



# THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

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EDITORIAL COMMENT:

Election time is approaching for many clubs so this is the time for members to take stock on who will captain and man the ship and what crew is required to make the club run smoothly & efficiently.

Being involved in club work for a great many years, it would appear that those that do the most complaining will not take office, their *excuse* being that they are too busy, or they stay away so they won't get nominated, and there are some that blame it on a clique in their club, whatever that is.

At your next meeting look around and see who is doing what in your club. You will find, in most cases, the same group doing all the jobs in the club. This is not because of a clique but borne out of necessity because no one is willing to come forth and fill those positions. People who complain on how a club is being run should find the time to fill a vacancy and sit in on the executive. Sometimes the view within is different than the view on the outside. Sometimes what is complained about is inconsequential when viewed in the light of a group discussion.

While all of us don't have the opportunity to be elected to "too management" there is, however, a lot of jobs that require to be filled. For instance, most clubs sell draw tickets, so it requires someone to sell them; all have attendance registers so some person should oversee that persons entering the room are signing in. There are refreshments to prepare, ash trays to be emptied and club paraphernalia to put away after the meeting closes, all requiring someone to fill these jobs.

Apart from the few executive positions that need filling, there are many positions that are as important to the success of the club. Everyone has something to contribute, but just volunteering and doing nothing is not for the club either. Once elected or appointed to a position, you should give it your attention because like a chain, a weak link will mean the same few people who are now carrying the load will continue to do so.

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## PART TWO: ALEX COLVILLE, THE ARTIST

by Robert Melville

In an essay on the work of the photographer Edward Weston, Nancy Newhall remarked that when, back in 1937, he was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship he saw his chance to practise 'mass-production seeing'. In most mediums, he felt, the artist is retarded by his process. He may not in a lifetime bring to birth a fraction of what he conceives. The photographer, realizing and executing in almost the same spontaneous instant, is limited only by his own ability to see and create. But Weston was a primitive of the productivity revolution. He was slowed down by the romantic belief that, however short the interval between them might be, perception had to precede execution. He produced only 1500 negatives in the year of his Fellowship-- the merest fraction of what the average professional photographer now produces in a similar period; and many painters who pursue spontaneity at all costs, and think nothing of completing half a dozen works in a day, must have easily surpassed Weston's modest output. By way of the sharpest possible contrast, the time and motion studies of the Canadian painter Alex Colville take no account of production figures. Totally absorbed by the time-consuming process of inserting a reconsidered moment of past time into the here and now, Colville spends an average of three to four months in the atmosphere of one enveloping situation and never starts another painting until the one he is working on is completed.

Colville was born in Toronto in 1920, but spent most of his youth in the shipbuilding town of Amherst in Nova Scotia. He studied Fine Arts at Mount Allison University in Sackville, a small town not very far from Amherst, but just over the Provincial line in New Brunswick. After four years in the Canadian Army, the last two as a war artist, he returned to his old University to teach. He gave up his post in 1963 to devote all his time to painting. He is married and has four children and now lives in Woodville, N.B.

