



The Coin Courier

"Official Publication of the Baltimore Coin Club"

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

September 2009

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BALTIMORE COIN CLUB

President:	Ken Finkenbinden
Vice President:	Sandon Cohn
Treasurer:	Joe Adam
Secretary:	Paul Efford
Editor, <i>The Coin Courier</i>	Nick Kurlick

2009 Baltimore Coin Club Calendar of Events

The first BCC meeting will be a theme orientated discussions and BCC members are strongly encouraged to display their items for our membership understanding and knowledge enhancement.

1	Oct	Elongated Coins – stretched coins
15	Oct	Dinner Night with guests from local clubs
5	Nov	Counterfeit Coins
19	Nov	Program
3	Dec	Error Coins (Off center, wrong planchet, etc.)
17	Dec	Holiday Party
7	Jan 2010	Commemorative Coins (U.S. or Foreign Commemoratives)
21	Jan	Program
4	Feb	Bi-metallic Coins
18	Feb	Program
4	Mar	Encased Coins and Novelty Paper Money Items
18	Mar	Spring Banquet (?)

COIN FACTS

1997 Lincoln Double Ear



President's Message

Hello, fellow numismatist. I would like to thank you for allowing me to be your president. I am honored to be a leader in this club which has such a long history and has had and still does have many well known numismatists in this area. For those of you who do not know me, I am known as the "copper guy" since I collect U.S. "copper" from ½ cents through Lincoln Memorials. I have been interested in "cents" all my life and I am now retired and spend a fair amount of time as my wife likes to call it :playing with my pennies".

As you are reading this we will have passed two BANC and two Whitman shows so far this year. As usual, or club's involvement in all four events, have helped to make these shows a success. Many members of our club, had many hours of donated time. Our involvement has netted us needed funds to continue our club's operation. These shows put money in our treasury, and keep us in the forefront of the hobby in this area. A big THANK YOU to all who helped.

The 75th anniversary medals have been ordered. Seventy-five years is along time for any club to be in continuous operation. The medals will be available by mid-summer.

As of this time the club is in need of someone to the program: director since we presently do not have one. Anyone who thinks that they may be able to help out in this area please contact me. This job requires planning a program of some type for one of the two meetings each month.

Earlier this year our hobby lost a long time numismatist in the person of Walt Kitner. Walt collected for many years and was active in the hobby and was a past president of this club. He volunteered for every show and whenever a hand was needed he was there. Walt will be missed.

Ken Finkenbinder

Baltimore Coin Club 75th Anniversary Medal Set



The Baltimore Battle Monument is depicted on the obverse of the Baltimore Coin Club's 75th Anniversary medal. The reverse shows the seal of the Club

The Baltimore Coin Club was organized on March 10, 1935 at a meeting held at the Lord Baltimore Hotel, in Baltimore, MD. The first meeting was held two weeks later (April 2) at 612 North Calvert Street, where it was decided that the name should be "The Baltimore Coin Club". The third meeting was held two weeks later at the Municipal Museum, 225 North Holliday Street where the constitution and by-laws were adopted. The following year the club was incorporated.

The Baltimore Coin Club (BCC) held a contest for designing a medal to celebrate the 75th Anniversary (1935-2010) of the club's founding. The selected design, shown above has an image of Baltimore's Battle Monument, commemorates the Battle of Baltimore, one of the turning points in the War of 1812. The Monument honors those that have died in the fighting during September the 1814 battle. The Battle Monument is also the official government emblem and is depicted on the flag of the City of Baltimore, Maryland.

The club voted to produce (75) 3-medal sets, in celebration of the Club's 75 years in existence which also depicts the BCC official seal on the reverse. The 3-Medal sets are comprised of three 39 mm reeded edge medals produced in three types of metal, Goldline (brass), Verbronz (antique bronze) and Nickel Silver that were struck by the Osborne Coinage Company, Cincinnati, Ohio. The winning design was submitted by BCC past President Bryce Doxzon, who received the first 3-medal set for his design efforts.

