



ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

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EDITOR'S MESSAGE



How time flies when you're having fun! Another two months gone. Another ONA Numismatist to get ready.

With so many articles on hand for quite some time ready to be stripped into the pages of this bulletin, we didn't want to hang onto them any longer. Therefore, the content is high on articles, short on white space. Articles have been culled from clubs in London, Ottawa, Ingersoll, North York, South Wellington and the CATC and CAWMC bulletins, as well as a quantity of original material.

Some local coin club bulletins publish such a wide variety of interesting articles, no wonder collectors who live too far away to attend monthly meetings are nevertheless members just so they can receive the bulletin. Other than the educational articles, I enjoy reading about the people who are involved with clubs and who I have gotten to know, either personally or through reading their name time and time again, over my 42 years in the hobby. For example, I have been a member of the Ingersoll Coin Club for many, many years, mainly due to the editorial messages that were written by their long-time Editor & President, Tom Masters, who always left you thinking about some point that he was making.

Although we have heard nothing but high praise for the recent ONA Convention, the praise bestowed on the CNA Convention in Windsor is virtually unprecedented. I think that every convention committee is trying to outdo the committees before it, and the Windsor Coin Club, host to the 2003 CNA Convention, certainly achieved a new height in organization. The work done before the convention by a number of people was spectacular. Tom and Margaret Clarke have to be singled out as being the driving forces behind the success of the Convention. I have never seen a committee as large and active at a convention. A lot of happy people enjoyed the educational seminars, banquet, meetings, the Royal Canadian Mint Reception, awards presentations and the fun & fellowship. There was so much to do, so much to enjoy. The Cleary Convention Center, where the bourse, auction and some meetings took place, is a spectacular place to hold a large show. The 2 hotels used for meetings and meals were equally great.

All in all, it's been a great year so far for both the ONA and the CNA!

John Regitko
ONA Editor

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EDITORIAL



Why is it that the CNA Convention's educational seminars are always reasonably well attended, while the ONA's are complete flops?

An ONA Educational Seminar was scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Sunday at the recent ONA Convention. By unanimous choice as far as I can remember, the video on

J.S.G. Boggs, artist or counterfeiter (depending on your point of view) was selected by the Convention Planning Committee and the ONA Executive. The seminar was promoted in the ONA Numismatist, Canadian Coin News, some local coin club bulletins and in the convention's souvenir program booklet.

Right at 1:00 p.m., I took a quantity of sets of write-ups on Boggs to the room for distribution, located conveniently on the same level as the convention, not far from the bourse area. As I entered, everyone turned in my direction. All 3 people. And who were these three dedicated people?

Mike Hollingshead was there as master of ceremonies for the event, charged with the responsibility of introducing the program. Ken Koch, ONA Audio Visual Librarian, brought the tape from the ONA A/V Lending Library. The third person told me he was there, even though he had already seen the program at a local club meeting, because he had nothing else to do and thought it would be a nice quiet place to sit, an understatement as it turns out if the operative word was "quiet." He certainly picked the right place!

That was the total audience, I kid you not!

Educational seminars have not gone over well at ONA Conventions, even though they are scheduled at a time when no other activities take place, other than the bourse.

Where have we gone wrong? Is it that we think we already know everything? Is it the choice of program? Is Sunday at 1:00 o'clock the problem? Is it that wheeling and dealing was on everyone's mind, even though they had 2 full days to do it in?

Should future ONA Conventions simply do away with educational programs and concentrate only on the bourse side like other shows in Ontario? Should we change the day and time? What sort of program will draw a better attendance?

What other show, commercial or club-run, can you name that goes through the trouble of planning an educational program, promoting it and paying the hotel for the room? Are we flogging a dead horse?

Comments from members would be appreciated, but if past requests are any indication, no one will respond. Just like to the invitation to the educational seminar!

John Regitko
ONA Editor

Mark your Calendar Now!

ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

42nd Annual Convention

APRIL 17 & 18, 2004

Quality Hotel & Suites

401 & Hwy. 59 - Exit 232 - Woodstock, Ontario

POST-ON A CONVENTION NEWS



By far the most clubs in Ontario participated in the sale of the ONA Dream Vacation Draw tickets and earned a rebate of \$2 for every sold book that the seller credited to the club. That was in addition to the \$2 the seller received for every book sold, for which actually most sellers took advantage of receiving a free ticket instead.

Virtually every club bulletin received following the ONA Convention includes a comment similar to "we received a cheque for \$XX.00 from the ONA as our rebate on the sale of the Dream Vacation tickets" or "thank you to the ONA for sending us a cheque for \$XX.00 as our share of the club sales of the draw tickets."

The Waterloo Coin Society purchased some of the draw books to include in the door draw at their monthly meetings prior the Convention. One of those tickets was chosen by Alan Lakeman when his number was called at a club meeting. That ticket not only got him a trip for \$1,250 or \$1,000 in cash, but earned the WCS the \$100 seller's prize. Sounds like a good incentive for other clubs to do the same for next year's Dream Vacation Draw!

The Ingersoll and Stratford Coin Clubs sold more tickets than the other clubs, but members of the Waterloo Coin Society won as many prizes as everybody else combined. They received the big prize, the seller's prize, 2nd prize of a Canadian \$100 Olympic gold coin and one of the five consolation prizes of a 2003 O'Canada set.



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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

WELCOME

The applications for membership which appeared in the last issue of the ONA Numismatist have been accepted. We welcome Garnet Allan, Todd Hume, Darell Nutt, Steve Brady, Harry Spice, Samuel Lipin, Fred Hoffman, and the Collingwood-Georgian Bay Coin & Stamp Club to membership.

NEW APPLICATIONS

The following applications for membership have been received. If there are no objections by September 15, they will be accepted into ONA membership and their acceptance published in the next bulletin.

- #1792 Rex Wilson, Courtice, ON
- #1793 Soonie Wilson, Courtice, ON
- #1794 Alastair C. Still, Timmons, ON

Bruce Raszmann
Membership Chairman



SHOW TIME - UPCOMING

A column intended to entice ONA members to attend each other's coin shows



SEPTEMBER 7 WOODSTOCK

Woodstock Coin Club's
14th Annual Coin Show
South Gate Centre
191 Old Wellington St. South
Woodstock
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Bourse Dealers - Exhibits
Admission \$1 - YNs Free
Free Parking - Free Draws
Info: Tom (519) - 451-2316



SEPTEMBER 14 GUELPH

Hosted by the Waterloo Coin
Society and the South
Wellington Coin Society
Colonel John McCrae Legion
919 York Rd. (Hwy. 7), Guelph
9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Large Bourse - Displays - Draws
Free Admission - Free Parking
Info: Don (519) 888-9655
e-mail: drr@golden.net



SEPT. 21 LONDON

London Numismatic Society
11th Annual Coin Show
The Ramada Inn
817 Exeter Road (off Hwy.401)
London
9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Bourse Dealers - Displays
Admission Only \$1
Info: Len (519) 641-4353
lbuth@webmanager.on.ca



SEPT. 26 - 28 HAMILTON

TNS Numismatic Show
Ramada Plaza Hotel
150 King St. East, Level P3
Hamilton
Fri. 4-8; Sat. 10-5; Sunday 10-3
Large Bourse - Auctions
Admission \$3; \$2 Seniors/YNs
Huge Bourse
Info: Terry (905) 318-6458
e-mail: TNS@rscoins.ca



OCTOBER 4 OSHAWA

Durham Coin 2003 Show
Five Point Mall
285 Taunton Road East
Oshawa
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Bourse - Free Parking
Free Admission - Free Draws
Info: Earl or Sharon
(905) 728-1352
e-mail: papman@idirect.com



OCTOBER 18 BURLINGTON

Burlington International
Fall Coin Show
Brant Hills Community Centre
2300 Duncaster Ave., Burlington
(Off Brant St., N of the Q.E.W.)
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Large Bourse - Free Parking
Free Admission - Snack Bar
Info: Nancy (705) 788-3159
e-mail: mersteel@muskoka.com



OCTOBER 25 & 26 TORONTO - Torex

Novotel Hotel
45 The Esplanade, Toronto
Sat. 10-5; Sunday 10-3
Large Bourse - Meetings
Friday Eve. & Sat. Auctions
Info: Brian (416) 861-9523
e-mail: brian@torex.net
www.torex.net
Auction Info: (604) 737-2044
e-mail: mail@coinoisseur.com



NOVEMBER 1 SCARBOROUGH

Scarborough Coin Club
7th Annual Coin Show
Cedarbrook Community Centre
91 Eastpark Blvd.
Scarborough
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Bourse - Draws
Free Parking - Free Admission
Refreshments on Premises
Info: Dick: cpms@idirect.com



NOVEMBER 9 WINDSOR

Windsor Coin Club
52nd Annual Fall Coin Show
Caboto Club
2175 Parent Avenue, Windsor
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Bourse - Draws - Free Parking
\$1 Admission - YNs Free
Includes Hourly Draws & More
Info: Margaret: (519) 735-0727
mclarke@wincom.net

SHOW TIME - UPCOMING

A column intended to entice ONA members to attend each other's coin shows



**NOV. 14, 15 & 16
OAKVILLE
T.I.C.F.**

The International Collectors Fair
Ramada Inn & Conv. Centre
360 Oakville Place Dr., Oakville
Fri. 4-8 Sat. 10-5 Sun 10-4
40+ Bourse - Admission \$3
Sat. Auction by Charles Moore
Info: Trajan Publ. (905) 646-7744
Auction Info: Moore (925) 946-0150
e-mail: moorecoins@astound.net



