



The Coin Courier

"Official Publication of the Baltimore Coin Club"

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

March 2005

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BALTIMORE COIN CLUB

President:	Ernie Turnes
Vice President:	Roland Sheperd
Treasurer:	Don Kern
Secretary:	Bill Ayers
Editor, <i>The Coin Courier</i>	Nick Kurlick

COURIER COMMENTS

The Courier specially thanks Bill Stratemeyer and Bill Ayers for their continue assistance with BCC events to include Christmas parties and other dinner functions. *The Courier apologies if any individual name(s) have been omitted from this recognition.*

The Courier thanks Bill Stratemeyer for coordinating registration duties at the Gordon Berg Shows.

If BCC members would rather receive their newsletter electronic, then send a message to the following address to enter in the data base: cybera@comcast.net

Remember pay your 2005 BCC membership dues to the club Treasurer.

2005 Baltimore Coin Club Calendar of Events

7	April	Theme- Certified Coins (old holders, poor grades, etc.)
21	April	Program
5	May	Theme- Unusual Banks
18	May	Program
2	June	Theme- Obsolete Denominations
16	June	Program
7	July	Theme- The Bust (coin) that I like Best
21	July	Program
4	August	Theme- Nickel Night
18	August	Program Young Numismatist Night
1	September	Theme- My Latest Acquisition
15	September	Program
6	October	Theme- The Ugliest Coin/Piece in My Collection
20	October	Reunion Night (Colonial CC & Hanover Numismatic Society)
3	November	Theme- Paper Currency (US, foreign, scrip, etc.)
17	November	Program
1	December	Theme- My Best or Worst Buy from the US Mint
15	December	BCC Holiday Party

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ernie Turnes

Thanks for electing me president of our club. I said in my first President's message in 1995 that it is a true privilege and honor to be president of the Baltimore Coin Club. I still feel that way. We have a long history as a very successful organization. Part of that is because we've had, and have, so many people who pitch in to help our club. I won't name names, for fear of missing someone, but I will mention just a few of the things that they/you do and have done. Many of these things we don't seem to note or think about—or perhaps just take for granted. These include serving in an office, being on committees, setting up the room before the meeting, bringing members to meetings who can't get there by themselves, acquiring prizes, bringing refreshments, managing the Library and club materials, serving in the auction, getting speakers, planning education sessions, working registration at coin shows, taking charge of dinners, donating items for the auctions, cleaning up the room after meetings, and so many other things. I've been in other clubs where the “work” hasn't been spread around so much. We're fortunate.

Regarding the time that I am president, I'd like to see us spend as much meeting time as possible educating one another. Of course, we have to conduct club business, but if we can maximize our education time, I think that everyone will benefit the most.

I'd also like to see our membership grow. Perhaps the best and easiest way to do this is to personally invite friends and acquaintances to our meetings. If they come, I believe that they will like what they see and will return.

Here's hoping that you have continued success in your collecting and that we see you at our next meeting and those that follow.

Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention March 11, 12 & 13, 2005
Baltimore Coin Club Volunteers Public Registration

March 11, 2005 Friday

1. Bill Stratemeyer chairman
2. 2. Joe & Margie Burford
3. Karl Keller
4. Ernie & Peg Turnes
5. Bill Lenz
6. Roland Sheperd
7. Joe Adam
8. Dick Simak
9. Joe Adam
10. Jerry McConnell

March 12, 2005 Saturday

- Bill Stratemeyer Chairman
Bill Ayres
Larry Goldman
Nick Kurlick
Joe & Margie Burford
Don Curtis
Don Levin
Bob Ruby
Ron Sheridan

March 13, 2005 Sunday

- 1 Frank Murphy chairman
- 2 Don Kern
- 3 Bryce Doxzon
- 4 Sandon Cohen

On behalf of the Baltimore Coin Club, I want to thank each and every one you that helped at the show!!!!

Bill Stratemeyer

Some Thoughts from a Club Member

Ernie Turnes

- I often bid on auction catalogs at our Club auctions because I enjoy the colorful photographs and stories about the coins.
- We've all seen or heard of those machines that allow us to deposit coins and get dollar bills or store credit, less a percentage (sometimes as high as 7%). A sign on one said, "Turn your change into cash". If change isn't cash, what is it?
- As Frank Murphy said in his last "President's Message" in this newsletter, we are fortunate to have people who do so many things for the benefit of the club. While many are acknowledged for their work, others do things that get little notice.
- We should have a Premium Auction at one of our meetings this year, in which the minimum bid for items can be no less than a particular figure, such as \$5 or \$10.
- If you have ideas about how to attract guests (new members), including Young Collectors, to our club, bring those suggestions up at a meeting. It would be nice to see our membership grow.

