



The NOR'WESTER

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<http://www.pnna.org>

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Third Quarter

2001

July-August-September

PNNA Convention Successful

The biggest annual coin show in the Pacific Northwest, sponsored by the Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association, was held May 4-6, 2001 at the Tukwila Community Center, just a short distance south of Seattle. Everyone seemed to be pleased with the facility (which was nicely decorated including carpeting over the entire gymnasium floor), and action on the bourse floor was fairly brisk on Friday and Saturday. Reflecting the current high level of activity in the coin market, there was a large dealer turnout with a good variety of material available. The convention moved into high gear on Saturday with the bourse activity combined with a full day of educational programs and meetings. The keynote address was given by Robert Hoge, Curator, American Numismatic Association Money Museum. His topic was *An ANA Museum for the 21st Century*, and he showed many interesting pictures of numismatic material in the ANA collection along with pictures of the headquarters and museum work currently under way in Colorado Springs.

After the initial successful convention in Tukwila this May, the PNNA will hold its 2002 convention in the same facility on the weekend of 3-5 May 2002. Dick Billings will again serve as general chairman.



Portland-area coin dealer Marc Bettinger's display, "Spanish 1715 Treasure Fleet Wreck," which was available for viewing throughout the three-day event.



PNNA President Scott Loos presents the 2001 Bob Everett Memorial Award to J. Eric Holcomb, who received a check for \$250 and will have his name engraved on the perpetual plaque that is maintained by the PNNA. Congratulations to Eric, who was recognized in part for his work with the PNNA website and with *The Nor'West-er*. The PNNA would also like to thank George J. Marley for his donation to the Bob Everett fund.



Scott Loos presents the 2001 Nina Nystrom Memorial Numismatic Ambassador Award to Del Cushing, who had won the award previously, before it was re-named for Nina. Del is the first two-time winner of the award. Congratulations to Del.

NCW Contest Winners Announced

by Larry Rowe, Judge

There were only three entries in the PNNA's "National Coin Week" contest this year, less than last year, which had the most entries since this contest began. All three entries are worthy of an award, which is \$100 for first place, \$75 for second place, and \$50 for third place, to the local club in the PNNA territory that best promotes National Coin Week. This year it was difficult to determine which club deserved first and second places. Those clubs that enter know what they had involved but the judge only can tell what they did from their entry description, and sometimes it is not too clear exactly what was done. This year it was a matter of whether a single outstanding display in one location for a week did a better job of promoting National Coin Week as opposed to personal contact with the public each day in a different location. Every consideration is given the effort that went into each club's promotion.

This year the results are as follows:

First Place — Puget Sound Numismatic Society

Second Place — Olympia Coin Club

Third Place — University Coin Club

Puget Sound Numismatic Society won this year based on the strength of public exposure and personal contact. From April 16 to April 21, PSNS set up a table in a different bank lobby each day from 10 AM to 5 PM and staffed that table with club members who met the public and promoted the hobby. They posted flyers in advance to announce when they would be at each location. The public responded by bringing in coins to be checked. They had displays of coins to reflect this year's theme for National Coin Week, which was "The Faces of Time."

All of this was preceded by Mayor Lynn S. Horton proclaiming the week of April 15th to April 21st as National Coin Week in the city of Bremerton and urging the citizens of that city to participate in the scheduled events and visit the local exhibits. President Chuck Swanson attended a city council meeting and presented a history of the Bremerton Coin Club and announced the scheduled activities described above. The council meeting was televised locally. For the efforts of the members of PSNS, this year it is rewarded with first place.

Olympia Coin Club constructed an excellent display which reflected the National Coin Week theme of "Faces of Time" very well. It was displayed in a local library.

University Coin Club displayed their traveling display in a local bank branch, as well as at the PNNA annual convention in Tukwila.

Congratulations to the winners!

Note from Joe Boling: The ANA early spring convention exhibit program now includes a special exhibit category and award for NCW-suitable exhibits. If your club has such an exhibit, and someone will be traveling to the spring convention who can set it up (Jacksonville, Florida in 2002, Portland in 2004), don't overlook this opportunity to have it recognized. Contact ANA HQ for exhibit rules for the spring conventions. (ANA member clubs may compete for the convention exhibit award; non-member clubs can show their exhibits non-competitively.)

PNNA Convention Exhibit Results

by Larry Rowe, Exhibit Chairman

The PNNA convention in Tukwila this year was a success. Everyone seemed to like the new convention venue. Not that there were no problems, but they were small and can be corrected for next year. Convention General Chairman Richard Billings did an excellent job with the assistance of Del Cushing. They are the ones who put this convention together, and deserve the appreciation of the PNNA membership.

Exhibits this year were not numerous, but those that did take the time and make the effort to enter an exhibit did outstanding work. The work of Chief Judge Joseph E. Boling and judges Tom Sheehan and Robert Hoge, museum curator visiting from ANA, is very much appreciated.

Results of this year's competitive exhibits:

Class 1 — United States Coins

First Place — *United States Gold 12 Piece Type Set with Die Errors*, entered by Kenneth R. Hill of Seattle, WA.

Class 2 — United States Paper Money

First Place — *Military Payment Certificate Type Exhibit*, entered by Thomas A. Koch of Renton, WA.

Class 3 — Tokens, Medals and Decorations

First Place — *Space Shuttle Columbia 20th Anniversary*, entered by J. Eric Holcomb of Kent, WA.

Class 4 — World Coins

First Place — *The State of Israel Anniversary of Independence Commemoratives 1958-1980*, entered by Ellis H. Corets.

C.E. "Hepp" Heppner "Best of Tokens and Medals" Award — J. Eric Holcomb — *Space Shuttle Columbia 20th Anniversary*.

Byron F. Johnson Memorial "Best of Show" Award — Kenneth R. Hill — *United States Gold 12 Piece Type Set*.

The above winners received a new type of award that the PNNA decided to change to this year. Each winner received a plastic display plaque made by PNNA member Al Schy inscribed with proper data and containing a U.S. Silver Eagle for the current year.

Non-competitive exhibits consisted of University Coin Club's traveling exhibit and a display of PNNA mementos.

I hope to see more of you enter an exhibit next year and make the competition more competitive.

PUYALLUP FAIR

The PNNA again sponsors a coin collecting table and exhibit at the Western Washington Fair, 7-23 September 2001. Several Puget Sound clubs have volunteered to sponsor one or more days of the fair by staffing the table. If you wish to work a shift or two and are not affiliated with a sponsoring club, or if you have an exhibit for the "permanent" display case, contact Joe Boling at the numbers in the letterhead.

Boling to Ride for Multiple Sclerosis

PNNA secretary/treasurer Joe Boling will be making a two-day 175-mile bicycle ride to benefit the National MS Society (in honor of longtime PNNA stalwart Marge Farnam) on the middle week end of July. Because the Washington state rides have been discontinued, he is riding in Colorado this year, starting in Denver, spending the night in Colorado Springs, and ending at the Royal Gorge. If you wish to make a pledge to support this cause (either a fixed sum or an amount-per-mile), please contact him at the numbers in the letterhead. No payment is needed until after the ride is completed.

Next PNNA Board Meeting

The next meeting of the PNNA board will be announced by President Scott Loos. PNNA members are welcome to submit ideas for educational activities or other events in advance of scheduled board meetings.

PNNA Officers 2000-2002

President	Scott Loos
Vice-President	Larry Gaye
Secy./Treas.	Joseph E. Boling
Past President	Tom Sheehan
Directors	Richard Billings, Del Cushing, Marge Farnam, Eric Holcomb, Paul Longcrier, Ray Mah, Larry Rowe, William McKivor, Alex Panchecho, and Bruce Wonder.
Dealer-Director	Art Lowrie

Tom Sheehan requests that the person who sent him a box of auction catalogues drop him a letter (or e-mail). Tom inadvertently tossed out the box with the return address.

Tom Sheehan will pay cash for numismatic libraries. He is also interested in buying old numismatic literature as well as medals of a commemorative or historic nature. Tom is also interested in taking those old auction catalogues off of your hands.

