



The NOR'WESTER

Published Quarterly by the Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association

PNNA is a non-profit corporation registered in the State of Oregon.

http://www.money.org/club_pnna_index.html

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PNNA dues this year are:
Individual — \$5.00/year
Life — \$100.00
Family/Club — \$7.50/year

Fourth Quarter

1998

October-November-December

They Said It Couldn't Be Done by *Larry Rowe* (ANA convention general chairman)

The much awaited and much maligned 1998 ANA Convention (World's Fair of Money®) scheduled for Portland was a success! After many years of hearing that Portland is not a good venue for a national coin show, people are now asking when ANA is going to return to Portland! I have heard nothing but positive comments about the recent convention. PNNA should be proud of being the host association for two ANA conventions in the northwest this decade and having them both declared a success.

The 1998 ANA Convention was not a success just because it was held in Portland, it was a success because many people worked very hard to make it so. Knowing that this convention had to be just about perfect to overcome the negative attitude of many people, every effort was made to make it a pleasant experience for those who attended. Starting with ANA itself, the Convention Director put in a considerable amount of extra work. I have an idea what it takes to put on a national convention, but I have no idea how much detail there is required by the Convention Director. ANA also spent a considerable amount of money for promotion. The work of the Public Relations Officer working with a professional firm did an outstanding job of publicity for the convention. Everyone in the metropolitan area of Portland heard about the "Coin Show." Portland Oregon Visitors Association was a great help. A representative from POVA made the original pitch to the ANA board in 1990 in Seattle for the Portland show. They also went to Baltimore in 1993 to assist PNNA representatives to ask the ANA board to reinstate Portland after it was withdrawn. POVA assisted in many ways to make the convention what it was. Then there is the local committee. I can truthfully say that the local committee was made up of dedicated people who worked hard at their positions. The best single thing that I did for this show was to select excellent people. Many of the committee chairpersons came from the Wilamette Coin Club of the Portland area. The DoubleTree Hotel, the host hotel, and the Oregon Convention Center worked with the Convention Director and General Chairman to make this convention special. They fulfilled many requests to make the Portland experience special to everyone. Then, during the convention, local volunteers as well as ANA national volunteers did much of the mundane work that has to be done. These people get little recognition for their work except the knowledge that without them nothing would have happened. The lesson here is that success comes from hard work.

The convention bourse consisted of about 350 dealers from all around the world. All aspects of numismatics were represented. It was almost a sure thing you could find what you were seeking for your collection. Many mints from around the world were selling products from their respective countries. Specialty clubs and organizations had tables to promote their groups. Many of them hold annual meetings at the ANA convention. The Numismatic Theater had several excellent speakers on a variety of subjects. The exhibits were outstanding. A display of British copper tokens was a special treat as these tokens seldom are seen except by collectors. An exhibit entitled "Road Kill" won the People's Choice Award again. (Actually it was a tie — see page 2.) This fascinating display is of coins found along the roadside for the period of one year.

Dealers were very pleased with the business that they conducted, and surprised with what the public brought in to sell. The official attendance for the convention is 11,100 people. This beats the official attendance of last year's convention in New York City by a slight margin! There were many social events in the evenings during the week, concluding with the ANA banquet on Saturday evening. The auction conducted by Heritage set an all-time ANA record with sales of \$12,300,000. (Continued on page 2)

They Said It Couldn't Be Done (Cont.)

One event that Portland had that no other ANA convention had or will ever have was the 100th birthday party of ANA member Robert Hendershott. Bob celebrated his birthday with many friends and family all week, with a special party on his actual birthday on August 7th.

If you attended the convention, I hope that you had a good time and enjoyed a true convention experience. If you didn't attend the convention, you missed a great event!

Special thanks to the local ANA convention committee chairpersons — Larry Rowe (general chairman); Larry Gaye (assistant general chairman); Phillip Lockwood (pre-registration chairman); Sandra Lockwood (registration chairwoman); Paul Longcrier (YN/pages chairman); Joe Boling (chief judge); Eric Holcomb (exhibit chairman); Rob Retz (education chairman); Kathy Rowe (special events chairwoman).

Special thanks also to all 1998 ANA Convention sponsors and patrons, including title sponsors eBay.com, Krause Publications, and Numismatic Guaranty Corporation.

