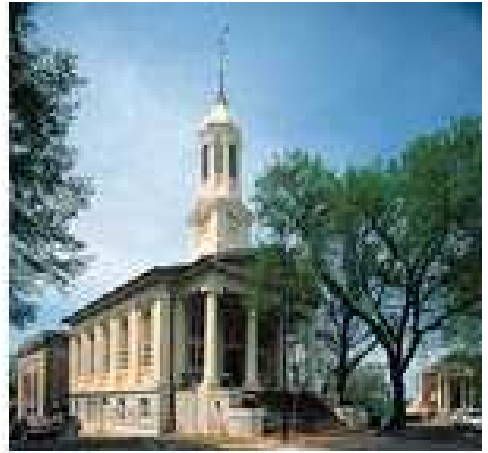


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Hobby Notes

- newsletter of the
Warrenton Stamp and Coin Club



Fauquier County Courthouse
in Old Town Warrenton

Special points of interest:

- *Door prizes donations are always appreciated*
- *Give us your ideas for future programs (our cupboard is nearly bare)*

January 6th 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 Applebee's.

For a map and directions, check the web site:

<http://www.ledopizza.com/location-details.cfm?locuid=2881F93E-3048-71C2-17A8C2C9E4C9181F>

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Emilio Castelar

Emilio Castelar passed away on Sunday, December 12th at the Veteran's Hospital in Martinsburg, West Virginia. He had been battling cancer for many years.

Emilio was a past president of the Warrenton Stamp and Coin Club. He was active in the Club's assistance with Boy Scouts' Merit Badge program. He initiated the Club's application for non-profit status, and he was eager to restore the Club's scholarship program. He was a driving force behind the Club's annual Stamp and Coin Show in March, and he hoped that one day it would generate enough funds for us to sponsor the scholarships again.

Emilio had a military funeral at Quantico, Virginia on December 20.

HOBBY NOTES

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:

February	3	Confederate Currency - Gregg Coburn
March	3	TBA
April	7	TBA

Noted in passing...

The *Washington Post* reported that the Postal Service decided, and will announce early in January, that all future stamps will be issued as Forever stamps. That means that all future issues will pay the current first class rate when the stamp is used, no matter what the cost was at time of purchase. This will avoid the nuisance of needing to add 1¢ or 2¢ stamps to meet the new postage rate, when the rates increase.

Linn's Stamp News reports that a previously-unknown double-impression error has been found on the 1927 10¢ Lindbergh stamp, 83 years after its issue. The January 10, 2011 issue of *Linn's* carries a photograph of the stamp. Double impressions are created when a sheet is passed through the press twice, so many more examples were printed on the same sheet (have a look at your own collection for one of these beauties!). H.R. Harmer will auction the stamp in April.

Linn's invites readers and stamp clubs to vote on their favorite stamps of 2010, on its web site www.linns.com

WEB SITE OF THE MONTH:

This month we feature a page explaining how best to use a scanner for philatelic materials http://www.pgacon.com/tips_on_scanning.htm

Collector Peter Aitken created this page some years ago, but the information is still helpful. It includes tips on how to choose a scanner, how to select various settings, scanning watermarks, lifting postmarks, detecting forgeries and printing varieties, use of digital cameras, and even uploading images for online auctions, like eBay. Scans can also be a valuable inventory record for insurance purposes. There is bound to be something of interest to coin collectors as well as stampers.

Upcoming Hobby Shows

January 15	Alexandria Coin Show
January 20	Virginia Beach Stamp Show
January 22	Rainbow Philatelic Stamp Bourse, Virginia Beach
February 5-6	Fairfax Stampfest, Elk's Lodge, Merrifield (Blair auction)
March 5-6	SPRINGPEX, Springfield VA
March 19	...possible date for WSCC Show, or...
April 2the other possible date for WSCC Show

RAYMOND'S COLUMN

– NOTES FROM THE PAST PRESIDENT

Mail Theft

When appropriately motivated and of course lacking awareness of consequences, people will steal virtually anything. In 2003, 13 state workers in Louisiana received indictments on 57 counts of food stamp theft involving a value of \$50,000. One of the participants used her son's Social Security Number to obtain a food stamp card. One of the state workers testified that she interviewed this card recipient but she had not done so. Variations on the theme led to greater thefts.

In 2003, 8 individuals operating newsstands and bodegas in Manhattan, N.Y. would purchase stamps using checks with insufficient funds. The face value of the stolen stamps reached \$80,000.

