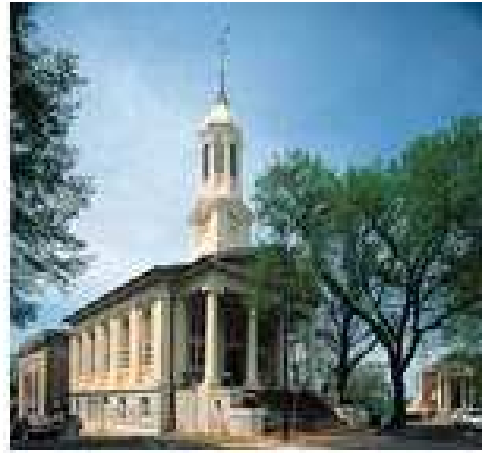


VOLUME 10 NUMBER 1  
JANUARY 2010

MAILED  
JANUARY 5, 2010

# 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)

## January 7<sup>th</sup> Holiday Meal: at Ledo Pizza

Instead of the usual meeting and program this month, we will meet instead at Ledo Pizza in Warrenton for a holiday meal at 6:00 p.m. Spouses are invited and encouraged to attend.

A room has been reserved for us, and we will order from the regular menu. The Club will pay for a beverage of your choice. The restaurant is located near the new Harris Teeter grocery store, in the shopping center across the street from Appleby's.

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## Plans for the March Stamp and Coin Show

This month we will learn the specific date for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Stamp and Coin Show, and final plans should begin. Emilio has rented most (or all) of the tables, and we can model our planning on his excellent preparation for last year's event.

Lee Morrison has volunteered to present one of his stamp collections at the Show, and that should be an additional attraction for the local community. It may even get us a mention in the local newspapers.

After last year's Show we discussed the good points of the show, and the ways we could improve it in future years. Think of those ideas and any new ones, and we will discuss them at the February meeting...and maybe even over pizza 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 January 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:**

February	4	TBA
March	4	TBA
April	1	TBA
May	6	TBA

## ***Noted in passing...***

This issue begins volume 10 of the *Hobby Notes* - our Club's newsletter. Ten years! It is a testament to the continued interest of our members that the newsletter has endured so long. Of course, the Club itself is older than the newsletter - it was founded in 1996. How should we mark the Club's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2011?

Howard Paine of Delaplaine was recently the subject of an article in the Loudon Extra section of *The Washington Post*. It notes that he was involved with the introduction of color photography on the covers of the National Geographic magazine. The article briefly mentions that after his retirement, Howard became involved with the design of U.S. postage stamps, and long-time members will recall that he has on two occasions given programs to the Club on that subject. I don't remember that he even mentioned his involvement with National Geographic.

### **WEB SITE OF THE MONTH:**

This month we feature a website that tells a quick version of the story of finding the wreck of the *Atocha*, the Spanish galleon laden with gold, silver and precious gems that sunk in 1622, and was found by Mel Fisher in 1985:

<http://www.atochagold.com/>

Coins and other recovered objects are for sale on or through this site, but the story of the discovery is fascinating for those unfamiliar with it. Mel Fisher looked for this wreck for 16 years, and then found it. "Imagine a wall of silver ingots almost as high as a man. Stacked one on top of the other. A wall six feet thick. Four feet high. Ten feet long." Yes, just imagine!

## **Upcoming Hobby Shows**

January 15-17	MetroExpo Stamp Show (DC Hilton at Dulles)
January 29-31	Williamsburg Coin, Paper Money and Stamp Show
February 6	Alexandria Coin Show
February 6-7	Fairfax Stamp Fest
March 27 (or 20)	Warrenton Stamp & Coin Club Show
March 27	Richmond Stamp Fest

# **RAYMOND'S COLUMN**

## **– NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT**

### POSTAGE POTPOURRI

The postage stamp is an adhesive paper which gives evidence of a fee paid for a postal service. The stamp signifies that the person sending the mail has paid for delivery, partially or fully. Alternatives to stamps include postal stationery (including postal cards, aerogrammes and newspaper wrappers), as well

