Fourth Quarter 2010  

Notes from Headquarters

Former Club Rep Liaison Brenda Bishop has left the ANA to pursue other opportunities. Member clubs that need materials or assistance should contact Cary Hardy, Membership Manager, phone 800-514-COIN or e-mail hardy@money.org.

Celebrate National Coin Week, April 17-23, 2011

“Blue, Gray and Greenbacks” is the theme of 2011 National Coin Week, April 17-23. The celebration will commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. Clubs can participate in a competition this March and April testing Civil War numismatic knowledge and research. Prizes relating to the Civil War will be awarded to the clubs that ace the activity.

Member clubs are also asked to promote and participate in other ANA activities. Beginning in March, weekly clues and questions will be distributed online every Monday, following a virtual tour of battlefields and other important places during the war. Students across the country will be encouraged to create coin and note designs commemorating the war. Promotional resources will be available on www.money.org.

The ANA created National Coin Week in 1924. To get your club involved in the 88th annual event, call 719-482-9814 or e-mail ncw@money.org.

ANA National Money Show in Sacramento

Make plans now for the 2011 National Money Show, March 17-19 at the Sacramento Convention Center. Club tables for the show are available, and the ANA will provide complimentary meeting space to member clubs for 1 to 2 hour meetings. Applications are available on www.NATIONALMONEYSHOW.com.

Two pre-convention seminars will be offered: Coin Conservation, Authentication and Grading, March 14-16; and Fundamentals of Numismatic Photography, March 14-15. The ANA will present its next “Destination Education” event March 20-23 at the Nevada State Museum in Carson City, formerly the Carson City Mint. The seminar will include a tour of the Comstock Lode mines in Virginia City.
ANA Convention Report

Report by John and Nancy Wilson, Ocala, FL

The ANA World’s Fair of Money (Anniversary Convention) was held in Boston, MA, August 10-14, 2010, at the Hynes Convention Center, and was a stupendous success!

The hotels and convention center were all connected (or close by), and many restaurants and shops were only steps away. Our sincere thanks and kudos to the local committee chaired by Prue Fitts, along with the Boston Numismatic Society and other host coin clubs along with their volunteers.

Thanks also to:

- ANA President Clifford Mishler and the board, along with Executive Director Larry Shepherd and his staff
- The national volunteers, exhibitors, judges and educational speakers
- Official auctioneer Heritage Auctions
- The numismatic press and media
- Show sponsors and patrons
- Dealers who took tables
- The U.S. Mint and BEP, along with 16 other world mints
- The authentication services
- Positive Protection Inc. for outstanding security
- Coin clubs who took tables and held meetings
- The many extraordinary special exhibits (like the ANA 10-case Bebee exhibit, early coins and other highlights), Smithsonian, Massachusetts Historical Society, many rare Mexican coins, great historical documents, Ship of Gold and others
- A wonderful banquet!

Like all ANA conventions, this Boston show had something for everyone, whether they were a collector or not. We thank outgoing ANA staff member Brenda Bishop for her 30 years of dedicated service to the Association, along with retiring ANA national volunteers Paul Whitnah, Larry and Kathy Rowe, Dorothy Baber and Vicki Owens.

We look forward to seeing you at the National Money Show in Sacramento, CA on March 17-19, 2011, and the World’s Fair of Money in Chicago, IL on August 16-20, 2011.

Are You Using Your ANA Benefits?

Club membership with the ANA has its benefits. For a detailed list of what the ANA can do for you, visit the ANA’s Club Benefits Page. E-mail hardy@money.org to take advantage.

Coin Show Kits – ANA can provide promotional membership materials for club coin shows at no charge to ANA member clubs. Requests should be received at least 30 days in advance of show dates to guarantee arrival.

Club Speaker Certificate – Special recognition from the ANA for educational speakers. Fill out and submit the Club Speaker Certificate of Appreciation Request Form at least 30 days in advance of the award presentation in order to guarantee the arrival date.

Outstanding Club Publications Annual Contest – ANA Clubs are encouraged to submit their regularly issued club publications for entry into the annual Outstanding Club Publications Contest. First place winners will receive a plaque, second and third place winners receive a certificate.

Numismatic Diploma Program – ANA offers a substantial discount for ANA clubs to enjoy the Numismatic Diploma Program. Receive a well-rounded education in numismatics – get the basics and much more in a structured and exciting series of courses and examinations.

