



Coinfusion

Newsletter of the Lower Cape Fear Coin Club

P.O. Box 4744, Wilmington, NC 28406

www.LCFCC.org

Service to the numismatic community of
Southeastern North Carolina since 1963



Host of the NC Azalea Festival Coin Show Every April

November 2018

Our Fifty-Sixth Year

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each

CLUB BOOSTERS

Rich Jewell (2-19), **Franklin Fussell** (4-19), **Bill Snyder** (4-19), **Bob Doleman** (8-19), **George Cullen** (10-19), **John Folger** (10-19), **C. J. Lindsey** (2-20), **Brian Cox** (10-21), **George Rogers** (2-30), **Bob Neale** (2-30), **Mike Samaskeawicz** (2-30) and **Stanley Rehder** (2-30).

To become a Club Booster, please send \$10 or donate an equal or greater amount of usable numismatic material. All Booster's names will be placed near the top of our monthly newsletter followed by the month your booster contribution expires. Thank you ALL for your support.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Surprise! It's November and the LCFCC election meeting is coming up on the 2nd WED of the month. We have a few key vacancies on the board; even tho there are several who will continue on *as needed* - myself included. However, when the nomination slate is brought up, it **will** show some vacancies; for sure on the board as member directors. Those really need to be filled. Several board members have been doing dual+ duties for months on months. And, it is an easy job when spread a little thinner.

The Christmas party is the standard time to inaugurate newly elected board members. **STEP UP AND BE ONE!**

The coin show will be at hand before you know it, sometime after all the coming holidays, but, work on it needs to come up to speed now.

Mahalo, Bob Doleman

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next **REGULAR** meeting is on Wednesday, **November 14** at Carolina BBQ on South College Road. Come early to eat, gab and look at coins before the meeting. The meeting begins at 6:30 sharp with the drawing of the attendance prize. This will be the meeting where **2019 officers will be elected**. Please let a board member know if you would be interested in being an officer in our Club in 2019. All positions are open as usual. The program this month is 'A SUPER Show & Tell'. All members are encouraged to bring a favorite item. **Ken Barlow** 'may' do a program on MINT MARKS.

LAST REGULAR MEETING

The October 10 meeting brought out 26 members and guests in spite of another tropical storm threat due to Hurricane Michael. The attendance prize was won by **Brian Cox**. Guests included **George Cullen, Claude McDonald, Sheila Stocks, Buddy Taylor, Barbara Burnett, Marie Persichilli, Jennifer Baggett, Jake Auman, Virginia Fong and Bruce Breedlove**. Several guests applied for membership.

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were accepted with very little fanfare. Announcements included an update on our December 12 Christmas dinner, a few 2019 Redbooks still available, elections of 2019 officers and an update on our April coin show.

Franklin Fussell gave a very good talk on Franklin half-dollars with a beautifully matched set of MS-64s in PCGS holders. Some collectors can spend their whole lives trying to put together a set like this and his was a treat to see.

Several attendees brought items for 'show & tell' including **Claude McDonald's** 'Hobo' Morgan

dollar and **Jake Auman's** crude mold for making counterfeit nickels. **Jake** also won the 50/50 drawing and a FREE year's membership in the American Numismatic Association. As a guest, this junior numismatist must have surely been impressed with his first meeting

Our monthly auction brought out around 75 lots of numismatic items.

LAST BOARD MEETING

The last BM of the LCFCC was held October 16 at Carolina BBQ. Membership applications from **Jake Auman** and **George Cullen**, Motion to give \$100 to CBBQ for use of their meeting room were approved pending Club approval at the November regular meeting. Other topics included the Christmas party, election of 2019 officers, business cards, April Coin Show, back-up meeting locations, publicity and programs.

