

Countdown To The 1715 Fleet 300TH Anniversary

From Left: At the FUN-STLC Meeting on 10 January 2014. Ernie Richards & Dave Crooks listen intently to Ben Costello's animated details about the 1715 Fleet's 300th Anniversary plans for 2015.



DATELINE: Washington, PA. Monday, January 27, 2014—This was the third year that the 1715 Fleet Society hosted a promotional booth at the prestigious Florida United Numismatists Convention in Orlando, Florida (January 9—12, 2014). Like last year, there were many visitors who obtained informational literature about the Fleet Society and also viewed the displays that were

made available by the Society. The Fleet Society's presence at this Show is to fulfill its mission of promoting awareness through education regarding the upcoming 300th Anniversary of the 1715 Fleet Disaster.

In conjunction with F.U.N., the Fleet Society is working on next year's Convention (January 2015), the theme of which will be to mark the 300th Anniversary. In addition, F.U.N. will be celebrating *its* 60th Anniversary. So essentially we will be commemorating two great Anniversaries in one great Show.

Ben Costello, one of the Directors of the 1715 Fleet Society, addressed the F.U.N. Board at their meeting on Sunday, January 12, 2014. At that time he provided an update on the Society's efforts to establish an Exhibit at the F.U.N. Show in January 2015 in conjunction with the Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research.

A meeting was also held with Doug Mudd, Curator of the A.N.A.'s Rochette Money Museum in Colorado Springs, CO. Ben discussed with Doug the feasibility of having the A.N.A. assist with the designing and creating a plan for displaying the Exhibit. The A.N.A. has been very supportive of the Fleet Society's efforts as far as preparing an Exhibit for the F.U.N. Show.

Following the F.U.N. Show Ben went to Vero Beach. On January 16, 2014, he met with representatives of the Vero Beach Museum of Art to reserve the museum's auditorium for a two day symposium regarding the 1715 Fleet. The conference, scheduled for July 28—29, 2015, will focus on the Fleet's impact on history, archaeology, and numismatics. It is anticipated that this symposium will feature speakers from around the country discussing aforementioned topics. The agenda for this event is currently being developed. It is also anticipated that a dinner or banquet will be held on Thursday, July 30, 2015, at a location to be announced.

On Wednesday, January 22, 2014, Ben met with representatives of the Bureau of Archaeological Research in Tallahassee to discuss what part of the Florida Collection of treasure and artifacts would be available for display at the F.U.N. Show in January 2015. He also discussed the feasibility of having the Bureau of Archaeological Research participate in the F.U.N. Show as well as the Vero Beach symposium in July 2015. Overall, Ben was very pleased with the progress that has been made thus far and was very appreciative of the help and cooperation demonstrated by the Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research and Florida United Numismatists.

FOR FURTHER INFO: GO TO <http://www.1715FleetSociety.com>