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Treasure Hunt, Club Activity Highlights 2009 National Coin Week

Alyssa Talbott of Vero Beach, Fla., is the grand prize winner in the American Numismatic Association's 2009 National Coin Week Treasure Hunt. Talbott, 10, receives a 1918 Lincoln commemorative half-dollar and an ANA junior basic membership.

Other winners included Ed Hunnicutt of La Junta, Colo., Steve Morton of Oakley, Calif., and Brian Delmont of Kenmore, N.Y. Winners received prizes such as a 1909 VDB Lincoln cent, 2009 Lincoln commemorative silver dollar, and Civil War-era fractional currency. Brent Zimmerman of Cloquet, Minn., won a medallion plaque featuring the famous Lincoln portrait used for the cent, as well as a scene featuring the portrait's artist, Victor David Brenner. The piece was donated by Signature Art Medals (www.signatureartmedals.com). Three basic ANA memberships, including a subscription to the online version of *The Numismatist*, were also awarded to participants.

The 86th annual National Coin Week was celebrated April 19-25. This year's theme was "Lincoln's Legacy: A Nation United," honoring the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth and his contributions to history and numismatics. The ANA organized a treasure hunt where collectors were challenged to find five coins related to Lincoln and report their findings online. Overall, 362 people completed the hunt and registered for the drawing.

Across the country, clubs celebrated the week by promoting coin collecting in their communities. Activities included educational presentations in libraries, schools, malls and bookstores; coin evaluations and dollar exchanges in museums; open houses and club member recruitment events; and several proclamations issued by local and state officials celebrating the week and coin collecting in the community.

Each year during the third full week of April, coin collectors celebrate National Coin Week with exhibits, presentations and other activities designed to convey the fun of collecting and studying coins and other forms of money. A new theme is chosen annually; past themes include "The Presidents are Coming!" and "Money Makes the World Go Round."

The American Numismatic Association is a nonprofit educational organization dedicated to encouraging people to study and collect money and related items. The ANA helps its 32,000 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 visit www.money.org.