Message from ANA National Coordinator
Michael S. ‘Stan’ Turrini

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.” – Mahatma Gandhi

If one quote might give meaning and purpose to those committed to our Association’s Representative Program – whether at the local coin club and its Club Representative, our District Representatives, our three Assistant National Coordinators, plus ‘good-old-me’ as the program’s National Coordinator – it might be the above from the immortal Gandhi.

The Representative Program is about ‘Service’: ‘service to our Association,’ ‘service to local coin clubs and regional or even specialty groups,’ and ‘service to our Association’s individual members.’ We are here to listen, to assist, and to encourage. We represent as much as we help. We direct questions and seek answers, hopefully.

Anyway, remember Gandhi’s saying. It might give you pause for thought and cause to serve our ‘world of money.’

Now For Some Program Updates and Business

First, Quarterly Reports. We are now into the Fourth Quarter, and Sandy Hill, our Staff Liaison, is still seeking quarterly reports. Gals and Guys, Get Those Reports In, Please!

Second, Heads-Up: Possible New Report Form. A form revision is anticipated. It is imperative that, rather than just ‘raw numbers’ and ‘statistics,’ the Association and our Program need some specifics. For example, not the number of local coin clubs visited or attended but those actual local coin clubs’ names, or another example, the actual names of Club Representatives contacted.

In 2009, there may be changes in the reporting procedures, and to the form. Your continued cooperation would be appreciated and requested.

Third, Assistant National Coordinators. District Representatives and Club Representatives, you have three excellent Assistant National Coordinators as well as ‘our own’ Sandy Hill. Please contact and communicate with them and copy your quarterly reports to them. For those east of the ‘mighty Mississippi,’ it is Jim Majoros, ‘The Colonel,’ and to those west it is Michael M. ‘Steamer’ Stanley. For those in our ‘neighbor to the north,’ Canada, it is Paul R. Johnson. They (and I) would enjoy regular contact and communication with all our District Representatives.

Fourth, Web site. All District Representatives and Club Representatives are reminded that the Association’s Web site offers much information and can often answer questions or provide direction. If you have an issue, please use the site initially. If you have questions about accessing the site, contact Sandy Hill. She helped me several times through it.

Fifth, Local Coin Club Contacts. One of our goals is for District Representatives to visit and be known at local coin club meetings. This involves having some Association information readily available, willingness to listen and field questions, and promoting the ANA – its upcoming conventions, its services, and its advantages – to all coin hobbyists. A concern has arisen that many local coin clubs – which ones are not really clear – have been visited too infrequently by District Representatives.

With travel expenses, late evenings and distances, and other priorities, it is understood that many, if not all, of our District Representatives can become ‘stretched,’ but your efforts for our program are invaluable – and appreciated, too!

Sixth, Kudos. Now having written the above, let me pause and express my regards, and those of Sandy Hill, our Staff Liaison, for the great efforts and energy being given by many of our District Representatives. Great Job, Gals and Guys!

Particularly, I commend our devoted and intense three Assistant National Coordinators – ‘The Colonel,’ Paul, and ‘Steamer’ – for they have enhanced our Program much these past few months. A+ With Gold Star, Guys! ... Continued on page 7.
Adna G. Wilde Jr. Dies

Retired Lt. Col. Adna G. Wilde Jr., former president, Board member, executive director, treasurer and parliamentarian of the American Numismatic Association, died on the morning of Nov. 17 in Colorado Springs. He was 88.

“This is a sad time for our Association,” ANA President Barry Stuppler said. “Adna will be remembered as one of the most important leaders in our history. Everyone who knew him respected him for his kindness, professionalism, and service to his country. He was the finest gentleman I’ve ever known, and he will be deeply missed.”

A member since 1947 (Life Member 232), Wilde served as executive director from 1968-72, governor from 1973-79, vice president from 1979-81, president from 1981-83 and treasurer from 1983-2008. He received the Farran Zerbe Memorial Award in 1985, the Medal of Merit and Exemplary Service Award in 1991, the Lifetime Achievement Award in 1998, and Presidential Awards in 1994, 1998 and 2008. He received the inaugural award named in his honor, the Adna G. Wilde Jr. Award for Excellence, this October.