Past Club President Medal – ANA offers a striking nickel-silver medal for purchase to honor the outgoing local ANA Club President.

Club Liability Insurance – For single events or annual coverage for meetings and shows, liability insurance is available through Hugh Wood Inc. For further information, call 1-888-277-6494 or e-mail insurance@money.org.
News from Around the Country

Connecticut

Submitted by Peter Moon, CCCC/ANA member.

The Central Connecticut Coin Club (CCCC) celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. Back in March 2010, the CCCC celebrated its 500th meeting (monthly, except for July and August) with commemorative currency notes, showing the signature of our club president, along with a number of other notable elements, including a picture of the building where we meet.

The club started with 10-15 members in 1960. Sally Kirka was the most notable personality of the club’s early days. In October we issued a souvenir to each member of the club: a commemorative display of two Lincoln cents, one dated 1960-D and the other a 2010-P Lincoln shield cent. They are wrapped in a laminated white cardboard frame with green currency-like details around the frame, and the names of the club officers. They are marked as a limited edition, with the first one being 1 of 50!

The club currently has a membership of around 35 active members. Officers are Julio Gianoni – President, Murray Wheeler – Vice President, Winthrop Porter – Secretary, and John Neel – Treasurer. The club usually meets at 7:00 pm the first Tuesday of each month at the South Windsor Public Library in Connecticut. Visitors and new members are welcome.

Florida

Palm Beach Coin Club

The Palm Beach Coin Club celebrated its 50th anniversary (1960-2010), and has produced an interesting 21-page document detailing some of the club’s history, with lots of photos. To request a copy as a PDF file, contact Tony Swicer, e-mail swicer@comcast.net.

Silver Sands Coin Club

The club will hold a coin and currency show December 4-5, 2010 in Panama City, Florida. For information contact Doug, e-mail nfccshop@knology.net.

Georgia / South Carolina

CSRA stands for Central Savannah River Area (East central GA and western SC) and is represented by two local coin clubs. The larger of the two is the Augusta Coin Club (Augusta, GA), founded in 1959. It has over 100 members, averaging 50 or more at every meeting, puts on two 2-day coin shows a year (May and November), and has made substantial charitable donations both locally and elsewhere such as to the Katrina Fund and to the child victims of the Haiti earthquake. Every meeting includes member “show and tells,” a 20 to 30 minute educational program, and an auction.

The smaller of the two clubs is called the Stephen James CSRA CC after the late Stephen James, a coin dealer in Aiken, SC who encouraged and helped YNs learn about the wonderful world of numismatics. His widow Pat, a local attorney, was the club’s first Treasurer. The club was founded in 2001 and has around 50 members with 20 to 25 attending each meeting. Through the efforts of other founding members such as long time ANA Regional Representatives James and Helen Barry, the club has put on a September show each year and has sponsored a “Road Show” at the club’s meeting site, the Aiken Public Library, on a Saturday during the spring. The “Road Show” allows folks from surrounding communities to bring in numismatic items to be appraised. Like the Augusta club, the SJ CSRA CC encourages “show and tells,” provides educational programs and holds an auction at every meeting.

Guest speakers have included former ANA Governor Bill Fivaz, Anthony Chibbaro (author and specialist in SC tokens and medals) and Robert Moon (specialist in paper money). Both clubs have borrowed DVDs from the ANA library in Colorado Springs and belong to the national Association.

Finally, each club produces a monthly newsletter that has been recognized by the ANA in its Outstanding Club Publication Contest seven times out of the last nine years. Augusta received a 3rd place award in 2009 for the 2008 issues and the SJ CSRA CC took similar honors in 2010 for its 2009 issues. The masthead of the newsletters lists the respective meeting sites, meeting dates, officers and contributors. Please contact Arno Safran (VP for both clubs) for samples of one or both newsletters, at arnosafran@comcast.net.

Photo: YN Austin K. displays Iraqi banknotes at the October 2010 meeting of the SJ CSRA CC. (The editor thought his shirt might be appropriate for Halloween!)
Maryland
Catonsville Coin Club

To commemorate the 200th anniversary of Catonsville, Maryland, the Catonsville Coin Club has issued a wooden nickel. Catonsville, a present-day unincorporated suburb of Baltimore, was settled along the Frederick Turnpike in 1810 by Richard Caton, under the authority of his father-in-law Charles Carroll, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. The club’s wooden nickel is available for 25 cents plus a self-addressed stamped envelope bearing sufficient return postage. Requests can be sent to the Catonsville Coin Club, PO Box 3273, Catonsville, MD 21228-0273.