Future ANA events:

- National Money Show, Sacramento, California, March 12-14, 1999.
- World's Fair of Money®, Chicago, Illinois, August 11-15, 1999.
- National Money Show, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, March 3-5, 2000.
- World's Fair of Money®, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 9-13, 2000.

PNNA Officers (1998-2000)

President	Tom Sheehan
1st Vice-Pres.	Bill McKivor
2nd Vice-Pres.	Larry Gaye
Secy./Treas.	Joseph E. Boling
Past President	J. Eric Holcomb
Directors	Richard Billings, Del Cushing, Marge Farnam, Robert Hall, Paul Longcrier, Scott Loos, Alex Pancheco, Larry Rowe, Robert Steinegger, and Bruce Wonder.
Dealer-Director	to be appointed

Thank You PNNA by Kathy and Larry Rowe

We wish to thank the Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association and Past President Eric Holcomb for being presented the "Nina Nystrom Memorial Goodwill Ambassador Award" at the 1998 PNNA Convention in April. This award is most meaningful to us as it was Nina Nystrom who recruited us to join the PNNA when we moved to Seattle in 1986. We have become more involved each year since, and made many personal friends among PNNA members. It's always nice to have your efforts recognized by your peers, and we both appreciate being selected this year. It is an honor to be listed among distinguished previous winners. Thank you very much.

Editor's Note: Larry Rowe is also the recipient of the Krause Numismatic Ambassador Award, presented at the 1998 ANA Convention in Portland.

National Coin Week Competition

The winner (and only participating club for 1998) of the PNNA's club competition for NCW programs is the Olympia Coin Club, which earned a \$100 award for its program. There were prizes there for other clubs that went unclaimed — get your programs back into gear for 1999.

Moo the Puyallup !

The PNNA again sponsors a coin collecting table and exhibit at the Puyallup Fair, 11-27 September 1998. Several Puget Sound clubs have volunteered to sponsor one or more days of the fair by staffing the table. If you visit the fair, be sure to drop by the Hobby Hall and visit the volunteers who are working there — give them your thanks for publicizing numismatics in the Pacific NW. If you are one of our volunteers yourself, thank you to you also!

Exhibits at the ANA

by Joe Boling

A total of 68 competitive and 16 non-competitive exhibits were shown at the Portland ANA convention. This was fewer than we were hoping for, especially for entries from young numismatists (only one teenager from the PNNA region entered an exhibit).

Several PNNA members earned exhibit awards, and some others who live in the region but have not yet joined the PNNA were also winners. The top prize went to a visitor from Germany, but second runner-up and best new exhibitor were earned by Steve Cox of the Seattle Coin Club. Ellis Corets of the Seattle and Boeing clubs was a multiple-award winner (he entered

four exhibits), and he and Joe Boling shared the People's Choice award with a tie vote.

One first-time exhibitor, from the Tacoma-Lakewood club, has said that the experience was so exciting that he and his wife are planning to go to Chicago in 1999 to continue participating in this aspect of collecting.

Now that the convention is over, we do not need to let exhibiting fade away. There will be competitive exhibits at the ANA spring conventions starting in 1999, when the convention will be in Sacramento, just outside our region (12-14 March 1999). If you have always thought that you might go to a spring convention but have never gotten around to it, dust off those exhibits again and take them to Sacramento. Write to ANA HQ for an exhibit application.

Don't forget that there will be exhibits at the PNNA convention in Portland 2-3 April 1999, and that the best exhibitor there earns \$200 toward expenses of taking the winning exhibit to the ANA convention in Chicago. (There will also be exhibits at the Everett and Boeing Employees club shows — see show calendar.)

Any club that wants a program on exhibit-building should contact the PNNA secretary at the address/phone in the masthead.

Boling Rides for Multiple Sclerosis

PNNA secretary/treasurer Joe Boling was able to collect about \$780 in pledges from those who supported his two-day bicycle ride to benefit the National MS Society (in honor of longtime PNNA stalwart Marge Farnam). Many of those pledgors were PNNA members — thank you to all who assisted.

Nor'Wester and PNNA Web Site Submissions by Eric Holcomb, Editor

PNNA members are encouraged to submit material for publication in the *Nor'Wester* and on the PNNA web site (currently hosted under the ANA's web site at http://www.money.org/club_pnna_index.html).

I sometimes use material from the ANA, such as Ken Bressett's script on this page, however locally written material is preferred, and gives a more local flavor to our newsletter.