Wilde was elected to the ANA Numismatic Hall of Fame in 2002, was named ANA Numismatist of the Year in 2005 and received the Numismatic Ambassador Award from Numismatic News in 1995.

Wilde was born in Vicksburg, Miss., on Oct. 1, 1920, and graduated from The Citadel in 1943. After college, he joined the Army, and was wounded in combat in Italy during World War II. He moved to Colorado Springs in 1945 and served as an officer in the Army, achieving the rank of Lieutenant Colonel before coming to the ANA in 1968.

An accomplished numismatist, he was known most notably for his research of Lesher Referendum dollars and Stone Mountain commemorative half dollars. In his first year as executive director, Wilde and Ed Rochette were instructors for the first Summer Seminar. Enrollment the first year was 17 for the week-long educational event; Summer Seminar has since expanded to two weeks and attracts over 400 students each year.

“The ANA benefited from Adna’s expertise for 40 years,” said Executive Director Larry Shepherd. “He inspired countless young collectors, and provided a steady hand through good times and bad. His legacy will help guide the Association for generations to come.”

Wilde is survived by his wife, Joan. He will be buried Jan. 26 with military honors at Arlington National Cemetery. Also see the Adna Wilde memorial page and guestbook on the ANA website.

Florence Schook School of Numismatics Established

The American Numismatic Association Board of Governors has voted unanimously to create the Florence Schook School of Numismatics in honor of one of the Association’s most beloved members, who dedicated much of her life to educating young numismatists, President Barry Stuppler has announced.

Named in honor of the late Florence Schook, who died in 2006, the Florence Schook School of Numismatics will house all ANA educational programs for young numismatists and adults, both online and in the classroom. Summer Seminar will be the flagship program, but classes and seminars at conventions, remote sites and online will also be included.

The Florence Schook School will be accounted for as a separate entity, allowing donors to fund specific classes and certification programs with the assurance that the funds will be used for their intended purposes, Stuppler said. Funding will be used to expand YN programs, including a new “Introduction to Coin Collecting” class, YN curriculum track and an internship program. The ANA also will place qualifying YNs with selected ANA member dealers for summer employment, and develop online mentoring and social networking programs for YNs.

“Creating the Florence Schook School of Numismatics forever honors the one person who, arguably, has had the greatest individual impact on young numismatists in ANA history,” Stuppler said. “Florence has been universally praised by virtually every young student who was inspired by her passion for numismatic education.”

ANA Executive Director Larry Shepherd said establishing the School allows the ANA to “make a renewed commitment to provide the best educational programs and resources in numismatics to collectors of any age or level.” He added that adult programs will be expanded to provide support and resources for new collectors, as well as intermediate and advanced programs to help attract new members, retain existing ones and enrich the numismatic experience for all collectors.

Funds donated to the Florence Schook School also will be used for scholarships, salaries for numismatic educators to develop new curriculum and online content, equipment, and other expenses necessary to operate the school.

“Creating this School re-emphasizes the ANA’s educational mission,” Shepherd said. “Through the Florence Schook School, we will educate a new generation of collectors, enrich the collecting experience for seasoned numismatists and enhance the bright future of the numismatic hobby.” See the ANA website for the full press release and additional information.
Message from the ANA Staff Liaison
From the desk of Sandy Hill, Staff Liaison.

Greetings to you all ... Depending upon where you are, the days are probably much cooler and the leaves are turning orange and red or have fallen off the trees completely. The holiday season is almost here!

We at ANA would like to enhance the benefits available to our member clubs. With that in mind, I have a favor to ask you and your club. Pick out one thing that you think ANA could/should offer to clubs. Send your suggestion to me by e-mail (hill@money.org), outlining this desired item and how we could provide it. I will compile a list of the wishes, putting those most requested at the top. Then I will consult the proper department or committee to see if we can make that wish come true. Please e-mail the wishes to me by January 15th.

