

1715 Plate Fleet coins, cluster of unseparated coins, with memorabilia of the Real Eight Co., Inc. ca. 1966 - 1972



# Index and List of Items

Provenance - Summary	<b>p.1</b>		
Provenance - Detail	<i>p.2</i>		
Section 1. Clump (12 oz) and 59 loose coins	<b>p.</b> 8		
Section 2. Treasure Certificates	p. 10		
Section 3. Books: <u>Pieces of Eight</u> (4)	<b>p</b> . 11		
Section 4. Kip Wagner's Doctor of Science Degree	<b>p.</b> 13		
Section 5. Sermons on Buried Treasure By Dr. Will W Orr	p. 14		
Section 6. <u>Crest of Philip</u> information sheets			
Listing of Other Materials	<b>p</b> . 15		
(As shown in Appendix 3, Figures 28 through 54.)			

#### Provenance

**Summary:** The history embodied in the material of this offering adds to the saga of the Spanish Plate Fleet of 1715 and its mysterious way of continuing to interweave the lives of contemporary people into a 300 year old, and on-going, tale. Although this material covers only the period of 1966 to 1972 (Kip Wagner passed away in 1972) it is a fascinating story. My Father, Dr. Will W Orr, became acquainted with Kip in the mid-sixties, purchasing clumps, coins and going on dive expeditions. I joined in some of these purchases during my visits to Florida with Dad. I have later records of Dad using the clump, and a cleaned coin, from our 1966 purchase in some 23 sermons titled "Buried Treasure" that he preached in the Eastern United States from 1966 to 1980. In 1971, at the age of 67, he retired from the Presidency of Westminster College in Pennsylvania, and moved into the house he and Mother had build just North of the Sebastian Inlet on Highway A1A. Dad (the consummate minister/missionary) began work in the Sebastian Inlet area and founded the Chapel by the Sea, an Associate Reformed Church. Although acquainted with Mel Fisher, he now put his full energy into this new church that thrives today. Dad was inspired by his friendship with Kip and his devotion to the Treasure Search. We will never know how many lives Dad influenced for the better with his Buried Treasure sermons. But he amazed several thousand people with the story of Kip's work and, holding a 1715 wreck coin clump in his hand at the pulpit, - admonished each person to look within, and to God, for their own buried treasure.

This documentation and supplemental material is superb and tells the story of Father's friendship with Kip. His admiration for Kip's work was sufficient to cause him to award an honorary Doctor of Science Degree to Kip from Westminster College on October 12, 1966, thus becoming *Dr. Kip Wagner*.

We wish to sell all the items of this era intact. All relate to Kip Wagner and the Spanish Plate Fleet of 1715. The clump of coins offered (approx. 12 oz.) is part of a larger clump (1961 grams) that Dad and I purchased directly from Kip in 1966. We spent many an enjoyable hour separating and cleaning coins from this clump. Other coins came from additional clumps purchased by Father in 1969. In 1982 Father distributed fourteen of these coins to my sister, Mrs. Arlis Orr Galloway, which are included and noted below as the "PAK" group. At the same time he sent 30 coins to me, which are included below in my "WWO group." Added to the WWO coin group are those remaining from a purchase directly from Mrs. McArdle at the *Museum of Sunken Treasure* in early 1969. Thus, along with the clump of 11 or 12 unseparated coins, there are 24 eight real, 34 four real, and one ½ real cob coins in this offering – a total of 59 coins, all with period and original *"Treasure Certificates"* signed by Kip Wagner. Included are 41 unused Certificates, all signed by Kip in 1966 to 1969.

#### Provenance – Detailed History

This history is more than the provenance of the items described. It is a story of a friendship between two men, dedicated and competent in their own endeavors, and how their lives intersected to enrich each of them as they entered the twilight of life. Indeed, a part of the 1715 Fleet Treasure is of the human sort.