**NOVEMBER 29
NIAGARA FALLS
N.I.C.F. COIN-A-RAMA**

Your Host:
Niagara International Coin Fest
Our Lady of Peace Hall
6944 Stanley Avenue
Niagara Falls
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
40 Dealers - \$2 Admission
Free Parking - Free Gold Draw
Info: Barbara (905) 356-5006



**MARCH 20, 2004
CAMBRIDGE**

Cambridge Coin Club's
13th Annual Coin Show
Cambridge Newfoundland Club
1500 Dunbar Road
Cambridge
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Free Admission - Free Parking
Over 40 Dealer Tables
Info: Vincent (519) 622-6625
or Chris (519) 623-2356



**APRIL 17 - 18, 2004
ONA CONVENTION
WOODSTOCK**

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Annual ONA General Meeting
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**CLUB PROGRAM
DIRECTORS**

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annual dinner meeting
and wish to promote it,
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C L U B S E R V I C E S R E P O R T



We are pleased to summarize some of the VCR tape videos that are available from the ONA Audio Visual Lending Library. VCR tapes can be borrowed by any ONA member or ONA member-club free of charge. The material is normally sent via Canada Post, however, because of its bulkiness, it will not fit through a regular mail slot. Someone should be there during normal delivery times to accept it, therefore, a post office box or a commercial service such as a Mail Boxes Etc. location is ideal. The only cost involved to the borrower is postage in both directions. Contact Ken Koch, ONA Audio Visual Lending Librarian, 310 Queen St. South, Suite 311, Kitchener, Ont. N2G 1K2 or e-mail him at kenkoch@sympatico.ca.

“U.S. NUMISMATIC” VCR TAPES AVAILABLE FROM THE ONA

Note that we have not included videos in this listing dealing with U.S. coin production which was featured in a previous write-up.

“COLLECTING COLONIAL COINAGE” (#V-33; Produced by Media Resource Corp.; 56 minutes)

America’s first coinage offers a challenging and interesting collecting area. Learn about the issues from the original 13 Colonies from one of the top authorities, Mary Sauvain. The best most of us can hope for is to acquire a modern reproduction of these rare specimens, but this video illustrates the original issues and covers the rich history surrounding their issues and use.

Following an introduction on how Old World coins wound up being used in Colonial America as commodity money and their varied denominations, we find out which medium of exchange the Indians introduced to the white man. We view illustrations of the early coinage produced for or by the colonies including speculative tokens, patterns, state coinage, fantasy pieces, contemporary counterfeits, etc.

Paper currency from a number of colonies is also illustrated, including Massachusetts (designed and printed by Paul Revere), New Jersey and Delaware (printed by Benjamin Franklin).

A thoroughly enjoyable video, full of interesting facts and darn good photography of the presentation that was given at Long Beach, California.

Because of its length of 56 minutes, if this video is being shown at a local coin club, we suggest that you stop it at the 47:30 mark and leave out the last 9½ minutes which covers the books available on the subject.

“U.S. COINAGE OF THE PHILIPPINES” (#V-30; Produced by ANA; 52 minutes)

From 1898 to 1946, the Philippine Islands were administered by the United States. A unique series of coins was produced at the U.S. Mint which bore the identities of both lands. These coins reveal a lot of the rich history of the Philippines. These fascinating and very collectible issues have been largely overlooked by American and foreign collectors and present an important opportunity for the adventurer numismatist.

We find out that the Spaniards ruled the Philippines for something like 300 years. When the U.S. defeated Spain by sinking all of their ships in the Far East in 1898, the U.S. obtained the Philippines as part of the spoils of war. U.S. troops occupied the country, ultimately turned it into a U.S. possession and installed a civil government, and introduced regular U.S. coinage to their economy. However, these coins did not fit the Spanish coinage with which the Filipinos were familiar, and therefore, new coins were struck at the U.S. mint with both the U.S. and the Philippines names on them. Denominations reverted to the basic Spanish denominations of peso and centavos, written in Spanish (i.e. “Un” instead of “One”). We also find that reduction in size, weight and fineness also affected their coinage. Provisional patterns, the use of symbols (i.e. 3 main Island groups and the eagle), the Spanish influence on design (the use of the Pillars of Hercules) and the American influence (Woodrow Wilson and Franklin Roosevelt’s busts, the Barber design, the eagle, the federal shield of the U.S.), the reasons for chop marks, and many other facts are explained. We also find out that although the San Francisco Mint struck the early coins, an American-owned Mint in Manila struck later issues (identified by an “M” mint-mark).

The coinage covered in this program is like any other legitimate U.S. currency, struck at a U.S. Mint or in a Mint owned and operated by the U.S. government. It includes interesting facts and a lot of history on what can rightfully be called U.S. coinage.

ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

42nd Annual Convention

APRIL 17 & 18, 2004

Quality Hotel & Suites

401 & Hwy. 59 - Exit 232 - Woodstock, Ontario

40 Bourse Tables

BOURSE FLOOR OPENS AT 10:00 A.M. EACH DAY APRIL 17 & 18

Bourse Dealer Set-up: Friday, April 16, 6:00 p.m.; Auction: April 17 2:00 p.m. start

- Meetings of Specialty Collector Groups
- Annual ONA General Membership Meeting
- Annual ONA Club Delegates Meeting
- Souvenir Convention Medals & Registration Kits
- Banquet with Full-Course Dinner and Guest Speaker
- Friday Evening Reception for all Registrants and Bourse Dealers
- Announcement of ONA Award of Merit Recipient
- Announcement of "Fellow" of the ONA Recipients
- Announcement of Best Local Coin Club Bulletin/Editor of 2003
- Announcement of "Club of the Year" Recipient

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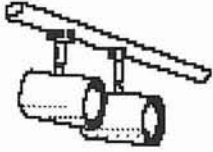
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SPOTLIGHT ON COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS

THE COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL FOR THE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II



Commemorative medals are struck from time-to-time to mark important anniversaries and other great occasions. In keeping with this tradition, the Golden Jubilee Medal of Queen Elizabeth II commemorated the 50th anniversary of Her Majesty's reign as Queen of Canada. The Medal was awarded to Canadians who have made a significant con-

tribution to their fellow citizens, their community or to Canada.

In order to have a list of recipients that is representative of all regions of Canada, various organizations were invited to propose the names of candidates for the Medal: the federal, provincial and territorial levels of government, national professional, educational and cultural organizations, military and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, veterans' groups, sports associations, philanthropic and charitable bodies. Approximately 46,000 Canadians received the medal.

The medal carries a contemporary effigy of the Queen on the obverse. The reverse features the design of a stylised maple leaf with *CANADA* at the bottom and the years 1952 and 2002 on the left and right of the Royal Cypher and Crown. The Medal is worn suspended from a broad royal blue ribbon, with red outer stripes, double white stripes with a red central stripe.

The Commemorative Medal for the Golden Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is part of the Canadian Honours System established in 1967. It was created to mark the Queen's Golden Jubilee, as Queen of Canada. The medal program is part of the Jubilee year celebrations organized by the Department of Canadian Heritage.

The awarding of the medals focused both on the achievements of those people who, over the past 50 years, have helped create the Canada of today, and on the achievements of younger Canadians who are actively contributing to our future. Recipients were Canadian citizens who have made an outstanding and exemplary contribution to the community or to Canada as a whole.

To ensure that the awarding is inclusive and wide-ranging, the federal government had identified a series of partners who were asked to select recipients from their community or their organization. Partners included some 200 national and provincial organizations such as the Royal Canadian Legion, Scouts Canada, Girl Guides of Canada, Athletics Canada, the Canadian Cancer Society and the Canadian Red Cross. The RCMP, the Canadian Forces, Members of Parliament, Senators, provincial and territorial governments, Lieutenant-Governors and Territorial Commissioners were also partners.

Partners forwarded their selections to the Chancellery of Honours at Government House that maintained a central public registry of recipients, to prevent duplication and to coordinate the distribution of the medals. Medals were presented in ceremonies by the partners, including Lieutenant-Governors and Territorial Commissioners.

Canadians were free to contact any of the partners in their local communities to suggest names of Canadians (the Chancellery did not accept nominations). People must have been alive on February 6, 2002 - the anniversary of Her Majesty's accession to the Throne - to be eligible.

The commemorative medal, made from gold-plated bronze, bears the effigy of Her Majesty the Queen, to reflect fifty years of her reign as Queen of Canada. The design concept of the medal was developed by the Chancellery of Honours. The effigy of the Queen was designed by Canadian artist Dora de Pédery-Hunt. They were produced by the Royal Canadian Mint.

Some of the 200 Golden Jubilee Medal Non-Governmental Organization Partners are the Assembly of First Nations, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada, Boys and Girls Club of Canada, Canadian Association of Sexual Assault Centres, The Canadian Bar Association, Canadian Cancer Society, Canadian Medical Association, Canadian National Institute for the Blind, Canadian Nature Federation, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, Canadian Police Association, The Canadian Public Health Association, Canadian Red Cross Society, Girl Guides of Canada, Heritage Canada, Royal Canadian Legion, Royal Commonwealth Society of Canada, The Royal Society of Canada, Salvation Army, Save the Children - Canada, Scouts Canada, United Way of Canada and YMCA Canada.

