

# ANA Election of Officers

The following individuals (listed alphabetically by office) have received the required number of nominations for candidacy in the American Numismatic Association's 2019 election of officers. All have accepted their nominations and provided the following statements. Every Association member entitled to vote will receive an election ballot via the U.S. Postal Service or by e-mail, based on his or her expressed preference. Ballots must be received by the tabulating firm by July 1.

## FOR PRESIDENT



**Col. Steven K. Ellsworth (Ret.)**

Brentwood, TN  
LM 3559

Upon retirement from active duty, I have been a full-time numismatist and dealer as the principal owner of Butternut Coin, Brentwood, Tennessee. I enlisted as a private and retired at the rank of colonel. My assignments ranged from

commander of Army Green Berets to an overseas Joint Service Command and special assistant to the chief of staff of the army. I hold diplomas from the National War College, Army War College, National Defense University, and Command and General Staff College. I also have a master's degree in business, a certificate in international business, a bachelor of science in management and a bachelor of arts in applied politics.

My numismatic service and awards include being an ANA seminar instructor from 2000 to 2018; committees on Budget, Audit, Membership, Development and Finance; three ANA Presidential Awards; Outstanding District Representative; Outstanding Regional Coordinator; and exhibit awards from Colorado, Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

I've served on the National Silver Dollar Roundtable board (2002-13), as president of the Virginia Numismatic Association, on the Eastern States Numismatic Association board, as ANA District Coordinator for Virginia and Regional Coordinator for the mid-Atlantic states, and have been a contributor to the "Red Book" since 2002. Life memberships include the ANA, American Numismatic Society, Alabama, Blue Ridge, Colonial Collectors (C4), Civil War Token Society, EAC, FUN, Georgia, Maryland, Michigan, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Silver Dollar Roundtable, Virginia Numismatic Association and Pacific Coast. I know how important our clubs are.

My security articles have been published extensively for over 18 years, in keeping security awareness a priority for collectors and dealers in *The Numismatist*, *Numismatic News* and in over 18 state and national journals to include my annual article "Best Secured Coin Shows" having received numerous literary awards from many organizations.

My personal collecting interests are large cents by Sheldon and Newcomb varieties, and Hard Times and Civil War tokens.

If elected I will continue and complete some of the terrific initiatives that were begun by Presidents Garrett and Adkins, and will continue to build on the long-term development and gifting programs I've been instrumental in.



**Dr. Donald H. Kagin**

Tiburon, CA  
LM 724

Don Kagin was born into a numismatic family and began his professional numismatic career cataloging auctions for his father in 1968.

Numismatic education and innovation have been at the forefront of

Kagin's career. He attained the nation's first B.A. degree in numismatics at Northwestern University and the first and only numismatic Ph.D. Since 1972, his research papers have appeared in several professional journals, including *The Journal of Economic History* and *The Numismatist*, winning the coveted Heath Literary Award.

Kagin's first book, *Private Gold Coins and Patterns of the United States*, published in 1981, is considered the reference book for this series, and his latest book, *Treasury Notes of the War of 1812*, is the definitive work on that subject. Other innovations include nationally acclaimed one-man shows, "The Oldest Living Pioneer" and "Colonial Man," and serving as the academic dean for the University of Rare Coins. Kagin inspired, shepherded and successfully received congressional approval for the 2006 San Francisco Old Mint Centennial Commemorative that yielded \$4.5 million for mint restoration.

Since the late 1970s, Kagin has contributed to *A Guide Book of United States Coins* and created *Currency Market Review*, a forerunner of *Currency Dealer Newsletter* (the Greensheet). He has received numerous awards for his numismatic service, including the Glenn Smedley Memorial Award, Numismatic and PNG Ambassadors, NSDR Lifetime Achievement and two ANA Presidential Awards.

Since 1973, Kagin has lectured and taught at the ANA Summer Seminar, conducted scores of seminars and forums, and made several radio and television appearances, including *Good Morning America*, History and National Geographic channels.

