



The NOR'WESTER

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PNNA is a non-profit corporation registered in the State of Oregon.

<http://www.pnna.org>

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Individual — \$10.00/year
Individual Life — \$200.00
Family/Club — \$15.00/year
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for paper copies.

Third Quarter

2020

July-August-September

President's Message

by PNNA President Ed Fischer



This is my first presidential message as your new PNNA president. I want to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve PNNA and Northwest numismatics. James Reinders and the other past PNNA presidents have set a high standard to live up to. Thanks to the board already in place, the transition should be a smooth one. I don't plan on rocking the boat or making serious changes to our direction. I and the PNNA Board are here to serve, develop and promote a healthy numismatic environment.

With that being said, 2020 is not cracking up to what could be classified as a normal year for any part of society. Many folks are hurting physically and financially as a result of the way the pandemic is playing out. We at PNNA will work to do the best we can, given the restraints placed on us by government and societal actions. We find ourselves still discovering the science behind Covid-19 and how it affects group situations.

At this writing, most all club meetings are being canceled because of distancing and attendance regulations. Many club meetings have typically been held in Fire Halls, Senior Center, and other public venues. It is just not safe for numismatist to gather for the sake of a hobby. Many of our coin friends are older or may have underlying health issues. It is a hobby! I would hate to be a part of any of my numismatic friends getting ill because we didn't take precautions. I have great hope that some day we will meet on the Bourse floor.

In the wake of the cancelled PNNA Tukwila show in April, the new and old PNNA boards met together by phone on April 18. The PNNA board will use Zoom on August 1 for their next board meeting, and we will discuss the fate for the planned PNNA Fall show in Tukwila.

I can provide a few updates on the show scenes. Currently the ANA show in Pittsburgh this August has been

canceled and they will get the chance again in Pittsburgh in 2023. The Florence Oregon show in August has been canceled for this year. I want to thank Rick and Tony for all their hard work—Washington has canceled their State Fair so there can be no PNNA outreach in the Hobby Hall. Still up-in-the-air shows include the PNNA fall show in Tukwila (planned to be our first Tukwila fall show!) for September, the Portland (Willamette Coin Club) Halloween show at the end of October, and the Salem show in December. While the final say for those shows will come from the PNNA board, the WCC board, and the Salem board, respectively—in all cases the definitive answers will be based upon venue restrictions, government restrictions, and safety concerns the clubs may have. For the most up-to-date list, check www.pnna.org. Eric has done a great job of updating the website as information comes in.

I have faith that the challenges Covid-19 places upon groups like ours will eventually subside. I can not venture a guess about the length of time or the evolution of societal norms. Interactions and processes may change on the bourse floor. I am a hands-on person, but have seen a huge increase in online or auction sales. Whichever way it plays out, PNNA will make the attempt to assist in whatever way possible.

With all this changing daily, I welcome any input you may have. Please don't hesitate to email me your comments or suggestions at edoregon@comcast.net.

Happily serving,

Ed Fischer

Upcoming Board Meeting Dates and Locations:

There are normally PNNA board meetings at three annual shows—the Boeing Employees' Coin Club show in January, the PNNA spring convention in Tukwila, and the PNNA fall show in Tukwila. A fourth summer meeting is typically held at a restaurant, although the summer meeting will be held online via Zoom on Saturday, August 1 this year.

The Board and Officers serve at your pleasure — please contact any one of us with your suggestions. We want to grow this organization and we want to better educate our members on the subject of numismatics.

Washington State (Puyallup) Fair Cancelled

by Richard Schulz



It was announced on July 8 that the Washington State Fair, scheduled for Sept. 4-27, 2020, has been cancelled. It's time to start gearing up for the 2021 Fair! I want to thank all those who volunteered to help out at the PNNA's Hobby Hall display this year. I hope to see you all at next year's Fair. My email is richardf53@yahoo.com and my phone number is 253-318-4205.

PNNA and Willamette Fall Conventions

Beginning in 2020, separate fall shows are scheduled for Seattle (Tukwila) and Portland, with the PNNA sponsoring the Tukwila show and the Willamette Coin Club (WCC) sponsoring the Portland show.

The PNNA fall show in Tukwila is scheduled for Sept. 25-27, 2020, whereas the WCC fall show in Portland is scheduled for Oct. 30-Nov. 1, 2020 (with the first day for setup).

Unfortunately, with the current virus situation, it is doubtful that either of these shows will take place. More information will be posted on the PNNA website fall events page, <https://www.pnna.org/wp/events/fall/>, when available.