Words From The Past

By: Don Curtis

The Year was 1942

Excerpts from minutes of past Baltimore Coin Club meetings (as written by the club Secretary Mr. George Requard):

August 6th, 1942 – *The regular meeting of the club was held on this date, with 17 members in attendance. Our president explained that the Composite exhibition will be held on the first meeting in September, because of the circumstances that allowed Mr. Hans Schulman to be present to discuss coins, etc. Mr. Schulman, who is an entertaining authority on his subject, as we knew from a previous meeting which he attended. He had a very fine lot of material to exhibit, illustrative of his remarks and we were very glad to see his coins and more so to listen to his numismatic gossip. Some of the questions he raised gave occasion to a bit of interesting discussion and so, after a very pleasant evening the meeting was adjourned.*

NOTE: A notation followed the above minutes, stated: In Memoriam “George G. Requard” died August 9th, 1942, just three days after he had written the minutes above from the August 6th, 1942 meeting.

Excerpts from minutes of past Baltimore Coin Club meetings (as written by the club Secretary Mr. Philip G. Streus):

August 20, 1942 – *The regular meeting of the club was held on this date, with 16 members present. The president announced that due to the sad death of our beloved member, Mr. George G. Requard, who held the office of Secretary and Treasure, the minutes from the last meeting were not available.*

A motion was made by Dr. Plummer and duly seconded by Mr. McCormick that a page in the minutes book be set aside in memory of Mr. Requard. This motion was unanimously carried. After the members stood for a moment of silence in memory of our deceased member, Mr. Straus announced that, as requested by the present, flowers had been sent to the deceased.

The president brought to the attention of the club that in accordance with article 6, Section 2 of the By-laws, nominations was in order for Secretary and Treasurer for the unexpired term. After two members were nominated and declined the positions, the president, at the suggestion of Dr. Schaefer, then appointed Mr. Straus to fill the office pro temp.

To the surprise of all present, Mr. Duffield announced that he had declined to accept re-election as Editor and Business Manager of “The Numismatist”, effective August 31st, next. He held these positions for twenty-seven years and one month, and it was the opinion of all present that it will be difficult to find as capable a successor.

The Secretary then announced that at the next meeting, Thursday, September 3rd, Mr. Smyth will give a talk on “The Crown Coins of England.”

An auction was held which netted the club \$1.03 in commissions. The meeting then adjourned.

What You Missed at the Non-Numismatic Collection Theme Night

On the 3rd February 2005 BCC meeting, we had several interesting displays with members discussing their 'Non-numismatic Collection'. Karl Keller a couple of different collections. First, he had mounted many 'Hard Rock Café' pins in which he visited most of the locations including Taipei, Taiwan. Karl also had several unusual bottle openers with one actually chiming as 'Miller Time'. Don Kern had a display of some car models with one car replicates that he is currently rebuilding. He also collected old car manuals. McKim displayed his collection of elephants. He collected miniature elephants that were constructed of different materials from wood, metal, leather, etc. He also had an unusual spoon collection in which the spoon part was metal smith from foreign coins with different types of handles. Sandon Cohen displayed his sea shell collection that he started when he was a youngster. He was able to identify the names and provide discussion on their former inhabitants and where you may discover these unusual shells. Bill Stratemeyer had a display of George Washington items to include post cards, paper money items, and other items in which Pete Burris influenced him to assemble a Washington paraphernalia collection. Al Coifi bought in his display of Cachet sets of Boy Scouts stamps from different countries. Each envelope displayed a representing picture of that countries' scouting program with an issued stamp. He is missing four Cachets in which those countries do not have a scouting program. Joey Snyder displayed his collection of 'space patches' Fred Ware demonstrated how he loaded shot gun shells with the hand handle loading device. He provided a story in which he was trap shooting and he forgot to load the cotton or powder and had just a small puff from his rifle. Bruce Doxzon recently received the official Presidential Inauguration medal; he displayed the different varieties for the second term President Bush medals. There was one design of President Bush and Vice President Chaney with an eagle and the flag, and then the committee decided to change the reverse design to include the President's seal.

Baltimore Coin Club History

By Don Curtis – Past President

March 1, 2005

While going through some of the material at the back of the meeting room, I came across a small booklet titled "Baltimore Coin Club", and dated August 1950. This booklet was dedicated to Frank G. Duffield, BCC member number 1 and Honorary Life Member of the Baltimore Coin Club. Mr. Duffield was also the past President (2nd President) of the Baltimore Coin Club in 1936, and Honorary member of the ANA, past President of the ANA, and Editor and Business Manager of "The Numismatist" from 1915-1942. Besides reproducing the Clubs Constitution and By-Laws it had a brief two page history of the club which I wanted to share with everyone:

CLUB HISTORY

The Baltimore Coin Club was organized on March 19, 1935, at a meeting held at the Lord Baltimore Hotel. Those Present comprised the collectors of Baltimore and Annapolis known to a self-constituted committee of three which had sent out invitations on March 12. This committee was composed of George W. Williams, Charles E. McCormick

and Frank G. Duffield. About fifteen collectors attended the meeting. Mr. Williams was chosen temporary chairman and J.A. Walsh acted as secretary. It was the unanimous opinion that a club should be organized in Baltimore, and that the organization meetings should be held two weeks later.

This meeting was held at 612 North Calvert Street on April 2. It was decided that the name should be the Baltimore Coin Club. A committee was appointed to draft a constitution and By-laws, and a committee of one – Dr. Plummer – was appointed to secure a permanent meeting place.

Through the efforts of Dr. Plummer, a room in the Municipal Museum, 225 North Holiday Street, was secured, and the third meeting was held there on April 23. At that meeting the constitution and By-laws presented by the committee were adopted and the following officers were elected for the first year:

President, George W. Williams
Vice-President, Lieut. Oscar H. Dodson
Secretary-Treasurer, Robert T. Creamer, Jr.
Librarian-Curator, S.E. Cann
Board of Governors, C.E. McCormick, Dr. Edward Plummer, George Requard, Dr. T.A. Schaefer

The club has since held its regular meetings at the Municipal Museum.

During the first year it was decided to assign a number to each member. The first thirty members were classed as charter members, and the numbers for these were chosen by lot (No. 1 being unanimously awarded to F.G. Duffield. Since that time numbers have been assigned in their order of admission. The following year the club was incorporated under the laws of Maryland. Each anniversary meeting has been commemorated by a banquet held in a public place, at most of which out-of-town speakers were secured.

The Membership of the club has always included a member from nearby points in Maryland, among them several from Annapolis. We would like to extend a welcome to each new member, with the hope they may derive some of the pleasures we have enjoyed in our mutual gathering.

PRESIDENTS

1935	– George W. Williams	1936	– Frank G. Duffield
1937	– Charles E. McCormick	1938	– William F. Perlitz
1939	– Edward W. Cockey	1940	– John M. Cook
1941	– Arthur B. Stewart	1942	– Herman C. Stotz
1943-45	– Philip G. Straus	1946	– John R. Sheckells
1947	– Plummer Wiley	1948-49	– CAPT. Lawrence Cockaday
1950	– Murray Heiserman		

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

Frank G. Duffield

NOTE: At the back of the booklet it had a list of all the current members of the Baltimore Coin Club, and of particular interest was member No. 73 – Louis Eliasberg, who lived at 3320 Bancroft Rd. As most of us know Louis Eliasberg, is famous for assembling a complete set of all US Coins, which were on display a number of times, in his lifetime.

Hail To the Chief: A Short History of Presidential Inaugural Medals

by Bryce Doxzon

From the time of the first presidential inauguration in 1789, inaugural souvenirs have been prized by much of the public. In the first century of the presidency, some of these inaugurations were commemorated with medals. The swearing-in of Presidents Jefferson, J.Q. Adams, Van Buren, Tyler, Polk, Taylor, and several later chief executives were marked specifically with medals. All of these were produced privately for individuals or small groups and did not bear any hallmark of being sanctioned by any official inaugural body. As inaugurations became more elaborate in the late nineteenth century, official inaugural committees were established to plan the celebrations. Committee members and chairmen were usually designated with special ribbons, but by Benjamin Harrison's inauguration in 1889, those developed into badges in which a medal was suspended below the bottom crosspiece of a ribbon. This form of an official commemorative was also used for the 1893 and 1897 inaugurations of Presidents Cleveland and McKinley, respectively.

In 1901, for McKinley's second inauguration, the medal was separated from the badge and came into its own as an official commemorative. Inaugural committee members and chairmen each received these medals (mostly bronze), and a special version struck in gold was presented to the president. This was the intended standard practice for subsequent inaugurations in 1905, 1909 and 1913. In each case, the medals were an expense of the inaugural committee paid for by funds raised from sales of tickets to the inaugural parade or inaugural ball. In 1917, 1921 and 1925, the advent of war, economic hardship, or the personal economy of the incoming president hindered revenues such that the production of medals was sharply curtailed. Gold medals were still presented to each president, but the tradition of inaugural medals appeared to be in doubt.

For Herbert Hoover's inauguration in 1929, the committee hit upon a novel idea: selling the medals to the public. This approach kept the medals tradition alive. The Hoover and the four subsequent Franklin D. Roosevelt inaugural medals were priced so that they basically paid for themselves, and they were not nationally marketed. The Truman medal of 1949 was the first to be advertised nationally. Sales of that medal and the subsequent Eisenhower commemoratives showed those inaugural committees that the medals could help finance the inaugural celebrations along with the other long-standing fundraisers. With few exceptions, that has been a purpose of the official inaugural medal to this day.

The presidential portraits that have graced inaugural medals over the years have been the works of prominent sculptors such as Augustus Saint Gaudens, Paul Manship, Jo Davidson, and Ralph Menconi. In 2005 a woman, Gladys Gunzer, joined the ranks of inaugural medal sculptors. The medals have been struck by private mints and the U.S. Mint. Numismatic auction sales have validated the popularity of these medals, reflecting a fascination with the American presidency and with a ritual of democratic government as old as the Constitution.