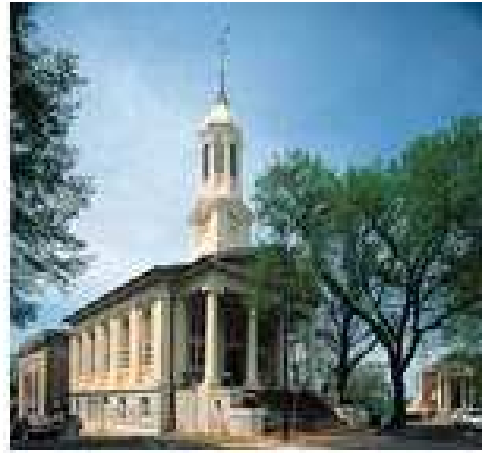


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Hobby Notes

- newsletter of the
Warrenton Stamp and Coin Club



Fauquier County Courthouse
in Old Town Warrenton

Special points of interest:

- Door prizes donations are **always** needed (especially coin-related)
- Give us your ideas for future programs (our cupboard is bare)

September 2nd Program: Show and Tell

This month's program is a return of that perennial favorite --- Show-and-Tell. Just bring along something that you think the others might like to see and hear about. Bring the strangest letter you ever received in the mail, or the oddest coin you ever found in your pocket. Bring the newest addition to your collection, or the item that you have had the longest. Show us that special item that you like the best --- maybe it is the most rare or valuable (not always the same thing), or it is the last item you needed in order to fill a page or a special part of your collection. Maybe something you bought for no particular reason (and guess what? you still like it). Bring along some stories with your prized possession and, as usual, we'll have a good time.

Inside this issue:

Meeting information	2
About the Club	2
Upcoming programs	2
Noted in passing	3
Website spotlight	3
Upcoming Hobby Shows	3
Raymond's Column	4
At Last Month's Meeting	5
From the Editor	5
Club Officers	6
This month's stamp	6

Lee Morrison Exhibits in Flint Hill

Lee Morrison, the Postmaster of Flint Hill, Virginia, will exhibit "The Framed Collection," portions of his private collection at The Griffin Tavern in Flint Hill. The exhibit will in the galleries upstairs from the Tavern, and can be viewed during business hours through September 11. In addition, Lee will make three personal presentations:

Friday, Sept 4: "History Through Stamps"

Thursday, Sept 10: "The John F. Kennedy Collection"

Friday, Sept 11: "What the Postmaster is Working On Now"

Each presentation is scheduled for 6:30-7:30 pm, at the Griffin Tavern. Lee continues to do great work in promoting the hobby, and the fact that Tavern is a fine restaurant for lunch or dinner is just a bonus for taking a drive to Flint Hill this month.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Guests and new members are always welcome. Drop by and join us.

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month (except for the December holiday dinner) at the SunTrust Bank in Warrenton. SunTrust is located at the intersection of Routes 17 & 29, in the Warrenton Center shopping center, near Rankin's Hardware (Enter the front doors

of the bank and go downstairs to the Meeting room).

The meetings start at 7:00 pm. We conduct our business, and then begin an informal 30-minute program, which alternates between coin and stamp coin topics. The program is followed by an auction of stamps, coins, and

other hobby items. We finish around 9:00 pm.

SunTrust Bank
680 Warrenton Center
Warrenton, VA 20187

ABOUT THE CLUB

"If you like stamps or coin, you're welcome to join"

The Warrenton Stamp and Coin Club is a not-for-profit organization based in Warrenton Virginia, but has members from all over the region, including Casanova, Manassas, Culpeper and Fredericksburg. Meetings are held each month, and the programs are broad enough to interest both stamp and coin collectors. Annual dues are \$12 for adults (although junior members pay no dues). Visitors and guests are always welcome. Prospective members shall be able to receive two consecutive editions of the newsletter before being dropped for non-payment of dues. The Club actively supports the Boy Scouts' merit badge programs, and has raised funds for local high school scholarships.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR WS&CC:

October	1	TBA
November	5	TBA
December	3	(Holiday meal, or regular meeting?)

Noted in passing...

I recently read a story which illustrates that even a famous stamp collector can commit colossal error. Count Ferrari was the most prominent of collector of his day. In the early 1900's a particular stamp was on sale at the post office for only for a short time, and it was rarely found postally used. Ferrari sought and finally found an example on cover, and promptly soaked it from the envelope and proudly filled one of the few blank spots in his album. An unused example of the stamp was valued at a few dollars, but postally used it was worth over \$15,000. Imagine his chagrin when Ferrari learned that the stamp on cover was valued at \$160,000. A little patience and research can pay huge rewards.

The Philatelic Foundation announced its decision to post images of all nearly all of the 475,000 stamps and covers it has expertised over the past 64 years. The first 100,000 images are scheduled to appear on the Foundation's web site in June, 2010. This will be a significant addition to the research available online to collectors, and I suspect that it will become a trend. Libraries will increasingly digitalize its holdings for online review, and stamp shows may soon post scans of prize-winning exhibits, and eventually all of the exhibits. I can't wait.

WEB SITE OF THE MONTH:

This month we feature the web site of the Richmond (Virginia) Coin Club:
<http://www.richmondcoinclub.com/>

The Club is sponsoring the 51st annual VNA Convention and Show (with an auction by Alan Blair) and details are available on the site. Have a look at the articles about coins, and the tab for education programs - two offerings for school children, one on ancient Roman coins, and the other on the history of currency and coins in the U.S. It is a wonderful club web site. (Maybe we could do something similar one day. Do we have any aspiring web masters in the membership?)