Besides cataloging, writing, lecturing and teaching numismatics, Kagin is a member of numerous numismatic clubs and organizations; has served on several academic, educational and numismatic boards; is co-founder and board member of the Industry Council for Tangible Assets, National Silver Dollar Roundtable board; and has served almost eight years as governor and currently is vice president of the ANA.

Kagin's presidential platform and over 65 initiatives derived from ANA member suggestions can be viewed and commented on at [Kagin4ANAPresident.com](http://Kagin4ANAPresident.com).



## FOR VICE PRESIDENT



### **Dr. Ralph W. Ross**

Sugar Land, TX  
ANA 1096461

I am honored to accept the nomination for the ANA 2019-21 vice president. As a proud ANA member for over 41 years, I have enthusiastically promoted numismatics and the ANA through assiduous service as past presi-

dent of the Greater Houston Coin Club, founder of the nation's largest high school coin club, ANA youth Summer Seminar counselor, ANA representative and district delegate, and as chair of several ANA committees. A proud recipient of some of the ANA's most distinguished awards, including the Medal of Merit, the Glenn Smedley Memorial Award, the Adult Advisor of the Year award, two Presidential Awards and the revered title of Numismatic Ambassador. I have formally served on the board of directors of the Network of Educators in Science and Technology (NEST), headquartered on the campus of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, Massachusetts. I now campaign for the ANA vice president to serve the interests of the academic community, collectors and the general public. As a coin collector since age 4 and dedicated educator for over three decades, I employ numismatics in the classroom to improve academic scholarship and expand interest in the coin-collecting hobby. I have been instrumental in the start of two elementary school coin clubs, five high school coin clubs and two university coin clubs in my 30-year tenure as an educator. I am running on a campaign platform to promote the "Adopt a School" program to attract large audiences in the elementary, middle, high, college and university education systems. I am committed to increasing youth participation, including membership and educational exhibiting; support families in numismatics; encourage coins in the classroom; and bring numismatics into the mainstream of historical studies.

If elected I will help the ANA expand the coin-collecting hobby and address contemporary issues regarding online numismatic education, expanding information technology, advocating consumer protection and the employment of exemplary service to ANA members. I pledge my "time, talent and treasure" to serve the numismatic community by monitoring, motivating and providing means to expand our collector organization with presence, perception and persistence.



### **Thomas J. Uram**

Eighty Four, PA  
LM 4554

ANA governor Thomas J. Uram has announced his candidacy for ANA vice president. He began his association with the ANA as a junior member in 1974, and within two years became an ANA life member, which now encompasses 45 years of continuous membership. His young numismatist beginnings included projects under the supervision of Florence Schook, participating in the ANA David R. Cervin Ancient Coin Project, volunteer paging and much later at the ANA Summer Seminar.

Tom is a winning exhibitor at many regional and national coin shows. His first exhibit was as a junior member at the 1976 ANA convention in New York City. He is often seen in the exhibit area as an ANA certified judge. He has encouraged many hobbyists to enter their material into the Collector Exhibits competition. Tom has participated in numerous ANA National Coin Week projects. As a lifelong collector, Tom has kept his focus on engaging others to participate in the many facets of the hobby.

Tom is serving his second term as a member of the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC). United States Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin appointed him as CCAC chairperson in December 2018. Tom is able to bring a unique insight into the complete process of coin creation, from its start as a concept, legislative approval, design submissions, engraving challenges, production specifications, as directed by the United States Mint, to the final first-strike ceremony. He has presented many lectures about this arduous process.

Tom Uram is a 1982 graduate of the University of Kentucky with a degree in business. He has a 30-year career in the financial-services industry. Tom has participated in strategy sessions with the ANA about financial possibilities to meet the Association's future needs and brings a valuable perspective.