On another matter, there are at least half a dozen states with no District Representative and several with only one. A few Reps will be retiring from the position at the end of the year. Have you or someone in your club thought about being a District Representative? It is a little bit of work, but it can be a LOT of fun, and you will get acquainted with other club members across your state. If you are interested, contact one of the Assistant National Coordinators: Jim Majoros at majoros@money.org (east of the Mississippi), Michael “Steamer” Stanley at stanley@money.org (west of the Mississippi), Paul Johnson at johnson@money.org (Canada) or Michael “Stan” Turrini, the National Coordinator, at turrini@money.org. Any of these gentlemen can answer your questions regarding the position.

Happy Collecting!

National Money Show™ in Portland,
March 13-15, 2009

The 2009 National Money Show will be held March 13-15 at the Oregon Convention Center. Anyone who is interested in creating a competitive, non-competitive, or marquee exhibit for the Collector Gallery can get an application by visiting www.money.org (select “National Money Show” from the “Featured Links” menu, then select the “Exhibits” tab) or calling 719-482-9814. Applications are due Feb. 1.

The Florence Schook School of Numismatics is looking for Numismatic Theatre presentations in Portland. This format features 30-40 minute talks from ANA members that showcase their research, ideas and collections. All numismatic topics are welcomed. Visit the ANA’s National Money Show Web page, call 719-482-9850 or e-mail education@money.org for more information.

National Coin Week, April 19-25, 2009

ANA member clubs are encouraged to get involved in the 86th annual National Coin Week, April 19-25. 2009’s event will celebrate the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln’s birth. A contest to determine a theme has been announced (and entries are now almost due); all submissions should deal with Lincoln and his role in U.S. history and numismatics.

Other plans include a coin search, events at historic sites that honor our 16th President, and a wealth of online games and resources. For more information about National Coin Week, call 719-482-9814 or e-mail ncw@money.org.

A New Year – Another Challenge
by Jim Majoros
Assistant National Coordinator -
Eastern Region
majoros@money.org

Obtaining enthusiastic volunteers is always a challenge. Clubs not only need volunteers that are interested in the hobby, but have the desire to take on projects from beginning to end. This includes club shows, education programs, YN programs, holding officer positions, handling the club auction, editing the club newsletter, etc.

Every volunteer organization has problems with members maintaining interest, not only with the hobby itself, but working to improve the organization. Clubs without strong leadership and membership participation fade into the sunset – longtime hobbyists know what I’m talking about. Recruiting new members is a responsibility of club leadership and this is one area that club officers must keep their oars in the water at all times.

The ANA will reimburse clubs up to $25 annually for advertisements soliciting new members – enough to assist a club with a small ad in the weekly newspaper. A copy of the reimbursement form is available from any ANA District Representative, or just e-mail clubrep@money.org.

Club officials should also log on to www.money.org and click on “ANA Clubs,” where they will find information that can assist them, especially the five-page “Club Trouble?” booklet by Bill Fivaz. Sometimes it just takes a little time and effort to search out what is available to help and ‘yep’ (as Sarah would say), you’ll find it.
News from Around the Country

Alabama
by Richard Jozefiak
ANA District Rep / ANA Education Committee
ANALMRJ@gmail.com

The Alabama District was busy the past few months with a number of major coin shows in the state and surrounding area. As ANA District Representative for Alabama, I had an ANA membership table at the following major coin shows: Alabama Numismatic Society’s state show in Bessemer, AL; Blue Ridge Numismatic Association’s show in Dalton, GA; and the Georgia Numismatic Association’s show in Dalton, GA. I also gave presentations at most of these shows. I signed up over 35 new ANA members.

I also have attended club meetings in Alabama, Tennessee and Georgia. From the club members I have met with, their local club membership has increased. Small local coin shows are doing well in attendance.

The Madison County Coin Club, AL won first place for local coin club newsletter. This is due to the hard work of editor Harold Fears. The MCCC Newsletter is available at the web site http://mccc.anaclubs.org/. MCCC President Bob Jaques has had a number of great programs this year at MCCC meetings.