For information on the Willamette Coin Club fall show, you can also visit the club's website at <https://pdxcoinclub.org>, send an email to pdxcoinclub@gmail.com, and/or contact show chairman Ed Fischer at edoregon@comcast.net, or call 503-507-6721.

Coin Club "Chit-Chat"

The Seattle Numismatic Society recently asked its members about "ANYTHING going on that you would like to share with the club. This could be numismatics or other hobbies, family announcements or anecdotes, Coinstar finds, grandkids or kids or any topic that we generally chat about during the meeting!" Some interesting responses were received, resulting in a mini-newsletter or "Chit-Chat," published mid-month, for the first time in July. For more information or to contribute to the next edition, contact editor Ray Fiorini, email raylinda76@centurylink.net.

Deadline for submission of material for 4th Quarter 2020 Nor'wester: Sunday, September 6, 2020.

Please send your ad copy to Eric Holcomb, Eric@Holcomb.com, and payment to the PNNA treasurer. Or call Eric (541-647-1021) for more info.

Advertising rates (per regular/convention issue) are:
 \$4.00/\$5.00 (1 column inch; no oversized text)
 \$7.50/\$10.00 (1/8-page; business card)
 \$10.00/\$12.50 (1/6-page); \$15.00/\$18.00 (1/4-page)
 \$25.00/\$30.00 (1/2-page); \$45.00/\$50.00 (full page)

Note: Rates for color pages are higher; please inquire about prices and availability. Unless we know for certain that the PNNA fall convention will go forward, there will not be a color convention edition in 2020.

Web advertising rates, per year on www.pnna.org:

1-line web site listing — Free to members
 \$10.00 (sponsor page ad; business card size)

PNNA 2020 Annual Awards

by Danny Bisgaard

The PNNA awards committee, chaired by Danny Bisgaard, has selected the recipients of the various PNNA annual awards. These include the Bob Everett Memorial Award, the Nina Nystrom Memorial "Goodwill Ambassador" Award, and the Literary Awards.

Due to the cancellation of the 2020 spring convention, these awards have not yet been announced. If the fall show in Tukwila can be held, they will be announced at the show, otherwise they will be announced on the website and in the 4th Quarter edition of *The Nor'wester*.

PNNA Past President James Reinders also selected recipients of the Presidential Award, which are listed on the website, but which have not been presented in person. Congratulations to James Bard, Danny Bisgaard, Ray Fiorini, Scott Loos, Monte Mensing, Rick Schulz and Joanne Stone for receiving these awards.

This year's adult and YN scholarships were awarded, however ANA Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs was subsequently cancelled. The awards will carry over to 2021. It has not been decided if additional scholarship awards will be made in 2021.

Thanks to the members who took the time to nominate or submit applications for these important PNNA awards. Your interest and continued education are the reasons these awards are made available to all of you.

More information about the various PNNA awards can be found on the PNNA website at:

<https://www.pnna.org/wp/awards/>

PNNA Officers / Directors 2020-2022

President - Ed Fischer

Vice President - Rick Schulz

Secretary - Danny Bisgaard

Treasurer - Scott Loos

Directors - James Bard, Kevin Charboneau, Brian Deren, Ron Engholm, James D. Free, Mark Gruner, Kellen Hoard, Tony Kalt, Gawain O'Connor, Tom Tullis

Past President - James Reinders

Appointed Positions

Dealer-Director - Dennis Reed

Editor/Webmaster - Eric Holcomb

Classic Articles!

by Eric Holcomb

As PNNA webmaster, I have highlighted several classic articles and galleries from the past, recently reformatted as PDF files:

[Ancient coins \(compilation of articles\)](#) by Joseph Kleinman

[Numismatic Remembrance of National Tragedies](#)

[1959 Oregon Centennial Tokens \(Introduction to\)](#)
by Katie Reinders

[United States Colonials – A Picture Gallery](#)

[Washington State Quarter Design Contest](#) (held 2002-2005)

Although the quarter design contest is long since over, you may want to consider a similar contest pertaining to more recent U.S. coin programs and designs, medal designs, etc.

Note that the above links are also available on the PNNA home page, <https://www.pnna.org/wp/>.

Would You Like to Write an Article?

by Eric Holcomb

As editor of *The Nor'wester*, I am looking for interesting numismatic articles for future editions of *The Nor'wester*. If the PNNA fall show is cancelled, the next edition will be another short edition like this one, but there is still room for one-page articles. Authors are eligible for PNNA literary award—see the PNNA website at <https://www.pnna.org/wp/awards/> for award information.

