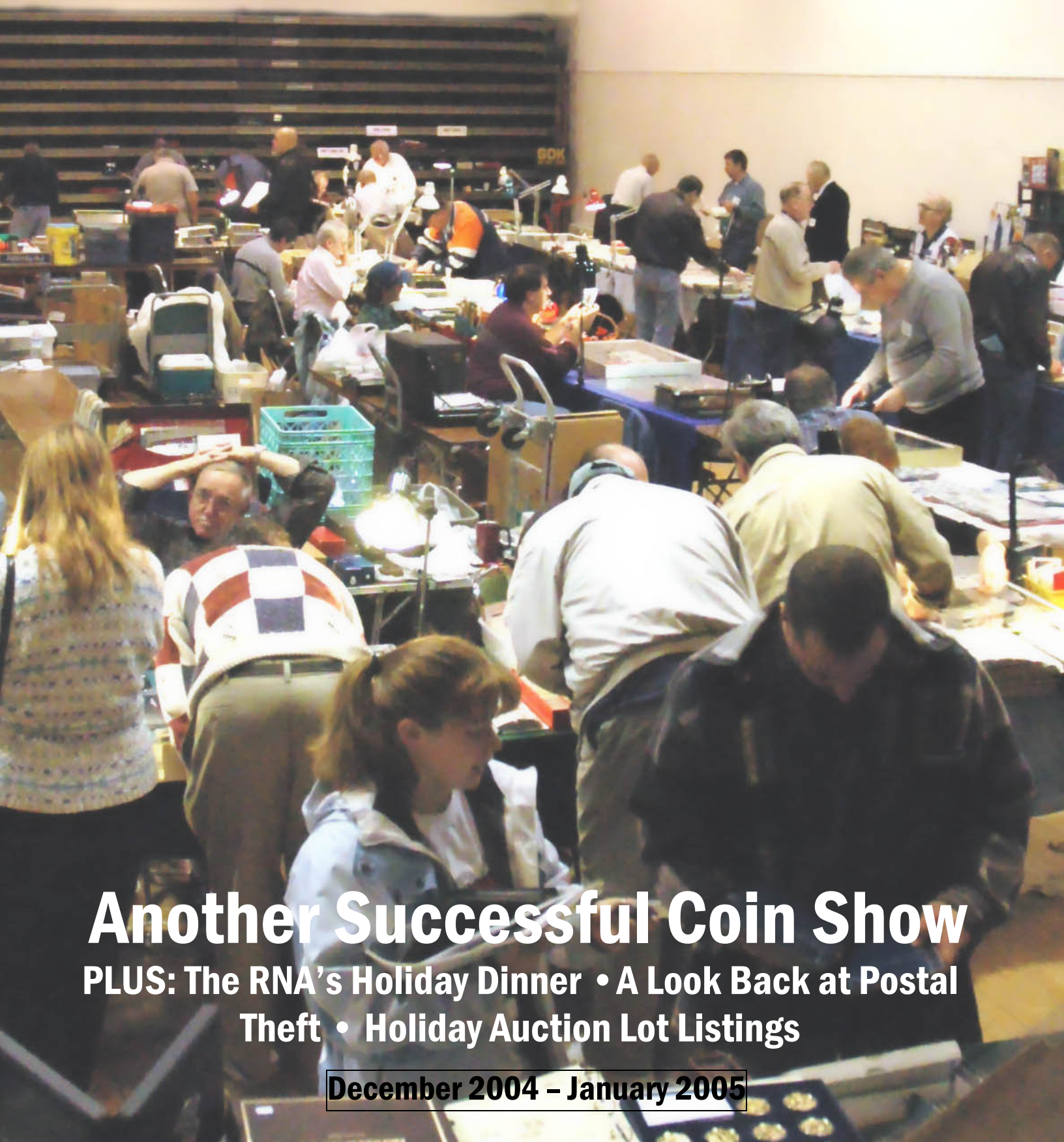


RNA News

The official journal of the Rochester Numismatic Association



Another Successful Coin Show

PLUS: The RNA's Holiday Dinner • A Look Back at Postal Theft • Holiday Auction Lot Listings