Dad, Dr. Will W Orr, was a Presbyterian minister and President of Westminster College [New Wilmington, PA] from 1949 to 1967. In preparing to retire he and Mother (...an ocean-lover) built a home just North of Sebastian Inlet on the West side of Highway A1A, some 45 miles south of Cape Kennedy, Florida. In his real estate, construction, banking, and church activities in the Melbourne Beach-Sebastian Inlet area Dad heard of this treasure hunter: *Kip Wagner*. Dad's acquaintance with Kip Wagner <u>predates</u><sup>1</sup> the January 1965 *National Geographic* article regarding Kip and the Spanish Plate Fleet of 1715.

It wasn't hard for Dad to "track down" Kip [see Father's notes, Appendix 3, Figure 1]. Calls noted are to the "1<sup>st</sup> National Bank" of Satellite Beach, FL; Col. Thompson; and Mrs. Elva McArdle. Finally, Dad located Kip at his home south of Sebastian Inlet - they became fast friends. He was fascinated with the curiosity, perseverance, and plain old hard work Kip had put into the search for the 1715 Spanish Plate Fleet wrecks. He was most impressed with Kip's meticulous research of the Spanish Plate Fleet Fleet of 1715, its cargo, likely wreck locations and their configurations. *Dad was hooked* on the Spanish 1715 Plate Fleet wreck history.

An unrecognized name, Col. (Joe?) Salvo appears on the left top note page [Appendix 3, Figure 1] titled "Buried Treasure." This name occurs only once more in Dad's notes for a sermon he gave at the Chapel, Westminster College (PA), the evening of Sunday, September 12, 1965.

Dad was determined to own a piece of the 1715 Plate Fleet history and introduced me to Kip in 1966. I visited Dad in Florida in March and June of 1966. We visited the *Real Eight Gallery* [Museum of Sunken Treasures] at 8625 Astronaut Blvd., (then) Cape Canaveral, FL. In June of 1966, Father and I bought the first of our coins form Kip. This was packed and shipped by Mrs. McArdle from the Museum of Sunken Treasure. She notified me with a cordial letter dated 6-29-'66 [Appendix 3, Figure 2].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Dad has noted his address as "Box 401 – Rt. 1, Melbourne Beach, Fla" in his calendar book on January 5, 1964. He and Mother rented a cabin from Ms. Eleanor Dillon near Sebastian Inlet; vacationing and preaching several times in the area, returning to Pennsylvania on March 9, 1964.

This clump weighed some 1961 grams. [Appendix 3, Figure 3]. We divided this clump as noted in the calculations of Father's July 6, 1966 letter to me with the accompanying notes [also Appendix 3, Figure 3].

What remains of my original share (797 grams) now weighs some 340 grams (12 oz.) and contains 11 or 12 coins. This clump is pictured, as offered, in Appendix 1, [8 pictures with ruler].

Although still President of Westminster College in 1967, Dad was quite "worn out" with the heavy responsibilities of this task. He found great refreshment and inspiration in his friendship with Kip and the time they spent together. Dad greatly admired the dedication, hard work and (as he put it...) the "scientific rigor" that Kip applied to his research. This admiration for his work was sufficient to cause him to award an honorary Doctor of Science Degree to Kip from Westminster College on October 12, 1966, at the annual Fall Convocation - thus **Dr. Kip Wagner** [Original Program, Appendix 3, Figure 4]. This was the last Doctoral Degree awarded by Dad. He retired from the College to Florida in March 1967, and continued his friendship with Kip. *Also see Section 4, p. 12, below.* 

The letter, dated Sunday [October] 23, '66, from Kip to Dad included some "old coins," [Appendix 3, Figure 5] and refers to his "return to Penn[sylvania]." This was for a lecture to be given by Kip on January 9, 1967, to speak at the Westminster College *Artist and Lecture Series* [Newspaper article, Appendix 3, Figure 6]. <sup>2</sup> It was apparently Kip's intention to give Dad a gold coin at this lecture, however he refers to "Our division with the State is postponed until a later date." and - "This needs to be done <u>after</u> (emphasis mine) the division …"

This letter contains a most gentlemanly reference by Kip to one of the most vexing problems he faced – the relationship with the State regarding retention and division of salvaged treasure.

