

October 2011



# The Coin Courier

"Official Publication of the Baltimore Coin Club"

Baltimore Coin Club, P.O. BOX 43681, Baltimore, Maryland 21236

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## BALTIMORE COIN CLUB OFFICERS



Ken Finkerbinder  
President

Jack Mitchell  
Vice-President

Joe Adam  
Treasurer

Fred Cook  
Secretary

## 2011 Baltimore Coin Club Notes and Calendar of Events

BCC membership agreed on combining the Associated Club dinner with the holiday festival dinner in December. Send [cybera@comcast.net](mailto:cybera@comcast.net) confirmation receipt and if you want to receive BCC newsletter electronically, then provide email address. BCC membership has conducted our own descriptive presentation of the United States coin series. We use *The Official Red Book "A Guide Book of United States Coins"* as our reference book. We started with Early America Coppers several months ago and will commence on early half dollars when we complete the Washington Quarters.

1	September	Theme:	Seated Quarters
15	September	Theme:	Barber Quarters
6	October	Theme:	Washington Quarters
20	October	Theme:	Early Half Dollars before 1982
3	November	Theme:	Barber Half Dollars
17	November	Theme:	Walking Liberty Halves
1	December	Theme:	Ben Franklin Halves
15	December		Holiday Party
5	January 2012	Theme:	Kennedy Halves
19	January	Theme:	Early Dollars
2	February		
16	February		

Presidents

note:

It has been an interesting summer around here. The weather has hit all extremes; hopefully everyone has survived and is glad to be past all the weather events. In August we had our annual Y/N night and Frank Murphy did a great job for the kids. Hopefully in the future we will have more Y/N's at the program. There were only 3 this year and two of them came from Catonsville Coin Club.

Our last BANC show has also past, thanks to all who have assisted in these money making shows for our Club. Special thanks to Bill Stratemeyer for organizing these shows.

Please remember there will be NOT be an Old Timers Dinner in October. We voted to combine the Holiday and Old Timers Dinner. This "Combined" Dinner will take place on the first meeting in December, which is 1 December 2011.

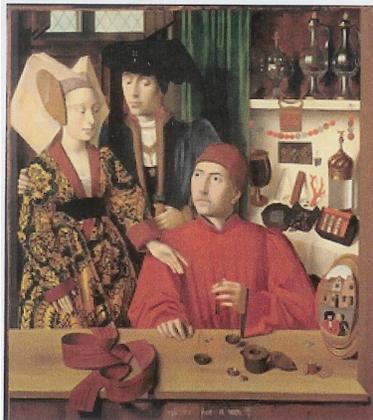
The last Whitman Show for this year is scheduled for November 17-20, 2011. As usual we will be doing the public registration for the 4 days of the show. Everyone needs to pitch in to ensure a smooth operation. Bill Stratemeyer is once again organizing our members for this show.

The meeting programs have been moving along nicely and everyone seems to be enjoying them. We will keep this program moving along.

Ken Finkenbinder

# Saint Eligius

**Saint Eligius** (c. 588- December 1, 660) is the patron saint of goldsmiths, other metal workers, and **coin collectors**. He is also the patron saint of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME), a corps of the British army, but he is best known for being the patron saint of horses and those who work with them. Eligius was chief counselor to Dagobert I, Merovingian king of France. Appointed the bishop of Noyon-Tournai three years after the king's death in 642, Eligius worked for twenty years to convert the pagan population of Flanders to Christianity.



## **A Goldsmith in his shop, Possibly Saint Eligius, 1449**

By Petrus Christus (Netherlandish, active by 1444, died 1475/76)

Oil on oak panel; overall 39 3/8 x 33 3/4 in. (100.1 x 85.8 cm); painted surface 38 5/8 x 33 1/2 in. (98 x 85.2 cm)

Robert Lehman Collection, 1975 (1975.1.110)

The main figure maybe Saint Eligius, patron Saint of Goldsmiths, other metalworkers and coin collectors, as traditionally believed or a realistic depiction. Pictured at right and bottom of page are two medals depicting Saint