This program was an opportunity to recognize citizens for an outstanding and exemplary achievement or service to the community or to Canada as a whole; or those who have made a sustained contribution over and above what might reasonably be expected of paid employment or voluntary action. In keeping with the Golden Jubilee spirit endorsed by the Queen, awarding of the medal was inclusive and wide-ranging.

The Chancellery of Honours, Government House, administers the Medal Program. For more information, visit the Governor General of Canada's web site at <http://www.gg.ca/honours/golden-jubilee>.



LET'S HELP THE CNA!

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If you have a partial set, please let him know what you have to donate.**

Geoff Bell - CNA Librarian

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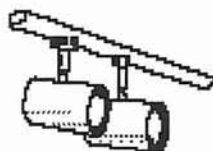
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S P O T L I G H T O N P E O P L E

A column in praise of active Ontario collectors



RAY DESJARDINS RECIPIENT OF MANY AWARDS

On the previous two pages, we provided background on the commemorative medal of the Golden Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The Medal was awarded to Canadians who have made a significant contribution to their fellow citizens, their community or to Canada. We are pleased to highlight one of our own members who was a recipient of the award.

Ray Desjardins is probably best known to ONA members as a long-serving member of the Executive of the ONA. First joining in 1992, he was elected Director for Area 9 (Eastern & Northern Ontario) from 1994 to 2001, 2nd Vice President for the 2001-2003 term and 1st Vice President for the current 2003-2005 term. He has also been identified on the ONA masthead as the Liaison Officer to the Royal Canadian Mint since 1994. He was inducted as a Fellow of the ONA (F.O.N.A.) in 1998 in recognition of his dedication to the numismatic hobby.

While he has been active with the ONA, he has also served the CNA, as a director during the 1995-1997 term, as 2nd Vice President during 1999-2001 and as Area Director for the 2003-2005 term. He has been a member of the CNA since 1966, receiving his 35-year membership certificate in 2001.

Ray has also been a member of the Canadian Association of Token Collectors (CATC) since 1980, Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors (CAWMC) since 1985, Canadian Tire Coupon Collectors Club (CTCCC) since 1990 and the Token & Medal Society (TAMS) since 1984. As a member of the City of Ottawa Coin Club since 1976, he has served as their Editor and Treasurer and was a member of the 1998 ONA Convention Committee and the CNA 2000 "50th Anniversary Convention" Committee.

He has written numerous articles, has spoken to groups, and edited and published guidebooks, all on the subject of his favorite topic: modern Canadian municipal trade tokens.

Ray is Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer of Eligi Consultants Inc., a numismatic consultancy well-known for designing and making available trade tokens to municipalities and assisting in their marketing.

That is a brief synopsis of his numismatic involvement. But his volunteer activities go way, way beyond numismatics. We think the best way of presenting his long history of volunteer and professional work is to break it down by organization:

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 953, Bells Corners (Nepean), ON - President 2001-2002; Chairman, Leadership & Planning 2001-2002; Chairman Membership 2003-2004; Chairman, Poppy Trust Fund 1999-2002; Member of Poppy Trust Fund Committee 2003-2004; 2nd Vice President 1999-2000; 3rd Vice President 2003-2004; Poppy Campaign Chairman 1999/2000/2001 (these 3-year campaigns were the most successful in the 40-year history of the branch, raising revenues from just over \$37,000 annually to over \$95,000 in 2001); Chairman of Finance Management committee 1999-2000; Executive Member and Branch PR Officer 1998-2001.

Royal Canadian Legion, Zone G-5 - Executive Member and Chairman Leadership and Planning 2001-2003; Executive member and Chairman Veterans Services 2003-2005; Team Leader of Veterans and Seniors Services Team 2003-2005.

North American Baptist Conference International Headquarters, Oakbrook Terrace, IL USA - Director, Secretary and Member of Loans Committee of the Church Extension Investors Fund Canada 1994-1999; Director and Member of Loans Committee of the Church Extension Investors Fund USA 1999 to present (these investment funds have loaned over \$127M to build, expand and renovate member churches in Canada and the USA).

Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada - Member 1967-1995; President of UK Local 1967-1972.

Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa - Army Cadet 1955-1957, attaining rank of Cadet CO (Captain); Reserve (NPAM) 1957-1964 (attaining rank of Lieutenant - Infantry), supplementary Reserve 1964-1969. United Ostomy Association of Canada (Ottawa Support Group) - Member 1996 to present; Director 1997-1008; Auditor 2002-2003; Director 2003-2005. Also member of Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa Regimental Association 1965 to present.

Harvest Baptist Church, Ottawa (NABC) - Member 1994 to present; Chairman of the Board of Trustees 1995 to present; Financial Secretary 1999-2000.

Nepean Baptist Church (NABC) - Member 1978-1994; Director, Financial Secretary, Chairman of Building Fund Committee.

Carleton Veterans Advisory Committee, Nepean - Member and Secretary 2002 to present.

Royal Canadian Geographical Society - Member (1983 to present).

Liberal Party of Canada - Member (1995 to present).

The honors and awards that have been bestowed upon Ray is also impressive:

U-Star Award (1978) - Awarded by the United States tour Operators Association to the Canadian Government Office of Tourism (his area of responsibility was US Operations) for excellence in the promotion of tourism with professionalism and integrity. He accepted the honor in New York at a Waldorf-Astoria gala celebration at the request of the U.S. Assistant Deputy Minister of Tourism.

Travel Leader of the Year (1982) - Awarded by the national Tour Brokers Association, USA (now the National Tour Association), the largest tour operator organization in the world. He was the first and only Canadian so honored.

Public Service of Canada (1994) - 35 year Certificate and Silver Medallion.

Royal Canadian Legion Branch - Past Officer Medal with the following Bars: Executive Committee (1999), Public Relations (2000), Poppy (2001), 2nd Vice President (2001), Leadership Bar (2001)); Past Presidents Medal & Lapel Badge (2002); Certificates of Appreciation (1999-2000-2001); Certificate of Merit (2003).

Royal Canadian Legion Zone G-5 - Certificate of Appreciation (2002); Past Officer Medal with Executive Committee and Leadership Bars (2003).

Dominion Command - 75th Anniversary Medal (2001).

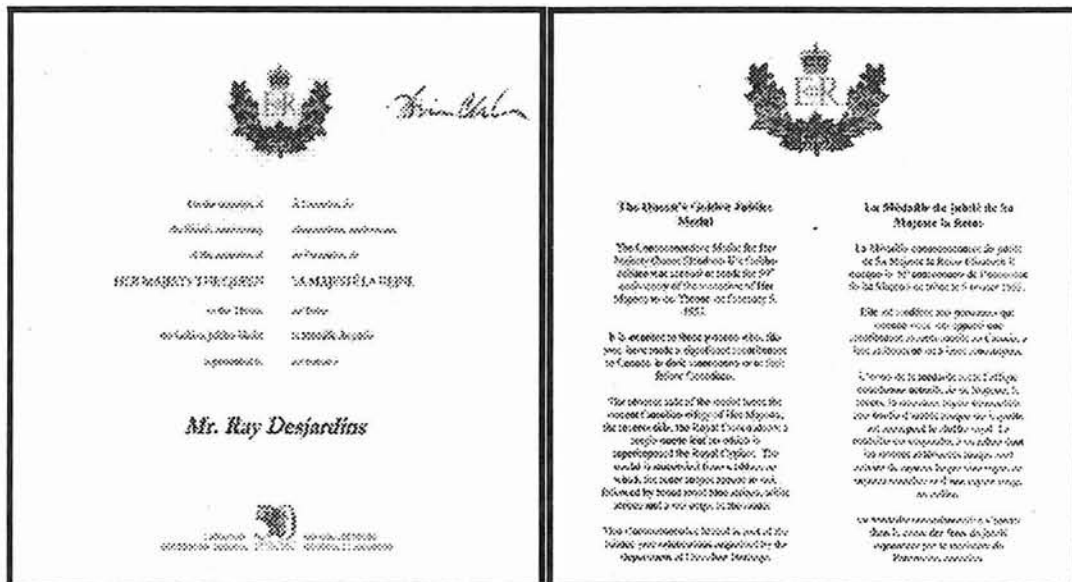
His education includes Theory of Office Management Certificate (1963) from the Civil Service Commission of Canada; Office Management Certificate (1968), Business Management Diploma (1969) and Associate in Business Degree (1978) from LaSalle Extension University, Chicago; Tourism Marketing Certificate (1972) from International Union of Tourism Organizations of Geneva, Switzerland; Introductory Marketing Management Certificate (1975) from Industry, Trade and Vommerce of Ottawa.

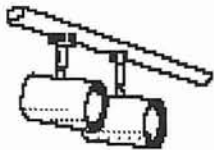
His work history includes stints at the Department of Finance in Ottawa (Pension Plan Examiner), Canadian Government Travel Bureau (Travel Information Officer, Assistant Manager for United Kingdom & Ireland, Manager of Upstate New York's 38 counties Manager of New England, Regional Director for Eastern USA, Director of Marketing Field Operations for USA), Tourism Canada (Special Assistant to the Director General of Tourism Development, Director of Market Development Planning, Director of Public Relations & Promotion, Director of Planning & Program Development, Director of Marketing for USA & the Americas). He retired in 1995 after 35 years as a Canadian Public Servant.

