

Our Favorite Time of Year: *Annual GNA Show*

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On behalf of the Board of Directors, Staff, and Volunteers let me welcome you to the 59th anniversary GEORGIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION COIN SHOW.

Once again, we succeeded in completely selling out the Bourse floor. Additionally there will be numerous member Exhibits on display, as well as a full line book and supply dealer. Please take time to check out all areas of the Show during your visit.

We are also pleased to have Club tables providing information on the ANA, FUN, and THE LIBERTY SEATED CLUB.

As you check out the Bourse, you will find dealers selling coins, currency, and exonomia of all types from ancient to modern - there will be something for everyone.

On **Saturday**, be sure to have any YN'S (young numismatists) attend the YN Meeting **at 1 pm**. Bob Hartjie does a masterful job of presenting informative programs with the help of students from the coin club at one of the Chattanooga area schools

The markets continue their crazy swings with metal spot prices and premiums varying at a dizzying rate. Gold is nearly in reach of its all time high, while silver continues to lag around only half of its record high. What will happen during the coming year is anyone's guess.

If you have any questions or need help finding a particular dealer or item, please ask one of our volunteers at either of the Registration tables in the lobby or anyone with a Staff Badge.

I wish you an EXCITING and SUCCESSFUL SHOW followed by a SAFE trip home. Thanks again for attending and we look forward to seeing you again in 2024.

Tom Youngblood
GNA President

Augusta Coin Club 2023 Spring Coin Show

May 19th 9am to 5pm

May 20th 9am to 3pm

Columbia County Exhibition Center

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2023: Another Great Year in Numismatics

Welcome fellow numismatists to another great year for collecting. We have just started our second year of the American Women of Quarter series, which this year will honor Bessie Coleman, Jovita Idar, Edith Kanaka'ole, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Maria Tallchief. Be on the lookout for these quarters in your change, as two could already be in your pocket: Bessie Coleman and Edith Kanaka'ole.

Later in the year, we will see the return of the 100th anniversary Morgan and Peace dollars. This year's series will have 5 varieties with uncirculated, proof and reverse proof finishes. All of these will be from either the Philadelphia or San Francisco Mints.

Finally, depending upon your view or better yet your wallet, there are no commemorative coins on the schedule for 2023. If the current schedule remains the same, this will be the first gap year in the modern commemorative series since 1985.

Let us know what you are excited about in 2023.

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Show Calendar

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5/7, 6/11, 7/16, 8/13,
9/10, 10/8, 11/5, 12/10

Hilton Atlanta/Marietta Hotel/Conf. Center
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Bob O'Brien: (770) 772-4359
atlcoin@hotmail.com, www.atlcoins.com

GNA 60th Annual Coin Show

April 19 - 21, 2024

Dalton Convention Center

2211 Dug Gap Battle Road, Dalton, GA

Show information: www.gamoney.org

Tom Youngblood: (770) 815-4042

Augusta Coin Show

May 19 - 20, 2023

Columbia County Exhibition Center

212 Partnership Drive, Grovetown, GA

David Chism: (706) 541-4143

Alabama Numismatic Society Annual Convention

July 7 - 9, 2023

Bessemer Civic Center

1130 9th Ave. SW, Bessemer, AL 35022

Corbett Chandler : (205) 616-9385

Low Country Coin Show

July 28 - 30, 2023

Exchange Park Fairgrounds

9850 Hwy 78, Ladson, SC 29456

Richard Smith : (843) 797-1245

Blue Ridge Numismatic Assoc. 63rd Annual Convention

August 3 - 5, 2023

Dalton Convention Center

2211 Dug Gap Battle Road, Dalton, GA

Ronda Leeper : (678) 232-6982

North Carolina Numismatic Association Annual Convention

Sept 29 - Oct 1, 2023

Cabarrus Area & Events Center

4751 Highway 49, Concord, NC

Perry Siegel: (704) 488-4787

Rome Coin Club Show

October 20 - 21, 2023

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400 Civic Center, Rome, GA 30161

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Date _____

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Life (65 or older)	\$150
Life (Club)	\$150

