



The Coin Courier

"Official Publication of the Baltimore Coin Club"

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

December 2006

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BALTIMORE COIN CLUB

President:	Don Curtis
Vice President:	Larry Kuhn
Treasurer:	Joe Adam
Secretary:	Bill Ayres
Editor, <i>The Coin Courier</i>	Nick Kurlick

COURIER COMMENTS

Request volunteers to conduct their coin interview. The Courier requests articles from members on experiences, information, and other interests. Courier appreciates any comments to information and material.

2005 Baltimore Coin Club Calendar of Events

5	October	Theme – My Favorite Nickel
19	October	Reunion Night (Colonial CC & Hanover Numismatic Society)
2	November	Theme – My Favorite Coin Series
16	November	
7	December	Theme – My Best and Worst Paper Money
21	December	Holiday Dinner
4	January	Theme – My Favorite Non-numismatic collection
18	January	
1	February	Theme – My Largest Coin/Medal/Exonumia
15	February	
1	March	Theme – My Best Foreign Coin
15	March	
5	April	Theme – My Favorite Copper Coin
19	April	
3	May	Theme – My Unusual Error Find
17	May	

Coin Quiz

Can you identify this coin?

What country?



BCC Presidents Message

I would like to wish all BCC members and their family's a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I would like to remind everyone that our Holiday Dinner will be held at Grease United Methodist Church on December 21 beginning at 7 PM. We have a special speaker this year; his name is Larry Carton, who will be speaking on fake/counterfeit coins coming out of Hong Kong. He will be bringing samples of some of these quite passable, mostly dollar size coins to pass around. Larry is a long time member and current Secretary of the Maryland Numismatic Society

I would like to again thank Jose Garcia-Garcia for stepping forward and making two presentations in as many months, one on Cuban Coins and the other on Cuban paper money at our Reunion Night in September. If you missed them, you missed two very interesting and informative presentations, complete with state of the art computer slide shows

We are still looking for someone to step forward to take on the job of Young Numismatist (YN) coordinator. If you are interested in getting young people interested in coin collecting, this is where it starts. The Club has hundreds of dollars in the YN account that can be used on YN promotions and/or programs. If you have some ideas on how to interest kids (the future of our hobby) in collecting coins or other numismatic items, this may be the right position for you.

We are also looking members to step forward to write articles for the club news letter "The Currier". If you like to write or would like to share your coin knowledge with others, I ask you to consider writing a short article on what interests you the most and share it with all of us. Who knows, you may even interest someone else in the club to start collecting what you like to collect.

Phil Stokes (the churches long time janitor) passed away in August; the Club donated \$50.00 to the Church who in turn provides all monies collected to Phil's widow.

I am sure most of you know that the U.S. Mint will begin issuing Presidential dollar coins beginning in February 2007 as well as Gold pieces for all the first ladies of the land. The plan is to issue four Presidential golden color dollars coins beginning with George Washington as well as four corresponding first lady gold pieces, beginning with Martha Washington a year, for 10+ years. Is this just another coin series for collectors to collect or another way to get more people to collect coins, or is it just another Government money making scheme. Will these new dollar coins circulate and be used by Americans or will they not as long as the dollar bill continues to be printed? Let us know how you feel about this program. How about putting your feelings in writing and give them to Nick to be published in the next issue of the Currier?

I would like to end this message with this thought "The best way to meet and make new friends is to do your part by getting involved". I am asking all members to consider

volunteer as an officer or chairman of a committee, to help out at one of our functions, to give a talk or write an article for the news letter. If everyone helps out just a little it will make it easier on all of us, and Baltimore Coin Club will continue to be one of the best coin clubs in Maryland and possibly in the country”.

Don Curtis
President

**Coin Show Baltimore Convention Center
November 10 thru 12, 2006**

	Public Registration	
Friday November 10, 2006	TIME	Telephone No.
<i>Chairman: Bill Stratemeyer</i>	<i>All Day</i>	
1. Gene Stumbroski	10:00 to PM	
2. Joe Adam	2PM to 6PM	
3. Joe & Margie Burford	9AM to 12PM	
4. Bill Lenz	9AM till ?	
5. Jerry McConnel	all day	
6. Bill Ayres	all day	
7. Al Ciolfi	about 11 - 4:00PM	
8. Dick Simak	“ “ “	
Saturday November 11, 2006		
<i>Chairman: Larry Goldman</i>	<i>12:00 till close</i>	
1. Don Curtis	9AM till 3:30PM	
2. Ron Sheradon	10:00Am till	
3. Larry Kuhn	12PM till ?	
4. Joe and Margie Burford	9AM till 11AM	
5. Jose C. Garcia-Garcia	10AM till 2PM	
6. Karl Keller	not sure what time	
7. Bill Ayres	10:00AM – 1:00AM	
8. Jerry McConnel	“ “	
Sunday November 12, 2006		
<i>Chairman: Frank Murphy</i>	<i>All Day</i>	
1. Bryce Doxzon	11AM till close	
2. Jim Nash	All Day	
3. Don Kern	11AM till 1PM	

I would like to thank of the BCC members that helped at the show.

