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ANA Recognizes Numismatist of the Year, Young Numismatist of the Year, Highly Involved Hobbyists

Honorees celebrated at the World's Fair of Money last week

This year, the American Numismatic Association (ANA) proudly honors a dedicated numismatist, an inspiring young collector, and seven passionate hobbyists whose contributions have elevated the collecting community. The Numismatist of the Year was celebrated at the 134th Anniversary Awards Banquet during the Oklahoma City [World's Fair of Money®](#). The Young Numismatist of the Year and Glenn Smedley Memorial Award recipients were presented during the convention's Member Awards and Donor Celebration. Both events applaud those whose enthusiasm and commitment continue to enrich the world of numismatics.

The **Numismatist of the Year** award recognizes collectors at the regional and/or national level who have demonstrated outstanding leadership within the hobby and the ANA. The 2025 recipient is Numismatic Guaranty Company (NGC) Chief Numismatist and Finalizer **Scott Schechter**.



Schechter got his start in professional numismatics in 1994 as an intern at the Smithsonian Institution's National Numismatic Collection, and after graduating from Harvard University with a degree in history of science, he worked as a U.S. coins dealer for Pinnacle Rarities. Employed with NGC since 2005, he developed the NGC Registry and online collection-management tools.

Schechter regularly shares his extensive knowledge on modern U.S. coin grading and certification – he has lectured on the topics for the Professional Numismatists Guild and at conventions in the United States and abroad, including at the World Money Fair in Berlin and the Beijing International Coin Expo in China. He coauthored *100 Greatest U.S. Modern Coins*, published in 2010, and penned the "Making Moderns" column for *Coin World* from 2011 to 2018.



Hayden Howard, a talented and involved numismatist, is the **2025 Young Numismatist of the Year**. He earned Junior Best of Show Exhibitor in 2022, 2023, and 2024 at the ANA's World's Fair of Money. He routinely attends conventions where he has volunteered and won several awards. Hayden is especially proud of his Michigan State Numismatic Society's People's Choice Award for his "I Like Ike" exhibit. He also shares his knowledge by giving presentations. Hayden was the auction head at the ANA's first session of Summer Seminar this year.

The ANA is recognizing seven exceptional individuals with a **2025 Glenn Smedley Memorial Award**. These highly involved hobbyists demonstrate positivity, cooperation, dependability, and strong communication skills.



An internationally recognized expert on coins from Jersey, United Kingdom, **Harold Fears** is an esteemed member of the Madison County Coin Club in Alabama. He is the longest-serving editor of the group's award-winning newsletter, which he has published more than 220 times over the past 20 years.

Retired ANA Education Director **Rod Gillis** served the Association for nearly 17 years. A life member of the ANA, he has mentored and taught countless young numismatists and authored the popular book *Past Tense: History through the Lens of American Coinage*.



From coin shows to online content, **Michael Kittle** is devoted to hobby recruitment and education, and his reach is expansive. His well-known YouTube channel, Michael Kittle Rare Coins, has surpassed 500,000 total views with videos that are both accessible and engaging.

With decades of experience in professional grading, **Keith Moon** now owns Gem Mint Coin LLC in Florida. An instructor at Summer Seminar and Witter Coin University, he dedicates a significant amount of time to teaching others about coin grading and counterfeit detection.



Cofounder and president of the Polish American Numismatic Society **Lester Rosik** has been instrumental in building a thriving community that's passionate about Polish numismatics. An advocate for education, he

continues to build bridges that facilitate the exchange of knowledge internationally.

A convention king, **Jeffrey Rosinia** specializes in outreach for all ages. He achieves success by teaching youngsters financial literacy leavened with the joys of numismatics, and he reaches adults with his award-winning educational exhibits.



Lawrence "Larry" Sekulich is adept at creating excellent exhibits that showcase an ancient culture's art and history. He has won several best-of-show awards and has been recognized for his writing and research skills. His success in these areas has led him to teach Summer Seminar students how to build first-rate educational displays.

The ANA World's Fair of Money (WorldsFairOfMoney.com) was hosted at the Oklahoma Convention Center in Oklahoma City, OK. The show brings coin collectors together from all over the world, featuring hundreds of dealers, displays of rare treasures, educational opportunities, family activities, and more.

The American Numismatic Association is a congressionally chartered, nonprofit educational organization dedicated to encouraging the study and collection of coins and related items. The ANA helps its members and the public discover and explore the world of money through its vast array of educational and outreach programs, to include its museum, library, publications, conventions and webinars. For more information, call 719-632-2646 or visit money.org.