



The NOR'WESTER

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

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Third Quarter

1999

July-August-September

President's Message by Tom Sheehan

I just received a new book for my collection. It is a small volume titled "A visit to the Cabinet of the United States Mint, at Philadelphia." The book was published in 1876 before either of the Smith or Evans books came out. Several thoughts came to me as I read the very first paragraph which is titled "Historical Importance of Coin." One was the style of prose. It is much more flowery than would be used today. A quote of one sentence: "History engraven upon golden coins and medals lies hidden in tombs or buried in the bosom of mother earth, deposited here by miserly hands ages long past." I am sure today we would leave out many of the adjectives.

I was reminded that we are all just temporary custodians of what we collect. The coins and medals we collect will remain long after we are gone. Even this book has been held by many others since its publication in 1876 and will be owned by others after me. The same is true for ninety five percent of the coins and paper money in my collection. This brings up the importance of preservation. We have a responsibility to our collections and the people who will possess them after us to take good care of them. In addition to being knowledgeable of coin values we must school ourselves on conservation. PVC had devalued and ruined many coins and mishandling has ruined paper money. Keep your collections in proper containers and in a good environment.

Keeping your collection safe from the elements destructive holders is just the beginning. It is imperative that we make provision for the disposition of our collections. In my experience both professionally as a broker and as a collector I have seen many examples where collections and valuable assets have gone for a fraction of their value because the owner did not leave either a good inventory or instructions as to disposition.

In my own case a big part of my collection is in numismatic literature. Locally there are no dealers who specialize in this area. I have instructions that should something happen to me that each part of my collection is to be disposed of by a specific specialist. The books to

one dealer and the auction catalogues to another. The coins naturally to specialists in each area. If you have a top quality large cent collection you wouldn't want to sell it to a specialist in foreign gold or a specialist in numismatic literature would you?

I encourage all of you to spend some time listing out how and who is to help in disposing of your collection. The first step would be to simply attach a letter to your will telling your executor what you have in general and what dealers should be contacted or what auction firm to use. I have found that the surviving relatives or executors often have no idea how to handle a decent collection. It has happened more than once that a collection that someone has spent years assembling at great cost has gone for a fraction of its value just because it was sold too quickly or to someone who was not a specialist.

We are not afraid to spend a few dollars to buy a book telling us what our coins are worth. I encourage you to spend some time and perhaps a few dollars with your attorney to be sure you get full value for your collection. You can even leave instructions with your attorney to consult a trusted friend to advise in the proper disposition. Don't just leave it to chance.

Remember that we just have these precious pieces of history on loan! Your heirs will appreciate getting full value and the collectors to follow will appreciate that you have cared for your collection.

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 Panchecho, Larry Rowe, Robert Steingger, and Bruce Wonder.
Dealer-Director	Bruce Wonder

Puyallup Fair

The PNNA again sponsors a coin collecting table and exhibit at the Western Washington Fair, 10-26 September 1999. 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.

Bob Everett Memorial Award

The first recipient of the Bob Everett Memorial Award was Larry Rowe, who received a check for \$250 and now has his name engraved on the perpetual plaque that is maintained by the PNNA. Congratulations to Larry.

Nina Nystrom Numismatic Ambassador Award

The 1999 recipient of the Nina Nystrom Memorial Goodwill Ambassador Award was Joseph Boling. Congratulations to Joe!

PNNA YN Coordinator

The position of YN coordinator for the PNNA is now vacant. This person need not be a YN, although the previous holder of the job was. Anyone who is willing to coordinate PNNA activities that promote the involvement of youngsters in numismatics should contact president Sheehan to volunteer. Any club that has an active member who would do this job well should nominate that individual (after insuring a willingness to serve).

"Seeing Money" Art Show

The "Seeing Money" art show ran from 6 May to 6 June in Portland, Oregon. In addition to established artists, PNNA members Larry Gaye, Larry Rowe, and Joe Boling had pieces exhibited. On 22 May Larry Gaye conducted a symposium on "Coins of the Bible," based on the non-competitive exhibit on that subject that has been shown at the PNNA convention several times. On 5 June Joe Boling was present with two cases of counterfeit notes, talking to show attendees about the many reasons that notes are faked and the various ways of doing so.