Bill Stratemeyer

Coin Courier Interview

By Jim Nash

1. What numismatic material do you collect?

My numismatic interests are very diverse. The primary collections are those of U.S. coins which would include a type set collection with no 18th Century rarities, 2 complete Indian cent collection, the ubiquitous Lincoln Wheat cent collection, a complete V-nickel collection, nearly complete Buffalo nickel that still needs the 37-D 3-legged variety. Also, all the Barber series collections, I recently started Morgan Dollar, and complete Peace Dollar collections, several complete Washington quarter collections and complete Walking Liberty halves. In addition, I also collect foreign, ancient, and exanumia including Civil War Tokens and so-called dollars, German Notgeld coins and paper money, an also US paper money. Just about anything and everything is open to being collected.
2. How long have you been collecting and how did you get started?

In the late 80's I began collecting after a long lapse from childhood collecting. I first began with a wheat cent collection about 1960 when I would search my grandmother's penny hoard. At this time, well worn Buffalo nickels, standing Liberty quarters, and even occasional V-nickels and Barber dimes as well as mercury dimes could be found. My friend had some large cents and started my collecting. We would look for 55-S cents and 50-D, and later the 60 small date cents.
3. In what other numismatic clubs do you belong?

I also belong to the Civil War Token Society and to the ANA. Just recently, I've submitted to join the so-called Dollar Collectors Club.
4. What are you most prized or interesting numismatic items?

There are a few coins that are a cut above the others. These would include my 1885 PCGS VF-30 Liberty Nickel and my 1877 PCGS VG-10 Indian Cent. These coins have recently seen considerable appreciation in value. I have uncertified 1886 and 1912-S Liberty Nickels that are also VF-30, I believe. These items were obtained to complete the collections and I submitted the 1885 nickel to PCGS through a member dealer way back in 1989, when slabs were a new thing.
5. What was your most interesting find in circulation?

In all my years of looking, I have never found anything significant in circulation.
6. What are you non-numismatic collections?

I also collect stamps on occasion and sports cards such as Baseball and Football cards. Old Colts and Orioles always bring back thoughts of the good old days.
7. How did you come to join the Baltimore Coin Club?

I was working evening shift when I bought some Austrian paper Notgeld notes on E-bay from Tom Palmer. He provided me with the link for the BCC and the invitation to attend a meeting sometime. Later, after I had moved to day work, I saw the article in Coin World about the contest and this is when I decided to start attending meetings.

Message from Ernie Turnes

Dear Members of Baltimore Coin Club,

Just a note to say Hello and to let you know that all is well here in Myrtle Beach. I hope all is well with each of you. Like in Baltimore, the weather has been beautiful here--I've been in T shirts the last few days. It doesn't seem right decorating your house for Christmas in short sleeves.

Not much happens here in the numismatic world. Only one coin shop and one club and no nearby coin shows. (I miss the BCC meetings and the Baltimore area shows.) After a few months I ended up being the leader of the local club--the Myrtle Beach Coin Club--not so much by my choice, but because no one else wanted the job (sound familiar??). We're a small group with no by-laws, officers, dues, formal meeting format, etc. We just meet twice a month at a library and show and discuss coins. The members have extensive knowledge and extensive collections. At our meetings we've been using the Theme concept like BCC does.

I keep in touch with Bill Stratemeyer, Don Kern, Miguel, Bob Ruby, and a few others and hopefully they've been sending along my best wishes. Re collecting, I still look for love tokens (still the national club's VP), Mercury dimes and toned coins. My new interest is Seated half dimes. I have about 20 pieces and continue to shop.

Well, I'll close. We moved here in July 2005 and haven't yet returned to Maryland. Perhaps when I do I'll be able to attend a meeting (I am still a member--it's half price when you're this far away!!!). If any of you come this way, let me know (843) 903-1223. I'd like to see you. My best to each of you.

Ernie

THE ONE DOLLAR BILL...

Supplied by: Don Curtis

Take out a one dollar bill.

The one dollar bill you're looking at first came off the presses in 1957 in its present design. This so-called paper money is in fact a cotton and linen blend, with red and blue minute silk fibers running through it. It is actually material. We've all washed it without it falling apart. A special blend of ink is used, the contents we will never know. It is overprinted with symbols and then it is starched to make it water resistant and pressed to give it that nice crisp look. If you look on the front of the bill, you will see the United States Treasury Seal. On the top you will see the scales for a balanced budget. In the center you have a carpenter's square, a tool used for an even cut. Underneath is the Key to the United States Treasury. That's all pretty easy to figure out, but what is on the back of that dollar bill is something we should all know. If you turn the bill over, you will see two circles. Both circles, together, comprise the Great Seal of the United States. The First Continental Congress requested that Benjamin Franklin and a group of men come up with a seal. It took

