

A Dedicated Numismatic Journey Appreciated by So Many Wayne's World presented by Len Augsburg

Wayne Homren's journey through the world of numismatics is a story of passion, innovation, and quiet transformation. Born in 1958, he began collecting at an early age—not just coins, but the stories, history, and ephemera that surrounded them. Over time, his interests evolved into a fascination with numismatic literature and the many overlooked corners of American monetary history: Civil War encased postage, emergency scrip, Carnegie Hero medals, and even the controversial currency-themed art of J.S.G. Boggs. He didn't just collect coins - he collected the culture around them.



While his professional path led him into the heart of the tech world—working with organizations like Bell Labs, Lycos, and later as a data scientist and program manager for the U.S. Department of Defense—Homren never left numismatics behind. In fact, he merged the two worlds. In 1998, as Vice President of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society (NBS), he launched The E-Sylum, a weekly email newsletter designed to bridge the gap between issues of the NBS's print journal, *The Asylum*. What started as a modest email to fewer than 50 collectors became one of the most beloved and enduring institutions in the hobby, with thousands of readers around the world tuning in every Sunday for news, research, stories, and spirited conversation.

Wayne was not just reporting on the field—he was helping shape it. His work earned him the Burnett Anderson Memorial Award for Excellence in Numismatic Writing in 2008, and he was named a Numismatic Ambassador in 2002. Coin World would later recognize him as one of the most influential people in numismatics between 1960 and 2020. He wrote widely, contributing to publications like Coin World, The Numismatist, Paper Money, The TAMS Journal, and of course, The E-Sylum itself.

But Wayne's most enduring legacy may lie in how he has preserved and shared numismatic knowledge. A bibliophile as much as a coin collector, he built a personal library of more than 3,000 volumes—rich with rare and historically significant works. In 2023, a video tour of this private library was added to the Newman Numismatic Portal (NNP), a project he helped shape and continues to advise. Wayne's early efforts in digitizing numismatic texts through his own "CoinLibrary" laid a foundation for what NNP would become.



Even today, Wayne's curiosity remains as boundless as ever. He collects not just coins but obscure medals, charge tokens, and money-themed art. He continues to write, moderate, mentor, and serve in leadership roles across organizations like the NBS, the Rittenhouse Society, and the Numismatic Literary Guild. In an age when digital transformation and historical scholarship don't often go hand in hand, Wayne Homren embodies both—and numismatics is richer for it!



Wayne with Frank Katen, Literature Dealer (END)