Upcoming Hobby Shows

- Sept. 4-6 BALPEX, 71st annual philatelic exhibition, Baltimore, MD
- Sept. 12 Charlottesville Coin & Currency Show, Charlottesville, VA
- Sept 18-20 VA Numismatic Association, 51st annual show Richmond VA

RAYMOND'S COLUMN

– NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

FAMOUS HOARDS

The Wells-Fargo Nevada gold hoard consists of more than 15,000 uncirculated 1908 no motto double eagles amassed by an unknown collector in 1917. It remained hidden for more than 50 years, surviving the confiscation of gold by the federal government in 1933. In the 1970's the coins underwent an inventory, sorting and resealing and in 1996 Spectrum Numismatics purchased the entire collection from an unnamed seller for \$15 million U.S.D. The transaction occurred in a Wells-Fargo bank at an undisclosed city in Nevada, so the name "Wells-Fargo hoard" applies. Wells-Fargo did not own the coins and at the time of purchase, they remained rolled in paper tubes, in canvas bags and residing in screw-top boxes in the bank's walk-in vault. In 1850, in order to cater to the needs of gold prospectors, Messrs. Wells and Fargo founded American Express which offered safe storage and delivery of their gold. Wells-Fargo also serviced the Comstock Lode in Nevada.

The Binion Hoard consisted of more than 100,000 high quality Morgan and Peace silver dollars stored in an underground vault measuring 10x12x10 feet in Pahrump, Nevada, built for Ted Binion. His father Ben came to Las Vegas in 1946, one year before Bugsy Siegel opened his casino. In 1951 Ben opened Binion's Horseshoe and in the 85 years that he lived, he never encountered a bet his operation would not cover. Ben and his wife began to accumulate silver items such as dollars, lesser denomination coins and bullion, and Ted inherited this store at the time of his mother's death in 1994. Ted fell into a life style of dissipation and the boyfriend of his mistress murdered him. This man also built the underground vault which, at the time of Ted's death, contained 45,000 pounds of silver. Others believe that Ted had another stash of CC Morgan's, double eagles and jewelry, but these have not surfaced. In 2002, his collection of silver dollars sold for \$2 million U.S.D. Individual items have sold for \$50 to \$10,000.

A Quiz for September

Enclosed with this month's newsletter is a quiz that first appeared in The Jack Knight Air Log, and was created by the Women in Aviation Collectors News. Tony Tripi asked for and received permission to reprint it. As Tony notes, the questions are not easy, but the answers should be available online with a little research. Who can find the most correct answers?

[I didn't know ANY of the answers at first glance - BCS]

At Last Month's Meeting...

At the August meeting, Gerry reported that the Club's finances are in fine shape - we have about \$1100 in our bank account. We discussed last month's proposal to amend the rules of the weekly auction, to generate more revenue for the Club. There were no major objections to the idea. While no member raised any objection to an enhanced portion of the auction going into the Club treasury, some asked about the need to do so. The Club has no current plans to renew the scholarship program, but it may do so. And future success of the annual stamp and coin show could necessitate moving the location to a larger venue, perhaps with greater rental fees. The members voted to modify the auction rules, so that the percentage going to the Club remains at 10%, but we removed the maximum amount (formerly \$1). This change will become effective January 1, 2010.

The members asked the Editor to contact Tory Failmezger about giving another talk on ancient coins (he says he is busy now, but looks forward to attending a future meeting, and will be in touch once his own schedule permits).

We discussed planning for the next WSCC annual stamp & coin show, decided that we should try to get the same location, and that we should probably look at the 2nd or 3rd Saturday in March, 2010. We will discuss the matter more at next month's meeting.

Lee Morrison, Postmaster of Flint Hill, Virginia, gave a presentation on a portion of his personal collection on John F. Kennedy. Lee has a remarkable amount of material he has acquired over the years, and provided a very interesting history of that era. Lee agreed to the suggestion that he show this and perhaps other collections at the Club's next coin and stamp show. Lee will be showing portions of his collection this month at The Griffin Tavern in Flint Hill (see page 1).

We concluded with the auction.

- BCS

FROM THE EDITOR...

At the September meeting we will discuss the Club's 2010 Coin and Stamp Show. A lot of planning goes into the one-day event, and the chores become easier when a number of members pitch in. The most important thing to decide is when to hold the event, so search your schedules for any competing events on March 13th or March 20th (the second and third Saturdays in March). We then need to obtain the venue, of course, and design a floor plan that can accommodate exhibits of stamps and perhaps coins and well as the dealer tables. If we use the center section of the room for exhibits, we might need to reduce the number or tables we can rent. It may be cozy, but we probably don't need a bigger hall yet. If it turns out that we do need more room, we can consider other options. Then we need to plan for the day of the show -- details of setting up the room. We can discuss what worked well last year, and those areas where we can improve (for example, can we provide better lighting for the dealers' tables?). There is a lot to do.

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This month's featured stamp

This month's commemorative stamps were issued August 11 in Hollywood to honor 20 television shows of the 50's and 60's. They are bound to bring back a some pleasant memories: Lassie, The Lone Ranger, I Love Lucy, The Red Skelton Show, Howdy Doody, Hopalong Cassidy, Burns & Allen, The Honeymooners, The Twilight Zone, Ozzie & Harriet, Alfred Hitchcock Presents, Kukla Fran & Ollie, Dragnet, The Phil Silvers Show, Perry Mason, The Ed Sullivan Show, You Bet Your Life, Dinah Shore, the Texaco Star Theater and The Tonight Show. Compare that line-up to a current weekly schedule! I am sure we could all add a few: Gene Autry, The Cisco Kid, The Nat King Cole Show...and how about Queen for a Day.

6

