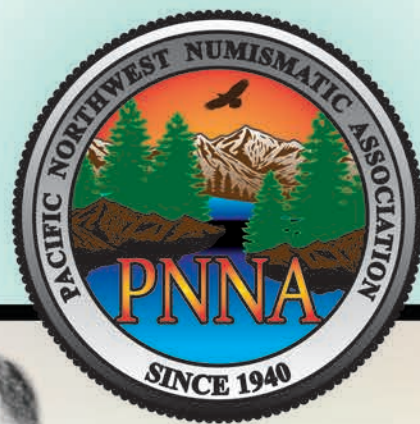


Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association

The Nor'wester



2nd Quarter 2023 • April - May - June

The Short Snorter of Major General Clayton Lawrence Bissell, USAAF

by Tom Sparks.
See article
on pages 8-11.

Photos courtesy
of Tom Sparks
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See back
cover ad
for ANACS
special offer.



PNNA 72nd Convention & Spring Coin Show - April 14-16, 2023
Tukwila Community Center - Tukwila, Washington



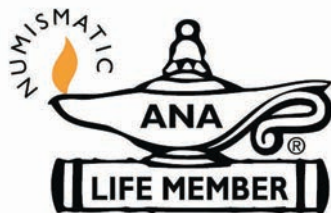
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PNNA Dues

PNNA dues are assessed annually in January. If you have not yet paid for 2023, you should have received a reminder with *The Nor'wester*, unless you have a PayPal subscription. Individual online-only dues are \$10; family groups and clubs are \$15. Life membership costs \$200. Add \$5/year for paper newsletters. For more information about memberships, please see <https://www.pnna.org/wp/join/>.

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Deadline for submission of material for 3rd Quarter 2023 Nor'wester: June 15, 2023.

Inquiries

Email inquiries to info@pnna.org.

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 another collector!

Welcome to Tukwila

by General Chairman Kevin Charboneau

Welcome to the Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association 72nd Annual Spring Convention and Coin Show, held since 2001 in Tukwila, Washington!

This year's public show hours are:

Fri.	April 14	noon until 7:00 p.m.
Sat.	April 15	10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.
Sun.	April 16	10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Show address: Tukwila Community Center, 12424 42nd Ave. So., Tukwila, WA.

Life as we know it almost where we would like it to be. The PNNA Spring Convention and Coin Show is almost upon us. We will be setting up at the Tukwila Community Center on April 14, 15 and 16. The floor is sold out. We are going to have our full contingent of dealers from all across the nation. You know that you can find anything you are looking for.

These are exciting times. The shows in the area that I have attended have been very successful, based on the comments of the vendors. The electricity on the bourse floors is exciting. I hope we have that kind of excitement in April.

We will be sponsoring the Boy Scout Merit Badge clinic again and all scouts in uniform and their parents will have free access to the bourse floor. There will be competitive exhibits. We are planning on showing some ANA eLearning Academy Webinars.

You can come and go as you please. The weekend treasure hunt is happening for the youth. Lots of coins for everyone and a great adventure searching for the answers to the numismatic-related questions. Parent escorts will have free run of the bourse floor as well. (Note that the treasure hunt may end by about 1 p.m. or 2 p.m. at the latest on Sunday—please register early!)

If you would like to volunteer to help at the front desk, or have questions or would like more information, please send an email to kcharboneau58@comcast.net. Up-to-date information will also be posted on the PNNA website at

<https://www.pnna.org/wp/events/spring/>.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Additional Show Information

- Thanks to the South Hill Coin Club of Puyallup, Wash., host club for this PNNA convention.
- Parking is free, and admission to the bourse is only \$2.00 per day, \$5.00 for all three days. Children 12 and under are free. "Early Bird" admission (9:00 a.m. Fri/Sat/Sun) is usually \$30.00.
- The ANACS grading service (www.anacs.com) will have a bourse table at the show to accept submissions, but will not have a grader present. They also have a special deal on certain submissions — see the ad on the back cover.
- We plan to have exhibits again this spring — see the website at <https://www.pnna.org/wp/exhibits/>.
- Unfortunately, there will not be any numismatic theater or club meetings at the spring show, however, we will run a continuous loop of ANA education videos in the exhibit room
- The YN (youth and family) program and treasure hunt will be conducted by former ANA president Walt Ostromecki. The program is hosted by the PNNA and by participating local coin clubs.
- There will be a scouting program at the spring show, as noted by Kevin. For information, contact James Reinders by email, coins2023@collect3.com.
- There will be souvenir elongated coins, and you can make your own with the PNNA's "penny press."
- On Saturday, there will be the PNNA annual general membership meeting at about 6:15 p.m., after the bourse closes. A board meeting will be held that morning.

*Say hello to Kevin
when you see him
at the show!*

*Also bring along a
non-collecting
friend or relative,
and introduce
them to the hobby.*



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PNNA President's Message

by PNNA President Ed Fischer

Changes!!

