



# The Coin Courier

"Official Publication of the Baltimore Coin Club"

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

**September 2008**

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Bill Stratemeyer

Don Curtis

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Bill Stratemeyer

*The Coin Courier*

## BALTIMORE COIN CLUB

President:

Jose C. Garcia-Garcia

Vice President:

Ken Finkenbinder

Treasurer:

Joe Adam

Secretary:

Sandon Cohn

Editor, *The Coin Courier*

Nick Kurlick

## What You Missed

Don't forget to pay your BCC 2009 DUES!

Holiday party Mr. Wayne Schaumburg was our guest speaker gave an outstanding presentation on the Green Mount Cemetery. The party was well attendant and the food was great. You missed a nice evening if you decided not to come. **Green Mount Cemetery** is a historic [cemetery](#) located in [Baltimore, Maryland, United States](#). Established in 1839, it is noted for the large number of historical figures that have been interred in its grounds as well as a large number of prominent Baltimore-area families. The name comes from one of the streets that border the cemetery, [Greenmount Avenue](#). Green Mount is also a treasury of precious works of art, including striking works by major sculptors including [William H. Rinehart](#) and [Hans Schuler](#).

## 2009 Baltimore Coin Club Calendar of Events

7	March	My Favorite Liberty Seating Coin
21	March	Dinner Night
4	April	Colorful Foreign Paper Money
18	April	Program Night
2	May	My Favorite Error Coin
16	May	Program Night
6	June	Indian Cents-
20	June	Program Night
4	July	
18	July	Program Night
1	August	Let Me Show You My British Coins
15	August	Young Numamist Night
	September	
	September	Program Night
5	October	Foreign Tokens
19	October	Program Night

## Mint Products Schedule

<b>Availability Date</b>	<b>Product Description</b>
1/5/2009	United States Mint 2009 District of Columbia & U.S. Territories Quarters Proof Set™
1/15/2009	Native American \$1 Coin Rolls

1/22/2009	2009 Ultra High Relief Double Eagle Gold Coin
1/22/2009	Kennedy Half-Dollar Bag and Two-Roll Set
1/26/2009	District of Columbia Bags and Two-Roll Set
2/10/2009	2009 United States Mint Presidential \$1 Coin Proof Set™
2/12/2009	Abraham Lincoln Commemorative Silver Dollar
2/19/2009	William Henry Harrison \$1 Coin Rolls
3/3/2009	District of Columbia Official First Day Coin Cover
3/5/2009	First Spouse Series One-Half Ounce Gold Proof Coin – Anna Harrison
3/5/2009	First Spouse Series One-Half Ounce Gold Uncirculated Coin – Anna Harrison
3/5/2009	Anna Harrison Bronze Medal 1 5/16"
3/13/2009	United States Mint 2009 District of Columbia & U.S. Territories Quarters Silver Proof Set™
3/16/2009	2009 Presidential \$1 Coin Uncirculated Set (P&D)
3/17/2009	William Henry Harrison \$1 Coin Cover
3/19/2009	United States Mint Presidential \$1 Coin & First Spouse Medal Set™ - William Henry Harrison
3/26/2009	Louis Braille Bicentennial Silver Dollar
3/30/2009	Puerto Rico Bags and Two-Roll Set

**Whitman Coin Show Baltimore Convention Center  
November 20-22, 2008**

**Public Registration**

Thursday Nov. 20th	TIME	Parking
<b>Chairman: Bill Stratemeyer</b>	<b>1PM till 6PM</b>	\$16.00
1. Karl Keller	1 – 6 PM	\$18.00
2. Walt Kitner	1 – 6 PM	\$0.00
3. Don Levin	2 – 6 PM	\$18.00
4. Ed Craig	1 – 6 PM	\$12.00
5. Ken Finkenbinder	1 – 6 PM	\$16.00
6. Steve Salabene	1 – 6 PM	\$10.00

<u>Friday Nov. 21th</u>	<u>Time:</u>	<u>Parking</u>
<b>Chairman: Bill Stratemeyers</b>	<b>9 AM till 6 PM</b>	\$16.00
1. John McConnell	All Day	\$0.00
2. Bill Lenz	9 – 5 PM	\$1.10
3. Bryce Doxzen	2 – 6PM	\$3.20
4. Joe & Margie Burford	9 – 1 PM	\$9.00
5. Gene Dixon	All Day	\$18.00
6. Joe Adam	2 – 6PM	\$0.00
7. Ed Craig	All Day	\$12.00
8. Ken Finkenbinder	9 – Till ?	\$16.00
9.		
10.		
<u>Saturday Nov. 22</u>	<u>Time:</u>	<u>Parking</u>
<b>Chairman: Bill Stratemeyer</b>	<b>All Day</b>	\$10.00
1. John McConnell	All Day	\$0.00
2. Bill Ayres	All Day	\$0.00
3. Bill Lenz	9 – 5 PM	\$1.10
4. Nick Kurlick	9 – 5 PM	\$10.00
5. Joe Margie Burford	9 – 11 PM	\$9.00
6. Karl Keller	9 – 1 PM	\$10.00
7. Don Curtis	9.30 – 3.30 PM	\$10.00
8. Walt Kitner	10 – 1 PM	\$0.00
9. Ron Sheradon	9 – 4 PM	\$0.00
10. Larry Goldman	3 – 6 PM	\$0.00
12. Frank Murphy	9 – 1 PM	\$0.00

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

## Casino token (From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)



One dollar chips from various Las Vegas casinos.