Born in Ottawa in 1941, he married Carolyn Himes in 1962. They have 2 children, Steven Joseph (born in London, England, currently a Professor at the University of Ottawa as a Dr. of Applied Mathematics) and Michelle Louise Breslin (born in Evanston, Illinois), who produced 2 grandchildren for the Desjardins, twins Alex and Julie (born in Ottawa).

Canada - Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal (2002) awarded to persons who have made a significant contribution to Canada, to their community or to their fellow Canadians. Nominated by both his Federal MP (Mr. David Pratt) and his Provincial MPP (Honorable John Baird PC).

The Certificate of Award presented to ONA member Ray Desjardins is illustrated at right, while the medal accompanying the certificate is illustrated on pages 106 (close-up of medal) and 107 (ribbons).





S P O T L I G H T O N
C A N A D I A N N A T I O N A L
E X H I B I T I O N M E D A L S

THE UNAUTHORIZED CNE'S 1979 CENTENNIAL MEDAL

by John Regitko, ONA Life Member #LM083

The Canadian National Exhibition is in full swing for another year. We thought now might be a good time to tell ONA members about some special CNE collectables on the next four pages.



In 1979, the Canadian National Exhibition, the world's longest running annual permanent exhibition, celebrated their 100th Anniversary. I had obtained the rights to the "official" Exhibition medal that would be sold at the coin exhibit (of which I was Chairman) located in the Arts, Crafts, Hobbies Building located inside the Dufferin Gates at the west end of the exhibition grounds.

Medals were struck in both bronze and silver by Interbranch International Mint. They were turned over to me on consignment. We would pay a royalty to the CNE on each medal sold

since we used their copyrighted Centennial design. Any profits would be turned over to a non-profit group of my choice. At the time, I selected the Toronto Coin Club, which I considered my home club and which eventually received well over a thousand dollars for this and other year's official CNE medals.

An enterprising entrepreneur who had a booth in the same building decided to cast a quantity of medals featuring the CNE's 100th Anniversary design on one side and a rather crude stylized maple leaf surrounded by 2 circles on the reverse. The medal was cast so it has a poor overall appearance.



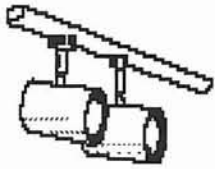
Early on during the 21-day exhibition, a lady came to our booth located within the coin exhibit, looked at our signs attesting to the fact that we were selling the "official" 100th Anniversary medal and showed me a medal that she had just purchased from a commercial vendor in the same building. She had been told by the vendor, whose name I do not recall (it was not one of the two coin dealers that had set up booths in the building) that it was an "official" exhibition medal.

I asked the lady to explain her purchase to Fred Brown, the chairman of the Arts, Crafts, Hobbies Building, who took the lady over to the booth and obtained her money back. She then proceeded to purchase one of our "official" medals from me.

Fred Brown advised the vendor, under threat of legal action, to remove his remaining medals from his booth. He followed it up with a seize and desist warning, on CNE letterhead, since he was not only accused of mis-representing his medals but was also using the copyrighted CNE 100 Centennial design for which he had not obtained approval and was not paying royalties to the CNE as we were.

Brown advised me that the vendor asked him about royalty arrangements, but was told that the coin collecting hobby had exclusive rights to the "official" medal so as to offset the cost of running their booth. The vendor was also told that the design was too crude for the CNE to consider his request.

I managed to obtain one of the medals out of a dealer's junk box a few years later for \$2 if memory serves me right. I also was the successful bidder of another copy at a Waterloo Coin Society auction. It was part of a lot of 7 medals for which I believe I successfully bid \$9.00. I promptly resold the other 6 medals for the same amount, therefore obtaining the unauthorized CNE medal free.



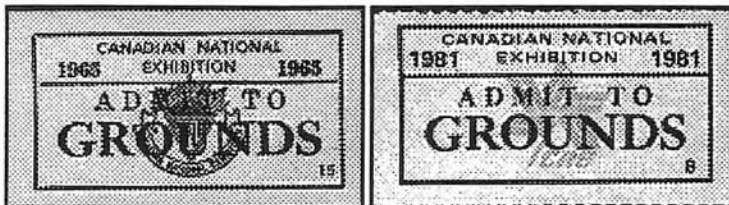
S P O T L I G H T O N
 T R A N S P O R T A T I O N
 T I C K E T S O F T O R O N T O

SPECIAL ADMISSION TICKETS OF THE CNE

By John Regitko, ONA Life Member #LM083

When I was the Chairman of the coin exhibit in the Arts Crafts Hobbies Building of the annual 21-day Canadian National Exhibition, two of my major responsibilities were to set up the numismatic displays and to assure that the booth was manned continuously from opening to closing every day over the 21 days that the CNE was operating, which was from the middle of August until Labour Day (the first Monday of September).

Since manpower was voluntary (no one was paid for their involvement), we provided complimentary admission passes to the volunteers. Prior to the opening of the Exhibition, I was asked by Fred Brown, then Chairman of the Arts Crafts Hobbies Building, what sort of admission passes I might require to assure that we had plenty of manpower on hand to answer questions about a numismatic object's authenticity, history, origin, identification, etc. However, the most frequent asked question involved value.

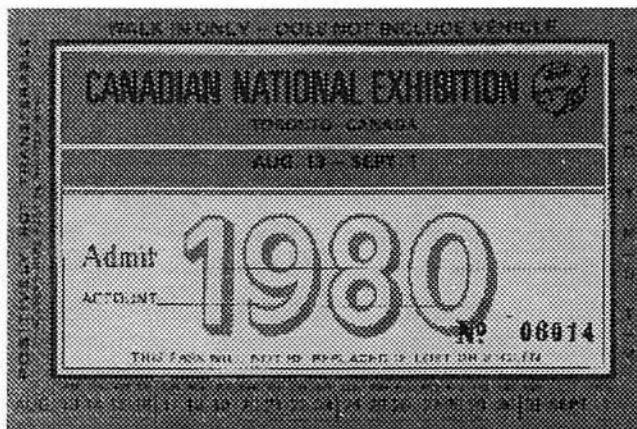


The one-time walk-in pass was given to volunteers manning the coin display for at least 4 hours in any one day. They were then free to spend the rest of the day enjoying the many events and activities of the CNE. The pass had to be surrendered upon entry to the Exhibition Grounds.

These special admission passes were never sold to the public and, therefore, seldom found their way into numismatic collections. I had access to these one-time passes from 1965 to 1981 and have kept at least one of each year in my collection ever since. There were two different designs in use during my tenure as Chairman of the Coin Exhibit. One series, used in the 1960s, contained the then-CNE crest as the central design (right). The second series contained the new CNE crest (far right). Both series were uniface with the ink generally being in a darker colour of the paper each year (i.e. dark green printing on light green cardboard stock, red printing on light pink or buff stock, or dark blue printing on light blue or white stock).



If a volunteer offered to attend on a number of different days, they would receive a "walk in only - does not include vehicle" pass (below, left) that was good for admission for one person for the whole 21-day duration of the CNE (it was not surrendered upon entry). They could take public transportation to the CNE at their own expense and use the pass, or they could pay for parking their car in the Exhibition Grounds parking lots and use the pass to walk into the Exhibition.



Admission tokens were sold from ticket booths located outside the entrances to the Exhibition Grounds. These were surrendered upon entry to the Exhibition Grounds.

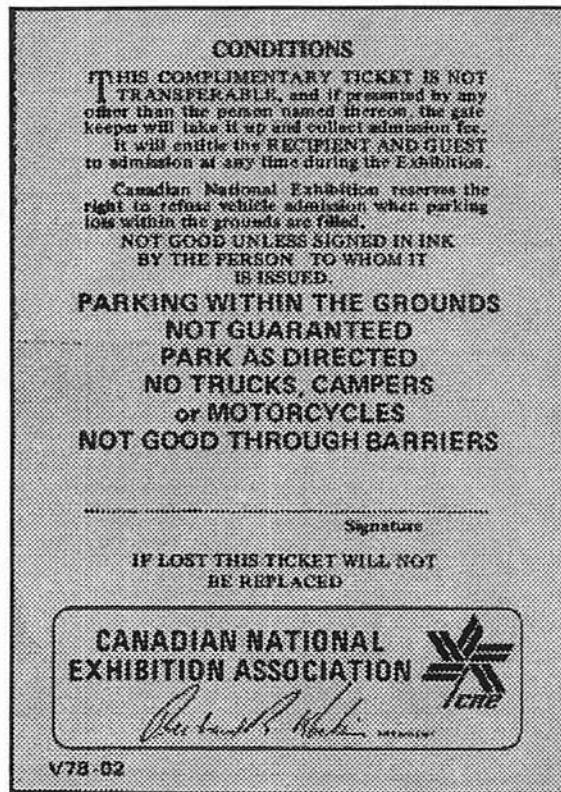


A few people spent virtually full days manning the coin exhibit on a number of occasions over the 21-day exhibition. They would receive a pass that was good for the duration of the CNE covering both them and a guest as well as their vehicle. It was shown upon entry but kept by the volunteer. This was the pass I used when I spent my vacation manning the coin exhibit. It came in handy since I brought medals, reference catalogues, display material and other items with me in the car and wished to park immediately behind the Hobby Building. The back of the pass lists the conditions, which included the fact that they could refuse admission if the parking lots were full. However, that never happened because the volunteers that obtained these always arrived early, long before the grounds opened to the public, since the booth had to be swept, displays rearranged and the complimentary coffee or soft drinks consumed.

