

RNA News

September - October 2017



Story on page 4

Above: RPA Picnic July 24, 1933 - standing (far left) George Haringx; Lenard Babin (standing 3rd from left)

From the President: page 3

Committees page 3

Forty-Fifth Annual Coin Show and Sale page 3

My Return to Numismatics page 4

Gleanings from RNA History page 4

Joint RNA-RPA Meeting 2017 pages 5-6

Club News & Notes page 7

Meeting and Events Calendar page 8

Visit our **NEW** website at <http://www.rochesternumismaticassociation.org/>

The **John Jay Pittman Memorial Library** is available at every regular meeting.

Members may select from more than 1000 titles.

See the RNA Librarian to sign for and borrow materials.



RNA News

Established January 1912

One of America's oldest local coin clubs

American Numismatic Association,
Branch #2, Life Club #8

Meetings:

Rochester Museum &
Science Center

Member:

American Numismatic Society
Royal Canadian Numismatic
Association
Token and Medal Society

Contributing Editor: Gerard Muhl
Editor; Production: Ted Vaccarella
tedvacc@yahoo.com

2017-2018 Officers:

President: Eric Miller

yankeetrouthead@gmail.com

Vice Pres.: Kerri Annechino

kerrilh@rochester.rr.com

Treasurer: Edward Cain

edmcaain@rochester.rr.com

Secretary: Scott Annechino

Sannechino@yahoo.com

Librarian: Michael Luck

Curator: John Zabel

Assistant Curator:

Michael Luck

Gerard Muhl

Historian: Dennis DeYoung

Board of Directors:

Jason Childers, John Lighthouse

(2015-2018)

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Susie Scoppa, Sheryl Zabel

(2017-2020)

www.rochesternumismaticassociation.org

Rochester Numismatic Association

P.O. Box 10056

Rochester NY 14610-0056

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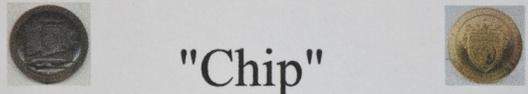
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For the LOVE of Coins



Regular **Rochester Numismatic Association** meetings are held from September to June at 7:30 pm on the second and fourth Wednesdays at **Eisenhart Auditorium** of the **Rochester Museum & Science Center**, 657 East Avenue. The auditorium is the glass front building behind the Museum. **Enter and exit through the right-side door** and go down the stairs to the lower level meeting room. For elevator service to the lower level call 271-4552 X 601 to speak with the Eisenhart security desk attendant. Entry for the elevator is through the **Genesee Community Charter School** door.

Rochester Junior Numismatic Association (RJNA) meetings are held at 7:30 pm on the 4th Wednesday of each month at Eisenhart Auditorium on the lower level; for more information, contact RJNA advisor Joe Lanzafame at 585-314-1240.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Boy how the summer flies by! It seems like just yesterday I was writing my first message to you. My summer consisted of visiting relatives in St. Louis over July 4th and we just got back from Pennsylvania. It was great to be able to spend time with family, some of whom it has been many years since we saw each other.

This summer, the RNA had two functions: the joint RNA-RPA meeting held on July 13th and the RNA picnic on August 20th. The joint meeting had a nice turnout of RNA members. We learned about the histories of the RNA and RPA, and also about encased stamps. We had our traditional RNA auction and a silent auction by the RPA. Thank you to everyone who made this a reality. The picnic had a nice turnout including some last-minute attendees. I broke tradition by having sub sandwiches instead of hamburgers and hot dogs; hopefully everyone enjoyed the subs! I made up for it by having Lugia's ice cream truck stop by so

Forty-fifth Annual Coin Show & Sale

One Day Only—Saturday, November 4, 2017

Rochester Museum & Science Center

Eisenhart Auditorium

657 East Avenue, Rochester NY 14607

10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

FREE ADMISSION & FREE PARKING

The Coin Show Committee hopes that every R.N.A. member will take advantage of this opportunity to visit multiple coin dealers at one location. It is a very efficient way to find just that right item you are looking for. You can actually hold and see each item to evaluate it without the need to send it back and forth in the mails. Likewise, if you have items to dispose of, the transaction can take place right there without complications.

Since the show is a club project, it is expected that as many members as possible will participate in its presentation. Actually, you will find that it is a very rewarding experience. You will have an opportunity to

everyone could enjoy ice cream.

At the picnic board meeting, one of the items we discussed was an officer transition guideline. One of my observations while working through the different officer seats was potentially important items getting lost in translation when officers move into new roles. Hopefully this guideline will prevent miscommunication between present and new officers.

We had some good suggestions on ways to increase membership; please keep those suggestions coming! At our next board meeting to be held on October 11th, we will look more closely at these suggestions.

With the summer comes fall and the start of new RNA meetings. As your president, I will try my best to respond quickly to your emails and phone calls. My fall is going to be kind of crazy outside of the RNA. I look forward to seeing you on September 13th at our first meeting.

Eric P. Miller

rub elbows with many dealers and expand your knowledge in many numismatic areas. Also, it will give you a chance to work with and get to know other club members better.

During our regular meetings this fall, sign-up sheets will be circulated for various activities for which we need help, such as set-up and take down, greeting attendees at the door and distributing lunches. Please be as generous with your time as you can. Over the years, RNA has thrived because of this type of fellowship.

You are encouraged to develop a display to enter in the Exhibit Contest (See notes on page 7). At stake is the prestigious Alphonse Kolb "Best of Show" award. It is a beautiful plaque that you would be proud to display.

The show will also include educational talks. Make the most of our new one-day format by visiting as many dealers as possible. Volunteer a bit of your time to assist with the various show activities that will bring you into contact with fellow members as well as with the many guests expected to attend.

RNA Committees

RNA Bylaws identify several committees appointed by the President and Board of Directors. Here are our currently active committees:

Membership:

Bill Coe (Chair), Dennis DeYoung, John Stephens and John Bailey

Auditing

Susan E. Bashaw; John Vicaretti; Janet R. Pawlyk

Endowment Committee

John Zabel (RNA Curator and Chair); 2015-2018
John Lighthouse, Earl Gurell; 2016-19 Steve Eisinger,
Maria Paris; 2017-2020 Sharon Miller, Gerald Vaccarella Ex-officio: Ed Cain, Treasurer

My Return to Numismatics

By Edward M. Cain. RNA Member

Even though I am the RNA Treasurer I have been a member for only two and a half years, so many of you do not know me, or much about me. By day, I am an Investment Manager for a Registered Investment Advisor. Back in the 1960s, like many in the club, I was an avid youth collector. Back then, interesting coins could still be found in change and I collected everything: pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, proof sets and type coins. I looked forward to those Friday night RJNA meetings. However, I never moved up to the RNA. Other interests came along and over time, I disposed of my modest collection.

Then a few years ago, my brother died. In going through his possessions, I came across a small coin collection of his. I recognized some pieces that I had helped him buy, going back thirty years. This rekindled my interest



Gleanings from RNA History

By Gerard Muhl, RNA President—1979

Here is a bit of obscure history from the Rochester Numismatic Association. We all hear of George Bauer and George French, but who was the third George? George Haringx. Born in Rochester in 1873, George was at first a carpenter, a sash maker and a door manufacturer. In 1900 he opened his own dance studio in the downtown Powers Building Hall of Mirrors.

In 1914 he became a coin and stamp dealer from his home at 97 Aberdeen Street off Genesee Street. He joined the RNA in March 1917—just in time to participate in the American Numismatic Association meeting that summer in Rochester.

George also took some time that summer to improve his skills on a Curtis biplane, taking off and landing on Conesus Lake.

Haringx was also a member of the Rochester Philatelic Association and is seen in a number of photographs at their joint summer picnics with RNA members.

in coins. After many decades, my passion was back, the question was “what to collect?” I did not want to retrace my old steps from long ago and collect “everything.” I thought first of Franklin Half Dollars. After all, this is a short, easy set where I could spend anywhere from several hundred to many thousands to complete it. I started, but quickly became bored. Then I thought of Peace Dollars. Like Franklins, it was a relatively short series, where I could spend little, or lots, to complete it. And like Franklins, I again became bored.

I thought Civil War Tokens might be more interesting and challenging, but by the time Q. David Bowers’ book arrived, I had already mentally moved on. After a few more false starts, I found my (hopefully) true interest to be Morgans, not just any Morgans, but ones with colorful, rainbow toning. Now after a number of months, I have put together a small collection and so far so good. While I am enjoying the thrill of the hunt, I am enjoying more the fellowship of the RNA. I look forward to the meeting and events, and I have made some good friends. Now I am enjoying both my unique collection of rainbow Morgan Silver dollars as well as my RNA membership.

* * * * *

In the late thirties or early forties, George retired from instructing dance and in 1941 opened a stamp and coin store in the Cox Building. After World War II he moved his shop to larger quarters at 36 St. Paul Street. There he sold stamps and coins until his death on December 31, 1957.

In 1956, RNA member #2 was B. Max Mehl.

