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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 next year's programs (we have a clean slate - choose your favorite month)*

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

December 1st Program: I've Inherited a Collection - Now What?"

This month Bill and Brian will share their experiences of evaluating stamp collections for heirs, and advising them how best to proceed.

Bill Clair is an estate advisor for the American Philatelic Society (APS), and for several years he has been called upon by the APS to assist heirs who now have a stamp collection, and need help in deciding what to do with it. In recent years Brian has accompanied him, and together they have seen all sorts of collections - ranging from a page or two of very common stamps, to a multi-volume collection compiled by a recognized expert in his specialty. In each case, the collector had left little or no guidance to the family. Bill and Brian will share how they have dealt with these situations, as well as what they have learned about how to dispose of their own collections, and how to prepare their families for that inevitability.

Holiday Meeting / Meal in January

Dues are Due in January

Stamp and Coin Show in March

For the Holiday Meal / Meeting we decided to meet once again at Ledo Pizza in Warrenton. We get a room to ourselves, the food is reasonably priced, and the Club picks up the tab for the first drink. Spouses are most welcome, and last year we had a great turnout.

Annual dues are due in January for the 2012 year, and they remain at \$12 for adults (youngsters are free). Paying at the restaurant could get a bit confusing, so perhaps we ought to discuss the best way to convey the dues to Gerry. And when.

In the past our annual stamp and coin show has been held in March. We will conduct no business at the January "meeting." March will be upon us in no time.

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 topics. The program is usually 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 (and junior members pay no dues). Visitors and guests are always welcome. All 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:

January	5	holiday dinner meeting
February	2	German stamps - Gisela and Bob
March	1	Judging Coin Exhibits - Raymond Maguire

Noted in passing...

If you are looking for a worthy charity to donate stamps or coins, consider The Veterans Stamp and Coin Club at the Department of Veterans' Affairs Medical Center, Veterans' Stamp and Coin Club #135, 3601 South 6th Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85723.

I visited the National Postal Museum in November. It is in the former General Post Office, located next to Union Station (which has ample parking, and a Metro station). (When I was a kid, my father used to drive there from Hyattsville on April 15th just before midnight to mail his tax returns). I had read about the plans for an expanded facility, but had not realized just how large the new museum will be. The ground floor will be preserved as it has been all these years, with the marble floors, tall ceilings and windows for every postal service. The new exhibits will be in the area that was for many years a restaurant and bar. The plans look great, but it will be a long time before the renovations are complete. I can't wait.

Lee Morrison is again showing parts of his collection on December 4th at the Washington Baptist Church, during the Christmas Festival at Washington VA. The show will begin after services conclude, about 12:30. Get there early before the parade closes the streets!

WEB SITE OF THE MONTH:

The site this month is the Philatelic Foundation's library of certificates:

http://pfsearch.org/pfsearch/pf_lkp.php?btnSubmitNewSearch=New+Search&resetsessionvars=yes [copy and paste the address into your browser]

The Philatelic Foundation examines stamps submitted by collectors, and then issues an opinion on whether or not the stamp is authentic. This library includes all the certificates that the PF has issued, with scans of the stamp. Search by country or Scott catalogue number, and see if you can tell the real stamp from the counterfeit.

Upcoming Hobby Shows

Dec	2-4	Shenandoah Valley Coin and Stamp Show - Weyers Cave
Dec	4	The Postmaster's Collection at Little Washington
Dec	10	Yorktown Stamp Show
Dec	10-11	Annandale Coin Show
Dec	11	NOVA Stamp Show - Franconia
Dec	17	Laurel (MD) Stampfest

FUN WITH BURMA STAMPS

I could not resist showing some items from my Burma collection, which continues to give me great pleasure, and endless opportunities for bore everyone else!

The 25 Rupee high value India King Edward VII adhesive, used in Rangoon, Burma in 1909. The stamp catalogues for over £300 with an Indian cancel - with a Burma town cancel it is much more rare.



APO 218 at Myitkyina Burma, served the WWII unit known as "Merrill's Marauders" in the campaign to re-take Burma from the Japanese.

A block of eight East India Queen Victoria 8 pies adhesives used with the B-179 cancel of Thayetmyo, Burma. This cancellation is scarce, and this example is the largest known multiple.



At Last Month's Meeting...

In November, we welcomed guests Stan Bishop and Bob Holland - we hope you enjoyed yourselves and will join our Club.

We decided that the January Holiday meal would be at Ledo Pizza in Warrenton, and that President Bill would make the arrangements. Tony suggested that members could be interviewed for a "Meet the Members" column, with a brief biography, and collecting interests. We voted and agreed that it is a good idea. Lee mentioned that once again he will be displaying parts of his collection at the Washington Baptist Church, during the Christmas parade in Little Washington. The display will begin following church services, about 12:30. He also said that he would like to make a Club presentation in April.

Bob suggested that we hold two auctions each month, one for the youngsters, and one for the general membership. The idea was generally accepted, but some thought that two auctions might take too much time. So it was agreed that members could submit items intended for junior members (age 16 and younger), and if there were no bids from them, the item could be offered to us older folks.

Lee presented parts of his John F. Kennedy collection, which included stamps depicting JFK, newspaper articles and photographs. He said that his interest in JFK came from his mother, whose family lore connects the Kennedy's and the Morrison's. He told us of the many coincidences between the Lincoln and Kennedy assassinations, and related many stories about the Kennedy years.

We closed with the usual auction.

-BCS

FROM THE EDITOR...

Well, after seven years and over 80 issues, my editorship has come to a close. When I took over the post from Gerry, I had no idea what to expect, and never intended to carry on for so long. But I have learned a lot, and I have had tons of fun. I know that you all will welcome Bob and help him along the way, as so many folks did for me.

Over the years, my only regret has been that I was unable to fit into the newsletter many submissions I received from members: articles, photos, puzzles, games and so on. The template I used for the newsletter (in MS Publisher) was limiting in many ways, and I could not easily fit some of the items into it. Bob plans a more flexible newsletter format, and he will be able adjust the layout according to the material at hand. I am sure he will be pleased with whatever items come his way.

So the torch is passed (to use a JFK quote). Thank you all for your support and ideas, and thank you for making this such an enjoyable Club of collectors with such diverse interests.

-BCS

**WARRENTON
STAMP
AND COIN CLUB**

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This month's featured stamp

This month we feature the U.S. Postal Service's annual Christmas stamps. This year the designs for the secular issues are old-fashioned Christmas tree ornaments. The four designs show traditional styles of hanging baubles, reminiscent of the styles that many of us recall for the 1950's.

These stamps are issued in books of 20 self-adhesive *Forever* stamps, with five of each different design. *Forever* stamps are always equal in value to the current First-Class Mail one-ounce rate.

