC President Andy Nahrwold.

The **Attendance Prize** was a 2010 silver Hot Springs, Arkansas Statehood quarter ultra cameo PF-69 donated by Jim Sukup. There were 30 people in attendance.

The **Secretary's Report** for March 2026 was accepted as published in the *Planchet*, by a duly made motion that was seconded and passed by the membership. The **Treasurer's Report** for March 2026 was accepted as published in the *Planchet*, by a duly made motion that was seconded and passed by the membership.

Visitors – There were two visitors at this meeting, one who joined the Club as a new member.

Reports of Committees – There was limited interest in the three previously proposed committees dealing with a high roller auction, electronic payments, and the Club's tax exempt status, but a few members did express some interest in participating in them and more formal announcements will be forthcoming.

Old Business – It was announced that Gary Selig had paid the Club's annual registration fee with the Secretary of State and the Club thanks him for his generosity. Jim Sukup noted that the Club's internet domain registration has been extended through April of 2027, but we have not yet been billed for it.

New Business – Speakers are still needed for July and October; if interested, please contact Donn Wray or one of our board members.

Numismatic Finds and Notes of Interest: There were a couple of Coinstar finds and interesting stories from members.

Educational Program: Today's Educational Program was "Show and Tell" by our members. Due to lack of a speaker for the meeting, it was decided to give members a chance to "show and tell" about items they brought in. Several members gave short talks about interesting coins and medals.

Auction – Today's auction consisted of 10 sheets, with \$20.00 going to the Club. ICC 75th anniversary medals added \$2.

Fifty-Fifty Drawing: The prize for the 50/50 drawing totaled \$101, with the club receiving \$51 and the winner \$50. The **Attendance Prize** was also awarded.

The meeting was **adjourned** at 8:38 p.m., and our next regular meeting will be on Monday, May 18, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Sukup, Secretary (jsukup@rpiratings.com)

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