This last year has been full of life-altering events and a few serious stressors. I love some numismatics, but I have to say that it has taken a back burner. And I publicly apologize to all the amigos, clubs and contacts for the lack of attention paid to each. I am hoping soon to be through to the other side and back in the saddle of new adventures. Life altering events included retiring, selling our house, moving to the Boise area, spending the last year in MANDATE work mode and filing for Social Security/Medicare. Needless to say, I missed a few club meetings.

Not one of these was a simple process of making a decision and being done. Leaving my home base of the Willamette Valley clubs will leave a hole for me. I am hoping to find a great group of scholarly coin collectors and help local numismatics grow. PNNA will have its name dropped at every opportunity. Boise Coin Club, here I come. If you are in the Boise vicinity and looking to share your knowledge, reach out.

The few shows I have been able to attend have gone over like gangbusters. Saturday crowds have been up and the dealers I talked with were pleased with the busy numbers. People are out paying for quality U.S. type material and bullion has been moving despite the high premiums. Still a lot of uneasiness about inflation and where bullion will go. Silver dollars have gone crazy because of the history and silver weight of this big blob of metal.

An invitation is always open to any numismatist to come to our spring Tukwila membership (after show) or board (before show) meetings on April 15th. The Spring Show will open on the 14th and close April 16th. PNNA is now presenting both fall and spring shows. That's two big shows being held in the Tukwila Community Center. Dates of

the fall show are Oct. 6-8, 2023.

Other upcoming shows and events include:

- March 2-4 – ANA National Money Show®
- March 5 (one day) – Springfield, Ore.
- May 28 (one day) – Albany, Ore.
- April 16-22 – 100th ANA National Coin Week
- June 22-25 – Early American Copper Convention, Portland, Ore.
- June 17-29 – ANA Summer Seminar, Colorado Springs, Col., in two on-week sessions
- August 19-20 – Florence, Ore.

See www.PNNA.org for current up-to-date show information. And there are other private shows listed also.

There so many people who make numismatics happen in the Northwest. At any show and/or club meeting someone steps into the gap to smooth operations. They will go unnoticed because they don't do it to search out recognition, or the group just got busy. In the long run you are noticed. In the membership meeting at the spring Tukwila show, I plan to hand out awards. There is no way to recognize everyone, but the folks who are recipients have been noticed.

One year left in my presidency and it has not been normal. We joked about how I was the president who shut down the coin shows; it was COVID actually. The entire team has merged together to get our regular events back on par and tweaked a few to evolve. We now have two shows in Tukwila, we are back to the full run of the Washington State Fair and scouts seem to be gathering their merit badges in mass. Just to mention a few. Meetings were held via messenger and business was running in the background. Events are happening successfully and mostly because of the volunteers in the Pacific Northwest. Thank you, all!

THE SHORT SNORTER OF MAJOR GENERAL CLAYTON LAWRENCE BISSELL, USAAF

by Thomas Sparks

Many members of the Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association are familiar with the Short Snorter Project which has been exhibiting and presenting at various coin clubs and shows in the Pacific Northwest for the past 15 years. Participation at those events has afforded the opportunity to refine the talks and displays and has led to expanding to other venues and a wider audience. A highlight was attending the March 2022 ANA National Money Show® in Colorado Springs. Late in the afternoon on the last day of the show, numismatic luminary (and current ANA Vice-President) Joseph E. Boling sat down with me to compare artifacts in our collections. During this time I saw a different side of Joe when he shared a short snorter signed by female war correspondent Dickey Chapelle. Dickey Chapelle was the first female American war correspondent to parachute with American troops and the first killed covering combat while she was with U.S. Marines during the Vietnam War. Joe was showing me a picture of Ms. Chapelle being given last rites in the field and, understandably, Joe was overcome with grief at a senseless loss. Much the same way I have felt over the loss of war correspondent Ernie Pyle. I would say that we formed a bond of shared appreciation and gratitude.

Fast forward to Friday, Nov. 18, 2022. I received an email from professional numismatist Jeff C. Garrett, President of Mid-American Rare Coin Galleries, Inc.; partner at Sarasota Rare Coin Gallery; and Senior Editor of the Redbook. Mr. Garrett is also a past-president of the ANA and the PNG; and is a board member of the Smithsonian National Museum of American History. Quite the resume. In his email Mr. Garrett wrote that Sarasota Coin had purchased many years ago a short snorter that had been in the estate of Major General Clayton L. Bissell, USAAF. "It's very long and has lots of famous individuals, including Eisenhower. I would like to have the short snorter examined and archived with your group. Can you call me sometime to discuss how to handle. I imagine it's fairly valuable."