Dad and I shared many pleasant hours separating coins from the original clump, cleaning them, and looking for the "surprise" coins with better dates, mint marks and higher quality strikes. Kip had given us a single sheet with <u>INSTRUCTIONS FOR</u> <u>CLEANING ENCRUSTED SILVER COINS</u> [Appendix 3, Figure 7]. We followed this to the letter! Some of the coins in this offering are from this original clump.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This date is confirmed by an entry in Dad's calendar book for 1967, January 9 "*Kip Wagner, Pgh 1:23*" – an apparent reference to the arrival time of Kip's flight from Florida.

Two years later I spent Christmas (December 22-29) <sup>3</sup> of 1968 with Mother and Dad in Florida. During this visit Dad and I went to the "Museum" and discussed buying more coins – and/or clumps with Mrs. McArdle. I settled on the 38 coins noted in Appendix 3, Figure 8. Dad advised me by letter of 2/2/69 to go ahead and pay the Museum directly [Appendix 3, Figure 9]. He was still pondering the purchase of additional coins.

Between the time of his letter to me of 2/2/69 and his calculations dated 4/2/69, Dad bought an additional \$300 in loose coins, see Appendix 3, Figure 10. This purchase shows in Figure 10 as an additional \$300 investment cost. Some of these coins <u>may</u> be those outlines of Appendix 3, Figure 11. The values shown total some \$410 and may have been rounded down (*perhaps discounted as a personal favor to Dad*) by Kip to the \$300 additional purchase cost noted in Appendix 3, Figure 10.

Dad was financially meticulous. <u>Appendix 3, Figures 12 and 13</u>, show his consultation with Kip and Mrs. McArdle to assign values to some 74 coins at the time of purchase. This would have been done ca. 1966 – 1967. The Post-it note tabs I placed on four of these coin outlines in Figure 12 correspond to coin outlines numbered on the more formal (1969) appraisal discussed below and showed in <u>Appendix 3, Figures 15 and 16</u>. I have placed PowerPoint numbers on the corresponding coin outlines of the latter two Figures for convenient reference to those of Figure 12.

One can see that the coins of Figure 12 tagged # 1-4, are valued at \$35, \$0, \$30 and \$25, respectively, at the time of purchase – a total cost of \$90.

Then, coins # 1 and #3-4 appear again on Figure 14; and coin #2 on Figure 15 – with <u>newly assigned values</u> of \$40, \$15, \$40 and \$30. They now (*see 1969 Appraisal below*) appraised at \$125 as noted below.

Although this would not qualify as an "independent appraisal" by GAAP standards, Dad trusted Kip and Mrs. McArdle, and was satisfied with the "growth" of his investment.

**Note:** Trying to match all the coin outlines of the purchase sheets (Figures 11 – 13, with those of the 1969 appraisal (Figures 14 & 15) could occupy several rainy afternoons. I only picked out 4 easy ones!

**1969 Appraisal.** In March of 1969 Dad took his coins, 83 total by now, to the Museum of Sunken Treasures and had Mrs. Elva McArdle appraise each coin. Kip must have been there at the same time as 8 of the coins have a value preceded by a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> These dates are corroborated by entries in Dad's calendar book for 1968.

"K" (This was Dad's customary reference to a value opinion by Kip. The "K" is also noted on little tags on some of the coins. An "E" on these tags refers to Mrs. Elva McArdle's opinion). Appendix 3, Figures 14 & 15 show the coin-by-coin outline results of this 1969 appraisal. As this appraisal is nearly 40 years old, perhaps only the *relative values* may be of interest.

Notice the coin at the top right of the <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> page appraisal [Appendix 3, Figure 15, red box and arrow]. It was apparently the opinion of Kip and Mrs. McArdle that this 4 real blank was struck with 8 real dies. This mistruck coin is in the PAK group of this offering; the other coin so designated is not included – but its *Treasure Certificate* is included as one of the "Orphan Certificates" as explained in Section 2, below.