them four years to accomplish this task and another two years to get it approved. If you look at the left-hand circle, you will see a Pyramid. Notice the face is lighted, and the western side is dark. This country was just beginning. We had not begun to explore the West or decided what we could do for Western Civilization. The Pyramid is uncapped, again signifying that we were not even close to being finished. Inside the capstone you have the all-seeing eye, an ancient symbol for divinity. It was Franklin's belief that one man couldn't do it alone, but a group of men, with the help of God, could do anything. "IN GOD WE TRUST" is on this currency. The Latin above the pyramid, ANNUIT COEPTIS, means, "God has favored our undertaking." The Latin below the pyramid, NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM, means, "a new order has begun." At the base of the pyramid is the Roman Numeral for 1776. If you look at the right-hand circle, and check it carefully, you will learn that it is on every National Cemetery in the United States. It is also on the Parade of Flags Walkway at the Bushnell, Florida National Cemetery, and is the centerpiece of most heroes' monuments. Slightly modified, it is the seal of the President of the United States, and it is always visible whenever he speaks, yet very few people know what the symbols mean. The Bald Eagle was selected as a symbol for victory for two reasons: First, he is not afraid of a storm; he is strong, and he is smart enough to soar above it. Secondly, he wears no material crown. We had just broken from the King of England. Also, notice the shield is unsupported. This country can now stand on its own. At the top of that shield you have a white bar signifying congress, a unifying factor. We were coming together as one nation. In the Eagle's beak you will read, "E PLURIBUS UNUM", meaning, "one nation from many people." Above the Eagle, you have thirteen stars, representing the thirteen original colonies, and any clouds of misunderstanding rolling away. Again, we were coming together as one. Notice what the Eagle holds in his talons. He holds an olive branch and arrows. This country wants peace, but we will never be afraid to fight to preserve peace. The Eagle always wants to face the olive branch, but in time of war, his gaze turns toward the arrows. They say that the number 13 is an unlucky number. This is almost a worldwide belief. You will usually never see a room numbered 13, or any hotels or motels with a 13th floor. But think about this: 13 original colonies, 13 signers of the Declaration of Independence, 13 stripes on our flag, 13 steps on the Pyramid, 13 letters in the Latin above, 13 letters in "E Pluribus Unum", 13 stars above the Eagle, 13 bars on that shield, 13 leaves on the olive branch, 13 fruits, and if you look closely, 13 arrows. And, for minorities: the 13th Amendment. I always ask people, "Why don't you know this?" Your children don't know this, and their history teachers don't know this. Too many veterans have given up too much to ever let the meaning fade. Many veterans remember coming home to an America that didn't care. Too many veterans never came home at all. Share this page with someone, so they can learn what is on the back of the UNITED STATES ONE DOLLAR BILL, and what it stands for...Otherwise, they will probably never know...either.

EDITOR'S CORNER

This is another point of view on the numerous volumes of articles and opinions circulating the numismatic media on the future plans of the ANA (America Numismatic Association). Essentially, there are two main philosophies on the purpose of the ANA. First, there is the original concept to maintain current course of educating the membership and provide necessary tools to enhance the knowledge of the association membership. Then, the proposed ANA version wants to aggressively enlist and educate people that maybe one day they will become ANA members to increase the financial base. The ANA membership is a diversified group consisting of individuals from different educational and professional portfolios that have different reasons for interest in numismatics from financial, fun, artistic, educational, and associated others.

Let's review the information and determine what course would be appropriate to support. We should not debate on the politics or the verbal output from the membership and officers, for we should focus on the future of the association's strategy and goals. The ANA educational strategy will be evaluated many years from today defining the merit in their strategy.

First, the current concept has valuable purposes and one can not deny that they have achieved some of their goals. This original strategy desires to maintain the education process that has been formulated in the past to present members and clubs with valuable numismatic information and material. Yes, this has provided valuable information to the membership. I am a current participant in their educational course material and must totally admit that their courses have been very valuable to me in understanding and expanding my numismatic knowledge.

Second, the proposed ANA ruling policy makers are formulating plans to educate the populace on numismatics from classroom courses and possibly the working public. Of course, the classroom courses would educate youngsters to understand the coinage, history, finance, and American culture. This is a very aggressive strategy with the potential ramifications to strain current ANA budget and organization. The ANA should publish their plans to organize this adventure to include obtaining financial backing and the educational material. There are many questions and concerns that will not be identified in this article.

Now, the editorial license comments - I like to call the current concept as an archaic version and 'don't rock the boat' theme that has not advanced in the last several years. The ANA has slowly advanced to the current information media such as the INTERNET, but they still maintain slides and video tapes that have a definitive usage and life-span. One must use the mailing system and very soon out-dated devices to observe numismatic material while other electronic media could be more appropriate. Frankly, I do not see any plans or mechanism for them to modify their current information system. The ANA future educational strategy is a very aggressively and costly program that will have many early challenges and failures. Now, members who 'Cut and Run' from the ANA membership because they disagree with the ANA management and officers' strategy while not

employing their right and responsibility to voice their displeasure. If I can plagiarize a quote 'come closer and know me better', for we must understand the ANA detailed plans to evaluate before accepting or modifying the plans. Remember, it is very intelligent to have good plans, but great accomplishments come from constant planning during the process.

These comments are strictly editor's position and concern and have no connection or endorsement by the Baltimore Coin Club.

Here is your answer:

