



# The Coin Courier

"Official Publication of the Baltimore Coin Club"

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

**October 2007**

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## BALTIMORE COIN CLUB

President:	Walt Kitner
Vice President:	Larry Kuhn
Treasurer:	Joe Adam
Secretary:	Jose C. Garcia-Garcia
Editor, <i>The Coin Courier</i>	Nick Kurlick

**What You Missed**  
BCC at Hanover PA Coin Club

On August 8<sup>th</sup> our President Walt Kitner, Frank Murphy and Bill Stratemeyer attended the annual picnic. It was a very nice evening. The food was good and seeing an old friend Allen Shaffer brought back memories when Allen belonged to Baltimore Coin Club. Margaret Johnson, Hanover's President, gave a talk about her three and one half month cruise around the world and it was very interesting. Many pictures were on display.

We also received a token of Christian Gobrecht

Bill Stratemeyer

**2007-2008 Baltimore Coin Club Calendar of Events**

6	September	Theme – My Favorite Type 5 Cent
20	September	
4	October	Theme – My Favorite Wooden Nickel
18	October	Associated Dinner at 7pm “Baltimore Stocks and Bonds” by Russ Sears
1	November	Theme - My Favorite Type Dime
15	November	
6	December	Theme – My Recent Acquisition at the Show
20	December	Holiday Dinner
3	January	Theme – My Favorite Type Twenty Cents
17	January	
7	February	Theme – My Favorite Type Quarter
21	February	
6	March	Theme – My Favorite Type Half Dollar
21	March	
3	April	Theme - My Favorite Type Dollar Coin

President's Message

This is my second term as B.C.C. president and I consider it a privilege to serve again.

I want to thank the members for making my job easier and for their help. We need a lot more involvement by the membership to make the club work. We need more club members to fill the office positions, as there are many who have served more than once.

When this newsletter comes out, we will have had our annual "Old Timers Night" on Oct. 18th. This includes members from the Hanover and Colonial Coin Clubs. I want to thank Bill Stratameyer for handling the chairmanship for this event. We also have our Christmas party coming up the second Thursday in December. We need someone to come forward and be the chairman for this event.

I would also like to thank Jose Garcia-Garcia for taking over the YN program. These events are where we need the involvement of all the club members.

Please donate some of your time to the Baltimore Coin Club.

Sincerely, Your President,

*Walter E. Kitner*

Walter E. Kitner

## Numismatist Message

Watch for the next issue of NUMISMATIST, which should mail on or about October 2 and arrive in your mailboxes between October 6 and 10. In the October 2007 issue, author John Winkelmann offers a look at the Polish Mint's new, state-of-the-art coinage honoring Vincent van Gogh. Issued for the island nation of Niue, the sterling silver proofs have an unusual, rectangular shape; full-color highlights; and semiprecious stones embedded in the obverse. Larry Schuffman explores the artistry of World War I Liberty Bonds, while Richard Bottles introduces readers to early 20th-century celluloid buttons featuring encased cents. Award-winning author George Fuld gives a profile of Waldo C. Newcomer, a Baltimore numismatist who, in the early 1900s, assembled one of the most complete collections of American coins ever known. Also included in the October issue are more than four pages of photographs and highlights of the ANA World's Fair of Money in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

In just a few short days, after two years in the planning, the ANA will be hosting the 30th FIDEM Congress of international medallic artists. From an extensive new museum exhibit and community reception to a detailed catalog and educational workshops, the six days of FIDEM will be here and over before we know it. At that time, we will all - most notably the Publications Department - be greatly relieved to get things back on track for the November issue of Numismatist. We apologize for any delay in the October issue that our hectic schedule has caused.

Regards,  
Ken

**Ken Hallenbeck, Acting Executive Director**

**Whitman Baltimore and Coin Convention Center**

June 29 thru July 1, 2007

Volunteers for public registration

- |                    |                        |                      |
|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Bill Lenz       | 9. Don Curtis          | 17. Nick Kurlick     |
| 2. Jerry McConnell | 10. Larry Goldman      | 18. Joe Mashinski    |
| 3. Walt Kitner     | 11. Karl Keller        | 19. Frank Murphy     |
| 4. Fred Cook       | 12. Jose Garcia-Garcia | 20. Sandon Cohn      |
| 5. Joe Adam        | 13. Larry Kuhn         | 21. Bryce Doxzon     |
| 6. Joe Burford     | 14. Tom Palmer         | 22. Bill Stratemeyer |
| 7. Margie Burford  | 15. Al Clofi           |                      |
| 8. Bill Ayres      | 16. Dick Simak         |                      |

On behalf of BCC I want to thank all the club members that donated their time  
*Bill Stratemeyer*

## Why Collect Coins?

By Sandon L. Cohen

Although some might point to the investment aspect of numismatics as a reason to collect, it is at best only a derivative justification. After all, if the only reason to collect were to sell for a profit, it would be nothing more than an application of the “greater fool theory” in which people buy something only in the hope that someone else will later pay more for that same reason. Such thinking amounts to nothing more than speculation and ultimately leads to those at the end of the chain taking a loss. For coins to be worth more than the greater of their face value or the value of their metallic content, there must be some other reason why people are willing to pay more than that in the first place.

Speaking for myself, I can point to a variety of reasons. I have been collecting U.S. coins since I was eleven years old, now thirty-six years ago. I have since that time been interested in history and economics, both of which subjects coins can teach us something about. I have indeed, used coins to explain historical events and economic concepts and developments. Yet the things that truly fascinate me about coins are less tangible and more difficult for me to explain.

One such reason is diversity. Each coin is different from every other in some respect, even from pieces produced by the same pair of dies. Across the whole spectrum of available specimens are so many designs, methods of manufacture, die varieties, variations in strike and luster, colorations, and conditions that I have never grown tired of looking at coins, whether at old or new, mint state or well worn, rare or common.

Another reason is a wish to protect and preserve things that I enjoy so that others may enjoy them as well. As we all know, many coins have been destroyed or lost or have been ruined through circulation, use as jewelry, or improper cleaning or storage. I appreciate that previous owners of my coins took care to preserve them. I hope to keep my coins in the same condition as when acquired and eventually to pass them on to others who will hopefully do the same.

My ultimate “reason” for collecting coins is simply that I enjoy it, just as most people find some activity or the other to be enjoyable. Perhaps this is the ultimate reason for other collectors as well.

Historic Change  
Thomas Jefferson \$1.00 Coin

On Wednesday August 15, 2007 Bill Lenz, Karl Keller, Tom Palmer and Bill Stratemeyer visited the Jefferson Memorial to witness the release of this new dollar coin. The ceremony was very nice and we had a great time.

Bill Stratemeyer