Overall attendance at the show was lower than the promoter, Helen Gundlach, had predicted. We do not yet have a report of totals.

NCW Contest Winners Announced

by Larry Rowe, NCW Contest Judge

This year produced more entries in the annual PNNA National Coin Week contest. Each club that entered made an excellent display to inform the public about the hobby of numismatics in interesting and educational ways. There is so much that could be presented, but the approach to the uninformed public is what makes a display distinctive. Following are the winners for the 1999 contest.

First Place: Olympia Coin Club (\$100) — OCC used the NCW theme of "Treasures in Change" utilizing the "50 states quarter program" and coming Sacagawea dollar to stimulate the public interest. They also included a display of error coins which most of the public have never seen. Their display was placed in a local library for the entire month of April.

Second Place: Seattle Coin Club (\$50) — SCC entitled their display "Numismatics - The Study of Money." It featured coins and bills which point out how one can learn about history, art and cultures of various countries by studying their money. The display contained various coins, medals, tokens and paper money. The exhibit was on display in a local public library.

Third Place: University Coin Club (\$25) — UCC displayed their exhibit of various areas of numismatic interests in a local bank for a 10 day period during the month of April.

Congratulations to all the winning clubs. I encourage more clubs to enter the NCW contest next year. It could add to your club treasury.

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 last weekend of July. The route this year is a loop from Everett to Port Townsend to Whidbey Island to Everett. 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.

Has Your Club Meeting Changed?

If your club meeting night or location has changed, let us know; we distribute a list of Northwest club meetings widely, and on the PNNA web site.

PNNA Speakers List

- Joe Boling — Will travel up to 50 miles and speak about: 1) Japanese numismatics; 2) Seattle national banknotes; 3) Exhibiting/judging.
- Larry Gaye — Will travel 50 miles and perhaps more to talk about Byzantine coins, and Coins of the Bible.
- Eric Holcomb — Special program available on the 30th Anniversary of Apollo 11.
- Paul Longcrier — Will travel up to 50 miles to speak about: 1) U.S. 20th Century coinage; 2) Early British milled Queen Anne coins; 3) Colonial numismatics.
- Alex Pancheco — Will travel up to 30 miles and maybe more to speak about: 1) Tokens, Medals, World's Fair exonomia; 2) Russian and Siberian copper coinage; 3) U.S. Barber Coins.
- Tom Sheehan (206-546-5599) — Will travel 50 miles and perhaps more to speak on: 1) Panic scrip of 1907; 2) Numismatic Literature; 3) Numismatic collecting in general and the ANA.
- Bruce Wonder — Will travel up to 50 miles and speak about: 1) World Coins, 1500-1918; 2) World Tokens and Medals; 3) Numismatic Reference Books.

The above listed people can be contacted directly or through the PNNA Secretary. Anyone who is looking for speakers for a meeting, *even if it is not a numismatic event*, might want to contact one of us. We can talk to senior citizens, Elk clubs, school groups, etc. We often can fill in on short notice when you need entertainment for the evening. — Tom Sheehan.

Selected Numismatic Sites on the Web

ANA — <http://www.money.org>

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

Coin Universe — <http://www.coin-universe.com>

U.S. Mint — <http://www.usmint.gov>

Deadline for submission of material for 4th Quarter 1999 Nor'wester: September 10, 1999. 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.

Money Talks

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California Clamshell Money

by Robert Leonard

When banks closed their doors during the Great Depression, depositors were forced to improvise to carry on their daily commerce. Of the many money substitutes pressed into service, one of the strangest has to be California's clamshell money. Today, we'll hear the story of when clamshells replaced coins in California.

In March of 1933, California's governor ordered a bank holiday — closing every bank in the state, and freezing the money supply. Many communities and businesses issued their own notes, called scrip, to carry them through the emergency. One of these communities was Crescent City, along the ocean just 23 miles south of the Oregon state line. But Crescent City residents didn't use paper, like almost everyone else — they wrote their promises to pay on clamshells!

The Chamber of Commerce issued the first pieces, and soon several businesses in town copied them. The clamshells were given values of 10 cents, 25 cents or 50 cents, and were used for such things as paying farmers for their produce. When the banks reopened about two weeks later, all clamshells that were presented were redeemed in full.