They were printed in black and one other color of ink on different colored card stock each year (if the card stock was light green, the colors of ink were black and light green. If the card stock was yellow, the colors of ink were black and red, etc.).

These colorful tickets, which the general public does not get a chance to obtain, nor numismatists usually get a chance to own, make an interesting display.

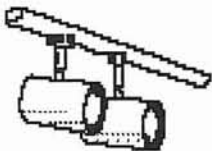
Most people simply pay their admission at the entrance to the CNE and never give any thought to the fun of collecting these admission tickets.



A ticket that was good for admission for a car and driver could be purchased by the general public (left). It was placed on the windshield and did not have to be surrendered when exiting.

In most years, the reverse read simply "Not Responsible for Theft or Damage," while in some years, the reverse space was sold to advertisers (above).

These tickets were printed in black and red ink on different colored card stock for each year.



SPOTLIGHT ON ONTARIO TOKENS

THE GRIGG HOUSE TOKENS

by Ted Leitch

The following article appeared in the February bulletin of the London Numismatic Society.



Advertisement for the Grigg House 1880

Samuel Grigg was born just outside of Montreal on February 16, 1847. When he was five years old, he moved to Clinton where his father Isaac Grigg had purchased a blacksmith shop. At the age of 12, Thomas Lloyd who taught him the hotel business employed Samuel. Grigg first came to London in 1860 but went to Seaforth three years later. He soon returned to London and by 1867, had engaged in the hotel and livery stable business. Grigg was owner of a hotel called the "American House," located on the southeast corner of York and Richmond Streets. He sold the American House in 1879 to Cruickshank and McDonald and moved to the northeast corner of the same

intersection on September 20, 1879. The Grigg house was a hotel, tavern and livery stable and Samuel Grigg was sole proprietor until his brother, Thomas K. Grigg joined him in 1887. He was in business until 1892 when he sold the hotel to a gentleman named Horseman. Grigg was a respected businessman and a family man with 5 children, 4 from his first marriage and 1 from his second. He also owned farmland northwest of the city and was a member of the Royal Arch Masons. After leaving the hotel business, he became assistant minister at the London South Baptist Church.

There are a number of different Grigg House tokens in different metals and sizes. The tokens were produced in five and ten-cent denominations. One difference worth noting is that some pieces have the inscription "Grigg House" while others have "Griggs House." Most of the tokens have an incuse legend, which appears to be struck on prepared planchets; this produced a number of tokens with small varieties.



Both of these 22mm brass uniface tokens have splits in the denomination. This gap varies on each token depending on the striking. This appears to be the most common variety of the Grigg House token.

Both of these 22mm brass uniface tokens have splits in the denomination. This gap varies on each token depending on the striking. This appears to be the most common variety of the Grigg House token.



This 23.5mm five-cent brass token has a different style of a "5" than the other tokens and the legend is similar to the first illustrated token. On the 28mm brass 10-cent token, the "1" and the "0" vary in position on each of the tokens.

This 23.5mm five-cent brass token has a different style of a "5" than the other tokens and the legend is similar to the first illustrated token. On the 28mm brass 10-cent token, the "1" and the "0" vary in position on each of the tokens.



These two 23mm tokens are usually found with a uniface reverse and struck in German silver. There are a couple of exceptions; there is a ten-cent Grigg token of this type struck in brass and there is also one ten-cent German silver token with "Griggs House London, Ont." Stamped on both sides, but the denomination is only on one side.



These two five-cent tokens illustrate other known varieties. The left token is a 25mm brass token; the incuse stamped "5" is of a finer variety. The legend "Grigg House London, Ont." overlaps the border as on some other varieties, but the border is slightly wider on this token. The right hand token is a 23mm brass token with a well-struck different style "5" and the legend is a plain, larger script.



This 17mm aluminum token has been attributed to the Grigg House, but this may be questionable.

The token is smaller than most hotel tokens from London and it does not say London, Ont. on it. The bottle with the label inscribed "Monte Bello" does not have any local connection. The Roman Numeral "V" is not common on Canadian tokens, although it is found on American tokens. Because this token is struck in aluminum, it would probably have been issued after Grigg sold the hotel. Aluminum merchant tokens began to appear in the mid 1890s. There is only one of these tokens known and it is in the Bank of Canada Collection.



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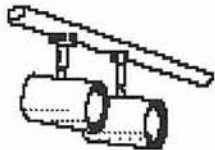
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SPOTLIGHT ON ONTARIO TOKENS

STORE TOKENS OF COMBER, ONTARIO

by Harry N. James

The following article appeared in the December 2002 issue of NUMISMATICA CANADA, combining the Transactions of the Canadian Numismatic Research Society and the Cee Tee of the Canadian Association of Token Collectors (CATC).

Comber, Ontario is located about 25 miles east of Windsor in Tilbury West Township of Essex County. It was first located about 2 miles east of the present village. The centre of town was the intersection of the Middle Road and Gracey Side Road. John Gracey opened the first post office here in 1846 and gave it the name of Comber after his native place in Ireland.

In 1852, the post office was moved to the corner of the Middle Road and what is now Main Street or Highway 77 in Comber. The postmaster for the next two years was a Mr. Reichenbach. He was succeeded by Duncan McAllister who held the position for many years. He also operated a general store.

In the 1870s, when the C.S.R.R. came through the area about a mile north, the village started to grow northward.

By 1891, a general store was being operated by R.O.Y. Ainslie. The Ainslie family was also involved in banking and lumber amongst other businesses.

In 1906, an employee of Mr. Ainslie, Mr. Charles George Elliott became the proprietor. The Elliott family was well established in the Comber area, having a farm just outside the village.

Mr. William Elliott and his wife, Janet (Carr) Elliott had four sons, William Jr., Peter Robert, Charles George and Walter Douglas as well as two daughters, Sophia and Ella Mae.

Both Charles and Peter operated general stores in Comber although Peter left the area in 1912 for the west. Both Charles and Peter made use of due bill tokens.

In 1927, the store was operating under the name of C.G. Elliott & Sons.

A niece of Charles and Peter, Mrs. Pearl Morris, who has lived all her life in Comber, remembers Charles' store quite well. You could get a good measure of candy in there for 1 or 2 cents. Peter had left the area about 10 years before she was born.

Although she didn't know that her Uncle Charles had used due bill tokens in his store, she vividly remembered token from her Uncle Peter's business. These they used as play money as children. Almost all of his tokens have disappeared over the years. However, when their family farm had been sold, the purchaser found a well-worn one dollar due bill of P.R. Elliott which was given to Pearl. It is aluminum, round and 35 mm in diameter.

Mrs. Morris kindly allowed me to make a carbon rubbing of the token, which was previously unlisted in Palmer's Ontario General Merchants' Trade Due Bills. She believes it is from a set of either 1 or 5 cents to \$1.00.

Mrs. Morris says that the two brothers were probably operating their stores for some while at the same time, being rivals in business.

After the war, Craig Ainslie, a descendant of the original owner, took over the store. This was about 1947.

The Windsor Daily Star of September 20, 1947 gave a description of the store as it was then.

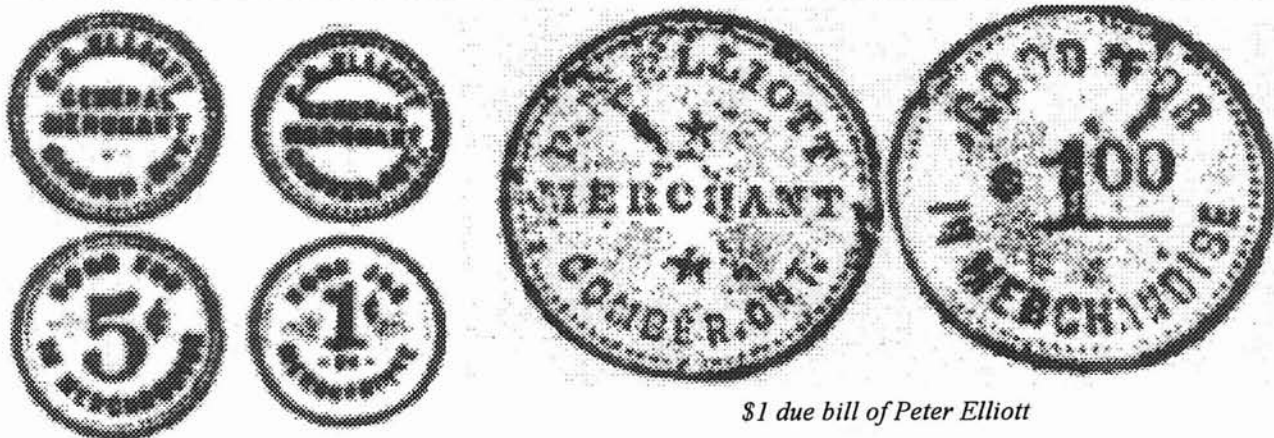
"For more than half a century, Craig Ainslie's store has served the public faithfully and honestly.

The largest retail store in Comber, this establishment was originally started by R.Y. Ainslie more than 50 years ago. During the years in which the store has grown right along with the town, the public has benefited from these experienced retail dealers.