My initial reaction was WOW! I called Mr. Garrett and we chatted for about 10 minutes and agreed that it would be mailed early the next week. The topic also came up of "a holy grail of short snorters." I discounted that notion thinking that I already owned the holy grail of short snorters. Was I ever wrong.

When the package arrived the following Monday evening I eagerly unpacked the box containing the snorter which was carefully protected in layers of bubble wrap. The stack of folded banknotes measured a solid 2 inches thick. Unfolded, the 140 banknotes* taped together measure approximately 64 feet long. (*One additional "note" inserted in the snorter is a piece of the paper envelope of one of the Japanese bombing balloons which crossed the Pacific and landed in the United States in March, 1945.)

That first evening I stayed up until 2 a.m. enthralled by what lay before me. General Bissell had noted last names in the margins for the majority of those who had signed the snorter. A quick scan of the first couple of notes and Lt. General J.H. ("Jimmy") Doolittle, Medal of Honor recipient and leader of the famed Doolittle's Raid over Tokyo, was seen. Then five-star rank Marshal Alphonse Pierre Juin (General Officer Commanding Corps Expéditionnaire Français). On the first six banknotes I saw 82 flag rank Allied WWII military officers.

The seventh note was an Allied Military Currency 1000 Lire Series 1943A SPECIMEN perforated replacement. I opened up my copy of *World War II Remembered* (written by Fred Schwan and Joe Boling) and was struck at how incredibly rare that banknote is.

The eighth note was an equally rare Allied Military Currency 500 Lire Series 1943A SPECIMEN perforated replacement. The ninth note was an Allied Military Currency 100 Lire Series 1943A but was not a SPECIMEN perforated replacement. It was however signed by Brigadier General Mark Clark, Commanding General of the 5th Army in Italy. Generals Eaker, Twining, and Truscott were also names that rang a bell. Inspection of note #18, an Iraq half

BISSELL SHORT SNORTER article (continued)

dinar, revealed another five-star rank, this time Field Marshal Harold Rupert Alexander of Great Britain, Commanding General of the 1st Army. Note #19 is signed by Reza Pahlavi, the Shah of Iran, on an Iran ten rials note. Note #25, an India two rupees note, is signed by Lt. General George E. Stratemeyer, USAAF, who was the flight instructor for the first class of Tuskegee Airmen. Below his signature is five-star Field Marshall William J. Slim of Great Britain, Commanding General 14th Army, Burma. And the names kept coming.



At about 2 a.m. I came to note thirty (image above), an Australia ten shillings. I recognized the signature of Admiral Bull Halsey right off. Below that was a signature I could not decipher (until later). Below that was the signature of American actress Lana Turner. Below that made me decide it was time to pack it in for the evening: General of the Army Douglas MacArthur.

The next afternoon I continued my preliminary inspection of the Bissell snorter but was curious as to how one person could amass so many significant signatures on a short snorter.



Photo of Clayton L. Bissell: Source - U.S. War Department, Author - unknown military photographer, as posted on Wikimedia Commons, public domain.

From the internet I learned that Clayton Lawrence Bissell was born July 29, 1896, and died December 24, 1972. He served in the United States Air

Service during World War I rising to the rank of Captain. Flying his Sopwith Camel with the 148th Aero Squadron he was credited with six victories which made him an ace pilot. He was later Commanding Officer of the 638th Aero Squadron and was a Staff Officer for General William "Billy" Mitchell. In 1921, when Billy Mitchell was trying to prove to superior officers in the U.S. Army and Navy that a bomber could sink a battleship, then 1st Lt. Bissell flew one of the first waves of attack on the German war prize battleship *Ostfriesland* off the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay.

During World War II, Bissell was assigned as principal aviation officer on Major General Joseph ("Vinegar Joe") Stilwell's staff in China. In August 1942 he was made Commanding General of the 10th Air Force under Stilwell. He returned to the United States in August of 1943 to a position of Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, War Department General Staff. He was later Head of the War Department Historical Program, which to me explains his almost dutiful collection of signatures on his short snorter. His association with the intelligence community also explains why note #43 is signed by Medal of Honor recipient Major-General William Joseph "Wild Bill" Donovan, U.S. Army (Director of the Office of Strategic Services, precursor of the CIA), and why note #56 is signed by Colonel Robert A. Solborg, U.S. Army/OSS ("Military Attache," a.k.a. "American spy").



Further inspection revealed that there are five sets of extremely rare Allied Military Currency perforated SPECIMEN notes in the snorter (lire, schilling, francs, marks, and yen). Another incredible find is note #99 (image at left), an Allied Military Currency 50 sen note dated 5 September 1945 and notated, "Three Doolittle Flyers who spent entire

BISSELL SHORT SNORTER article (continued)

war in Japanese prison." This note is signed by S/ Sgt. Jacob D. DeShazer, Capt. Chase J. Nielsen, and Capt. Robert L. Hite. If you have never read the incredible story of Jacob DeShazer's conversion to Christianity after three years in solitary confinement, and his return to Japan as a missionary after World War II, it's a must read: *Return of the Raider*. It has a local connection in that DeShazer attended Seattle Pacific College (now SPU) after the war and his daughter Carol lives in the Seattle area.