*Now, jumping forward in time*: notations on coin outlines on the appraisal [Appendix 3, Figures 14 & 15] of **PAK or Wilson** show the recipient of these coins later in 1982 when Dad distributed them. Three other notations on these pages may be of interest:

- The K-\$75 coin at the bottom of Figure 14 marked "<u>Dave</u>," the "K-\$100" coin on the lower right corner of the half page (see Figure 15), and the "\$375" coin outlined on the ¼ page at the bottom are marked "<u>Dave</u>." Dad likely gave these two coins to (the late) Mr. Dave MacMillan of Vero Beach, FL. The late McMillans were long time friends of Mother and Dad.
- 2. On page one of the appraisal [Appendix 3, Figure 14 the coin circled in red] Dad wrote on this \$200 coin "I took this to Solon, O 6/1/69." A note in his 1969 calendar book indicates that he preached there on that date. That audience got the "Buried Treasure" sermon!
- 3. The red hash marks through most of the coins are likely from Dad's checking them off as he separated them for distribution to us. He was careful in dividing these into groupings of equal value. Those few lacking hash marks are not in this offering as Dad had likely given these away, possibly to children in the various churches where he used the *"Buried Treasure"* sermon.

Dad's calculations, dated 4/2/69 [ Appendix 3, Figure 10 & 16 ] were a precursor to his decision to purchase an additional 3 clusters (total weight: 1260 grams) from Kip on 5/20/1969. He notes [Figure 10] that "77 coins = \$915" (cost). He also totaled the valuations of the 83 coins appraised the prior month by Kip and Mrs. McArdle at "\$3400 Evaluation."

Three coins were given to Mr. Dave MacMillan. Several others on the  $\frac{1}{2}$  page of the appraisal lack hash marks or specific recipients [Appendix 3, Figure 15]. I assume he gave another 3 or4 coins away. Thus, with 83 appraised – less 6 or 7 coins given away – he notes the remaining 77 are worth some \$3400. This was a good increase in value from his original investment of \$915.<sup>4</sup>

This done, Dad was now ready to purchase more. Dad's notes of Appendix 3, Figure 16 indicate he purchased three clumps totaling 1260 grams directly from Kip Wagner, on 5/20/'69, and at a slightly less cost per coin than the 1966 clump purchase.

The 41 original, unused "Treasure Certificates," each with an original signature by Kip Wagner were likely supplied to Dad by Kip at this time to authenticate coins in the various clumps that Dad bought. Further detail regarding Treasure Certificates is noted in Section 2, below, with supporting pictures in Appendix 2.

Dad's calendar book contains an entry for Wednesday, May 6, 1970 "to Kip Wagners for Dinner at <u>noon</u>" – Dad's emphasis. As Dad's birthday was May 4 (1904) one might presume this was a birthday party of sorts.

I have not found Dad's calendar books for the years 1971 to 1974. Thus, I do not have his records of visits to Kip as he battled cancer. Nor do I have Dad's notes of Kip's passing in February of 1972 [Appendix 3, Figure 54]. Knowing Dad, I think Kip's decline/passing would have been responsible for the decline in Dad's interest in the 1715 Plate Fleet and additional coin acquisitions.

By October 26, 1978, Dad and Mother had built a new home and retired again. This time moving from the Sebastian Inlet, FL area to Bonclarken, at Flat Rock, NC. <sup>5</sup> Mrs. Elva McArdle's name and phone number (783-8573) were still in his address book for 1978. Thus, he was not totally out of touch with treasure hunting activities and would continue to forward treasure articles to me as they crossed his desk.

Mel Fisher's find of 3 gold bars is referenced in *The Arizona Republic* [Appendix 3, Figure 17] on page E10 of the April 8, 1980. This newspaper clipping is attached to a set of *"Buried Treasure"* sermon notes – I presume this approximately dates the last of some 23 versions of this sermon that Dad gave.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> I have his calculator paper from this exercise that shows 77 coins that he added to a value of \$3140.
He evidently added \$260 to allow (quite conservatively) for the value of the coins he gave away.
<sup>5</sup> Entry in Dad's 1978 calendar book for 10/26/78 "Spent First Night in New Bonclarken house."