A few days after the Crescent City issues, clamshell money was invented independently at Pismo Beach, 620 miles to the south. Though the Chumash Indians had used clamshell beads for money in this area less than a hundred years before — the modern clamshell currency started as a joke, to relieve boredom on a dull Monday morning. A cigar store owner named William Bogue wrote his promise to pay one dollar on a clamshell, and took it across the street to a gas station. The owner laughingly endorsed it and put it in the window. When someone saw it and paid one dollar for it, it wasn't a joke anymore. By noon the next day, four previously unemployed workers were polishing and lettering clamshells. When the banks reopened, these pieces were also redeemed on request.

Did Ivar know about this? Washington State also had some unusual forms of money during this period, but not clamshells to my knowledge! — Editor

Complete Money Talks scripts can be downloaded from the ANA ftp site: <ftp://ftp.money.org/ana>.

Minutes of PNNA board meeting — 3 April 1999, Portland OR

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Sheehan at 8:24 am. Present were vice presidents Larry Gaye and Bill McKivor, secretary/treasurer Joe Boling, past president Eric Holcomb, directors Richard Billings, Del Cushing, Paul Longcrier, Scott Loos, Alex Pancheco, Larry Rowe, Robert Steinegger, and Bruce Wonder, and members Mary Cushing, Phil Lockwood, Rob Retz, Kathy Rowe, and two others.

Moved (Rowe) and seconded (Gaye) to approve the minutes of the 16 January board meeting as published. Passed.

President Sheehan proposed that Bruce Wonder be appointed as the dealer-director, performing dual duties as an elected director. Moved (Gaye) and seconded (Billings) to do so; passed.

Ashley Mearns, appointed at the previous board meeting as PNNA YN coordinator, has declined the appointment, citing pressures of school and other interests. An announcement will be placed in *The Nor'wester*, requesting suggestions for a person to perform this function.

There will be two PNNA presentations at the "Seeing Money" art show in Portland in May-June; the "Coins of the Bible" exhibit will be shown and attended by Larry Gaye on 22 May, and Joe Boling will give a symposium on counterfeit paper money on 5 June. Larry Rowe and Larry Gaye are also building exhibits that will be hung as part of the art show itself; Rowe is working on one showing how money serves as the DNA of the commercial world, and Gaye on one showing how money is used in many parts of the world or what has been used as money. In addition to the two days on which PNNA will present one-day showings, the PNNA could have a member present to explain its programs on all Saturdays of the show.

Joe Boling explained how the Bob Everett award winner was selected (the committee process and the determination of the amount of the monetary portion of the award (\$250) for 1999).

Del Cushing inquired whether the new aluminum cases would also be made available for rent by other organizations; the response was "yes."

President Sheehan appointed Larry Rowe to chair the election committee for the 2000 PNNA election. Rowe is to recruit assistants as needed.

Boling noted that we had received a request from Tom Hallinbeck to nominate him for the ANA board, but that this board meeting was too late to get such a document back to Colorado Springs before the deadline for nominations.

After discussion, moved (Cushing) and seconded (Holcomb) to ask the Willamette Coin Club to host the 2000 PNNA convention, contingent on their accepting the invitation by 5 June. Passed. There was quite a bit of interest in taking the convention back to Seattle soon, now that Teresa Darling's show is no longer operating. However, no Seattle area club requested the show for 2000.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01am.

Minutes prepared by Joseph E. Boling

Minutes of PNNA general membership meeting — 3 April 1999, Portland OR

President Sheehan called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

Secretary/treasurer Boling explained that the award of honorary life memberships to Pat Young and himself had been irregular because they were done at board meetings, rather than at a general membership meeting (the bylaws only allow outgoing presidents to be awarded honorary life membership by the board). Moved (Wonder) and seconded (Loos) to award honorary life membership to Pat Young and Joe Boling in recognition of long service to the PNNA. Passed.

President Sheehan presented the 1999 Bob Everett Memorial Award to Larry Rowe, and the 1999 Nina Nystrom PNNA Goodwill Ambassador Award to Joe Boling.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10am.