In October, I had the honor of going to Vallejo, CA to give a presentation at the California State Numismatic Association’s Annual Northern Educational Symposium. This was held on a Saturday at the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum. I met with a number of ANA Club Representatives and District Representatives, and we shared information on our local activities.

Madison County Coin Club Assists Non-Collectors With Coins/Collection Evaluation for Possible Sale

The Madison County Coin Club (MCCC) was founded in 2001, and is supported by the Huntsville Senior Center, located in Huntsville, AL. The club provides a free service to the public and for senior center members on assisting non-collectors with coins/collection evaluation for possible sale.

The senior center maintains a list of people and organizations who are experts in different fields and willing to answer questions when contacted. When a person contacts the senior center with a question about coins, they are given my phone number.

When a person calls, I ask questions to see what the items are. If they are common coins (like most Ike dollars, non-silver coins after 1965, or “golden dollars”), they are told that they can spend them or give them away. If the person has coins of possible numismatic value (for example, coins in a slab or 2x2 holder), then they are invited to the next MCCC meeting for a free evaluation.

MCCC gets an average of one non-club member a month bringing coins to a meeting for evaluation. There are always club members willing to look at people’s collections and give some options for their collection.

The program has worked well. A few people who have chosen to sell their items in the MCCC auction have made a donation to the club.

Northern California
by Michael S. ‘Stan’ Turrini

The Golden State has many active local coin clubs, as well as a few that could use some vitamins or tonics, plus exercise!

As mentioned in the prior MintMark, two well-known personalities in our Representative Program were in Vallejo, CA on October 25 for the California State Numismatic Association (CSNA) Northern California Educational Symposium. Both Richard Jozefiak, from Madison, AL and Paul R. Johnson presented excellent PowerPoint programs. They are readily available for programs before local coin clubs or as speakers at larger shows. Great Job, Guys!

Speaking of great programs, I had the opportunity to observe the Sacramento Valley Coin Club’s first-ever Youth Numismatists Coin Collecting Workshop on October 3 during its Annual Fall Show. The SVCC is commended for its preparation and excellent program. Many adult members contributed and participated, and youngsters were also given donated gifts like magnifiers and books. The entire program was in PowerPoint. Terry Midby, the Club’s Youth Coordinator, and current SVCC President John Bither would welcome inquiries; you can contact the SVCC by visiting www.sacvalcc.org.

A few weeks later, I attended the Cupertino Coin Club’s Annual Banquet, my first visit after a hiatus of 24 years! Alvin H.W. Lo, the CCC’s current President, had an outstanding event. Along with the traditional bingo games, keepsakes, good food, and an evening of fellowship, there were annual presentations, which are worthy of notice.

Al Lo made sure each and every one who had helped the club, served an office, worked the Club’s coin show, or was there when needed was recognized with a special ‘President’s Award’ – a labeled and cased 2008 United States Silver Eagle, certainly a nice gesture. This approach to reward and to recognize should be considered by other local coin clubs.
first year the club elected to share 50 percent of its admission fees in support of the Food Bank. Attendance at the show topped 600.

Concord Boy Scout Troop #465 assisted at the show. A number of scouts fulfilled some of their requirements toward earning a coin collecting merit badge with their coin show volunteer work.

The Diablo Numismatic Society plans to support the Food Bank at next year’s show and hopes to raise over $500. Anyone interested in learning more about the club’s charitable efforts should contact Bill Green at greenwj@aol.com or (925) 351-7605.

Virginia
by Jess W. Kilgore, VNA Secretary/Webmaster

The Virginia Numismatic Association’s 50th anniversary Convention and Coin Show was a fantastic success! The historic event was held September 12-14 and welcomed close to 100 dealers from 16 states. Jay Johnson, former Director of the U.S. Mint, was the keynote speaker at the VNA Awards Banquet. Ten past VNA board members with 40 or more years of service attended the banquet and received awards for their contributions in furthering the hobby. George Cash, the Convention Coordinator, was presented with an ANA Presidential Award by Patricia Finner, ANA Vice President.

