

# RNA



# News

The official journal of the Rochester Numismatic Association



## **Coin Show Pleases the Crowd**

**PLUS: RNA acquires historic photo • Juniors stay busy**

**January-February 2008**



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Visit the RNA Web site:  
[www.the-rna.com](http://www.the-rna.com)  
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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

# Great show, thanks to us

The 35th Annual Coin Show and Sale was well attended and, once again, many members contributed to its success. See the article by Bill Coe and the list of participants in this issue. We especially appreciate Bill's efforts; he "put it all together." Also, thanks to Joe Lanzafame and his committee (Scott, David, Darlene, Tim, Bill and Ted) for developing the wooden nickel with its theme, "The RNA Gratefully Honors Bill Coe." I know the dealers appreciate the lunches arranged by the Kemps, Richard Imburgia and crew.

Exhibits were all high quality and interesting. Congratulations to Ken Traub for his best-in-show display of rare Canadian notes and currency. The exhibit by RJNA members included their favorite coins and write-ups about them. Each RJNA participant received a certificate at their November meeting. Thank you, Tom Kraus, for leading this project and providing the certificates. The junior club members had both a table and materials to sell at the show thanks to the generous donation of Richard Nachbar, whose present and past support is sincerely appreciated.

One more note about our 2000th meeting on September 6 concerns the exhibit of nonpresidential medals created by Tom Kraus. It included, among others, examples of our speakers and writers medals; the anniversary medals from years 50, 60, 70, 75, and 90; the 1000th and 2000th meetings; and the RJNA medals. Tom is now helping members of RJNA design a new wooden nickel. Thanks, Tom (and Maureen), for your continued support of the junior club.

Special events and exhibits, our annual banquet and the annual picnic (as well as our regular meetings) are only some of the benefits of RNA membership. There is nothing like being there in person to interact with fellow members, hear an off-the-cuff explanation of a complex numismatic issue, learn of a new die variety or see an expert presentation about a set of coins in its historical context.

During the coin show, a lady from eastern New York State brought in a

large framed photo of the 1917 Rochester ANA Convention attendees. John Stephens purchased the photo and immediately donated it to our club. (Photo on page 5.) Thank you, John.

Other donations in 2007 include two books donated by Peter Blaisdell, *Treasury of Jewish Coins* by Ya'akov Meshorer, and *Samarian Coinage* by Meshorer and Qedar; the new 4th Edition of *Early Half Dollar Die Varieties, 1794-1836*, by Don Parsley, donated by John Stephens; and auction materials donated by Bill Carr, Peter Blaisdell and Gerry Muhl. Thanks to all who sent in donations with their dues payments as well.

On December 6, members endorsed a proposed bylaws change. The change, printed on page 7 of this *RNA News*, establishes Board of Directors oversight of RNA Collection acquisition and disposal, and recognizes the position of Assistant Curator (which up to now has been unofficial while ably filled by Gerry Muhl). A copy of the most recent version of our bylaws is posted on our Web site. A vote on the change is scheduled for the February 7 meeting.

As I conclude this letter on the shortest day of the year, I wonder what the future holds for RNA and our numismatic hobby. Do we expect coin and precious metals prices to continue to rise, without correction, into the foreseeable future? Will Heritage auction another newly minted MS70 Lincoln cent for \$39,000? What lessons can we learn from past excesses in the marketplace?

As for our club, I believe the future remains bright as long as we continue to provide a varied program that meets the needs of numismatists and the challenge of a changing hobby environment. RNA has members near and far, from California to New Jersey and from New York to Florida. Thank you for your continued support, and best wishes for 2008 and beyond.

*Ted Vaccarella*

## COIN SHOW WRAP-UP

# RJNA members get experience at 2007 show

By Bill Coe

### Coin Show Committee Treasurer

The RNA held its 35th Annual Coin Show and Sale on November 3 and 4 at the Rochester Museum & Science Center, Eisenhart 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.

As a result of a significant donation (including a table) to the Rochester Junior Numismatic Association by member Richard Nachbar, some members of the RJNA were introduced to the situation of manning a coin show table and selling some of the items for the benefit of their treasury. We can all be proud of the young

numismatists that the RJNA produces. Thanks especially to Ursula Loose, Joe Lanzafame and Tom Kraus for their many hours of support and guidance to the youngsters.

With guidance and support from Gerry Muhl and John Zabel, the numismatic exhibit and educational displays were well supported again this year. Thanks to all who participated.

An exhibit of very scarce Canadian paper currency was judged the best by our in-house, officially ANA-qualified judge, John Zabel. The highly desirable Alphonse Kolb Memorial Best-of-Show award plaque was presented to Ken Traub. Ken has been a member since November 11, 1980, is an RNA past president and is a frequent exhibitor at our coin shows. Congratulations and thank you, Ken.