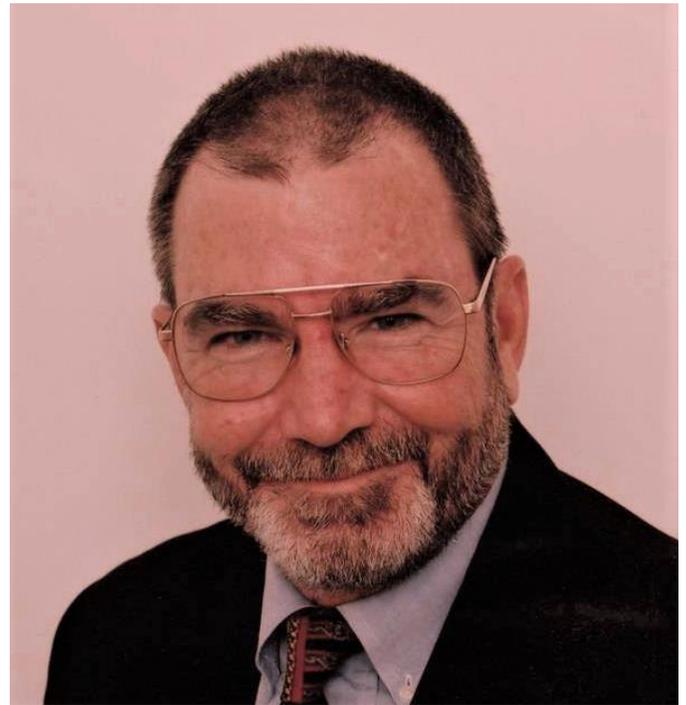
MEMBER NEWS

Karen Foster is still recovering from her loss to the recent hurricane. Her living room ceiling collapsed and she received much water damage. **Franklin Fussell** lost his carport and most other members lost siding, shingles and trees.



Barry Ciociola 1961-2018

Although Barry was not a member of our Club, he attended our coin show and was one of the 'nice guy' dealers in the hobby. Barry passed away on October 17 due to cancer. He WILL be missed.



J. T. Stanton 1952-2018

Another nice guy was J. T. Stanton. Co-author of *The Cherrypicker's Guide* with Bill Fivaz. He was very well known in the error coin collecting arena.

COIN EVENTS COMING UP *

November 10 & 11, Jacksonville, NC, Coin Show, Hilton Garden Inn, 1016 Jacksonville Pkwy, 919-790-8544.

November 17 & 18, Raleigh, NC, Coin Show, NC Fairgrounds, 1025 Blue Ridge Rd., 919-828-9450.

November 24 & 25, Rocky Mount, NC, Coin Show, Elk's Lodge, 2750 N. Church Street, 919-790-8544.

December 12, LCFCC ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY. Mark your calendar now!!!

January 10-13, 2019, Orlando, FL, FUN Show, at the Orange County Convention Center.

April 6 & 7, 2019, Wilmington, NC, Annual N. C. Azalea Festival Coin Show, Elk's Lodge, 5102 Oleander Drive, 910-520-8405.

* Please verify coin show dates, times and locations at contact number before going.

COIN OF THE MONTH

How appropriate for the month of November for the Royal Canadian Mint to release a 1.5-ounce silver \$25 silver coin shaped like a WWI helmet. This is a super concave/convex coin for those inclined to buy.



U. S. MINT NEWS



WASHINGTON – The United States Mint (Mint) unveiled the designs for the 2019 Apollo 11 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Program on October 11. The obverse and reverse designs will be featured on the four coins in the program: a \$5 gold coin, a standard size \$1 silver coin, a half dollar clad coin, and a five-ounce \$1 silver proof coin. In a manufacturing first for the Mint, the five-ounce silver proof coin will be curved, as will the other coins in the program.



The Block Island National Wildlife Refuge ATB quarters will begin their release November 13. The five-ounce silver release will be November 15.

FUN NEWS

The Florida United Numismatists organization has a very good publication called *FUN TOPICS*. Our Club has been a member of FUN since 2014 and we get excellent publicity, ideas and guidance from the people who run FUN. If you or your club isn't already a member, I'd highly recommend you join and see what you're missing. At \$15 for a yearly membership, the publicity alone makes it worthwhile.

MARY ELLEN WITHROW STORY by O. T. T.

It was in 1999 or 2000 when Mary Ellen Withrow, then Treasurer of the United States, came to an ANA Convention to sign autographs. I had just started stamping Viking ships on my currency (To commemorate the Viking's discovery of America 1,000 years prior.) so I thought I'd ask her to sign one. When I placed it in front of her, she saw the ship stamp and asked, "Did you do this?"

I proudly replied, "Yes, Ma'am, I did."

She responded tersely, "You know we frown on people defacing U. S. currency."

Looking at her nearby Secret Service escort, I nervously smiled and brazenly said, "You mean like signing their name on currency with a permanent ink pen?"

