



MCCA Newsletter

September 2009

Metropolitan Coin Club of Atlanta

Volume 45, Issue 9



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If anyone has any interest in taking over the position of editor for the newsletter in 2010, please email actroxell@gmail.com.

Whitman Encyclopedia of US Paper Money

The Whitman Encyclopedia of U.S. Paper Money debuted at the first annual Whitman Coin and Collectibles Philadelphia Expo, September 23, 2009. The 900-page book by Q. David Bowers is now available online at Whitman-Books.com, and from bookstores, hobby shops, and numismatic dealers nationwide.

Drawing on the expertise of dozens of specialists from around the nation, plus Bowers's own decades-long research of the subject, the Whitman Encyclopedia of U.S. Paper Money includes historical and technical information unavailable in any other single source. The author's engaging text is supported by more than 1,600 full-color images; extensive auction data; market commentary; more than 26,000 values from a panel of experts coordinated by long-time dealer Tom Denly; multiple grades up to Unc-65; rarities; a selected bibliography; and extensive endnotes for specialized research.

"The Whitman Encyclopedia of U.S. Paper Money has real-world advice for making wise purchases in today's market," said Whitman publisher Dennis Tucker. "But it's not just a price guide. It also gives collectors and historians a strong foundation in studying, collecting, grading, attributing, and cataloging paper currency."

In addition to all federal notes, 1861 to date, from \$1 to \$10,000, the encyclopedia covers Continental Currency, War of 1812 Treasury notes, Fractional Currency, encased postage stamps, star notes, mules, error notes, and more.

Paper Money editor Fred Reed, who

wrote the book's foreword, said, "Even collectors with years of study will find much that is new, novel, and neat in Bowers's very readable text. His teachings will make the reader a more astute purchaser of paper money."

Whitman Encyclopedia of U.S. Paper Money; Q. David Bowers; Foreword by Fred Reed; valuations by Tom Denly and a panel of dealer specialists; ISBN 0794827039 · 900 pages · 8.5 x 11 inches · Hardcover · \$69.95 retail

About the author: Q. David Bowers became a professional numismatist as a teenager in 1953, later earning a B.A. in finance from Pennsylvania State University. He served as president of the Professional Numismatists Guild from 1977 to 1979 and president of the American Numismatic Association from 1983 to 1985. He is a recipient of the Founder's and Farran Zerbe awards, the highest honors of the PNG and the ANA, and is a fellow of the American Antiquarian Society and the American Numismatic Society. He is the author of more than 50 books and has received more honors from the Numismatic Literary Guild than any other writer. Bowers is an award-winning columnist for *Coin World* and for *Paper Money* magazine. His *Obsolete Paper Money Issued by Banks in the United States 1782-1866* received three national awards, including the Wismer Literary Award from the Society of Paper Money Collectors. *100 Greatest American Currency Notes*, coauthored with David M. Sundman, has also been widely honored.

Hot Off the Press

This month's meetings are September 5 & 19. The general meeting starts at 7:00 pm, and the YN meeting starts at 6:30 on September 5.

Thanks to Danny Haynes and Bill Yarbrough for their presentations at the August meetings, and thanks also to Ralph Gentry and Bill Fussil for providing refreshments.

To volunteer to do a program or provide refreshments for an upcoming meeting, please contact Norman Thomas, 770-381-8770 or e-mail jltandnot@msn.com.

This is **your** newsletter. The editor needs new material and welcomes the opportunity to review your original article for publication. Articles can be sent by e-mail to Alex Troxell at actroxell@gmail.com.



MCCA ALL Meeting Auction



February 20, 2010

Mark your calendars.

MCCA will be holding its second all auction meeting on February 20, 2010. There should be over 200 lots of numismatic items on which you can bid. The club will be providing refreshments at the meeting! Watch for full details on this exciting event in your October newsletter!

President's Coiner

By: Chip Cutcliff

Summer has come and gone as those of us who haven't retired yet (smile) find ourselves conforming to school traffic patterns again in an attempt to make it to work on time. Where did the summer go? The older I get, the faster time flies. Bad grammar, but true statement none the less.

