National Coordinator’s Message
by Michael S. ‘Stan’ Turrini

“There is nothing more effective than a personal invitation from one member to another collector.”

This opening quotation, from American Philatelic Society Director Ken Martin, speaks volumes about the need to recruit and retain new ANA members, and the Representative Program’s unique position to do so. With the new structure instituted by ANA President Clifford Mishler, our program and the Membership Committee have been merged, charged with the “directional recommendations for all membership recruitment efforts, including the workings of the ANA Representative Program.” This mergence gives the program expanded involvement and gives Membership our talents and time.

I recently spoke with someone active in fraternal organizations, which might seem not to have anything to do with numismatics. But there was something mentioned that sparked my curiosity. While across much of North American fraternal involvements are in decline, there are, to use his remark, “pockets of real activity.” Maybe Our Representative Program can identify and share “pockets of real activity” within our hobby!

Reports or remarks of local clubs having increasing attendance, enlarging shows or growing youth activities would be great to hear and to learn. If you learn of a solid “pocket of real activity” share it with the program and with MintMark.

Kudos: Three of our District Reps were this August elevated as Krause Publications Numismatic Ambassadors: Virginia L. Bourke, from San Diego, Robert F. Fritsch, from New Hampshire, and Paul R. Johnson, from Ontario, Canada. Congratulations!

Finally, my favorite lesson about recruiting new members was taught for years by former DR Gordon R. Donnell, who never left home without his backpack filled with ANA membership applications and information pamphlets. He Never Was Without These.

And something to inspire: “Help your brother’s boat across, and your own will reach the shore.” — Hindu Proverb.

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

From the desk of Sandy Hill
Staff Liaison for the Club Representative Program

If you were unable to join us at the World’s Fair of Money® (118th anniversary convention) in Los Angeles, you missed some fantastic exhibits and a lot of educational opportunities, not to mention visiting with all of the collectors and local club members who attended.

The District Representative breakfast was fairly well attended and several of the club publication contest winners were present to receive their awards.

They are not up on the web site as I write this, but there are three new District Representatives. Interest is growing in this program and we are slowly finding volunteers for the states that have not had a Representative for some time. Clubs, tap into this resource. The District Representatives have the latest information available and can answer questions for you. They also know what is going on in the area and can make suggestions for club growth. Ask about the Bonus Bucks program. This will save on your club’s dues. It is possible to not owe any dues at all!

Photo: new ANA Board of Governors.
Winners Announced in 2009 Outstanding Club Publications Contest

The American Numismatic Association announced the winners of its 2009 Outstanding Club Publications Contest during its District Representative meeting on Aug. 8 in Los Angeles.

Each year, the ANA recognizes outstanding publications produced by member numismatic organizations. Submissions are judged in four categories: Local Clubs, Regional Clubs, Specialty Clubs and Electronic Newsletters.

Local Clubs

First Place: “Madison County Coin Club Newsletter,” Madison County Coin Club (Editor: Harold Fears)
Second Place: “Albuquerque Coin Club Newsletter,” Albuquerque Coin Club (Editor: Robert Laetare)
Third Place: “Augusta Coin Club Newsletter,” Augusta Coin Club (Editor: Arno Safran)

Regional Clubs

First Place: The California Numismatist, joint publication of the California State Numismatic Association and the Numismatic Association of Southern California (Editor: Greg Burns)
Second Place: The Centinel, Central States Numismatic Society (Editor: Roland W. Finner)
Third Place: The TNA News, Texas Numismatic Association (Editor: Ron Kersey)

Specialty Clubs

First Place: Casino Chip and Token News, Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club (Editors: Allan Anderson and Todd Barrett)
Second Place: Paper Money, Society of Paper Money Collectors (Editor: Fred L. Reed III)
Third Place (tie): The C4 Newsletter, Colonial Coin Collectors Club (Editor: Syd Martin); and The MCA Advisory, Medal Collectors of America (Editor: John W. Adams)

Electronic Newsletters

First Place: “Pocket Change,” Bluegrass Coin Club (Editor: John Cropper)
Second Place: “Tacoma-Lakewood Coin Club Newsletter,” Tacoma-Lakewood Coin Club (Editor: Rick Schulz)
Third Place: “Dallas Coin Club Newsletter,” Dallas Coin Club (Editor: Kathy Lawrence)

ANA Registers 565 New Members at Los Angeles World’s Fair of Money
Total marks record for ANA convention

The American Numismatic Association welcomed 565 new members during the 2009 World’s Fair of Money®, August 5-9 in Los Angeles. The total includes basic (online), regular and life memberships, and marks the highest new member total ever registered at an ANA show.

