

BLUE RIDGE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY JOURNAL



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Many Activities at Blue Ridge
Frosted Proof Coin or Set
A Mercury Coin?

55th BRNA Anniversary
Plus more

Jul-Sep 2014



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The Blue Ridge Numismatic Association (BRNA)
invites you to attend its

56th ANNUAL CONVENTION

NW GEORGIA TRADE AND CONVENTION CENTER

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21 23 AUGUST 2015

Security Room available Wednesday Aug 19th from 12:00 Noon
thru Thursday Aug 20th 1PM

Thursday August 20 Noon - 7 PM Dealer Set-up with Tables

Early Bird Badge Available

(access to Bourse Area at Noon on setup day)

Friday August 21 - Public 10AM to 6 PM

Saturday August 22 - Public 10AM to 6PM

Sunday August 23 - Public 10AM to 3PM

Best Collector Marketplace

Educational Programs YN Program

Bourse Co-Chairman:

Blenda Brush: Ph: 864-617-3378

Ron Blackman: Ph: 321-258-0325

Web Site: www.brna.org



Anniversary cake and cupcakes was available at the beginning of the 55th Annual Convention

President's Message

By the end of 2014, Sandra and I will have attended 34 different numismatic conventions all across the United States. Conflicting convention dates for shows I normally attend prevented the number from being even higher. In addition to being a part of the Blue Ridge Numismatic Association, I am a part of other national organizations and clubs.

Dalton Gold & Silver Exchange Inc. is open Monday thru Friday when we are not attending conventions. I am involved in numismatics full time and spend a lot of time with other dealers, customers, or people involved in the numerous businesses, organizations, clubs, etc., and maintain a web site. I keep hearing similar comments like “*How many dealers will we have 20 years from now?*” and “*business is not like it used to be*” and “*people are just looking at my inventory and not buying*” and “*the attendance was very low*” and “*my cost keeps going up every week*” and “*I am really getting tired of traveling*” and “*we do not have enough young people entering the business*”. Well, things are not like they used to be and many of our dealers and customers have aged. We are constantly faced with how to improve what we are doing, ways to be even more proficient, realize what inventory is selling or not selling today, what are customers looking for and what do they really want to purchase, etc. **Continued next page**

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President's Message (Continued)

I do see a desire from new customers, young and old, wanting to be involved in numismatics either for an investment or a hobby to maintain. Recently in Long Beach, CA, I sold an 1879 \$1 PCGS VG10 to a 12 year old *new* customer. I mailed him a letter thanking him for the business and looking forward to helping him with future purchases.

A lot of people cannot even pronounce the word numismatics and not sure what it means or refers to. Recently while talking with a newspaper advertising agent I was asked "How do you pronounce that word?" NU-MIS-MAT-ICS!

One of the BRNA's priorities and responsibilities as well as other organizations (and should also be to all dealers) is to inform and educate. People, both dealers and our customers, are very nervous and frightened about our economy, worldwide situations, their personal income and expenses, savings, retirement, government controls, banking, etc. Customers continually seek advice from any available resources by reading, searching the internet and talking with others about various investments with value and potential growth. *"I feel like I need to purchase precious metals but I know nothing about the process"* and *"I would like to collect but I do not know how to go about it at all"*.

The BRNA offers important sessions and classes during the annual conventions, a strong YN Program, information and articles within our quarterly journals, and on the web site. Blenda Brush and Gayle Pike received the ANA award "Numismatic Points of Light Program". (Blenda received her award at the 2014 FUN Show and Gayle received her award at the 2014 BRNA Show). This program honored nationally nominated individuals for their long standing commitment for their hard work and efforts in numismatics. Ron Blackman received the ANA Presidential Award at the 2014 BRNA Show. This is the Association's 4th highest honor and is awarded for meritorious service over many years to both the ANA and numismatic hobby.

BRNA's success has been founded on dedicated people like these. The BRNA has and will continue to educate and inform our members and provide one of the best conventions annually for all to enjoy, to prosper and to continually want to participate in. Opportunities exist and can be rewarding by taking the time to explain to the public the benefits of collecting. Today's conversations and educational seminars may develop into a business relationship with benefits for all. Thanks to everyone who participated in the BRNA's 55th Annual Convention making it once again very successful.

Grant Campbell

Editor's Notes

Well another summer is almost past us and like the winter it has been a very strange one. While in Florida this summer we had 27 days of rain out of 30 for the month of July. Hope that everyone survived the summer months without too many concerns.

We had a very successful 55th BRNA Annual Convention this year and all of the comments that I heard was very positive. Richard Jozefiak provided an article about the many activities of the 55th Convention and it is interesting to see what all of the activities were. As can be seen in the articles we had 2 individuals Gayle Pike and Bill Fivaz received the Numismatic Point of Light award as presented by Walter Ostromecki, President of ANA. Ron Blackman was presented the ANA Presidential Award. I was completely shock at this award.

There is more information about the 55th Convention in the BRNA Convention article provided by Blenda Brush and Ron Blackman.

I want to thank Gayle Pike and Sharon Blackman for their service as members of the Board of Governors. Their term ended this past August and their support of BRNA activities over the years was appreciated and they will be missed. Welcome to the new Board members Corbitt Chandler and Phil Darby.