Please submit text as a plain text file (.txt) on floppy disk or by e-mail, as other formats may not always transfer correctly (or at all) into my publishing program. Graphics may be sent in several formats, including .tif, .gif, .jpeg, and Kodak Photo CD. Try to keep the size of the graphics files reasonable.

BIRTH OF THE "SMALL" CENT by Ken Bressett

Editor's Note: "Red Book" editor and former ANA President Ken Bressett and his wife Bert received the Farran Zerbe Award, the ANA's highest honor, at the 1998 ANA Convention in Portland. The following is but a small sample of Ken's contributions to numismatic education over the years.

A long time ago, "pennies" were much larger and more valuable. How did they wind up looking like the ones we have today?

Up until 139 years ago, pennies were as big as a half dollar ... and by today's standard, were worth just about that much in purchasing power. But people complained about their size, and the Mint complained about what it cost to make them. Yet officials were afraid the public would reject a smaller-sized penny.

The Mint started changing things in 1856. The penny's new design featured a flying eagle, easily the most beautiful ever used on a small coin. The coin was slightly thicker than pennies of today, made of copper-nickel, with a pale golden color.

Sample coins were made that first year. Nearly everyone took an immediate liking to them. New coins, dated 1857, went into production the next year, and were an instant hit.

The Mint tried to make up for a short supply of 1856 pennies by making more in the years that followed. At least a thousand or more 1856 pennies were made two years later, just to satisfy the demand of collectors. These pennies are considered rare, and often valued at more than \$2,000.

Over the years, some people tried hoarding 1856 "Flying Eagle" pennies. A Pittsburgh collector, who died in 1925, managed to accumulate 731 of them!

Most collectors would be happy with just one of these interesting coins. Owning an 1856 "Flying Eagle" cent is considered the hallmark of any collection. It's the rarest date, and the key to any set of pennies. If you made a list of the most popular American classic rarities, the 1856 "Flying Eagle" cent would surely be on it.

This has been "Money Talks." © American Numismatic Association, 1998. Used by permission.

Download the complete "Money Talks" scripts from the ANA at <ftp.money.org/ana>.

Minutes of PNNA board meeting — 19 July 1998, Seattle, WA

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Sheehan at 4:52 PM. Present were vice presidents Bill McKivor and Larry Gaye, secretary/treasurer Joe Boling, past president Eric Holcomb, directors Marge Farnam, Paul Longcrier, Scott Loos, Larry Rowe, and Bruce Wonder, and members Don Farnam and Lisa Loos.

President Sheehan reported that Ted McCann of Everett had indicated that the Everett Coin Club might like to host the 1999 PNNA convention; they have access to a good facility. He went to Everett and talked to the club officers about the matter; they decided that since they change administrations in September and many are planning to retire, that they did not want to commit the incoming officers to a convention in 1999. They also feel that they don't fully understand the work that might be added to their regular annual show by appending the PNNA convention to it. They have therefore not made a bid for the 1999 convention.

Since the Willamette Coin Club has again offered to host the PNNA convention at their 1999 show, moved (McKivor) and seconded (Gaye) that the PNNA accept the WCC offer. Passed. The dates will be 1-3 April 1999 (Easter weekend, Easter falling on 4 April).

A discussion of board meetings between now and the 1999 convention resulted in the following schedule:

- 21 November 1998, Everett, 6:30 PM (in conjunction with the Everett Coin Club show);
- 16 January 1999, Kent (in conjunction with the Boeing Employees' Coin Club show), 30 minutes after closing (probably 6:30 PM).

[see also the discussion below of a meeting at the ANA convention to discuss a December event]

A discussion of ways to stimulate interest in numismatics followed. Rowe/Gaye: become involved with a money-oriented art show ("Seeing Money") that is scheduled to be on exhibit in Portland 1-30 December 1998. They handed out a prospectus for the show. The promoter wants to obtain financial support from commercial and other sources, including the PNNA. Rowe and Gaye feel that she would be willing to allow us to set up an exhibit of numismatic items that would complement the money-oriented art works on display. Several present felt that there was potential for benefit to the PNNA, but many also had questions about the extent of PNNA involvement that would be

permitted for our relatively small financial contribution, the nature of the exhibit that we would present, the quality of exposure we would get if we are not staffing a table, and so on. We will meet the promoter at the ANA convention (7:00 AM Saturday 8 August, room A103 of the convention center, just before the PNNA meeting at 8:00 in the same room) to get some of these questions answered.