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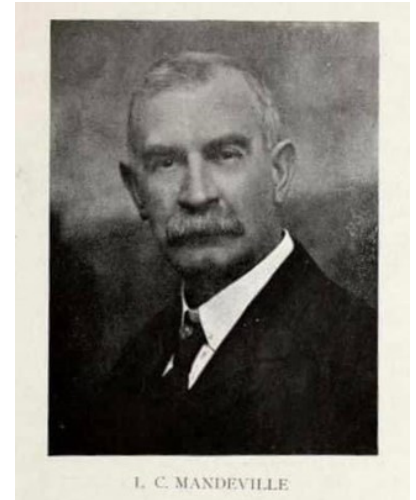
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“The First National Bank of Carrollton”

by Raiden Honaker

It is always a great day when I add a new Georgia National to my collection. However, when I obtain a note from a city that I have a direct and personal connection to, that makes for an extra special occasion. Such was the case when I finally acquired a long sought-after example from Charter #5264, The First National Bank of Carrollton, Georgia. This Carroll County city is home to my alma mater, the University of West Georgia, so I was searching all over and keeping my eyes peeled to locate one of these elusive Nationals. Long story short, I finally located a fantastic 1902 Series \$20 Plain Back that although well-circulated, had plenty of eye appeal.



CH# 5264 was the sole charter in Carroll County, which was organized on February 1, 1900, and closed their doors on January 13, 1931. This note features a plate date of February 1, 1920 and bears the stamped signatures of Charles A. Lyle and L.C. Mandeville. As many Carrolltonians know, Leroy Clifton Mandeville was

one of the most prominent figures in Carrollton history, serving as President of the First National Bank from 1900 to 1925, the Mayor of Carrollton from 1895 to 1896, and was the founder of the Mandeville Cotton Mills. The well-known building just outside of downtown known as “The Mansion” was built by Mandeville in 1890 and was the first house in the area to have indoor plumbing and electricity.

Getting back to adding Carrollton notes to my collection, I recently was able to acquire yet another example! National Bank Notes can surface in the most obscure of places, far from where they were originally issued close to or over a century ago. This second example turned up at a local coin show in southern Illinois. How did it end up so far away from home? We will never know, if only paper currency could talk. I was pleased that this newly surfaced example was a \$10 Plain Back, a different



Continued on page 6

denomination that would pair well with the \$20 Plain Back. A grand total of 14,243 sheets of 1902 Series \$10-\$10-\$10-\$20 subject sheets were issued, so it is interesting that more \$20's are known today versus \$10's since the ratio of issuance was 3 to 1. The FNB of Carrollton also issued 1882 Series Brown Backs, Date Backs, and Value Backs, all of which are incredibly rare. Only two 1882 Date Backs are known alongside a single Value Back. Hopefully a Brown Back will one day be discovered, although unlikely as only a little over 2,600 sheets of Brown Backs were issued.

Only two dozen large size and a meager four small size Nationals are reported for this desirable charter. Higher grade examples are simply not available as far as we know, with nothing above a Very Fine, and the greater majority of the census being in the VG range. Today, the original bank building has been lowered two stories due to deterioration and is now an admin building for the West Georgia Technical College located in downtown's Adamson Square. To pair with my two Carrollton notes, I have obtained several vintage postcards depicting the bank, cancelled checks from the note-issuing period, and an interesting medal from the Mandeville Mills' 50th anniversary that features a bust of L.C. Mandeville. I am still on the hunt for an 1882 Series and 1929 small size, but that is an exceptionally difficult challenge I am ready to take on.



Adamson Square, First National Bank in the background, circa 1912



The original bank building today, home of WGTC



Postcard depicting the FNB, circa 1920's



L. C. Mandeville's home, aka "The Mansion"

“Can A Proof Walking Liberty Half Dollar Ever Be Undervalued?”

by Mark Benvenuto

Everybody likes a bargain, whether it is when buying groceries, or in finding some coin we have been looking for to complete a set or series we have been working on. The Walking Liberty half dollar series is one that has been a collector favorite for decades, and thus it's fair to think that this is *not* a place to look when we decide to go on any sort of quest for bargains. Still, there could possibly be a bargain or two spread out among the three decades in which these fifty-cent pieces were produced. And weirdly, there might be some among the proofs.