In 1982, with heart surgery looming, Dad divided the remaining coins he had among us children. Those given to Arlis and me are included and documented here. It was at this time that I received Dad's letter [Appendix 3, Figure 18] and the balance of the 1715 Plate Fleet / Kip Wagner material. I have the oversized manila envelope he used for this mailing. The postage and dated postmark (April 12, '82; Flat Rock, NC) are clear and visible. (I have not scanned this old envelope into this document).

Dad recovered nicely from his bypass surgery (at age 79) and lived with quality to the age of 89. He passed with dignity on January 26, 1994.

# The following sections add more detail and documentation regarding other materials included in this offering.

#### Section 1. Coins offered with this collection.

#### **<u>12 ounce clump.</u>** Appendix 1.

Eleven or 12 coins remain unseparated from an original clump purchased in 1967. This history of this clump has been noted above. In addition to the purchase documentation cited in Appendix 3, Appendix 1 fully illustrates this clump with pictures taken with a ruler for dimensional reference.

#### 59 Loose coins. Appendix 2

These coins are pictured in Appendix 2. Twenty-four of these are 8 real; thirtyfour are 4 real; and one appears to be a  $\frac{1}{2}$  real coin with an exceptional strike showing a "17" from the date [Appendix 2, Figure 5]. Each coin has an authentic 1966-1969 certificate bearing the original signature of Kip Wagner. There are 41 additional original certificates signed by Kip Wagner. Eleven may be used to authentic the coins in the clump, leaving 30 original certificates signed by Kip – unused, that is, with no coin outline on them. These can be used to prudently authenticate 1715 Plate Fleet coins recovered during Kip's era. See Notes on Treasure Certificates, Section 2, below and the illustrations in Appendix 2, Figures 9-11.

The 59 loose coins shown in this brochure [Appendix 2, Figures 1 through 13] came from four sources:

- 1. 10 remaining from 17 separated from a 797-gram clump that I purchased as part of Dad's 1961-gram cluster in 1966 [Appendix 3, Figures 2 & 3].
- 2. 15 remaining from the 38 that I purchased from Mrs. McArdle at the Museum in 1968 [Appendix 3, Figure 8].
- 3. 20 remaining from the 30 given to me by Dad in 1982 as noted on the preceding page.

# Thus, of the 74 that I purchased – or Dad gave to me - I have 45 remaining, having sold (in the late 1960s) some 28 loose coins.

4. 14 given to my sister (Mrs. Arlis Orr Galloway) by Dad in 1982 and identified as the **PAK** group below. She has conveyed these to me for inclusion in this offering.

**The WWO Coin Group:** 45 coins. [Appendix 2, Figures 1 - 5] There are twenty – 8 real cobs, and twenty-four – 4 real cobs, with a  $\frac{1}{2}$  (?) real cob showing a remarkable strike with the "17" of the date showing clearly.

14 of the 8 real coins have Type 1 Treasure Certificates, bearing the original signature of Kip Wagner.

6 of the 8 real coins have Type 2 Treasure Certificates, bearing the original signature of Kip Wagner.

16 of the 4 real coins have Type 1 Treasure Certificates, bearing the original signature of Kip Wagner.

8 of the 4 real coins have Type 2 Treasure Certificates, bearing the original signature of Kip Wagner.

The ½ real coin has a Type 2 Treasure Certificate, bearing the original signature of Kip Wagner.

**The PAK Coin Group:** 14 coins. **[Appendix 2, Figures 6 & 7]** Fourteen additional coins are those Dad gave to my sister, Mrs. Arlis Orr Galloway. Eleven of these are 8 real coins [one showing a faint "714" from the date – red circle, Appendix 2, Figure 6]. An unusual coin, clearly marked with an "8" [see white arrow, Appendix 2, Figure 6], is small and light enough to be a 4 real. This coin was identified in Dad's March 1969 appraisal as a 4 real blank mistakenly struck with 8 real dies. It is a perfect match to the one of the "mistruck" outlines shown on the appraisal. The remaining three coins (at the bottom of the image) are 4 real coins.

