



# MCCA Newsletter

Sep.-Oct. 2011

## Metropolitan Coin Club of Atlanta

MCCA Newsletter, Volume 47, Issues 9-10



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More numismatic news and your article could be in next month's MCCA Newsletter!

Contact the Editor at  
706-614-9577 or email:  
joe66meyers@gmail.com

### Field Trip

### Street Collecting

### The Coiner

### ANA Chicago

### 12th U.S. Mint

**Board Elections  
are coming this  
fall. Nominate  
now!**

## Pine Mountain — Georgia's Gold Museum



artifacts, machinery, and structures taking you back 175 years to when the mines were active. A twenty minute documentary film covering the history of the Villa Rica gold sites can be viewed in the museum theater. The museum has a rich display of minerals, gemstones, and ore samples and some of the material can be purchased for a memory of your visit. For a nomi-

by Ron Wichman

On Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> MCCA members gathered for a club outing at the Pine Mountain Gold Museum at Stockmar Park in Villa Rica. The history of Villa Rica gold discovery dates back to 1826 and began as an undocumented survey of then Carroll County. Mining could not begin until the mineral rights law was repealed which prevented commercial ownership of underground mining. This occurred in December, 1829, and soon thereafter commercial mining interests purchased much of the surveyed land. The gold was found primarily as dust rather than flakes or nuggets, which encouraged miners to move northward toward Cherokee Indian territory and richer veins of gold ore.

By the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century Dahlonega and California sucked the gold fever out of the local miners and they abandoned their mines for richer prospects. At the peak of the gold rush, there were as many as nineteen commercial gold mining operations around Villa Rica. Of these, only the Pine Mountain Gold Mine was still operational after 1900.

Stockmar Park offers original trails, sites,



Villa Rica machinery. Photos by L. Wichman.



Villa Rica—Stamping mill for mining gold.

nal fee, which was paid by the club, we were able to pan for gold. A guided tour is available for groups of 15 or more. Unfortunately,

**See Villa Rica, page 4**



Bill Fivaz accepts first place award for Outstanding Electronic Numismatic Publication to MCCA and Editor Joe Meyers from ANA President Clifford Mishler in Chicago on August 20, 2011.

The MCCA Newsletter edited by Joe Meyers won **ANA's Award for Outstanding Electronic Numismatic Publication — First Place for 2011 (and 2010).** Thank you to all our contributors for making this possible.

## MCCA – What's Up ?

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- **Authors and volunteers needed; please see below.**
- Next two month's meetings are September 3 & 17 and October 1 & 15, 2011.
- **Young Numismatist (YN) Meetings are the first Saturday** of the month at 6:30 PM. Regular meetings begin at 7:00 PM. Come early to view up to 80 auction lots!
- Next two month's programs: 9/3 by John Phipps, *A 1938 Coin Quiz* and refreshments by Norman Thomas; 9/17 by Chip Cutcliff (need refreshments); 10/1 by Mack Martin, *The Fun of Exhibiting* (need refreshments); 10/15 program by Joe Meyers, *ANA's Mini-Mint: Wow, I made Errors and Coins!* (need refreshments).
- Thanks for programs given the last two months: 6/4 by Ron Wichman and refreshments by Todd Cofer; 6/18 Shep Hammack on U.S. Flags from Colonial to Modern Times and refreshments by Marc Zagara.

- **We need volunteers for programs and refreshments —** (remember the club will reimburse up to \$25 if you would like to do refreshments, but can not afford the cost).

Please contact Norman Thomas, 770-381-8770 or email [ganormt@yahoo.com](mailto:ganormt@yahoo.com) for program and refreshment scheduling.

We appreciate original articles and welcome the opportunity to assist you in any way to publish in the MCCA Newsletter. Contact the Editor at: 706-614-9577 or email Joe Meyers, [Joe66Meyers@gmail.com](mailto:Joe66Meyers@gmail.com).

