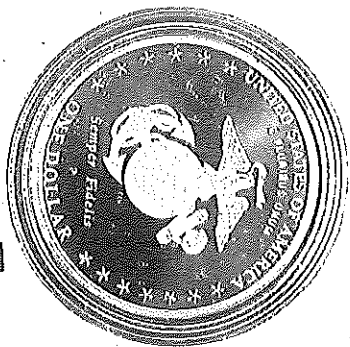
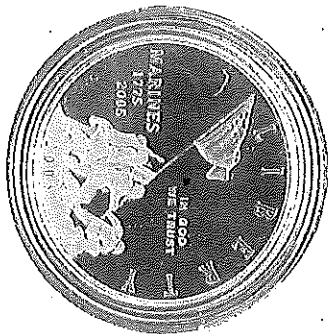


Dekalb Business

A WEEKLY REPORT OF PEOPLE AND EVENTS

CONTACT THE AJC
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Dollar coins (left and center) salute the Marjorie The half-dollar at right was used to raise funds for Stone Mountain's carving.

One man's realm of coins

Shop keeps collectors fascinated

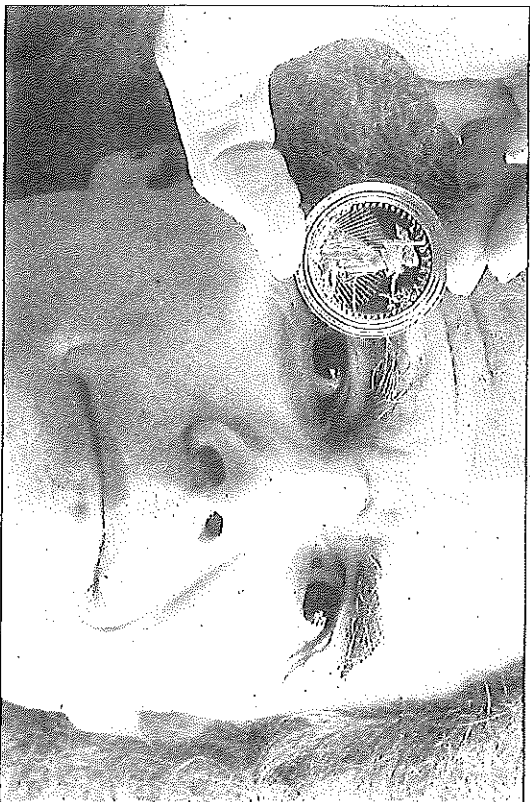
By M.M. CAULEY
For the Journal-Constitution

In this era of charge accounts and e-mail, there aren't many people walking around with a roll of stamps or pockets full of change. Yet the fascination with coins and stamps has kept customers coming back to the Northlake Stamp & Coin shop since 1969.

After two years at North Dekalb Mall, owner Gil Kann moved to his present site at Northlake Mall. And next week, he expects to open a second location at Perimeter Mall.

With a customer base to support two stores, it's clear coin and stamp collecting isn't a completely lost art.

"I have noticed that our stamp collecting customers have been aging," said Kann, who started the business as a way to pay his way through Georgia State University. "We do go to schools, give talks and



Since the late 1960s, shop owner Gil Kann has catered to the interests of coin and stamp collectors — both hobbyists and the serious-minded — at his Northlake Stamp & Coin. Now, he's branching out: A second outlet will open next week at Perimeter Mall.

give away stamps to get young people interested. And usually once they do, they're really fascinated. Each stamp is a little piece of art and history that tells a story and a part of history in a colorful way."

But it's the coins that most

customers want to check out.

"Our coins are definitely the bigger part of the business," said Kann, who rings up 25 percent of his business during the holiday season. "At many coin places, you have to make an appointment and go to an of-

NORTHLAKE STAMP & COIN

- Address: Northlake Mall
- Phone: 770-939-7842
- Hours: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Mondays-Saturdays; noon-6 p.m. Sundays (with extended holiday hours same as mall).

connoisseur to marvel at the beauty of a 100 B.C. Greek coin sporting the image of Hercules; an ancient Roman coin with the head of an emperor; or a half-shekel, the amount of the temple tax in the time of Jesus. Prices for antiquities may range from \$100 to \$500, depending on the condition.