Tom is president of the Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists (PAN), president of the George Washington Numismatic Society, and a member of the Western Pennsylvania Numismatic Society, Chicago Coin Club, Central States Numismatic Society, Florida United Numismatists, The Sphinx Society, North Hills Coin Club and South Hills Coin Club. He is a Western Pennsylvania, Washington County resident.



## FOR GOVERNOR



**Michael L. Ellis**  
Camilla, GA  
LM 6363

We need a hardworking, diligent, communicative Board whose members exude enthusiasm for the Association, and I am one of those people! We must get back to full concentration on our congressionally mandated mission to educate! And we are getting there.

For quite a few years, many large coin shows have become ghost towns by Saturday afternoon. This should be the day that entertains the majority of the public, and when it is so empty on Saturday afternoon, it breaks my heart. I believe dealers must be made to stay all day on Saturday. How do we make this happen? I highly recommend we try running shows where Saturday falls in the middle of the show! We must treat the smaller dealers better as well.

I am a 39-year life member and a longtime instructor at ANA Summer Seminars (since 1996!). I have received the Glenn Smedley Memorial Award, a Presidential Award and the Murray G. Singer Outstanding Hobby Mentor Award. I have also received the Numismatic Ambassador award.

I served 14+ years and counting as an officer of CONECA, 8 as president. During this time, I led CONECA from a little-known specialty club to a well-known, highly respected national organization that leads the numismatic community in error and variety research and education. As a result of my efforts on behalf of error collectors everywhere, I have received every award CONECA has. I am a frequent contributor to and have been the editor of numismatic publications of all kinds.

It is my honor and my privilege to serve you. It is a hobby for most of us, and I like to keep it fun for everyone!



**Rick Ewing**  
Beaumont, TX  
LM 6498

In my discussions over the years with fellow members of the ANA at conventions and the Summer Seminars over the past 10 years, more than one current or former ANA Board member has said to me that “you are a strong-opinioned person and would serve the ANA well. So why don’t you run for governor?” After discussions with more members of the ANA and, more importantly, my spouse, I have decided to nominate myself for a position. Granted, I have also received more than a few “why would you open up to the headaches and time that it takes?” I still want to serve.

I have been active and done many things within the area of the numismatic community. I joined the Greater Houston Coin Club in 2008 because the club offered a chance to learn more about numismatics, and within a year, I was asked to join the board of directors. After I started to serve, I used a computer to record the meetings and was met with resistance because the actions might get out to the club. As I persisted, I was elected as secretary, and now the regular item on the agenda is the review of the minutes of the meetings. Now I am in my sixth year as secretary. I later was awarded a one-week scholarship to the ANA Summer Seminar, and now I attend both weeks of the Summer Seminar for 8 years, teaching a mini-seminar in 2014 and now tentatively scheduled to teach a mini-seminar this coming 2019 session.

I would like to see changes in the way things are done but cannot make these changes without being on the Board to do so. I am not advocating massive changes, just tweaks, so to speak. I would like to change some of the ANA Numismatic Diploma Program process and some image changes at the Summer Seminar. I will endeavor to serve and improve the ANA for all of us.



**Muriel Eymery**  
London, England  
ANA 3184873

Based in London, traveling to the Americas, Europe and Asia, Muriel Eymery is a numismatic globe-trotter, catering to our community.

As EVP global head of coins and medals at Spink since 2016, she seeks consignments worldwide and manages auctions while overseeing specialists in London, New York and Hong Kong. She developed major partnerships as the revival of Taisei Spink auctions in Tokyo, the NYINC Spink auctions, sponsorships of the British Museum’s Numismatic Gallery and the journal of the ONS. She was key in getting NGC/PMG/CCG to establish its U.K. office on Spink’s premises.

Muriel also handles the Michael Gleason Collection of original musical performance recordings of world-renowned artists at Abbey Road Studios. Prior to Spink, she was VP international business development at PCGS from 2007 until 2015, in charge of its foreign activities. She jump-started exponentially their worldwide presence, engaging collectors, distribution networks and setting up grading offices in Europe, Hong Kong and Shanghai. Before, as director of B to B at Monnaie de Paris, she managed commemorative issues and institutional relationships. As head export Americas, she secured distributors and media coverage with the USPS, ANA and various museums.