Continuing the discussion of ways to promote numismatics —

- Gaye: assist clubs with PNNA expertise. Don't leave inexperienced officers wondering about the best ways to do things; offer assistance/advice. Generate the speakers list that was discussed at the last board meeting. Bill McKivor proposed that this consist of the 2-3 knowledgeable persons in each club who are willing to speak. Boling suggested that Sheehan compile the responses that he received to his survey of board members and provide that to McKivor/Holcomb (*Nor'wester* editor) (questions included willingness to speak and distance willing to travel).
- Boling: insure that there is a numismatic program for most club meetings, rather than the Coin Trivia, bingo, white elephant sales, and so forth that seem to dominate some clubs' schedules.
- Wonder: people can be experts but not be speakers; show and tell helps to draw these individuals out.
- Gaye: give a year's membership in the club to outsiders who come to speak.
- Boling: give a club medal, if available, to each speaker.
- Gaye: start the meeting with a coin-oriented event, not a business meeting.
- McKivor: for conventions (for such functions as numismatic theater), get the speakers lined up far in advance.
- Sheehan: get the list of speakers, when compiled, into the *Nor'wester*.
- Marge Farnam: publicize your numismatic events (meetings and shows), then warmly welcome newcomers who show up. Invite numismatic VIP's to attend your functions when you know they are going to be in the area, or if you think you can induce them to come to the area (ANA officers, publishers, government officials involved in minting/printing).

- Don Farnam: designate one individual in each club to be responsible for identifying/finding speakers. That person can be the point of contact that McKivor was proposing earlier. Rather than put something in the *Nor'wester* offering PNNA speakers or assistance, the president should write individually to each member club calling attention to the assistance that the PNNA can provide. Make individual contacts.

Larry Rowe reported the results of the 1998 National Coin Week competition. Only the Olympia Coin Club submitted a description of its NCW program. He deemed it worthy of a first place award, and requested that the treasurer send the check.

Larry Rowe distributed flyers for the ANA convention in Portland, to be reproduced and distributed locally within the next two weeks to encourage people to travel to Portland.

Larry Rowe reported that the ANA has engaged Ed Rochette as interim executive director (for one year); that comptroller Wayne Abraham (the acting executive director) had left the ANA; and that J.P. Martin, who worked in the ANA Authentication Bureau, has also left the ANA.

Bill McKivor reported that he has a copy of Teresa Darling's mailing list, and since she is no longer going to promote numismatic shows, he will see if we can obtain it for our use. It contains the names of several hundred numismatists in the region.

Tom Sheehan reported that the ANS is going to have a function in Seattle this fall or winter; Jere Bacharach is coordinating it [so it will probably be Islamic-oriented].

Tom Sheehan requested that everyone spread the word to start looking for nominees for the 1999 Bob Everett memorial award; the committee will make a selection next winter for recognition at the 1999 convention. Nominations can be submitted to him, Joe Boling, Bill McKivor, or Ken Hill.

Eric Holcomb reported that the PNNA web site satellited on the ANA host has been corrupted; the April version is running again, rather than the most recently submitted material. He will follow up on this. We may have to look into setting up (and paying for) our own site, that we can control more easily than we can now. [The ANA site has had difficulty accepting some of our updates because of incompatibility between their host and the host where the draft pages are prepared.] Don Farnam provided Eric the name of

a vendor who might be able to set up a site called www.pnna.org.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Minutes prepared by Joseph E. Boling, secretary

Bob Everett Memorial Award Fund

At this writing, in addition to the \$1000 "seed" donation, we have received \$3900 from other friends of Bob. \$1000 of this amount has been matched by the PNNA, resulting in a total in the fund on 10 September of \$5900 (plus accrued interest). That will provide a significant annual award to some deserving person who promotes numismatics in the Pacific Northwest.

The following individuals have contributed to the fund since the last edition of *The Nor'wester*:

Gene Henry
Clifford Mishler

Next PNNA Meeting

The next meeting of the PNNA board will be at the Everett Coin Club show, 21 November 1998, at 6:30 PM. PNNA members who are not on the board may still attend the meeting, but cannot vote.

Your Advertisement Could Go Here !!

Deadline for submission of material for First Quarter 1999 Nor'wester: December 15, 1998. Call Eric Holcomb at (253) 850-2996, or e-mail to Eric at EHolc48@aol.com

Advertising rates are \$7.50 (1/8-page), \$10.00 (1/6-page), \$15.00 (1/4-page), \$25.00 (1/2-page), and \$45.00 (full page). Send ad copy to Eric Holcomb, and payment to the PNNA secretary/treasurer.

phone 719/632-2646

American Numismatic Association News

www.money.org

ANA DENIES LAWSUIT ALLEGATIONS

The ANA denies all of the allegations made by former Executive Director Peggy Hofmann in her lawsuit filed against the Association July 30 in El Paso County District Court in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where the ANA is headquartered.

"The Board is disappointed that Ms. Hofmann, an attorney by education, became dismayed with the ANA," says ANA General Counsel Christopher Cipoletti. "She was employed by the ANA for only seven weeks, and the Board hoped that she would provide new direction for the Association's administration."

The lawsuit alleges that the ANA did not adequately inform Hofmann of "internal problems," in particular litigation pending against the Association related to auction contracts. In seeking damages and costs to be determined by the court, Hofmann claims in her lawsuit that on June 11, 1998, she "informed the ANA Board of Governors of her dissatisfaction" and "indicated her desire to terminate her employment by mutual agreement of the parties, pursuant to the terms of her employment contract." After her notification to the Board, Hofmann was placed on administrative leave on June 11 and then terminated for cause on June 24.

Hofmann also named ANA Vice President Scott Travers in her complaint, alleging he opposed her employment with the Association. According to Travers, the allegations against him are absolutely untrue.

"The ANA considers the lawsuit to be frivolous and generally denies the allegations," says Cipoletti. "The Board of Governors was hopeful that this situation could have been resolved without a lawsuit. However, we will defend the complaint vigorously."

NUMISMATIC HALL OF FAME 1998 INDUCTEES

The ANA inducts into the Numismatic Hall of Fame in recognition of their overall contributions to and their outstanding achievements in numismatics:

Harry W. Bass Jr. (1927-98) — An active collector and quintessential philanthropist, Harry Bass distinguished himself in numismatics, devoting much of his private life to its collection and study.

Harry Bass, a life member of the ANA for more than 30 years, served as a councillor and president of the American Numismatic Society (ANS) from 1978-84, introducing the Coinage Conference of the Americas and bringing the Society into the computer age. Assembling the most extensive and remarkable collection of United States gold coins of his time, he extensively researched the die varieties and die states of gold coins.

Harry Bass encouraged, promoted and participated in the exchange of information between dealers and collectors, setting up a research foundation for numismatic research, which included the Numismatic Indexes Project. Harry Bass was awarded the ANA's Medal of Merit in 1989 and received his silver 25-year membership medal in August 1991.

R.W. JULIAN (1939-) — Considered to be one of the top researchers in American numismatics of this century, R.W. "Bob" Julian has expanded the corpus of knowledge of American numismatics.

Starting in the 1960s, Bob Julian established himself as one of the most prolific writers in the field, writing countless articles for *The Numismatist*, *Numismatic Scrapbook*, *Coin World*, *Coins* and other highly respected numismatic periodicals, and repeatedly receiving the ANA's highest literary honors. His work is based almost entirely upon original research in the National Archives and other primary sources.

In addition to his achievements in the study of American coinage, Bob Julian also is a recognized authority in the fields of official United States medals and Russian numismatics. His books include *Medals of the United States Mint, The First Century, 1792-1892*; *From Rus to Revolution: Russian Coins through a Thousand Years*; *Medals of the U.S. Assay Commission, 1860-1977*; and *Russian Silver Coinage, 1796-1917*.

A collector since the age of 11, he joined the ANA in 1958 when he was 19 years old and became a fellow of the American Numismatic Society in 1991. He was honored as a 40-year member of the ANA at the convention in Portland, Oregon.

1998 EXEMPLARY SERVICE AWARDS

First conferred in 1991, the ANA Exemplary Service Award is presented to an individual, club or corporation, firm or association whose services to the ANA are deemed "above and beyond the call." The 1998 recipients are Kenneth L. Hallenbeck of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and the California State Numismatic Association (CSNA).