Each of these fourteen coins has Type 2 Treasure Certificates, bearing the original signature of Kip Wagner.

#### Section 2. Notes on Treasure Certificates.

There are two types of Treasure Certificates. I have arbitrarily designated the ones <u>presumed</u> older as **Type 1** [Appendix 2, Figures 8 and 9]. The others are designated **Type 2** [Appendix 2, Figures 10 and 11].

All of the coins in the WWO group have Treasure Certificates. Thirty of the coins in the WWO group have Type 1 Treasure Certificates signed by Kip Wagner. The remaining 15 coins in this group have Type 2 Treasure Certificates signed by Kip Wagner.

All of the coins in the PAK group have Type 2 Treasure Certificates signed by Kip Wagner.

There are <u>41 unused Type 2 Certificates included</u>. These are fresh, unfolded, signed by Kip Wagner in the mid to late 1960s and have <u>no coin outlines</u> on them. As noted above, 11 of these may be used to authenticate coins in the clump – leaving 30 that may be used with honest prudence and accuracy to authentic 1715 coins or material from Kip's era which lack certification.

Appendix 2, Figure 11 shows an Original Type 2 "**Orphan Certificate**" <u>with a</u> <u>coin outline and signed by Kip Wagner</u>. We have used the term "Orphan" to designate a coin <u>not</u> in our possession or included with this offering.

There are 13 Type 1 "Orphan Certificates" for which I do not have the coins; 4 appear to be for 4 real coins and 9 for 8 real coins.

There are 5 Type 2 "Orphan Certificates" for which I do not have the coins; 1 each for an 8, 2, 1,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and  $\frac{1}{4}$  real coins.

Father likely gave the missing coins to friends or children. Most of these certificates can be matched to coins in Dad's 1969 appraisal. Their coins are "out there" somewhere – another treasure hunt.

Accordingly, there are 18 used or Orphan Certificates included.

All signatures by Kip Wagner are original.

## 3. Notes regarding 4 books, Pieces of Eight

[All the images of these books are photographs rather than scans. Fully opening these books for flatbed scanning would have "broken the back" on the binding]

Books 1 & 2, apparently "signed out" to Kip by "Harriet" with a stamp "Museum of Sunken Treasure," [Appendix 3, Figure 19]. As this original invoice was with the books, I *presume* the invoice to be for books 1 and 2 below: Both were likely given to Dad by Kip in mid-to-late 1966. The invoice bears an original signature of Kip Wagner.

**Book 1.** This book is signed by the entire Real Eight team and fully pictured in Appendix 3, Figure 20.

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This book appears to never have been fully opened or read. The binding is exceptionally tight; the dust jacket is flawless, full-colored, bright, and protected with a full Mylar cover. Aside from the flyleaf autographs there are no markings in the book. The slight staining at the bottom and top right of the hard cover does <u>not</u> continue to the inside pages. This is a second printing by Dutton, 1967. A copy of the "Crest of Phillip," Version 3 flyer, shown in Appendix 3, Figure 27, is inside the book.

**Book 2.** This book [Appendix 3, Figure 21] is autographed by Kip to Dad (with the notation "*To the miracle maker – Will Orr*". This is a 1966 first edition by Dutton. The binding is tight. The dust jacket is flawless and protected with a full "Plasti-Kleer" cover. This plastic cover itself is slightly dulled as shown, but not torn. Aside from the flyleaf autograph there are no markings in the book. The hardcover staining does not continue beyond the flyleaf and the next page. There is some yellowing and a few small spots on the page edges – these are visible only when viewed with the book closed. A copy of the "Crest of Phillip," Version 3 flyer is inside. Dad had glued or taped something apparently relevant below the autograph, *inside the black box that is drawn on the photographed flyleaf.* It is missing; I do not know what this was.