December 2004 – January 2005

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RNA News

The official journal of the
Rochester Numismatic Association
Established January 1912

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clubs

**ANA Branch #2
Life Club #8**

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Rochester Museum & Science Center

Newsletter Editor: Scott Fybush
rnanews@fybush.com

2004-2005 Officers:

President: Edith Coe
585-865-7992
billcoe@juno.com

Vice President: Tom Kraus
585-241-3807
tkraus1@rochester.rr.com

Secretary: Steve Lanzafame
585-288-1932
unpub@aol.com

Treasurer: Ted Vaccarella
585-538-6945
tedvacc37@rochester.rr.com

Curator: John Zabel
Librarian: Jason Childers
Historian: Robert Doty

Board of Directors:
Jim Sanders, Gerard Muhl
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Darlene Corio, Douglas Musinger
(2003-2006)
William D. Coe, Scott Fybush
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Visit the RNA Web site:
www.the-rna.com

**P.O. Box 10056
Rochester NY 14610-0056**

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Greetings from your President!

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year!

This is my last letter for 2004! My how the time flies when you're having fun! Speaking of fun, I hope all of you enjoyed the 32nd Annual Coin Show and Sale. I'm sure the Coin Show Committee appreciated all the cooperation and hard work from all of you who made it another successful Show. Don't worry, Bill Coe is already thinking ahead to next year. Of course, I'm just thinking about getting through the Holiday Season right now. It is such a busy time for everyone.

We have had very interesting speakers this fall and I know it will continue throughout the year. On December 2, Richard Imburgia will speak on "Error Coins"; and on December 16, we will have the Holiday Auction. Look for the auction lots listed in this issue. You just might find that perfect gift for your spouse. If you have a gold coin to sell, be sure to mention it to Bill Coe.

During the Auction at our meeting on November 4, an 1804 half cent was up for bid. Member Wayne Scheible won the bid and then donated the coin to the Club. A list (by John Bailey and Gerry Muhl) of the half cents needed to complete the Club's half-cent collection was listed in last June's Newsletter. It pays to advertise! Thanks Wayne!

I would like to have a "special evening" for members and their spouses. Perhaps we could have dinner before one of our "non business" meetings. I will check into some possibilities. If you have an idea, please call or speak to me at the next meeting. I think the nametags are helping us get to know one another, but a nice outside activity helps too.

Please keep up to date on the Club's activities by reading the minutes posted on the wall at each meeting. The Secretary's job is not an easy one; we want to let Joe Lanzafame know we appreciate his work. Also, Program Chair Tom

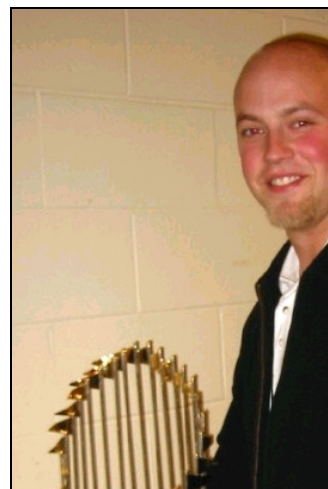
Kraus would like more speakers for the 2005 meeting dates. We know each member has a collecting "specialty" that we would all like to hear about. Please speak to Tom soon.

Ted Vaccarella, Treasurer, has a few members still in arrears in their 2004-2005 dues. When you receive your second notice, please respond and let Ted know if you wish to continue your membership. If you do not respond, you will be dropped and lose your RNA Member Number at the end of 2004.

Our RNA News continues to be a fine publication. Please keep sending your articles to Editor Scott Fybush.

Happy Holidays to one and all!

Edie Coe



**No, you don't recognize this guy.
He's not in the club. His name is
Steve Markos, and he works for
the Boston Celtics.**

**He's also the nephew of John and
Sheryl Zabel.**

**And that's the Red Sox World
Series trophy he's holding!**

**Hey, your Sox fan editor had to put
that in there somewhere - if only
for Jim Sanders' sake...**

December 2004 – January 2005 **3**

#32 A Success – Now On To (Hey Bill Coe!) #33

By William D. Coe
Coin Show Committee Chairman

The R.N.A. held its Thirty-second Annual Coin and Stamp Show and Sale on November 6 and 7 at the Rochester Museum & Science Center — Eisenhower Auditorium.

