



# The Nor'wester

1st Quarter 2019  
January - February - March

## The Tradition of a Medal



See pp. 10-12

ANACS submissions accepted at show – See back-cover ad.



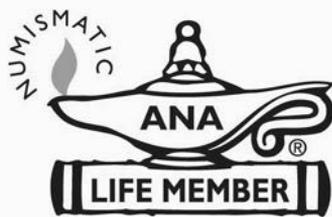
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PNNA is an IRS 501 c(3) non-profit educational association registered in the State of Oregon.

For membership information please see page 6, the PNNA website, or attend the convention.



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## Dues are Due!

PNNA dues are assessed annually in January. If you have not yet paid for 2019, you will receive a reminder with the 2nd Quarter 2019 edition of *The Nor'wester*, which will be your last edition until dues are paid. Individual online-only dues are \$10; family groups and clubs are \$15. Life membership costs \$200. Add \$5/year for paper copies.

For those of you who prefer to use PayPal, the PNNA PayPal email is [sales@pnna.org](mailto:sales@pnna.org), and there are payment buttons available on the PNNA website (click on "Membership").

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*Deadline for submission of material for 2nd Quarter 2019 Nor'wester: February 15, 2019.*

### Inquiries

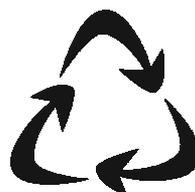
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### Privacy Policy

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## PNNA President's Message by James Reinders

*So much to discuss:* Conder Tokens Collectors Club, Facebook ads bringing in new blood, the amazing instructor Brian Silliman helping us avoid 'the coin you wish you never bought,' exhibiting, and how to guide us on future numismatic seminars. I hope you'll yield a few minutes to my ramblings here ...

October brought us the WCC/PNNA Fall Convention, and the Numismatic Seminar, and they were both great! I reported that the seminar was a sell-out (room capacity), but fortunately a larger room became available and we were able to admit everyone on the wait list! We appreciate the patience of people who were disappointed when they tried to register, but put themselves on a waitlist to give us a chance to accommodate them – which we did!

At our next board meeting (Saturday January 19) we will be discussing how and when to hold the next numismatic seminar, this time around the Seattle area in 2020. Feel free to offer your input to any board member of the PNNA! The feedback on locating in Portland was very positive (verses finding a "neutral in-between Portland/Seattle" location) because only half the attendees needed hotels rooms. I got to go home each night personally, and I look forward to a spring 2020 seminar where I stay in a hotel and let half the attendees go home. Personally, I'd also love to see some Coeur d'Alene and Spokane area encouragement for the PNNA to help attract a seminar in that region ... I only need a *little* encouragement!

*About the Seminar* – officially titled "Coin Grading, Problem Coins & Conservation" – the instructor Brian Silliman was amazing. Everyone in attendance got far more from the class because of him, than all the book reading (or internet surfing) in the world could offer. He was knowledgeable, genuine and raw (in a good way). He talked openly and honestly about what is done to coin in the name of 'conserving' as well as to improve the look to an untrained eye for a fast buck. Our eyes were both opened, and trained, to be better at avoiding (as Brian put it) 'the coin you wish you never bought.'

The Portland show was well attended, and we collected data on how people heard about the show for the first time ever. Yes, this well-known marketing technique of knowing your customer is creeping in for us with the best intentions. We want to make sure our past attendees don't forget to attend each year, but we also want to bring in new blood. With that in mind, the WCC board spent a little money on Facebook ads. Some curmudgeons like myself had our doubts – but the surveys don't lie. The show brought in some new (first time attendees) people with targeted Facebook ads. Of course, we didn't "invent" new coin collectors, but we did connect with some local ones who had not been to the show. We are going to adopt some of the WCC practices to help bring people into the Tukwila show. I am grateful for this innovation by the WCC board.

I also enjoyed the Salem show in early December. I was honored to win some exhibiting awards there, which brings me to my next advertisement: I will do an exhibiting workshop on January 27, 1-4 p.m., at the location where the WCC (Portland) club meets. I will also repeat the workshop (maybe condensed) sometime during the Tukwila show. Over the past decade, I have gone from a complete novice exhibitor, to an intense nation competitor, back to a nice guy who likes to exhibit! At least, I hope to be remembered that way. I think the exhibiting workshop will be a lot of fun – and I'll provide practical tips on how to get-off-your-butt and share pieces form your wonderful collection. I'll also provide tips on how to win awards, if that if your thing too – but mostly, I'll encourage sharing! I hope to see many of you on January 27 in Portland, and March 16 or 17 (to be announced) in Tukwila.

The Conder Token Collector's Club (<https://ctcc.info/>) is an odd but lovable group. If you do not know them, you should. Their long-time president, Bill McKivor, is looking to pass the reigns to a new president. Those are enormous shoes to fill, so allow me to share some advice: new presidents should grow into the shoes, not expect to fill them immediately. (Danny – I'm working on it – honest!) In any case, if you've ever thought tokens were cool ... I'd encourage you to seek out these crazies. They tend to hang out at coin shows near McKivor's or Bobbe's table, and they usually have a semi-official meeting in Tukwila. They really aren't crazier than the rest of us, but I like calling them crazy (esp. Jerry Bobbe, for the record).

### **Technology Insight**

Have you ever visited <https://images.google.com/> ? It allows you to upload any image you want, and Google will analyze it and show you similar things on the web. You should upload a picture of a coin, currency, animal, or whatever and give it a try. I find it super useful at finding what's on the web about a coin or currency piece that I have. — More details in March!

### **Upcoming Board Meeting Dates and Locations:**

January 19, 2019 at the Boeing Employees' Coin Club show, Kent Commons, right after show closes.

March 16, 2019 at the PNNA show in Tukwila, 8 a.m. (The annual membership meeting is after the show that same day.)

Summer 2019 TBD.

November 2, 2019 at the WCC/PNNA show in Portland at the DoubleTree Lloyd Center, around 6 p.m.

Guests are always welcome to drop in on any board meeting - they are always open! There are many coin shows to enjoy this spring; see <http://pnna.org/calendar.html> for up-to-date listings. Paper calendars will also be available at the Boeing, Tukwila and Portland shows.

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**PNNA Membership Information** — If you have questions about your PNNA membership or would like to join, please contact: Eric Holcomb, 1900 NE 3rd St STE 106 PMB 361, Bend, OR 97701-3889, phone (541) 647-1021, email [eric@holcomb.com](mailto:eric@holcomb.com). Individuals, families and clubs can join PNNA for 3 years and save money! See the PNNA website memberships page for details.

## PNNA/WCC Portland Fall Show Report

The Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association/Willamette Coin Club fall show was a success for the 14th consecutive year at the Lloyd Center DoubleTree Hotel in Portland, Ore., Oct. 19-21, 2018, with an active bourse and collector exhibits. There was a steady stream of registrants for more than an hour when the show opened to the public at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday. Thanks to all who attended!

Free copies of the fall 2018 convention edition of *The Nor'wester*, enclosed in a clear plastic literature storage bag, were available.

ANA Past President Walter Ostromecki once again conducted the youth treasure hunt and related activities.

Many thanks to convention chairman Ed Fischer, bourse chairman Scott Loos, and all show volunteers.

The next PNNA/WCC fall convention is scheduled for Nov. 1-3, 2019, also in Portland, Oregon.

The collector exhibit award winners were:

1st Place — Tom Tullis — “Hmmm ... that National Bank Note is different.”

2nd Place — Jimmy Krozel — “Double Trouble.”

3rd Place — James Reinders — “Three Dollar Bills? Really?”

People's Choice — Tony Kalt — “Community Currency.”

Thanks also to judges Eric Holcomb and Danny Bisgaard.