The highs and lows of mint state

It is fair to say that when the third-party grading services came into existence in the late 1980's that there were four series of classic, United States silver coins on which their employees really spent a lot of time and energy. They were the Morgan and Peace dollars, and the Walking Liberty and Franklin halves. What that has evolved into now, three decades later, is a lot of encapsulated Walking Liberty half dollars in the various grades of mint state, or MS. On the low end of the spectrum are plenty of coins in grades such as MS-60 to perhaps MS-63 that cost \$100 or less. In the cases of the most common dates and mint marks, “or less” translates to much less, meaning about \$50. If we simply wanted to put together an assembly of handsome looking mint state Walking Liberty half dollars, it would be pretty easy to start with those common dates and mint marks, and see what encapsulated pieces we might be able to amass.

If we chose to be more of the connoisseur however, and tried to go for the higher grades of mint state, we'd definitely have to spend more. There are some jumping off points among the Walking Liberty halves, points where one grade is much more expensive than another. The 1940-S serves as a good example, although there are plenty more. In MS-65 this coin lists for about \$350. That's not unreasonable for an excellent piece in a high grade. But move up just one rung on the ladder, to MS-66, and the price moves in a big way, to just more than \$1,000. It's tough to swallow that kind of upscaled version, especially when there were 4.5 million of the 1940-S minted. It's hardly a rare coin.

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Low Country Summer Coin Show

July 28th - 30th, 2023



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“Did you know...volume 34”

by Chip Cutcliff

Did you know... that counterfeit versions of the 2021 100th anniversary Morgan and Peace Dollars were listed on e-bay months before the Mint released the coins? Staying away from a discussion of the Mint ordering problems for these coins, this was one of the few Mint offerings to date that specified a much later shipping date than ordering date. Apparently, our counterfeiting friends in China didn't understand the delayed shipping, or possibly didn't even care, given the counterfeit detection ability of most e-bay shoppers. The coins appeared on e-bay, most at discounted prices but some at full pop. Some of the counterfeits are quite good, making detection difficult from a picture. Keep in mind that estimates have been stated that a full third of all coin postings on e-bay are for counterfeit coins. Make sure you understand the refund policy before ordering. Remember the old adage, if it's too good to be true, it usually isn't. I know many people who have been “taken” on e-bay. I only know one or two that actually found a great coin or medal at an inexpensive price. Swing by the shop on the Marietta Square if you want to see one of the better counterfeits of the 1921 CC Morgan.

Did you know... or have you realized yet that the current subscription program at the U.S. Mint my completely rewrite the way that the average coin collector can build his/her collection? When the Mint implemented its' subscription program there was no mention of the fact that they could/would presale 100% of an issue to just subscriptions. With household limits on most programs and 10% of maximum mintage to the bulk buyer dealer program, who would have expected that they would commit 100% of any product before it was actually released to the general public for sale? The average collector can't order one American Silver Eagle proof dollar, a 3-roll set of Significant women in history quarters or a silver quarter proof set on the first day of issue at noon when they first go “officially” on sale. If they are not already sold out thru the subscription program, then you have to fight your way through “non-Bot” confirmation process on your computer before being allowed to order, IF the Mint web site doesn't crash and not allow you in at all. Try making a phone call lately? For 18 months of covid there was no Mint phone service or e-mail service. The U.S. Mint is the worlds largest coin dealer, with an “F” grade for customer service and support. They are their own worse enemy. Maybe we should all write, e-mail, phone and complain about the problems.

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"Can A Proof Walking Liberty Half Dollar Ever Be Undervalued?" (continued from page 7)

So, it looks like there are some very high 'highs' as well as delightfully low 'lows' among the circulating Walking Liberty half dollars.

The proofs, 1936

The United States Mint had produced proof coins back in the 1800's, but not in a particularly big way. In 1936 the folks in charge at the main facility in Philadelphia initiated what many of today's collectors consider the modern proof program. It ran from 1936 to 1942, then went dormant until 1950. And importantly, in these first seven years, while there were never all that many proofs made, they were put into sets for sale to a wider audience, as it were. The 1936 set saw only 3,901 as an official total, which makes them quite rare today. Getting our hands on a single proof Walking Liberty half from this year, even in a lower proof grade, such as PF-63, would still cost us just shy of \$2,000. While this dollar number won't require that we take out a second mortgage on the house, it is probably more than most of us wish to spend on a single coin.