**ALL AUCTION NIGHT is 11/19/2011; more information is coming shortly.**

**Holiday party has been reserved at Ippolitto's for Sunday, December 11th at 5:00 PM.**

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### Street Level Collecting - Series #6

by Joel Woodin

Hello fellow street dwellers. Most of my finds this month came in currency, which is unusual. No old change showed up at all, but lots from the 1970s for some reason. Some may consider that old change. It was circulated with signs of heavy use. There is an urban rumor that China is shipping all pre-1982 cents and all nickels back to their country for melting (Editor: current metal value is \$.0271 per cent and \$.061 per nickel; any profit in this would be lost in transportation and refining costs, but China does need natural resources, especially copper — see <http://www.chinametalsrecycle.com/en/>). There appears to be a new ground swell of people saving pre-1982 cents. I must admit that I have been saving them for some time.

CENTS: I found my first 2011-D and also my first 2010-D cents this month.

NICKELS and DIMES: nothing to report.

QUARTERS: I managed to find my first 2011-P quarter, a nice fresh Olympic Park one.

CURRENCY: This month I came across two star notes: a 2006 Series \$1 and 2001 Series \$10, but both were in poor condition. I also found an old style \$10 note, which are becoming very rare in circulation. Curiously when I tried to deposit an old style \$10 note at the bank the teller thoroughly checked it up to the light and through a counter and detector machine, and then finally accepted it.

I received another pair of "Where's George" notes ([www.wheresgeorge.com](http://www.wheresgeorge.com)) in recent travels. The first one

**see Street Collecting, page 3**

Robinson's invites you to come visit our coin shop at #9 Atlanta Street, just off the historic Marietta Square. We carry a wide selection of supplies, and specialize in U.S. coins and currency. We have most key and semi-key dated coins in stock, in a wide range of grades. Visit our web site at [www.cointown.com](http://www.cointown.com) for directions and weekly specials. MCCA members can bring this coupon in with their membership card and receive a 10% discount off your purchase. Please, only one coupon per household, discount not applicable to bullion or bullion related items. Hope to see you at the store!

# President's Coiner

This is the fourth of our bi-monthly newsletters that began with the March/April issue earlier this year. Our editor, Joe Meyers, continues to solicit needed articles from our members. Please consider writing a short piece for the newsletter. It can be about your most recent numismatic study, coin story, area of expertise, or possibly about what you hope to do/discover in the near future. Don't assume that you don't have information worth passing on. Run your ideas by Joe and let him see if you have something he can work with.

The 2011 Bullion game continues to roll forward. Winners will be presented with their metal awards at the 2011 Christmas Party Sunday December 11. Current gold prize value is ~\$130; current silver prize value is ~\$50. If the winners can't make the party, the awards will be presented at the second MCCA meeting in December.

On Friday, August 19, silver bullion closed at \$42.90 per ounce, up about \$3 from the last newsletter and gold closed at a new all-time high of \$1,853.10 per ounce, up almost \$300 since the last newsletter. Writing this on Monday August 22, the metals market continues to climb with significant gains today. It appears that bad news in the world continues to drive investors and speculators out of paper dollars and into physical precious metal. Remember, if you collect gold or silver as your hobby you can rarely go wrong and you don't have to worry about it as if it were your IRA.

The fifth and final 2010 5-ounce bullion mint-marked "quarter" has been released to the public through the U.S. Mint, and is currently still available. The price remains \$279.95 plus shipping. With a mintage of just 27,000 each, it's possible that these could be seen as numismatic items in the future. Otherwise, they make nice cup coasters.

The Rutherford B. Hayes presidential dollar is now in circulation, and we are still waiting on the 4<sup>th</sup> National Park quarter for 2011.

## Street Collecting (continued)

came from Lithonia Springs and was entered in "Where's George" in Beaumont, Texas on April 5, 2011. It traveled 632 miles in 97 days. The second note came from Summerville, South Carolina. I picked it up in Duluth, Georgia after it was recorded in Kennesaw, Georgia two days earlier than my entry on July 26th. It traveled 247 miles. Currently there are two bills tied for the most entries at 15 each. One has not been reported since 2005, but the other was just recently posted on February 13, 2011 and is probably still in circulation.