Craig Ainslie who now manages the store, served 5 years in the RCAF and was awarded the DFC and the AFC.

The stock carried in the Ainslie store varies from groceries to ladies' wear but articles of clothing, necessity and pleasure for the whole family are stocked.

Generation after generation of Comber residents and those who live in the Comber district have been served by the Ainslie store. Consequently, it has become the shopping centre of Comber."



\$1 due bill of Peter Elliott

A five-cent and two varieties of a one-cent token of Charles George Elliott are listed by Palmer.

The obverses all read:

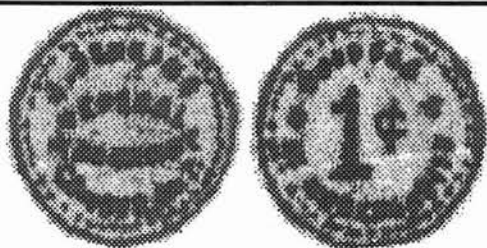
C.G. Elliott/General/Merchant/Comber, Ont.

The Reverses:

Good for/5c/in merchandise	A-R-19
Good for/1c/in merchandise	A-R-17

Besides these tokens, a 1c due bill is known to have been used by a Mr. J. Jenkins, as well as a 10c due bill by a Mr. D.L. Chauvin, and a 25c due bill by Mr. John Moroun.

The Dunn business references list Mr. James Jenkins as being in business in Comber from 1908 until 1914. They list Mr. D.L. Chauvin in the year 1906 and John Moroun is listed as grocer, dry goods merchant and fruit seller in 1918 and 1919.

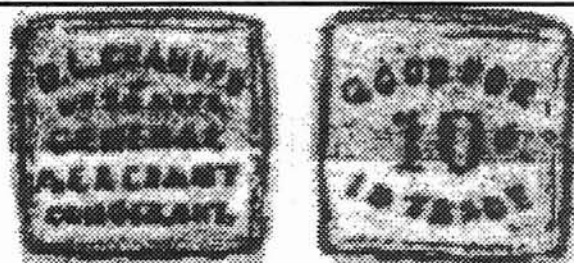


James Jenkins

Obverse: J. Jenkins/General/Merchant/Comber, Ont.

Reverse: Good for/1c/in merchandise

A-R-19



D.L. Chauvin

Obverse: D.L. Chauvin/Up to Date/General/Merchant/Comber, Ont.

Reverse: Good for/10c/in trade

A-S-23



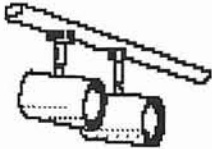
John Moroun

Obverse: John Moroun/General/Merchant/Comber, Ont.

Reverse: Good for/25c/in/trade

A-R-28

Sources: Windsor Daily Star, September 20, 1947; Morris, Pearl (nee Elliott), personal interview, 15 June, 2002



S P O T L I G H T O N
G R E A T R A R I T I E S

RARE BANK OF TORONTO 1892 \$10 OVERPRINTED "LONDON"

by Harry M. Eisenhauer

The following write-up, covering a recent acquisition of a rare piece of London, Ontario paper money, appeared in the January 2003 bulletin of the Ingersoll Coin Club. We should point out that the actual note looks in a lot better condition than this illustration, since it is printed off a photocopy of a photocopy.




Shown to the left is a rare Bank of Toronto 1892 \$10 which is overprinted with "London." Seven examples only are known to have survived, and of the 7, 4 are impounded in institutional collections, and 3 in private collections. Fortunate indeed is the collector who owns just one example of this London overprint of any date or denomination.

First of all, generally speaking ALL Bank of Toronto overprints are rare. Secondly, here are the states of surviving London overprints on a Bank of Toronto Note, and where they are as far as I can tell. Before starting the list, the London overprints come with two bank note co-imprints, i.e. ABN Ottawa and ABN New York. This is only on the issues of 1890 and 1892.

1. 1887 - \$10 - 143219/C - London opt. - Private collection
2. 1890 - \$5 - 178030/C - London opt. - (ABN New York) Private collection
3. 1892 - \$10 - 006732/D - London opt. - (ABN New York) Private collection
4. 1892 - \$10 - 006826/D - London opt. - (ABN New York) H. Eisenhauer collection
5. 1892 - \$10 - 040803/D - London opt. - (?) Ex-Amon Carter collection ... probably in NCC
6. 1892 - \$10 - 051656/ - London opt. - (ABN Ottawa) Private collection


These are the only known notes by me not to be in institutional collections excepting perhaps the Amon Carter note. So, as you can see, it should come as no surprise why it took me 30 plus years to find one.



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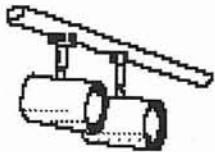
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SPOTLIGHT ON ONTARIO MEDALS

THE SOUVENIR MEDALLION OF THE FRIENDS OF ALGONQUIN

by John Regitko, ONA Life Member #LM083

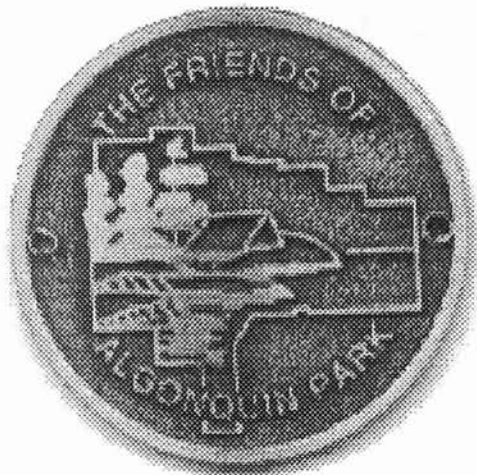


During a recent trip to Algonquin Provincial Park located 210 km north of Toronto for some daytripping and barbecuing, I stopped off at the Visitor Centre located 43 km in from the western edge of the park. Opened in 1993 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Algonquin Park and the entire Ontario provincial park system, the centre has world class exhibits on the Park's natural and human history, a relaxing restaurant, an excellent bookstore and "The Algonquin Room" featuring ongoing exhibits of Algonquin art. A theatre presentation sums up the Park story and then takes you out to the viewing deck from where you can admire a breathtaking panorama of wild Algonquin landscape. I know Algonquin and its many trails well, having spent many a week-end there hiking the trails, so much so that I became a "Friend of Algonquin Park" that entitled me to discounts at the Park's book stores, their publications and more.

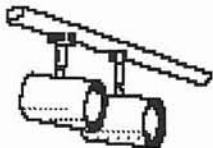
For most of Algonquin's history, human settlement was not a very important element. Scattered family groups of aboriginal peoples came to fish, hunt and pick berries, but their numbers were never large. It was not until the 1800s that big changes came to the rugged Algonquin highlands. Pioneer loggers pushing up from the Ottawa Valley reached Algonquin in search of the great White Pine trees whose prime wood was increasingly in demand by an expanding British economy. Living in remote, primitive camps, they felled and squared the giant pine, and when Spring came, drove them down swollen rivers to the Ottawa River and the outside world. The story of that colourful era and subsequent logging in the Park is told at the Algonquin Logging Museum, located near the East Gate. Algonquin was established in 1893, not to stop the extensive logging that went on at the time, but to establish a wildlife sanctuary. It became a favourite place for Tom Thompson and The Group of Seven.

There are many well-known resorts within the park where one can fish, canoe, paint or just relax and gain a few pounds from the food. I stay at a motel located just outside the west gate of the park, my hibatchi and briquettes in the trunk of the car, the steaks and hamburgers in the ice cooler.

Algonquin Visitor Centre (including bookstore and restaurant) is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. from June 20 to August 31, from 10 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. from September 1 to October 13 and from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. from October 14 to October 26 (for other times of the year, contact them directly or go to their website). A daily vehicle permit costs \$12 per day, which entitled you to stop anywhere inside the Park to go onto the numerous hiking trails, beaches or picnic grounds or park at the Visitor Centre, Logging Museum or Algonquin Art Gallery. If you have a Honda like me, your friendly local Honda Service Centre will give you a free pass good for a day. Three passes took care of my week-end.



During my recent visit, I stopped off at the book store of the Visitor Centre to see if I could find any new greeting cards designed by coin designers. I already had greeting cards from coin designers Dwayne Hardy and Brent Townsend, both of whom I met for interviews. Although I did not find any new cards, I did come across a uniface medallion featuring the logo of *The Friends of Algonquin*. The medallion went on sale last year. Five hundred copies were struck by Coyle and Green Awards of Mossley, Ontario. The price of \$4.99 plus taxes is rather steep for a nickel medal. I was told that they were all punched with two holes so that they could be nailed onto objects such as a walking stick owned by a member of The Friends of Algonquin.

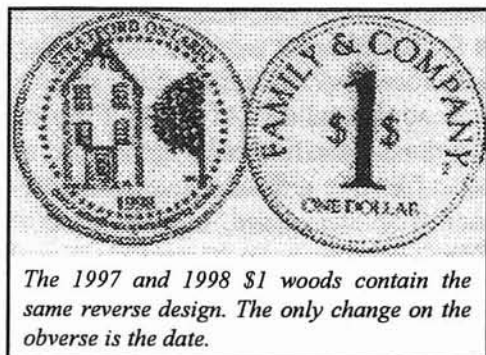


SPOTLIGHT ON WOODEN NICKELS

THE WOODS OF STRATFORD'S "FAMILY & COMPANY" STORE

by Ross Kingdon, ONA member #1400 and editor of CAWMC's "Timber Talk"

The following article appeared in the November 2001 issue of "Timber Talk," official publication of the Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors (CAWMC).