Patricia Finner ran the Young Numismatists area for three days. She also led a certification workshop for the Boy Scout Coin Collecting Merit Badge in which 56 Scouts participated.

ANA conducted a two-day seminar, “Fundamentals of Grading U.S. Coins.” There were five world-class exhibits: Scott Arney took first and second place for “The Buffalo on Coins & Currency and Other Numismatic Examples” and “Russian Coins & Currency of Czar Nicholas II.” Runners up were Sherrod Gresham for “African-American History on Numismatic Material,” Herbert Carmichael for “Birds of Africa,” and Clyde Childress for his exhibit, “Old & Curious Primitive Money.”


The new board of VNA officers was elected. The new president is John Koebert. To learn more about our association, visit www.vnaonline.org.
Washington and Oregon  
by Eric Holcomb and 
ANA Governor Walt Ostromecki

Loos, Holcomb Receive ANA Presidential Certificate During PNNA-Willamette MiniCon

Photo: Lisa Loos (left) and Eric Holcomb (right) receive ANA Presidential Certificate of Appreciation from ANA Governor Walt Ostromecki (center).

Lisa Loos, Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association (PNNA) president and VP of Women in Numismatics (WIN) and Eric Holcomb, PNNA editor, webmaster, chief exhibit judge and editor of the ANA representative program newsletter, were both recognized for many years of unwavering volunteer service to local numismatics, the PNNA and the ANA by ANA President Barry Stuppler. Each was presented with an ANA Presidential Certificate of Appreciation by Governor Walt Ostromecki. The feting took place during the quarterly PNNA board meeting and dinner, Saturday, October 18, 2008 at the PNNA-Willamette ‘MiniCon’ fall convention in Portland, OR.

The 2008 Portland ‘MiniCon’ convention, cosponsored by the PNNA and the Willamette Coin Club, saw a small drop in overall show visitor attendance from last year’s 700 plus. “The show attendance was most certainly impacted by the current economic crisis,” commented General Chairman, Larry Gaye. Many dealers noted their overall sales were lower than last year’s pace and nary a bullion piece was to be found on the bourse floor. The hottest numismatic sales items were paper currency, modern US Mint offerings and mid grade (VF-XF) raw type coins. Dealer Dennis Reed, Lacey Rare Coins, WA noted, “We had to really deal, and I mean deal, to stimulate the public into buying. This was most unusual.”

“Local collector outreach and education were the two primary focuses of the show,” stated Gene Wiley, president of the Willamette Coin Club. “We were again fortunate indeed to have the exuberant and talented volunteer services of that passionate and family fun focused hobbyist, Walt Ostromecki, ANA Governor and long time PNNA member. Walt has spearheaded PNNA youth activities since 2001. He is truly amazing when it comes to relating to kids of all ages. I don’t know where he gets all his energy! He enlightened and educated not only the youth and families through a special Halloween theme YN Treasure Hunt and Scouting Merit Badge Program, but also conducted our free general public outreach program for show attendees: ANA’s Coin Collecting Basics 101 with skillful informative expertise and enthusiasm, introducing the joys of numismatics to well more than a hundred first timers.”

Eight outstanding and captivating top notch exhibits greeted show visitors. The display topics ran from ‘Katt Crazy’ coins to ‘Project Apollo MACO Medals,’ and from Zimbabwe’s 2006-8 inflation notes to ‘Byzantine Imperial Coinage.’

“Judging was very keen,” according to exhibit chairman Larry Rowe. Only a couple of points separated Gene Wiley’s second place exhibit, ‘Katt Krazy’ from Larry Gaye’s first place best-of-show winner, ‘Byzantine Imperial Coinage.’

“The most popular display from the public standpoint was ‘Project Apollo MACO Medals’ (entered non-competitively by Holcomb). PNNA historian Del Cushing brought along five cases filled with PNNA convention history from the 1950’s through 1970’s.”

The next PNNA sponsored show (60th annual) is scheduled for April 17-19, 2009 at the Tukwila Community Center, Tukwila WA just outside Seattle. See the PNNA website at www.pnna.org for information.