*Photo: First case of Tom Tullis' exhibit, "Hmmm ... that National Bank Note is different."*

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## PNNA Annual Awards

*Please see the PNNA website for information about how to nominate someone for these awards.*

Bob Everett Memorial Award —  
<http://www.pnna.org/awards/everett.html>

Literary Awards (Club Newsletters/Articles) —  
<http://www.pnna.org/awards/literary.html>

National Coin Week Awards for Clubs —  
[http://www.pnna.org/awards/ncw/ncw\\_awards.html](http://www.pnna.org/awards/ncw/ncw_awards.html)

Nina Nystrom Numismatic Ambassador Award — <http://www.pnna.org/awards/nystrom.html>

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*The winner of the PNNA's annual Bob Everett Memorial Award, made for integrity and demonstrated commitment to numismatics in the Pacific Northwest, will be announced at the annual spring convention on Saturday, March 16. Other PNNA annual awards will also be announced at this time.*

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## The Tradition of a Medal

*The ongoing story of Boeing Employees' Coin Club annual medals, by Anthony Kalt, BECC Medals Co-Chair. Tony's previous story was published last year, and is available on the PNNA website. In this year's article, we'll learn about how the club's annual medal tradition has been extended to award medals.*

*All photo references are to the photo collage on page 12.*

### **Introduction and Current (2019) Medal**

Since 1977 the Boeing Employees' Coin Club has come up with a medal design, offered for sale to Boeing employees, club members, retirees and family on the club's mailing list. The design is of a Boeing product, typically one of the airplanes, but not always. Most people take this to be a Boeing heritage product and in the past it has been. This year the design is of the famous P-51 Mustang. The P-51 is a great fighter plane used in WWII and the Korean war with over 15,000 built. North American Aviation Company designed and built the P-51 Mustang in 127 days in response to a request from Great Britain. However great the plane might be and all of its accomplishments, the critic would say it's not a Boeing product; Boeing didn't manufacture it. In the truest sense they are right, it is not a heritage product of the Boeing company. However, over the course of time, as is common in the business world, companies get bought out or merge. This happened with North American Aviation, who was the manufacturer at the time of WWII when the P-51 was built. They became part of North American Rockwell (1967), which became Rockwell International (1973) which became part of The Boeing Company in December 1996.

So, while the P-51 is not a heritage Boeing product, it now traces its genealogy to Boeing. So, when we were looking at medal ideas, we thought it was a good fit. The P-51 Mustang played a vital role in our Armed Forces during the war. It has the most confirmed downs of any plane during that time. The club issues medals in 1.5 ounce silver as well as bronze and pewter versions. Does this mean we'll see more non-heritage designs? The future isn't certain on this as the current designs for the next couple of years happen to be heritage products or current products in work by Boeing. But after those, one can never tell. They might not become commonplace in the medal designs, but a worthy product and design is always worth looking at.

### **Award medals – The Classics**

The other thing the club does now and has done at different times in the past, is make a variation of the current medal as an award medal. Sometimes these are the obverse design and an engravable design (blank) for the reverse. I have seen a couple of the earlier ones from time to time and managed to acquire a couple of the blank ones. The 1979 engravable has the same 727 design as the club medal in bronze (see photos in green holder).

The next engravable is the Boeing totem, the logo of the company. This was the reverse of the club's medals right up until the merger of The Boeing Company and McDonnell Douglas. After the merger, the club was no longer allowed to use the totem. This award medal was done in bronze and over the years I've seen two of these.

I must preface my use of "over the years" when it comes to the Boeing Employees' Coin Club. I'm actually a short-timer, having joined in 2012. So, my "over the years" is roughly seven years of active looking. Having said that, the award medals do not become available all that often. Now you know the early engravable medals were before my time and I haven't found any records stating what any of the mintages were or which years had them.

The other historical engravable is the 1985 Lunar Orbiter in silver. (Obverse only shown at top left on page 12.) This medal was struck in a one-ounce engravable reverse variety. Then circa 1990 there was a one-ounce silver totem from the Northwest Territorial Mint. (See photos just below the green holder, to the left/right of the slabbed 2019 medal.) I found this medal on the internet nearly five years ago; it was the very first engravable I found. The auction had it listed as a die trial strike, which didn't make sense when you looked at the reverse. I was still interested as it was the first non-traditional club medal I had seen, so I was going to bid either way and I was lucky enough and won the auction. I was fortunate that the bidding competition was on the practical and not crazy side so I didn't overpay.

Those are the classical (historical) medals that I am aware of and found in my searching and watching the internet. The club took a hiatus for a few years on engravable medals. I have not seen an engraved (to an actual award recipient) 1979 or 1985 medal.

## The Tradition of a Medal

### **Award medals – The Moderns**

In 2014 the club at its annual banquet awarded its volunteers with a unique 2014 pewter club medal; this was a one-ounce version and had a reeded edge. Only 24 of these medals were made and awarded to the officers, chairs and volunteer positions. The goal was to increase club member participation. This was the “re-boot” of award medals with the club. The reeded pewter was not very well promoted as a unique medal and the reeded edge was not easy to see in the custom holder.

*The 2014 to 2018 BECC award medals and custom NGC-style holders are depicted from left to right on page 12. The holders are actually do-it-yourself slabs that can be purchased, with the labels created by Tony.*

The next year was the 2015 V22 Osprey silver medal in an antique finish; 28 were minted and awarded. The antique look was a nice touch, but doing a 1.5 ounce silver each year would not be realistic.

The 2016 medal commemorated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Boeing and depicted the first (1916) and the newest (2016) airplanes made by The Boeing Company. This time the award medal was struck in antique bronze with a mintage of 24. 2016 also saw an engravable version of the antique bronze that had a mintage of 30. This was given out to the 2016 BECC coin show exhibitors and volunteers. The antique bronze medal had a nice look and eye appeal so the club has stayed with the antique bronze finish for its awards medals.

Next came the 747-8 medals for 2017. These were struck as both a full antique bronze medal version with the standard obverse/reverse design of the regular issue medal, but also an engravable blank reverse version for the coin show. The engravable was done a little different. Instead of combined lettering on the medal (more letters, more cost) there were three versions — one engraved for the exhibitors, one for exhibit judges, and one for the coin show volunteers. There were complaints from some of the coin show volunteers about the engraved medals. They preferred the longstanding tradition of a new year's U.S. Silver Eagle. So that was the last time an engravable medal has been used in the club, with no intention of spending the money to use them again.

However, the unique finish for the award medals for the annual banquet has been a hit and remains such. The

typical mintage ranges from 24 to 28, with 24 being more common. These have stayed with the antique bronze finish to be consistent. Because as we've learned, and most folks are aware, the average person doesn't like change!

The award medal for 2018 was an antique bronze version of the 737 Classic/Next Gen/Max 10,000 delivered medal, with a mintage of 24. As you figured there was no engravable medal done for the coin show. The standard U.S. Silver Eagle was given out as the thank-you for the volunteers. Still from time to time one tries to figure out how to promote and thank the volunteers. I'm open to ideas, either to increase volunteerism or to increase coin show exhibitors.

The 2019 medal of the P-51 Mustang was awarded at the Oct. 2018 banquet in antique bronze finish with a mintage of 30. (See photo in custom holder in center of page 12.) For the BECC January 2019 coin show, a one-ounce brushed nickel version has been made for each exhibitor to promote exhibits. That brings us current on the medal designs and unique award medals.

The award medal mintage quantity is estimated when the medal design is done, by tallying up the current list of officers and volunteer positions and who is filling each position. The custom holders accommodate two titles (positions) so some people can hold more than one position. The total possible positions is around 30. With some people holding more than one position, the number of medals awarded in a given year can decrease. The last three years we have been giving away the extra prior year award medals as prizes at the annual October banquet. These award medals must be well liked, as they rarely show up for sale or auction.

*If you have more interest in, or have additional historical information on, the BECC medals please feel free to contact me at [becc.medals@gmail.com](mailto:becc.medals@gmail.com).*

### **Editor's note:**

*Articles in The Nor'wester are eligible for PNNA literary awards ... see the information on page 7, or on the PNNA website under "Awards."*





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Please see the West Coast Coins centerfold ad on pages 8-9!