The show was a sell-out. Not a space was left for an additional table. Only words of satisfaction were received from the dealers.

With advertising in *Coin World*, *Numismatic News*, the *Numismatist*, and the *Democrat and Chronicle*, approximately 500 people came to see what they could find for their collections.

Several club members helped with the various activities needed to put on the show. A specific list is shown on page 5 of this issue; and we thank every one of you. But, the project again most praised by the dealers was the delicious, affordable lunches prepared by **Jim and Karen Kemp** and **Richard Imburgia**. We know that their efforts put a very good face on the RNA. Thanks to all who helped them make the deliveries.

There were several good exhibits. But none were entered this year in the competitive category. So there

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will not be an Alphonse Kolb Best of Show award this year. But the following are to be congratulated for providing such good exhibits. **John Stephens** reworked his multi-cased **Apothecary Weights**

exhibit that fared so well in last summer's ANA competition. It was exciting to see it once again. **Gerry Muhl** put together an outstanding exhibit with the Club's Scotland collection. **Ken Traub** had an extensive display of the 1892 Columbia Exhibition material. And **Dan White** had an exhibit from the ANA. All are thanked for their admiral effort.

Even though several members participated in the show presentation, every member should consider the show an opportunity to visit over 30 dealers all at one time at one place as a convenience and as a benefit of club membership. The maximum efficiency is obtained when you can see the coins before purchase and you can get more than one opinion on the value of coins you might have for sale

We thank the **Rochester Philatelic Association** for their participation and presence at the show to support the stamp collectors present in our midst.

Be sure to mark your calendars now for the R.N.A. 33rd Annual Coin Show for November 5 and 6, 2005. It is not too early to begin to plan your exhibit for that show.



Mike Luck (left) chats with a fellow collector on the bourse floor of the RNA's 32nd Annual Coin Show and Sale

The Coin Show Crew 2004

Dealers: Ursula Loose, Richard Leenhouts, Arthur D. Cohen, Joe Lanzafame, Tom Kwasnik, Doug Musinger, Andrew Harkness, Ron Winter, Dan White, Richard Nachbar

Hospitality: Darlene Corio, Melanie Childers, Jason Childers, John Zabel, David Gottfried, Gerry Muhl, Tim Corio, Tom Kraus, Ralph Dintruff, Edie Coe, Pat Scheible, John Cooper, Jim Sanders, John Stephens, Wayne Scheible, Teddy Kraus, Alec Ollies, Tom Adams, John Stephens, Earl Gurell, Scott Fybush, Lisa Fybush, Ted Vaccarella, Doug Borden

Table Set-Up Crew: Dave Phillips, John Nicastro, Gerry Muhl, Tim Corio, Darlene Corio, John Bixler, Bill Coe

Dealer Carry-In Crew: Darlene Corio, Ted Vaccarella, Tim Corio, Dave Gottfried, Lysle Young, Alec Ollies, Tom Adams, John Stephens, Ken Traub, John Bailey, John Bixler

Dealer Carry-Out and Table Knock-Down Crew: Darlene Corio, Tim Corio, Dan White, John Stephens, John Bixler, Joe Lanzafame, Ted Vaccarella, John Nicastro

Exhibits: Gerry Muhl, John Zabel, Dave Phillips, John Stephens, Ken Traub, Dan White

Program Ads: Ursula Loose, Dan White, Ron Winter, Doug Musinger, John Nicastro, John Cooper, Joe Lanzafame, Wayne Scheible, Tom Kwasnik