For more information about the club, contact Bryce Doxzon, ANA Club Representative, e-mail bryce.doxzon@us.army.mil. The club was also one of the host clubs for the 2008 ANA World’s Fair of Money in Baltimore.

Nebraska

The Nebraska Numismatic Association voted in officers at their annual meeting held on the evening of August 21, 2010. NNA officers are (left to right in the photo) Mitch Ernst – President, Patrick Milliken – 1st Vice President, Gene Frederick – 2nd Vice President, John Veach – Secretary/Treasurer.

The annual meeting was held in conjunction with the NNA’s 2-day show and convention held in Lincoln, NE, August 21-22, 2010, hosted by the Lincoln Numismatic Society. Immediately following the meeting, the NNA held its annual convention dinner with featured speaker, Dr. Lawrence Lee, on “Numismatic Name Dropping in Nebraska,” in which he highlighted many of the famous numismatists and collections of the state.

For information about the Nebraska Numismatic Association, please write to PO Box 24913, Omaha, NE 68124 or e-mail NNA_Journal@msn.com.

New Jersey by Jim Majoros

Photo: Jim Majoros (right) presenting an ANA certificate to Ocean County Coin Club president Dennis Berube (left) in May 2010. The certificate was presented at a luncheon at the Lakehurst Naval Air Base, NJ where the club first organized and met in May 1970. Forty-four club members and guests attended the luncheon that included a three-hour tour of the base and the site where the famed Hindenburg airship crashed and burned in May 1937.

The Ocean County club also had their annual show in September, with an attendance of 200. The show included a YN treasure hunt and five exhibits by club members, four from YNs.

The Garden State Numismatic Association (GSNA) YN Director, 19-year-old Zachary Beier, has organized a 12-week nickel search program that involves 23 individuals, of which six are from states other than New Jersey. It started in August and Zach is keeping everyone current on a weekly basis with the finds, which have included a dime in a nickel roll and some very old nickels! At the end of the search, he will consolidate all search reports and keep participants posted on the final results. This is a program that maintains YN interest throughout the year and he has done a magnificent job.

For more information about New Jersey and New York activities, contact Jim Majoros, ANA District Rep (NJ and NY), e-mail major9@comcast.net.
South Carolina

Myrtle Beach Coin Club

Ernie Turnes (e-mail evturnes@juno.com) has produced a one-page Word document detailing some information about the club. For example, “We have not yet had our own coin show but register the public at a local coin show run by a coin club member. (This gives us a great opportunity to recruit.)” Also, the club was named 2008 South Carolina Numismatic Association “Coin Club of the Year.” Please contact Ernie to receive a copy of the document.

Stephen James CSRA Coin Club, Aiken, SC

See Georgia report.

Virginia

Suzanne Stewart, ANA Rep for the State of Virginia, is in the midst of taking a tour through the state to reach the “tiniest of clubs that are in all corners of the state.” She is trying to make all clubs aware of the ANA, how to become ANA member clubs and/or individual members, and the benefits of both.

Washington and Oregon

by Eric Holcomb

Eric, in his role as Regional Representative for Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming and Alaska, has initiated contact with District and Club Reps regarding their participation in the program, but so far the response has been slow! If you live in one of these states and are interested in serving as a District Rep, please contact Eric, e-mail Eric@Holcomb.com.

Eric also attended the PNNA-Willamette Coin Club fall convention and coin show, October 23-24, 2010 in Portland, OR. In addition to Boy and Girl Scout coin clinics run by James Reinders and his daughter Katie, there was also a “Kid’s Zone” table inside the show run by ANA Governor Walt Ostromecki. The “Kid’s Zone” provided youth, families and non-collectors with all sorts of free hobby introduction information and educational materials. In addition, the “Kid’s Zone” sponsored a free 11-stop youth educational money-treasure hunt activity. The “coin treasure” included a variety of coins and foreign currency attached to informative-educational cards.