Kenneth L. Hallenbeck has a long and distinguished career of service to the ANA in a variety of capacities, both on the staff as assistant to the executive director and the museum curator, and 16 years as a member of the Board of Governors, including two as vice president and another two years as president.

The CSNA also has a long and distinguished career in support and promotion of numismatics since its founding in 1947. (*If they can do it, so can the PNNA!*)

COIN SHOW CALENDAR

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

1998

SEPT 19 KENT-VALLEY COIN SHOW, Kent Commons, Kent, Wa.

SEPT 19-20 CAVEMAN COIN CLUB COIN & STAMP SHOW, Josephine County Fairgrounds, Redwood Highway, Grants Pass, Ore.

SEPT 20 NORTHWEST TOKENS & MEDALS, King Oscars Motel, So. 88th & Hosmer, Tacoma, Wa.

SEPT 26 SKAGIT VALLEY COIN CLUB, City of Burlington Community Center, 1011 Greenleaf Ave, Burlington Wa.

SEPT 27 BELLEVUE COIN & COLLECTIBLES SHOW, Bellevue Inn, 11211 Main St., Bellevue, Wa.

OCT 4 McMINNVILLE COIN DEALERS, Spirit Mountain Casino, Hwy 18, Grand Ronde, Ore.

OCT 11 FENWICK STAMP & COIN SHOW, Eagles #1, Corson & Michigan, Seattle, Wa.

OCT 17 KIRKLAND/EASTSIDE COIN SHOW, Kirkland Best Western, Kirkland, Wa.

OCT 24 NORTHWEST COIN DEALERS, INC., VFW Post #2995, 4330 148th Ave. N.E., Bellevue, Wa.

OCT 25 INLAND EMPIRE COIN CLUB SHOW, Shilo Inn, 923 E 3rd Ave. , Spokane Wa.

OCT 31-NOV 1 TACOMA-LAKEWOOD COIN CLUB SHOW, LaQuinta Inn, Portland & I-5, Tacoma, Wa.

NOV 7 OLYMPIA/SOUTH SOUND COIN SHOW, VFW Hall, 2902 Martin Way, Olympia, Wa.

NOV 14-15 TRI-CITY COIN CLUB SHOW, Hampton Inn, 486 Bradley Blvd., Richland, Wa.

NOV 21-22 EVERETT COIN CLUB'S 38TH ANNUAL SHOW, Normanna Hall, 2725 Oakes Ave, Everett, Wa. *PNNA board meeting.*

NOV 28-29 HOLIDAY COIN & COLLECTIBLES SHOW, LaQuinta Inn, Portland & I-5, Tacoma, Wa.

NOV 28-29 SALEM NUMISMATIC SOCIETY SHOW, Black Angus Restaurant, 220 Commercial St SE, Salem, Ore.

DEC 5 ISSAQUAH/EASTSIDE COIN SHOW, Holiday Inn, Issaquah, Wa.

DEC 6 NORTHWEST TOKENS & MEDALS, King Oscars Motel, So.88th & Hosmer, Tacoma, Wa.

DEC 12 NORTHWEST COIN DEALERS, INC., East County Senior Center, 824 Village Way, Monroe, Wa.

DEC 13 FENWICK STAMP & COIN SHOW, Eagles #1, Corson & Michigan, Seattle, Wa.

DEC 19 KENT-VALLEY COIN SHOW, Kent Commons, Kent, Wa.

1999

JAN 2-3 GREATER TACOMA COIN SHOW, LaQuinta Inn, Portland Ave. & I-5, Tacoma, Wa.

JAN 16-17 BOEING EMPLOYEES' COIN & SPORTS CARD SHOW, Kent Commons, Kent, Wa. *PNNA board meeting.*

FEB 6 KENT VALLEY COIN SHOW, Kent Commons, Kent, Wa.

FEB 7 NORTHWEST TOKEN & MEDAL SOCIETY, King Oscar Motel, So. 88th & Hosmer, Tacoma, Wa.

MAR 12-14 ANA National Money Show, Sacramento, California.

MAR 27-28 MID-VALLEY COIN CLUB SHOW; United Steel Workers Hall, 13th & Jefferson, Albany, Ore.

APR 1-3 PNNA Convention, Lloyd Center DoubleTree Inn, Portland, Ore. PNNA general membership meeting.

APR 10 KENT VALLEY COIN SHOW, Kent Commons, Kent, Wa.