Minutes prepared by Joseph E. Boling

Classified

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. Bring them to a PNNA meeting, or call Tom at (425) 672-1334 for an appointment. (e-mail twsheeh@ibm.net)

phone 719/632-2646

American Numismatic Association News

www.money.org

Big Bucks "Penny" Shows up at Money Museum — A prized, World War II-era copper "penny" valued at \$50,000, similar to the one that recently made big news across the country, can be seen at the ANA Money Museum in Colorado Springs. "We have received more than a thousand telephone calls and a flood of Internet queries regarding the reported loss of a 1943 copper Lincoln cent by an Idaho man who claimed his coin was worth \$500,000," says Robert W. Hoge, curator of the ANA Money Museum.

Even though the Zane Mangum of McCall, Idaho, overestimated the worth of his 1943 copper cent in the collectibles market, "a genuine specimen of this rarity carries a great premium," Hoge adds. Only 15 of these coins are known to exist, Hoge says, and the most paid for one was \$82,500 in 1996, after being certified authentic by the ANA. The 1943 copper cent on exhibit at the ANA Money Museum was issued by the San Francisco Mint and is owned by Salt Lake City rare coin dealer H. Robert Campbell. It has been certified by Numismatic Guaranty Corp. in nearly mint condition.

"Windy City" Imagery Featured on ANA Convention Medal — Chicago's famous "Windy City" moniker is interpreted in the design for the official medal of the ANA 108th Anniversary Convention, August 11-15. Award-winning artist/engraver Virginia Janssen says, "This is going to be a great medal. Designing it gave me the opportunity to reflect on the city's image as well as its history." Janssen says her design for the medal obverse is "a light-hearted view of Chicago's well-known nickname." It depicts the skyline of Chicago surrounded by a stylized wind blowing down on the waves of Lake Michigan. Janssen's reverse design relates to the Chicago Great Fire of 1871. "On the reverse, I placed the ANA's Lamp of Learning in the center, and surrounded it with the name of the convention and the dates superimposed on bricks that holds back the flames of the fire and the waters of Lake Michigan," Janssen says from her studio in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

ANA V.P. Helps Launch Washington \$5 Gold Commemorative — In a May 7 ceremony at Mount Vernon, ANA Vice President Scott Travers helped launch a \$5 gold coin commemorating the life and achievements of George Washington, the nation's first president.

Marking the 200th anniversary of Washington's death, the obverse of the coin bears an award-winning design created in 1931 by artist Laura Gardin Fraser (1899-1966), using the original plasters as a guide. Fraser originally intended the design for the quarter dollar,

commemorating the 200th anniversary of Washington's birth. The reverse features a Heraldic Eagle.

"The design reaffirms Laura Gardin Fraser's place among the great medallist sculptors in United States history," Travers says. "On behalf of the ANA, I am pleased to see her wonderful portrait of George Washington has finally achieved its rightful place on legal-tender U.S. coinage. This design ranks as high as her Oregon Trail commemorative coin design."

Anthony Dollar Commentary — "Even though the Susan B. Anthony dollar was the most publicly rejected coin of the 20th Century, the resumption of its production by the Mint emphasizes there is a tremendous demand for a workable, circulating \$1 coin in the United States," said ANA President Anthony Swiatek.

Swiatek made his comments after United States Mint Director Philip N. Diehl announced that the Mint will resume production of Anthony dollar this year to meet the growing demand from mass transit authorities and vending operators. The Mint has not set a start date for production of the Anthony dollars.

"The 18-year gap between the production of the last Anthony dollars in 1981 and the new 1999-dated coins is the largest lapse in U.S. coin manufacture this century," Swiatek said. "There was a 17-year break, 1904 to 1921, in the production of the Morgan dollars."

Earlier, when the design was unveiled for the Sacagawea dollar coin to be released next year, Swiatek pointed out that the Treasury Department will have to look at the possibility of stopping production of \$1 bills to make the new \$1 coin successful.

ANA Exhibit Judges Seek Certification in Chicago — To maintain a corps of qualified judges who support the high standards of exhibit competition, the ANA sponsors the Judges' Familiarization and Certification Program (JFCP). Those who satisfactorily complete the training are certified as ANA judges. Exhibitors who wish to learn more about the judging process also are invited.

