Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association

## The Nor'wester

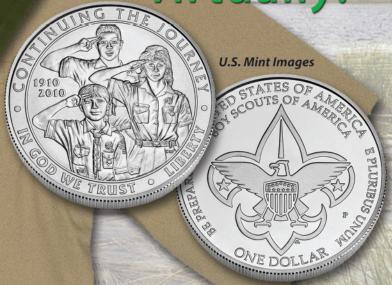
4th Quarter 2020 SPECIAL PRODUCTION
October - November - December



Coin Collecting
Merit Badges
— now done
virtually!



Badge image courtesy of BSA



See article by James Reinders & Tony Kalt on Pages 6-7.
See back-cover ad for ANACS Specials.

THE SEPTEMBER TUKWILA SHOW AND THE NOVEMBER PORTLAND SHOW WERE CANCELLED DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC. PLEASE STAY SAFE.

4th Quarter 2020 Oct—Nov—Dec



Eric Holcomb, Editor/Webmaster 1900 NE 3rd St STE 106 PMB 361 Bend, OR 97701-3889 Phone: 541-647-1021

Email: Eric@Holcomb.com



# The Nor'wester is published quarterly by the Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association

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

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



American Numismatic Association Member C-1000037 (old ANA Life Club #37)

#### **PNNA Dues**

PNNA dues are assessed annually in January. If you have not yet paid for 2021, you will receive a reminder next year, however you are encouraged to pay early. Individual online-only dues are \$10; family groups and clubs are \$15. Life membership costs \$200. Add \$5/year for paper. For more information please see <a href="https://www.pnna.org/wp/join/">https://www.pnna.org/wp/join/</a>.

# PNNA President's Message PNNA Annual Awards, etc. Heritage Auctions ad Coin Collecting Merit Badges — now done virtually! ANACS ad 8

#### PNNA Officers 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; plus James Reinders as past president

**Appointed Positions** 

**Dealer Director** - Dennis Reed

Editor/Webmaster - Eric Holcomb

Deadline for submission of material for 1st Quarter 2021 Nor'wester: December 6, 2020.

#### **Inquiries**

Email inquiries to info@pnna.org.

#### Advertising

PNNA members may request advertising on the website sponsor page and/or in editions of *The Nor'wester* distributed at coin shows and conventions. For information, make inquiry to the address above or directly to the editor/webmaster.

#### **Privacy Policy**

The new PNNA Privacy and Data Usage Policy, adopted by the board in July 2018, is available online at: http://pnna.org/info/privacy.html.

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. Individuals, families and clubs can join PNNA for 3 years and save money! See the PNNA website memberships page for details.

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#### PNNA President's Message

by PNNA President Ed Fischer

We regret the cancellation of our fall events, including the Washington State Fair, the PNNA fall convention in Tukwila, and the WCC fall show in Portland. We hope to see you again in 2021. Please check the PNNA website calendar for updates.

Please watch your social distancing and face covering. This said, you can still engage one-on-one with your coin buddies and local dealers that are open. I did just that on a recent road trip to Boise, Idaho; visiting with Bob Mansker and stopping at a shop around the corner from where I was staying. But mostly be safe.

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

- Oct. 3, 2020 (10 a.m.) online via Zoom
- Jan. 16, 2021 at the Boeing Employee's Coin Club Show, Kent Commons, Kent, Wash., right after the show closes, if the show is held; otherwise online via Zoom
- Apr. 10, 2021 at the PNNA show in Tukwila, at 8 a.m. (the annual membership meeting is after the show that same day)

Guests are always welcome to drop in on any board meeting they are always open! (For online meetings, access should be requested in advance.) The Board and Officers serve at your pleasure – please contact any one of us with your suggestions.

#### **PNNA Annual Awards**

Congratulations to the 2020 PNNA annual award winners:



**Bob Everett Memorial Award – Kevin Charboneau** (left), who has done an outstanding job as the spring convention general chairman.

Nina Nystrom Memorial Goodwill Ambassador Award – Mark Gruner, who is a PNNA board member, and has been active with numismatics in Idaho.

Presidential Awards (presented by James Reinders) – James

Bard, Danny Bisgaard, Ray Fiorini, Scott Loos, Monte Mensing, Rick Schulz and Joanne Stone.