At the Stratford Coin Club annual show in 2001, Larry Walker of Canada Wide Woods showed me a set of beautifully designed woods that he had discovered and which have been used in a local Stratford, Ontario store since 1997. The store, named "Family & Company" at 6 Ontario Street, is a toy and games store for children and the woods were obviously redeemable

in the store for the various values of \$1, \$2 or \$5. The woods are 38mm in diameter and quite thick (approx. 9mm). All the images are burned into the wood, so the woods have a nice burned, brown look to them. You will note that there is only one wood (\$1.00 value), for both the years of 1997 and 1998. For both the years of 1999 and 2000, however, there are three woods each of values \$1.00, \$2.00 and \$5.00. Note also that the obverse design changes from 1998 to 1999.

In 1997, some 1900 \$1.00 woods were produced while in 1998 about 1500 woods of \$1.00 were produced.

In 1999, only 95 of the \$1.00 value, 514 of the \$2.00 value and 350 of the \$5.00 were produced. In the year 2000, 150 of the \$1.00 value, 354 of the \$2.00 value and 450 of the \$5.00 value were made. There is a rumor that the store may produce a wood of \$10.00 value sometime in the future.



Michael Walsh the Canadian Coinoisseur

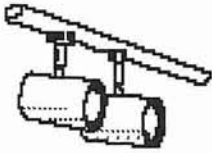
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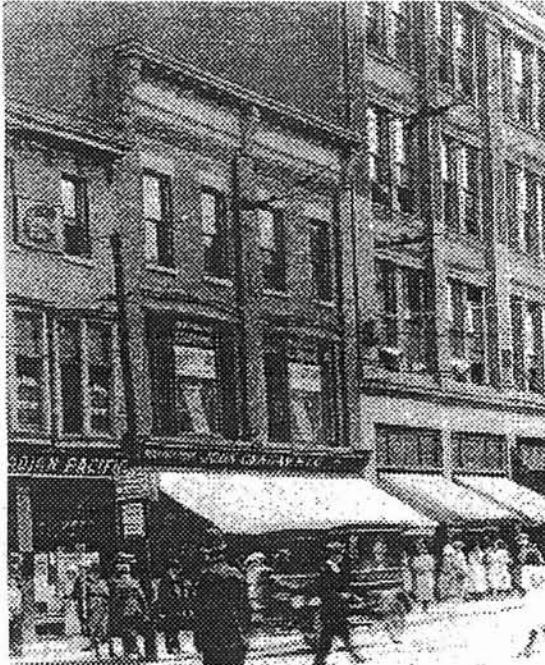


SPOTLIGHT ON TRADE TOKENS

THE TOKEN OF W.L. GRAHAM

by Ted Leitch, London Numismatic Society

The following article appeared in the March 2002 bulletin of the London Numismatic Society.



In 1876, William L. Graham was working as a store clerk for Priddis Brothers, a dry goods store. The brothers were James and John Priddis, who had taken over their father's store at 159 Dundas St. In 1880, William Graham opened his own men's furnishing store at 419 Richmond St. In 1884, William moved to 157-159 Dundas St., the old location of the Priddis Brothers' store which had moved to 158 Dundas St. a few years earlier. At this time, the store's name was changed to "W.L. Graham & Company." It was about this time that one of William's five brothers, John, also started in the retail business as a clerk at Priddis Brothers. By 1890, William was manufacturing shirts and had added hats and caps to his men's store.



On September 3, 1891, William died at the age of 35 from rheumatic fever, which he caught a week earlier while resting on the beach at Port Stanley. William's brothers, John and Charles Graham, took over the store and renamed it "Graham Brothers."

Charles Milton Richardson Graham became Mayor of London from 1912 to 1914. He was also Lieutenant Colonel Graham, the commander of the 142nd regiment. He went overseas during the First World War and was seriously wounded. During Charles' absence, John continued to manage the store and in 1918, he changed its name to "John Graham's." John remained in business there until 1930 when the store closed. John Graham retired, with his wife, Louise, to his home at 415 Central Avenue. Charles M.R. Graham died two years later in 1932. The store became "L.K. Liggitts and Company," a drug store.

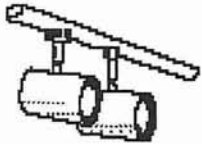


MAYOR GRAHAM
Charles M.R. Graham



This token is the only known 50th jubilee piece to have been issued in London. The small

medalet of 15 mm was struck in brass with the bust of Queen Victoria in high relief. The singular known piece is holed. The medalet was probably worn as a patriotic symbol of the Queen's anniversary.



SPOTLIGHT ON THE FUTURE OF MONEY

WILL MONEY OF TODAY BE REPLACED WITH A FUTURIST CURRENCY?

by Donn Pearlman

The following article was published in the December 2001 bulletin of the South Wellington Coin Society. It first appeared in the Numismatist, official publication of the American Numismatic Association.

Maybe futurists are correct, and we won't be using coins and paper money much longer. Look at the warning signs: many banks refuse to accept loose change from piggy banks, and pennies and even dollar coins apparently are so worthless that the Mint is stuffing them inside boxes of Cheerios cereal.

But here's the biggest omen. Ecuador, a Latin American country with a 60 percent inflation rate and only 279 internet sites (compared to 338 for Elvis) wants to make the United States dollar its official currency. To paraphrase Rodney Dangerfield, greenbacks don't get no respect.

Some news reporters, including a few CBS colleagues, mistakenly believe that by Memorial Day we'll all be using e-cash, smart cards, or some other form of plastic or cyberspace currency. In 1998, a reporter for the St. Paul Pioneer Press newspaper called to interview me about the 50 State Quarters scheduled to enter circulation the following year.

Now, I thought this would be an easy topic, since I had testified in 1996 before the U.S. House Banking Subcommittee regarding the creation of this outstanding coinage program. I figured that if I can "BS" a congressional committee, I certainly could manipulate the Minnesota media. However, I wasn't ready for the reporter's first question.

"Why is the government bothering to change designs? We're going to stop using coins and bills in a year or two anyway and just use smart cards," he flatly stated. Whoa! Not exactly the softball question I expected. The reporter persisted: "Everybody says we won't be using money soon, so why change designs now?"

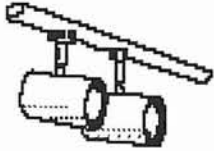
"Coins have been around for 2,700 years. They're not going to disappear next week," I responded hesitantly. Then I came up with the best analogy I could on such short notice; "Do you really think a 5-year-old child will be delighted to find that the tooth fairy has left a shiny, new Visa card under the pillow?"

Ultimately, the reporter wrote a well-balanced story about the future of money. But it prompted me to think about the "anti-cash" PR tactics of some banks and credit card companies. They want you to use smart cards, debit cards and credit cards so they can charge transaction fees, not to mention interest on your purchases.

So, thanks to the Professional Numismatics Guild, here are some arguments you can use when friends, colleagues or complete strangers make outlandish statements about the demise of coins and bank notes:

- 1) The United States, as well as other countries, plan to strike literally billions of coins in the coming years because of consumer demand, especially for the wildly popular State Quarters. (The new Euro coins and notes go into circulation in 11 countries in 2002. It took years for Europeans to agree on the designs. Halting the project could start another Hundred Years War.)
- 2) Do you really, truly, honestly want to get rid of all cash? How would you stash away a few dollars for a rainy day or hide a few bucks from your spouse so you can go to the track?
- 3) Finally, do merchants really, truly, honestly want to get rid of cash? Do you think wise guys named "Lefty" and "Boom-Boom" want to halt the flow of moolah at gaming tables and slot machines in Vegas and Atlantic city? Instead of currency piled high, the counting rooms would have only credit card slips. Can you hear it now? "Hey, youz Citibank guys, how 'bouts we go fer a little ride?"

As I was writing this column (on the back of an old telephone bill envelope while sitting in congested, rush hour traffic), Ecuador's largest bank note in circulation was the 50,000 sucre, worth roughly \$2 U.S. Imagine paying 75,000 sucres for a cup of Starbucks cheapest coffee or 150,000 to buy a dozen Dunkin' Donuts in Quito or anywhere else in Ecuador. Besides, it's too embarrassing to have cash register signs reading "Please, no bills larger than 25,000."



SPOTLIGHT ON CANADIAN DECIMALS

THE MANY "FIRSTS" OF THE 1967 \$20 GOLD COIN

by Paul Petch (reprinted from the May 2001 bulletin of the North York Coin Club)

Each bulletin of the North York Coin Club includes a question that is answered at the following meeting as well as having the answer published in the next bulletin. The April 2001 question by Paul Petch was: "I can think of several statements which can be made about the 1967 \$20 gold coin in which it can be said to be the first. For example, it was the first Canadian gold coin which, at the time of issue, was illegal for U.S. citizens to purchase." Members were asked to come up with "first" statements of their own. We found the answer very interesting and educational and have, therefore, reproduced it below. Illustrations are from the CD "The Charlton Canadian Numismatic Library - 1998," except Mr. Stohr's design which is copied from the RCM book "Striking Impressions."