**Book 3.** The third book [Appendix 3, Figure 22] is autographed by both Kip and Dad. This is a 1966 first edition by Dutton. The binding is tight and shows no cover stains either front or back. The dust jacket is good with a slight ½" tear on the inside flyleaf. Aside from the front autographs there are no markings in the book. Copy of "Crest of Phillip" flyer Version and Dad's business card *"Will W Orr, President Emeritus, Westminster College"* inside.

**Book 4.** This is a 1966 First Edition *"Review Copy"* as noted by the dark green E. F. Dutton card so marked and found inside the book, dated October 13, 1966 [Appendix 3, Figure 23]. The binding is tight and shows no cover stains either front or back. The book is exceptional and appears to never have been fully opened or read. The dust jacket is torn around the edges as shown; both fly leafs are good. There are no markings or autographs in this book. A Copy of the "Crest of Phillip" flyer was <u>not</u> found inside this book.

(As the dust jacket condition is not consistent with the pristine quality of the book, I suspect that Dad may have swapped this dust jacket from one of his more prized and autographed books.)

#### 4. Kip Wagner's Honorary Doctor of Science Degree Westminster College, New Wilmington, PA.

(Also noted above, p. 8, to maintain chronological continuity in the narrative)

Dad also met others of the Real Eight group and appreciated the skill, knowledge and competence that Kip had assembled. To honor Kip's work, Father arranged for Kip to be awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree by Westminster College on October 12, 1966, during the Fall Convocation [Original Program, Appendix 3, Figure 4]. Kip's impression on the audience was sufficient for Dad to arrange for his return to Westminster College to lecture on his treasure-seeking experience. See the scan of an original letter, October 23, 1966, from Kip to Dad on "Real "8" Co., Inc." letterhead [Appendix 3, Figure 5]. They settled on January 9, 1967 for the lecture date as part of Westminster's "Artist and Lecture Series" [Appendix 3, Figure 6]. <sup>6</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> This date is corroborated by entries in Dad's calendar book for 1967.

#### 5. Notes on "Buried Treasure" sermons by Dr. Will W Orr.

Dad found sufficient inspiration from Kip's hard work and its eventual rewards to build a series of some 23<sup>7</sup> sermons around the theme. The first recorded use I found was during his interim pastorate at the Flagler Memorial Church in St. Augustine, Florida, on Sunday, August 5, 1969 [Church Bulletin: Appendix 3, Figure 24]. Mother typed the first sermon for Dad, who suffered with severe glaucoma by this time [Appendix 3, Figure 25]. Dad prepared a separate set of notes, usually on one small page for each use of this sermon. Two of these are shown in Appendix 3, Figure 26. After a passing reference to the *Dead Sea Scrolls* and *King Tut's Tomb*, Dad would launch into Kip's finding of the 1715 Plate Fleet as *the preeminent discovery* of Treasure in modern history. Dad was a dynamic public speaker. With a clump of corroded coins in one hand and a cleaned, polished silver coin in the other he would spellbind an audience with Kip's tale. Sufficiently persuasive to have raised some \$13 million for Westminster College I'm surprised he didn't take up an 'offering' for Kip's work!

I have specific references to this sermon being delivered in:

- 1. Vero Beach, FL
- 2. Stuart, FL
- 3. Ashtabula (PA) State Teachers Association
- 4. Grove City, PA
- 5. Westminster College, PA
- 6. Beulah Church (location unknown)
- 7. Due West, NC
- 8. Pinecrest, NC
- 9. Lincoln Ave. Church (location unknown)
- 10. Hilton Head, NC
- 11. Highland Park, IL
- 12. Solon, Oh

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Based on the number of notes in Dad's sermon folder labeled "Buried Treasure."

# 6. Crest of Philip information sheets.

#### (125 original copies)

I believe these were book inserts and handouts used by the Museum of Sunken Treasures in the mid to late 1960s. See Appendix 3, Figure 27. Note the difference in the spelling of "Phillip" in Version 1. <u>It is only my guess</u> that Version 1 is the oldest of the three since, to my knowledge, all subsequent and related literature spells Philip with only one L. Thus, I presume versions 2 and 3 to be corrected and later editions.

