

The History of Central States

Part 22 - 1992-1994

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The Spring, 1992, Central States 53rd anniversary convention was held in the Minneapolis Convention Center with CSNS Governor Dick Grinolds serving as chairman. Thursday, April 30th, was PNG Day with Friday through Sunday, May 1-3, open to the public.

Two educational forums were held: PNG member Gary Adkins spoke about consumer awareness and protection, and ANA Governor Anthony Swiatek gave interesting details about the 1925 Norse-American Centennial Medal.

At the 1992 Saturday awards banquet President Marjorie Owen-Hendershott passed the gavel to Leonard Owen. New governors included Ron Horstman of Missouri, Allen Karn of Ohio, Peter Phillips of Wisconsin, and Harry Tileston of Kentucky. Incumbent governors included: George Beach, Rich Hartzog, David Hendrickson, Kurt Krueger, Donald Mark, Paul Padget, Florence Schook, Leon Thornton and Roger Winkelhake. Moving up to 1st VP was John Wilson, with Dick Grinolds as 2nd VP. Bob Douglas retained his secretary/treasurer job.

The CSNS board was very busy during the convention. A donation of \$750 was made to ICTA, and scholarships were awarded to Karen Jach and Brian Fanton to attend the ANA Summer Seminar. Dues were raised to \$8 for regular adult members and \$125 for life memberships.

The Elston Bradfield Literary Award went to Saul Needleman of Highland Park, Illinois.

There were 34 competitive exhibits and three non-competitive. Senior best of show was won by James Marrinan for his "A Millennium of Irish Coins and Tokens," while Jeremy Petron took Junior best of show for his Franklin Half Dollar exhibit. Other class winners were Rollie Finner, Bob Kutcher, Hank Jungbluth, Bill Brandimore and John Eshbach. (Any of these names sound familiar? They should. Most are still doing competitive exhibits today!!)

The annual Greater Cincinnati Numismatic Exposition hosted the CSNS fall convention at the Drawbridge Convention Center located in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky, across the Ohio River from Cincinnati. Governor Paul Padget had run this show for eight years and promised a well-attended affair by both public and dealers. Bob Douglas, CSNS secretary/treasurer, reported "A fine convention, great weather, busy dealers and a good crowd."

During the show the board voted to reduce the number of CSNS officers to three: president, vice president, and secretary/treasurer. This proposal was set for a vote by the general membership at its meeting on May 22, 1993, in Rosemont, Illinois.

The Rosemont O'Hare Exposition Center in suburban Chicago played host to the 54th anniversary Central States convention. President Leonard Owen commented favorably on the event noting that a few dealers had a "spectacular show!" General Chairman Fred Oliver stated, "By all accounts most of the dealers had a commercially active show and went home happy." He complimented CSNS Legal Counsel Bill Mross for performing ably as exhibit chairman. Also singled out for praise was Dick Peterson who served both as security and convention manager. Dick was famous for navigating the convention floor on rollerskates. The message center was staffed by the Finners, and Kevin Foley took care of hotel and convention center details.

Major exhibit winners in 1993 were Robert Kutcher, best of show for his "Gold Through the Ages," and junior best of show to Robert Leonard, Jr. for his "Native American Copper Axe Money." The coveted Medal of Merit was given to Krause Publications, the first time a corporate entity came away as winner.

Marvin Mericle and Jim Moores, along with YN Jeremy Petron, were awarded scholarships to the ANA Summer Seminar.

November 5-7, 1993, found the Central States family visiting Dayton, Ohio. Chairman Ron Crouch pulled out all the stops to make the fall convention a memorable one. Exhibitors at Dayton included Dave Schultz, winner of best of show for his "U.S. Error Coins You Seldom See." Jack Huggins, Bill Kamb and Hank Spangenberg were other major class winners. President Owen commented that the Dayton show dealers believed that business was not great but better than expected.

1994 was another Central States election year! Well, maybe not just "another" year! A spirited contest for president and vice president highlighted this election. For the top spot, it was Kevin Foley pitted against 2nd VP Dick Grinolds, with Jim Jach opposing the sitting 1st VP John Wilson. Jerry Lebo ran unopposed for secretary/treasurer, and a record-setting 21 candidates ran for the thirteen governors' seats. When the dust had settled, Kevin Foley and John Wilson emerged as winners, with newcomer governors: Brian Fanton of Iowa, Hoosier Ray Lockwood, and Jim Kaczor of Illinois. Holdover winners were George Beach, Allen Karn, Kurt Krueger, Marv Mericle, Paul Padget, Peter Phillips, Florence Schook, Leon Thornton, Harry Tileston and Roger Winkelhake.

Indianapolis was the site of the 55th anniversary CSNS convention, April 7-10, 1994. This was the sixth time for the Hoosier capital to play host. General Chairman Howard Linville welcomed dealers and collectors to the Indiana Convention Center along with Bourse Chairman Jerry Lebo and Exhibit Chairperson Fran Lockwood. The Indiana State Numismatic Association and the Indianapolis Coin Club co-hosted the convention.

No trip to Indianapolis would be complete without visiting the world famous Indy 500 Motor Speedway. Convention attendees had this opportunity as well as a trip to the U.S. Army Money Museum at Fort Benjamin Harrison. A special program for young numismatists, an auction patterned after the highly successful Indiana State model was conducted on Saturday, April 9th. YNs were given "play" money to bid on real, dealer-

donated items. Florence Schook preceded the auction with a nice talk about how to collect coins.

Educational presentations were provided by Hoosier researcher and prolific writer Bob Julian and dealers Anthony Swiatek and Indiana's own Leon Hendrickson of SilverTowne. The bourse featured 255 dealer tables and drew over 4,000 visitors. The show was well advertised on local television with personal show interviews broadcast live on the evening news programs.

The CSNS board scheduled future conventions for Milwaukee, April 27-30, 1995; Kansas City, April 11-14, 1996; Indianapolis, April 11-14, 1997; and Milwaukee, April 23-26, 1998.