Early on she worked for financial institutions (AIG, Traveler’s, WorldBank).

A member of WIN, ANS, BNTA and BNS, she holds an MBA from Baruch College, a master of international public policies from SAIS, JHU, and speaks English, French, German, Spanish and Portuguese.

Wouldn’t it be great if:

Our conventions could be filled with more foreign collectors, dealers and mints?

Our educational programs attracted more world collectors?

We could engage more passionate young people and women, whom I often meet during my travels?

Our Association extended to a larger global online community?

Most foreign numismatists, academics and museums are unaware that they can join the ANA and share passion and knowledge with us. As a governor of the ANA, I will strive to include a larger portion of this population to represent the rich diversity of our hobby. Let’s together reach out to a world of numismatics, which puts you and the ANA at the center of it! Thank you.



## FOR GOVERNOR



**Mary Lynn Garrett**  
Lexington, KY  
ANA 1162022

The long-term financial health of the American Numismatic Association will be my primary focus if elected to the Board of Governors. It has only been in recent years that the ANA has made a serious effort to build its development department. For an organization with a \$5 million budget, only a small portion comes from donations. The Board of Governors should make fundraising a top priority in coming years. The educational mission of the ANA cannot be met without proper funding. The future of the ANA should never be taken for granted!

For 25 years, I have worked with numismatics on a daily basis at Mid-American Rare CG. Recently, I received my 25-year membership pin. By attending the Summer Seminars, I have seen the wonderful work the ANA staff offers. These seminars have given me the opportunity to familiarize myself with the teachings and education that the ANA provides to the public and those individuals interested in numismatics. I want to work to make sure others have this opportunity for years to come.

I have worked for decades on local nonprofit boards, and I hope to bring this experience to the ANA. My past nonprofit board experience will be valuable when dealing with budgets, marketing, membership and staff issues.

Coin clubs are critical to numismatics, and many years ago, I helped my husband organize the Bluegrass Coin Club in Lexington, Kentucky. Today the club is very healthy, with over 50 members. Club outreach is vital for the ANA to grow in the future. If elected I plan to work hard with clubs around the country to grow the hobby.

Part of the growth for our hobby should include more focus on young collectors, women and minorities. This long-under-served portion of the hobby can be a strong engine for growth going forward.

The ANA Board has done a wonderful job in the last decade, and I hope to continue to add momentum for the next few years. Please consider me with your vote in this summer's election.



**John W. Highfill**  
Broken Arrow, OK  
LM 2655

Hello. My name is John Highfill, and I am a current member of the American Numismatic Association's Board of Governors. I have been in numismatics for 44 years. I am also a board member of ICTA and the founding father of the National Silver Dollar Roundtable™ for the past 38 years. All of these are educational organizations. I also have written articles for multiple numismatic tabloids. I am a 25+-year contributor in price assistance to both the "Blue Book" and "Red Book" price guides. I have currently written a two-volume, 1,880-page book entitled *The Comprehensive U.S. Silver Dollar Encyclopedia*™. To me education is everything in numismatics. With your support for ANA board member, it would be both my honor and privilege to represent the membership of the ANA organization.



**Greg Lyon**  
St. Louis, MO  
ANA 1119916

Having started collecting at age 6, I am a 36-year ANA member and have volunteered for the ANA since 1989 as an exhibit judge, YN Summer Seminar chaperone and convention volunteer. Professionally, I have a 25+-year career in information technology, including five years in management consulting, and currently work as an IT project manager, ensuring large-scale projects are completed on-time and on-budget, the same goals the ANA has for meeting its objectives.