## 7. Other Materials

Pictured in Appendix 3

- Figure 28 Event Pass, August, 1977.
- Figure 29 Booklet, <u>Spanish Colonial Coins of North America Mexico Mint</u>, 53 pages, foldout chart for different coats-of –arms.
- Figure 30 Article, *The Mexico Mint, 450 Years of Tradition;* <u>The Numismatist</u>, May 1985, (complete article).
- Figure 31 2 Booklets, <u>The Treasure of 1715</u>, 10 pages, Stacks, NY, 1964.
- Figure 32 Auction Booklet, <u>The Ubilla-Echevez Collection</u>, 40 pages, October 8, 1964, by *Henry Christensen*.
- Figure 33 44 Bookmarks ca. 1966, from the *Museum of Sunken Treasure*.
- Figure 34 Promotional Flyer, *Museum of Sunken Treasure,* tri-fold, ca 1970.
- Figure 35 Article, Glenn Couvillon, *TREASURE!*, <u>Pastimes</u> (magazine), January-February 1974; complete article, pages 6 –11.
- Figure 36 Article, *An III-starred Treasure Comes into Its Own A man's* obsession and its rewards, (Most likely) <u>LIFE</u> magazine, ca. 1966/7, centerfold.

- Figure 37 Auction-related booklet, for the public auction of PARKE-BERNET GALLERIES, INC., February 4, 1967; 980 Madison Ave., New York.
- Figure 38 Article, George N. Sand; 1966's \$100-Million Treasure Hunt, Dodge News Magazine, May 1966.
- Figure 39 Following pages, Dodge News Magazine article.
- Figure 40 3 copies, Promotional Mailers, *Museum of Sunken Treasure*, 1967.
- Figure 41 9 copies, Promotional Flyer, *Museum of Sunken Treasure,*
- Figure 42 3 copies, Centerfold advertisement/order blank, unknown magazine or date. Excellent condition.
- Figure 43 Booklet, Captain Kathryn Budde-Jones, <u>Coins of the Lost Galleons</u>, Second edition, 1993.

Article and sales solicitation from Blanchard's <u>Market Alert</u>, 4 pages, 1984.

- Figure 44 Foldout map, <u>National Geographic</u>, July 2001. References to Kip and Mel and the 1715 Plate Fleet. Good condition, folded as original.
- Figure 45 Newspaper article likely a Melbourne or Satellite Beach paper
- Figure 46 3 Stacks mail order blanks, 2 Stacks envelopes
- Figure 47 April 1973 article, publication unknown
- Figure 48 Article, *"Hunt for Spanish gold struck close to shore,"* <u>XXX Sentinel</u>, received from Dad 10/4/93.
- Figure 49 Article, "Spanish Ship Treasure Unveiled By Museum," <u>TODAY ??</u>, Notes the opening of the "Museum of Sunken Treasure."

Figure 50	Copy, 1715 Treasure Show by the <i>Real Eight Company</i> at the FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF Satellite Beach, date unknown.
	Copy, showing of Kip and Mel's finds at the National Geographic Society EXPLORERS HALL, December 16, 1964 to February 28, 1965.
Figure 51	Article, <i>Fortune in silver Lies on the Ocean's Floor Near Key West, FLA</i> , L. Erik Colonius, <u>Wall Street Journal</u> , June 24, 1982 <b>.</b>
Figure 52	Article, continuation of Wall Street Journal article.
Figure 53	Article, <i>Ship yields</i> \$12 <i>million in treasure,</i> reports on Mel Fisher's finds on the Margarita. Unknown (likely Miami?) newspaper.
Figure 54	Article (Passing of Kip), <i>King of Treasure Kip Wagner, 66, Dies of Cancer, <u>Miami Herald</u>, February 29, 1972.</i>

Wilson W. Orr - November 25, 2007