“We are thrilled at the number of people who saw the advantage of becoming a member of our Association,” said ANA Executive Director Larry Shepherd. “Not only did they receive free admission and a great magazine every month, but all of the other benefits of membership as well.”

Registered attendees for the convention totaled 7,727. The figure does not include more than 1,000 children age 12 and under and Boy and Girl Scout workshop participants in attendance, or several hundred existing Life Members who did not need to register for the show. Attendees who paid admission totaled 3,552.

“Overall, attendance in Los Angeles was somewhat less than anticipated,” Shepherd said. “We were working against three variables over which we had no control: concerns about the venue, the national economy, and the local economy. I will work with the Board to select future venues that are economically strong, convenient for dealers and members, and easily accessible for local visitors.”

Late addition for California – For the second year in a row the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano (CA) will receive financial support from the October 10-11 Contra Costa Coin Show, sponsored by the Diablo Numismatic Society. Information: Bill Green, (925) 351-7605, or visit the club’s website at diablocoinclub.org.
News from Around the Country

Alabama
by Richard Jozefiak, ANA LM and District Rep
ANALMRJ@gmail.com

Congratulations to the Madison County Coin Club (MCCC) for winning the 2009 ANA “Best Local Publication” in the ANA contest. This is the second year in a row that the MCCC Newsletter has won this award.

The editor is Harold Fears, and he puts a lot of effort into the MCCC publication and encourages the MCCC members to write articles for publication.

The MCCC Newsletter can be found on the web site: http://mccc.anaclubs.org/.

I was fortunate to attend the second session of the ANA Summer Seminar held in Colorado Springs in July. At the seminar, I was able to meet with a number of ANA District Representatives from across the country. It is always interesting to hear about the activities and events being done in different districts.

Arizona

Fountain Hills Coin Club by Donald C. McCombs

The Fountain Hills Coin Club unanimously approved the establishment of a Youth Coin Club and is seeking interested individuals in the Fountain Hills area. The “main” club formed in January 2007, and currently has over 30 members of which 5 are under the age of 15. “It has become evident that our current youth members’ coin collecting needs are not being met during our regular meeting,” said John Gibson, coin club president.

“Following a recent meeting of club officers and approved by the membership at our May 12th meeting, it was determined that we need to set up a meeting dedicated to the young collector, either new or experienced, in our community.” All youth coin club members are always welcome to attend the regular coin club meeting at 7:00 PM on the second Tuesday of each month at the Presbyterian Church on Fountain Hills Blvd.

The adult “leaders” of the youth coin club meeting anticipate using video, printed material, contests, auctions and prizes to help young collectors learn about coins and grow their collections. Coin Club Bucks will be issued to all who attend, win contests, answer questions and generally participate and behave themselves during the meeting. The “Bucks” can be used for coin auctions conducted at some of the meetings. Fred Hansen, coin club vice-president and auctioneer said, “The more Bucks a young collector accumulates, the more they can buy in the auctions.” Other members of the adult coin club suggested the name of the youth club be determined by the youth members in attendance during the first couple of meetings. A naming contest could be held and the winning submission will win more Coin Club Bucks. Auction items and prizes will be obtained from adult coin club members and local coin shops.

The youth members will meet once a month. There will be no charge to join the youth club; however, regular attendance is highly recommended as the educational component will be progressive with new information based on discussions from prior meetings. The initial meetings will be held at the Fountain Hills Library. “We expect attendance to be somewhat sporadic during the summer but hope to have all the bugs worked out and a regular group of kids by the time school starts in the fall,” said club treasurer Carl Spencer and secretary Owen McClure, whose son is the most regular young collector attending the current meetings.

Parents are not required to attend with their child/children. However, it is encouraged as the meetings will be structured and fun/educational challenges will be given to the kids to complete between meetings with their families at home.

For more information, please call John Gibson at 480-231-3896 or email fountaincoins@cox.net.

California

ANA Thank You

The Santa Barbara and Santa Maria Coin Clubs wish to thank the ANA for bringing the summer coin show back to California again. The Santa Barbara club sponsored a bus trip to the LA show and invited our neighboring club in Santa Maria to join us. We brought 25 collectors to the show on Saturday, August 8th, all of whom had a wonderful time at the show and on the trips down and back. The consensus favorite experience was visiting all the great displays at the show including the ANA, BEP, and all of the Mint displays. We also enjoyed the public display area. The dealers were very friendly and helpful and most everyone brought home purchases made at the show. Thanks to all who made this possible.

