

The History of Central States

Part 12 - 1962 - 1964

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The 20th anniversary Central States convention met for the third time in Milwaukee, May 4-6, 1962. The Hotel Pfister played host to 100 bourse tables on its 7th floor and exhibits on the 6th. Twelve Canadian dealers took part in the convention which witnessed 1,320 attendees.

A series of four convention medals, honoring Wisconsin's Civil War feathered hero, Old Abe the eagle, were available to collectors. A short set of three (aluminum, bronze and copper) sold for \$4.50; a silver medal went for \$5.50.



1962 - Milwaukee: To mark the centennial of the Civil War, medals featuring Wisconsin's most famous war hero, Old Abe, were made available. Popular with collectors, the medals depicting the eagle mascot of Wisconsin's Eight Regiment are still found occasionally on dealer tables.

A successful auction was called by popular Dayton dealer James Kelly. Education seminars featured John J. Pittman discussing "Canadian Coins," and Richard (Mr. Red Book) Yeoman on the topic, "Price Trends."



John Jay Pittman



Richard S. Yeoman



James Kelly

Two new exhibit categories were added: "Tokens" and "Miscellaneous," bringing to twelve the number of classes. Ralph Parker won the B. Max Mehl Memorial Award for his best-in-show exhibit of gold. The Medal of Merit was awarded to Sol Kaplan, the 26th such award. These awards and others were presented at the Saturday evening banquet held in the Milwaukee Athletic Club.

The 1963 CSNS convention was originally planned for Cleveland and was very much in doubt due to arguments over "block booking" of dealers.

The CSNS board held a special meeting in Detroit and considered an old-fashioned numismatic event devoted to exhibits and education . By a close vote of 9 to 7, the board decided to extend an invitation to the Chicago Coin Club to host the 1963 convention. Therefore, the 21st anniversary convention was held in the Chicago Sheraton with Harry X Boosel as chairman. This location proved quite successful with 2,150 registered attendees and a bourse of 140 dealer tables. Exhibits were placed on the 11th floor with the bourse one floor below.

At the CSNS business meeting, a new membership category was created for persons under 21 years of age. The auction was conducted by RARCOA. The education program featured Simeon Wilson, Chicago postal inspector, on the topic of "Forgeries and Counterfeits." Dr. F. Stevens Epps of Albion, Michigan, explained the importance of chemistry in coin holders. A coin slide show and quiz was conducted by Mike Dolnick. Best-in-show winner was August Hausske for his exhibit of U.S. Coins. Medals of Merit were bestowed on CSNS past-presidents Harry X Boosel and Ray O. Lefman. A ladies' luncheon and fashion show were held at Marshall Field's department store.



1951 - Minneapolis: Novel souvenir wooden flats originally produced by the Northwest Coin Club to mark Minnesota's territorial centennial, were popular giveaways at the 9th anniversary convention of Central States in 1951 after appropriate over-printing was added to the design. Actual size: 2.5 X 5.75 inches

In 1964, the 22nd convention moved to Kansas City. Originally scheduled for the Muehlebach Hotel, the convention was moved to the larger Continental Hotel to accommodate "an overflowing demand for bourse space." In actuality, 139 bourse tables were sold including the PNG dealers who requested that their tables be located together. The local KC show committee would not grant the PNG request with a resulting "walkout" of PNG dealers on Saturday. This was the issue of "block booking" that forced the 1963 convention to change locations.

Other convention highlights were an auction called by A. J. Schrage of Milwaukee, which featured an 1856 Flying Eagle cent and an 1895 Proof Morgan dollar. Tours of the Schlitz Brewery and Truman Library were very popular.

1964 was an election year for Central States. Eighteen candidates contested the 13 available positions. Leo G. Terry of Indianapolis was elected president; Ray Janda of Kansas City, 1st vice-president; Mike Dolnick of Chicago, 2nd vice-president; Paul E. Olson of Minneapolis, secretary-treasurer; and governors: August Hausske of Chicago; Ben

Stacker, Detroit; Phillip J. More, Chicago; Erwin C. Gerber, Milwaukee; Wayne Jackson, Logansport, IN; Joe Wells, Topeka, KS; Cliff Lindall, Chesterton, IN; C. A. M. Kansas City; Russell G. Porter, Milwaukee; John Maxim, Kansas City; C. H. Clark, Worthington, OH; and Cab Atkins, Centralia, MO, new editor of *The Centinel*.

The November, 1964, issue of *The Centinel* sported a "new look," a cover designed by artist James McMahon of Centralia, Missouri, depicting a frontier sentinel "looking forward to what lies ahead, thus being able to counsel and guide his people as to what course to follow." It was adapted from the theme of the Missouri commemorative half dollar.



1964- *The Centinel* took on a new look as artist James McMahon created a cover design loosely patterned after that of the Missouri Commemorative half dollar.



Missouri Commemorative half dollar.