

Coin Chronicles

The Newsletter of the Trenton Numismatic Club

July 2017

Volume 35 Issue 7

Washington's Farewell Address to His Officers

by-Ray Williams

George Washington is probably the most revered of all our US Presidents. He has been honored on many coins and medals. Some collectors specialize in collecting "Washingtoniana". The worldwide respect Washington received in his lifetime has survived through today.

The following quote is a first hand account of Washington's emotional farewell address to his officers. It was written by Colonel Benjamin Tallmadge and the original memoir is on display at Fraunces Tavern Museum today.

"The time now drew near when the Commander-in-

Chief intended to leave this part of the country for his beloved retreat at Mount Vernon. On Tuesday, the 4th of December, it was made known to the officers then in New York, that Gen. Washington intended to commence his journey on that day. At 12 o'clock the officers repaired to Francis <sic> Tavern, in Pearl Street, where Gen. Washington had appointed to meet them, and to take his final leave of them. We had been assembled but a few moments, when His Excellency entered the room.

His emotion, too strong to be concealed, seemed to be reciprocated by every officer present. After partaking of a slight refreshment, in almost breathless silence, the General filled his glass with wine, and turning to the officers, he said:

"With a heart full of love and gratitude, I now take leave of you. I most devoutly wish that your latter days may be as prosperous and happy as your former tones have been glorious and honorable."

Washington's Farewell Address to His Officers Fraunces Tavern, New York City Dec.4, 1783



Published by Currier & Ives 1848

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COIN SHOW SCHEDULE

By Bill Liatys

August 2017

LOCAL SHOW SCHEDULE

Warren County Coin Show

*July 29, 2017 Saturday 9am – 3pm
Phillipsburg Mall 1200 Highway 22 East Phillipsburg, NJ 08865*

American Numismatics Association

World's Fair of Money

August 1st to 5th 2017

Colorado Convention Center in America's Mile High City, Denver, CO

PARSIPPANY *August 6th Sunday 9 AM – 3 PM*

Pal Bldg 33 Baldwin Road Parsnippany NJ

BURLINGTON *August 13th Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM*

Burlington Mason Lodge Route 541 Burlington, NJ

TREVOSE *August 20th Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM*

Trevose Fire house 4900 Street Road Trevose PA

TRI-STATE COIN & STAMP SHOW *August 27th Sunday 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM*

Sheraton Bucks County 400 Oxford Valley Road Langhorne, PA

TRENTON NUMISMATIC FALL COIN SHOW

October 29 Sunday 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Ramada Inn Exit 7 NJ Turnpike 1083 Route 206 North Bordentown, NJ

WHITMAN COIN & COLLECTIBLES *November 9th-12th Thursday – Sunday*

Thursday – Noon – 6 PM Friday – Saturday - 10 AM – 6 PM Sunday – 10 AM – 3 PM

Baltimore Convention Center One W. Pratt Street Baltimore, MD

After the officers had taken a glass of wine, Gen. Washington said:

"I cannot come to each of you, but shall feel obliged if each of you will come and take me by the hand."

Gen. Knox being nearest to him, turned to the Commander-in-Chief, who, suffused in tears, was incapable of utterance, but grasped his hand; when they embraced each other in silence. In the same affectionate manner, every officer in the room marched up to, kissed, and parted with his General-in-Chief. Such a scene of sorrow and weeping I had never before witnessed, and hope I may never be called upon to witness again. It was indeed too affecting to be of long continuance for tears of deep sensibility filled every eye and the heart seemed so full, that it was ready to burst from its wonted abode. Not a word was uttered to break the solemn silence that prevailed, or to interrupt the tenderness of the interesting scene. The simple thought that we were then about to part from the man who had conducted us through a long and bloody war, and under whose conduct the glory and independ-

ence of our country had been achieved, and that we should see his face no more in this world, seemed to me utterly insupportable. But the time of separation had come, and waiving his hand to his grieving children around him, he left the room, and passing through a corps of light infantry who were paraded to receive him, he walked silently on to Whitehall, where a barge was in waiting. We all followed in mournful silence to the wharf, where a prodigious crowd had assembled to witness the departure of the man who, under God, had been the great agent in establishing the glory and independence of these United States. As soon as he was seated, the barge put off into the river, and when out in the stream, our great and beloved General waived his hat, and bid us a silent adieu.

We paid him the same affectionate compliment, and then returned to the same hotel whence Gen. Washington had

so recently departed. Thus closed one of the most interesting and affecting scenes that I ever witnessed a scene so fraught with feeling, that it seemed for a time as if it never could be erased from vivid and constant reflection. But, such is the wise constitution of human nature, that other objects and pursuits occupy the mind and engross the attention, or life would become a burden too heavy to bear.

In a few days, all the officers who had assembled at New York to participate in the foregoing heart-rending scene, departed to their several places of abode, to commence anew their avocations for life."

On January 9, 2016, Diane and I visited Frances Tavern with Ken Bressett. We enjoyed a wonderful lunch, followed by a tour of the Museum. Standing in the "Long Room" where

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Trenton Numismatic Club

- President : Andrew Waholek
- Vice-President: John Janeczek
- Treasurer: Randy Ricco
- Secretary: Joe Pargola
- Sgt at Arms: Gary Elmer
- Committees:
- Bourse: Bill Liatys
- Randy Ricco
- Programs: Ray Williams
- Newsletter: Joe Pargola
- Auction: Bo Bobjak

Trenton Numismatic Club is members of:



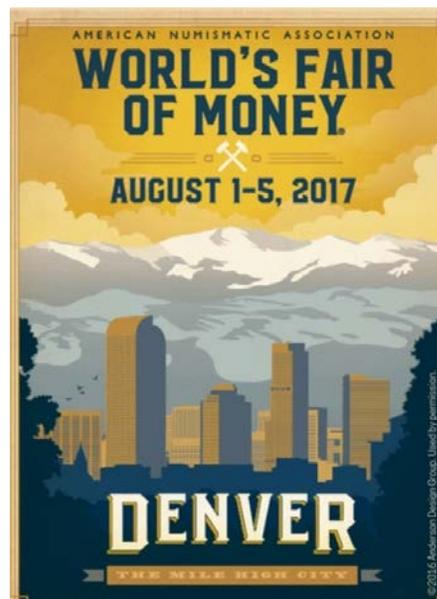
American Numismatic Association

Washington gave his address, I could almost see and hear him. Tallmadge's original memoir is on exhibit and open to the appropriate page. It's a little difficult to read, but worth the time.

If you are ever in Lower Manhattan, I highly recommend the food here and /or the tour of the museum.

ANA On the Move!

With the upcoming World's Fair of Money August 1st to 5th in Denver, the ANA continues to serve the Numismatic community as a premier organization for Education, Information Research, Technical Training Courses and much much more. They will present more than \$1 billion of historic rare coins and colorful currency, including \$100,000 bills and a nickel worth \$3 million. Find out what your old coins and currency may be worth! It's all at the World's Fair of Money®, the biggest, most educational coin show in the country. If You are not a member of this organization, **Join today!**



Some people die at 25 and aren't buried until 75.

-Benjamin Franklin

Meeting Schedule

The Trenton Numismatic Club meets on the fourth Monday of each month at the

HAMILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
ONE JUSTICE SAMUEL A. ALITO JR. WAY
HAMILTON, NJ 08619-3809

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Hamilton, New Jersey 08650

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www.trentoncoinclub.org