### **2019 PNNA Spring Convention**

*Save the dates! The 70th Annual PNNA Spring Convention will be held at the Tukwila Community Center, March 15-17, 2019. The spring convention has a rich tradition as the oldest and largest annual coin show in the Pacific Northwest. In addition to the 85-table bourse, offerings will include a Young Numismatist treasure hunt, Boy and Girl Scout programs, hourly door prizes, and numismatic theater presentations. We look forward to seeing you there!*

*Also, we are looking for additional volunteers to assist with the important behind-the-scenes work that contributes to the show's success. If you can help, please contact General Chairman Kevin Charbonneau at [kcharboneau58@comcast.net](mailto:kcharboneau58@comcast.net).*

*If you are a dealer who would like to advertise in the convention edition of *The Nor'wester*, or if you would like to advertise on the PNNA website, please contact editor Eric Holcomb, [eric@holcomb.com](mailto:eric@holcomb.com). One-line website listings at [http://www.pnna.org/info/member\\_links.html](http://www.pnna.org/info/member_links.html) are free to PNNA dealers!*

*More information about the convention will be posted on the PNNA website, and will appear in the 2nd Quarter convention edition of *The Nor'wester*.*

### **PNNA Calendar**

*Just visit [pnna.org](http://pnna.org) and click on the "calendar" button, or pick up a paper copy at the show!*

### **Not Online?**

*Write to the address listed on page 2 of this magazine.*

### **PNNA Board Meeting Minutes**

*Minutes from past PNNA board meetings, including at the Portland fall show in October, are available on the website at:  
<http://www.pnna.org/minutes/board.html>.*

### **Exhibits at the 2019 Tukwila Convention**

*Now is the time to build your exhibits for next spring's PNNA convention in Tukwila. There is also an opportunity to show exhibits at the Boeing show in January (Jan. 19-20); use this show as a proving ground for your entry for the PNNA.*

*The best exhibitor at the PNNA spring convention earns \$200 toward the expense of taking the winning exhibit to the ANA summer convention the same year (the ANA will be in Chicago-Rosemont, Ill., Aug. 13-17, 2019).*

*For more information about numismatic exhibiting at a PNNA convention, see the PNNA website at <http://www.pnna.org/exhibits/exhibits.html>, or contact PNNA chief judge Eric Holcomb.*

### **ANA National Coin Week**

*Webpage: <https://www.money.org/numismatic-events/national-coin-week>.*

*Dates: April 21-27, 2019.*

*Theme: "Discover the Past, Envision the Future."*

### **ANA Summer Seminar**

*Webpage: <https://www.money.org/summer-seminar>.*

*Dates: June 15-20 and June 22-27, 2019.*

*Location: Colorado Springs, Colorado.*

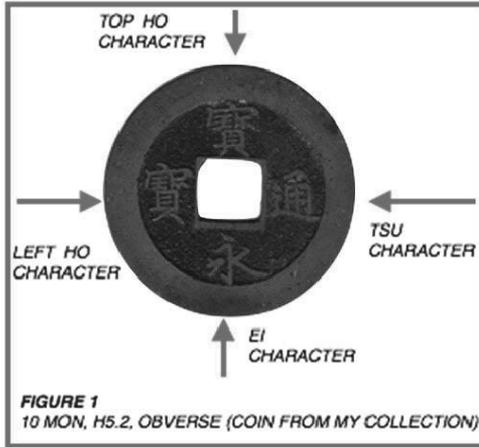
*Summer Seminar is a once-a-year opportunity for numismatic scholarship and camaraderie that offers students a varied selection of courses designed for discovery or continued study. For many students, Summer Seminar is a life-changing event; it has catapulted the careers of many of the nation's most respected collectors, authors and dealers.*

*Get full information including the course catalog online to see what Summer Seminar can do for you, and consider applying for a PNNA Summer Seminar scholarship by Feb. 1.*

# The Irony of the Everlasting Precious 10 Mon

by Alexander Mous (YN, age 14)

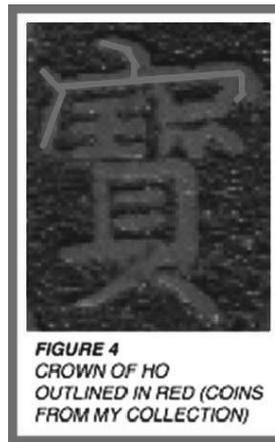
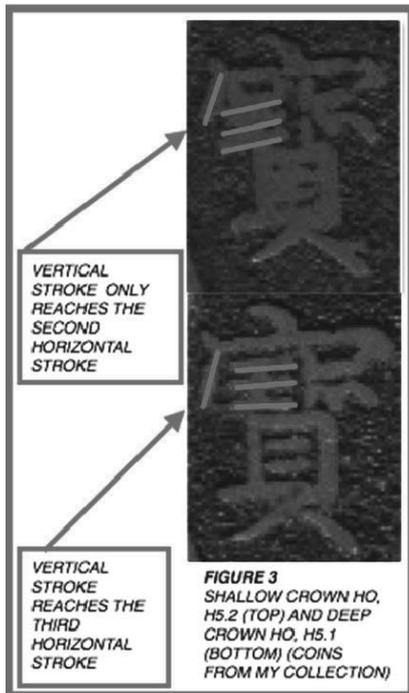
In 1708, the Japanese government pretentiously issued a new coin, the 10 mon, proclaiming it to be precious and everlasting. The 10 mon is a typical calligraphic cast coin which exists in three varieties. To understand how to tell the difference between the varieties, it's important to know how to read the calligraphy.