Several other banknotes are worth mention.

Note #27, a China five yuan Series 1936 is signed by Chiang Chung-cheng (aka Chiang Kai-shek) on one side and May-ling Soong Chiang (aka Madame Chiang Kai-shek) on the other.

Note #38, a Canada one dollar Series 1937 is signed by William Lyon Mackenzie King (Prime Minister of Canada); Louis Stephen St. Laurent (Minister of Justice, Canada); Colin William George Gibson (Minister of National Defence for Air, Canada); Clarence Decatur Howe (Minister of Munitions and Supply, Canada); Major-General Harry Farnham Germaine Letson (Head Canadian Army Mission Washington, Canada); and Lieut.-General John Carl Murchie (Chief of the General Staff, Canadian Army).

Note #44, a Bank of England ten shillings, is signed by most of the high ranking military officials of Great Britain and Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

Note #46 (images in next column), a U.S. one dollar silver certificate, is signed by John J. McCloy (U.S. Assistant Secretary of War); Robert A. Lovett (U.S. Assistant Secretary of War for Air); Robert Porter Patterson (U.S. Secretary of War); Henry Lewis Stimson (U.S. Secretary of War); Harry S. Truman (33rd President of the United States); Fleet Admiral William D. Leahy, USN; Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King, USN; General of the Army Henry H. ("Hap") Arnold, USAAF; Howard Peterson (U.S. Assistant Secretary of War); General of the Army George Catlett Marshall, Jr., U.S. Army (Chief of Staff of the United States Army); and General of the

Army Dwight D. Eisenhower, U.S. Army (Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force).

My suspicion is that this was signed during a meeting of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.



Note #84 (image at left), a Turkey fifty kurus, is signed on one side by Edwin Carleton Wilson, U.S. Ambassador to Turkey. The other side has eleven signatures and is noted, "Banquet 'Gar' Restaurant Aug 10, '44 Crew of B-17 down at Cide (Turkey) on July 28th. Loving tonight." Further research taught me that July 28, 1944, was a raid on the Xenia Oil Refinery, Ploesti, Romania, by the 463rd Bomb Group. Twenty-five B-17s were sent and one plane, #46280 of the 774th Bomb Squadron, was lost. Missing

Air Crew Report (MACR) # 7128. The crew was considered Missing in Action (MIA). Once they were lost and now they were found!

BISSELL SHORT SNORTER article (continued)



Note #93 (image at left), a U.S. one dollar silver certificate HAWAII overprint, is signed by Fleet Admiral Chester William Nimitz, U.S. Navy (Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet); Rear Admiral Forrest Percival Sherman, U.S. Navy (Deputy Chief of Staff to the Pacific Fleet); Admiral Richmond Kelly Turner, U.S. Navy (Commander Amphibious Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet); Air Vice Marshall Hugh Pughe Lloyd, GB (Commander designate of Tiger Force); Brig. General Frederick von Harten

Kimble, USAAF (Commanding General Army Garrison Force 247, Tinian); Lt. General Roger Maxwell Ramey, USAAF (Commanding General 58th Bombardment Wing); Rear Admiral Francis Eliot Maynard Whiting, U.S. Navy (Commander Cruiser Division 14); and Brig. General Emmett O'Donnell, Jr., USAAF (Commanding General 73rd Bombardment Wing, Saipan). This collection of signatures leads me to believe this banknote was signed during a meeting to plan the invasion of Japan to end WWII. We all know how that ended.

Last, but certainly not least, note #132, a Cuba one peso, is signed on the back by Raymond Henry Norweb (U.S. Ambassador to Cuba). Norweb was a famous American coin collector and along with his wife, Emery May Norweb, were considered authorities on the subject. They donated their specimen of the 1913 Liberty Head nickel to the Smithsonian Institution's National Numismatic Collection in 1978 to commemorate their 60th wedding anniversary.

Jeff Garrett got a real kick out of that as he was a co-owner of the Walton specimen of the 1913 Liberty Head nickel at one time.

In summation, there are at least 291 signatures of WWII admirals and generals and field marshals and air marshals; 17 presidents and prime ministers; and 37 ambassadors and ministers on the Bissell snorter. One cannot put a value on the historical significance.

Jeff Garrett graciously allowed the Short Snorter Project to exhibit the Bissell snorter at the 68th Annual FUN Convention, Jan. 5-8 in Orlando, Fla., as well as at the 58th Annual Boeing Employees' Coin & Currency Show, Jan. 21-22 in Kent, Wash.

