

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB NEWS

Volume 20, Number 1

January, 2012



New to our club? Welcome!

We meet on the **3rd Wednesday each month**, at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. in Alexandria, VA. It's just off US 1 inside the Beltway, and there's plenty of free parking. Meetings are held in the Gold Room. Check the lobby bulletin board just to be sure! The bourse opens at 7:00 p.m. and members may display, trade, and sell coins during this time. Our auction starts about 8:10 p.m. Members and visitors can bid during the bourse and auction. Members are encouraged to submit coins to be included in future auctions – contact **Auction Chair Robin Borum** at Robin.Borum@LNF.com or 703-395-3269.

Next Meeting: January 18!

Please make note of our new website address below

President:	Boots Barnes
Vice Pres/ANA Rep:	Frank Falgiano
Secretary:	Doug DeBarr
Treasurer:	Tom DeYoung
Auction Chair:	Robin Borum
Auctioneers:	Frank Falgiano Joel Cherry
Historian/CONECA Rep:	OPEN
ESNA Rep:	OPEN
MWNA Rep:	Jeff Saah
VNA Rep:	Joel Cherry
Microscope Coord:	Ron Iliffe
Refreshments Coordinators:	Doug DeBarr Michael Atkins
Raffle/Door Prize Coordinators:	Ron Iliffe Bob Kimes
YN Director:	Pete Locke
Webmaster:	Mike Atkins
Newsletter Editor:	Noelle Locke

Tentative Meeting Agenda:

- 7:00pm Bourse opens – please help yourself to refreshments!
- 8:00pm Meeting begins: welcome, announcements, discussions, speakers.
- 8:10pm Auction begins. Door prize drawing and raffle held at intermission.
- 9:30pm Settlement of auction accounts, submission of coins for next auction, adjournment.

In this issue:

Marshall House Token	2-3
ACC Dealers	3
Upcoming Shows and Events	4
ACC Show: February 2012!	4
January Auction Lots	7 - 8

Alexandria Coin Club

PO Box 1233 Alexandria, VA 22314

www.alexandriacoinclub.com

Members: ANA, ESNA, VNA

The Storied Marshall House and Its Token

By Aaron Packard, Numismatist

Precursor to Confederate Coinage

Referred to as the first Confederate Cent¹ by historians and numismatists alike, cent-sized tokens issued by a hotel in Alexandria Virginia began appearing in transactions throughout the Commonwealth in 1859. These storecard tokens originated from the Marshall House Hotel. They were initially traded in the northern part of the state, but quickly migrated southward to Richmond by the early 1860s².

The token first gained popularity because of the ongoing coinage shortage in the U.S. during the 1850s. With the outbreak of Civil War, the public became anxious about increases in values of all metals, and began hoarding their change. The crisis worsened, and virtually all Federal coinage disappeared from circulation⁴.

Merchants and proprietors found themselves in a difficult situation, as they still required coined money to conduct daily trade. To remedy matters, they struck and issued private coinages, which made their way into general circulation.

Uniquely, the Marshall House Token is attributed as being the first known issue of any metallic storecard featuring the French Minerva head. Designed by Robert Lovett, Jr³, a prominent engraver of the time, the Minerva head it features is the exact device as used on Lovett's later CSA cent prototype. This is why the Marshall House token is referred to as the first Confederate Cent. In fact, it is described as being the very first prototype for the South's planned Confederate Cent^{1, 2}.

A loaded trophy

The Marshall House Hotel also became well known during the Civil War era for a more ominous reason. After the city of Alexandria was captured by Union forces in 1861, the owner of the Marshall House Hotel continued to fly the Confederate flag over his hotel. The owner, James William Jackson, was a captain of an artillery company in Alexandria, and relished the idea that Lincoln himself could see his flag flying from his vantage point at the Whitehouse^{5†}.

Union Colonel Ephraim E. Ellsworth spied Jackson's flag while making his way through Alexandria, and decided to take it as a trophy. With several of his men, Ellsworth entered Jackson's hotel and negotiated his way to the top floor. He climbed onto the roof and snatched the flag. While making his way back down, Ellsworth found himself face to face with Jackson, and a double-barreled shotgun‡.

"Here is my trophy," exclaimed Ellsworth, displaying the flag on his arm. "And you are mine," replied Jackson, as he raised his gun, and discharged its contents into the breast of the Federal⁵." One of Ellsworth's soldiers immediately shot and killed Jackson.