The proofs, 1940 – 1942

Even though the 1936 proof Walking Liberty half dollar seems to be a coin most of us can only wish on, it's worth taking a peek at the other proof years in this early time. By 1942 the total number had risen to 21,120. That's still a tiny number, and we can be forgiven for thinking that the price tag for one of these – even a PF-63 strike – will be about as expensive as the just-mentioned 1936. But in what might be a huge surprise, the price range from PF-63 up to PF-65 for a 1942 only goes from \$400 to \$500 in the major monthly

price listings. The tough part of adding one of these to a collection is probably finding one, since they aren't exactly to be plucked out of some dealer's bargain bin.

With the bookends of the 1936 and the 1942 for the proof Liberty half dollars in place, it's wise to start working inward to see when and where the prices begin their rise. Using any of the major price lists as a guide, we find that as we go back to the year 1940, that proof Walking Liberty half dollar costs the same, grade for grade, as its more common sibling, the 1942. According to the official tally, there were only 11,279 proofs made in 1940. Even if we opt for the PF-63 as an example, what can be considered a lower grade of proof, to think that we can land one for \$400 is simply astonishing. To make another comparison, this is far, far less than a 1916-D Mercury dime in a worn grade like very good, or VG-8 – and there were 264,000 of those dimes minted!

To answer the question in our title: yes, apparently a proof Walking Liberty half dollar can be pretty severely undervalued. The thought of being able to land one of these crème de la crème Walking Liberty half dollars anywhere near the quoted prices is simply amazing. What a crown jewel to add to any growing collection!

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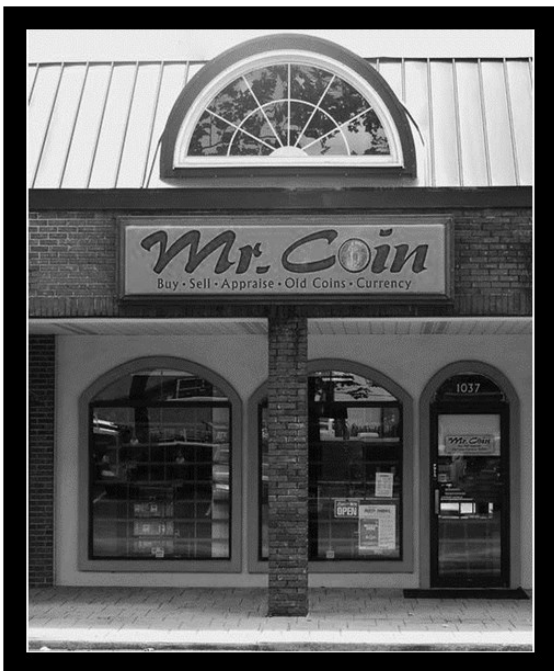


Steven & Connie Nix (Owners)

Did you know... The plans for high relief Morgan and Peace dollar were scratched early on in 2022, with the Mint stating the reason was due to a shortage of silver blanks available to continue the program for this year. The Mint switched to .999 fine silver on all silver coins starting in 2019. They said it was more cost effective than continuing to use the old 90% pure blanks. Therefore, the silver content changed from .772 ounces to .8594 ounces in a silver dollar. Guess what? Not only did the Mint increase the prices after saying they were switching because the .999 blanks cost less, we now find that the new composition blanks are harder to come by than the old. Anyone see a pattern to this madness? Thankfully 2023 has had a better start than last year with the Mint now offering collectors an open pre-order window for all 5 varieties of the Morgan and Peace dollar releases.



2023-S Morgan and Peace Silver Dollar Reverse Proof Set



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“Madison Coin Club Medals Display Wins 2023 ANA National Coin Week Exhibit Award ”

by Richard Jozefiak

At the American Numismatic Association’s National Money Show in Phoenix, AZ held March 2 - 4, 2023, the author displayed his two-case competitive exhibit “Creating the Madison County Coin Club 10th Anniversary/100th Meeting Three Medal Set”.

The exhibit won the 2023 ANA National Coin Week exhibit first place award. The National Coin Week exhibit class is limited to a display of a value of up to \$250, excluding the display case(s) costs. The first-place award includes a plaque, and an ANA Summer Seminar Scholarship. The scholarship includes round-trip travel to Colorado Springs, CO, registration for one summer seminar session, and room and board on the campus of Colorado College. The exhibit also won Third Place in The Arts class (Class 5).

