

# The History of Central States

## Part 18 - 1980-1982

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The 'Decade of the Eighties' witnessed the movement of Central States conventions from prestigious hotels to cavernous convention centers. Witness the April 18-20, 1980, CSNS convention held in the Pershing Auditorium in Lincoln, Nebraska. General chairman, Larry Rowe, and his committees put on an outstanding show in the Cornhusker State. Letters of welcome from Nebraska Governor Charles Thone and Lincoln Mayor Helen Boosalis were printed in the Spring, 1980, issue of *The Centinel*. To make it even more a Nebraska affair, the Nebraska Numismatic Association celebrated its 25th anniversary at the show.

Convention highlights included a Kagin auction, a PNG Day, the presentation of a \$1,000 CSNS donation to the ANA Building Fund, the installation of new CSNS officers, and an array of award-winning exhibits. The B. Max Mehl 'Best of Show' was awarded to Nancy Wilson of Milwaukee. She also won the Julian S. Marks Award for 'Best Paper Money Exhibit,' beating out her husband, John, whose exhibit finished second. The 'Most Educational Exhibit' honors went to Vicki Klausch, while Sandy Sedo took home the 'Best Junior Exhibit Award.'



1975 – Kansas City: Hobby leaders – from the national to the local level – gathered for the “official” opening of the convention with the traditional ribbon cutting ceremony. Pictured from the left are: Lowell Owen, CSNS governor; Sidney Harlow of the KC police department; Mary Brooks, Director of the U.S. Mint;

**Daniel C. Parker, CSNS president; Virginia Culver, ANA president; A. P. (Del) Bertschy, CSNS governor; and Ray O. Lefman, CSNS governor and show chairman. (Rollie Finner photo.)**

**Newly elected CSNS officers and governors were: President, Ralph D. Hardman, Jr. of Kansas City; First VP, Kurt Krueger of Kimberly, WI; Second VP, John Cain from Kansas City; and Marjorie M. Owen of West Des Moines, IA as Secretary-Treasurer. Sworn in as Governors were: Harold Berk, OH; David Cooper, MO; Leon Hendrickson, IN; Don Hudson, IN; Jack Huggins, Sr., IL; Miss Orlane Kittle, MN; Mike Kolman, OH; Ray O. Lefman, MO; Tim Marcy, ND; Leonard Owen, NE; Helen Sedo, MI; and Don Squire, MI.**

**On a sad note, editor of The Centinel, Dan Parker, died suddenly on February 7, 1980. President Hardman selected Kevin Foley of Milwaukee to be editor. Kevin's first issue was Volume 28, No. 2, Summer, 1980.**



**1962 - Milwaukee: F. Stevens Epps was the center of attention when presented with a service award for five years as the Society's secretary-treasurer (1957-1962). The '62 election elevated Epps to the presidency (1962-**

1964), following which he was again elected to the secretarial position, an office he held until his death in September, 1973. Retiring CSNS president Ray O. Lefman (1960-1962) had the honor of making the presentation. (Photo by Cab Atkins, assistant editor of The Centinal.)

The 1981 CSNS convention was held April 2-5 in the brand new Indiana Convention Center in downtown Indianapolis. Chairman Don Hudson and his hard-working committee chairs put on a top-notch show: Ralph White, bourse; Sam Whipple, exhibits; Howard Linville, security; and Frank Russell, registration. Highlights of the convention included a sold-out bourse, an educational forum dealing with the famous Lilly gold collection moderated by Joe Boling, trips to the fabulous Indianapolis 500 Race Track, a Bowers and Ruddy auction, and Margo Russell as MC of the Saturday night banquet.

Prior to the Indianapolis convention, the CSNS board voted to award complimentary banquet tickets to all exhibitors. President Hardman stated: "I hope this recognition voted by the board will serve as an expression of our appreciation for these efforts [of the exhibitors]."



1979 - Dearborn: Another ribbon cutting ceremony, this one attended by (from the left): Don Mark, governor; Helen Sedo, convention chairperson; Ralph Hardman, CSNS vice president; John B. O'Reilly, mayor of the city of Dearborn, MI; Ray Lefman, governor; Marjorie M. Owen, CSNS secretary-treasurer; Dan Parker, editor; and Del Bertschy, CSNS president.

Major exhibit winners at Indianapolis were "Best in Show" to Martin Delger for his "Specimen Set of U.S. Fractional Currency and Related Items." Numismatic scholar and author, Joe Boling, won first place in Foreign Coins After 1500 A.D. First place junior exhibitor was David Boling. The Daniel Parker "Most Educational Exhibit" winner was Steve Taylor for his exhibit of paper money types. The Bradfield literary award went to John and Nancy Wilson. Best-in-Show winner, Martin Delger, wrote a very nice letter to The Centinel following the Indy convention. Two things had left a good impression on him as an exhibitor. First: that an experienced exhibitor, Sam Whipple, had been chosen as exhibit chair, and second: that the CSNS board had voted to give banquet tickets to all exhibitors.

April 29-May 2 marked the dates of the 1982 Central States convention held in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Chairman Bob Douglas of Hiawatha, Iowa, pulled out all the stops to put on

a great show at the Five Season Center in downtown Cedar Rapids. Headlining the convention were grading and counterfeit detection seminars taught by Ed Fleischmann and Tom Delorey of the ANA Certification Service and John Hunter from SilverTowne in Winchester, IN.

1982 was another election year for Central States. Interestingly, the convention chairman, Bob Douglas, was a successful candidate for governor. Other first-time governors were: Bill Quarles, WI; Florence Schook, MI; and Larry Rowe, NE. Reelected incumbents were: Harold Berk, OH; Del Bertschy, WI; Rich Hartzog, IL; Don Hudson, IN; Orlane Kittle, MN; Mike Kolman, OH; Ray Lefman, MO; Leonard Owen, NE; and Helen Sedo, MI. Kurt Krueger ran unopposed for president, John Cain moved to 1st VP, and Leon Hendrickson took over as 2nd VP. Marge Owen was returned to office as secretary/treasurer, while George Hatie, former ANA president and past CSNS president, was reappointed legal counsel.



1975 - Kansas City: The driving forces behind the '75 convention were Ray Lefman, general chairman, with bourse chairman, Ralph Hardman, and Dale Hauber, chairman of the exhibits and president of the host club, the Heart of America Numismatic Association. (Rollie Finner photo.)

The abbreviated exhibit area featured the B. Max Mehl "Best of Show" winner, Vicki Klausch of Jackson, WI. Juniors from Iowa swept the top three awards in their class. The Elston Bradfield Literary Award went to a very deserving Leonard Owen for his series on "Territorial Banking in Nebraska."

Other CSNS events that came to fruition in 1982 were the awarding of an ANA Summer Scholarship to a young numismatist, compensating board members for travel and lodging for both convention and interim meetings, a new policy of having a CSNS representative attend state conventions as good will ambassadors, and the establishment of a literary award for young numismatists to be named for the late editor of The Centinel, Dan Parker.

**Future conventions were scheduled for Dearborn, MI - 1983; Milwaukee - 1984; and Minneapolis - 1985.**