With advertising in *Coin World*, *Numismatic News*, the *Numismatist*, the *Stamp Insider* and the *Democrat and Chronicle*, approximately 450 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 in another area 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. Another feature the dealers comment favorably on is the fact that the RNA is the only group to help them carry their coins into the auditorium. Thanks to all who helped with this phase.

Once again, we thank McLeod Stamp and Coin and Richard Nachbar Rare Coins for providing the door prizes, and

Wayne Scheible for underwriting the cost of the program booklets.

Thanks for another successful coin show. Be sure to mark your calendars now for the RNA 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Coin Show and Sale for November 1 and 2, 2008. It is not too early to begin to plan your exhibit for that show.



Juniors Ariel Fybush and Thalia Irwin sell coins at the RJNA table

## Coin Show Wooden Nickel



For the 35th Annual Coin Show, a commemorative wooden nickel was issued, honoring Bill Coe for his many years of dedicated service to the show and to the club.

To eliminate any cost to the RNA, donations were solicited to underwrite the cost of the nickel. We would like to take this time to thank all of those who donated to the effort: Tim & Darlene Corio, Dennis DeYoung, Steve Eisinger, David Gottfried, Randy Jones, Tom Kraus, Joe Lanzafame, Ursula Loose, Joe Mantione, Chip Scoppa, Donovan Shilling and Ted Vaccarella.

RJNA members collaborated on a display of their collecting interests. Exhibitors included Thalia Irwin, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, Queen Elizabeth's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday; Colin Cubitt, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, Elongated cent; Thomas Coene, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade, American Silver Eagle Dollar; Ajay Mishra, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, 1909 & 1910 Wheat Cents; Josh Blodgett, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, Buffalo Nickel; Romans Janovics, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, Brass 10 Rubles Comm. Coin; Luke Hildebrand, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, Portuguese 100 Escudos; Matthew Tatum, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, Great Britain 2 Shillings; Sam Kashtan, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, Liberty Head Nickel; Steve Rutledge, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade, 3 cent silver and 3 cent nickel; Eshan Mitra, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade, D/D/D error on 1959 Lincoln Cent.



One of the great things about the Coin Show is that you never know what will come through the doors over the course of the weekend.

One of this year's biggest surprises was a framed photo of the ANA's 1917 convention, held at Rochester's Memorial Art Gallery under the aegis of the RNA.

The club is grateful to vice president John Stephens for his generous purchase of the picture, which is now a valued part of our club's archives.

(Shown here are John Stephens, left, and president Ted Vaccarella, right.)

photos: Scott Fybush

**Bill Coe notes** - Is it in the stars? Or were our founding fathers clairvoyant in 1912? After almost 96 years, the Rochester Numismatic Association has just celebrated its 2,000<sup>th</sup> meeting on September 6, 2007. By the time you read this, two more coincidences will surely fascinate you. The last meeting in the year 2007 (Dec. 20) was our 2,007<sup>th</sup> meeting. And our first meeting in the year 2008 (Jan. 3) will be our 2,008<sup>th</sup> meeting! For those of you who are fond of numbers, that is an amazing convergence of circumstances. Is there anyone out there who will take the time to determine if there will be any similar coincidences regarding our rapidly approaching 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary on January 4, 2012? Unfortunately, our 2,012<sup>th</sup> meeting will have passed by then – on March 6, 2008. (*Your editor's birthday, speaking of lucky coincidences – Ed.*)

# Coin Show 2008: Thanks for the help!

*It takes a village – or at least a big coin club – to put on a show like the RNA's annual Coin Show and Sale. Here's who made it happen:*

**Dealers:** Ursula Loose, Randy Jones, Richard Leenhouts, Arthur D. Cohen, Joe Lanzafame, Andrew Harkness, Dan White, Richard Nachbar, Tim Oldenburg, Grant Hobika, Joe Mantione, Doug Musinger

**Hospitality:** Darlene Corio, Jason Childers, John Zabel, David Gottfried, Gerry Muhl, Tim Corio, Tom Kraus, Ralph Dintruff, Jane Dintruff, Edie Coe, John Stephens, Alec Ollies, Tom Adams, Earl Gurell, Scott Fybush, Lisa Fybush, Sheryl Zabel, Chip Scoppa, George Irwin, George Fekete, John Cali, Maureen Kraus