Literary Award for Best Article in The Nor'wester

**1st Place – "Apollo 11 Medals" by Eric Holcomb.** See 3rd Q 2019 edition.

**2nd Place – "Manganese, an Almost Unknown Metal in Coins" by Mark Benvenuto.** See 2nd Q 2019 edition.

3rd Place – "Intaglio Engraving in Four Days: My Experience at the ANA Summer Seminar 2019," by Alexander Mous. See 4th Q 2019 edition.

**Literary Award for Best Club Newsletter** 

1st place – Seattle Numismatic Society

2nd place – Olympia Coin Club

3rd place - South Hill Coin Club

#### **National Coin Week Club Contest**

April 19-25, 2020 was the ANA's 97th annual National Coin Week. The theme was "Remarkable Women: Catalysts of Change." There were no entries in the PNNA club competition due to virus-related restrictions on club meetings and activities. Please try again next year.

#### The Shortest National Bank Title

by Thomas A. Tullis

Greetings to all.

Let's stop and think about a short title, because I've never seen a national advertised this way.

Most nationals are titled an such: The (numerical) National Bank of (location). Another way they are titled is: The (location) National Bank. Here is where a solution might be.

I've never seen a town name of less than three letters. Have you? There are two letter words, but what about town names?

One example I know is a town in Pennsylvania called Gap, located in Lancaster County. This was charter #2864. Small sizes are plentiful, but large size notes are scarce. Here is an example courtesy of Heritage Auctions (ha.com):



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Anything shorter? Share your knowledge with us. Until then, happy collecting!

#### The Longest National Bank Title

by Thomas A. Tullis

Hello, fellow collectors. Here is your trivia question of the day: what National Bank has the longest title? Do you know the answer?

This "honor" belonged to a bank in Cleveland, Ohio. It was charter number 11862. Are you ready: The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers Co-operative National Bank. That's a title for you. Chartered in 1920, it had to liquidate in 1930, and didn't make it to the Great Depression. It produced only large notes under this tile, and issued about \$8 million in currency.

This charter is not really rare, with over 100 notes in the census. It is, however, a popular title, as notes at auction always generate much interest.

Like many labor union banks, this bank was liquidated. Running a locomotive is different than running a bank.

### PARTRICK PLATINUM! AUCTION

January 2021 | Orlando | Live & Online

#### Donald G. Partrick Collection

Offered Unreserved



1786 Non Vi Virtute Vici, AU55 Large Head



Circa 1800 Washington Funeral Medal, MS63 Skull and Crossbones in Gold, GW-71A



1788 New Jersey Copper, MS63 Brown Maris 50-f, Head Facing Left



1787 Excelsior/Indian Copper, MS64 Brown From the Eliasberg Collection



1795 Washington Oval Peace Medal Engraved by Joseph Richardson From the Garrett Collection \* Image reduced



1714 Gloucester Courthouse Shilling, VF25 The Finer of Two Known



1786 New Jersey Copper, AU55 Maris 7-E, Date Under Plow Beam



1792 Washington Half Dollar, MS63 The Finest Silver Getz Pattern



1786 Non Vi Virtute Vici Copper, MS64+ Brown The Remarkable Eliasberg Example



1787 George Clinton Copper, AU58 Early Political Issue



1774/3 Virginia 'Shilling,' Proof 62 From the Garrett Collection

The January 2021 FUN Partrick Platinum! sale will feature some of the most important colonial rarities from the Donald G. Partrick Collection, all offered unreserved. During over 50 years of diligent collecting, Don succeeded in building what is unarguably the quintessential collection of American colonial coinage. Now, many irreplaceable treasures will grace a new generation's fine collections.

Two extraordinary examples of the earliest circulating gold coinage in the United States will be featured: the finest 1787 New York-style Brasher doubloon and the finer of only two 1786 Lima-style doubloons. Other highlights include two Washington funeral medals in gold, one with the skull and crossbones reverse, multiple Washington oval Indian Peace Medals, and many other impressive colonial coins. This unparalleled event is not to be missed.



#### Visit HA.com/Partrick for more information

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#### Coin Collecting Merit Badges — now done virtually!

by James Reinders, PNNA President Emeritus and Tony Kalt, PNNA board member

We enjoy encouraging youth to take an interest in our hobby, and one way has been to help scouts earn their BSA Coin Collecting Merit Badge. Like so many other events, this has been interrupted by the pandemic.