While at FUN, ANA Past President John Wilson viewed the Bissell snorter on Sunday. I was surprised when he exclaimed, "This is one of the greatest numismatic finds ever!"

The Bissell snorter was also on exhibit at the 2023 ANA National Money Show® in Phoenix March 2-4, with a Money Talks presentation on Friday, March 3. Next the Bissell snorter will be featured at MPC FEST in Port Clinton, Ohio, March 17-19, where it will be the subject of a keynote address. After that, the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum has invited the Short Snorter Project to display the Bissell snorter on Saturday, April 15. Unfortunately we will miss the PNNA spring convention but hopefully can attend the PNNA fall coin show in Tukwila, Wash.

I asked Jeff Garrett at the FUN show why he asked me to archive the Bissell snorter.

Jeff's answer, "Joe Boling recommended you."

I asked Fred Schwan why he picked me to be a keynote speaker at this year's MPC FEST.

Fred's answer, "Joe Boling twisted my arm!"

I will be forever grateful to Joe Boling, and Jeff Garrett, and Major General Clayton Lawrence Bissell, USAAF.

And there are most likely many people in Japan who will be eternally grateful for Jacob DeShazer.

Please visit the Short Snorter Project at: <http://www.shortsnorter.org/>, and we'll look forward to hopefully seeing this amazing short snorter at the PNNA fall coin show.

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AU58 PCGS



1824/1 Quarter Eagle
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1831 Quarter Eagle
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PR67 Cameo PCGS



1854 Quarter Eagle
PR64 Cameo PCGS. CAC



1854-O Three Dollar
MS63 PCGS. CAC



1855 Three Dollar
PR65+ Deep Cameo
PCGS



1797 Small Eagle Five Dollar
16 Stars, BD-4, High R.8
AU58+ PCGS



1807 BD-1 Bust Right
Five Dollar
MS65 PCGS. CAC



1828 Half Eagle
BD-3, R.8
MS61 PCGS



1829 Large Diameter
Five Dollar
PR66+ PCGS

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Washington State Fair



By PNNA Fair coordinator and "penny press" operator Rick Schulz.

Say hello to Rick when you see him at the penny press at the spring coin show!

It's that time of year again. Time to start talking about the Washington State Fair and the PNNA's display in the Fair's Hobby Hall. This year the Fair runs September 1-24. But before we get into this upcoming event, let's take a look at last year's Fair.



Photo: Guests on opening day, Sept. 2, 2022, at the PNNA's display in the Hobby Hall.

Last year's Fair was special for the PNNA as it was the first year since 2018 that we got to have our full display for the full run of the Fair. Also, the Fair of 2022 was free of most restrictions due to the COVID pandemic. During the months leading up to the Fair there was some uncertainty whether or not we could recruit enough volunteers to effectively staff our display. Understandably, there were many people who remained uncomfortable being around crowds. Fortunately, by the start of the Fair we had enough volunteers to cover all shifts.

The 2022 Fair was a resounding success. You might ask how we measure success. While it is virtually impossible to count the number of visitors to our display, it is possible to estimate the number of coins we give away. For the 2022 Fair that number lies somewhere between 9,000 and 10,000 coins, mostly cents. This was not the most we've given out. Before the Hobby Hall changed its venue in 2019, we were giving out around 11,000 coins, but considering lower attendance due to the public caution over COVID I feel we did pretty well.

Now on to the 2023 Fair.

First of all, why does the PNNA do this every year? Why go to all the trouble creating an intricate display and recruit so many volunteers to staff it? The answer can be found in our mandate to "... to promote, extend and protect the interest of numismatics and numismatic activity throughout the Pacific Northwest ...", as expressed in our bylaws. The Fair is the PNNA's biggest outreach event of the year with thousands of collector and non-collector visitors to our display every year.

We can't know for sure how many of our visitors become coin collectors because of our activities, but we do know that every year membership in local clubs increase with people who learn about them at the Fair. That by itself is reason enough to do what we do.

A lot goes into our display and presence in the Fair's Hobby Hall, but the most important of our efforts are our volunteers. Without you we would not have our display. The Fair requires that our display be staffed whenever the Hobby Hall is open.

As you are reading this, we are already in the process of recruiting volunteers. Until the start of the Fair I will be visiting local coin club meetings throughout the Puget Sound area asking folks to volunteer for a shift or two or three. To see a schedule of shifts that need to be filled you can go to the PNNA website, pnna.org. Unfortunately, this is not an interactive site so, if you are interested in working a shift, you will need to contact me, Rick Schulz,

Washington State Fair (continued)

by email, richardf53@yahoo.com, or by phone, 253-535-0690. I will then enter you on my master schedule. If you do volunteer, please do not feel you are locked in. Life happens and if you find you can't cover your shift, let me know. I understand.