The Los Angeles ANA show was a bust by most accounts. Attendance was way down at the first "pay to enter" ANA show. Location, costs, the economy – probably all three contributed to a slower than expected turnout of the general public. In contrast, the BRNA summer show in Dalton was a madhouse. The parking lot was full, the general public was there in droves, and all the dealers said it was the best Dalton show ever – much better than the ANA if just attended. Location, lack of cost, and the economy – probably all contributed. Hopefully we will continue to see a strong market here in the southeast.

The Mint is only marginally ahead of where it was a month ago. They have just released the Lincoln 4-piece proof set, in the original copper composition (same as will be in the Mint sets, if they ever release). Also, the maximum order number for the UHR's just increased from 10 to 25. The 3rd cent has also been released in 2-roll sets from the Mint. We're still waiting on proof ASE's, uncirculated ASE's with the "W" mint mark, BU AGE's, any fractional gold, or Buffalo coins. The Mint has said that they want to make all of the above, but the year is quickly coming to a close, and they aren't done yet. The second and third Lincoln cent varieties for 2009 are the easiest to find in BU rolls locally. The first issue, "Log Cabin" cent is still very elusive in BU rolls here in the southeast. If you find them, let me know. Suggest not spending a lot for

boxes of the second or third release. You should be able to find them at the banks for face value.

We didn't make the Atlanta Fed trip this summer, but there's another trip in the planning for early spring. Tommy Troxell is looking into information regarding a weekend trip to the Carson City Mint in Nevada. We will fly out on a Friday night and try to coordinate the visit with the Carson City Coin Club, and hopefully schedule around a striking event at the old Carson City Mint. Information is just now being gathered, and the trip will be open to any club member that wants to go. There will obviously be a measurable expense to fly to Reno, rent a car, stay overnight twice, and eat for two days. But what a trip! We'll keep you informed as information arrives.

I'm presently working on the new club directory that has been mentioned a couple of times at the last two meetings. If you have not received a form, please see me at the next meeting. I'll have them at the front table. I hope that everyone will **at least** provide a name, e-mail, and collecting interests. Phone numbers and other data are also desired. The list will be provided only to club members that contribute their information. The list is for only the personal use of club members, and will not be used by the club for any other purpose. It is an update to the 2005 list, which was an update of the 2002 list. In my ten years with the club, there has never been an instance of someone using the list improperly. Please provide as much info as you are comfortable with. It's a great tool for the members to stay in touch with one another.

Sign up early for the February auction-only night. Pay for your lots now for lowest lot numbers. Professional auctioneer Lindsey Goff will be visiting us from the Rockdale coin club that night to call the auction for us. It should be a lot of FUN!

On the Periphery

I'm in the middle of another growth spurt. You might think at my age that the only thing growing these days would be my waistline. And yes, it is expanding just a bit these days. But I'm growing into a new job. New bosses, new building, learning new things, fitting into a new routine---the whole shooting match. New can be stressful. New can be scary. It wasn't always the case, though.

I don't ever remember a time when I was afraid that I wouldn't find work. Jobs were everywhere. I could pick and choose. Sometimes my jobs overlapped. Sometimes I worked two and three jobs at a time. It was a worker's paradise. I was confident in my abilities and if a job didn't suit me, I just went to the next place to apply.

This is a whole new age we are living in. Jobs are now scarce. Job security is fictitious. People I worked with at my old job were asked to leave. I had eight years in at this location and thought I was safe, but I got voted off. Or rather, I was informed that if I didn't take the new position, someone would be fired.

I took the new position.

I went from driving ten minutes to work with my daughter who attends the high school across the street, to a twenty-five minute highway commute in bumper-to-bumper traffic. I went from being able to walk down any hallway and converse with great colleagues on a first name basis, to not knowing where the hallways were and only knowing three people by name.

My old immediate supervisor was heavenly, a dream come true. She had held my position before her rise, and treated me as a team player. She was smart, take charge, and had my undying loyalty. It's easy to work for someone you look up to. She did her job extremely well, all the while moving from house to apartment to house; while divorcing, while sending off kids to college and dealing with numerous health issues. That's a professional.