A Howard county postal clerk working at the Eldridge post office, over a 10- year period, stole stamps with a face value of \$600,000 and then resold them on ebay at reduced prices. For example, some with a value of \$259,000 he sold for \$229, 000. He used the identity of cardking1122 on ebay. The Postal Service states that stealing and reuse of stamps with the intent to cause loss to the government or U.S.P.S. is punishable by fine and imprisonment.

On a more serious note, in 1729, Congress imposed the death penalty for stealing mail.

The last stagecoach robbery in the U.S. occurred in 1916 and the U.S. Postal Inspectors solved the crime within 5 days.

2011 Stamp and Coin Show

Emilio Castelar was the prime mover behind our Club's annual Stamp and Coin Show. With his passing, Tony Tripi has assumed the lead role, and he has obtained Emilio's planning notes. Many thanks to Tony for stepping forward.

Please realize that Tony has not planned any previous Shows, so he will need all the help he can get (the response and the volunteering at the December meeting was great).

Tony was unable to secure the John Barton Payne building for March 26 which was our first choice, and he would like input on the best of the remaining dates - March 19 or April 2. He will contact the dealers for their preferred date. If Tony has not committed to an alternate date already, he would like to know the Club's preference at the dinner meeting Thursday.

At Last Month's Meeting...

At the December meeting, we welcomed Ron Rognlien and John Milliken. Bill Miller gave us the latest news of Emilio's health, and will inform Brian of any future news (which Brian will forward to the Membership by email). The Club voted to send a card to Emilio at the hospital (Brian did so). Tony will chair the March Stamp and Coin Show, as Emilio will be unable to do so. Tony suggested that we consider a change of venue for future Shows, seeking more room for tables, and better parking. We will keep the John Barton Payne Building for this year's Show, We decided to ask for March 26, with March 19 as a back-up. Tony will submit the request on December 27. Emilio's notes show that all tables have been reserved.

Raymond will obtain the keys and, on the morning of the Show, will open the building for the dealers at 7:00 a.m. Bob and Gisela will provide large signs at the entrance of the Show. Lee offered to display his collection, if we have the space, and proposed Scouting, Breast Cancer or Negro Baseball as possible themes. Bill Miller will bring 12 door prizes (6 coin-related, and 6 stamp-related) for drawings during the Show. Elvis will be in attendance, and will distribute free material to youngsters. Brian will bring Boy Scout requirements for stamp collecting and coin collecting merit badges, to have on hand at the Kids Corner, and will also bring copies of APS stamp album pages. Tony will explore the possibility that the Boy Scouts might sell refreshments, keeping in mind that food and liquid refreshments ought to be kept away from exhibits and dealers' material. Tony purchased stamp puzzles for handouts by Elvis or at the Kids Corner.

Raymond noted that an article in *The Civil War Times* told of a metal detector find in Spotsylvania: a 1793 U.S. coin worth at least \$12,000. At our show-and-tell we saw 19th century covers mailed from the U.S. to Burma; Tony's stamp puzzles; a tin cigar box filled with precious treasures; gourd cups from South America; a memento from the first successful trans-Atlantic flight in 1919; a Canadian set of Special Olympic coins; a Civil War blockade cover; a 1915 Austrian gold coin; chains made from folded cigarette packs, and a Canadian set of Special Olympic coins.

We concluded with the usual auction.

After the meeting, Dwight proposed to the President that we might consider a WSCC meeting in the Spring or Summer at his house. Last year, several members accepted Dwight's invitation to a reception at his house, to view the extensive restorations he had completed so far. It is a wonderful historic structure. Dwight was generous to show it to us then, and anyone who missed it should be sure to visit this year. I believe he said the renovations are now complete. Perhaps at the January dinner meeting we could discuss the month that would best suit both Dwight and the Club.

-BCS

**WARRENTON
STAMP
AND COIN CLUB**

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This month's featured stamp

This month we feature a favorite of mine - the "Adopt a Shelter Pet" issues. The issue shows ten different designs of shelter cats and dogs, and promotes animal rescue from the many shelters nation-wide. Many shelters are unable to place all the animals, and must euthanize thousands of strays each year. With these ten stamp designs, the U.S.P.S. hopes to raise awareness of the need to adopt shelter pets.

The stamps were designed by Derry Noyes of Washington D.C. and were released in April. I found no new issues at the post office this month, so I decided to feature a "golden oldie."