**STREET FINDS:** These items are literally found on the street or ground. I am always looking for money on the ground. You can accumulate quite a bit of change this way. Anything that is found is rarely worth collecting because of damage. So far this year, besides plenty of coins, I have found a \$3 winning lottery ticket and a wadded \$20 bill blowing across the parking lot. By my definition this is treasure!

I will be searching hot and heavy during the final dog days of our never ending summer. Good luck searching and keep your eyes on the ground.

□

Some U.S. Representatives have introduced a couple of bills to stop the production of presidential dollars after a news report that the Mint just paid \$640,000 for a facility to store all of the unused dollars. I am wondering what will happen to the spouse half-ounce medals and the Native American dollar coins, which have laws that tie them into the production of the president coins. In a different direction, the Mint has just announced that they have discontinued sales of gold and silver bullion coins until they can get a handle on rising bullion prices. I think they should stick to the profit margin they created initially based on the cost of production. They already gouge their customers. Why gouge them more.

In the unexpected category, the Mint just announced that it would offer a 2011 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary set of silver dollars, which will include a Proof Silver Eagle, a bullion Silver Eagle, an uncirculated Silver Eagle, an uncirculated silver eagle with the W mint mark, and a reverse proof Silver Eagle. I believe only 100,000 sets will be produced. Check the numismatic press for further details. My guess is \$329.95 per set on the price with one per household limit.

See you at the next meeting!  
Your President, Chip Cutcliff  
Metropolitan Coin Club of Atlanta  
[chascoins06@yahoo.com](mailto:chascoins06@yahoo.com) □

## ENN is on vacation for summer

### News from Chicago ANA — Bill Fivaz presents award to YN Fiahra Rottinghaus



Bill Fivaz presents the "Bill Fivaz Young Numismatist Literary Award" (\$500) to the winner's father Scott Rottinghaus with Ken Bressett, David Bowers, and others. Winner Fiahra Rottinghaus was unable to attend the Awards Banquet. (photo by J. Phipps edited by J. Meyers).

### Club Officers

**Chip Cutcliff, President**  
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**Barry Kurian, Copy Editor**

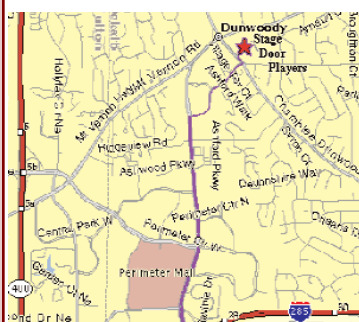
**WHO:** Collectors of coins, paper money, tokens, and medals — especially wanted are young, beginning collectors and those wanting to know more about the hobby and having fun doing it!

**WHAT:** Every meeting features an educational program, coin auction, refreshments, and fellowship with other collectors. We invite you to be part of the fun! In addition, the club offers a Young Numismatist (YN) program (6:30 PM, 1st Saturday of the month), free advice from experts on coin grading and authenticity, and our informative and educational bi-monthly newsletter.

**WHEN:** Meeting at 7:00 PM on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month (below).

**Arrive early to browse the auction lots (up to 80).**

**WHERE:** The North DeKalb Cultural Arts Center (star on map) is located at 5339 Chamblee-Dunwoody Road approximately one block South of Mt. Vernon Road and Chamblee-Dunwoody Road. Enter at the rear door of the building (come to rear through the driveway on the left side of building to a parking area). Room 4 is 2nd on left after entering rear door.



## 2011 Meeting Schedule

09/03, 09/17, 10/01, 10/15,

11/05, 11/19 (all auction), 12/03,

12/11 (Holiday Party), 12/17

### Metropolitan Coin Club of Atlanta

Founded 1964

The MCCA Newsletter is the official publication of the Metropolitan Coin Club of Atlanta and is published bi-monthly (2011). For information on joining the Club, please call Ron Wichman, 770-394-4103; write P.O. Box 76090, Atlanta, GA 30358; or visit [www.mccatl.org](http://www.mccatl.org). Annual membership dues are \$10. All rights reserved. Entire contents Copyright ©2011 Metropolitan Coin Club of Atlanta.