Assistance is available for editing and photography if needed. Please only use commercially available photos if you have permission. In the case of Heritage Auctions (<https://www.ha.com/>), we can use images (as on page 4 of this issue) with the proper credit. Some Wikipedia text and images can also be used with credit.

PNNA Collector Exhibits

by Eric Holcomb

Due to the cancellation of the PNNA spring convention, there have been no PNNA collector exhibits so far this year. At the time, I notified exhibitors that the annual awards would be decided at the fall show, however, that show is also in danger of cancellation, so it's possible there will not be any PNNA collector exhibit awards this year.

To be added to my email list of collector exhibitors, so that you can receive the latest exhibit news, please email me at info@pnna.org or eric@holcomb.com.

the Willamette Coin Club fall show, which was also scheduled to have collector exhibits, faces a similar situation. See page 2 for the details on how to get information about this show.

Thank you, and we're looking forward to better and safer conditions in 2021.

Errors in the Description!

by PNNA Life Member Joe McCarthy

Joe has been associated with the Willamette Coin Club since about 2005, but is currently living in California.

I generally don't purchase error numismatics, but I recently obtained the items in the two scans shown here. The error for both items is NOT the items themselves, but the descriptions!



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Erie and Kalamazoo Railroad—The first item is an obsolete note (imaged above) which I purchased through a Heritage online auction. It is a *remainder* note. The title in the auction description began with “Toledo, MI” (Michigan), although Toledo is now part of Ohio. The confusion may stem from the fact (according to Wikipedia) that “the Erie and Kalamazoo Railroad was chartered in 1833 in the Territory of Michigan to run from the former Port Lawrence, Michigan (now Toledo, Ohio), near Lake Erie, northwest to Adrian on the River Raisin. The Toledo War soon gave about one-third of the route to the state of Ohio.” This little-known “war,” which took place in 1835-1836, was a boundary dispute between Michigan and Ohio.

According to Toledo.com, “The villages of Port Lawrence and Vistula merged in 1833 to better compete against their upriver rivals. The leaders of this newly-united settlement chose the name Toledo and incorporated as part of Monroe County, Michigan Territory.” The City of Toledo was officially incorporated in the state of Ohio four years later in 1837. If the note was issued prior to that time, it's possible that the description “Toledo, MI” might actually be accurate!

Adding to the confusion is that some Erie and Kalamazoo notes are from Adrian, Michigan, which as noted was the destination of a 33-mile rail line from Port Lawrence (now Toledo, Ohio) on Lake Erie to Adrian. The railroad's corporate office was in Adrian until April 1839, before moving to Toledo. It's possible that Heritage could have edited the description for an Adrian note without changing the state.

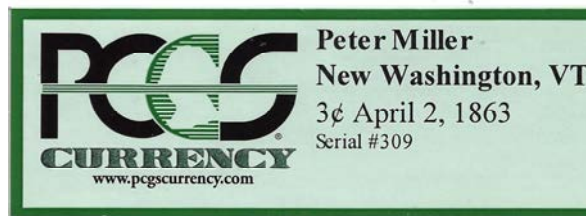
And if the Toledo notes weren't issued until after the move (which seems logical), then Toledo was in fact in Ohio! What do you think?

New Washington—The second item is an 1863 three-cent obsolete banknote (imaged below) graded by PCGS Currency. The PCGS label attributed the note as “Peter Miller (signature) / New Washington, VT (Vermont) Wolka 1916-01.” However,

according to Wendell Wolka's book, this is actually an Ohio banknote.

According to Wikipedia, “New Washington is a village in Cranberry Township in Crawford County, Ohio. ... New Washington was laid out in 1833. It was incorporated as a village in 1874.”

Both of these notes are very interesting windows into U.S. history, even aside from the errors in the descriptions.



Why Not Some Dime Re-Design?

by Mark Benvenuto

Collectors who have been avidly scooping up the output of the United States Mint for the past years or even decades know that we have some truly beautiful coins, with designs that can be quite eye catching. There are quarters galore, dollar coins aplenty, and even different series of bullion coins for those of us with the money to collect them. We've even seen some changes in the designs on our nickels and cents. But in it all, we seem to have stuck with large diameter coins when it comes to some sort of platform to commemorate or honor anything of worth or value. Why not do something for the dime?

Looking all the way back, our ten-cent pieces didn't really get out of the gate all that early. The very first are dated 1796, even though the Mint was authorized, up and running some years before. And it wasn't until 1805 that these humble bits of silver even made it to an official mintage up into six figures. All that means the earliest dimes can be expensive today.

