

The Nor'wester

Convention Special Edition

2nd Quarter 2006
April—May—June

Thank You, Joe!

PNNA
Secretary/Treasurer
1994-2006



PNNA
Exhibit Chief Judge
1993-2006



Joseph Boling receives the Bob Everett Memorial Award in 2005.

Joe will be leaving the Northwest this year after many years of service ... See the stories inside.

PNNA 57th Annual Convention – April 21-23, 2006 Tukwila Community Center – Tukwila, Washington Convention Numismatic Theater Schedule (Saturday)

Time	Room	Speaker/Organizer	Topic or Group
8:00 AM	1	Larry Gaye	PNNA board meeting
11:00 AM	1	Prue Fitts	<i>Coins and Commerce along the Silk Road, 5th to 7th Centuries C.E.</i>
11:00 AM	2	Buell Ish	Colonial Coin Collector's Club (C-4) meeting
12:00 Noon	1	Richard Doty	Keynote speaker. <i>Taking Treasures on the Road: The Smithsonian's BACK. See article on pages 12-13.</i>
1:30 PM	1	Arthur Fitts	<i>Coins of Crisis</i> – Revolution and war necessitated unusual expedients during the reign of George III, 1760-1820.
1:30 PM	2	Larry Gaye	Association of Dedicated Byzantine Collectors meeting
2:30 PM	1	Lisa Loos	Women In Numismatics (WIN) meeting
3:00 PM	2	Delane Hewett	<i>The Coins of Gladiator</i> – Pacific Ancient Numismatists (PAN) meeting
6:15 PM	1	Larry Gaye	PNNA general membership and awards meeting



**Pacific Northwest
Numismatic Association**

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We're on the Web!

www.pnna.org

**The Nor'wester is published
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Association**

PNNA is an IRS 501 c(3) non-profit educational association registered in the State of Oregon.

For membership information please see the PNNA website, or attend the convention.



American Numismatic
Association Member
Life Club #37

Dues are Past Due

PNNA dues are assessed annually in January. If your address label is highlighted, you have not yet paid for 2006 and this will be the last issue of *The Nor'wester* that you will receive. Individual dues are \$10; family groups and clubs are \$15. Life membership costs \$200.

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PNNA Officers 2004-2006

President Larry Gaye
Vice-President Richard Billings
Secy./Treas. Joseph E. Boling
Past President Scott Loos
Directors Del Cushing, Eric Holcomb, Lisa Loos, Scott Loos, William McKivor, Norman Mikat, William Roark, Kathy Rowe, Larry Rowe, Bruce Wonder
Dealer-Director (appointed) Rob Anglemier
Editor/Webmaster (appointed) Eric Holcomb

Deadline for submission of material for 3rd Quarter 2006 Nor'wester: June 15, 2006.

Please send ad copy to Eric Holcomb (e-mail Eric@Holcomb.com), and payment to the PNNA secretary/treasurer. Call Eric (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)



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President's Message

by PNNA President Larry Gaye

Well, here we are again, its election time at the ol' PNNA. PNNA members received their PNNA ballots in the mail with this issue of *The Nor'wester*. Please examine your ballot closely as there is something very special about it. I'll return to this thought further later.

The PNNA is over five decades old. Many folks have belonged to it since its inception; some have taken active roles in directing the association as officers or board members. Decisions have been made and territory marked out that has made us what we are today.

What are we?

As best as I can figure out our club currently exists for one thing, the annual convention and activities associated with it. Sure we show up at the annual Puyallup Fair and man a table in the exhibit area. Awards are given to member clubs for hosting a convention or offer a prize for the club with the best exhibit for National Coin Week, an ANA program. We have in the past encouraged numismatic investigation by offering the best exhibitor at the convention prize money to be used to help defray the cost of taking the exhibit on the road to the ANA World's Fair of Money®; so too with a scholarship awarded to a Young Numismatist or an experienced one to go to the ANA's Summer Seminar to learn more about their hobby and bring back and share with us the knowledge gained. Why don't we have more exhibitors? Why don't we have a greater variety of PNNA award winners? Where is your award?

The PNNA brings in guest speakers from outside our club to offer numismatic programs and help with the festivities of the annual convention; speakers that will join us this year are ANA Governor Prue Fitts, Art Fitts former curator and Governor of the ANA, and Richard Doty author, lecturer and curator of the numismatic collection at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. This type of activity is money well spent for those that attend; the problem is the cost per lecture attendee is very high because very few people outside the board members ever show up to avail themselves of their knowledge, experience and passion of and for the hobby. Why don't we have local numismatists willing to participate as lecturers or listeners? Where are you?

At the convention board members set it up and take it down all after volunteering through the year to be on committees that bring it all together. They spend time and money through out their term to travel to board meetings because of the passion they have for the hobby. Have you helped set up tables, displays, lamps, clamps, electrical cords, treasure hunts, and hospitality room? Are you waiting to be asked? "A journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step." Take a chance and get involved. Come to the board meetings and make your voice heard. Tell the board what you want to see; it's your club.

Where are you?

Take some time off the convention floor – sit in on a speaker's presentation, relax and have some refreshment for the mind and body. You will be the winner for learning more about your hobby. Roll up your sleeves, help on a committee by lifting a showcase or two, help yourself by learning more about your fellow member, and help your heart by exercising more. I cannot think of a better way to get to know fellow PNNA members than working side by side with them at a board meeting or the convention and its preparation. Where are you?

Oh, I almost forgot about the special thing regarding the ballot. It is this: all the officers are running unopposed. There are ten openings for board members and we have only eight who have offered up their names for consideration after some aggressive recruiting; only two are first timers.

New officers, board members and active general members and their ideas are needed to continue the evolution and growth of the PNNA. Where are You! As to the question I asked early on, "What are we?" Well, that's up to you!

[Editor's note: this year the South King County Coin Club will provide volunteers for the PNNA convention. (See page 4.) The SKCCC will be there to help; will you?]

PNNA Convention Token

The PNNA is pleased to once again offer custom designed and struck "tokens" for its 2006 annual convention. The design will be adapted from the 1732-'72 dos mundos type (aka "pillar type") Spanish colonial one real type.

The following token sets are only available on a pre-order basis:

- Four-token set (gold, silver, copper and pewter) for \$75 to \$85, depending on the price of gold when produced,
- Three-token set (silver, copper and pewter) for \$15.

Both versions are housed in Airtite holders and collector boxes. Pewter strikes will be given to collectors attending the show (while supplies last). Shipping and insurance will be \$3.00 for the three token sets and \$4.00 for the four token sets – no charge if the sets will be picked up at the convention. Sets will be available for delivery shortly before the convention.

Please submit orders or requests for information/pricing to:
Scott Loos, PO Box 2210, North Bend, WA 98045
Phone 425-831-8789, e-mail scottloos@msn.com

YN Program

The PNNA YN Treasure Hunt will be taking place all three days of the upcoming 57th Annual PNNA Convention, beginning about 3:00 PM on Friday. Young numismatists (YNs) ages 17 and under will have the opportunity to earn free coins by finding stickers at various "stops" on the bourse floor. The YN program, run by Walt Ostromecki, is a hit with kids of all ages!!

PNNA News

Welcome to Tukwila

On behalf of the PNNA and its members and member clubs it is our great pleasure to welcome you to the 2006 Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association Convention and coin show. We hope you enjoy the Numismatic Theatre, exhibits and a wonderful assembly of local, regional and national dealers with an extremely diverse array of numismatic material.

This year members of the newly formed South King County Coin Club will be on hand to assist with set-up, tear-down, registration and hospitality. The PNNA is very appreciative of the efforts of the SKCCC as the local host club. The SKCCC also meets at the Tukwila Community Center, at 7:00 PM on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Why not consider joining?

PNNA Scholarship Program

Many thanks to all those who submitted applications for the PNNA Scholarship Program. Two full scholarships (one adult and one YN), each valued at \$1,000, have been awarded to the 2006 ANA Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs, CO.

The YN winner is Matthew Crane. Matthew likes history and will be taking the class *Ancient History Through Coins*. This will be Matthew's second trip to the summer seminar. He is looking forward to learning more about ancient coins, meeting the instructors and researching at the ANA library.

The adult winner is Gawain O'Connor. Gawain is relatively new to the Pacific Northwest and is a member of the ANA, Seattle Numismatic Society, World Internet Numismatic Society and Denver Area World Numismatists. Gawain has been very active in the hobby as an exhibitor, author, museum volunteer, and club officer for two different Iowa coin clubs. He would like to take the *Numismatic Literature and Research* class to learn more about numismatic research, with the intention of writing articles, exhibiting and giving presentations!

Bob Everett Memorial Award

The committee for this award needs nominations immediately. Nominees need not be members of local or other clubs, but must have demonstrated a commitment to numismatics in the Pacific NW. Send nominations to Eric Holcomb, Del Cushing, Dick Billings, or Joe Boling.

PNNA/Willamette Coin Club

2nd Annual Fall Convention

The PNNA/WCC are pleased to announce their second annual fall convention/coin show. The show will take place the week-end of October 14-15, 2006 at the DoubleTree Hotel at Lloyd Center in Portland, OR. The fall show has many of the

same features as our spring convention – an outstanding bourse of local, regional, and national dealers; a numismatic theater; a YN program; and an exhibit area. Dealer applications will be going in the mail shortly and additional information will be published in *The Nor'wester* as it develops. Dealers interested in a table should contact Scott Loos, Bourse Chairman at P.O. Box 2210, North Bend, WA 98045. Phone: 425-831-8789, e-mail: scottloos@msn.com.

NCW Program Continued

The PNNA board has made the annual National Coin Week contest among member clubs a permanent program. The NCW theme for 2006 is *A penny saved is history learned*. (You would think that the ANA would not be perpetrating the "penny" misnomer.)

The awards are \$100-\$75-\$50 for the top three club efforts (there were no clubs participating in 2005!). The annual theme does not have to be part of your effort; if you have an already-established program for promoting coin collecting in your community that does not refer directly to the annual NCW theme, it is still acceptable for consideration. Send a report of your club's efforts to Larry Rowe at PO Box 61621, Vancouver, WA 98666 not later than 31 May.

Remember that the ANA also gives awards for NCW promotion excellence. If your club belongs to the ANA, submit a report to the Outreach Department to be considered for this award.

PNNA Convention Exhibits

Exhibits must be in place by noon on Saturday 22 April to be eligible for awards, which will be announced later that day. We would prefer to have your exhibits in place on Friday, so that visitors to the convention can view and learn from them. If you want to use PNNA cases, you must send an application to Larry Rowe by 10 April so that those cases can be available. Use the form enclosed in the previous *Nor'wester* to apply for exhibit space and exhibit cases (send to Larry Rowe, PO Box 61621, Vancouver, WA 98666; phone 360-573-9827; or e-mail medalman@pacifier.com). Remember that the PNNA best of show winner receives \$200 in assistance to take the winning exhibit to the ANA anniversary convention in the same year (Denver this year).

Editor's note: Exhibit Chairman Larry Rowe is using a simplified one-page exhibit application this year, which was enclosed with the 1st Quarter 2006 edition of *The Nor'wester*. If you need a copy, please contact Larry or see the PNNA website. If you intend to have someone else place or remove your exhibit or if you are a multiple winner of first place awards at previous PNNA conventions, please contact Larry or Joe Boling for additional information, or look on the website (www.pnna.org).

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Thank You!

American Numismatic Association News

ANA Offers Posters and More for 2006 National Coin Week

The American Numismatic Association and the coin collecting hobby will celebrate National Coin Week April 16-22, 2006 with the theme, "A Penny Saved is History Learned."

To help collectors encourage people in their communities discover the fun of collecting, ANA has developed materials, including a complete PDF ready-to-print two-case exhibit, "Benjamin Franklin: A Man for All Times."

"We are excited to offer these innovative resources on-line so collectors can host their own displays," said ANA Museum Director Tiffanie Bueschel. "All they need to add are their own numismatic materials."

The full-color exhibit template, posters, a sample press release and proclamation, images and a promotional brochure are all available at www.money.org. Click on "National Coin Week" from the "Numismatic Events" drop-down menu.

Conventions

The ANA National Money Show™ is scheduled for April 7-9 in Atlanta, GA. The ANA World's Fair of Money®, the biggest event of the year, is scheduled for August 16-20 in Denver, CO, and a number of numismatists from the Northwest will be attending. See the ANA website for more information!

Virtual Tour of ANA's Money Museum

Visitors to the American Numismatic Association Web site at www.money.org can tour the Money Museum in Colorado Springs without leaving their homes.

A new virtual tour provides Web travelers with a look inside the nation's largest museum dedicated exclusively to numismatics, providing scans and still photos of both permanent and rotating exhibits.

Travel around the world, continent by continent in the main gallery with Money of the World Today before visiting the mint's fascinating "bloopers" in Oops! Mistakes on Money. Then stop by The Harry W. Bass Jr. Collection of U.S. gold coins, experimental pattern coins and paper money, before dropping in on Beyond Engraving; The Art of U.S. Mint Engravers and the museum's minting gallery.

"You don't have to live in Colorado Springs to enjoy the displays at our museum," said Museum Director Tiffanie Bueschel. "They're now highlighted for everyone to see on the World Wide Web."

The ANA will create virtual tours for all new exhibits. The virtual museum is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week; dress is casual.

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COIN SHOW and EVENT CALENDAR

Date	Name of Show or Event	Location	Contact
MAR 30- APR 2	SANTA CLARA COIN, STAMP & COLLECTIBLES EXPO	SANTA CLARA, CA	805-962-9939
APR 1-2	VANCOUVER NUMISMATIC SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW	Oakridge Centre auditorium, 41st Ave & Cambie St., Vancouver, BC, Canada	
APR 7-9	ANA National Money Show™	Atlanta, GA	ANA Conv Dept
APR 8	KENT VALLEY COIN SHOW	Kent Commons 525 4th Ave. N, Kent, WA	Bob Kinsedahl 253-537-6049
APR 8-9	BELLINGHAM COIN, CARD & STAMP SHOW	Hampton Inn, Fox Hall, 3985 Bennett Dr., I-5 Exit 258, Bellingham, WA	Al Currier
APR 8-9	INLAND EMPIRE COIN CLUB'S COIN, CARD & STAMP SHOW	Sons of Norway Hall, 6710 N. Country Homes Blvd., Spokane, WA	<u>Bert Simmons</u> 509-747-8568
APR 9	FENWICK STAMP & COIN SHOW	Eagles #1 Corson & Michigan, Seattle, WA	
APR 16-22	ANA National Coin Week (83rd Annual)	Nationwide	ANA Educ Dept
APR 21-23	PACIFIC NORTHWEST NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION (57th Annual)	Tukwila Community Center 12424 42nd Ave. So., Tukwila, WA	Richard Billings P.O. Box 6442 Bellevue, WA 98008
APR 30	COWLITZ COIN CLUB 38TH ANNUAL SHOW	AWPPW Hall 724 - 15th Ave, Longview, WA	Lisa Cartner 360-425-5352
MAY 7 9AM-Noon	NORTHWEST TOKEN & MEDAL SOCIETY	King Oscar Motel 8820 So. Hosmer, Tacoma, WA	Del Cushing 206-244-1596
MAY 20-21	GREATER TACOMA COIN SHOW	King Oscar Convention Center, 88th & So. Hosmer, Tacoma, WA	David F. Schmidt 253-565-6565
MAY 25-27	ANAHEIM COIN and COLLECTIBLES EXPO	Anaheim Convention Center, 800 W. Katella Ave, Hall A, Anaheim, CA	Teresa Darling
JUN 1-3	LONG BEACH COIN, STAMP & COLLECTIBLES EXPO	LONG BEACH CONV. CENTER LONG BEACH, CA	805-962-9939
JUN 4	ROYAL CITY STAMP AND COIN FAIR	Executive Plaza Hotel, 405 North Road, Coquitlam, BC, Canada	
JUN 10-11	GREATER SEATTLE AREA COIN SHOW	Lynnwood Convention Center, 3711 196th St SW, Lynnwood, WA	Pretty Panda 253-582-3146
JUN 11	FENWICK STAMP & COIN SHOW	Eagles #1 Corson & Michigan, Seattle, WA	
JUN 23-25	TACOMA DOME COIN & SPORTS CARD SHOW	Tacoma Dome, Tacoma, WA	Pretty Panda 253-582-3146
JUL 1-14	ANA Summer Seminar (pre-registration / tuition required)	Colorado Springs, CO	ANA Educ Dept
JUL 8-9 New dates!	NORTHWEST TOKEN & MEDAL SOCIETY 21ST ANNUAL CONVENTION & AUCTION	New Location! Vancouver Elks Hall #823, 11605 SE McGillivray Blvd, Vancouver, WA	Del Cushing 206-244-1596
JUL 15	OLYMPIA/SOUTH SOUND COIN SHOW	New Location! Comfort Inn, 1620 74th Ave SW, Tumwater, WA	Coin Shows NW 425-821-1376

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. Shows will occasionally be subject to changes or cancellations.

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Dave joined the Tacoma Coin Club in 1968 and for the past 10 years has been President of the Tacoma-Lakewood Coin Club.

Memberships: ANA Life Member 70071, PNNA 108, TLCC LM-7, CSNS 6428
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Our show schedule for 2006 includes:

PNNA Tukwila, April 21-23 – Table #21

Also (some events tentative — please call as we may be attending other Northwest shows not listed): Santa Clara CA, Mar 31-Apr 1; ANA Atlanta, Apr 7-9; Central States Columbus OH, Apr 27-29; TNA Fort Worth, May 12-14; Greater Tacoma Coin Show, May 20-21; Long Beach CA, Jun 1-3; Memphis paper money show, Jun 16-18; Mid-America Show Chicago IL, Jun 22-24; ANA Denver Aug 16-20; Tacoma Dome, Nov 10-12; St. Louis paper money show, Nov 16-18.

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p.s. – WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS! Ed and staff

Joseph Boling Biography

Joe Boling joined the PNNA some time in 1973, as member number 147. His first activities with the association were in the field of exhibiting – he won the best in show awards at both the 1974 and 1975 conventions. He served on the PNNA board in the 1974-76 term, and assisted ANA Chief Judge Byron Johnson in revising the PNNA exhibit rules (those PNNA rules became the basis of the ANA's spring exhibiting program when competitive exhibits were introduced to the ANA spring conventions in 1999).

In 1973 and 1975, Joe accompanied members of the PNNA to Vancouver, BC to participate in counterfeit detection seminars held at the University of British Columbia, under the tutelage of Virgil Hancock and others.

During Byron's term as an ANA governor, Byron was the chair of the ANA awards committee. He recruited several Puget Sound area collectors to read each year's issues of *The Numismatist* in order to select the Heath literary awards for those years. Joe Boling was a member of that subcommittee.

During the years 1973-1976, Joe presented educational programs at coin clubs throughout the region, usually on the topic of Japanese coinage. He also stored the PNNA exhibit cases in his home.

Having won best in show twice running, he then served as exhibit chair for the 1976 convention, his last before departing the Pacific NW for seventeen years. During this absence, he maintained his membership, always intending to return to the Puget Sound area. When the PNNA sponsored the ANA convention in Seattle in 1990, Joe served as Patron Chairman, working from his Army post in Germany to solicit donations to support the convention.

In 1992 Joe retired from the Army and headed back to Seattle, arriving in January 1993. Marge Farnam hosted a welcome home party for him, and he resumed his place on the PNNA board, filling a vacant seat for the remainder of the 1992-94 term. By this time, he had been an ANA exhibit judge for fifteen years, and had been training and certifying ANA judges since 1986. In 1993 he was appointed as PNNA chief judge, in parallel with his service as ANA chief judge since 1991.

When the ANA board summarily withdrew the 1998 convention from Portland at the January 1993 board meeting, Joe began a letter-writing campaign in the numismatic press, excoriating the ANA's actions. Whether his action was decisive can't be said, but the board restored the convention to Portland later that year, and the Portland 1998 convention was one of the best on record. As a result of his action, however, incoming ANA president David Ganz declined to reappoint Joe as ANA chief judge ("not a team player"), so Joe became an exhibitor again in 1994 and 1995, winning the Franklin Mint medal (five ounces of 14k gold) in 1994, and the Howland

Wood best in show medal in 1995. Beginning in 1996, Joe was reappointed ANA chief judge, and continues to serve in that capacity.

In 1994 Joe took over the PNNA secretary's job from Marge, who had become unable to carry on because of multiple sclerosis. In 1996, Joe was elected to serve as PNNA treasurer, and continued to double as secretary, two jobs that he will carry through the 2004-2006 term.

From 1994 to 2004 Joe was the Puyallup Fair coordinator, performing liaison with the Fair administration and recruiting PNNA members to work at the coin collecting table in the Hobby Hall, three shifts daily for seventeen days each September. Joe's phone number appears on the PNNA wooden nickels that are distributed by the thousands each year at Puyallup, and he fields phone calls from the public wanting numismatic presentations at service club luncheons, youth association meetings, and school classrooms, usually doing those presentations himself, but finding someone else to do it if he is going to be out of town. He also answers general questions about "what do I have," "what is it worth," and "where can I sell it."

Since 1996, the PNNA convention equipment has again resided in Joe's garage, saving the association several hundred dollars annually in rent. He is also the association's archivist, maintaining files of financial and historical documents and newsletters, as well as being the depository of the Cushing collection of PNNA memorabilia, which he has prepared into an exhibit that is shown annually at the PNNA convention (space permitting).

In 1999, in recognition of his long service to the PNNA, the board designated him an honorary life member, HLM26.

In the summer of 2006 Joe will be leaving the Pacific northwest for life as a remarried man in Indiana (remarried to the woman who was his wife when he was here in the 1970's). He is therefore retiring as PNNA secretary, treasurer, chief judge, archivist, warehouseman, and spokesman.

Joe Boling Moves On by Larry Rowe

Joe Boling, a very unique man who it is a privilege to know, and an experience to work with. Joe is a man of many talents and accomplishments. He is a super organizer, a meticulous record keeper and involved with many projects. You would have to know Joe a long time to realize everything that he is involved with, and it may be that no one (except Joe) knows all that he does!

I first met Joe at the ANA convention in Seattle in 1990. He later retired as a colonel from the U.S. Army and moved to the Pacific Northwest and settled in the Seattle area. It seems that Joe was stationed in the Northwest while in the service, and liked it so much that he decided to retire here. Joe joined the Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association while in the service and continued his membership upon his return. It was not long

before Joe became secretary/treasurer of the PNNA, a position he held for several years right up to this time.

Joe also is a member of the American Numismatic Association and serves as the Chief Judge for ANA exhibiting. He has held this presidential appointed position for many consecutive years, except for a one year interruption. He not only serves as Chief Judge, but trains and qualifies judges. Joe teaches judging classes at the ANA Summer Seminar, as well as counterfeit detection classes.

Joe also belongs to several other numismatic clubs, and I am sure he holds a position of some sort in most of them. In addition, Joe is involved in other activities, such as being secretary of the alumni association for his high school. Joe attended high school on a military base in Japan where his father was stationed. The school no longer exists, but reunions still occur. As a result of living in Japan, Joe has become an expert on Japanese numismatics. Joe, with his partner Fred Schwan, has published two editions of a study of wartime numismatics of all participants in World War II, both Axis and Allied nations, a rather extensive undertaking. He received a literary award for this work, entitled *World War II Remembered, A Numismatic Study*. Joe has received several awards over the years, too many to recall here, but the highest honor he received was the ANA Farran Zerbe award for distinguished service in 2005.

Joe has other interests — He is an avid student of the theatre, and is known to attend several stage productions in a single

day, and several hundred performances in a given year. If that isn't amazing enough, Joe writes a review of each play he has seen and puts it on a web site. Believe it or not, Joe composed and acted in a play entitled *What Is It Like To Be Joe Boling*. I have seen this performance, and it is actually interesting. No one would believe what it's like to be Joe Boling!

Joe has a personal life also. Joe is a cyclist, riding his bike around his neighborhood to run daily errands. He has made a game of this, picking up coins on the roadway. One year Joe made a display of all the coins he found on the streets and compiled statistics on the collection. He titled the display *Road Kill* and it is a public favorite wherever it is shown. Joe also participates in an annual bike ride as a Multiple Sclerosis fund raiser, obtaining pledges for every mile ridden. He has raised several thousand dollars for the cause. His report to sponsors after each ride is like reading an adventure story.

Joe has three children, two sons and a daughter. It is no secret that Joe was divorced for many years, but he and his ex-wife reconciled and recently remarried. Joe and his wife are moving to Indiana to continue their life together. I am sure that Joe will continue to be very involved in many activities, but those of us in the Northwest who have come to rely on Joe will miss him very much. Carry on Joe, we wish you and your wife the best life has to offer. We hope your years in the Northwest were pleasant ones. We will see you at national conventions.

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Numismatics and the Smithsonian Institution: A Second Chance?

*By Richard G. Doty,
Numismatic Curator at the Smithsonian*

Numismatics has traditionally occupied an honored place at the Smithsonian Institution. Indeed, the beginnings of the National Numismatic Collection actually predate the foundation of the Smithsonian itself. The latter opened its doors in 1846; we started out some three decades earlier, amassing a small but significant coin collection that was later incorporated into the national museum.

Our first displays were in the original Smithsonian building, the venerable "Castle." When the National Museum of American History opened in 1964, the numismatic collection was transferred there, and a large Hall of Money and Medals was constructed to show off many of the classic rarities that the cabinet contained. There was very little attempt at education, and one surmises that row upon row of gold coins might be a greater inducement to sleep than a teaching tool. But at least Numismatics had the space, and the coins glittered in the fluorescent light, even if their display remained essentially unchanged for the next several decades.

The immutable reign of numismatics at the Smithsonian was abruptly terminated in the summer of 2004, when we were ordered to take down the cases and convey the thousands of coins to their permanent resting place in the NNC vault. We were allowed scant time for the work: our management had plans for the space and wanted us out yesterday. The plans related to a far larger project, the renovation of the entire National Museum of American History. The museum's infrastructure had been allowed to decay over the forty years since its opening, and now the infrastructure was getting even. The NMAH would close its doors for two years or so, and when it reopened, the spot where coins and medals had once reigned supreme would now be occupied by – a hole in the floor. The hole would look down on the Fort McHenry flag, mounted below at a ten-degree angle from the horizontal. Around the hole would be a viewing gallery.

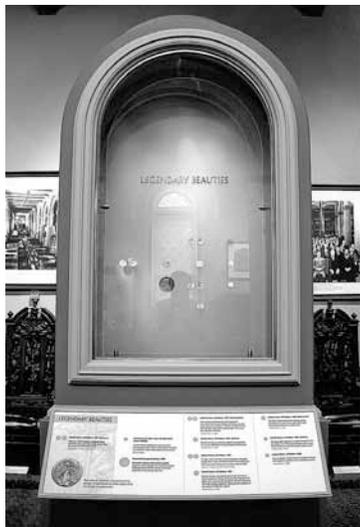
The world of museums is largely a war over turf. In the case of NMAH, Numismatics quickly saw that everybody would soon be in the same boat we were, that everybody's displays would have to be shelved for the duration – and that everybody would soon be scrambling for other venues for temporary exhibits. But Numismatics acted first. The department only consists a staff of two, but that can be an advantage. You don't need to have an endless series of meetings to hear all sides of the situation. And you may be able to fly under everyone else's radar, too small to be taken seriously.

We never forget that the National Numismatic collection is the patrimony of the American people. They have the right to see it. We have the obligation to bring it, or as much of it as possible, to their attention. There are a number of ways of doing so, all of them conditioned by how much money, staff, and time are at your disposal. With our limited people and budget, we have had to work "smart," thinking things through and getting out the word in ways we could never have imagined, had more staffing and more money been available. All things considered, I don't think we've done badly.

We are putting more and more of our collection on the Web. Notable components include the new display at the Smithsonian Castle, of which more in a moment; but we're also working on a type set of United States coins, from 1793 to the present, classic American rarities (including a run of patterns found nowhere else), and we have several other projects in mind. But everyone would agree that seeing a real coin or note is far preferable to seeing a virtual one. Accordingly, numismatic displays now constitute the majority of my work, and I shall devote the remainder of this brief sketch to them.

We've gone in two main directions thus far. We have contributed coins and medals for other people's exhibits at other members of the Smithsonian museum family. A collection of Spanish-American colonial gold coinage graces a wall in the new National Museum of the American Indian. There is no attempt at interpretation: the idea is simply to dazzle the audience, and the audience is indeed dazzled if not educated. An upcoming show at the National Portrait Gallery does involve some efforts to instruct as well as to impress. The NPG is re-opening this summer, and one of the permanent displays will be a gallery of European monarchs who shaped the Americas, a show beginning in 1492 and ending around 1800. Two National Portrait Gallery curators came to me about eighteen months ago and asked for my help: they wanted to include royal likenesses in media other than painting and sculpture, and I was very happy to oblige. We loaned the National Museum of the American Indian about fifty coins and the National Portrait Gallery about sixty. These numbers are unimpressive in and of themselves. But it has always been my contention that the best way to get more people interested in numismatics is to confront them with it when they least expect it, to show them that coins and notes are more than small metallic or paper objects, things intended for trade that may or may not be rare: that they are involved in, and can tell stories about, every aspect of our experience from the dawn of history to the present day – that there's a human quality to them that will prove an unending process of instruction, inspiration, and delight if we give it half a chance.

That's what I'm after when I think of a display, and that's what I attempted to achieve with the new show at the Smithsonian Castle.



The new exhibit there, our counterblast, if you will, to the August Massacre of 2004, is called “Legendary Coins & Currency.” It went on display last December, has a scheduled run through next September (and we think, and hope, that it will be on view for another year or so beyond that). The central theme of the exhibit is the larger than life quality that a coin or a note occasionally acquires,

and why some objects become legendary while others do not. We look at legends from five different perspectives: objects that achieve mythic status because they are the first; or the most beautiful; or whimsical or fraudulent; or carry with them the aura of famous places and times; or speak volumes about human ingenuity and aspiration. I’ll quickly give an example or two, and I’ll speak at greater length at the April convention. “Legendary Firsts” embraces a range of objects, from one of the two British sovereigns remaining from the Smithson Bequest (the gift that made possible the Smithsonian Institution and the room in which this coin is displayed), the first coin from the San Francisco Mint, the first American paper money, and the first American private gold coin, the Brasher Doubloon. “Legendary Beauties” (shown in photo) tells the story of a young president’s desire to create a new gold coinage worthy of a great country. Theodore Roosevelt called on the services of Augustus Saint-Gaudens, a supremely gifted sculptor and medalist; together, they did indeed produce the most beautiful American coins ever struck – totally impractical for commerce, but a fact which likely struck neither man as particularly relevant.

The display embraces no more than fifty-six objects, but each was chosen with painstaking care, to tell a story or to drive one forward. And sometimes the objects are there simply because everyone’s heard of them and it’s fun to give the people what they want: we have a 1913 Liberty head nickel on view for that very reason, as well as all three varieties of 1804 dollar. The aggregate value of the fifty-six is \$102.3 million. Security is very tight!

Thus far, we’ve gotten a tremendous amount of good will from the new display, from a renewed commitment to bringing America’s monetary patrimony to the attention of the American people. But we cannot rest on our laurels; we cannot take good feelings for granted. We must continue to build on what we’ve just constructed. Ideally, I want every numismatist in the country to confidently await the next new thing from the

NNC. I want everyone to look forward with a pleasurable excitement, wondering what we’ll do next.

With these goals in mind, we propose to take Numismatics on the road. Specifically, we are in the planning stages of a new exhibit, to be on view at the Denver ANA. It will be a spin-off of one of the five areas we covered in “Legendary Coins & Currency,” “Golden Legends.” We shall examine the numismatic, economic, and demographic impacts of the precious metal strikes during the middle years of the nineteenth century (in California, Colorado, and Nevada). We’ll include some of the things you might expect – private coins from the Miners Bank and Clark, Gruber & Co., and official pieces from Western branches of the United States Mint. But we’ll include the unexpected as well – a dollar bill from the Miners Bank, a National Gold Bank Note from San Francisco, and a huge gold and silver ingot from Nevada. We anticipate speaking at the convention, answering questions about this display and those in Washington, detailing the strengths and research possibilities of the National Numismatic Collection, doing our best to make the cabinet available for the education and enjoyment of all. We also hope, and intend, that the Denver display will not stand as an isolated event, but will be one in an ongoing series of traveling shows, going out to various parts of the country every few months. All that’s down the road, of course, but we’ve come a long way since the summer of 2004. We shall do more: in time, you’ll be seeing one of our displays at the PNNA convention, and you’ll be able to read about it in a future *Nor’wester*.

You’ve got my word on it – Richard G. Doty.



Photo:

An onlooker reads one of the displays in the “Legendary Coins & Currency” exhibit at the Smithsonian.

PNNA Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of PNNA board meeting 29 October 2005, Portland, Oregon

The meeting was called to order by President Larry Gaye at 6:10 PM. Present were vice president Richard Billings, secretary/treasurer Joseph Boling, directors Eric Holcomb, Lisa Loos, Scott Loos, Norm Mikat, William Roark, Kathy Rowe, Larry Rowe, and Bruce Wonder, appointed dealer-director Rob Anglemier, and members Jerry Bobbe and Glen Schinke.

President Gaye welcomed all to the Willamette Coin Club/PNNA show. He recognized Glen Schinke for assistance in setting up, the Loos's for recruiting all the dealers to participate, and members of the Willamette Coin Club for setup of the show. Howard Spindel was instrumental in getting the bourse room layout changed from classroom to bourse at the last minute. Thanks also to Dick Billings, the Rowes for registration and hospitality, and Eric Holcomb in selling the souvenir notes for the show.

Moved/seconded (Mikat/L Loos) to distribute the 29 remaining show souvenir bills to the volunteers. Passed. President Gaye will distribute the notes, and will also write a letter to Steve Cox thanking him for designing and printing the notes.

Nominations and election committee for the 2006 election – President Gaye appointed Larry Rowe as chair. Gaye says he will run again. He also wants all to know that running for the board does not lead to a sinecure. Anyone who wants to run, let Rowe know and be ready to participate and contribute.

The original plan had been for the WCC to run this show, and the PNNA to run the educational programs associated with it – the latter did not happen, which is disappointing. There was also an intent to assist the Salem club in celebrating its 50th anniversary. With the board meeting only a few times a year, it is sometimes hard to anticipate what an individual member's intention is when a proposal is made (and to engage board members in conducting such activities).

As of the time of the meeting, it seems to be a successful show – the dealers are pleased. L Loos mentioned a need to place an "emergency exit only" sign on the back door to control out-bound traffic there. We will have to consult with house security because of rules regarding fire exits. [Done.]

Holcomb - The ANA has asked us to make any suggestions relevant to ANA's operations, particularly the club representative program. Gaye – has been holding a letter from the WCC about the Las Vegas show and other issues.

Tomorrow before dealers leave Gaye would like board members who are still present to thank dealers and other members for coming. We want to make things as easy for them as possible.

Minutes of the 10 September board meeting – amend to show: moved/seconded (L Loos and K Rowe) to allow Eric Holcomb to be compensated for taking a different exhibit to the ANA

convention in San Francisco than the one he showed (and which won Best of Show) at Tukwila this year (the winning exhibit had already been shown at an ANA convention). Passed.

Moved/seconded (S Loos/L Rowe) to approve the 10 September board meeting minutes as amended. Passed.

L Loos inquired about whether we need to nominate and elect two persons as secretary and treasurer in the next term. Boling said that we must change the bylaws if we intend to keep both jobs in one individual. The consensus was to return to having two persons in the two jobs (as the bylaws require). Anyone with ideas for nominees should contact Larry Rowe. We would like to have every position contested.

Moved/seconded (Billings/Mikat) to put another \$1,000 into the YN education program. Passed.

Moved/seconded (Holcomb/Boling) to buy an answering service for Boling's phone number for up to a year, to field calls resulting from the thousands of wooden nickels circulating with Boling's phone number. Wonder: we should junk the obsolete wooden nickels in hand [several thousand] and develop a new publicity tool. Billings volunteered to check the answering service and reply. Moved/seconded (Billings/Wonder) to table the motion. Passed. Moved/seconded (Billings/Holcomb) to inquire about the mechanics of getting such a service. Passed.

Tukwila show report – sold out. No further report.

Boling - we never followed up on the donation to the Ray Mah memorial (nobody from the North Shore Numismatic Society contacted him). Gaye – if we have not made that payment yet, send it [payment of \$100 was delivered to a NSNS representative on 6 December 2005 in Vancouver].

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Minutes prepared by Joseph E. Boling, secretary.

Minutes of PNNA board meeting 21 January 2006, Kent, Washington

The meeting was called to order by President Larry Gaye at 5:14 PM. Present were vice president Richard Billings, secretary/treasurer Joseph Boling, directors Del Cushing, Eric Holcomb, Lisa Loos, Scott Loos, William McKivor, William Roark, Kathy Rowe, Larry Rowe, and Bruce Wonder, and appointed dealer-director Rob Anglemier.

Secretary Boling noted that he had just discovered that he had not completed and published the minutes of the 29 October meeting in Portland. They will accompany the minutes to this meeting.

The treasurer's annual report for 2005 was handed out. Moved/seconded (S Loos/K Rowe) to accept the report subject to audit. Passed.

PNNA Board Meeting Minutes (continued)

Report of nominations committee (Larry Rowe, chair) – still taking nominations until 1 March (he has received none so far from the general membership). He has generated nominations for the officer positions and half of the directors. Several serving officers have volunteered to run again. Gaye reminded all that there may be a few tasks that directors will be asked to perform.

Show report – Tukwila – 101 tables sold out – calls are coming in from across the country to get on the waiting list. We should be good to go for our April weekend. We tentatively have the Fitts coming to visit (as speakers) and Walt Ostromecki to assist with the YN program. Richard Doty will also be coming as a speaker. Tom Rogers (former engraver at the mint) is a possible speaker. One club has asked for time for a meeting (C4). Gaye: wants to ensure that there is one POC for education at the convention. McKivor is willing to let someone else be the educational program chair, because he can't always be in the room for the presentations. Billings said he would be doing the introductions. McKivor will keep the chair, and wants anyone who knows of a potential speaker to contact him.

The new South King County Coin Club is the host club for this year's convention – they will assist in set-up, tear-down, and hospitality (for the \$750 payment that is offered for that work). S Loos will check to see if the hotel arrangement will be the same as previously. The president's breakfast will not be held this year – it has not served the functions we wanted it to.

Greg Franck-Weiby has not yet sent designs, but the same token program is planned as in previous years. Holcomb – should we again have a special edition of *The Nor'wester*? If so, we need a couple of good articles to fill it out. The consensus was to repeat the special edition. L Rowe - something should be written about Boling's years of service and imminent departure. Rowe to write.

Billings – we also need to arrange storage space for cases and other convention materials following the convention. Cushing to check. We also need some new lamps and bases. S Loos to acquire.

The October joint convention with the Willamette Coin Club was a success in most respects. A total of \$2,600 was spent on advertising – about \$1,700 more than any previous show – covering all print media. Some mistakes will be corrected in future events. They are already advertising for 14-15 October 2006, and have decided that is it not yet time to move to a three day show (we also want to keep the Tukwila convention as the main regional focus).

The educational programs (except for the very successful Boy Scout clinics) at the 2005 WCC/PNNA show did not pan out as intended, and will get additional attention for future conventions. We might also get the silver art bar collectors to use the

2006 fall convention for their annual meeting. Gaye will contact Steve Cox about preparing scrip for the fall show – leaving the token program for the Tukwila convention.

Boling – what about continued sponsorship of ANA conventions, in light of current widespread dissatisfaction with ANA policies? Gaye – that money goes directly into creature comforts for visitors to the show (such as carpeting). Consensus was to continue the standing order for \$50 for each convention.

McKivor: goes to the British token congress each year, and is the only US attendee. It's a major event – three days of seminars, dining, and conviviality. It's an all-volunteer effort that moves around the country, changing hosts each year. McKivor has been volunteering Seattle for several years, and they are beginning to consider coming to the US for such an event. He suggests that we put it together with the Tukwila convention, and extend invitations to US collectors to attend as well. McKivor would be primarily responsible for the coordination. The token congress and its own bourse would be held at the hotel, scheduled so as not to detract from the main PNNA show bourse.

PNNA scholarships for 2006 – the phrasing has been changed to "tuition-room-board and transportation up to \$1000," one adult, one YN, applications due 15 March. Moved/seconded (S Loos/L Loos) to fund two scholarships for this year. Passed.

Gaye – the Salem Coin Club has requested our mailing list of OR/WA dealers for their 50th anniversary show. S Loos will provide.

Boling – we need a new archivist. Nobody volunteering. We need space and storage capability for records – not in the storage locker with the exhibit cases. Holcomb is willing to scan materials for digital storage. Cushing will hold the Cushing collection of PNNA memorabilia in his safe. Moved/seconded (Cushing/K Rowe) to adjourn. Passed 1825 (6:25 PM).

Minutes prepared by Joseph E. Boling, secretary.

Next PNNA Board Meeting

The next meeting of the PNNA board will be at the annual convention in Tukwila on Saturday 22 April 2006, along with the annual general membership meeting. The scheduled times are 8:00 AM—board and 6:15 PM—membership. Any changes will be published in the convention program.

If you have a suggested agenda item for the board meeting, please contact Secretary Boling in advance.



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