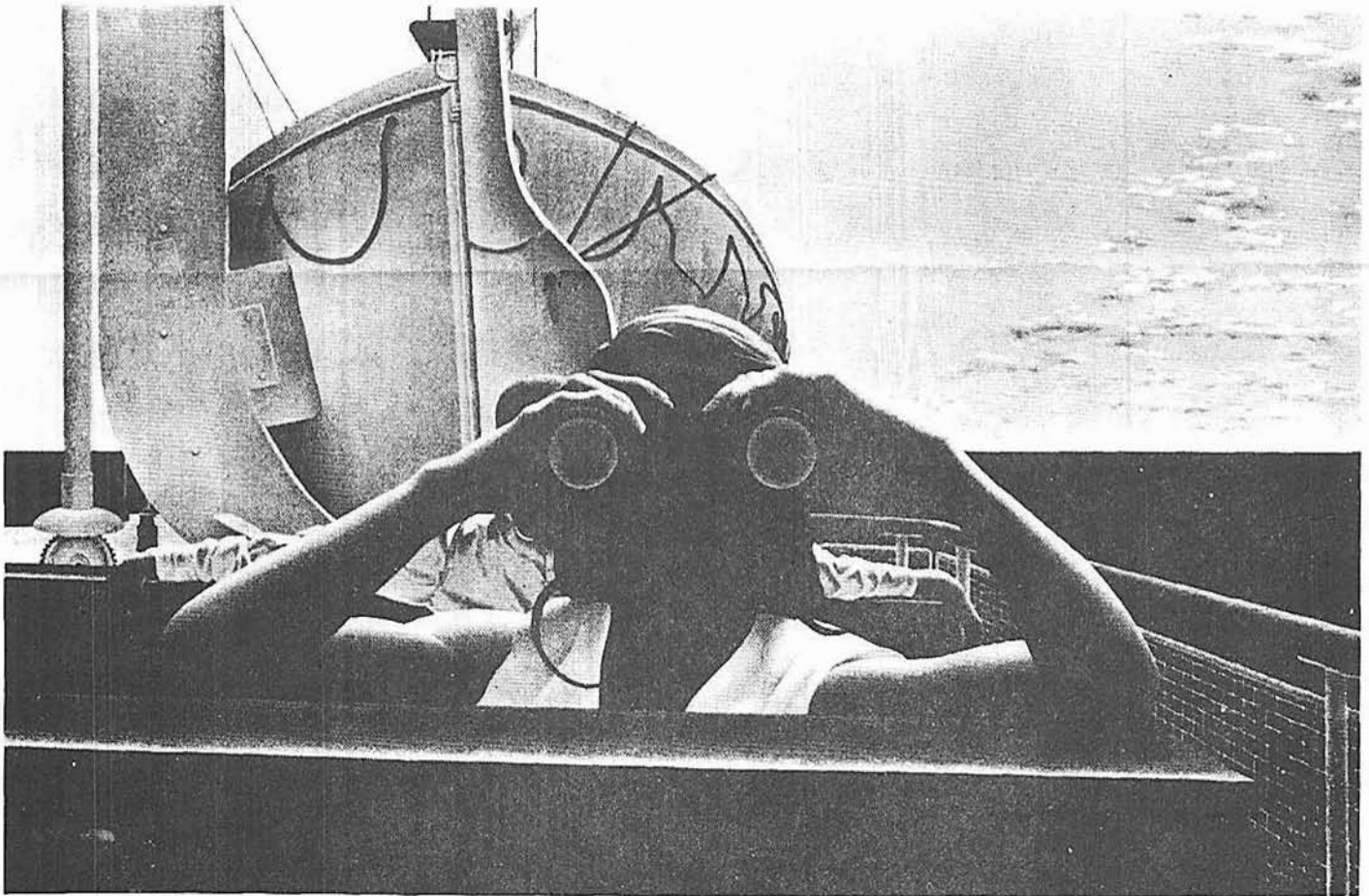
Sackville was small enough to have retained something of the character of a community, small enough, as Colville himself has said, to be comprehensible, and his observation of its people suggests that in his distant and diffident way he can say with Emerson: "How many people we see in the street, whom, though silently, we warmly rejoice to meet". He rejoices, too, in the open, flat, undramatic landscape in which the town is set and which affords him a sense of isolation entirely in keeping with his contemplative nature and his uncompetitive situation as a painter. He paints in solitude and without regard for the schools, but because he is primarily concerned to involve the widest evidence of his sense in a clear and exact representation of the object of his attention, he is aware of belonging to a tradition of poetic realism which runs like a thick, but strong and unbroken thread through American painting. It's an aspect of American genre painting, and it's characterized by an appearance of extreme literalness whilst creating a haunting atmosphere of stillness and silence, even in scenes of great animation. It's a quality that seems not always to be consciously sought, and in some America's greatest painters it comes and goes as if of its own accord.

Bauer quotes a brilliantly observant passage from one of Henry James's early short stories: "There is a certain purity in this Cragthorpe air which I have never seen approached - a lightness, a brilliancy, a crudity, which allows perfect liberty of self-assertion to each individual object in the landscape. The prospect is ever more or less like a picture which lacks its final process". It's probably this self-assertion of objects that's at the root of Colville's literalism, and he seems even to emphasize it by attempting to minimize his intervention between the object and ourselves, as if bent on crediting the object with his own intense awareness of it.

The turning away of the figure in many of Colville's paintings is innocent enough. The absence of confrontation serves, like a smooth gradations of colour and the elimination of brushmarks, to reduce the sense of artistic intervention and to emphasize the impression that the figures are 'being themselves'. But in certain paintings it enables him to hint at psychic tensions and emotional situations which, if depicted more directly, would land him in illustration or expressionism. In *TO PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND* a highly charged atmosphere is created by making a pair of binoculars the focal point of the picture. The light blue lenses of the binoculars reduce the identity of the sullen-faced girl and give her a huge sightless stare to create an astonishingly vivid sense of inner turmoil, as if she might be totally at odds with the scarcely seen man behind her. The flesh, composed of dapples of yellowish green and dull red like a fine-grained pointillism conveys a sense of sunburn mottled by cold and adds to the atmosphere of unease, as if it might be imprinted by a psychic disorder.

Colville's serigraphs are almost indistinguishable from his paintings, and the images are constructed just as slowly. He has made very few of them and in the past has published them in only very small editions, so that only a handful of private collectors and galleries possess his work. But he has been persuaded to issue a limited number of his prints in an edition more in line with current practice. One of them, entitled *SNOW*, is one of his finest works. Characteristically turned away from us, the man and woman are gazing at a field of snow which is a palpable image of stillness and silence. Emerson comes to mind again: stubbornly literal yet reaching beyond itself, the scene is 'bather in an element of love like a fine ether'.

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THE IDEA FOR *TO PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND* WAS IN COLVILLE'S MIND TWO YEARS BEFORE A CROSSING ON THE FERRYBOAT ABEGWEIT GAVE HIM THE BACKGROUND HE WANTED. THE WOMAN PEERING INTENTLY THROUGH BINOCULARS AND THE MAN LAZING BEHIND HER (THE MODELS WERE COLVILLE AND HIS WIFE) EXPRESS HIS BELIEF THAT SOME THINGS ARE SEEN MORE CLEARLY BY WOMEN THAN BY MEN. HE SPENT 10 HOURS ON THE FERRY SKETCHING RAILINGS AND LIFEBOAT.

(Editor's Note: Part 3 of this continuing story into the life of Alex Colville, will be published next month.

A Fairy Tale by Caliper

November 25-27. Utopia Numismatic Association presents its third regional Coin Show & Banquet at the Vacation Inn, Wyedoit, near the corner of Main. Shows times: 10:a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Bourse - Displays - Educational forums - films - hourly draws - speakers. Admission is \$1.00. Main draw will be on a trip for two to a major Canadian or U.S.A. coin show.

The above announcement may startle my readers and many will ask themselves, who on earth is the Utopia Numismatic Association and where is it. I am surprised you have not heard of it, so if you will sit back, I shall try to enlighten you with a few facts on the Association by explaining what it is and what it's objects are.

The Utopia Numismatic Association is an association of individuals and clubs. It is regionally oriented in that instead of one club hosting the show, four or more clubs all participate in the overall structure, thus saving costs and the workload more evenly distributed.

For example, the show chairman is appointed from names selected from all the clubs HAVING MEMBERSHIP in the Association. Next, the head judge and the exhibit chairman are likewise selected in the same manner. A permanent treasurer is the only full time member of the Association. Chairman, head judge and exhibit chairman are in office for three years and then they are either reappointed for an extreme term or they step down and someone else is chosen. To assist the chairman, one co-chairman from each club participating is selected, together with a deputy exhibit chairman and an assistant head judge. Head judges select their own slate of judges from a list prepared by the Clubs on the basis of their experience and willingness to participate. The chairman of the Show Committee select the site and provides liaison between clubs and the Association executive. He is responsible for all the planning, does all the spade work and is responsible for signing all the agreements. Shows are booked every three weeks but in different regions so that they do not overlap. All shows run from late in January to the first week in December.

To get an idea on how successful this idea is, at the last regional show held three weeks ago, there were sixty bourse tables, 380 displays, five speakers and four seminars. Attendance was 7,200 and clubs profited by having one hundred and nineteen people sign up for membership. Of the four clubs participating, each club receives one eighth of the proceeds after expenses. The remaining monies are divided with one quarter going to the Association and the remaining quarter going into a fund to pay for audio visual equipment, cases for exhibits and some set aside to pay for a future home for the Association.