Tom Sheehan is eager to find any printed information, letters, photos or other memorabilia that has to do with some old time members of the PNNA. Tom is looking for information on Paul Fouts, C.C. Saeman and Jack Koch.

P.O. Box 1477, Edmonds, WA 98020

Phone (Edmonds) — 425-672-1334 (if Tom is out please leave name and phone number)

E-mail — twsheeh@attglobal.net

Deadline for submission of material for 4th Quarter 2001 Nor'wester: September 15, 2001.

Send ad copy to Eric Holcomb (e-mail EHolc48@aol.com), and payment to the PNNA secretary/treasurer. Call Eric Holcomb at 253-850-2996 for more info.

Advertising rates (per issue) are:

\$4.00 (1 column inch; no oversized text)

\$7.50 (1/8-page)

\$10.00 (1/6-page)

\$15.00 (1/4-page)

\$25.00 (1/2-page)

\$45.00 (full page)

Full page color — price on request

Web advertising rates (per year on www.pnna.org):

1-line web site listing — Free to members

\$10.00 (sponsor page ad; business card size)

Marcus Aurelius by Joseph Kleinman

With the recent success of the motion picture *Gladiator*, it might be interesting to take a closer look at the Emperor Marcus Aurelius. It was at the end of this emperor's reign in the year A.D. 180 that the story begins as a war with German barbarians is drawing to a close. This isn't mentioned in the movie but it was the intention of Marcus to annex Germany into the empire as was done with Gaul and Britain in earlier centuries. Had that happened, the history of the world might have been changed for the better. In any case, Commodus, the emperor's son, abandoned the project in favor of less worthy pursuits.

Now let's take a look at Aurelius the man by considering his thoughts and intentions as expressed by him in his own words. Marcus Aurelius kept a journal which was never intended for public consumption. He called it "To Myself," today we call it "Meditations." It was published by his family after his death. This writer keeps a copy on his nightstand and never tires of reading it for the wisdom it contains.

Book III Entry IV "Waste not the remainder of your life in thoughts about others, except when you are concerned with some unselfish purpose. For you are losing an opportunity to do something else, when you have such thoughts as: What is such a person doing, and why, and what is he saying, and what is he thinking, and what is he contriving? And whatever else of the kind makes us forget our own ruling principle. We ought to check in the course of our thoughts everything that is without a purpose and useless, but most of all meddling and maliciousness. A man should train himself to think only of those things about which if you were suddenly asked, what have you now in your thoughts? With perfect openness you might immediately answer, this or that: so that from your words it should be plain that everything in you is sincere and kindly, and befitting a social animal, and one that cares not for thoughts of pleasure or sensual enjoyments or any rivalry or envy or suspicion, or anything else which you would blush if you were to say it was in your mind. For such a man, who delays not to enter among the best, is like a priest and minister of the gods and uses the divinity which is within him, which keeps him uncontaminated by pleasure, unharmed by pain, untouched by insult, feeling no wrong, a fighter in the noblest fight, one who cannot be overpowered by passion, steeped in justice, accepting with all his soul everything that happens and is assigned to him as his portion."

"Not often, nor without some great necessity and for the general interest, does he conjecture what another says, or does, or thinks. For it is only what belongs to himself that he is concerned about; he thinks constantly of what is assigned to him out of the sum total of things, and makes his own acts fair, and is persuaded that his own lot is good. For the lot assigned to each man moves along with him and carries him along with it. He remembers also that every rational being is his kinsman, and that to care for all men is natural to man; and that a man should not care for the opinion of everybody but of those only who live according to nature."

"As for those who live not so, he bears always in mind what kind of men they are both at home and abroad, both by night and by day, and what they are, and with what companions they live their evil life. Accordingly, he values not at all the praise which comes from such men, since they are not satisfied even with themselves."

Marcus Aurelius was the last of the so called "Good Emperors." After his death, the empire began its decline into despotism and eventual collapse.



Marcus Aurelius as emperor on a bronze sestertius.

www.pnna.org Going Strong! PNNA Collection Photos Added!

The PNNA's new home on the World Wide Web, www.pnna.org, is now experiencing an average of about 40 visits per day, and continues to grow! The latest major addition is a complete photo gallery and description of the PNNA's collection of convention memorabilia from 1946 to date. *Look for catalog numbers for this material in the near future!*

Help us become an even better resource by contributing articles about your area of numismatic expertise. Submissions will be considered for possible use on the website and in *The Nor'Wester*. Send your material in electronic form to eric.holcomb@pnna.org or webmaster@pnna.org or EHolc48@aol.com.

Minutes of PNNA board meeting

5 May 2001, Tukwila, Washington

The meeting was called to order by President Scott Loos at 8:10 am. Present were vice president Larry Gaye, secretary/treasurer Joe Boling, past president Tom Sheehan, directors Richard Billings, Del Cushing, Eric Holcomb, Bill McKivor, Art Lowrie, Alex Pancheco, Larry Rowe, Tom Sheehan, and Bruce Wonder, members Dale Crawford and Kathy Rowe, and guests Robert Hoge and Walt Ostromecki. Moved and seconded (Cushing/Rowe) to approve the minutes of the 20 Jan meeting as published. Passed. Moved and seconded (McKivor/Gaye) to make a patron's donation of \$50 for each ANA convention (spring and summer) henceforth. Passed. The literature received from Common Cents (an organization devoted to retaining the cent as a circulating coin) was discussed. No action was taken.

2002 convention — there have been no bids. There was a discussion of problems of getting clubs to sponsor the show. There have been some suggestions that we go to two shows a year (a fall show in addition to spring). The Willamette Coin Club show this year suffered from the closeness (in time) of the PNNA and their show. There are only two club shows in the fall (Grants Pass, Salem). Bill McKivor suggests making the fall show a regional show in Oregon. Oregonians seem to resent the lack of physical assistance from Seattle area people in their shows. Loos — to make it a respected regional show, it should be run by the regional organization. After further discussion, moved and seconded (Billings/McKivor) to proceed next year at the Tukwila location, on the same weekend (first in May); passed. 2001 General Chairman Billings volunteered to serve again in 2002. He will recruit his committee. The Anchorage Coin Club has requested assistance from the PNNA in organizing a regional show in Anchorage in 2002. Several members observed that the Canadian Numismatic Association annual convention in 2002 will be in Vancouver, and suggested that Anchorage shoot for 2003. We are not sure what kind of assistance they want. Scott Loos will contact Bob Hall and find out what they are looking for. Dale Crawford suggested that we make a commitment to hold the PNNA convention in Tukwila for 3-5 years. Larry Gaye asked if we could not get some food service? The 2002 committee will look at that.

Regarding the Everett award committee, Boling had suggested that the committee be expanded to five members (it has been four), with each winner going on the committee as s/he received the award, and the long-

est-serving member of the committee dropping off each year. If the three present winners are added (Rowe, Paine, Holcomb), two would come off. Billings suggested that rather than drag on each winner onto the committee (especially since winners need not be PNNA members), that the committee be composed of three past winners if available, plus two PNNA appointed members. This was adopted without motion. Boling drew lots to see who would come off of the committee this year; McKivor and Hill were selected. The past winners having been consulted, the composition is now Boling/Sheehan/Rowe/Paine/Holcomb.

Larry Rowe volunteered to serve again as the chairs of the nomination and election committees for the 2002 PNNA elections. President Loos appointed him to the positions.

Show report: the only significant complaint was that there was no bourse map with corresponding table numbers. Noted for 2002.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 am. Minutes recorded by Joseph Boling, secretary.

Minutes of PNNA annual general membership meeting

5 May 2001, Tukwila, Washington

President Loos convened the meeting at 9:10 am. An announcement was made that the 2002 convention will be this same weekend in May at the Tukwila community center (same facility as 2001).

Walt Ostromecki, National Coordinator for the ANA regional representative program, presented the following awards on behalf of the ANA:

- Regional coordinator's coffee cup to Scot Loos, the NW regional representative.
- Award for numismatic excellence: Dick Cowley, Olympia Coin Club.
- Award for numismatic excellence: J Eric Holcomb, PNNA.