As most of you know that one of the items that you need to continue to be aware of is security. As you are going, coming from shows, club meetings or just discussing the items in your collections or inventory be aware of your surroundings. You never know who might be listening or following you to your car or your home. Be careful at all times.

Ron Blackman Email: RBlackman@cfl.rr.com



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55th BRNA ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION

Blenda Brush & Ron Blackman

We have just completed the 55th BRNA Convention on the 17th of August which was a very amazing Convention. The show was sold out since the 2013 BRNA Convention and we had a waiting list of dealers wanting to come to the 2014 Convention. This came in handy due to last minute medical concerns/scheduling conflicts of dealers that we were able to notify some dealers that there was a table available for them if they still wanted to come. Of course they accepted and continue with the Convention being sold out.

Walter Ostromecki, President of American Numismatic Association (ANA), Mike Ellis, ANA Governor and Richard Jozefiak ANA District Representative for Alabama attended to represent ANA and to man the Membership Table during this Convention.

Dennis Boggs as President Abraham Lincoln and David Chaltas as General Robert E. Lee were in attendance on Friday and Saturday. They were well received and joined in on all of the activities that took place during the convention. Both President Lincoln and General Lee were heavily involved in the YN Program that Gayle Pike put on for the YNs. They participated in the Spider Web Press drawing for the BRNA 55th Annual Convention Souvenir Card to insure that everyone one in attendance received a ticket for the Souvenir Card drawing.

Dalton Mayor George Sadasuk officially cuts the ribbon on Friday morning that opened the BRNA 55th Annual Convention to the public.

Ray Dillard rolled the special elongated cents for the 55th Annual Convention on his rolling machine.



President Abraham Lincoln and General Robert E. Lee greeting the public just before the opening of the Convention.

Continued page 8

55Th BRNA ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION (continued)

We want to thank all of the Board Members that were able to show up on Wednesday to help with the setup of the bourse floor. They helped with the placing of the table covers, dealer's signs, etc., on the tables for the dealers and moving tables as needed. That was a tremendous help. Thanks to the Board Members who was able to assist other dealers during setup day. That was a tremendous help to those dealers that needed help.

There were several awards presented by President Walter Ostromecki during this 55th Convention. Ron Blackman received the ANA Presidential Award. This is the Association's 4th highest honor and is given to an individual, organization or club at the sole discretion of the ANA President for meritorious service over many years to both the ANA and numismatic hobby. Walter's selection criteria follows along the lines of recognizing individuals who have worked tirelessly often behind the scenes in numerous capacities.

Gayle Pike and Bill Fivaz received The Numismatic Points of Light Program (NPOL) awards. This is based on a concept developed by US President George H. W. Bush in 1989. That program honored nationally nominated individuals for their long standing commitment and generosity locally within each of the 50 States to community service -- a tradition of neighbor helping neighbor and community that profoundly influences and enhanced the life and spirit of a community. Each shining example has made a difference in the (numismatic hobby) for the betterment and advancement and fun of numismatics. The ANA Board in August 2013 allowed Walter Ostromecki as the 58th President to initiate this award on a 50 state and international country basis with a maximum of 100 of Numismatic Points of Lights being recognized during his two year term. To date 53 have been presented, most to individuals who have never sought the numismatic spotlight, but tirelessly given so much back to future hobbyists freely. This award honors the passionate individual spirit of numismatic service!

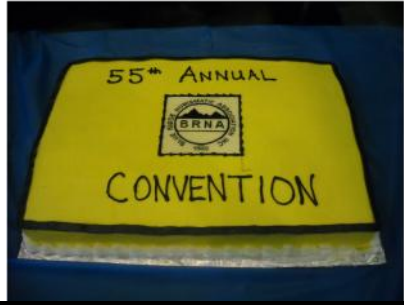
We would like also thank our Security Team as they were active in apprehending a person for stealing coins with a notice from a dealer that had attended other shows. Dalton Police was dispatched and the individual was taken to the Dalton Police Department for processing. Also another incident when a dealer notified Security of a person was also committed a theft at the dealer's shop. Even with the duties that the Security Team performs to keep the dealers safe, they even work with the BRNA Staff Members in securing medical attention which was needed for one of our dealers.

**THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR MAKING THE 55TH BRNA
ANNUAL CONVENTION A HUGE SUCCESS!**

Many Activities at BRNA 55th Annual Convention 15-17 August 2014

By
Richard Jozefiak
ANA District Representative for Alabama

The Blue Ridge Numismatic Association (BRNA) 55th Annual Convention was held at the Northwest Georgia Trade and Convention Center in Dalton, GA, 15-17 August 2014. There were a number of special events held at the convention to commemorate the 55th Anniversary.



Anniversary cake cut at show opening, 10 am on August 15
(photo by Richard Jozefiak)

BRNA President Grant Campbell, along with the officers and governors provided many special events, meetings, and special guests for the public and coin dealers during the convention. The sold out bourse had over 350 tables.

Ron Blackman received his award for his contributions and work for the BRNA over many years. The award was presented to him prior to the convention's official opening. The award is the fourth highest ANA award given.



Ron Blackman (L) is presented the American Numismatic Association (ANA) Presidential Award by ANA President Walter Ostromecki, Jr. (R)
(photo by Richard Jozefiak)

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