(Photo: LA convention host committee.)
Glendale Coin Club by Oded Paz

Southern California’s Glendale Coin Club (GCC) has been busy in the past few months. The club celebrated its 50th Anniversary, and came out with a commemorative elongated coin, designed by Club President, Oded Paz. The club made 200 elongated cents, 100 of which were made on 1959 cents. The club also made 20 special full-denomination sets, on a cent, nickel, dime, quarter, Kennedy Half and Presidential Dollar. These sets were sold for $20, and were totally sold out within a month. By selling these sets the club covered the cost of making these coins, and also added almost $100 to the club’s treasury!

The club was also invited to give a special presentation at the Arroyo Seco Library in Los Angeles. Club President and ANA District Representative, Oded Paz (photo at left), gave the presentation and answered the crowd’s questions. He was assisted by club V.P. Mary Yahalom and her husband and board member, Jerry Yahalom.

Some recent monthly meeting programs that club members enjoyed were:

- April – “Extended Show-and-Tell,” where club members bring in non-numismatic items, especially showing other collectables.
- May – Mrs. Mary Yahalom on “National Bank notes.”
- June – Mr. Dominic Arnold, former director of the Philippine Numismatic and Antiquarian Society (the Philippine equivalent of the ANA) on the subject of “Philippine coinage and banknotes.” The meeting date was June 12th, which happened to be Philippine Independence Day!
- July – GCC club member Mr. Joe (Red) Henry, on the subject of “Silver and investments.”
- August – annual “white elephant sale,” where everyone brings in their junk from home, numismatic related or not (usually not). Everything is auctioned off, and the proceeds go to the club.

The Glendale Coin Club was one of the Honorary Host Clubs of the ANA World’s Fair of Money® in LA, and many club members volunteered at the show.

California Coin Chatter by Michael S. Turrini

Cole Schenewerk of San Diego is the ANA’s 2009 Young Numismatist of the Year. Cole had three programs at the 2009 World’s Fair of Money, and one was on welcoming hobbyists to be ANA members. Not too bad for someone still too young to drive!

The Vallejo Numismatic Society celebrates its ‘Double Nickel’ 55th Anniversary this year, and next year the Diablo (Concord) Numismatic Society has its Golden Jubilee 50th Anniversary. The Redwood Empire Coin Club (Santa Rosa) just completed festivities for its 60th Anniversary.

Californians contributed heavily to the recent World’s Fair of Money, chaired by G. Lee and Joyce Kuntz. Among the Coordinators and Chairpersons were: Gary Beedon, Virginia Bourke, Elena Burns, Howard Feltham, Albertus Hoogeveen, Jeff Klemzak, Kay Edgerton Lenker, Anthony Micciche, Oded Paz and Robert Thompson.

The Fairfield Coin Club has instituted a youth program. Youngsters are now asking their parents, or grandparents, to bring and to stay with them at the meetings. Credit this to the leadership of Robert W. Belleau, Sr., current President, and Jon-Maria Marish and William F. Bartz.

Harry W. Davis, president of the Vallejo Numismatic Society, coordinated an ongoing National Coin Week display at the local Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum. Harry will also be the Moderator this October for the CSNA’s ‘Coin Collectors Retreat.’ Three ANA Members will be presenters at this retreat: Lee H. Gong, on ‘Error Coins,’ Robert E. Luna, on ‘Morgan Dollars,’ and John P. Russell, Jr., on ‘Metal Detecting For Coins.’ E-mail emperori@juno.com for more information on this Oct. 24 event.

Jeff Shevlin became Assistant Editor to the California Numismatist, which for the fifth consecutive year was the ANA’s first place in the Regional Publications Category (Gregory S. Burns serves as editor).

Lyle Okamoto was elected president of the Cupertino Coin Club and also carries the chores of its monthly newsletter, “The Coin Press,” as well as the San Francisco Coin Club’s “Two Cents Worth.” Jim Wells edits the monthly “Bulletin” for the San Diego Numismatic Society. Any club seeking creative ideas is encouraged to contact him at 858-457-1533 or jimswell@aol.com.

Lastly, Gordon R. Donnell, a former District Representative and well-know figure in our hobby, has been diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer. Well-wishes may be telephoned to him at 510-547-0518.
Colorado

**Front Range Coin Club by Ken Davis**

The Front Range Coin Club (FRCC) completed a very successful summer show at the Boulder County Fairgrounds, June 6-7, 2009. With over 45 dealers and almost 300 interested attendees, this is quickly becoming Boulder Colorado’s best coin show. The interest in the kids’ auction was particularly strong. Many future numismatic enthusiasts bid on coins donated by the dealers and the club. They walked away with coins that could start a lifelong hobby or be a great addition to their collection.

