

ANA CONTRIBUTES TO THE DISCOVERY CHANNEL PROGRAM ON UNITED STATES MINT

The American Numismatic Association (ANA) assisted in the production of a documentary entitled "Secrets of the U.S. Mint," scheduled to air on The Discovery Channel in November.

"The ANA was a great help in giving us a sense for the most important issues in the field," says program producer Harry Gural of Powderhouse Productions.

Gural says the film shows, "for the first time on television," the Mint's process of creating clad, silver, gold and platinum coins. It also features "rare footage" inside both the San Francisco and West Point Mints, and reveals how gold is alloyed and made into planchets, showing how the Mint checks to ensure its American Eagle bullion coins contain the proper amount of gold.

The program takes viewers inside Numismatic Guaranty Corporation (NGC), the ANA's official coin grading service, and explains how the difference of a single point can mean tens or thousands of dollars. Gural says the film also shows how numismatists "distinguish the world's best coins from elaborate fakes."

"The film takes us to the pinnacle of the numismatic world - a high stakes auction, where a nickel sells for more than \$1.8 million," he says. "The ANA also was instrumental in helping us get permission to shoot its auction last March, where the 1913 Liberty Head nickel was sold."

Dwight Manley, managing partner of the California Gold Marketing Group, purchased the finest-known specimen of the five famed 1913 Liberty nickels at an auction conducted by Superior Galleries, the official auctioneer for the ANA's 2001 National Money Show, in Salt Lake City. Manley has since constructed a major exhibit featuring the coin; the display was displayed at the ANA World's Fair of Money last August in Atlanta.

"Secrets of the U.S. Mint" will be aired on The Discovery Channel on November 16 at 10 p.m. Eastern and Pacific Standard Time (EST and PST), 9 p.m. Central Standard Time (CST), and 11 p.m. Mountain Standard Time (MST). It will be repeated on November 17 at 2 a.m. EST and PST, 1 a.m. CST and 3 a.m. MST.

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 28,000 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 go to www.money.org.