In this article, we will talk a bit about what scouts have to learn, and how we found a way to continue this using Zoom for a virtual workshop. Through the years, we have learned things that come out of our teaching that even adults are surprised about — we will include mention of some of those as well!

We have conducted one virtual workshop now, and have another planned in September (information on how to sign up can be found on the PNNA website and www.collect3.com).

In our first session, ten scouts earned the merit badge. We had one scout that had not yet even made the rank of 'scout' (thanks to COVID) all the way to a scout that has the rank of Life and is working to organize his Eagle project. That means we had a range of ages representing all of scouting (roughly 11-17 years old). That is a cool thing about this merit badge, it does attract scouts of all ages—including virtually on Zoom.

While we still prefer the opportunity to address scouts in person, holding the workshop by Zoom had advantages that balanced some obvious disadvantage. That was a pleasant surprise.

#### How and Why we went Virtual

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to the cancellation of shows since early in 2020, and it is uncertain how far into 2021 that will continue. Tony helped scouts complete their merit badge requirements in January at the Boeing Employees' Coin Show in Kent, Wash. Ever since, Tony or James have been faced with cancelling planned merit badge workshops with scouts as we cancelled the spring PNNA show in Tukwila.

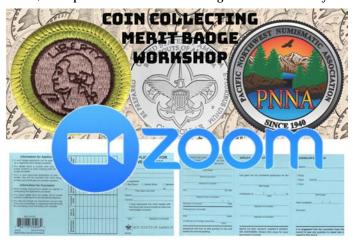
We rescheduled the scouts who signed up for the spring workshop for September at the new fall PNNA show. More recently, Portland area scouts started signing up for a workshop in Portland in October. Once the decision was made to cancel both shows, James and Tony really didn't want to postpone the scouts again. We looked to Zoom as a platform to enable us to do the workshops virtually.

We decided to start by promoting two workshops: August 30, and September 26. We had healthy interest right away from the scouts we already signed up for Tukwila in the spring, and we wanted to ensure they got the first opportunities to sign up. We soon started promoting it to the troops and districts we usually contact for the Portland show in the fall. We filled up the August workshop, and we are doing well for September sign ups. If there is demand, we will add another workshop this year—we will not turn scouts away during the pandemic!

#### **Some Surprise Benefits of Using Zoom**

We worried about being effective with Zoom, and we worried about the disadvantages of not being able to show coins in person. (We all do enjoy holding a coin in our hands—Zoom is not as good at that!)

We were pleasantly surprised to find that Zoom has some great benefits. Three keys benefits are holding their attention (these are teenagers!), better sharing (automatically) between scouts, and the ability to reach a wide geography easily. Perhaps that last advantage may be worth considering, even after the pandemic, to help reach the whole PNNA region more effectively.



When the pandemic is over... we will probably miss the longer attention span scouts had when we were on their computer screens!

The scouts are always well mannered in our workshops, but when sitting together they cannot help but talk and get distracted when we do this in person especially as we wonder around the room to check the coins that they brought. Zoom helped with this in two ways: (1) the scouts were not together so they stayed more attentive, and (2) whenever a scout was showing coins to us they were also sharing with the entire group. That was very cool—everyone saw the same images on their screen, regardless of who was showing it. When we are in person, the scouts are scattered around a big room and do not get to see everything that is shared by every scout. This was an unexpected bonus for us all.



A sense of humor in our presentation, as we deal with the pandemic, went over well with the scouts: Who is on what denomination of U.S. currency? What president number were they? What's on the back of the currency? Do they really need masks on the paper money?

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#### **Key Adaptations to use Zoom for the workshop**

James contacted Walt Ostromecki (long time PNNA friend, and past ANA president), Rob Gillis (ANA education), Sam Gelberd (ANA education), and some local BSA scoutmasters for advice. Walt had taught a class to two scouts virtually already, and he shared useful advice. Walt had also confirmed with BSA nationals our shared belief that 'virtual tours' counted as tours for requirement #10. With real tours closed, this makes sense in our pandemic world. Rod was his wonderful supportive self as always, and Sam is organizing a virtual workshop by the ANA for November. The local scoutmasters filled me in on the thinking around signing 'blue cards' virtually. There is no consistent national BSA policy, it is left to the local troops to work out. Many are willing to do virtually, but we learned that we needed to offer to mail cards to the scouts. We mailed cards to most scouts, and included free numismatic items as surprises for them too.