**Casino tokens** (also known as **chips**, **checks** or **cheques**) are small discs used in lieu of currency in casinos. Colored metal or compression molded clay tokens of various denominations are used primarily in table games, as opposed to metal token coins, used primarily in slot machines.

Some casinos also use gaming plaques for high stakes table games (\$25,000 and above). Plaques differ from chips in that they are larger, usually rectangular in shape and contain serial numbers.

### History

Although the first gambling house was legalized in Venice in 1626, actual poker chips as we now know them were still not used for over two hundred more years. Back in the 1800s and prior, poker players seemed to use any small valuable object imaginable. Early poker players sometimes used jagged gold pieces, gold nuggets, gold dust, or coins as well as "chips" primarily made of ivory, bone, wood, paper and a composition made from clay and shellac.

Several companies between the 1880s and the late 1930s made clay composition poker chips. There were over 1000 designs from which to choose. Most chips were white, red, blue and yellow but they could be made in almost any color desired.

### Construction

The vast majority of authentic casino chips are "clay" chips but can be more accurately described as compression molded chips. Contrary to popular belief, no gaming chip going as far back as the 1950s has been 100% clay. Modern clay chips are a composition of materials more durable than clay alone. At least some percentage of the chips is of an earthen material such as sand, calcium carbonate, chalk and/or clay similar to that found in cat litter. The process used to make these chips is a trade secret, and varies slightly by manufacturer, most of them being relatively expensive and time consuming per chip. The edge spots, or inserts, are not painted on; to achieve this effect, this area of the clay is removed and then replaced with clay of a different color; this can be done to each chip individually or a strip can be taken out of a cylindrical block of material and replaced with the alternate color before the block is cut into chips. Then each chip receives a center

inlay if desired, and are placed in a special mold that heats and compresses the chip at approximately 10,000 psi (70 MPa) at 300 °F (150 °C), hence the term compression molded chips.

The printed graphics on clay chips is called an inlay. Inlays are typically made of paper and are then covered with a thin film of plastic which is applied to the chip prior to the compression molding process. During the molding process the inlay becomes permanently affixed to the chip and can not be removed from the chip without destroying it.

Ceramic chips such as those made by ChipCo International and Nevada Jacks were introduced in the mid 1980s as an alternative to clay chips and are still very common in casinos as well as being readily available to the home market. Ceramic chips are often referred to as clay or clay composite, but they are in fact an injection-molded chip made with a special plastic or resin formula that approximates the feel and sound of clay. These chips are of course far less expensive, and are common in home sets.

The *Bud Jones* brand is one of the very few injection molded plastic chips used in casinos. They are produced by Gaming Partners International and not produced for the home market.

The chips used in North American casinos rarely weigh more than 10 grams and are usually between 8.5 and 11.5 g. There is no official weight, however, and some, particularly coin inlaid chips, can weigh more. The chips sold for home use vary substantially more, sometimes weighing as much as 13.5 g, depending on manufacturer and construction.

Common designs for home use depict the six faces of a die or the suit symbols around the edge on the face of the chip. They are typically manufactured with injection molding technology using ABS plastic. Some chips are molded around a small metal disc, called a slug, for weight.

European chips often come in Mother of Pearl. The higher value chips are often shaped like plaques.

## Precious Metals Numismatic Products

from United States Mint on January 15, 2009



Washington - The United States Mint announced today it is implementing a new strategy for pricing numismatic products containing gold and platinum effective January 12, 2009. Non-precious metal products and bullion coins will not be affected by the new pricing strategy. "Transparency, agility, and customer service are the catalysts for our new pricing method," said United States Mint Deputy Director Andy Brunhart. "The volatile precious metals market prompted our customers to suggest that we re-vamp our process, and we listened."

The United States Mint published a Federal Register notice on January 6, 2009, that included an itemized pricing structure for gold and platinum numismatic products. (This notice does not affect gold commemorative coin pricing.)

Product prices will fluctuate within the new structure, which is based on a range of the average market price for gold and platinum. For gold numismatic products, the range will be within \$50 and, for platinum numismatic products; the range will be within \$100.

Pricing of gold and platinum numismatic products will be directly related to the average weekly London fix prices for these metals. If the market value of gold and platinum moves to a higher or lower range, the price of each product will be increased or decreased in corresponding increments. For example, if the weekly average price of gold rises to the next \$50 price range, the United States Mint will increase the price of gold numismatic products by \$50 for each ounce of gold in the product. Under this scenario, the price of a one-tenth ounce gold uncirculated coin would increase by \$5.

Previously, the United States Mint published a Federal Register notice each time the price of a product was changed. Under the new policy, the notice will be in effect throughout 2009. It encompasses a broad band of price ranges for the metals. The United States Mint's new pricing formula will be more responsive to changes in the market price of gold and platinum.