Eligius

## **Biography**

Eligius was born at the “villa” of Chapetelat, six miles west of Limoges, in Aquitaine (now France), into an educated and influential Gallo-Roman family. His father, recognizing unusual talent in his son, sent him to the goldsmith Abbo, master of the mint at Limoges. Later Eligius went to Neustria, the kingdom of the Franks, where he worked under Babo, the royal treasurer, on whose recommendation Clotaire II, king of the Franks, is said to have commissioned him to make a throne of gold adorned with precious stones. With the gold and precious stones given him he made two. Among other goldsmith's work soon entrusted to Eligius were the bas-reliefs for the tomb of Saint Germain, Bishop of Paris. Clotaire took Eligius into the royal household and appointed him master of the mint at Marseille. Struck by his rare honesty, the king gave him an appointment at court, and demanded an oath of fidelity sworn upon holy relics; but Eligius prayed with tears to be excused, for fear of failing in reverence to the relics of the Saints. After the death of Clotaire in 629, Dagobert appointed his father's friend his chief counselor. Eligius' reputation spread rapidly, to the extent that ambassadors first sought out Eligius for counsel and to pay their respects to him before going to the king. Eligius died on December 1, 659 or 660 and was buried at Noyon.

## Saint Eligius (cont.)

### Feast Day of Saint Eligius

The Feast Day of Saint Eligius is December 1. The origin of Feast Days: most saints have specially designated feast days and are associated with a specific day of the year and these are referred to as the saint's feast day. The feast days first arose from the very early Christian custom of the annual commemoration of martyrs on the dates of their deaths at the same time celebrating their birth into heaven.



**REFERENCES:** *Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia*  
*Catholic Encyclopedia*

**Whitman  
Coin Show Baltimore Convention Center  
June 16 thru June 19, 2011**

**Public Registration    *Chairman: Bill Stratemeyer***

BCC Members Assisted with public registration:

Thursday June 16th

Keith Connors	Bill Lenz	Fred Cook	Jack Mitchell
Nick Kurlick	Ed Craig		

Friday June 17th

Jim Bosewell	Mark Humphrey	Joe Burford	Margie Burford
Bill Lenz	Joe Adam	Jack Mitchell	Nick Kurlick
Ed Craig	Joe Mashenski	Bryce Doxzen	

Saturday June

Jim Bosewell	Mark Humphrey	Keith Connors	Don Levin
Joe Burford	Margie Burford	Bill Lenz	Larry Goldman
Tom Davis	Al Jefferson	Gene Dixon	Ed Craig
Joe Mashenski	Don Curtis		

Sunday June 19th

Keith Connor	Sandon Cohen		Bryce Doxzon
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I would like to thank of the BCC members that helped at the show.  
Bill Stratemeyer

Words from the Past - #22

*By: Don Curtis*

*The Year was 1945*

Excerpts from minutes of past Baltimore Coin Club meetings as written by the club Secretary-Treasurer Mr. Plummer Wiley:

**March 1st, 1945** - *The meeting was called to order by President Straus at 8:15 PM with 16 members present. Due to the unavoidable absence of the secretary, Mr. P. Wiley, Mr. Sheckells was appointed to act as Secretary pro-tem.*

*A copy of the Constitution and By Laws of the Milford Coin Club (Milford, Conn.) was received and laid aside for review.*

*Mr. Schmidt, Chairman of the Banquet Committee, reported that arrangements had been completed for the Banquet, but that all desiring tickets must secure them prior to Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, since final figures on attendance had to be furnished to the hotel by that date. Mr. Schmidt also reported that the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Night program for Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, was arranged, and requested that everyone bring an exhibit that evening and that we should all make it a real Anniversary Meeting. There will be an auction held that evening. Mr. Schmidt asked all members present to contact any absent members to try to have them attend the next meeting and the Banquet.*

*Mr. Kern reported for the Nominating Committee in Dr. Schafer's absence and advised that the Committee, after a thorough study of all eligible members, made the following recommendations:*

<i>For President</i>	<i>Mr. Philip G. Straus</i>
<i>For Vice President</i>	<i>Mr. Joseph P. Smyth</i>
<i>For Secretary &amp; Treas.</i>	<i>Mr. John R. Sheckells</i>
<i>For Librarian-Curator</i>	<i>Mr. Henry C. Brogden</i>

*For Officers on the Board of Governors: Me. Charles Hass, Mr. S. Stewart Hooper, Dr. Edward Plummer, and Mr. John M. Cook*

*Mr. Brogden stated he had to decline his nomination for Librarian-Curator. An auction was held which netted the Club commissions amounting to 29 cents.*

**March 15th, 1945** - *The meeting was called to order by President Straus at 8:15 PM with an attendance of 27 members and 2 guests, Mr. Paul Henson and Mr. William Guberman.*

*Mr. Schmidt, Chairman of the Banquet Committee, reported on plans for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet, Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. He announced that the Hotel must be notified by Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, as to the number of diners to be served and, therefore, all tickets must be purchased by that date.*

