

National Money Show draws highest attendance in four years

Free admission, free appraisals and Saddle Ridge exhibit bring in the public

The American Numismatic Association's Atlanta National Money Show recorded a total attendance of 4,771, making it the best-attended National Money Show since the 2010 event in Fort Worth, Texas.

The final day of the show, Saturday, March 1, featured free admission and free appraisals of up to three numismatic items. There were 2,201 public in attendance on March 1, with a total attendance for the day of 2,497.

"Our Saturday educational family outreach day program which included free public coin appraisal was an outstanding success," said ANA President Walt Ostromecki. "We not only had the opportunity to help people discover that their holdings contained a few numismatic rarities, but we introduced many of them to the fun hobby of numismatics through the ANA - all part of our A New Approach strategy."

Heritage Auctions, the Official Auctioneer for the National Money Show, realized nearly \$15 million in the U.S. Coins Signature Auction, which was conducted Feb. 27-28 and March 2. The top-seller was an 1826 \$5 Half Eagle (MS65) that sold for \$235,000. An 1845 \$2 Quarter Eagle (Proof 67 Ultra Cameo) sold for \$223,250. An 1875 \$10 Eagle (AU50) sold for \$211,500.

In addition, the show featured the first public display of the Saddle Ridge Hoard of gold coins. The coins were exhibited by Kagin's, the firm that has helped the anonymous California couple bring the coins to market.

"The Saddle Ridge Hoard is such an amazing story, and it was an honor to have Don Kagin and David McCarthy make the National Money Show the site for the public unveiling," said ANA Executive Director Kimberly Kiick.

There were a total of 166 new members signed up at the show, and 62 Scouts participated in numismatic workshops. There were 126 children who participated in Treasure Trivia. There were 283 tables sold for the show with a total of 743 table personnel, 20 staff members and 49 volunteers.

Daily member attendance: 828

Pre-registered members: 306

Feb. 27: 287

Feb. 28: 371

March 1: 170

Daily public attendance: 2,874

Feb. 27: 308

Feb. 28: 365

March 1: 2,201

Total daily attendance: 4,771

Feb. 27: 1,468 (returning visitors, such as table personnel, staff and national volunteers, are counted in first-day attendance only)

Feb. 28: 806

March 1: 2,497 (total includes Scouting attendance)

Past National Money Show attendance:

New Orleans, 2013: 3,204

Dallas, 2012: 2,973

Denver, 2012: 2,800

Pittsburgh, 2011: 4,027

Sacramento, 2011: 4,668

Fort Worth, 2010, 5,480

The Atlanta National Money Show featured a sold-out bourse, a major auction by Heritage Auctions; the ANA Museum Showcase exhibiting some of the world's most valuable and beautiful coins and paper money; the Collector Exhibits area; educational presentations and seminars; and special events.

The American Numismatic Association is a congressionally chartered nonprofit educational organization dedicated to encouraging people to study and collect money and related items. The ANA helps its 25,500 members and the public discover and explore the world of money through its vast array of education and outreach programs, as well as its museum, library, publications, conventions and seminars. For more information, call 719-632-2646 or go to www.money.org.