But the new series of state quarters has gotten many of today's collectors into the hobby. "Most of our customers come in because they got interested in the state quarters," Kann said. "There are 35 quarters out so far and the program runs through 2008. We have nice albums that organize them and show a little piece of history."

Another new series capturing attention are Lewis and Clark nickels, produced to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the team's trek across the country. A set of 10 coins is \$11.95, and each coin

is marked with the symbol both the Philadelphia and Vermont.

Coins, stamps and paraphernalia are big holiday gifts, Kann said. For young collectors, pick up a \$2.99 book get them started with pennies. More detailed coin albums, well as coin frames, boxes, wooden chests, can range in price from \$33 to \$80.

A 2005 pure silver American dollar, with Liberty on front and an eagle on the back is \$15.95. Boxed sets of 10 silver coins that mark the First Christmas are \$19.95.

Those with fond memories of a picnic or laser show at Stone Mountain may go a 1975 silver dollar (\$15) that was produced to raise funds. Complete the mountain's carving. The coin was issued as it tender. It sold for \$1 — 50 cents went to complete the carving and the other 50 cents was for the coin was actually worth.

The shop's unusual star include bicentennial souvenirs as well as an assortment of monochromes.

"We do see many people who are serious investors in coins," Kann said. "But I'd more of our customers are just fascinated with the hobby."

eKalb Business

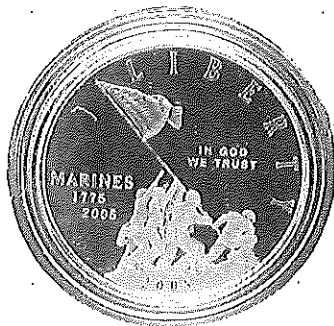
REPORT OF PEOPLE AND EVENTS

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Dollar coins (left and center) salute the Marines. The half-dollar at right was used to raise funds for Stone Mountain's carving.

One man's realm of coins

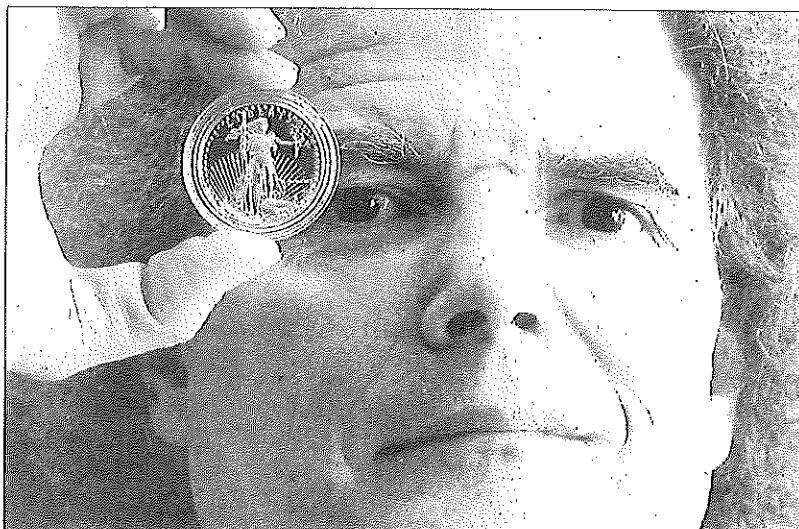
Collector keeps hobby in

Journal-Constitution

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Photos by RENÉE HANNANS HENRY / Staff

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One need not be a coin

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Another new series capturing attention are Lewis and Clark nickels, produced to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the team's trek across the country. A set of 10 coins is \$11.95, and each coin

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A 2005 pure silver American dollar, with Liberty on the front and an eagle on the back, is \$15.95. Boxed sets of 1-ounce silver coins that mark Baby's First Christmas are \$19.95.

Those with fond memories of a picnic or laser show at Stone Mountain may go for a 1925 silver dollar (\$115) that was produced to raise funds to complete the mountain's carving. The coin was issued as legal tender. It sold for \$1 - 50 cents went to complete the carving and the other 50 cents was what the coin was actually worth.

The shop's unusual stamps include bicentennial souvenirs as well as an assortment of famous paintings.

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