*Mr. Sheckells, Chairman of the Display Committee, announced that Mr. Straus exhibit in the Union Trust Company would be changed within a week or so. This exhibit will call attention to National Coin Week. Mr. Straus reported that the Union Trust*

*Company will celebrate its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in December and the Club has been requested to provide an exhibit of 1795 U.S. Coins.*

*Mr. Wight and Mr. McCormick reported on a talk on Commemorative Half Dollars which had been presented by Mr. Smyth before the Downtown Lion's Club. He spoke before a group of about a hundred people and his talk was very well received.*

*Mr. Straus, our ninth and present President, thereupon proceeded with the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Night program. All Past Presidents of the Club were in attendance and each spoke briefly of the Club history during his administration. Most Past Presidents had on exhibition the plaques which had been presented to them by the Club.*

*Mr. George W. Williams, the first President, reviewed the formation and organization of the Club.*

*Mr. Frank G. Duffield, the second President and also Past President of the A.N.A., discussed the history of his plaque and reviewed the incorporation of the Club and a trip to Annapolis to visit the Naval Academy which occurred during his administration.*

*The third President and also our auctioneer, Mr. Charles E. McCormick, reported on the first Club auction and humorously reviewed the details of the second auction, which was held May 16<sup>th</sup>, 1935, with 162 lots.*

*William F. Perlitz, the fourth President, recalled a trip to the Washington Coin Club's Banquet, a Maryland Night Program and the advantages of the "Question Box" which was inaugurated during his term of office.*

*Messrs. Edward W. Cockey, John M. Cook, Arthur B. Stewart and Herman C. Stotz, the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth Presidents, respectively, reviewed the highlights of the Club history during their administrations.*

*A rising vote of appreciation was extended to all the Past Presidents for their contributions to the advancement of the Club.*

*The usual auction was held, which netted the Club \$1.36 in commission.*

*March 24th, 1945 – Annual Banquet (cost \$2.75/plate)*

*The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet of the Baltimore Coin Club was held on Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 P.M. in the Ballroom of the Hotel Stafford with 47 members and guests, including the lassies, members of the Washington Numismatic Society and Western Maryland Coin Club. A photograph was taken of the group prior to the Banquet (and attached to the minutes).*

*Mr. Joseph P. Smyth, Club Vice-President, officiated as Toastmaster in his own inimitable style. After a few brief remarks, he called on George W. Williams, the Club's first President as the first speaker of the evening.*

*Philip G. Straus, Club President, welcomed the guests and reviewed briefly the progress of the Club during the past year, commending the Officers and the Committees for their work during the year. Mr. Smyth then introduced Major Moss, President of the Washington Numismatic Society, who congratulated our Club on its ten years of progress and invited all present to visit the Washington Numismatic Society.*

*The Toastmaster then introduced the feature of the evening, "Dr. N. Q.", a "first cousin" of Dr. I. Q. of radio fame. Dr. N. Q. (Dr. Numismatic Quizzer) proved to be none other than our congenial auctioneer, Charles E. McCormick. Dr. N. Q. was complete with cap and gown and was seated before a microphone with a bag of new*

*coins which his assistances, awarded to those present who gave correct answers. His assistants walked through the audience with a portable microphone. Dr. N. Q. questions were complete even to the biographical sketch and the "thought twister". He asked members rather difficult numismatic questions but the ladies were asked such questions as, "What is the maximum number of coins you ever took from your husband's trousers while he was sleeping?" or "What are the disadvantages of being a numismatist's wife?" Many present though they were actually "on the air" until the program was over and the Toastmaster burst the bubble by announcing that it was only a mock broadcast.*

*Each person present was presented with a souvenir envelope containing an uncirculated 1935 and 1945 coins, commemorating the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Club.*

*Many favorable comments were made concerning the program and appreciation was extended to the Committee, consisting of Elmer Schmidt, Chairman, Plummer Wiley, and John M. Cook and to Dr. N. Q., Charles E. McCormick.*

**NOTE:** *The Banquet Committee Report, reported: A total of 50 tickets were sold at \$2.75 each, totaling: \$137.50, expenses (included \$112.50 for dinner, \$12.00 for Tip, \$5.00 for flowers, \$2.99 for 299 uncirculated 1944 P mint Lincoln cents used for prize coins & souvenir coins, \$2.25 for 50-1935 P mint Lincoln cents, and \$0.90 for miscellaneous Banquet expense = \$135.64, which netted a profit of \$1.86.*