Youth (ages 9 and up) also had the opportunity to play “Deal or No Deal – The Numismatic Version” for taking home one of 22 U.S. prizes, up to the top prize of a silver dollar. The subject of this year’s quiz dealt with foreign currency country identification. Parents were permitted to assist their children in this learning experience.

For more PNNA information, including information about next year’s spring and fall conventions, see the association’s website, www.pnna.org.
Specialty Clubs

Carson City Coin Collectors of America

The Carson City Coin Collectors of America (CCCCOA) held two successful meetings in August 2010.

Boston Meeting

Thirty-three people attended the C4OA’s annual meeting at the ANA’s World’s Fair of Money convention on August 12 in Boston. President Rusty Goe took care of club business and then member Dan McCarty presented Goe with the club’s first Hal V. Dunn Literary Award for Goe’s article, titled “Harold Montgomery Budd—A Connecticut Yankee in Abe Curry’s Court.” The article appeared in the fall 2009 issue of Curry’s Chronicle, the club’s award-winning journal.

Next, Goe introduced C4OA member Weimar White, who talked about building 10-piece type sets of Carson City coins. White estimated that fewer than 35 10-piece “CC” coin type sets could be assembled with all examples in Uncirculated grades. White then talked about 10-piece type sets available in different circulated grade ranges and gave price estimates for each level. He finished by answering questions about coin chemistry, the subject of his bestselling book with the same title.

Goe then introduced Darrell Low, who presented an overview of Carson City Liberty Seated coins. Low covered dimes, twenty-cent pieces, quarters, half dollars, Seated silver dollars, and Trade dollars. His PowerPoint presentation included charts showing rarity rankings, price estimates, and images of coins. Low focused on coins valued at $500 or less, although he shared how difficult it was to find Seated dollars in that price range. Low tested attendees’ grading skills by having them guess the grades of coins shown on the screen.

Liberty Seated half dollar specialist Bill Bugert finished the seminar with his presentation on Carson City half dollars. Bugert profiled each date in a set of “CC” half dollars. He provided surviving population estimates, variety information, and blown-up images of examples of each date. At the conclusion, Bugert sold copies of his new book, A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume II, Carson City Branch Mint.

Carson City Meeting

About 40 people met two weeks later at the CCCCCOA’s regional meeting in Carson City, NV, in conjunction with the Nevada State Museum’s annual coin show. Only three members present at Carson City had attended the club’s Boston meeting.

After a gracious welcome by the museum’s director, Jim Barmore, Rusty Goe introduced the meeting’s project coordinator, Bruce Thayer. After Thayer made a last-minute appeal for attendees to buy raffle tickets, he began introducing show-and-tell presentations.

Over the course of 2 1/2 hours, 16 members took turns standing in front of the group sharing coins and items related to the history of the Carson City Mint and the era in which the mint operated. One member displayed his 1870-CC $20 gold piece, valued at over $250,000. Other members shared historic documents, exonumia, GSA-related memorabilia, VAM varieties of “CC” Morgan silver dollars, a complete 19-piece set of “CC” $5 gold pieces, Chinese counterfeits of “CC” coins, and an array of other interesting material. Everyone who attended expressed praise and satisfaction about the diversity of items shared during the show-and-tell session.

Midway through the presentations, Thayer and his team paused to draw raffle tickets. Member Jeff Shaw won the grand prize, a lustrous 1878-CC Morgan silver dollar graded MS-64 by PCGS. Other raffle prizes included an 1875-CC chopmark ed Trade dollar, a VAM variety 1878-CC Morgan silver dollar graded MS-62 by ANACS, and an original brochure-order form from the GSA sale of “CC” Morgan silver dollars in the early 1970s.

Later that evening, 26 members met for dinner at Adele’s restaurant in Carson City (photo above), located four blocks from the museum in a building that dates back to 1864. The dinner capped off a perfect day, which included the coin show at the museum (located in the old Carson City Mint building) and the three-hour meeting.

For more information about the Carson City Coin Collectors of America, please visit the club’s Web site at carsoncitycoinclub.com, write to CCCCCOA, P.O. Box 18040, Reno, NV 89511, or contact Marie Goe, phone (775) 322-4455, e-mail info@ccccoa.com.
Carson City Coin Collectors Journal Wins NLG and ANA Awards

In the fall-winter 2010 issue of Curry’s Chronicle, the Carson City Coin Collectors of America announced that its journal received awards from the Numismatic Literary Guild (NLG) and the American Numismatic Association (ANA). The NLG bestowed its “Best Issue award in Small Publications for Clubs category” on Curry’s Chronicle for the third time in four years (in 2009, Curry’s Chronicle received the NLG’s Extraordinary Merit award). The ANA presented a third-place award in its “Specialty Numismatic Publication” category to Curry’s Chronicle for the second time in three years.