The FRCC is looking forward to a two-day show October 3-4, 2009, featuring 50 dealers, another kids’ auction, and a display competition, open to all. For more information about the show, or to enter the display competition contact Bob Thayer at 303-717-1010, e-mail A55bobster@aol.com.

Connecticut

**ANA and Litchfield County Coin Club Represented at Connecticut Civil War Encampment**

*by Dick Bacca, ANA District Rep*

As an ANA District Rep and also a member of the Connecticut Civil War Roundtable, I recently had an unforgettable opportunity to represent the ANA and our local coin club at the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Civil War Encampment on May 30, 2009. This is the first of three events in our state, while many other states also have scheduled special events. (See www.abrahamlincoln200.org.)

This event was scheduled in my home town of Torrington, also known as the “Birthplace of John Brown.” Planned well in advance, this was an eight-hour event and the New England weather turned out perfect. My role was to set up four tables of displays, all with civil war related memorabilia. This included coins, US and Confederate currency, tokens, patriotic covers and Lincoln mourning covers, all from the Civil War period and the years that followed. In addition, I included 20th Century items honoring Lincoln. While all of this was in place by 8:00 AM, the next several hours were never to be forgotten.

The Event: Located on the grounds of the Torrington Historical Society, dozens of troop tents had been installed the night before and many of the in-uniform troops had even slept overnight. Parade grounds had been outlined for troop maneuvers, along with dozens of tables and tents where authors would be showing their latest books and paintings on the war. My location was centered on the main lawn where most visitors coming to the event would have to pass.

Abe Lincoln: Four blocks from this encampment location is the town’s old (1890s) train station. By special arrangement with the Connecticut Train Museum, Abe Lincoln arrived in a specially decorated train. At the station he would make several speeches before getting into an open two-horse drawn carriage with our local mayor. Prior to the train arriving, some 120 soldiers (in full uniform) had also gathered along with dozens of wives and children (all in the finest period dress) for Lincoln’s arrival. They would then, led by a fife and drum corps, parade their way down to the encampment site. All of this was out of my view as I stayed with the displays. Upon their arrival they had been joined by close to 1,000 people coming to witness the encampment.

Photo: Lincoln reviews the troops.

Many events: All day long there were hundreds more people coming to the event and watching the maneuvers and demonstrations of weapons, including many firings of a gattling gun. At least half of the people that attended came by my displays, often asking many questions. Most had never seen items like this, including youngsters. I was often found explaining items to both the adults and their children. It was a long but very enjoyable day, highlighted by Lincoln giving several famous speeches, including the Gettysburg Address. All of my Numismatists and ANA applications, along with our local club applications, were gone. Hopefully we have gained a few new members, but at least got many to think about these old collectables.

Photo: Visitors view Dick Bacca’s displays.
Nebraska

Omaha Coin Club by Mitch Ernst, President

The Omaha Coin Club participated in the Ashland Days Parade on July 18, 2009 (see photo below) as well as in the Sarpy County Fair Parade. According to club president Mitch Ernst, “This is our second year of doing parades and they have proved to be fun functions for club members and an ‘out of the box’ way to introduce the club and the hobby to the Omaha area.”

It’s also the club’s 75th anniversary. The markings on the windows of the car in the parade read “75th Anniversary” and “Collecting Coins Makes Cents.” And, yes, there are a number of coin images on the side of the car! (Your editor assumes they were temporary magnetic stickers. A very creative idea!)

Washington and Oregon

by Eric Holcomb

The Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association (PNNA) and the Willamette Coin Club (WCC) are looking forward to their annual fall convention, October 24-25 in Portland, OR. This will be the fifth year that the regional organization (the PNNA) and the local club (the WCC) have worked together on this show.

Specialty Clubs

Society of Silver Dollar Collectors

The Society of Silver Dollar Collectors (SSDC) is a member-driven club dedicated to the knowledge and research of silver dollars. The club, established in 1988, serves as a nationwide clearinghouse for the most up-to-date information about newly discovered dollar varieties. This helps keep its more than 300 members on the cutting edge of collecting. Beyond growing its membership, the SSDC strives to educate all collectors on the known varieties of silver dollars and helps in the attribution thereof. Members are very active online providing assistance to others in the determination and discussion of dollar variations. The SSDC supports www.VAMworld.com, where users have posted more than 50,000 messages detailing thousands of silver dollar varieties. Club website: www.ssdcvams.com.
Carson City Coin Collectors of America

The Carson City Coin Collectors of America (CCCCOA) has launched a web site, www.carsoncitycoinclub.com. A brief history of the Carson City Mint, articles, images of coins, links to other sites, recommended books, and a discussion forum are featured on the site.