A limited number of sets remain and will be sold on a first come first served basis, and can be obtained for \$15.00 + \$5.00 Shipping and Handling. Send Name, address and a check for \$20.00, made out to Baltimore Coin Club, send to, The Baltimore Coin Club, P.O. Box 43681, Baltimore, MD 21236-0273.

Words from the Past - #17

By: Don Curtis

The Year was 1944

Excerpts from minutes of past Baltimore Coin Club meetings as written by the club Secretary Mr. Alfred Hutter:

April 20th, 1944 – *The regular meeting of the club was held on this date, with 21 members and 2 quest present.*

Mr. Lohrfinck reported that the annual dinner had been a success financially as the club had surplus of \$1.50 after all expenses had been paid.

Coins, medals, notes and bonds were exhibited by the following:

<i>1864 Confederate Bond</i>	<i>Theodore N. Austin</i>
<i>War Medals</i>	<i>Philip G. Straus</i>
<i>1862 Confederate Notes</i>	<i>Alfred Hutter</i>
<i>American Exposition Medal</i>	<i>Joseph P. Smyth</i>

Mr. Joseph P. Smyth gave a very interesting address concerning the American Exposition Medal, and concluded it with a speech made by the late president William McKinley, who was assassinated a short time later at the Buffalo Exposition where the address was delivered.

May 4th, 1944, *President Philip G. Straus – Presiding at the 209th meeting and the 183rd since incorporated.*

The regular meeting of the club was held on this date, with 21 members present.

Mr. McCormick reported the death of Frank E.C. Schwartze. After which the club members were asked to stand, in his memory. The secretary was then instructed to set aside a page in the minute's book, and write a letter to the deceased, family.

May 18th, 1944 - *210th Meeting since founding, 184th meeting since incorporation, President, Philip G. Straus, presiding.*

There were 20 members and two guests, Charles W. Hass and young Mr. Pescetto, present.

Mr. Schmidt reported the progress of the program committee, as follows, June, Communications have been received from Miss Nellie Tayloe Ross stating she could not attend in person, but that Mr. Leland Howard would represent her. She has been notified that the club meets on the first and fifteenth of the month and we would appreciate having Mr. Leland either night, but we prefer the fifteenth. Mr. C.N. McCormick will exhibit and discuss Canadian notes on the latter date if the other arrangements cannot be made.

Mr. Elmer A. Schimdt exhibited dies and engraving plates similar to those used in manufacturing of money. Later he addressed the club on short History of Die sinking and Engraving, which was very interesting and must have taken considerable and study to prepare.

June 15th, 1944 - 212th Meeting since founding, 186th meeting since incorporation, with 69 members and invited guests present. Mr. Plummer Wiley made a motion that the regular order of business be dispensed with for this meeting and the motion was duly seconded and carried.

Mr. John A. Johnston, assistant cashier of the Baltimore Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, introduced the speaker for the evening – Mr. Leland Howard, assistant director of the United States Mint.

Mr. Howard's subject talk "The Production of Coins" talked about making money, and in doing so he described the many economic problems that must be considered in planning the amount of coin to be made for the given year. Among the problems were the requirements of vending machines and material that would properly operate them. Hew also discussed State sales taxes, the demand for minor coin for business, the availability of medal and many other things.

In the process of making coin the metals must be blended to the proper proportion, and are then formed into small ingots which are rolled until they are the thickness desired. The strips are then annealed, and the planchets are struck. Then follows a process where these blanks are cleaned, and from there annealed again in necessary and then they are ready to have the edge raised or milled if the case be necessary. After which the actual striking takes place. The coins are then weighed and inspected, making them ready for shipment to the banks.

He also explained how overstrikes could occur, because at one time the mint used wooden trays to hold unfinished coin, and it is very probable that a coin from a preceding year could have lodged in a crack or craves and later get mixed with some from another year, and the result being an overstrike. Other oddities could occur because dirt became lodged in a die.

Following the talk Mr. Howard opened a group discussion were the members were free to ask questions or discuss points concerning coinage. Also on-hand was an exhibit.