She paused, looked up, smiled back and said, "I gotcha.", and signed it.

Today, her autographed note is one of the highlights in my autographed currency accumulation.

I'll bet Ms. Withrow has autographed more currency than ANY other government official making her autographed notes easy to find at coin shows and eBay. She also seemed to be a very nice lady making me wonder how she got mixed up in politics. O. T.

The following was recently published in *The E-Sylum* and reprinted with permission.

The *Marion Star* from Marion, OH has a nice article about Mary Ellen Withrow, the former Treasurer of

the United States under President Bill Clinton (from March 1, 1994 to January 20, 2001). -Editor



Mary Ellen Withrow at her exhibit

Mary Ellen Withrow walked behind a typically closed door at the Primrose Retirement Community on Thursday. With a flashlight in hand she paused at a plaque bearing her name. The Harding Graduate had once been awarded the Guinness World Record for having her name on more paper currency than anyone else in the country's history. "No one has beat my record since," the 87-year-old joked noting that her signature has made it onto more than 68 billion bills. She said it is part of a collection of items that represent a portal into her life as well as American history.

It serves as a road map of a long political career that took a Marion County woman from a seat on the local school board to the U.S. Treasurer's Office.

Pictures of former presidents, foreign diplomats and political memorabilia hang on the walls of the moderately sized space next to room 105 at Primrose. Tucked behind a glass case is a \$20 bill given to John Glenn for good luck as he prepared himself for the journey into space. "My daughters held onto some of these items for years," Withrow said. "I even forgot that I had some of them."

She usually gives tours herself walking visitors through presidential ornaments, keys to cities, special currency, commemorative coins and medals and

other memorabilia from her time in local, state and federal office. Having retired in 2001, she said the journey that led her to the federal office wasn't an easy one.

When she secured her first victory, the newspaper at the time did not print her name, instead referring to her as Mrs. Norman Withrow.



Mary Ellen Withrow points to a picture from her time in office as U.S. Treasurer under Bill Clinton. *Photo: Hasan Karim/Marion Star*

She would later be appointed U.S. Treasurer by Bill Clinton and unanimously confirmed by the Senate. In that role, Withrow oversaw the state quarters project, one of her proudest achievements. She even struck the first state quarters minted. A Delaware, a Pennsylvania and a New Jersey —the first three quarters in the series— sit in a display case inside the museum.

"I miss it," she said on Thursday. "Every day I felt so grateful to have the job. I told myself at the time there have only been 39 people that had this before you."

A PALLADIUM COIN STORY by Andy V.

On Sept 6, luck was with me for the on-line order of the 2018 \$25 Palladium proof coin. No hang-ups or glitches. I logged in at noon, dropped the coin into my bag, went through the payment pages and had the purchase order number in about ten minutes. I have read they were no longer available at the 4.5-minute mark and that the Mint sold 14,782 coins. The Mint was selling them at about fifty-five coins per second!

It took about a week before it shipped. The coin arrived in Greensboro about the same time that Hurricane Florence arrived in Wilmington. When I

checked the tracking number I saw that it would be delayed because of weather and would be delivered as soon as possible. Figured that once I-40 opened I would get my coin. Boy was I wrong. Checking the tracking two days later it said that the package would be returned to the sender at their request. I called The Mint and was told that they knew nothing about that and it must be a UPS decision since they never requested a package to be returned. When I called UPS they told me that they seldom if ever returned a package unless requested to do so. So, there I was in a “he said she said” situation with the coin sitting in Greensboro. At this point it really did not matter, my coin was going back.

Now the fun started. During the next 2 weeks I called the Mint numerous times to request that the coin be re-shipped. The standard response was that they would pass it on to “Upper Management” but there were no guarantees that the coin would be returned to me. They were courteous and pleasant; however, the basic feeling was that the coin was no longer available and I would just get a refund.

They promised that someone would call but no-one did until the 4th of October and it was a surprise call. Early that morning a very pleasant lady from the Mint informed me that my coin was out for delivery in Wilmington. There was no prior warning or tracking info. My front door stayed open all day awaiting the UPS man. At 8:20 that evening the doorbell rang and a smiling delivery guy handed me the package. I was a happy camper, one month and a hurricane later the coin was mine.