MAY 1-2 SPRINGFIELD COIN CLUB SHOW, Masonic Lodge, 2777 Centennial Blvd., Eugene, Ore.

MAY 16 NORTHWEST TOKEN & MEDAL SOCIETY, King Oscar Motel, So. 88th & Hosmer, Tacoma, Wa.

MAY 22-23 GREATER TACOMA COIN SHOW, LaQuinta Inn, Portland Ave & I-5, Tacoma, Wa.

JULY 10-11 NORTHWEST TOKEN & MEDALS ANNUAL CONVENTION, Marshall Recreation Center, Vancouver, Wa.

AUG 11-15 ANA World's Fair of Money®, Chicago, Illinois.

AUG 21-22 WASHINGTON STATE 20TH ANNUAL COIN SHOW, LaQuinta Inn, Portland Ave. & I-5, Tacoma, Wa.

Thoughts on the 1998 ANA in Portland

Editorial by Larry Gaye

Eight years ago a bid was submitted for Portland, Oregon to host the 1998 ANA Convention. As we all remember, Portland became the first on again, off again, on again ANA Convention. The Willamette Coin Club known then as the West Side Coin Club was only three years old and most of us had really never heard of the PNNA other than the fact that it had an annual show.

The members of the Willamette Coin Club got together and decided in order to have a good base for the ANA Convention, and not be embarrassed with no one showing up at the convention, that we needed a show here in Portland to pave the way for the ANA.

We are about to host our fifth PNNA Convention in 1999. Most of the members of the Willamette Coin Club were involved in the ANA Convention together with members of the PNNA which was the official host club. Without having been involved in the PNNA show, we would have had a really tough time pulling it off. We were very fortunate to have Larry Rowe as the General Chairman. He selected a group that truly worked as a team. The rest is as they say, History!

My personal experience at the convention and getting ready for it has been one of the best numismatic experience of my life. When it was over I felt like I was going through withdrawal. The fun, excitement and camaraderie was hard to walk away from. I firmly believe that all concerned are stronger because of the experience. The PNNA has been changed as a result of the folks that worked together on the committees and volunteered for the grunt work. I was certainly proud to be around such great people. I was ready to do it all over again the next week. But, there is no show here next week. But what about the future?

When the whole process started, eight years seemed so far in the future as to be almost a meaningless time period. But everyday it got closer and closer, and then it was gone. So where do we go from here? I think the time is overdue for the PNNA to become more pro-active and work at preparing member clubs to take on the fun and excitement of putting on a PNNA Convention without the fear of failure. We need to start to assist member clubs and their members

in meaningful ways by having training sessions in the nuts and bolts of what it takes to put on a convention. Portland and Seattle should not be the only venues for the shows, and be trading off every five years.

If we don't someone else will for profit. As we witnessed, Teresa Darling gave it a good shot. Early on I felt she was a threat to us, but she provided a real nice venue for a show and brought in dealers who wouldn't otherwise have come to Seattle or Portland. I for one will miss her efforts. Dealers will support club shows, but clubs have an obligation to make sure there is good value for the dealers to come and spend money on tables, food, lodging and a club's coffers.

Bill McKivor and I have volunteered to do the Numismatic Theater for the PNNA Convention. When we call for speakers, please take some time and think how you can help whether the show is in Portland, Seattle, or Spokane. There are ways for the PNNA to make it easier to have guest speakers at the conventions, at least there should be.

I really feel that after the wonderful experience that so many dealers had in Portland, we will see more from around the country at our Convention/Show. This is a critical time to start the preparations. As second vice-president of the PNNA, a dealer, a member and a numismatist I feel I have an obligation to build on our successes and continue the PNNA tradition of more commitment to our members and our communities. I am also sure that the experience many local people had at the ANA will bring out more collectors to our show. We need to offer them something to come out to. Over 11,000 people came to our party, I've got to believe that they weren't all out of towners. We have to figure a way to get them to our PNNA Convention, make them not want to miss it.

We have a lot to be proud of, there is also a lot more to be done. When you are encouraged as a member to get involved in the PNNA Convention, do it! All of us have talents that can help. If it means driving down from Seattle to participate, do it. I guarantee the rewards are wonderful, and the friends you will make will be with you for a long time. Participation is what makes a club grow and prosper.

“Try it, You'll like it.”