He also made a pitch for ANA voters to look at the accomplishments of candidates in support of the hobby before voting in the 2001 ANA elections. President Loos announced that the 2001 Bob Everett award is presented to J. Eric Holcomb. President Loos then presented the 2001 Nina Nystrom Goodwill Ambassador award to Del Cushing.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 am. Minutes recorded by Joseph Boling, secretary.

American Numismatic Association News

LIBRARY INSTALLS NEW BOOKSHELVES —

New rolling bookshelves have been installed in the ANA Library in Colorado Springs, Colorado, as work continues on the \$3 million renovation of the ANA Library and Money Museum.

“The mechanical bookshelves, which were installed in the lower level of the ANA’s library, will increase exponentially the amount of material that can be stored on conventional library shelving,” says Librarian Nancy Green. The nine new bookshelves from Spacesaver roll on tracks built into the floor. At first glance, the shelves look like an extension of the wall because they slide right up against one another. However, the shelves can be moved as a unit, or separated by cranking what looks like a spin opener on a safe. A stack can be moved away from the others to reveal a temporary four-foot aisle, instead of a permanent aisle between each stack. This aisle provides plenty of room for any browser to locate materials. The stacks also are equipped with safety devices, to protect users and enhance useability.

The moveable shelving offers access to the frequently used valuable auction catalogs, according to Green. The first books that were placed on these shelves were catalogs from ANA sales. The ANA is conducting a fund drive to raise donations for the mechanical bookshelves as well as the rest of the remodeling project. “The new shelves are such a time and space saver that hopefully donors will recognize the necessity of the remodeling,” says Green.

JUNE NUMISMATIST FEATURES CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES AND PLATFORMS —

Biographies and platforms of the candidates for the ANA Board of Governors are included in the June issue of the ANA’s monthly journal, *The Numismatist*. Ballots will be mailed by the ANA’s auditing firm, Grant Thornton LLP, by May 31. Completed ballots must be received by the Association’s auditors no later than July 19, 2001. Fifteen nominees are seeking various positions on the board, with two candidates vying to be the next president and two running for vice president. The remaining 11 candidates are campaigning for the seven governor’s seats. The candidates are from all over the United States and have long histories with numismatics.

The cover story in the June issue of *The Numismatist* examines the gold collection of the late Harry W. Bass Jr. In the article by Assistant Editor Cathy L. Clark titled “Jewels of the Bass Collection,” experts preview the extraordinary exhibit of the incomparable Bass Collection, which will be unveiled at the ANA Money

Museum on July 14, when the Association’s Museum re-opens following a complete renovation.

“TWO-BIT” EXHIBIT CIRCULATED BY ANA MONEY MUSEUM — “Two Bits: The Quarter Dollar in American History” has taken to the road from the ANA Money Museum in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Its next destination is the Raleigh Coin Club in Raleigh, North Carolina. Starting with the Delaware quarter that went into circulation on January 4, 1999, its successors in the United States Mint’s 50 State Quarters Program recalling their two-bit predecessors, the display showcases America’s workhorse coin.

“Coins are history you can hold in your hand,” Money Museum Curator Robert W. Hoge says. “The redesigned quarters are making people look at the money in their pockets and learn the story of America. These new coins symbolize the history and geography of this nation in a way that has never been done.”

TETON JOINS ANA INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

— Randy’L He-dow Teton, the model for the Sacagawea golden dollar, will intern this summer at the ANA Money Museum. “We are very pleased to offer Ms. Teton this internship,” says Museum Curator Robert W. Hoge. “We hope to provide her with the experience and opportunities she is seeking.” The 24-year-old Teton is a recent graduate of the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque with a bachelor of fine arts degree in art history and a minor in Native American studies. A member of the Shoshone-Bannock/Cree Tribe and of the Cree Nation, she grew up on Fort Hall Reservation in southeastern Idaho. Teton earned an associate of fine arts degree in museum studies from the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico, after graduating high school. Teton has said, “We need to have more Native Americans working in the museum field. There is a great deal of Native American art in museums, but very few Native American professionals who can adequately represent the significance of the art within the cultural context.”