I'm still waiting for my new boss to take charge. And I started over a month ago. It's a very new position for me, one in which I've virtually no experience. Yet I am establishing schedules, composing newsletters, corresponding with parents---things that are his territory. Many days I find myself telling him what to do as if he were the subordinate. I feel as though I've landed in the Twilight Zone. At any moment, Rod Serling is going to step in and announce that Sandi Troxell has gone off the deep end and was last seen running down the hall blubbering like an idiot.

I like to be good at what I do, but knowing that the guy I work with makes almost three times what I make is taking the bloom off the rose, if you know what I mean. Most days I want to throw myself on the floor, pound my fists and yell, "It's not fair!"

But who said life was fair?

So I unwrap another Kit Kat bar, and experience another growth spurt. Learning can be a very tasty endeavor, don't you think?

Meeting Refreshments Update

I wish to thank all of the club members who over the years have brought refreshments to our bi-monthly meetings. In a discussion at our recent club board meeting the topic of refreshments was brought up by one of the members. As a result of the ensuing discussing the board has made some changes in the way that we handle refreshments that will make the process easier and potentially less costly for our members. These changes will take effect starting with the first meeting in September. First, the club will be responsible for providing all of the supply stuff: plates, cups, napkins, utensils. Club members need only bring the food and ice.

Second if you provide refreshments the club is willing to help in one of the two following ways. As a 501(c)3 organization, you can provide us with your receipt for your expenses and MCCA will provide you a receipt so that the expense may be written off your taxes. Alternatively, if the thought of providing refreshments is difficult due to the costs, especially in light of our current economic situation, you can turn in your receipt and MCCA will reimburse you for up to \$25 of your expenses. Just give your receipt to Ron and he will handle seeing that you receive your reimbursement or tax record receipt. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to see one of the club officers.

David MacDonald Studies Overstruck Greek Coins in New Book

Whitman Publishing announces the release of *Overstruck Greek Coins: Studies in Greek Chronology and Monetary Theory*, by David MacDonald. The 288-page hardcover book will be available online, in bookstores, and from dealers nationwide in late September 2009, and can be preordered at www.WhitmanBooks.com.

Overstruck Greek Coins is intended for serious collectors of ancient coins, but it is intriguing enough to appeal to general collectors and historians. It is the first book-length study to explain how Greek coins were overstruck, when they were overstruck, and why they were overstruck. Its revelations offer new understanding to students of ancient history.

"The sophistication of ancient cultures in monetary terms was revealed to me by this remarkable volume," said Harlan J. Berk, author of *100 Greatest Ancient Coins*, who wrote the book's foreword.

Overstruck coins are those that have been "recoined" by striking them with new and different dies, without first having the original design completely removed. In ancient times, this was done for various reasons: to certify the coins' quality; to encourage their circulation in a faraway land; to restrict their export and keep them in local economies; to validate them for mercenary soldiers' pay; to raise revenue; to avoid mandated recoinage fees; or to make a political or patriotic statement.

"Overstrikes have been recognized since the early days of numismatics, but the attention paid to them was, for a long time, sporadic and uneven," writes award-winning author David MacDonald. "The study of overstrikes has now become a standard part of numismatic methodology."

MacDonald's engaging study includes more than 300 high-resolution photographs and line drawings showing overstruck coins and their undertypes; an appendix on previously published Mesambrian overstrikes; a gallery of actual sizes; detailed notes; and an extensive bibliography of pertinent books and auction catalogs. The author explores the regions of Gaul and Italy, Sicily, Bosphorus, Macedonia, Thrace, Greece, Anatolia, Syria, Judaea, North Africa, and Indo-Greece, along with a study of several enigmatic pieces.

Overstruck Greek Coins: Studies in Greek Chronology and Monetary Theory

By David MacDonald · Foreword by Harlan J. Berk

288 pages · Full color · 6 x 9 inches · Hardcover · Retail \$39.95 U.S.