Rusty Goe founded the CCCCCOA in May 2005. Over 445 “CC” coin enthusiasts have signed up for membership as of June 2009, including 63 new members over the past year. Subscriptions are $20 per year, which entitles members to receive four issues of the club’s award-winning journal, Curry’s Chronicle. Over 165 articles about the CC Mint and its coins have appeared in the journal to date.

The CCCCCOA held its annual meeting at the ANA’s World’s Fair of Money® in Los Angeles. This year’s meeting featured a Carson City Coin Symposium with four guest speakers. Approximately 50 people attended the symposium.

Photo: CCCCCOA symposium speakers Bill Bugert, Darrell Low, John McCloskey and Rusty Goe.

Contact information: CCCCCOA, PO Box 18040, Reno, NV 89511, e-mail mariegates@sbcglobal.net, phone 775-322-4455.

Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc.

Also see the club’s website, www.ccggtcc.com.

The Casino Chip & Token News (CCTN), the quarterly publication of the Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club, Inc. (CC&GTCC) was awarded the Outstanding Specialty Numismatic Publication Award by the ANA for 2009. The CCTN’s editor is Todd Barrett, having recently replaced Allan Anderson. Bob Orme and Joe Shaw serve as assistant editors.

Mr. Anderson, the previous editor, was quoted as saying, “It’s an honor to be recognized by the ANA for their Outstanding Specialty Club Publication award. In the eight years that I’ve submitted the magazine in the contest we have won five first places, one second and one third. There have been many people over the years that have contributed in many ways, not only writing articles but doing research, submitting photos, editing articles and of course advertising. It’s what made the magazine great.”

The new editor, Todd Barrett was quoted as saying, “I look forward to continuing on the great success the magazine has had in the past. It is a joy to work with the club members who supply great articles and features each quarter. They are what makes the Casino Chip & Token News magazine what it is.”

My Thoughts

by Paul Johnson, ANA District Representative
Program Assistant National Coordinator

I have been involved in coin collecting and numismatics for more than forty years. It all started back in 1965 as a thirteen year old teenager. I was hooked after being given a Canadian ‘tombac’ 1943 nickel and a Whitman album. This also came with a challenge from my collecting friend to fill all of the holes in the album with the appropriate coins.

After joining the local coin club, it wasn’t long until I was coerced into becoming secretary of the club. I enjoyed the club meetings … learning about coins and meeting other people with like interests. As time went on, a few more junior collectors joined the club.

I thought it would be a great idea to form a local coin club just for young people. The new club was an instant success … regular meetings and a lot of fun, education and enjoyment took place. I guess it wasn’t enough, in my mind. Why not start a national coin club in Canada exclusively for young coin collectors and run by them as well? After a lot of time and work with much communication with other young collectors from across the country, the Canadian Young Numismatists was formed in the early 1970s. By then I had joined the Canadian Numismatic Association, which is the largest numismatic organization in Canada.

After joining I wrote to the President of the CNA and made a number of suggestions to include a full program for junior collectors. The CNA didn’t really have any specific activities for juniors and I thought that my ideas would help. A letter of reply from the CNA president asked me to head a Junior Committee. I happily accepted and recommended a series of programs for young collectors of the organization.

I guess I didn’t realize it at the time, but I was developing and using my organizational skills … leadership skills that became skills that I have used all of my life … both in the business world and our hobby world.

The hobby of numismatics continuously needs people involved to use their organizational and leadership skills for all aspects of the hobby. Coin clubs need leaders like you and the ANA needs more members to become involved and serve the hobby. We need to ‘grow the hobby of coin collecting’ and spread the word to as many interested collectors as possible. We need to tell people that coin collecting is fun!
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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Editor’s Message by Eric Holcomb

I’m pleased to announce that Walt Ostromecki is the new ANA Governor liaison for the Rep program. Walt would like to see input from local Reps, individuals and clubs about ideas and success stories related to the hobby (and ANA) that may be highlighted to benefit others. Examples: special milestones in club history: 500 meetings, 50th anniversary celebrations, outstanding club leaders, YN programs, exhibits (at public libraries, NCW), ANA membership concerns, requests for ANA certificates of individual and club recognition, discussion of what should be included in an ANA Rep or club show kit, etc. Where appropriate, I will feature your ideas and success stories in the MintMark.