*The Marshall House Hotel,
Alexandria, VA*



*Minerva head featured
on the CSA prototype
and the Marshall House
token.*



*Steel engraving after painting
by Chappel, by Johnson, Fry & Co.
Circa 1862 -Library of Congress*

The Marshall House Hotel was razed in the 1950s to make way for redevelopment along Alexandria's King Street. As for the tokens, pictured at left are two Marshall House specimens, catalogue number Miller VA-103. The first example possesses a planchet clip. Despite the clip, its grade is approximately VF-30. It is not known whether the clip is pre- or post-strike. The second token possesses some edge roughness. With that, the grade is approximately V-20. On the reverse of both tokens, Rulau advises that the 9 of 1859 is unusually weakly struck⁷.

Notes and Sources:

- † The Marshall House Hotel is approximately 6 ½ miles from the Whitehouse⁶.
- ‡ A similar, but conflicting account of events is told in Rulau's Fourth Edition⁸. The account cited herein was written in 1866, only a few years after the event.
- 1. "The Marshall House and the Civil War," *The Virginia Nummatist*, Winter 2003, pg. 15
- 2. *The Lovett Cent; A Confederate Story*, Harold Levi and George Corell, Skeenah Gap Publishing, ©2006, pg. 103
- 3. *Ibid.*, pg. 105
- 4. *Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial coins*, Walter Breen, Doubleday, ©1988
- 5. *The Lost Cause; A New Southern History of the War of the Confederates*, Edward A. Pollard, Treat & Co, 1866, pg. 135
- 6. *GoogleEarth; The Marshall House was located on the corner of South Pitt and King Street in Alexandria, VA*
- 7. *Standard Catalog of United States Tokens 1700-1900 Fourth Edition*, Russell Rulau, Krause Publications, ©2004, pg. 403

Historical Images possess no copyright restrictions and are courtesy of the United States Library of Congress. Coin images are copyright Aaron Packard.

Aaron Packard has over 30 years experience in North American numismatics. He is the author of several papers in the field of exonomia, including those about engravers, token issuers, and the public who used them. He is a member of the ANA, VNA, ACC, C4, CWTS, TAMS, MD-TAMS, AVA, NSCA, and the NumisSociety.



Need help? Have a question? Contact an ACC member dealer!

Robert Mitchell	RKT Coins	703-268-5234
Joel Cherry	Mercury Numismatics www.mercurycoin.com	703-876-9450
Robin Borum	Robin Borum Rare Coins	703-395-3269
Andy & Alynne Skrabalak	Angel Dee's Coins and Collectibles www.angeldees.com	703- 580-6969
Carl Ostiguy	CEO Coins, Currency & Treasurers	443-623-7025
George Watson	George A. Watson	703-843-7072
Frank Falgiano	CEFCO Enterprises	703-491-1017
John Koebert	Butternut	703-802-0252
Mike Olson	MCO Consultants - Numismatics	703-644-5375
Mike W. Hess	Classic Coins & Collectibles Cameo Coins and Collectibles camcoins@aol.com	703-330-3747 703-281-7053
Bob Patterson	Bob's Coins	703-490-1222
John Manley	John Manley	202-546-5256
Wayne Wilcox	Wayne's Coin & Currency	703-920-2385
Jason Zeibel	Z&Z Coins	703-598-1340
J.W. Kennedy	Kennedy's Stamps & Coins j.w.kennedy@verizon.net	703- 569-7300



Mark Your Calendars – Upcoming Shows and Events!

BANC TOWSON Coin Show	1/22	9 – 4	Best Western Towson 1100 Cromwell Bridge Rd Towson, MD	WilliamStratemeyer 410-256-1832 bill.stratemeyer@verizon.net
Vienna Quarterly Coin & Stamp Show	1/28 1/29	10 – 6 10 – 4	Vienna Community Ctr 120 Cherry Street Vienna, VA	Darren Coker 703-532-6640 darrencoker@aol.com
Westminster Firehall Coin & Currency Show	2/ 5	9 - 4:30	Westminster Fire Hall 28 John Street Westminster, MD	Carl Ostiguy Jr 410-379-5646 ceocoins@comcast.net
Salisbury Coin Show	2/12	10 – 5	Moose Lodge #654 833 Snow Hill Road Salisbury, MD	John Haddaway 800-277-7754 hdpnutz@comcast.net

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

Alexandria Coin Show

Saturday, February 11, 2012

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Hampton Inn & Suites, Alexandria, VA

Free Admission & Parking

DOOR PRIZES !!!