As the model for the Sacagawea golden dollar, Teton already is well known to coin collectors. Santa Fe Artist Glenna Goodacre, who created the design in 1998 for the new \$1 coin, noted that Teton shared facial characteristics of a Shoshone woman and served as an excellent model.

“I can’t believe I’m on a coin,” Teton has said. “It is a real honor for me and my family.”

COIN SHOW and EVENT CALENDAR

To list a show contact Del Cushing; P.O. Box 88984, Seattle, WA 98138-2984; Phone 206-244-1596. Highlighted shows and events are PNNA, ANA or CNA sponsored or co-sponsored.

2001

JUL 8 SUMMER BELLEVUE COIN SHOW, Bellevue Inn, 11211 Main St., Bellevue, Wa.
 JUL 14-15 NORTH WEST TOKEN & MEDAL SOCIETY'S 15th ANNUAL CONVENTION, Marshall Recreation Center, Exit 1C off I-5, 1009 E. McLoughlin Blvd., Vancouver, Wa.
 JUL 21 OLYMPIA/SOUTH SOUND COIN SHOW, VFW Hall, 2902½ Martin Way, Olympia, Wa.
JUL 26-29 CANDIAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION, Quebec City, Quebec
 AUG 2-5 ATLANTA "PRE" COIN SHOW, Gwinnett Civic Center, Duluth, Georgia.
AUG 8-12 ANA World's Fair of Money®, Atlanta, Georgia.
 AUG 12 FENWICK STAMP & COIN SHOW, Eagles #1, Corson & Michigan, Seattle, Wa.
 AUG 25-26 WASHINGTON STATE 22nd ANNUAL COIN SHOW, LaQuinta Inn, I-5 & Portland Ave, Tacoma, Wa.
 SEP 7-23 PUYALLUP FAIR (PNNA-sponsored coin exhibit in Hobby Hall).
 SEP 7-9 PACIFIC NORTHWEST COIN, CURRENCY & BULLION SHOW, Tacoma Dome, I-5 Exit 133, Tacoma, Wa.
 SEP 8-9 NORTH SHORE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY COIN EXPO., North Shore Recreation Center, No. Vancouver, B.C.
 SEP 15 KENT VALLEY COIN SHOW, Kent Commons, 525 4th Ave. No., Kent, Wa.
 SEP 15-16 OREGON STATE 8TH ANNUAL COIN SHOW, Holiday Inn, Portland Airport, Portland, Or.
 SEP 16 NORTH WEST TOKEN & MEDAL SOCIETY, King Oscar Motel, 88th & So. Hosmer, Tacoma, Wa. 10AM-1PM.
 SEPT 22-23 CAVEMAN COIN CLUB COIN, CURRENCY AND STAMP SHOW, Josephine County Fair Grounds, Redwood Hwy, Grants Pass, Or.
 SEP 23 FALL BELLEVUE COIN SHOW, Bellevue Inn, 11211 Main St., Bellevue, Wa.
 OCT 13 KIRKLAND-EASTSIDE COIN SHOW, Kirkland Best Western Inn, 12223 NE 116th, Kirkland, Wa.

OCT 14 FENWICK STAMP & COIN SHOW, Eagles #1, Corson & Michigan, Seattle, Wa.
 NOV 3-4 TACOMA-LAKEWOOD COIN CLUB SHOW, LaQuinta Inn, I-5 & Portland Ave. Tacoma, Wa.
 NOV 10 ISSAQUAH-EASTSIDE COIN SHOW, Holiday Inn, 1801 12th Ave. NW., Issaquah, Wa.
 NOV 17-18 EVERETT COIN CLUB 41st ANNUAL SHOW, Normanna Hall, 2723 Oakes Ave., Everett, Wa.
 NOV 24-25 THE HOLIDAY COIN SHOW, LaQuinta Inn, I-5 & Portland Ave., Tacoma, Wa.
 NOV 24-25 SALEM COIN CLUB-COIN & STAMP SHOW, Red Lion Hotel, 3301 Market St., Salem, Or.
 DEC 1 OLYMPIA/SOUTH SOUND COIN SHOW, VFW Hall, 2902½ Martin Way, Olympia, Wa.
 DEC 8 KENT VALLEY COIN SHOW, Kent Commons, 52 4th Ave. No., Kent, Wa.
 DEC 9 FENWICK STAMP & COIN SHOW, Eagles #1, Corson & Michigan, Seattle, Wa.
 DEC 9 NORTH WEST TOKEN & MEDAL SOCIETY, King Oscar's Motel, 88th & So Hosmer, Tacoma, Wa. 10AM-1PM.