For volunteering you will receive passes to the Fair and the opportunity for free parking. When you are not covering your four-hour shift, you can do the Fair and all that it offers. One of the biggest draws of the Fair is its concert series. In past years volunteers have scheduled shifts around a particular concert. To see this year's concert lineup and other Fair information, visit <https://www.thefair.com/>.

So, what do we expect from our volunteers? First, let me make it clear, you do not have to be a numismatic expert to volunteer. Most shifts will have two or three volunteers and, for sure, at least one will be able to answer any questions asked.

There are three four-hour shifts that need to be covered each day of the Fair. Ideally, I'd like to see the first two shifts of the day covered by at least three volunteers. These are the shifts that get the most visitors and can get busy at times. The last shift of the day tends to be quieter and only requires two volunteers.

The display tables have trays of Lincoln cents (pennies) that kids of all ages can search thorough for their birth year. When found our volunteer will staple it into a specially stamped 2x2 and return it as a souvenir of the Fair. There will also be a tray of world coins that kids can search through for their favorite. And, the PNNA's penny press will be there cranking out elongated cents designed especially for the Fair. There will also be a table with fliers and periodicals promoting the PNNA and other local clubs. One of the most important outreach functions is to answer numismatic-related questions from our visitors. As I stated above, you might not be able to answer a question, but someone with you can. (Anyone with a harder question can email

info@pnna.org to reach your editor, who will direct the question to an expert if necessary.)

I will guarantee, if you do decide to volunteer, that you will have a good time and a lot of fun. I've been signing up volunteers for the Fair for more than ten years and have never gotten a complaint from a single one.

Much of what you've read so far has been directed toward folks living in or near the Puget Sound area. If you are still reading this and live outside this area, I invite you to still consider volunteering. I know travel and accommodations can be expensive for the sake of volunteering, but how about considering it a weekend get-away to Western Washington? Besides the Fair and all it has to offer, there is lots to do in the Puget Sound area. If this sounds appealing and you want more information, give me a call.

I hope my words have fired you up to volunteer. The Fair and our Hobby Hall display are great fun and I look forward to seeing you there. Until then, happy collecting everyone.

Rick Schulz

253-535-0690

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Photo: More action from opening day at the 2022 Fair. Note the display cases and the world currency map on the wall, along with the PNNA banner.



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Numismatics – A Kid's Perspective

by Adhitri S., a YN from Indiana

Numismatics is a fun hobby enjoyed by kids, grownups, rich people, and poor people alike. People enjoy the hobby because you can meet other collectors, have an investment in case of sudden need of money, and have fun. Collecting is great fun, which is why the hobby is good for kids like me. Others may enjoy reading about their collection's history, and others view coins as artwork.

Here are some ways you may be able to collect:

Coin boards: Coin boards are a great way to collect. You can get a feeling of accomplishment once you finish a board. I got my first board from the ANA welcome kit. I have a Roosevelt Dimes and 50 state quarters folder. Both are almost finished now. These folders are good for viewing.

Wheat Cents (1909-1958): I once found four wheat cents in a box of coins, starting my coin collecting hobby. Wheat cents are not very valuable coins, but it intrigued me to start coin collecting from pocket change and coin roll hunting. Although there are a few difficult to find wheat cents, they make a splendid collection.



Photo: A mint state Lincoln Cent with the familiar wheatear reverse.

Buffalo Nickels (1913-1938): These are coins that you may be able to find in circulation, although I have never found one among regular money before. However, Buffalo Nickels are readily available from collectors, coin shops, etc.



Photo: A circulated 1936 Buffalo Nickel in type coin album, as described later in this article.

Mercury Dimes (1916-1945): U.S. Mercury Dimes have a fascinating design. These coins are an icon of American coinage. I'm happy to own one in my collection.

See next page for an example of a Mercury Dime in type coin album.

Proof Sets: Proof sets are good things to acquire. They are basically regular coins made with the highest quality and put in fancy containers for sale. They are made for collectors, and not for circulation. They have cameo contrast, frosted items, are double stamped to get better details, and look very nice. When the U.S. was younger, the mint created proof coins when collectors wanted them, and re-

Numismatics – A Kid's Perspective (continued)

used proof dies for circulation, creating proof-like coins. They have been single struck, just like regular coins, unlike true proofs, which are double struck.

Errors and varieties: Errors and varieties are things you may find in circulation. Errors are mistakes made on the coin, and varieties are mistakes made on the die that transfer to the coin. That errors can be made at the mint, and that errors can make a coin collectable, is entrancing. CONECA, an error and variety coin club, has *Errorscope* magazine that is informative.

Coin Clubs: Coin clubs bring together people with similar interest as ONE community. We can learn a lot from others and share our learning as well. Coin clubs are also a great way to get new coins for your collection.

There are other ways to collect too. Each time I collect one of these coins or paper bills, I learn something new. For example, I never knew a \$2 U.S. bill existed. Recently, learnt about hobo nickels, where each one of us can create a unique piece of numismatic art. And exploring world coins could open new worlds to us. In my opinion, each of these numismatic objects have unique stories to tell. Through numismatics, we can get smarter and happier.

