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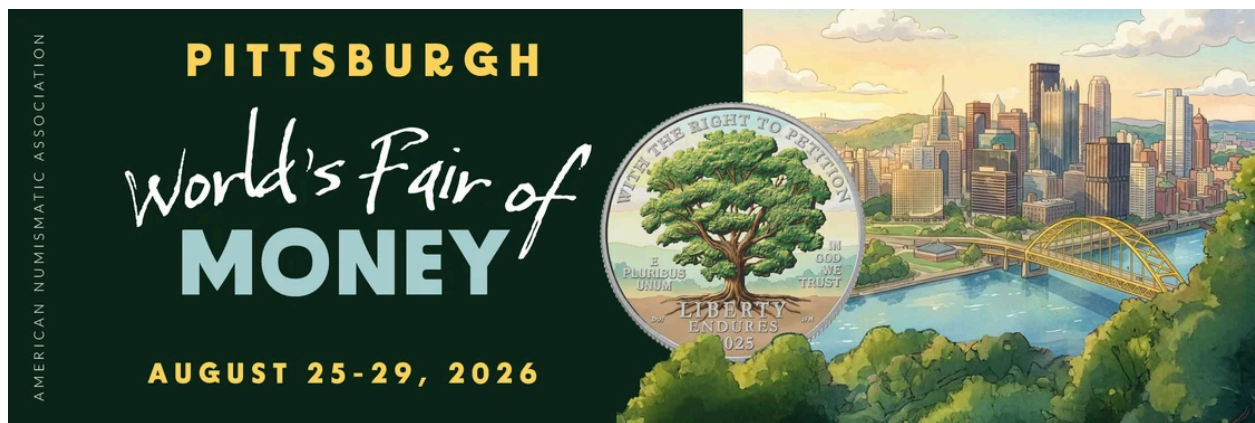
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From 1933 Double Eagles to Shipwreck Treasures: ANA 2026 World's Fair of Money® Celebrates Numismatic History

Annual show brought energy, enthusiasm, and the best of numismatics to Pittsburgh



The American Numismatic Association (ANA) successfully wrapped up its flagship World's Fair of Money (WFM) on Saturday, August 29, drawing over 6,300 collectors, numismatic professionals, and families to the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh. Held August 25-29, the premier five-day event featured more than 1,430 rare coin and paper money dealers, multi-million-dollar public auctions, and museum-grade educational displays highlighting over \$100 million in historic treasures.

The sold-out show floor of 489 booths featured top dealers, international companies, mints, rare coins, and engaging educational programs to fill the week with exciting opportunities and events. For a full look at the show and various special events, visit the ANA's photo gallery website at money.org/2026-wfm-recap.



U.S. Mint Director Paul Hollis (left) accepts an ANA Presidential Award from ANA President Mark Lighterman during the show's opening ceremonies.

"I look forward to the World's Fair of Money every year," said ANA President Mark Lighterman. "It brings our community together like nothing else, creating a space where families, history lovers, and lifelong collectors can connect, spark new passions, and learn from one another. Pittsburgh was a fantastic host city, and this was one of our most rewarding conventions yet."

United States Mint Director Paul Hollis participated in the official ribbon-cutting ceremony on August 25, alongside ANA representatives. Hollis was a constant fixture at the U.S. Mint's booth as well, signing official mint products and sharing information about upcoming releases and programs.

During the show's opening ceremony, ANA President Lighterman bestowed the Goodfellow Award upon Host Chair Thomas Uram. Additionally, the Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists was recognized with the Louis S. Werner Host Club Award.



ANA Vice President Mary Lynn Garrett (second from left) and ANA Representatives (left to right) Donna Moon, Phyllis Ross, David Heinrich, and Seth Chandler cutting the ribbon to officially open the show.

Advancing Numismatic Knowledge

Just prior to the convention, on August 23-24, the ANA hosted two seminars. *Counterfeit Detection of U.S. Coins* allowed students to review and study some of the most deceptive Chinese-made counterfeits of U.S. colonials, coins, tokens, bullion, and bars that are plaguing the marketplace. The second course, *Intermediate Grading of U.S. Coins*, included hands-on group and individual exercises with coins to gain an understanding of current grading-service philosophies and their evolution.

During the convention, attendees could choose from an abundance of learning opportunities, including eight Money Talks

presentations and the Maynard Sundman/Littleton Coin Company Lecture Series (sponsored by Littleton Coin Company), all of which were free to attend. The four Maynard Sundman focused on the theme "Striking Independence: 250 Years of American Numismatics," and drew 116 attendees.