Program Ad Sales: Ursula Loose, Bill Coe

Program Set-Up and Printing: Wayne Scheible, Bill Coe

Posters, Post Cards, and Dealers List: John Cooper, Bill Coe

Show Co-Chairpersons: John Nicastro, Ursula Loose, Bill Coe

Table Sales: Ursula Loose, John Nicastro, Bill Coe

Post card Addressing, Badges, Table Assignments, and Signs: Bill Coe, Mike Luck

Door Prize Donations: Ursula Loose, Richard Nachbar

Master of Ceremonies /Drawing Ticket Sales: Darlene Corio

Drawing Coordinator and Sales: Ursula Loose, Darlene Corio plus Hospitality Crew

Coffee Supplies (Purchase, Make), Donuts, Bagels, and Clean-Up: Doug Musinger, Bill Coe, Edie Coe, Jim Kemp, Karen Kemp

Dealer Lunches – Purchase and Presentation: Jim Kemp, Karen Kemp, Richard Imburgia, Edie Coe, David Gottfried, Lisa Fybush, Melanie Childers, Jason Childers

Arrange for Ads in Papers, Radio, TV, etc.: John Cooper, John Nicastro, Gerry Muhl

Extra Ads In Suburban Newspapers: Ursula Loose

Videos and Educational Forum: Ursula Loose, John Zabel

Show Banners Development and Placement: Gerry Muhl, Dan White

Exhibits Coordinator, Cases, and Kolb Best of Show Award Plaque: Gerry Muhl, John Zabel, Dave Phillips

Waste Baskets/Paper Bags: Dave Phillips, John Nicastro, Bill Coe

Spark Plug (sold contracts, drawing tickets, and program ads): Ursula Loose

Treasurer and Correspondent (including prize disbursement): Bill Coe

The RNA's Holiday Auction, Thursday, December 16

Don't miss the RNA meeting on December 16, when we devote the entire program portion of the evening to our annual Holiday Auction.

A few lot descriptions were received here at the palatial RNA News headquarters facility in time for our deadline:

Gerry Muhl will be selling a copy of Ed. Frossard's book *United States Cents and Half Cents*, published in an edition in 1879. Gerry says this copy of this historic reference is in fine condition, and starting bid will be \$100.

Frequent club benefactor **Richard Nachbar** has donated a multi-drawer coin cabinet for the good of the club. This cabinet was originally designed for silver dollar slabs, but it can be adapted to any collection. Starting bid is \$20 – and did we mention that it's for the good of the club?

• • •

FROM THE CLUB HISTORIAN

Tales of Early Mail Theft

RNA historian Bob Doty writes:

"As I was reading the April 20, 1920 RNA meeting minutes I thought this might be an interesting article for our newsletter. Mr. Fred Merritt was President of the RNA in 1917 and our 6th President.

It was stated (and a newspaper article read by the Secretary) that the package of coins sent by our member, Mr. Merritt, through the post office to Philadelphia, which had been stolen, had been recovered and the thief arrested. The members took great interest in this announcement and were exceedingly glad to hear the news as the amount was quite large and the matter rather a serious one to Mr. Merritt.

And this, from the *Public Ledger*, Philadelphia, April 13, 1920:

Alexander H. King, 208 North Fifty-seventh street, a parcel post clerk at the twenty-second and Market streets postal station, was held in \$1000 bail yesterday, charged with having stolen goods in his possession, valued at \$892.35. Fred E. Merritt, of the Widener Building, mailed on approval, forty-one rare coins to Henry Chapman, 333 South Sixteenth street. When the latter failed to receive the package of coins, postal inspectors investigated and arrested King in a pawn shop in West Philadelphia, where, it is said, he attempted to sell the coins."

Thanks for sending that along, Bob, and we hope to feature more tidbits from the archives in the future!

Ready for a “Holiday Gathering” Dinner?

RNA Members and guests are invited to attend a Holiday Gathering on December 16, 2004, at 1600 East Avenue, “Thyme In The Garden Restaurant.” Parking at the Restaurant is in the back of the 1600 East Avenue Apartments. Enter at the Restaurant door in the back of the building. We will gather at 5:30 P.M. for dinner, then adjourn to the Eisenhart Auditorium for our regular meeting starting at 8:00 P.M.