A quick recap of my numismatic journey so far:

My passion towards the hobby is growing each day. I have published articles in ANA's *YourNewsletter* multiple times, CONECA's *Errorscope* and Central States Numismatic Society's *The Centinel*. Happy to share, I received the 2022 Daniel C. Parker YN literary award from CSNS, 2022 YN Literary award from CONECA, 2022 Young Numismatist of the Year – First Place from LVNS. I am working on my first Intercept Shield Album. My goal is to finish at least half the album by end of next year.

This Intercept Shield Album is a specifically made album for United States type coins. It contains six pages, with one example of each major U.S. coin type (varied denominations), other than gold. The coins range from the late 1700s to modern times.

Other Intercept Shield Albums, for example for specific U.S. coin series, are also available from coin supply companies.

Here is another example of one of my nicer coins in the Intercept Shield Album for U.S. type coins.



Photo: A mint state 1942 Mercury Dime in U.S. type coin album.

All of us can enjoy this hobby. Happy collecting, everyone!

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Coins from the Ancient Time to Today

by Adhitri S., a YN from Indiana

Coins have changed dramatically over the years. They were once non-existent. Nowadays, not only do they exist, but they thrive. But how did they change over time?

The start of Money

Before money, barter system was used to acquire the things people needed. For example, a farmer may trade off 30 pounds of milk for 30 pounds of yarn. But that was not convenient. Imagine having to carry a chicken or a cow to the market every time you wanted to trade for something!

Slowly, the idea of money came into being. But coins were not always used.

Early money

- The Chinese used cowry shells.
- Native Americans also used shells called wampum.
- Romans used salt (but later switched to coins).
- People on the island of Yap used giant holed stones.

The first people to make coins were the people of Lydia, in modern day Turkey. They made their coins out of electrum, a mixture of gold and silver. Soon after other cultures followed suit.

Coins of significant cultures

Roman: Roman coins were first invented in the 4th century BCE and were minted for eight more centuries.



A.D. 198-217 CARACALLA, AR DENARIUS



Photos: Close-ups of the Roman Empire Denarius in the NGC holder.

Indian: Indian coins started in the 6th century BCE and were made mainly of silver and copper.

Greek: Greek coins were made soon after those of Lydia.

Improvements

Coins were first made using a hammer positioned over an anvil. The obverse usually had a lot of design on it, and the reverse had only some punch marks. The very first coins had the hammer beaten directly into the reverse. However, later a square punch was used, and the aim of the hammer was improved. The reverse slowly developed to have a mintmark on it; and finally, to have a design of its own.

In the United States of America, people used screw presses to make coinage. Slowly, the screw press gave way to the steam press, a much more practical machine that used no physical labor. At first, people had mechanical problems, but as they were fixed, screw presses became a thing of yesterday, and steam presses thrived.

However, even that had to end. Nowadays, steam power is no longer used, having been replaced with even more efficient technology. Can you guess what it is?

It was ... electricity!!!

Materials of coins over the ages

The first coins were struck with precious metals, such as silver, gold, and electrum. Electrum struck the very first coins and is a mix of gold and silver. Individual gold and silver coins fol-

Coins from the Ancient Time to Today (continued)

lowed soon afterward. Both gold and silver were in use for a very long time. Gold coins stopped in the U.S. in 1933, in part because, during the Great Depression, few families had enough money to afford gold. Silver lasted longer, but stopped by the early 70's. The reason silver fell into disuse for circulation coins was because the cost of silver bullion was rising to \$1 per ounce, exceeding the face value of most coins struck with that metal. Today, circulation coins are made with metals such as zinc, copper, nickel, and brass. However, gold and silver coins are still struck for collectors. They are still legal tender; it is just that they are not intended to be used in daily commerce, and most people don't spend them, as the precious metal value usually far exceeds the face value of the coin. For example, the 1994-W gold eagle PCGS PF69 has a face value of \$5. However, it has a precious metal value of around \$200!! That's a lot!!



1994-W \$5 AMERICAN GOLD EAGLE



This coin is a bullion coin, made for investment purposes. Such a coin is usually modern.

Photo: Close-up of reverse of 1/10 Troy ounce \$5 Gold Eagle in PCGS holder.

Which brings us to our final topic:

Coins of today

It has been a long journey to here, from kings and queens to peasants and paupers, from Greek and Roman to Indian and U.S. Yet the journey of coins continues, and coins keep evolving.

However, where do we stand on this journey right now?

Coin Materials: Instead of the gold and silver of the past, modern coins are now made of materials such as nickel, copper, and zinc. These materials are cheaper and easier to obtain than their precious metal counterparts. However, the U.S. Mint is considering getting rid of nickels and cents because they cost more than their face value to make.