The fall-winter Curry’s Chronicle features an article by Rusty Goe titled, “How Monetary Policies Influenced Coinage Production at the Carson City Mint from 1875 to 1877.” In it, Goe explains how shortages of fractional coins, political debates over U.S. monetary policies, and large silver discoveries led to massive production of small silver denominations in the mid-1870s.

John Kroon wrote about different ways to collect representative type sets for all three gold coin denominations struck at the Carson City Mint. Weimar White’s article on 1875-CC twenty-cent pieces reports on the availability and price levels for this date. Liberty Seated Collectors Club President John W. McCloskey describes in depth the different die marriages and mintmark placements used on gold half eagles at the Carson City Mint.

Tom DeFina’s article provides information about the discovery of an 1877/6 Carson City Seated Liberty dime over-date variety. Images in DeFina’s article, courtesy of Gerry Fortin, illustrate the diagnostics to identify this variety. Dale Kershner describes how his collecting interests led him to assemble a high-end Uncirculated set of Carson City Morgan silver dollars, and Bruce Thayer, Dan McCarty, and Mark Archambault describe events at the CCCCOA’s two August meetings, one in Boston and one in Carson City, NV.

The Carson City Coin Collectors of America is a non-profit club incorporated in the state of Nevada. It is open to any member in good standing seeking to share and receive information about the Carson City Mint and the coins produced there. Dues are $30 a year, which includes a three-issue subscription to Curry’s Chronicle.

The CCCCOA’s mission statement is “To increase knowledge on the subject of the Carson City Mint and the many fascinating coins produced there, and to promote camaraderie among fellow ‘CC’ coin enthusiasts.” Rusty Goe founded the Carson City Coin Collectors of America in May 2005.

Combined Organizations of Numismatic Error Collectors of America (CONECA)

CONECA Releases New RPM E-Book

Dr James Wiles, the 20th (and 21st) Century die varieties attributer for CONECA, has announced the release of the long-awaited Lincoln Cent Re-punched Mint Mark (RPM) Book, Vol. 1, 1909-1958.

The book is in an electronic format, and comes on a CD housed in a DVD type case. It includes over 700 pages of color photographs, description, hyperlinks and population and pricing data.

For more information, including the pricing and ordering of this book, please visit CONECA’s Variety Vista Website at www.varietyvista.com. (CONECA’s main website is www.conecaonline.org.)

Western States Token Society

The Western States Token Society (WESTS) is holding its annual show in Sacramento, CA in March 2011 one week prior to the ANA National Money Show.

The dates of the WESTS show are Friday-Sunday March 11-13; the dates of the ANA NMS are Thursday-Saturday March 17-19. The WESTS show is free to the public on Saturday and Sunday.

WESTS, a regional hobby group, focuses on trade tokens and exonumia of the western United States. (Included in the exonumia category are wooden nickels, encased and elongated coins, etc.) While a very loose-knit organization, it has sponsored an annual show for two decades, holds a minimum of two regional collecting sessions annually in addition to the show, and has financially assisted with the publication of an array of exonumia references.

For further information contact John Hoffman, e-mail mercedtokn@aol.com.
**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 2011 MintMark: January 9, 2011.

To receive the electronic-only version of future MintMark issues, or to change your e-mail, call 719-514-COIN or e-mail clubrep@money.org.

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**Editor’s Message by Eric Holcomb**

Sorry I missed Boston, but I’ll look forward to seeing many of you in Sacramento, which is much closer to home for me!

This time we don’t have as many reports as usual, so I’ve devoted a lot of space to the Carson City Coin Collectors of America. Perhaps other clubs and organizations can learn from their highly successful efforts the past five years.

The 1st Quarter 2011 edition of MintMark is not far off, so start planning and writing your submissions now! Remember, I’m not looking for a “data dump,” but rather a short summary of how your club is participating in the ANA Club Rep Program.

If you have a coin show or event to list in the ANA’s printed and online calendars, please e-mail magazine@money.org well ahead of time.