Perhaps one of the outstanding points of this Association is the publicity. A publicity chairman is appointed for one year and he appoints as many assistants as he requires. When an announcement is made

that a show is being held, the publicity chairman and his assistants visit the location of the proposed show, and put up posters in the area schools and also in the front windows of stores. All scout, cub, brownie and girl guide groups are approached with information on the show and also with free admission tickets. Banks are enlisted to help in setting up a display. In plazas and malls tables are set up with information on the show and also on the clubs in the area. Libraries and local arenas are also given posters advertising the show. Manufacturers of numismatic merchandise are urged to set up displays of their products so that collectors and the public can see the range of items available.

The bourse chairman is elected to his position for a three year term. He notifies the dealers on his list well in advance and has two assistants helping him. Tables are allocated on the basis of the following information: Full or part-time - whether they had tables at past shows - and whether member of the Association. The bourse committee looks after the dealer, provides security until he is set up and looks after his needs during the time the show is on.

The admission price is \$1.00 and the entrant is given an envelope with a free draw ticket on the hourly draws, brochures on the Show and area clubs, a numismatic publication and a coupon entitling the person to one half price on a subscription.

Because of their success, the Utopia Numismatic Association has had to turn away dealers and displayers. Over five hundred displays arrived at one show and as most exhibit chairman will admit, would be something to cope with. The trophies are the main attraction! Composed of a six inch medal on a pedestal, the obverse has engraved the name of the Association and the logo. On the reverse appears the winner's name, the date and the club he or she belongs to. All trophies are in bronze except the Best of Show, which is in silver.

I have now explained a little on how the Utopia Numismatic Association functions. But, as you have just read, it is a fictitious club, but one we would all like to see come true. A truly successful show with lots of displays. It takes hours of planning a show but it takes people like you and me to make it a success. All of us, in our way can contribute a lot to the success of a show by just attending, by exhibiting and by taking on one of the many jobs that need to be done. Every registration desk should have one of those registers that people sign when they come in so that results from year to year can be gauged. If your show is coming up, we wish you SUCCESS.

## ***Speaker's Circuit***

**P.O. BOX 311, ST. CATHERINES, ONTARIO**

The Speaker's Circuit has wonderful speakers touching on every facet of our hobby. Introduce these speakers to YOUR club by inviting them to speak at your future meetings. Pat Lambert, chairman of the Speaker's Circuit will be happy to forward the names of speakers close to your area. Write to Pat NOW.

## **NEWS FROM AROUND THE CLUBS**

The Ingersoll Coin Club has an interesting bulletin full of newsy items. President Masters reports in the bulletin that members should read other club bulletins for ideas. Stella Hodge reports in her column, pinch-hitting for Barbara McNab, who was away on Vacation, that the main problem in a lot of clubs is not enough participation. Howard Whitfield is Secretary and Treasurer is Len Coles. Meetings are held in the Ingersoll & District Memorial Centre and they meet the 3rd Monday of each month.

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Stratford is just getting over their successful Bar/B/Cue. Their 3 page newsletter is edited by Ken Wilmot. The big news coming up is their forthcoming show on Sunday, October 30. It will be a combined Stamp & Coin Show, 12 bourse dealers, auctions, lunch counter and lots of displays. Royal Canadian Legion is the site, corner of Church \* St. Patrick Sts.

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Orillia Champlain Coin Club is back in business after a summer recess. Frank Jones is President with Dorothy Horne, Secretary. Bill Gage is editor. Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at St. David's Anglican Church Hall, James Street, Orillia, Ontario.

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The really big news around Simcoe County is the successful Coin Show staged by the Huronia Numismatic Association. President is Ken Prophet, Secretary is Bill Gage and Editor is Steve Robinson. Meeting night is the 3rd Thursday of each month at the A.R.C. Building, Bayfield St. Barrie.

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The Toronto Coin Club bulletin is edited by the President, John Regitko. Treasurer is Harvey Farrow and Secretary is Dan Bowyer. This is a newsy type newsletter with a lot of numismatic information. The editor gently reminds the reader of the forthcoming Fall Show and what to expect when they arrive. One of the outstanding projects of the Club was the issuance of a SPECIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE C.N.E., giving their readers a bird's eye view of this great exhibition and the display section in the Arts, Crafts and Hobbies Building.