**Table Set-Up Crew:** Dave Phillips, Gerry Muhl, John Bixler, Douglas Musinger, Bill Coe

**Dealer Carry-In Crew:** Darlene Corio, Tim Corio, Dave Gottfried, Alec Ollies, Tom Adams, John Stephens, John Bixler, Peter Blaisdell, Steve Eisinger, Chip Scoppa, Tom Kraus, Lysle Young, John Bailey, Keith Bock, Mike Miller, Ken Traub, Jim Ford

**Dealer Carry-Out and Table Knock-Down Crew:** Tim Corio, John Stephens, John Bixler, Tom Adams, Chip Scoppa, Steve Eisinger, Tim Looney, Darlene Corio, Tom Kraus, Scott Fybush, Jason Childers

**Exhibits:** Gerry Muhl, Chip Scoppa, Sue Scoppa, Tom Kraus, Ken Traub

**Ads in Program:** Ursula Loose, Dan White, Doug Musinger, John Cooper, Joe Lanzafame, Wayne Scheible, Tom Kwasnik, Joe Mantione

**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 including Museum Liaison:** Ursula Loose, Bill Coe

**Table Sales:** Ursula Loose, Bill Coe

**Post Card Addressing, Name Badges, Table Assignments, and Signs:** Tim Corio, Art Cohen, Bill Coe

**Door Prize Donations:** Ursula Loose, Richard Nachbar

**Master of Ceremonies and Drawing Ticket Sales:** Darlene Corio

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

**Coffee Supplies, Donuts, Bagels, and Clean-Up:** Doug Musinger, Bill Coe, Edie Coe, Richard Imburgia, Jim Kemp, Karen Kemp

**Dealer Lunches – Purchase and Presentation:** Jim Kemp, Karen Kemp, Richard Imburgia, Edie Coe, Mark Caufield (RJNA), Amanda Caufield

**Arrange for Ads in Papers, Radio, TV, etc.:** John Cooper, Gerry Muhl, Scott Fybush

**Special Ship Room Security:** Keith Bock

**Extra Ads in Suburban Newspapers:** Ursula Loose

**Videos and Educational Forum:** Ursula Loose, John Zabel, Bill Coe

**Show Banners Development and Placement:** Gerry Muhl

**Exhibits Coordinator, Cases, and Kolb Best of Show Award**

**Plaque:** Gerry Muhl, John Zabel, John Bixler

**Waste Baskets/Paper Bags:** Dave Phillips, Doug Musinger, Mike Luck

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

**Treasurer and Correspondent (including prize disbursement):** Bill Coe

## Notice of proposed RNA bylaws change

December 6, 2007

**Proposed change to By Laws, Article V, Officers, Section 4, in order to require Board approval for accession or deaccession of numismatic collection materials, and to add the non-voting position of Assistant Curator.**

**Current text: Section 4.**

**(e) Curator. It shall be the duty of the Curator to have sole custody and keep an accurate account of the Association's numismatic collection and its physical possessions other than the library and to arrange and care for its display. He shall report as to the condition of the collection annually or as often as shall be required of him by the Association or by the Board of Directors.**

**Proposed text (underlined text is new): Section 4.**

**(e) Curator. It shall be the duty of the Curator to have sole custody and keep an accurate account of the Association's numismatic collection and its physical possessions other than the library and to arrange and care for its display. He shall report as to the condition of the collection annually or as often as shall be required of him by the Association or by the Board of Directors. Accession or deaccession of numismatic collection materials may be recommended by the Curator or Association members, and shall be approved or denied by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.**

**(f) Assistant Curator. Annually, the Curator may appoint one or more members as Assistant Curator to assist in the performance of the Curator's duties. The Assistant Curator may have access to the collection with the permission of the Curator, and shall have no vote on the Board of Directors. The Assistant Curator shall take office only when approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, for a term concurrent and ending with that of the Curator, unless earlier termination be made by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. A reappointed Assistant Curator may continue in office pending a vote at the next meeting of the Board of Directors. A copy of the appointment (reappointment) letter shall be forwarded to the Secretary.**

**(g) Librarian. Former section (f) is re-designated section (g).**

## Applications Corner

The following people have applied for membership in the RNA since the last issue of the RNA News. RNA members with pertinent information about applicants are requested to contact the Membership Committee, in care of Bill Coe. If no objections are received within 45 days after publication, these applicants will become members of the RNA:

**John C. Lighthouse, Rochester, NY**  
**Jeffrey C. Snyder, Fairport, NY**

**Roy G. Gallo, Rochester, NY**  
**Theodore (Ted) J. Kraus, Rochester, NY**

## Dates in RNA History

Compiled by Gerard Muhl

**January 2, 1940:** Honorary RNA member Congressman Ashbrook dies.

**January 6, 1940:** RNA banquet at Hotel Seneca costs \$1.25. Festivities started at 3 p.m., with dinner at 6:30 p.m. followed by slides and an auction. It ended at 11 p.m.