About the Author

David MacDonald was born in Massachusetts in 1943. He received his B.A. from California State University at Fresno, spent a year at Heidelberg Universität as a Fulbright Scholar, and received his master's degree and Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota in 1972.

"Mac," as he is known to colleagues, students, and fellow collectors, got his first ancient coin when he was ten years old and has remained continually fascinated by ancient coinage and what it reveals about ancient societies.

From 1972 until his retirement in 2005, Mac taught at Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois, working at times on archaeological excavations in Germany, Croatia, and Turkey. He has written three books and more than 50 articles on ancient numismatics and inscriptions, all published in American and European journals such as *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik*, *Archaeologia Bulgarica*, *Scripta Classica Israelica*, *Minerva*, *Nomismatika Khronika*, *Berytus*, *The Ancient History Bulletin*, *The Numismatic Chronicle*, *Numismatica e Antichità Classiche*, *Les Dossiers d'Archéologie*, and others. In 1998 he was awarded the Hellenic Numismatic Society's Silver Medal and an honorary lifetime membership for contributions to the study of Greek numismatics.

In recent years, Mac has studied overstruck Greek coins, finding in them information about the chronologies of coins and rulers, the movement of precious metals within the Greek world, and ancient monetary policies and practices. In his retirement he continues to work on his academic interests, but also finds time for kayaking and a developing interest in eighteenth-century French Illinois, including target shooting with a reproduction French smoothbore flintlock.

Club Officers

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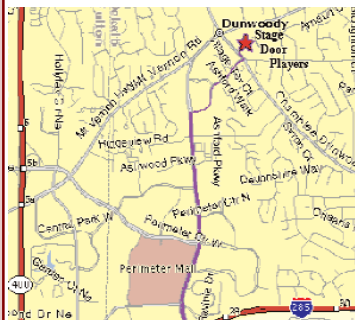
Alexandra Troxell, Editor
Barry Kurian, Copy Editor

WHO: Collectors of coins, paper money, tokens, and medals. Especially wanted are young, beginning collectors and anyone wanting to know more about the hobby and have fun doing it!

WHAT: Every meeting features educational programs, coin auctions, refreshments, and fellowship with other collectors. And, we would like you to be part of the fun! In addition, the club offers Young Numismatist (YN) programs, free advice on coin grading and authenticity as well as this monthly newsletter.

WHEN: Meeting at 7:00 PM on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays each month at the North DeKalb Cultural Arts Center, 5339 Chamblee-Dunwoody Road, Dunwoody.

WHERE: The North DeKalb Cultural Arts Center is located at 5339 Chamblee-Dunwoody Road approximately one block South of Mt. Vernon Rd and Chamblee-Dunwoody Rd.



Meeting Schedule

2009	2010
August 1 & 15	January 2 & 16
September 5 & 19	February 6 & 20
October 3 & 17	March 6 & 20
November 7 & 21	April 3 & 17
December 5 & 19	May 1 & 15

Metropolitan Coin Club of Atlanta

Founded 1964

The MCCA Newsletter is the official publication of the Metropolitan Coin Club of Atlanta and is published monthly. For more information call Ron Wichman at 770-394-4103, write P.O. Box 76090, Atlanta, GA 30358, or visit www.mccatl.org. Annual membership dues are \$10. All rights reserved. Entire contents Copyright ©2008 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, 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 T60 · GNA CL112 · FUN 17596 · BRNA LM14

Show Calendar

Greater Atlanta Coin Dealers, October 11, 2009, Holiday Inn Select, 4386 Chamblee-Dunwoody Road, Atlanta, Ga., 9AM-5PM. Call Bob O'Brien, 770-772-4359, atlcoin@hotmail.com, www.atlcoin.com.

Tennessee State Numismatic Society Coin and Currency Convention, November 6-8, 2009, Camp Jordan Arena, Chattanooga, Tn., Exit 1 on I-75, 10AM-6PM Friday and Saturday, 10AM-3PM Sunday. Contact Bourse Chair Gayle Pike, 901-327-1703 or cell 901-210-7669, PikeGK@aol.com.

MCCA

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

We're on the Web!
www.mccatl.org

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