Calligraphic coins can be hard for the Western collector to read. However, a general rule of thumb can be followed for cast Japanese coins. You typically start with the top character (in this case, Ho); next, you read the bottom character

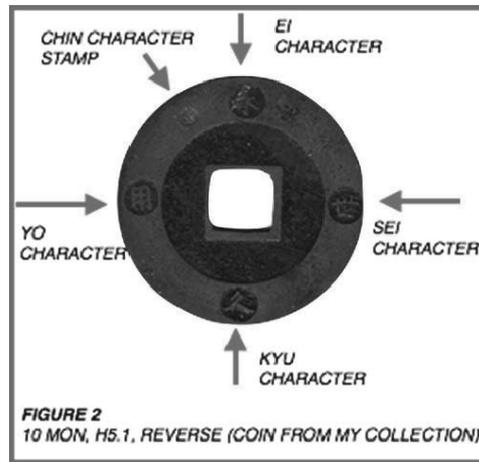
(Ei); next, you read the right character (Tsu); finally, you read the left character (Ho). This spells out Hoei Tsuho (see figure 1). Since Hoei was an era in Japan from 1704 to 1711, and Tsuho means currency, it follows that Hoei Tsuho means Hoei currency. Cast in bronze at Shichijo (located in the province of Kyoto) the 10 mon coins exist in three varieties. Two of the varieties are shown in figure 3. The trick to distinguishing between the first two varieties

is to examine the crown of the left Ho (see figure 4 at the top of the next column). The first variety, Hartill number 5.1, has a deep crown where the vertical stroke reaches the third horizontal stroke, whereas the second variety, Hartill number 5.2, has a shallow crown where the vertical stroke only reaches the second horizontal stroke (see figure 3). The third variety, which is not listed in the Hartill catalog, has a vertical Ei (the bottom character on the obverse),



where the vertical center line is perpendicular to the rim of the hole. Its only distinguishing characteristic from the deep crown (H5.1) is that the Ei is slightly straighter. The rarity and price of the 10 mon varieties varies tremendously. The common H5.1 deep crown variety sells for around \$30 whereas the less common H5.2 shallow crown variety sells for about \$150. Unfortunately, neither picture nor value of the straight Ei variety could be readily

found since it is so rare.



On the 10 mon reverse, five characters are inscribed. The four main characters, read in the same fashion as the obverse, are Ei Kyu Sei Yo (see figure 2), which Neil Gordon Munro translated as "for the everlasting

use of the world." The fifth character, which was stamped onto the rim after casting, means Chin, which translates to precious. However, the Japanese people were disinclined to use these "precious" coins. It is thought that this is because they traded coins by weight rather than by denomination. Since the 1 mon coins weighed about 3g of bronze each, and the 10 mon coins weighed just 8.5g of bronze each, the 10 mon was worth significantly less by weight than its denominated value. This is further supported by the Hartill catalog, which shows that the few Japanese people who did use the 10 mon coins traded them for about 3 mon each. To remedy this lack of use, the Japanese government issued a decree stating that those who did not use the Hoei Tsuho would be punished. Ironically, while potentially increasing the 10 mon coin's use, the Japanese government halted production of the "everlasting" Hoei Tsuho in 1709, after only one year of production.

Reference: Hartill, David, *Cast Chinese coins: a historical catalogue*, Victoria, Trafford Publishing, 2005, ISBN 1-4120-5466-4.

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