Menu Selection:

Shepherd’s Pie: Seasoned ground beef and vegetables topped with mashed potatoes and cooked in a casserole. Served with gravy, a side of today’s vegetables. Applesauce and today’s specialty bread. \$15.00

Chicken and Biscuits: Chicken Ala King served over a buttermilk biscuit with today’s vegetable and today’s specialty bread. \$15.00

Quiche of the Day: A generous slice of our Quiche of the day. Served with a dish of fresh fruit and a homemade muffin. \$15.00

All entrees served with soup or salad bar. Tea or Coffee, Tax and Gratuity included.

	Choice	Cost
YES, I, _____ will be attending with:	_____	_____
Guest _____ Name	_____	_____
Guest _____ Name	_____	_____
Guest _____ Name	_____	_____
TOTAL COST _____		

*Make out check to **RNA** and mail no later than December 6, 2004, to **Edie Coe, P.O. Box #16444, Rochester, N.Y. 14616-0444** – or sign up at the December 2 meeting!*

Found in Rochester, Auctioned in Long Beach



In the October 2004 *RNA News*, we told you about the remarkable discovery of a heretofore unknown ninth specimen of the 1792 pattern copper cent without silver center (Judd-2), which came to the attention of the U.S. numismatic community after its owners stopped in at McLeod Stamp and Coin in Rochester and dealer Randy Jones suggested they take the coin to the ANA convention in Pittsburgh to be examined and graded.

Now housed in a PCGS VF-30 holder and attributed to the collection of Oliver Wolcott, Jr., the first comptroller of the U.S. Treasury, the coin will be auctioned at Ira and Larry Goldberg’s pre-Long Beach sale Feb. 23-25, 2005. (The coin has been in the Wolcott family ever since 1792, it appears.)

What will be the next chapter in the story of this fascinating coin? We’ll let you know as it develops...and in the meantime, it’s interesting to note that Randy still hasn’t actually seen this cent in person!

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NY State Res. only add 8.25% sales tax		
	Total	

The Calendar **December-January**

- **Thursday December 2 – 8 PM – Richard Imburgia** speaks on “Error Coins,” something he sees a lot of as he searches all those rolls of cents.
- **Thursday December 16 – 8 PM – Holiday Auction!** Still looking for that perfect gift for the special numismatist in your life? Absolutely convinced that your significant other really needs a glass ashtray embossed with the Buffalo nickel design? You need to attend the RNA’s holiday auction. ***And don’t miss our holiday dinner before the meeting – see page 6 for details!***
- **Friday December 17 – 7:30 PM – Rochester Junior Numismatic Association** Open to any collector 17 or younger. Contact Junior Club advisor Steve Lanzafame at 288-1932 or unpub@aol.com for information.
- **Thursday January 6 – 8 PM – Billy Joe-Bob Buford Montgomery Lanzafame (you can call him “Steve”)** speaks on “Money In All Its Forms,” the only uniquely American RNA speech topic.
- **Thursday January 20 – 8 PM – Ira Stein** speaks, which is always an edifying experience.
- **Friday January 21 – 7:30 PM – Rochester Junior Numismatic Association** Open to any collector 17 or younger. Contact Junior Club advisor Steve Lanzafame at 288-1932 or unpub@aol.com for information.
- ***Speakers are needed for meetings in February, March and April! Please see VP Tom Kraus if you’re interested in giving a talk at an upcoming RNA meeting.***

Regular RNA meetings are held on the first and third Thursdays of every month except July and August at the Eisenhart Auditorium of the Rochester Museum & Science Center, 657 East Avenue. Enter through the Eisenhart or Gannett School doors and follow the signs downstairs to our lower-level meeting room. All are welcome! Call Dave Gottfried at 738-0908 if you need a ride or directions.

RJNA meetings are held in either the ballroom of the Eisenhart Auditorium building or an upstairs classroom at the Gannett School; follow the signs posted on the building’s doors or call Steve Lanzafame at 288-1932 for more information.

The Calendar welcomes meeting notices from other area clubs. Send them to rnanews@fybush.com or PO Box 10056, Rochester NY 14610.

RNA News

**Rochester Numismatic Association
PO Box 10056
Rochester NY 14610-0056**