In 1957, RNA Librarian Burdette Nash complained that few members were using our library. In 1965 Nash became RNA President. His two daughters are still members. Can you name who they are?

Many thanks to Mike Luck for his research help here.

2017-2018 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE!

Dues: Family or individual (life member none) \$ 25
Please mail my Presidential Medal (add \$3) _____
Donation (RNA is tax exempt) _____
Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Pay the Treasurer at any meeting or mail to RNA
at the address listed on page 2

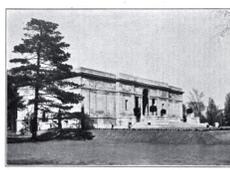
Joint RNA-RPA Meeting 2017

By George T. Fekete, RNA President, 2017

The Rochester Numismatic Association (RNA) and Rochester Philatelic Association (RPA) have proud and storied histories, each recognized nationally. The organizations were established one year apart, the RNA in 1912 and the RPA in 1913. Each has played a prominent role promoting its specialty.

Recognizing the importance of the RNA - Branch 2 of the American Numismatic Association (ANA) – the ANA held its national show in Rochester three times:

- August 1912 - at the Hotel Rochester, in the year the association was granted a federal charter signed by President William H. Taft
- August 1917 - at the Memorial Art Gallery
- August 1928 - at the Hotel Seneca



The RPA's 50th anniversary exhibition was held at Midtown Plaza in Rochester in 1963 one year after the mall opened. The event was open for 50 straight hours, from 3:00 PM on April 26 through 5:00 PM on April 28. The scope of the show prompted enthusiasts in the national philatelic community to compare the event favorably to acclaimed international level shows.



The first "Champion of Champions" was introduced at the 82nd annual American Philatelic Society (APS) convention - or APS-68 - in September 1968 at the Sheraton Hotel in Rochester. This competition played a key role in the decision to create the World Series of Philately (WSP), an annual competition sponsored by the APS, that continues to this day. The RPA sponsors ROPEX, a WSP show, annually.

Both organizations were established at the Hotel Rochester. On January 4, 1912, the RNA was founded by fifteen local numismatists at the hotel. Thirteen philatelists met there on March 26, 1913 and formed the RPA. Three men were charter members of both organizations: Woolf H. Amberg, Dr. George P. French and Fred E. Merritt. Amberg became president of both organizations, Merritt served as RNA president and RPA treasurer and French was an RNA president.

Each organization celebrated its centennial, 100 years to the day after its inception, with special events and memorabilia. On January 4, 2012, the RNA held its centennial dinner at Mario's Italian Steak House to kick off a yearlong celebration of "100 years of friendship in Rochester through coins." A variety of mementos were created to commemorate the anniversary, including a centennial book, *Celebrating 100 Years of Friendship*, edited by Scott Fybush, and a 2.5" antique finish One Hundred Years of Friendship anniversary medal designed by Gerry Muhl. The RPA held a dinner on March 12, 2013 at Locust Hill Country Club and offered mementos, including an event cover, to commemorate the celebration. A 100-year time capsule containing contemporary philatelic items was created for posterity.

The RPA accepted an invitation from the RNA and joined it in a banquet on January 20, 1914 at the Hotel Rochester to celebrate the second anniversary of the RNA and first anniversary of the RPA.

(continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)



One hundred and three years later the associations held a joint meeting on July 13, 2017 to share their common interest in philately and numismatics. After an introduction of the members in attendance a *Brief History of the RNA* presentation by RNA Historian Dennis DeYoung was made and RPA Webmaster Tom Fortunato presented a retrospective of significant RPA events. John Kellas followed with an overview of the intersection of philately with numismatics. The meeting closed with a group picture, silent stamp auction, called coin auction and cake.



The joint meeting was memorialized with a limited-edition event cover and cake, both bearing a cover cachet design by George Fekete, as well as a signed, souvenir event roster and two 37mm subscription medals produced by the North American Mint - all using the event cover design - conceived by Chip Scoppa. Images of the commemorative items can be viewed on the RNA website calendar entry of July 13, 2017 at rochesternumismaticassociation.org. Additional information about the RPA is available at rpastamps.org.

Sixty-one philatelists and numismatists attended the meeting, about a half-dozen were members of both clubs. A wide variety of material was offered in both auctions, a few items prompted vigorous bidding. Some items in each auction were donated for the benefit of the clubs and added to the treasuries of both organizations.

Feedback I received from attendees was uniformly positive and several people remarked that they would like this to become an annual event.

References

Philatelic: RPA website [rpastamps.org], *RNA Hinges & Tongs*, & American Philatelic Society archives.

