

VOLUME 10 NUMBER 5
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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)*

May 6th Program: Sniper Rifles

Our guest presenter this month will be Sgt. Thomas R. McTigue, who is the Marine recruiter in Warrenton. He has agreed to give a presentation about sniper rifles.

Sgt. McTigue has been awarded over three dozen medals and coins for physical achievements. (If I had to guess, I would say that Raymond probably met him while participating in a marathon). The evening ought to be fun, and Raymond guarantees a rapt audience.

Or else. 😊

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Annual Membership Dues

Dues are to be collected in June for the next club year (June to June). You are now asked to remit \$12 for the 2010-2011 period. We also need to update all our personal data to be sure it is currently accurate. Please fill in the information in the box on page three and either bring it to the next meeting or mail it with your check to :

Gerry Hoffman
6211 Old Glory Lane
Rixeyville, VA 22737-1958

If the club does not receive your dues or hear from you, your name will be dropped from the current newsletter mailing list after three months.

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. Our website address is:

<http://www.wsccl.site11.com/>

UPCOMING CLUB PROGRAMS AND EVENTS:

June	3	TBA
July	1	TBA
August	5	TBA

Noted in passing...

Name:	_____
Address:	_____

Phone:	(Home) _____
	(Cell) _____
Email:	_____

If you provide an email address, we can save the considerable expense in time and money of printing and mailing your newsletter. Your email address will not be shared.

WEB SITE OF THE MONTH:

This month we feature the library of the Professional Grading Service website (PGCS):

<http://www.pcgs.com/resources/>

Found under the "RESOURCES" tab of the PCGS site, the library includes hundreds and hundreds of articles. There are also videos, and a link to the current issue of eCollector e-zine, currently issued every 2 weeks (with an archive going back nearly ten years). There is bound to be something of interest there for any coin collector.

Upcoming Hobby Shows

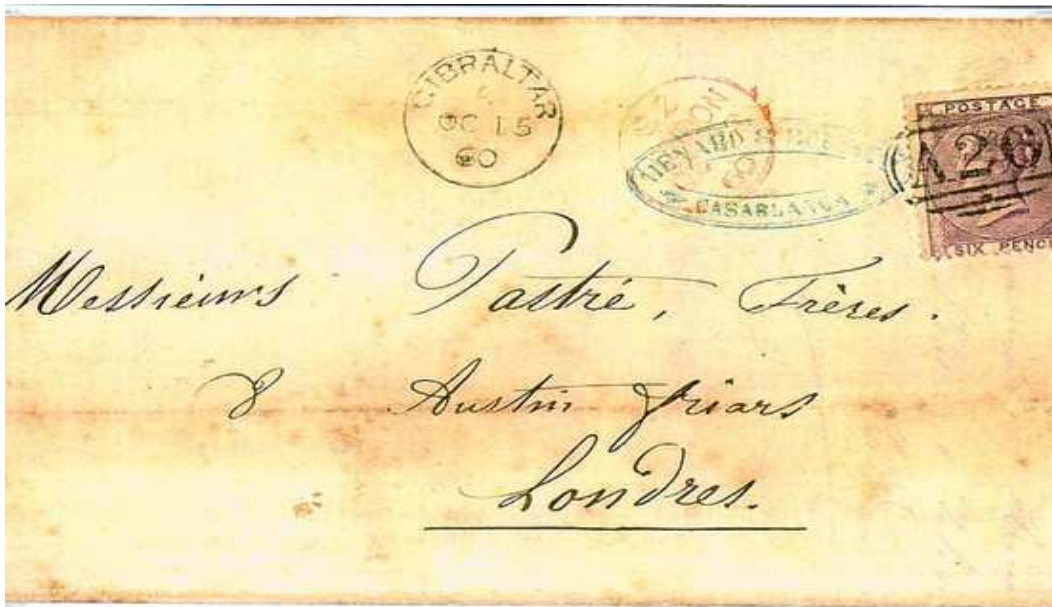
May	1-2	Vienna Quarterly Coin and Stamp Show
May	7-9	Williamsburg Coin, Stamp & Paper Money Show
May	15-16	Fairfax StampFest
May	21-23	Richmond Coin Club 6th Annual Coin & Currency Show
June	4-6	NAPEX stamp show

RAYMOND'S COLUMN

– NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

What constitutes a champion philatelist?