Rare Treasures on Display

The show floor featured one-of-a-kind exhibits. [GreatCollections](#), the ANA's Official Auctioneer, displayed the All-Time #1 Silver Commemorative Set of 144 Coins Graded by PCGS with CAC Approval, formed by ANA member and supporter Mike Fuljenz over 20 years. They also showcased the Palos Verdes Collection of Error Coins, a personal passion project for the collector, featuring fascinating errors such as double strikes, off-metal strikes, wrong planchets, off-center strikes, and die caps. All coins included in the collection are dated 1972.



One piece from the error set displayed by GreatCollections, a 1972-D Eisenhower dollar bonded two-piece die cap.

On Friday, August 28, the [U.S. Mint](#) displayed all 11 government-owned 1933 Saint-Gaudens double eagles together for the first time in history. To coincide with the one-day exhibit, U.S. Mint Acting Chief Counsel Greg Weinman, numismatic author David Tripp, and rare-coin dealer Stephen Fenton presented on the legal battle and history behind the famed \$20 gold coins.



The 11 government-owned 1933 Saint-Gaudens double eagles displayed for show attendees at the U.S. Mint booth on Friday.

The ANA's own Museum Showcase displayed some of the world's most beautiful and significant coins, paper money, and related numismatic treasures. This always-popular exhibit features rare and historic pieces from the ANA [Money Museum](#), alongside items generously lent from distinguished private collections. Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists and Thomas Uram, displays included *Promises in Silver: The Changing Face of Indian Peace Medals in the United States*, *A Liberty for All*, *Satrapal Coinage of the Achaemenid*

Persian Empire, *The Forgotten Emergency Money of WWII*, and more. All Museum Showcase information can be found on the World's Fair of Money online gallery page at money.org/2026-wfm-recap.

Next to the Museum Showcase, the superb [Tyrants of the Golden Horn](#) exhibit showcased 224 important coins representing virtually every Byzantine emperor, as well as later Ottoman rulers. Named after Istanbul's historic harbor, the collection spanned over

1,700 years of numismatic history, featuring everything from a gold aureus of Diocletian struck in 290 A.D. to a Turkish 500 kurush.

A display of "short snorter" bank notes autographed by World War II dignitaries was showcased, with a major highlight of a unique short snorter signed by Hollywood icon and World War II combat pilot James (Jimmy) Stewart. [Short Snorter Project](#) Founder Tom Sparks donated the historic note to the Jimmy Stewart Museum, celebrating the actor's life with a special exhibit through November 15.

A member exhibit presenting treasures, artifacts, and scientific wonders discovered during expeditions to the famous SS *Central America* drew great interest. The "Ship of Gold" sank in a hurricane on September 12, 1857, with the greatest lost treasure in U.S. history.



Showgoers explored the Edward C. Rochette Money Museum Showcase.



Visitors to the World's Fair of Money had the opportunity to view the Tyrants of the Golden Horn exhibit.

The Collector Exhibits area featured 58 competitive displays, showcasing ANA members' unique collections and research. Top exhibit prizes—the Charles H. Wolfe Sr. Memorial Award for YN Best-of-Show Exhibit; the Radford Stearns Memorial Award for Achievement in Exhibiting; and the Howland Wood Memorial Award for Best-of-Show Exhibit—were presented during the ANA's 135th Anniversary Banquet event. Diamond Strategic Metals and Collectibles of Texas, LLC generously sponsored this year's Collector Exhibits.

Auctions

ANA Event Auctioneer Partners [Stack's Bowers Galleries](#) and [Heritage Auctions](#) presented auction lot viewings for their auctions scheduled to take place after the show concluded.

Stack's Bowers Galleries included rarities across the spectrum of American coinage in their auction. Comprising 23 auction sessions, their Rarities Night session produced record-breaking results with total prices realized of \$26,305,945 (all prices include buyer's premium).

Heritage Auctions held an online auction featuring the finest of only four privately held examples of the famous Quintuple Stella from Bob R. Simpson's collection. Their ANA U.S. Coins Signature® Auction realized \$39,918,268.



The bourse floor was a bustling hub of activity all week long, including young and experienced collectors alike.

ANA Featured Live Auction Sponsor [Early Cents Auctions](#) held a sale of Fred Borchardt's Hall of Fame Collection of 1793-1814 Cents on Thursday, August 27. With over 360 lots, the auction realized \$3,997,512 (including buyer's premium). Their live auction featured a premium example of the first large cent, a 1793 S-1 R4 Chain AMERI., graded PCGS AU55. This is the finest of this rare die state outside of the American Numismatic Society's collection.