2002

JAN 5-6 GREATER TACOMA COIN SHOW, University Place Community Hall, 37th & Bridgeport, Tacoma, Wa.
 JAN 19-20 BOEING EMPLOYEES' COIN CLUB SHOW, Kent Commons, 525 4th Ave No., Kent, Wa.
 FEB 9 KENT VALLEY COIN SHOW, Kent Commons, 525 4th Ave, Kent, Wa.
MAR 7-9 ANA National Money Show™, Jacksonville, FL.
 MAR 9-10 TACOMA-LAKEWOOD COIN CLUB SHOW, University Place Community Hall, 37th & Bridgeport, Tacoma, Wa.
 APR 6 KENT VALLEY COIN SHOW, Kent Commons, 525 4th Ave., Kent, Wa.
MAY 3-4-5 PACIFIC NORTHWEST NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION, Tukwila Community Center, 12424 42nd Ave. So., Tukwila, Wa.
JUL 12-17 CANADIAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION, Vancouver, B.C.
JUL 31-AUG 4 ANA World's Fair of Money®, New York City, NY.

AND NOW WHAT DO THEY DO?

What I am going to expand on in the next few paragraphs relates to anyone who can be classified as an accumulator, junk collector or dedicated hobbyist. It is not the name that they go by which is at issue here, but the material that has been assembled is! It has taken time and money for an individual to gather together their collection. The motivation might have been investment, but more likely it was because of some interest in that particular area of collecting. I am not just talking about numismatic items but, anything which qualifies as a collection. It can be salt & pepper shakers, toys, cups, etc., and the message is the same or will apply.

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER!

Many spouses or family members do not become involved in your collecting interest. It is therefore your responsibility to leave instructions with some representative, (whether it is your spouse, family member, or friend) as to the most advantageous manner to dispose of a collection. As the person who has dealt with different people in acquiring the collection, you are in the best position to advise on it's ultimate fate. Wills are a recommended means of establishing legal ownership, but does nothing to educate a spouse, etc., in getting the maximum financial benefit from your efforts.

It has been my displeasure over the last few years to hear the horror stories of widows and families disposing of collections and getting only a fraction of the financial value. In one instance it was a "Family Friend" who paid only a fraction for a rather extensive collection. In another instance, the relatives had no conception of the true value of the material they were selling. They did not seek advice nor would they accept advice from a stranger. They ultimately sold the collection for far less than it was worth. In another instance a collector passed on without any instructions as to disposal of the collection, putting an added burden on a grieving family to make decisions on what to do. I know of a case where an auctioneer was selected to auction some material and he tried to get both the commission from the sale and by trying to get a 'shill' to buy goods that the auctioneer had deliberately under valued for himself.

The steps to take to protect your families interests are;

1.) KEEP A LOG OF YOUR COLLECTION;

Include a brief description of the item, date purchased, and the cost. You can include who it was purchased from and whatever else you consider pertinent. This information is also valuable for insurance loss reports and in some cases estate valuation.

2.) LEAVE INSTRUCTIONS IN WRITING;

Include names to be contacted for advice and don't rely on the word of only one person!

3.) TALK TO YOUR SPOUSE OR FAMILY ABOUT YOUR COLLECTION;

They may not have any interest in the collection personally but, they should have some idea as to it's value.

I can not stress enough THE FACT THAT THE MORE THE SPOUSE OR FAMILY KNOWS ABOUT THE COLLECTION, THE LESS THEY ARE LIABLE TO BE RIPPED OFF AT THE TIME OF SALE.

If you have anything to add to or wish to disagree with this article please contact me: DEL CUSHING, P.O. BOX 88984, SEATTLE, WASH. 98138-2984.