The glue on postage stamps is made of polyvinyl alcohol and dextrin (the latter derived from potato

The United Kingdom introduced the first stamps on May 1, 1840 as part of a reform by Sir Rowland Hill. The first stamp, called the Penny Black, became valid on May 6, 1840 and on May 8, the 2 pence blue was introduced. At the time no valid reason existed for the inclusion of the name of the country appearing on the stamps, since no other nation was issuing them, and the U. K. to this day does not do so (it is the only country exempted from the Universal Postal Union requirement to display the name of the nation on stamps). In 1854, perforations first appeared (prior issues were imperforate, and were separated with scissors). The Penny Black represents the first postal system of prepaying postage, and it paid the rate for a letter weighing a half ounce or less to be delivered anywhere in the U.K.

In 1846 Switzerland introduced the 4 & 6 rappen stamps in 1843 but Switzerland calculated the postage rate based on distance. Brazil also began to issue stamps in 1843 and used the same printer who produced the penny blacks. In the U.S. some postmasters issued stamps but the first official postage appeared in 1847. India started to use stamps in 1850. By 1860 most of the world's countries used stamps.

### POSTAGE STAMP PAPER

The paper of the stamp represents its foundation and makes up a critical part of the stamp's design, provides security against fraud and contributes to automation in delivery. Scotts often documents the paper to describe the stamps' classification and the same stamps designs can appear on several kinds of paper. The stamp's paper defines a unique stamp and can mean the difference between an inexpensive stamp from one a rarity. Special tools such as micrometers, chemicals, loupes, UV light and digital mi-

Glossy            high gloss paper, similar to a magazine page. Examples, include India -

Bluish:            result of an unintentional chemical reaction in the constituents of the finish, examples

A stamp catalog usually identifies the various paper definitions at the start of the issue.

## At Last Month's Meeting...

At the December meeting, the Treasurer's report showed we have about \$1300 in the bank. We again discussed renewing the Club's membership in the ANA (the American Numismatic Association), and decided to do so despite the increase in dues to \$75. We also decided to re-new our APS (American Philatelic Society) membership, at \$45.

It was noted that the websites addresses given in this newsletter may not directly link to the sites themselves, because the newsletter is disseminated as a .pdf document. So to access a site, it may be necessary to select, copy and paste the website address into your browser.

Regarding the Club's growing website, we discussed what we would like to see on the site, and many specific ideas and suggestions were offered. Tony volunteered to be the Club's representative, to convey information to our webmaster, Cristy Faurot.

Raymond will reserve the John Barton Payne building for our March Show, either for the 27<sup>th</sup> or the back-up date of the 20<sup>th</sup>.

For the program, Gregg Coburn brought a 50-pound bag of world-wide coins and showed us how he sorts it. It was fascinating to see how he does initial sorts (one method uses a magnet), and what types of coins he looks for in particular. It was one of our best programs, and everyone seemed to get involved. And just for fun, Dwight showed us a 22-pound relic from the wreck of the *Atocha*.

We concluded with the usual auction.

### **FROM THE EDITOR...**

Last Summer, Doug Harms found a newspaper article that discussed a special flight from Warrenton, and it pictured a commemorative flight cachet; I wondered if a cover with that cachet was still in existence. Well, the answer is "yes." The cover below was recently on ebay at a modest price, and it now resides in my collection.

(Any idea what "Takoma Park, W.M.C., D.C." means? Western Montgomery County?)

- BCS



**WARRENTON  
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AND COIN CLUB**

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*This month's featured stamp*

This month's commemorative stamps came out last October, and were designed by Ethel Kessler of Bethesda MD.

This issuance features a kelp forest off the central California coast, and is the 11<sup>th</sup> stamp pane in the *Nature of America* series focusing on the beauty and complexity of major plants and animal communities in the United States. More than 27 different species are depicted.

Unfortunately, the USPS has announced that this will be the final issuance in this series.

- BCS