We practiced with Zoom for a 'dry run' for two hours before we did a real run. James was the host, and learned how to name Tony co-host during the meeting. We used breakout rooms to divide up scouts for reviewing their work (we did twice — once for requirement 3, and then at the end to review everything else). We could move between the rooms, but we forcibly placed the scouts where we wanted them. We practiced running videos with sound; which orientation with PowerPoint looked best. Tony used a mirror to show James on Zoom what Tony's screen looked like! We were much better prepared having practiced. With Tony as co-host, when James' Zoom application crashed during the meeting, he was hardly missed until he could rejoin a minute later.

A few important things to note about registration: (1) We asked for an email, but an email for the scout was strictly optional. (2) We asked for a mailing address, but explained it was only needed as a place to mail a blue card to. (3) We asked for an email for their 'advancement chair' so we could email information of their completion—especially useful for 'virtual' blue card completion.

Anyone seeking to repeat what we have done, should drop us a note to get more specifics. We are happy to share!

#### What Scouts Learn—and some things adults learn too

One last thing we did special for Zoom was assemble a workbook to help scouts understand how to be prepared for a virtual workshop. The workbook is online at <a href="https://www.collect3.com/zoom2020">www.collect3.com/zoom2020</a>— you might enjoy looking at some of the resources on the web that we point out, including the educational "Top 7 Ways to Ruin Your Coins," at <a href="https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/top-ways-to-ruin-your-coins-768318">https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/top-ways-to-ruin-your-coins-768318</a>.

The full requirements are listed in the workbook. Here is an abbreviated version of what scouts need to do:

- Understand how coins are made and where the mints are.
- Explain key terms like obverse, reverse, reeding, etc.
- Learn the keys to grading (UNC to Good), what proof and encapsulated mean (collect a simple grading set).
- Ways to store coins (this is where we talk about what can ruin a coin).
- Use a coin reference book to look up information.
- Know about the State or America the Beautiful Quarter programs (collect 5 examples).
- Collect an example of each circulating denomination of coin (50 cents pieces are tough).

- Understand paper money, legal tender, and the Federal Reserve.
- Make a small collection (4 options).
- Tour a mint/BEP/Federal Reserve, attend a coin show, present on coins, or draw colonial coins.



Humor included our choice of coin to illustrate reeding. This joke is courtesy of the ANA. Have you figured it out?

We can share many stories about thing that adults learn too. Did you know that pictures of coins in catalogs and reference books are normally made to be the actual size of the coin (unless noted otherwise)? Can you name all *nine* official mints (four in operation now)? Why did Philadelphia not have a mintmark originally? (Was "United State of America" enough?) Why did the mints at Charlotte and Dahlonega open? Why did they close? What war did they close for in 1861?—don't laugh if Vietnam war was guessed. What year did the gold rush in California happen (is there a pro football team in San Francisco remind you of the date?—don't laugh too hard when they say 1949). What coins have (roughly) the Apollo 11 patch on their reverse? What is different about what the eagle is clutching on such coins (compare with a JFK reverse)?

#### **Highlights of Tony's Famous Numismatic Show-and- Tells**

One of the key things Tony enjoys going over is the section on how a coin is made. He has great hands-on items for the scouts to see including error coins, planchet strips, and the molds used in the artist-to-medal process for annual Boeing medals. Tony delights scouts with a sneak preview of the upcoming medal that will be available in January. The fate of the annual January 2021 show is still unknown. Tony will share more on the medal in the 1st Quarter 2021 issue of *The Nor Wester*.

#### **Future Plans**

For the duration of the pandemic, we will keep running virtual coin collecting merit badge workshops. Based on our initial experience, we think we can handle about ten scouts per merit badge counselor. Therefore, we'll be allowing up to 20 scouts to register for future workshops (unless we get another merit badge counselor). We'll probably allow 22 to register, since we expect attendance to be 90% of the number who register.

When we have coin shows again, we will offer workshops in person again. In Portland, we can put 1835 large cents in their hands to flip and reenact the coin toss in 1845 that determined the name for Portland. Holding a large cent (very worn – just like the real one) in your hand is something Zoom cannot do. Ditto for seeing the plaster design for a Boeing medal, or tipping a proof and uncirculated coin side-by-side to see the difference. However, when we are in person again, we will probably miss (a little) the longer attention span the scouts gave to us when we were on their computer screens!  $\odot$ 



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