A painting of the ANA's Bebee Specimen 1913 Liberty Head nickel (pictured) created by NFP.io and Laura Verschoore and offered by David Lawrence Rare Coin at auction during the show realized \$5,650. The inaugural large-format work of fine art was auctioned to benefit the ANA in support of its educational mission.

Fun for the Whole Family



Two young collectors participating in Treasure Trivia receive a prize at the Goldback table.

Ernie's Treasure Treehouse, sponsored by Kevin Lipton Rare Coins, had 196 young collectors lining up throughout the week to enjoy arcade-style activities. The ANA's Treasure Trivia, available to young children to learn about numismatics and earn prizes as they explore the bourse floor for answers, welcomed 115 participants. Saturday morning, the Young Collectors Corner offered valuable beginner information about coin collecting, with a surprise visit from U.S. Mint Director Paul Hollis.

As a bonus, historic reenactors of Abraham Lincoln and George Washington strolled the show floor, entertaining attendees with their spot-on impressions and hobby and history know-how.

Special Events



*Deputy Director of Sales & Marketing
Sun Xuan of China Gold Coin Group Co.,
Ltd. accepted the COTY award for
China's Chinese Dragon coin.*

The ANA hosted the YES! (You're an Exceptional Supporter) Event, celebrating those who have generously supported the ANA over the years. The celebration unfolded at the Senator John Heinz History Center on Tuesday evening. Attendees enjoyed catered food, live entertainment, a chance to mingle with friends, and the opportunity to explore the entirety of the museum for the evening. To become a supporter of the ANA and for the chance to join future exclusive events, consider becoming a donor at money.org/donate.

World Coin News presented its Coin of the Year (COTY) awards ceremony on Thursday, August 27. The annual competition recognizes outstanding coin designs from around the world. This year's Coin of the Year champion was China's Chinese

Dragon coin, which also won the "Best Crown Coin" category. This is China's first Coin of the Year award.

On Thursday, the ANA Money Museum launched a new podcast, *Worth Its Weight*, recorded live on the bourse floor. The debut episode brought together five leading voices in numismatics for a lively, candid conversation about coins, collecting, and the future of the field. Panelists included Jeff Garrett, Dennis Tucker, John Kraljevich, Doug Mudd, and Tyler Rossi. [*Worth Its Weight*](#) is now broadcast twice weekly across all major podcast platforms.

Giveaways & New Releases

Popular collectibles made a huge impression on show attendees. [Minted Assets](#) gave away 250 free copper commemorative coins each day of the show at their table. This is the third coin in this series, designed by artist Joel Iskowitz, who unfortunately passed away earlier this year, making it the final coin he designed during his long and distinguished career.

China's ANA Show Pandas made their return to the WFM this year. Available exclusively from [GOVMINT](#), these popular commemoratives with a one-year-only design feature landmarks or elements from the convention's host city and always sell out fast.

Honoring Excellence in Numismatics

On Thursday afternoon, during the Member Awards Celebration, ANA members and member clubs accepted longevity membership pins. Numerous ANA authors accepted their literary awards for exemplary articles that appeared in the ANA's official publication, *The Numismatist*, in 2025.

Many deserving members received service awards and notable accolades during the 135th Anniversary Banquet. Honorees include Anthony Terranova (Chester L. Krause Memorial Distinguished Service Award), Bill Fivaz (Lifetime Achievement Award), Beth Deisher (Elvira Clain-Stefanelli Memorial Award for Achievement in Numismatics), and Laura Sperber (Harry J. Forman Dealer of the Year). Jim Halperin and Andrew Shiva were recognized with this year's Philanthropy Award for expanding ANA membership, promoting planned giving, and strengthening the ANA's educational outreach.



ANA Planned Giving Officer Thomas Uram (left) presents the ANA Numismatist of the Year award to Jeff Garrett during the ANA Banquet.

Future Convention

The next ANA convention is the 2027 National Money Show®, March 4-6 in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Visit NationalMoneyShow.com for up-to-date information about the event.

Thank You, Sponsors

Sponsors help make ANA conventions possible—by providing the association with resources for better education, more activities, auctions, and more. The following sponsors contributed to the success of this World's Fair of Money:

Corporate Sponsors – [GreatCollections](#), [Numismatic Guaranty Company](#), and [Paper Money Guaranty](#).

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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.