While the ANA is our national coin club, it is also a small business with a \$6 million annual budget, more than 35 employees and assets totaling over \$85 million. The most important role of the ANA Board of Governors is to properly manage these assets to further the ANA's educational mission—both today and in the future. I have both the collector's background and business experience to lead the ANA.

The accomplishments of which I am most proud from my service on the Board are launching the ANA's updated website, developing the ANA Strategic Plan, and implementing sustainable financial policies for the Association.

Our new website provides a platform through which the ANA can provide exclusive content, such as the entire 131-year history of *The Numismatist*, now available to our members. Future plans call for placing educational programming from conventions and Summer Seminar online, allowing members who cannot attend these events in person to benefit from them remotely.

The ANA Strategic Plan provides clear priorities for the Association, including member outreach, improved museum security and, most importantly, financial sustainability. Our Association is in a strong financial position thanks to previous donations and bequests. With \$25 million in current investments, the ANA Board must balance current spending to provide the most educational benefits possible while preserving the long-term security of the ANA. A motion I made to balance these objectives was passed in 2015, and the results thus far have met these goals.

Most importantly, I plan to remain a governor who is available to the membership. All comments, thoughts and questions are welcome. My email is [GregL13@swbell.net](mailto:GregL13@swbell.net).



## FOR GOVERNOR



**Clifford Mishler**  
Iola, WI  
LM 391

Having served two terms as an ANA governor, sandwiched around a term as president, I participated in wrestling with some truly disturbing developments where the organization's management and stability were concerned. The challenges going forward, as I presently perceive them, are five-fold: maturity, integrity, stability, security, and that perpetual ingredient of change, which has and will forever accelerate.

**Maturity.** Our hobby community is a mature universe, as it will forever be going forward. Young numismatists today and into the future will be inquisitive individuals, generally well into their 40s or older, of at least moderate means, with money to spend on their pursuits.

**Stability.** The days of dues, advertising and convention revenues can no longer carry the load. Additional funding must be established, or services reviewed critically and reduced or eliminated.

**Security.** Given the dramatic change presently under way in the communications realm, particularly as it relates to our hobby community, combined with the evolution being experienced in our hobby's demographic structure, the ANA is confronted with a compelling demand for discreet appropriation of its available fiscal resources.

**Change.** Look at the way our hobby community has changed in the 52 years since the ANA opened its national headquarters in 1967. To survive and prosper in the world that is unfolding before us, our hobby and the American Numismatic Association must craft and monitor a pathway forward that is both stable and productive.

**Qualifications.** Professionally, my career began as a *Numismatic News* editor, advancing to publisher, president and board chairman of Krause Publications (1963-2002). Owner and board member of the First State Bank of Iola (1972-83). Co-founder, executive director and ex-officio director of the Iola Old Car Show (1973-2019), a civic non-profit annually hosting 110,000 car enthusiasts to the community, generating \$300,000 in profits benefiting the benevolent purposes of the volunteer organizations staffing the event.

I'm a 63-year life member (since 1956) of the ANA. Served as an elected member of the Board (2007-09), president (2009-11), and again as a Board member (2011-13). I'm also a past president of the Token and Medal Society (1976-78) and the Numismatists of Wisconsin (1974-76).



**Paul Montgomery**  
Crescent, OK  
LM 4901

I see two significant opportunities that are critical to the future of the ANA. First, I believe we can advance the public awareness of the ANA by means of an enhanced marketing and public relations strategy. I have been a principal architect in bringing more than 200,000 people to our hobby over the past 30 years. The ANA is great, but it can and will be better.

Second, I believe collectors are under attack on many fronts. For decades I have been an advocate for our pastime, working with authorities to protect hobbyists on everything from adverse tax legislation to the defense of those impacted by unscrupulous trade practices. I am excessively passionate in this pursuit.