Dime output was spotty at best in the early years, with 1820 being the first year to see what we might call a decent production level. With 942,587 to that annual tally, this is the first year we might call common, and the first year for which a person today doesn't have to spend a fortune to own one.



Dime collectors today know that the Seated Liberty design of Mr. Christian Gobrecht might be the first for which we can assemble a good-sized, multi-year collection. In the long span of time from 1837 all the way to 1891, there are enough years with mintages in the millions that a person does not

have to flatten their wallet to put together a handsome looking collection. But in general, people who collect dimes seem to focus on the Barber and Mercury designs, which cover the end of the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth. And this brings us back to where we started a moment ago.

The Roosevelt dime, first issued in 1946, honored the only President of the United States ever to sit in the Oval Office for four terms – and not much of the fourth, if we bother to look at it. It is fair to say that FDR's leadership of the country brought us to victory through the biggest war the world had ever seen, but killed him in the process. He passed away shortly before Victory in Europe Day, generally called V-E Day.



Collecting Roosevelt dimes is not particularly hard for anyone right now, be they a new collector or seasoned veteran. There are no real rarities in the series. The 1955 is the least common of those made pre-1964,

in 90% silver; and even this coin has an official listing of 12,450,181 pieces. It's not too tough to assemble a date run, or even a date and mintmark set of pieces in mint state condition, for something like \$5 to \$10 per coin. Once we get to 1965 and the end of the silver in our silver dimes, the prices drop even further.

In addition to this glut of ten-cent pieces, there are plenty of proofs from this earlier time – meaning 1964 and before – starting back in 1950, with what might be called humble beginnings of 51,386 proofs. Just like now, back then these were sold as a part of an annual set. Unlike now, the packaging was far less protective, and thus many of these early proofs are now stand alone coins. By 1957 the number of proofs had gone up over a million, and while the number dipped a bit in 1958, production has remained high enough each year that proof Roosevelt dimes are pretty much all considered common and easy to collect.

Taking the idea of proof collecting a bit farther, most collectors know that in 1992 the Mint ratcheted up its offerings by releasing proof sets with dimes and quarters in them which were made to the now-classic standard of the 1964-and-before coins. This means a person now has almost three full decades of modern silver proofs that they can collect. Once again, the price tags are very reasonable. And if we want, we could collect proofs that are silver as well as proofs that are base metal – the nickel-copper alloy sandwiching a copper core.

Despite all these options, one thing has never changed since 1946 – the design. Let's ask, why not? For what reason does this one circulating coin, this one of four workhorse denominations of the modern era, not get any play when it comes to some kind of re-design? Sure, the quarters have the lion's share of the design changes, with several new images per year. But the nickels had their Westward Journey years, and even the cent had four different Lincoln reverses. Why is the dime the Rodney Dangerfield of the set, able to say, "I don't get no respect?"

It seems that we could make the claim the dime is too small to sport changes and commemorative reverses, that any new designs would be tough to see. But, based on the excellent design work that is seen on our 1/10th ounce gold Eagles, it's not as if the Mint doesn't have the people, the talent, and the machinery to make small yet attractive coins. As well, in 2008 the Mint produced 1/10th ounce gold American Buffalo coins, which are very attractive and quite detailed. In short, we can make the claim that being small is no reason to cut the dime out of the scene when it comes to using it for some commemorative purpose.

Alas, there doesn't seem to be an indicator on the horizon that our dimes will change any time soon. Yes, Mr. Roosevelt could use some sort of upgrade, especially if the new artwork is stone cold beautiful. In the meantime, well, we do have decades of ten-cent pieces that can be collected at reasonable prices, even in high end mint state or proof grades.

Coin & Stamp Show

August 22 & 23, 2020

Saturday 10AM-5PM

Sunday 10AM-4PM

**NEW
LOCATION**

Inland Empire Coin Show Greyhound Event Center

5100 Riverbend Ave ~ Post Falls ~ ID ~ 83854

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A-1 Events LLC Email: afranke@pullman.com ~ Phone: 509-595-0435



Attention Dealers: Bourse space is still available at the Inland Empire Coin Show. Please contact Alan Franke using the email or phone listed above for details.

Coin Shop Reopens

Clatsop Coin on Astoria has re-opened after a several year respite. The shop is now located at 205 12th Street, right in the heart of town. The town's Sunday market is held on 12th Street in front of the shop. You're invited to stop by the next time you're in Astoria. For info, please email clatsopcoin@gmail.com.