The Willamette Coin Club meets the third Thursday of each month, Multnomah Art Center, Room 34, 7-9 PM. For more information contact Larry Gaye at light.man@verizon.net.

The PNNA also hosts a coin exhibit and information table during the month of September at the Puyallup (WA) Fair. The PNNA table, with able assistance from the Boeing Employees’ Coin Club and other local clubs, saw in excess of 8,500 visitors during the 2008 Fair!

Eric Holcomb is the exhibit chairman for the ANA’s National Money Show™, March 13-15, 2009 in Portland, OR, and is encouraging collectors to bring exhibits to the show. Eric is available for consultation by e-mail at Eric@Holcomb.com, or by phone at 541-647-1021. Exhibit applications are available on the ANA website (see the NMS story on page 3 of this newsletter) and should be submitted directly to the ANA by February 1.
Message from ANA National Coordinator Michael S. ‘Stan’ Turrini

Continued from page 1.

I always would welcome contacts and correspondence from our District Representatives and Club Representatives. Please convey your thoughts and tribulations to me at Turrini@money.org. You may also write to PO Box 4104, Vallejo, CA, 94590-0410.

I am always amenable to ideas, insights, and inspirations. Our hobby – this ‘hobby of kings’ – is weathering tough times with our current economy and other concerns around the world. Over the past few months, I have responded to a few District Representatives who have expressed frustrations and concerns.

Gals and Guys, Hang In There! We all know the challenges, and we all work for a great hobby, and maybe it’s not as easy as it once was. But as Gandhi said, it is “in the service of others.”

Thanks For All You Do!

Remember:

Have Fun With Your Hobby!
Always Serve Others!
Enjoy Your Collecting!
And, Create Hope!

Honor your Club’s Past Presidents with a special medal

The price of the Past Presidents medal has just been reduced from $40 each to only $25 each (plus shipping) while supplies last. This handsome medal can be engraved by your Club with your President’s name and years of service. To order or for more information, call the ANA gift shop at 800-467-5725 or e-mail to enterprise@money.org (item code NPPM).

Honor Your Members with Club Speaker Certificates

If your club has members who promote numismatics by giving presentations in your community, you can request ANA Club Speaker Certificates of Appreciation. For an application, visit www.money.org (select “ANA Clubs” on the main page) or send an e-mail to Harvey@money.org.

Traveling Exhibits Available from the Money Museum

If your club is holding a show, working with a school or creating a special display in the community for National Coin Week, renting a small traveling exhibit from the Edward C. Rochette Money Museum is a great way to make an impact. Exhibits include “Explore America! A New Look for an Old Coin,” “Money of the Civil War,” “Money in Early America,” “Money of the Olympiads,” “A History of Chinese Coinage,” “The Presidents Are Coming,” “Money Makes the World Go Round,” “Ben Franklin,” and “The History and Romance of Hobo Nickels.”

For more information about the traveling exhibits, e-mail museum@money.org or call 719-482-9841.

Photo: A composite image of the ANA Edward C. Rochette Money Museum traveling exhibit “Money in Early America.”
Mission statement: The ANA Representative Program “is to work directly with collectors and clubs to promote and expand the numismatic experience through the services and programs offered by the Association.”

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Deadline for submission of material for 1st Quarter 2009 MintMark: February 1, 2009.

To receive the electronic-only version of future MintMark issues, or to change your e-mail, call 719-482-9846 or e-mail clubrep@money.org.

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Editor’s Message by Eric Holcomb

This issue of MintMark is coming out a bit late again, but should be just in time for the holidays!

Unfortunately I may have missed some of your e-mails because the ANA sent out a reminder notice with an old (no longer active) address at pnna.org. If your content wasn’t published, please update it for next time and resend it to Eric@Holcomb.com.

As always, I am looking for ideas relating to the program’s mission statement, as well as ideas for promoting the numismatic hobby in general. This time, we have a short article entitled “A New Year – Another Challenge” by Assistant National Coordinator Jim Majoros. (See page 3.)