**January 16, 1940:** Mr. Peake sells Scottish coins to the RNA.

**January 4, 1946:** ANA President Lewis Reagan speaks at the RNA banquet.

**January 15, 1946:** RNA votes to add current-year U.S. coins to its collection each year.

**January 4, 1947:** The 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary RNA medal is struck.

**January 21, 1947:** Forty-eight youth from ages 12 to 17 organize the RJNA. Ed Meinhart is chairman; Charles Ricard is program chairman.

**January 3, 1948:** RJNA has more than 50 members. C.E. Moore is made an RNA Life Member.

**January 25, 1949:** Mr. Place is made an honorary member of the RNA.

**January 7, 1950:** Ed Gilroy speaks on the danger of communism at the RNA banquet.

**January 2, 1954:** Charles Cop gives a half-hour magic show at the RNA banquet.

**January 1, 1955:** Arthur Parker, RNA President in 1928, dies.

**January 7, 1956:** Annual banquet has piano and violin program. Norman Prince leads singing. A. Kolb presents a two-scene play. Attendance numbers 116. Brandy and cigars follow.

**February 4, 1940:** George Bauer holds first sale of RNA member George Gillette's 20,000-item coin collection.

**February 4, 1941:** Gustave Lindboe made "fellow of the Rochester Museum" in numismatics.

**February 18, 1941:** Caledonia and Buffalo coin clubs meet with the RNA in Batavia.

**February 17, 1942:** RNA secretary orders seven proof sets from mint for members at \$13.30 each. RNA orders 10 copies of R.S. Yeoman's first-edition *Whitman Handbook of U.S. Coins*. Charles Ricard applies for junior membership in RNA.

**February 4, 1947:** RNA purchases complete set of *American Journal of Numismatics* for \$175. It is noted that Booker T. Washington half-dollars are sitting in a local bank. Iowa commemoratives are still available. J. Pittman appointed to Federal Assay Commission.

**February 7, 1949:** A. Kolb asked to destroy past RNA dies so restrikes will not be made. Club votes down motion.

**February 6, 1950:** RJNA works on a radio show script. They design new logo. Anyone leaving for military allowed to keep RNA membership. Charles Ricard leaves for military service.

**February 2 1954:** George Bauer leaves for Rome to buy coins. John J. Pittman heads for King Farouk coin sale in Egypt.

**February 1, 1955:** RNA donates \$25 to museum to buy land where planetarium now sits.

### Order your extra Lanzafame presidential medals now!

Believe it or not, it's not too soon to begin thinking about the presidential banquet and the next in our series of RNA presidential medals, featuring Joe Lanzafame. Members in good standing during 2006-07 automatically receive a bronze medal, but if you'd like a silver or an extra bronze, sign up at the next few meetings or call Bill Coe at 865-7992 by February 15. Last year's bronze medals cost \$15, silver \$45, but the rising cost of metal means this year's will likely cost somewhat more, to be determined when the medals are struck. (And no, this isn't really what the finished medal will look like - we hope!)



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**MICHAEL OMELUCH, Professional Numismatist**

# The Calendar **January-February**

- **Thursday January 3, 2008 - 8 PM - RNA Meeting** Gerry Muhl talks about “World War II Counterfeit Notes”
- **Thursday January 17 - 8 PM - RNA Meeting** Jason Childers speaks about “Beyond the State Quarters”
- **Thursday January 18 - 7:30 PM - Rochester Junior Numismatic Association Meeting**
- **Thursday February 7 - 8 PM - RNA Meeting** Alec Ollies discusses “Benedetto Pistrucci”
- **Sunday February 10 - 10 AM - 4 PM - Rochester Area Coin Expo** DoubleTree Hotel, Jefferson Rd. and East Henrietta Road, Henrietta. Free admission. More information at [www.keshequacoins.com](http://www.keshequacoins.com).
- **Friday February 15 - 7:30 PM - Rochester Junior Numismatic Association Meeting**
- **Thursday February 21 - 8 PM - RNA Meeting** Steve Eisinger talks about “Buying Coins in Strange Places”
- **Additional RNA Meetings: March 6, March 20, April 3, April 17, May 1, May 15**
- **Friday April 4-Sunday April 6 - Buffalo Numismatic Association** “Gold and Silver Over Niagara” Coin Show, Conference Center of Niagara Falls. ANA vice-president Patti Finner will conduct a Boy Scout merit badge workshop. More information at [www.the-bna.com](http://www.the-bna.com).

**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](mailto:rnanews@fybush.com) or PO Box 10056, Rochester NY 14610.**

***RNA News***

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