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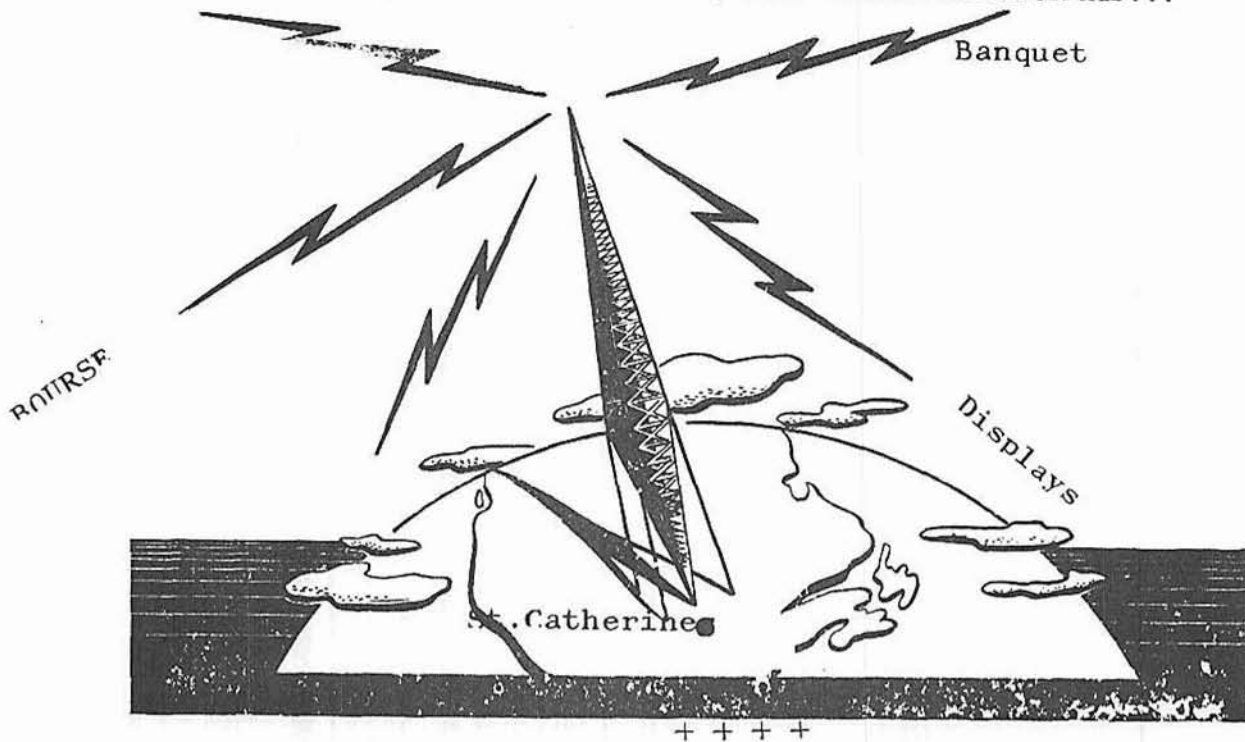
St. Thomas Numismatic Association meets the 2nd Monday of each month at Central United Church, Wellington St. President is Don Houghton, Secretary is Mrs. H. Gloin. The main feature of their September meeting was the talk to be given by Don Cosens, local historian and deputy registrar of deeds for the county. Local history is an interesting subject and is closely connected with our hobby.

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NOTE TO ALL CLUBS: From time to time, mention will be made of items appearing in YOUR CLUB BULLETINS. Make sure the O.N.A. editor is on your mailing list so that important items appearing in your newsletter may be available to other clubs. How you plan your programs may be interesting to other O.N.A. clubs.

## St. Catherines Coin Club calling. . . .

The 16th Annual Convention of the ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION will be held at PRUDHOMME'S GARDEN CENTRE June 3 - 4, 1978. For info: contact the club . . .



### *Letters to the Editor*

Dear Editor:

I am a small dealer and take bourse tables at a number of club shows during the year.

The question of displays has cropped up a number of times and I have a suggestion which may help.