Supervised by ANA Chief Judge Joseph E. Boling, this year's three-part program will be offered in conjunction with the ANA's 1999 World's Fair of Money in the Chicago suburb of Rosemont, August 11-15. The first session, scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, August 11, is a seminar during which applicants receive practice judging sheets. At the second session, held at 4 p.m. on Friday, August 13, applicants turn in the sheets for professional evaluation by program staff, while at 4 p.m. on Saturday, August 14, they receive the completed evaluations and notification of the results.

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 sponsored or co-sponsored.

1999

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

JUL 11 BELLEVUE COIN & COLLECTIBLES SUMMER SHOW, Bellevue Inn, 11211 Main St., Bellevue, Wa.

JULY 22-25 CANADIAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION, Four Points Sheraton Hotel, Kitchener, Ontario

AUG 8 FENWICK STAMP & COIN SHOW, Eagles #1, Corson & Michigan, Seattle, Wa.

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

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

SEPT 11 KENT VALLEY COIN SHOW, Kent Commons, 525 4th Ave No., Kent Wa.

SEPT 11-12 NORTHSHORE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY 25TH ANNIVERSARY COIN SHOW, North Vancouver Recreation Center, North Vancouver, British Columbia

SEPT 19 NORTHWEST TOKEN & MEDAL SOCIETY, King Oscar Motel, So. 88th & Hosmer, Tacoma, Wa.

SEPT 26 BELLEVUE COIN & COLLECTIBLES FALL SHOW, Bellevue Inn, 11211 Main St., Bellevue, Wa.

OCT 9-10 COEUR D'ALENE COIN CLUB SEMI-ANNUAL SHOW, C D'A Inn, I-90 and Hwy 95 N, Coeur D'Alene, Idaho

OCT 10 FENWICK STAMP & COIN SHOW, Eagles #1, Corson & Michigan, Seattle, Wa.

OCT 16 KIRKLAND-EASTSIDE COIN SHOW, Kirkland Best Western, 12223 NE 116TH, Kirkland, Wa.

OCT 16-17 INLAND EMPIRE FALL COIN & STAMP SHOW, Shilo Inn, 923 E. 3rd, Spokane, Wa.

OCT 23 KENT VALLEY COIN SHOW, Kent Commons, 525 4th Ave. No., Kent Wa.

NOV 6-7 TACOMA-LAKEWOOD COIN CLUB SHOW, LaQuinta Inn, Portland Ave & I-5, Tacoma, Wa.

NOV 13 OLYMPIA/SOUTH SOUND COIN SHOW, VFW Hall, 2902½ Martin Way, Olympia, Wa.

NOV 13-14 TRI-CITIES COIN CLUB "FALL SHOW", Hampton Inn, 486 Bradley, Richland, Wa.

NOV 20-21 EVERETT COIN CLUB'S 39TH ANNUAL SHOW, Normanna Hall, 2723 Oakes Ave., Everett, Wa.

NOV 27-28 SALEM NUMISMATIC SOCIETY COIN SHOW, Black Angus Restaurant, 220 Commercial St. S.E., Salem, Ore.

NOV 27-28 THE HOLIDAY COIN & COLLECTIBLES SHOW, LaQuinta Inn, Portland Ave. at I-5, Tacoma, Wa.

DEC 4 ISSAQUAH-EASTSIDE COIN SHOW, Holiday Inn, 1801 12th Ave NW, Issaquah, Wa.

DEC 5 NORTHWEST TOKEN & MEDAL SOCIETY, King Oscar Motel, So. 88th & Hosmer, Tacoma, Wa.

DEC 12 FENWICK STAMP & COIN SHOW, Eagles #1, Corson & Michigan, Seattle, Wa.

DEC 18 KENT VALLEY COIN SHOW, Kent Commons, 525 4th Ave No., Kent, Wa.

2000

JAN 8-9 GREATER TACOMA COIN SHOW, LaQuinta Inn, Portland Ave & I-5, Tacoma, Wa.

JAN 15-16 BOEING EMPLOYEES' COIN & SPORTS CARD SHOW, Kent Commons, 525 4th Ave No., Kent Wa.

MAR 10-12 CALGARY NUMISMATIC SOCIETY 50th ANNIVERSARY & COIN SHOW, Coast Plaza Hotel, Calgary, Alberta

MAR 11-12 TACOMA-LAKEWOOD COIN CLUB SHOW, LaQuinta Inn, Portland Ave & I-5, Tacoma, Wa.