Numismatic: RNA website [rochesternumismaticassociation.org], *RNA News*, & American Numismatic Association *The Numismatist* archives.

This article was submitted to the RNA and RPA editors for publication in their respective newsletters, the *RNA News* and *Hinges & Tongs*.

***** NOTICE *****

RNA News has become increasingly expensive to print and mail in recent years. The newsletter is now published on the RNA website and emailed to all members who provide their email address. In order to reduce costs, the Board of Directors is considering discontinuing mailing the newsletter via the US Postal Service starting with the January-February 2018 issue. RNA will continue to mail a copy to members who have no email service and no other way to access the newsletter, and request that service. The Board will consider this issue at the next Board meeting on October 11, 2017. Contact any board member with questions or concerns.

Club News and Notes

Coin Show

Please plan your 20" by 30" numismatic display for the **RNA Fall Coin Show and Sale** on November 4, 2017. U.S., Canadian, World, coins, paper money and other numismatic materials are welcome. Please see or call Gerry Muhl so that he can reserve one or more cases for you.

Rochester Numismatic Association Documents

Over the years, our Association has developed By Laws and related written procedures and practices. There are job descriptions for officers, meeting agendas, guidelines for awards and other honors as well as Mission Statements for our Association, our Collection and Library. While much of this may seem mundane, it is essential to the operation of our Association, a New York Corporation approved as a Not-for-Profit Organization under IRS 501 (c) (3) regulations. All members are welcome at every Board meeting. The entirety of this documentation is compiled in one PDF file (astonishingly named **The Rochester Numismatic Association**) and available to all members. During the next few months, this documentation will be reviewed by President Eric Miller and other RNA members for clarity and content. Contact any officer for a copy; plans are to eventually include this documentation on the RNA website. **Editors.**

An article by RNA member Mark Benvenuto was recently published (March 2017, Volume 62) in **The CN Journal**, official publication of **The Royal Canadian Numismatic Association**. The title is, "X-Ray Fluorescence, and Just Why We Want to X-Ray Our Coins." Mark says he recalls attending one or two RNA meetings with his dad in the 1960's; he joined RNA a few years ago. After graduating from McQuaid and attending VMI, then grad school at University of Virginia and post-doctoral work at Penn State, he took a position of University of Detroit Mercy in 1993. Mark has written several articles for **RNA News**.

Report of the Endowment Committee of the RNA:

The RNA Endowment Account invested with *The Community Foundation* (racf.org) for the foundation's first quarter, April to June 2017, now stands at \$35,607.17. The report from the foundation shows a growth of \$1,204.51 for the fund. There were administrative charges of \$89.24 for the quarter. Since we started with approximately \$30,000 in the fund two years ago, we are doing quite well. The club has not drawn any funds from the account since it was set up. The Endowment Committee will be looking at ways to increase the account over time, other than basic growth through the foundation. It should be noted that reports from the foundation on the account are delivered about a month to a month and a half from the end of the quarter, so the next report we receive should be in January 2018. (Submitted by John Zabel, Chair.)

RNA News, published six times a year, is the official voice of our Association. It represents an opportunity for members to write about their favorite numismatic subjects. Perhaps you are already writing on the RNA Facebook page; why not take the next step - send us an article for publication in our newsletter? We prefer one or two page articles, only in *Microsoft Word* © format; include carefully selected images of high quality. **Editors.**

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The RNA Meeting and Events Calendar September - October 2017

Wednesday, September 13: 7:30 PM - RNA Meeting: What I did this Summer in Numismatics

Wednesday, September 27: 7:30 PM - RNA Meeting: **Eric Miller** - Austrian Coin Program Designed by Children - Part II

Wednesday, September 27: 7:30 PM - RJNA Meeting

Wednesday, October 11: 7:30 PM - RNA Meeting: **John Zabel** - Florescent Note Tagging as a Counterfeit Measure; **board meeting at 6:15 p.m.**

Wednesday, October 25: 7:30 PM - RJNA Meeting: **Ed Cain** - Busted

Save the Date: Saturday, November 4th, 45th Annual Coin Show and Sale. Note: one day only. More information on page 3.

Schedule of future 2017-18 Board meetings: Wednesday, October 11 at 6:15 p.m.

The ***Ontario County Coin Club*** meets at 2 pm on the first Sunday of every month at the Canandaigua Elks Club, 19 Niagara Street. Doors open at 1 pm.

Future RNA News publication deadlines: October 25 for November-December 2017, and December 30 for January-February 2018.

Rochester Numismatic Association

PO Box 10056, Rochester NY 14610-0056