If the small clubs and shows set a prerequisite for obtaining a bourse table of entering an exhibit in a new category, "Bourse Dealer Educational Display", it would provide a nucleus of displays for the small and medium shows around which the public display can be built.

Judging would have to take into account the size of the dealer, and the category would not receive a trophy.

If clubs did this I feel they would have to arrange for security for the displays as it would be difficult for the bourse dealers to watch over their own. Some clubs might like to lend out display cases for the first little while.

I hope the idea will at least generate some comments and not too many bricks from the other dealers since most dealers try to support the hobby.

Yours sincerely,

Signed R. C. Reader #1028

Well, dealers, what do YOU think. This is your forum. Let us hear from you, Ed.

## PROPOSED COIN SHOWS

The following are the "ANNUAL COIN SHOWS" proposed for the next few months, that we received notices for, or taken from CLUB BULLETINS. We advise you to check this list as you debate the date of your Club's show, to ensure that your date does not conflict with another show.

- October 15 Richmond Hill Coin Club's Annual Show at the Hillcrest Mall, Yonge St., and Carrville Road. (This is truly a most beautiful Mall, featuring real trees indoors, lots of shopping and sidewalk cafe type dining. Plan now to attend. When you do, stop by our table and say hello.
- October 22 St.Catherines Annual Coin Show and Banquet at the Westminster United Church Hall, 180 Queenston St., St. Catherines. Show times will be from 11:00a.m. to 6:00p.m. with banquet following. Guest speaker will be Dr. James Haxby. Further info: Contact the club at Box 1492, St.Catherines.
- October 23 Tillsonburg Numismatic Society's Annual Coin Show and Banquet at the Orange Hall, Brock St. East, Tillsonburg.
- October 30 Stratford's combined Stamp & Coin Show at the Royal Canadian Legion, Church and St. Patrick St., Stratford. 12 Bourse tables, lunch counter, displays and an auction.
- November 1 TOREX '77 Fall Show at the Westbury Hotel, 475 Yonge St., Toronto. Displays - Coins - Stamps - Bourse. Detailed info to Nov. 6th. from Suite 1000, 347 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario M5H 2R7 (Here is your last chance to see Frank Rose before he shakes the snow from his feet and heads to a sunnier clime.
- November 6 Windsor Coin Club's Annual Fall Show at the Holiday Inn, Windsor, Ontario. For further information, the person to contact is: E. Clifton, 1080 Matthew Brady, Windsor N8S 3K1
- February 18 Huronia Numismatic Association Mini Show at the Bayfield Mall, Bayfield St., North, Barrie, Ontario. Information from Ken Prophet, Box 243, Barrie, Ontario.

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## PERSONALITIES IN THE NEWS

FRANK ROSE - for giving the numismatic & Philatelic fraternity the privilege of attending and taking part in so many good shows for so many years. We wish his successor well.

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LATE NEWS: In a press release, Paul Fazakas, publicity Director for the Hamilton Coin Club, reports that their Club will be holding their Annual Coin Show on March 12, 1978, at the I.O.O.F."Unity Hall", 64 Wellington St., N. Hamilton, Ontario. Info: Tom Minnes, 14 Locke St..S..Hamilton,Ont.

# Association News:

## Membership

### NEW MEMBERS:

The following applications have been received and if no written objections are received, their acceptance will be acknowledged in the November issue of the Ontario Numismatist:

- 1061 Elmer Workman, RR#2 Cannington, Ontario LOE IEO
- 1062 Alan McQuistin, 1267 Ramsey View Court, Sudbury, Ontario P3E 2E5
- 1063 James Whyte, 893 Kennedy Road, Apt. 709, Scarborough, Ontario M1K 2G2
- 1064 Scott McLaren, 1567 Sedlescomb Drive, Mississauga, Ontario L4X 1M5
- 1065 John E. Hedges, 165 Forest Road, Cambridge, Ontario N1S 3R9
- 1066 John H. Smith, Box 238, Station "J", Toronto, Ontario.
- 1067 William G. Martin, P.O. Box 33, Waterloo, Ontario N2J 3Z6
- 1068 Alex M. Sweeton, 172 Regent St., London, Ontario N6A 2G6

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DID YOU KNOW THAT: LLOYD T. SMITH was the winner of the Ontario Numismatic Association's highest honour - THE AWARD OF MERIT. The Award was given in 1964 at the 2nd Annual Convention of the Ontario Numismatic Association, in Ottawa. At the time Lloyd Smith was the 1st Vice - President of the Association. Today, Lloyd is still very much involved in the hobby as Editor of the London Numismatic Association's newsletter and doing a commendable job, I might add.