Looking at eBay it is presently worth about twice what I paid for it. This coin is absolutely beautiful and pictures do not do it justice. The Mint did an outstanding job with this coin. I understand that most are graded 69 or 70.

WANTED

The following two photos are persons of interest involving coin shop thefts. Anyone recognizing any of these three people is asked to email Doug Davis at Doug@numismaticcrimes.org or call 817-723-7231. IF you see them at any of the coin shows you attend, call 911 and let the authorities sort it out. It's not worth your time or talent to accost these people as they are probably armed and will stop at nothing to get away. Memorize their faces for future reference.



2018 MEETING DATES

Please mark your 2018 calendar now so you won't forget our meetings. They're all on the second Wednesday and begin at 6:30 PM on November 14 and December 12 is our annual Christmas dinner. The board (Business) meeting will be held on the **Tuesday** AFTER the regular meeting except in August and December.

2019 MEETING DATES

PLEASE mark your 2019 calendar NOW.

All meetings are at Carolina BBQ and begin at 6:30.

January 9, Wednesday. Regular meeting.
January 15, Tuesday. Board meeting.
February 13, Wednesday. Regular meeting.
February 19, Tuesday. Board meeting.
March 13, Wednesday. Regular meeting.
March 19, Tuesday. Board meeting.
April 3, Wednesday. Regular meeting.
April 6 & 7, Saturday and Sunday. Our Coin Show.
April 16, Tuesday. Board meeting.
May 8, Wednesday. Regular meeting.
May 14, Tuesday. Board meeting.
June 12, Wednesday. Regular meeting.
June 18, Tuesday. Board meeting.
July 10, Wednesday. Regular meeting.
July 16, Tuesday. Board meeting.
August 14, Wednesday. ANNUAL PICNIC.
NO Board meeting this month
September 11, Wednesday. Regular meeting.
September 17, Tuesday. Board meeting.
October 9, Wednesday. Regular meeting.
October 15, Tuesday. Board meeting.
November 13, Wednesday. Regular meeting.
November 19, Tuesday. Board meeting.
December 11, Wednesday. CHRISTMAS DINNER.
NO Board meeting this month.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next BM will be held on **Tuesday, November 16** at Carolina BBQ at 6:30. ALL members are welcome to attend. Elections of 2019 officers, final Christmas dinner plans, new membership apps and our April 2019 Azalea Festival Coin Show will be discussed plus anything else of interest to the Club.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

If you have access to a few metal-molding tools and a one-ton press, see this link on YouTube. This guy has mastered the art of making kewl coin jewelry.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AuxfevP4Hao>

FREE LIFE MEMBERSHIP?

You are entitled to a FREE Life Membership in our Club when you reach the **eighty**-year-old milestone. Simply contact the secretary or treasurer and you will no longer have to pay yearly dues to be a member of the 'Best Little Coin Club Between Baltimore and Orlando'.

2018 LCFCC OFFICERS

President Pro Tem	Bob Doleman (910) 399-2404
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	C.J. Lindsey CalsCoins@1791.com Mike McKinnon McKinnon.Michael@gmail.com
	Jim Michaelson Dakotajim@atmc.net
Past President	Ray Flanigan RayFlanigan@aol.com

2018 LCFCC COMMITTEES

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Azalea Rep	Karen Foster Foster1JKR@gmail.com
ANA Rep Pro Tem	O. T. Thompson Uffda28411@yahoo.com
Bourse	O.T., C.J. Lindsey CalsCoins@1791.com
Boy Scouts	Jeffrey Morse JeffreyTMorse@aol.com
Editor	O.T. Thompson (910) 520-8405
Election	John Balestrine, Mike McKinnon, Bob Neale
Exhibit	Ray Flanigan
Hospitality	Karen Foster, John Balestrine
Membership	Open
Photography	Bob Neale, Bob Doleman
Picnic	John Balestrine GBalestrine@gmail.com
	Karen Foster
Property	Franklin Fussell
Publicity	Karen Foster, Ken Barlow
Show Raffle	Chris Vandall
Webmaster	Jeffrey Morse, Mike McKinnon
Youth	Karen Foster, Franklin Fussell

ANA Club Membership # 1051079 Since 1964

FUN Club Membership # 25857 Since 2014

NCNA Club Membership # C-47 Since 1972