

June 2012

Crescent City Coin Club

www.crescentcitycoinclub.org

NEXT MEETING

June 20, 2012

Dinner 6:00pm

Meeting 7:00pm

Knights of Columbus
3310 Florida Avenue
Kenner, LA



Proposed Change to Membership Bylaws

During the last Board of Director's meeting the club officers and directors visited the membership portion of the bylaws with the intent of updating and streamlining the "New Member." Club President Rick Demers formally proposed that the present bylaws which require three readings of "New Member" applications be changed to allowing an applicant membership after just one reading, and a majority vote by club members.

The bylaws change will read as follows, "Each applicant for membership must be sponsored by one member in good standing. All applications must be given to the Recording Secretary. The applicant's name will be read and voted upon at a regular club meeting. If accepted by a majority vote, the applicant will become a member upon payment of the annual dues. Applicants may be requested to briefly describe on their collecting interest at the regular meeting."

Corresponding Secretary Michael Maniscalco commented, "I think the revision in the new member bylaws is a positive and progressive move for the club. This change streamlines an overly burdensome process for new members, while maintaining the integrity of the club. Membership is the lifeblood of any organization, and we need to increase our membership."

Voting on the changed bylaws will be made during the regular meeting on June 20, 2012.

Coin Auction



Members are encouraged to bring coins for auction. Coins will be auctioned

toward the end of each monthly meeting. Members are permitted to set starting bid price on each coin put on the auction block. Club members are able to auction up to 5 coins each.

In another decisive move by the Board, a motion was made and carried forward that a "Membership Table" should be setup and manned at the club's sponsored coin shows. Michael Maniscalco was requested to design and purchase a 3ft x 6ft banner to be placed over the table.

"We're missing a wonderful opportunity to increase the club's membership by not having a well publicized Membership Table," said Michael Maniscalco. "The

Membership Table at Next Coin Show

Club realizes a big expense to draw visitors to the coin shows. It only seems reasonable that the club would want to capitalize on the expense by providing a designated table where show visitors can get more information about our club and how to become a member."

The Membership Table will require manning by volunteers from the club. The club's ANA Representative Nich Laggattuta is discussing with ANA official the likelihood of hosting a

Club sponsored membership table at the forthcoming ANA Coin Show in 2013.

If you are interested in manning the membership table at the club's coin show, please contact Nick Laggattuta for more details.

What's Happening!

June:	Silver Coins from Ancient Siracusa
July:	Grading Morgan Dollars
Aug:	Occult Symbols on Hitler Youth Badges
Sept:	Not Yet Determined
Oct:	Cherry Pick by Grade for Profit
Nov:	Election of Officers
Dec:	Officers Installment and Christmas Banquet

Remembrance of Patrica Reno

The Crescent City Coin Club sends its heart felt condolences to Mrs. Reno's family for their loss.

Mrs. Reno was devoted to the promotion of numismatics.

A charter member of the Crescent City Coin Club, She served as the Club's President in 1977/78 and 1980/81.

In addition to the many other offices that Mrs. Reno held, she was the Club's American Numismatic Association (ANA) Representative.

Mrs. Reno was also active in promoting our state through her activities with the Louisiana Tourism Commission.

She will be missed by all.

1918 Illinois Centennial Half Dollar

Three years after the 1915 Panama-Pacific Exposition Half Dollar, another commemorative half dollar was issued, this time for the statehood centennial of Illinois.

The coin is important for a number of reasons. First of all, it was the first commemorative half dollar to sell the entire authorized mintage, which had been established at 100,000 pieces. Next, it was the first half dollar to portray a U.S. President. While some earlier commemoratives had featured Presidents, they were different denominations. Finally, this represented the first commemorative coin to be issued in connection with an event related to a specific state.

Lincoln's portrait is noticeably different from the one appearing on the Lincoln Cent, which had first been struck in 1909 and had been designed by Victor D. Brenner. The obverse of the commemorative was designed by George T. Morgan, the British engraver who had been employed at the U.S. Mint since the 1870's. Not only had he been responsible for the famous Morgan Dollar named after him, but his designs can also be found on a large number of patterns and a number of other commemoratives.

The coins were offered for sale at \$1 each, a price similar to previous commemorative half dollars. A number of people bought



large quantities of the coins (as well as a bank in Springfield, which kept the coins for over a decade), making it the first commemorative that actually sold out. The official mintage is generally listed as 100,058 (authorized were 100,000 coins), with the additional 58 coins set aside for assay purposes and later melted. The issue remains popular to this day, most likely because of the striking image of the 16th President of the United States on the obverse. Certified gems (MS-65) are generally available but higher grade examples are surprisingly scarce. An extremely limited number of pieces have been certified as Proofs, but whether or not these were actually struck deliberately as such remains unclear. It appears to be more likely that these are merely the first coins struck of the dies, resulting in proof-like surfaces, and these so-called Proofs are not widely publicized.

Master Pavol of Levoca on Europa Series Coin

The National Bank of Slovakia have issued a new silver coin to honor one of their most noted sculptors, Pavol of Levoca, a medieval carver and sculptor of the 15th and 16th century. The coin is issued as part of the EUROPA Silver Star series for 2012 featuring European artists.

Master Pavol is most remembered for his most famous work which was completed in 1517. The altar in the St. James church in Levoča, which is a late Gothic-style altar and is the highest in height in Europe.

Struck by the famed Kremnica Mint, the coin has a face value of 10 Euro and is designed by Mária Poldaufová. The obverse depicts the well-known image of the Madonna of the Levoca altar along with the Slovakian crest to the right and the EUROPA star insignia just to the left of the primary design. In the background is a Gothic arch and ornamental ele-



ments from Master Pavol's workshop. The reverse shows a detail from a sculpture of an apostle in St. Jacob's church in Levoča with a Gothic arch in the background. Towards the left edge there is the inscription "MAJSTER PAVOL Z LEVOČE" (Master Pavol of Levoča) in two lines.

Struck in .900 fine silver, the coin weighs 18 grams with a diameter of 34 mm. The coin is produced in both proof (11,870 pieces) and UNC quality (7,400 pieces).