### Purpose

To encourage and promote the science and history of numismatics through discussion, investigation and study of coins, currency, stamps, medals, tokens, and financial systems of the world; to encourage and assist beginners and new collectors; to foster the interest of youth in the subject; to acquire and disperse numismatic knowledge in the form of books and other publications; and to cultivate an atmosphere of numismatic fellowship among club members.

ANA Life C-60 · GNA CL112 · FUN 17596 · BRNA LM14

### Show Calendar 2011

**Greater Atlanta Coin Dealers' Shows, Atlanta, GA** [Greater Atlanta Coin Dealers](http://www.atlcoin.com)

2011 Sunday Show Dates: September 11, October 9, November 13, December 11. **Joe Mack Wilson Ballroom.\*** Hours: 9 AM to 5 PM. Free Admission. **Tip: It is best to visit the coin show before late afternoon.** Call Bob O'Brien, 770-772-4359, [atlcoin@hotmail.com](mailto:atlcoin@hotmail.com) **Please note that the above coin show changed location in 2011.** \*Our new location is the Hilton Atlanta/Marietta Hotel & Conference Center located at 500 Powder Springs Street just south of the historic Marietta Square. Visit our web site for pictures, directions, and maps: <http://www.atlcoin.com/>

**Tennessee Numismatic Society Coin Show** in Chattanooga, TN on November 4 to 6, 2011 at Camp Jordan. The Camp Jordan Arena is just off Tennessee Exit 1 on I-75 in East Ridge, TN just south of the Chattanooga airport. The location provides an easy two hour drive from Nashville, TN, Knoxville, TN, Birmingham, AL and Atlanta, GA. Hours 10 AM to 6 PM Friday and Saturday, 10 to 3 PM Sunday. See for more information:

[http://www.tsns.org/tsns\\_show/events.htm](http://www.tsns.org/tsns_show/events.htm)

### Villa Rica (continued)

we didn't have enough people for the tour. Some of the sorting, sifting, and stamping equipment is hydro driven and remains functional today using a stream-powered water wheel.

The park is owned and operated by the city of Villa Rica, which shares in the proceeds paid by park visitors.

## Application for Membership

Regular (age 18 and up) \$10  Student (age 17 and younger) \$1

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I herewith make application for membership in the MCCA subject to the Bylaws of said Club. I also agree to abide by the Code of Ethics adopted by the Club.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian (required for applicants age 17 and younger) \_\_\_\_\_

I collect: \_\_\_\_\_

Other collecting interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed application and payment to:

MCCA, P.O. Box 76090, Atlanta, GA 30358-1090



### My Postcard Journeys to the U.S Mints

#### Twelfth of 14 Steps

by John Phipps

The twelfth U.S. Mint is the third branch mint in San Francisco.

This mint is located at Herman and Duboce Streets and was designed with a Stripped Classicism Style architecture. First coins were struck in 1937 and coinage was halted in 1954. Then in 1964, because of the coin shortage, coining was restarted. This mint is still in operation today producing mostly proof and commemorative coins. This is a Real Photograph Post Card or RPPC from about 1947.

Next stop will be the fourth Philadelphia Mint.

□



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*Highest currently graded Tribute Penny for sale:*

NGC Choice EF (Star) 4/5 surface, 5/5 strike.

**Now at Greater Atlanta Coin Dealers' Show:**

**November 13 and December 11, 2011**

**New Bust Quarters and Halves acquired at Blue Ridge (AU and MS coins).**

**A new setup with more than 1,200 coins visible in 7 cases (plus boxed 2x2's) will be at the Tennessee Numismatic Society show at Chattanooga, TN on November 4 to 6, 2011.**

## Estate Appraisals & Buying Entire Collections

CALL Joe

706-614-9577 or email

[ClassicCityCoins@gmail.com](mailto:ClassicCityCoins@gmail.com)

\*ANA Life Member

\*Society of Silver Dollar  
Collectors, Life Member

\*CONECA, ACCG, GNA, etc.

\*Lincoln Cent Collectors  
Society & many more.