Free Seminar @ 1:00

Contact Boots Barnes 703-975-7029 (cell)

steven.barnes8@verizon.net



Calling all who are able and willing to help!

Our upcoming annual show requires lots and lots of “behind the scene” details. If you can help with set-up / tear-down, promotion, administration, or any other aspect of pulling off a successful event, please contact Boots Barnes.

ACC January Auction Lots					
#	Item	Description	Min Bid	Estim Val	Win Bid
1	50c	1806 VF20, no stems, O-109	700	1000	
2	50c	22pc, 1964-1982 in Dansco Album, EF to BU		65	
3	5c	40pc, (roll) 1958 Jefferson Nickels UNC		40	
4	50c	1877-CC G6		45	
5	1c	1861 AU50		150	
6	\$1	Series 1917 Legal Tender Note, VG, F-39		80	
7	50c	4pc, 1952-D,1953-D,1954-D F12, 1958-D BU		48	
8	50c	4pc, 1962 VF, 62-D AU, 63 UNC, 63-D EF		54	
9	25c	3pc, 1917-S Ty1 AG3, 1928-S VG8, 1929-D G4		32	
10	\$1	1889 EF40		35	
11	\$1	1900-O EF40		35	
12	Comm	2009 Abraham Lincoln Silver Dollar, UNC in Mint box		55	
13	Comm	2010 Boy Scouts Silver Dollar, UNC in Mint box		45	
14	Comm	2011 U.S. Army Silver Dollar, Proof in Mint box		60	
15	Set	2010 U.S. Proof Silver Quarters in Mint box		40	
16	50c	1964 Kennedy Half, UNC		15	
17	\$1	1972-S Eisenhower Dollar UNC, Blue pac 40% silver		15	
18	25c	7pc,1926,27,30 AG-G; 1963,63-D,64,64-D BU		40	
19	\$1	2004 Silver Eagle in box (rim toned)		32	
20	50c	1964 Proof Kennedy Half		18	
21	50c	4pc, 1934,1935,1936,1937, avg circ		60	
22	\$1	1886 MS61		52	
23	\$1	1887 MS61		52	
24	\$1	1883-CC in ICG MS64 PL holder		400	
25	\$1	1884-CC GSA graded by NGC MS64		375	
26	\$1	2pc, 1922 EF40, 1923-D EF40		64	
27	\$1	1992 Silver Eagle		32	
28	Silver	1/2 oz round 'Ben Franklin'		16	
29	Silver	1 oz Bar		30	
30	1c	1817 13 stars, VG corroded		25	
31	1/2c	1851 EF40	48	100	
32	1c	7pc, 1858-1864 CN, avg G4 some w/problems		90	
33	1c	1879 VF30	38	55	
34	1c	1848 VF20	22	40	
35	1c	1856 upright 5, EF corroded	30	40	
36	1c	5pc,1900 Unc,1908 F12,1930-D EF,1933-D EF,1952-S MS63RD	25	53	
37	5c	2pc, 1899 AU50 rev rim damage, 1912-D VF20	28	75	
38	mixed	3pc; 3c-1852 holed; 5c-1871 obv damage, 1873-S rev damage	40	52	
39	50c	1937 EF45		21	
40	Comm	1982-S George Washington Proof Half Dollar in Mint box		25	
41	Comm	1988-S Olympic Proof Silver Dollar in Mint box		45	

42	Set	1984-S U.S. Prestige (6pc) Proof Set		40	
43	mixed	3pc, 1999-S SBA Proof \$, Persian Gulf & Bicentennial Medals		45	
44	World	bag w/mix from 25 different countries	6	15	
45	World	mix of 22 different countries in plastic boxes	7	15	
46	Albums	1-Whitman Roosevelt Dimes; 1-Dansco Franklin Halves		40	
47	1c	3,549pc, Wheat Cents, avg circ grades	100	212	
48	mixed	18pc,U.S.Presidential Collection coins,stamps,currency (framed)	15	25	



Final Notes...

Keep your membership up-to-date! Please remember to pay your annual dues. If you're not sure if you have, contact Doug DeBarr at ddebarr@caci.com

This is your newsletter -- please submit articles or items of interest to: Noelle.locke@verizon.net Thanks!