On a personal note, I consider it a great honor to serve the organization I love. I have been a collector all my life, traveling the world in search of coins. I am very proud to be a "coin weenie!" Many will remember me as the 1913 nickel guy, stemming from the discovery of the fabled Walton coin. Others, my decades roaming the aisles at hundreds of coin shows. More will remember my stewardship for the hobby, serving the PNG for 14 years as a board member and president, and my 20 years of service to ICTA as board member and chairman.

The people closest to me know that I am a leader, driven to advance the profile of our hobby, to elevate the level of public perception, to provide leadership whenever opportunity exists, and to raise the bar for the future of numismatics. I pray everyone I've met over the years will remember a friendly, confident voice and a heart for a "greater good."

I do indeed see a very bright future for the ANA. We can never lose sight of our responsibility to the next generation. I have a knack for seeing what's coming. I am also quite skillful at focusing teams toward solutions for prosperity. Please let me show you what I can do for the ANA.



## FOR GOVERNOR



**Robert E. Oberth**  
Marietta, GA  
LM 6471

I would like to earn your vote for a governor position on the Board of the ANA. I have been a lifelong coin collector and avid participant in numismatic ventures. I will bring a fresh take on what it means to be a part of this prestigious organization.

I am the founder of The Virtual Coin Show on Facebook, Coin Dealers Helping Coin Dealers and RoundTable Trading. Our focus is on engaging collectors and dealers alike. In two short years, we have been able to accomplish more than we ever dreamed of. We have raised tens of thousands of dollars for various causes. With thousands of members, we have organically created inseparable bonds between coin collectors and dealers in a way that has never been done before, giving them the tools and access they need to flourish in our hobby. The relationships we build everyday have spilled over into the coin-show circuit, increasing traffic and table sales.

I have committed my career to promoting coin dealers and a strong new base of collectors. Merging the gap between veteran dealers and the new generation of dealers coming in should be one of our main focuses moving forward. Through the power of social media networking, I will make it my goal for my first two years on the Board to continue to grow this new family of numismatists.

I am a board member of the History in Your Hands Foundation, work with ICTA, ANA life member 6471 and PNG full member 783. One project the RoundTable is spearheading is the Great American Coin Hunt. This campaign could prove to be the broadest-reaching promotion in numismatic history. I am proud to have the support of the ANA and others as we continue to build on this project.

The energy I have witnessed from the next generation of coin collectors and dealers through social media is truly inspiring. The ANA has the potential to harness this energy and lead the path as it has done for generations. With your vote, I pledge to continue to build this family atmosphere in our hobby.



**Shanna Schmidt**  
Oak Park, IL  
ANA 3130326

I would like to formally introduce myself to those of you who don't already know me. My name is Shanna Schmidt, and I have been active in the field of numismatics as a dealer since 2005. I specialize in ancient numismatics, with a particular focus placed on Greek coinage. I am a full member of the PNG (member #671) since 2008, a member of the ANA (member #3130326), as well as the American Numismatic Society. I served as a former board member with the International Association of Professional Numismatists (IAPN).

Prior to working with coins, I was employed for 13 years in various advertising firms both domestically and internationally. In 2005 I started my career in numismatics working for my father's company, Harlan J. Berk, Ltd. In 2013 I graduated with a master's degree in liberal arts from the University of Chicago. My master's thesis was on the cultural-property debate as it relates specifically to ancient coins. In 2016 I decided to become an independent coin dealer and form Shanna Schmidt Numismatics, Inc. This enabled me to focus efforts on individual customers and building their collections.

While at Harlan J. Berk, Ltd., I helped to form the educational foundation History in Your Hands, a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) that was created to bring students of all ages from kindergarten through university level in contact with numismatic material to aid in learning about history.

I feel that I can bring a fresh perspective to the ANA Board of Governors with my previous life and professional experiences. The ANA is a great organization that is there for both the collector and dealer. The trade shows that are hosted by the ANA should be catered to the changing lifestyle of the younger collector and dealer, with an eye on the steadfast and reliable seasoned older generation. I believe both can be done, and I hope that, working on the Board with my fellow Board members, I can achieve this.