The three-medal set was created for the April 2011, 10th anniversary and 100th meeting of the Madison County Coin Club (meets in Huntsville, AL). Only 50 three-medal sets were produced by Coins for Anything, Inc. The medals were minted in antique copper, shiny silver color on brass and shiny gold color on brass.



Display Case #1



Display Case #2

The exhibit displayed two sets of medals that show the obverse and reverse designs. The exhibit discusses how the medal design concept was done, die creation and finally the production of the club medals.

“Coin Show Best Practices”

While we at GNA strive to provide the safest environment possible, we encourage all of our vendors and collectors who attend our show to follow are some of these best practices which will help reduce the chances of becoming a numismatic crime victim.

1. Take the time to learn about the show you will be attending and the area in which it is located.
2. If traveling by personal car plan most direct route and determine any construction or choke points (Contact State Police or State Transportation Department for this type of information). Identify any potential weather issues that would cause travel problems. Determine if there are any cellphone dead spots along your route. Always be alert to suspicious vehicles.
3. Travel with someone and let a family member know your route and estimated time of arrival.
4. Inventory coins and leave copy on home/office computer.
5. Upon arrival and before exiting your vehicle look around for any suspicious persons, vehicles or activity.
6. Do not park in a secluded parking lot or one that does not have adequate lighting after dark.
7. Always be alert to the surroundings when going to and from your vehicle. Do not use cell phone.
8. If you are arriving by air and taking a cab, shuttle or limousine to the show do not take your eyes off your bags until they are secured within the vehicle. In situations where you are using a shuttle stay at the rear until the last piece of luggage is loaded and then board. (Do not let any distraction cause you to take your eyes off of your bags)
9. Do not let cell phones, both texting and talking, distract you
10. If possible, keep the most valuable bag in your possession.
11. Do not post on social media that you are going to the coin show.
12. When you get to the show and exit the vehicle be alert to the surroundings while your bags are being unloaded. (Do not let any distraction cause you to take your eyes off of your bags)
Identify the presence of security personnel
13. Once inside the show check-in and immediately put on your show credentials.
14. Keep a small LED flashlight within easy reach in case of power failure within the bourse floor (It does happen!!).
15. Be familiar with security personnel.
16. Never divulge to any person you do not know that you are traveling alone.
17. Utilize your cell phone camera/video to photograph/video and document suspicious persons.

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"Coin Show Best Practices" (continued from page 13)

18. Alert security of suspicious persons or activity on the bourse floor.
19. Develop and maintain a personal contingency plan. This will include medical related information; inform family where you are staying if traveling overnight; ensure you have enough medication, if applicable.
20. When leaving the show at the end of the day do not carry large sums of cash or inventory.
21. Talk with security or show representatives to identify safe and unsafe venues within the area.
22. Take off all show credentials before leaving the building.
23. Do not talk about your business dealings in a public forum (restaurants, bars etc.,).Remember there is no specific profile of what a coin thief looks like.
24. When carrying coins in a briefcase be alert in areas of congestion that may create an opportunity for theft. Examples: Food lines, ticket lines, crowded subways, shuttles, elevators etc.,
25. At the end of the show limit distractions while packing up. Make sure there is adequate security outside when loading. If making several trips to vehicle, have someone watch your table and leave most valuable load for last.

While no list can be fully comprehensive, being prepared is the best course of action for all of us. Let us know if you have any concerns or recommendations to improve our Show so we can continue to provide the best show in the southeast.



ROME COIN CLUB

62nd Annual Coin Show



Rome Civic Center
400 Civic Center Drive
Rome, Georgia 30161

Friday, Oct 20th 9am to 5pm
Saturday, Oct 21st 9am to 4pm

For more information contact
Tom Youngblood, Bourse Chairman

770.815.4042

Tom.Youngblood@att.net

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Directions to ROBINSON'S Coin Shop

From Atlanta,
take I-75 NORTH to
South Marietta Pkwy.
(Exit 263)

Looping under I-75,
go WEST for 2.7 miles
on S. Marietta Pkwy
(the South Loop)

Directly before passing
under the (railroad)
bridge, turn RIGHT
on Atlanta Street

Go NORTH for .3 miles,
Robinson's is on
the RIGHT before
entering the Marietta Square.