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THE HUMOUROUS SIDE: Voter - "Why, I wouldn't vote for you if you were St. Peter himself."

Candidate - "If I were St. Peter you couldn't vote for me. You wouldn't be in my district."

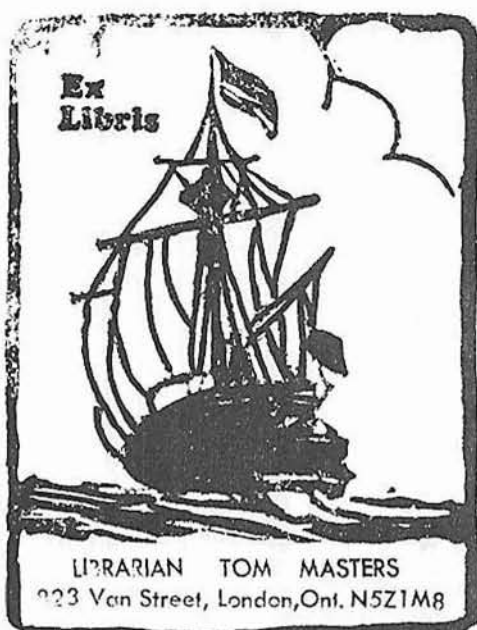
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Contribute to the success of the Ontario Numismatic Association and invite your friends to the wonderful world of numismatics. Shell out your energies and your free time to promote numismatics in your area.



*AUDIO VISUAL by Charles Laister*

There is an old adage that pictures are worth a thousand words, or something to that effect. What better way to study our country's coinage than by watching them on a screen in living colour. Our slide series provides the member with a wide choice of subjects to choose from. All YOU have to do is write: Charles Laister, Highway #3, Tillsonburg, Ontario.



Have you ever wondered what it would be like not to be able to read anything on our hobby? Or where to turn to for information on a certain find? It would be difficult to visualize, but in many places books and other reading material is not available, the only recourse being to purchase them through the mail order.

Members in metropolitan areas have the public libraries to turn to for information, on not only numismatic information, but on what books are available to the collector. There are several coin stores where prospective purchasers can see the book before he buys it. In the rural areas it is not too easy to locate books on coins, so this is where your Association comes to your aid. We have many books on many subjects and to borrow a book the procedure is simple. Write a note to the librarian setting forth the information you are looking for and asking if a book is available on that or related subject. Vo and behold. In a few days, presto, you have the book at your fingertips to peruse through at your leisure.

A library to function must have certain ingredients. It needs books, periodicals and pamphlets and this is where you come in. If you have, perhaps duplicates, your donation would be gratefull. We need borrowers and again this is where you come in. Can we help you? Try us.

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RAMBLING ALONG. . . October - the month of gremlins, witches, rain and pumpkins - and of course, coin shows - Richmond Hill, St. Catherines, Tillsonburg and Stratford - did I leave someone out? Wooden nickel collectors. Visit Pat Vinish and Pauline Kaill of Great Lakes Coins in their booth at the Stouffville Flea Market. They have a nice assortment of these items together with tokens and always, lots of coins and supplies. Any comment on why all the shows are in October, yet November seems to be forgotten? Of, course, we can't forget - TOREX - Here is a timely suggestion. For hallow-en, purchase a roll of new pennies, do them up in 2X2's and shell them out. On the 2X2, print the name of the local club, date they meet and juniors welcome. Also where they meet. It pays to advertise. Congratulations to Editor John Regitko of the Toronto Coin Club bulletin, for accepting on behalf of the Toronto Coin Club the American Numismatic Association's COIN CLUB PUBLICATION AWARD. The award was given at the A.N.A.'s Annual Convention in Atlanta, Georgia and accepted on behalf of the club by Paul Johnson, Jack Veffer and John J. Pittman. Certainly a well deserved win by a top notch publication. Take another bow, John.

Editor, Bill Gage