Mr. Maurice Hadida's rare stamps includes an 1852 envelope mailed from Tangier, the second oldest franked envelope sent through the French post office in Morocco, and the earliest known use of an English stamp on a cover sent from Morocco to Britain in 1860. A photograph of this cover appeared on a new stamp issued by the Gibraltar Post Office. In order to win a top prize at the world philatelist's championship in London this May, Mr. Hadida will have to do better than a collector of Icelandic naval-mail stamps, and an expert on Siberian Railway postage, and many others. Among the arcane, letters sent from the North Pole or remote whaling stations are very hot at this time. Only about 2000 collectors in the world qualify to participate in an international competition according to the Universal Postal Union. To qualify, collectors must have victories in local and national contests, requiring a great deal of time and money. Mr. Hadida began collecting as a youth in southern France and a mentor steered him to focus on Morocco. His covers follow the history of the French post office in Tangier from 1852 to closing in 1924. He considers the first cover sent by Moroccan airmail in 1911 among his treasures. He continues a 30-year quest for a cover with the postmark from the town of Mequinez in northern Morocco. He has seen examples at auction only twice, and both times he bid unsuccessfully. Mr. Hadida has such avidity for collecting that his broker in Paris feels that if he tells Maurice about a nice Moroccan stamp he would run naked to his shop to view it.



As an aside, during my recent trip to Switzerland, I ran up to Rue de Synagogue and at number 2, I found Philatelie, Behr and Marchand, Experts. Many old covers were on display in the window. "Experts" are highly skilled philatelists who examine stamps and covers and give expert opinions as to whether they are genuine or not.

At Last Month's Meeting...

At the April meeting, we discussed the Show. We agreed that once again it was a success, and we made money (but Emilio was not present to give a formal report). It was noted that attendance was lower in the afternoon, so we ought to provide some sort of a gimmick to attract folks then. We need better signs on the day of the Show, and we can do better promotion in the newspaper and with flyers. We should have handouts and complementary stamp and coin magazines. We need volunteers now to begin planning next year's Show. We had two visitors at the April meeting who attended the Show, and some new members are expected.

The May meeting is nomination time for elected officers. Raymond is completing his second term as President, and while there is no term limits clause, we have traditionally given relief to the President after two years. The Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer offices have been filled by Tony and Gerry for many years. Tony encouraged anyone who is interested to make that interest known.

June is dues month - \$12 for adults, and youngsters are free.

Lee announced his show at the Flint Hill Volunteer Fire House on May 1-2. He could use the assistance of a couple of members to help set up sales tables on either day. There will be no entry charge, but donations to charity would be appreciated.

The first Saturday of each month is gold panning day at the Goldvein Museum.

Bill Miller needs some new door prizes.

Ray asked if it acceptable for him to bring some of his stamp books so that anyone who wants can buy from him. A vote was taken and approved that anyone can sell materials after auction. And after discussion, it agreed that if anyone has any "wants" it can be placed in newsletter.

For Show-and-Tell we saw items of Star Trek/Beetles, Silk Trade coins, Doug's father's USAF remembrance album, and a crash cover.

We concluded with a spirited auction - the Club netted \$45 in commissions.

[Many thanks to Bill Clair, who took notes for Brian in his absence]

- BCS

FROM THE EDITOR...

As mentioned above and at the last meeting, in May we accept nominations for the elected offices for the coming term, and we vote at the June meeting. In recent years the President has served consecutive one-year terms, and then he cedes the chair to another member. Raymond is closing in on the end of his second term, and has filled the position well, despite all of his other obligations --- he has shown that even a busy person can do it. So consider stepping forward. Many of the members have served in one position or another over the years, and a new member would be appreciated and well-supported.

Current Officers

WARRENTON STAMP AND COIN CLUB

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This month's featured stamp

On March 11, 2010, in the USPS issued a souvenir sheet of 44¢ stamps in ten designs to honor Abstract Expressionist Artists. The sheet was designed by Ethel Kessler of Bethesda, Maryland

The arrangement of the stamps suggests paintings hanging on a gallery wall. Note that for design purposes, the sizes of the stamp are not in relative proportion to the paintings. The sheet also features selvage text and a quotation by artist Robert Motherwell. Each stamp includes the artist's name and text on the reverse that identifies the painting, and briefly tells something about the artist.