Collector Coins: The Mint has started to gain interest in making the next generation of coin collectors. To simulate this, the Mint made the 2019-W and 2020-W quarters limited in circulation for young collectors. It sure sparked a buzz in the community!

Coin Use: Sadly, coin use is declining because credit cards and cryptocurrency are starting to take over. We should all do our part to stop these precious treasures from dying out!

Conclusion

Well, this was a fun journey. I hope I can go on another adventure with you soon. Until then, just remember: learn, learn, learn!

— Adhitri S.

PNNA Annual Awards

Please see the PNNA website for more information about these awards.

Bob Everett Memorial Award — <https://www.pnna.org/wp/awards/everett-award/>

Literary Awards (Club Newsletters/Articles) — <https://www.pnna.org/wp/awards/literary-awards/>

National Coin Week Awards for Clubs — <https://www.pnna.org/wp/awards/ncw-award-for-clubs/>

Nina Nystrom Numismatic Ambassador Award — <https://www.pnna.org/wp/awards/nystrom-award/>

Presidential Award — <https://www.pnna.org/wp/awards/presidential-award/>

Scholarship Awards — <https://www.pnna.org/wp/awards/scholarship-awards/>

The winner of the PNNA's annual Bob Everett Memorial Award, made for integrity and demonstrated commitment to numismatics in the Pacific Northwest, is usually announced at the spring convention, along with most other PNNA annual awards. Please consider nominating someone for one or more of these important awards.

PNNA Calendar

Just visit [pnna.org](https://www.pnna.org) and click on the "Calendar" link under "Events," or pick up a free paper copy at the show!

Not online? — Write to the address listed on page 2 of this magazine.

PNNA Convention Collector Exhibits

by Eric Holcomb, PNNA Chief Judge

We plan to have exhibits again this spring — see the website at <https://www.pnna.org/wp/exhibits/> for complete collector exhibit information, application form, rules and judging criteria, and past winners with exhibit photos.

PNNA Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes from past PNNA board meetings, including at the BECC coin show in January, are available at <https://www.pnna.org/wp/info/pnna-governance/minutes/>

ANA Summer Seminar

See <https://www.money.org/summer-seminar>.

Dates: June 17-June 22 and June 24-29, 2023.

Location: Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Summer Seminar is a once-a-year opportunity for numismatic scholarship and camaraderie that offers students a varied selection of courses designed for discovery or continued study. For many students, Summer Seminar is a life-changing event; it has catapulted the careers of many of the nation's most respected collectors, authors and dealers.

Get full information including the course catalog online to see what Summer Seminar can do for you. Consider applying for a PNNA Summer Seminar scholarship next year.

PNNA & WCC Fall Shows

Webpage:

<https://www.pnna.org/wp/events/fall/>

The PNNA and the Willamette Coin Club will host separate fall coin shows again this year: Oct. 7-9 in Tukwila, Wash. (PNNA) and Nov. 12-13 in Clackamas, Ore. (WCC).

See p. 3 for the spring PNNA convention and coin show welcome message.

The fall shows have many popular features — an outstanding bourse of local, regional, and national dealers, a numismatic theater, a YN program and collector exhibits.

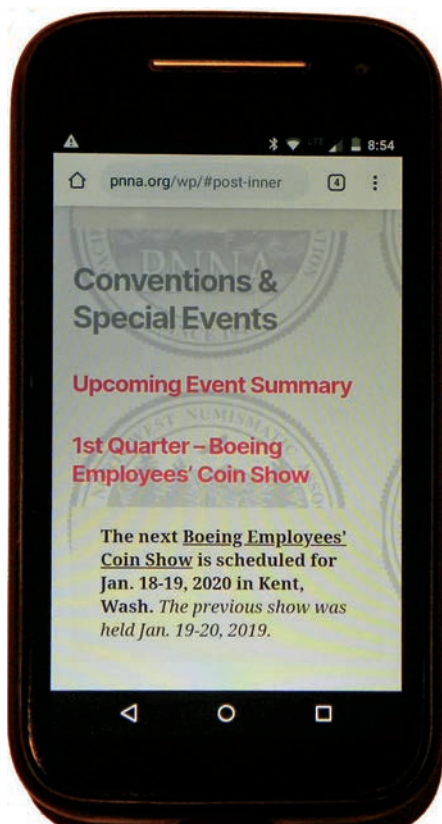
ANA National Coin Week

Webpage: <https://www.money.org/numismatic-events/national-coin-week>.

2023 National Coin Week, the 100th annual, is scheduled for April 16-22.

PNNA

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Visit the new mobile-friendly PNNA website powered with WordPress at:

<https://www.pnna.org/wp/>

Image above with historical PNNA memorabilia was previously a featured image on the PNNA homepage. The featured image may change from time-to-time.

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