The \$20 gold coin was a special issue struck only for inclusion in the Gold Presentation Sets of 1967. This coinage commemorated the 100th anniversary of Canadian Confederation as a nation. The seven proof quality coins were encased in a black, morocco leather presentation case, and sold for \$40 a set and was the first collector set of proof coins.

This is as coin of many other "firsts." The first commemorative gold coin of Canada, the Dominion's first gold coin since 1914, the first commemorative gold coin of North America since 1926, the first \$20 coin Canada ever minted and, at that time, the Dominion's largest denomination gold coin. The coin was struck in

.900 fine gold, with a bullion value of \$20 Canadian and about \$18.50 U.S.

American collectors were denied the opportunity to legally purchase this coin at the time of issue. Officials of the U.S. Treasury's Office of Domestic Gold and Silver Operations did not consider the coin to be of sufficient merit for inclusion from the ban then in force which severely limited the ownership of modern gold coins by U.S. citizens.

This ban was rescinded at midnight, December 30, 1974. It is a fact, however, that many U.S. collectors had the coins in their possession prior to that time. In fact, many purchased them at the time of issue and placed them in bank safe deposit boxes in Canada, which action was also technically unlawful.



It was not, however, the first gold coin to show the Canadian coat of arms. That honor went to the \$5 and \$10 gold pieces of 1912 (illustrated at left).

While we now think of the coat of arms primarily as the design feature of our 50-cent piece, there was a vision as early

as 1909 for its use on our high denomination gold coinage. At that time, \$5, \$10 and \$20 denominations were planned and a design by Mr. S. Stohr of Hamilton was being considered. A Royal Mint design of 1910 (left) showing the coat of arms upon two maple boughs set the strategy for \$5 and \$10 denominations that went into production for the 3 years 1912/1913/1914.



The \$20 design submitted by Mr. S. Stohr of Hamilton, 1909, was being considered for \$5, \$10 and \$20 Canadian gold coins.



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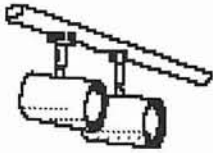
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M O N E Y M Y T H S

MONEY IN FABLES, FOLKTALES AND SUPERSTITIONS

The following article appeared in the January 2003 bulletin of the Ingersoll Coin Club.



Money is everywhere - in old sayings, songs, fables and folktales. It's part of certain customs, and it figures in superstitions. Here's a collection.

The legendary Greek hero Jason killed a dragon to steal the Golden Fleece, a sheepskin of pure gold. But is the Golden Fleece a myth? It may have been real. When the Greeks searched for gold in rivers, they dragged sheepskin through the water. Gold nuggets in the river would be caught in the long hair of the animal skin. It's possible a sheepskin covered in gold nuggets was the origin of the myth of the Golden Fleece.

Midas, a king of ancient legend longed to be rich. He made a wish that everything he touched would turn to gold. The god, Silenus, granted his wish, and everything Midas touched - even food and drink - turned to solid gold. Midas prayed to the gods to take his wish away so that he could eat and drink. They ordered him to bathe in a certain river, and from that day on Midas was rid of his wish, but the river was full of gold.

This old English rhyme predicts how you will spend money if you look at how your shoes wear down:

Wear at the toe, spend as you go.
Wear at the side, be a rich bride.
Wear at the heel, spend a good deal.
Wear on the ball, live to spend all.



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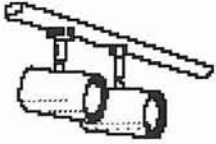
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S P O T L I G H T O N
E A R L Y C A N A D I A N

THE EIGHT REAL IN THE NEW WORLD

by Ted Leitch, London Numismatic Society

The December 2001 bulletin of the London Numismatic Society included the following article dealing with the eight real coin, which was used as the basis for Canada's monetary system.



Most collectors of Canadian decimal coins do not include an eight real coin in their collection even though it is the basis for the Canadian dollar. When Canada had to select either pounds sterling or dollars as a base for their currency, the decision was to follow the American lead and adopt the dollar. The British tried to peg the value of the 8 real at 4 shillings 6 pence in Halifax, but most sea going traders valued it at five shillings. The widely used eight real was not backed by any government but its value was determined by its silver value.

The value of the eight real varied with the price of silver and the country in which it circulated. The chart below shows the value of the eight real along the American east coast. It also indicates why the British could not peg it at a rate below five shillings.

We are probably most familiar with the milled eight reals which weighed 27.07 grams (417 grains) and are slightly better than .900 fine. The combined silver content of an eight real and a two real was equal to just slightly less than one ounce of silver. Because ten reals equaled one ounce of silver, it was easy to calculate its value in any country. The Spanish colonies issued the reals in denominations of 8, 4, 2, 1 and 1/2 real. Like a number of Caribbean British Colonies, Canada had a need for coinage, and the eight real and its lesser denomination filled this need.

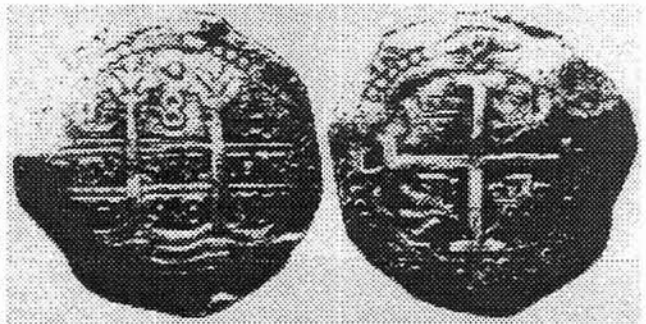
The Spanish Dollar Rating in the American Colonies (United States) in 1782	
Georgia	5 shillings
New York & Carolinas	8 shillings
Va. and 4 eastern States of Del., Pa., N.J., Md.	6 shillings
All other States	7 shillings, 6 pence
Silver Bit Coins	9 pence

The gold denomination that was equivalent to the eight real was the eight escudo which had the same weight as the silver eight real. The 8 escudo was equivalent to sixteen 8 real pieces. The ratio of 16 to one overvalued the gold escudo slightly, making the silver 8 real a more desirable coin in most transactions.

Early eight reals were called "COB" eight reals, coming from the Spanish name "COBA DE BARRA" which means they were cut off the end of a silver bar. The cut off pieces were then made into coins. Most of the eight reals which circulated in the Americas were produced in Mexico or one



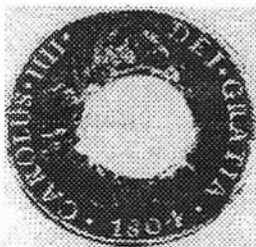
of the South American



Spanish colonies. With the introduction of the coin press in the Americas, milled eight reals began to replace the cob coinage. The mint in Mexico introduced milled coinage in 1732 and issued coins of this design. This type of eight real is commonly called the pillar eight real.

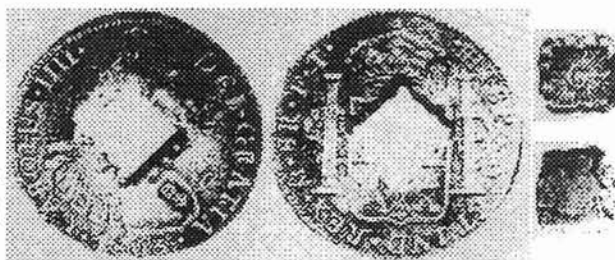
Reals were struck in Bolivia, Chile, Columbia, Guatemala, Peru and most South American countries along with central America and Mexico. Most eight reals are similar in design but each has its own mint mark designating its origin. At each of the mints the silver was checked by the mint assayers to determine the purity of the silver. The assayers' initials were then added to the coin giving each of the eight real designs a slight difference. The 1732 eight real illustrated on previous page, lower left, has the letter "M" with a small "o" over it to indicate the Mexico mint. The letter "F" was the initial of the assayer "Felipe."

The cob eight real circulated in the French Canadian colonies because of the ease of using it to trade with the English and Dutch. The cob eight reals were subject to clipping and values were set for the coin by weight. The milled coinage eliminated most of the clipping and the real's value equaled its silver value or the value given by local governments.

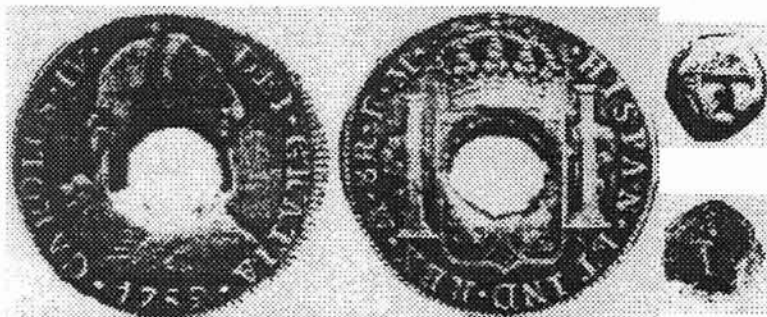


Most Canadian collectors are familiar with the Prince Edward Island Holey Dollar which is a mutilated 8 real coin. The purpose of the holed dollar was to provide a much needed local coinage. The Lieutenant Governor, C.D. Smith, ordered one thousand pieces struck, with the ring having a value of five shillings and the plug a value of one shilling. The plug was found to have a silver value greater than one shilling and soon disappeared from circulation. Any coin which has a silver value greater than its face value will either be hoarded or melted for its true value.

Although the P.E.I. Holey Dollar may appear like an odd way to make and retain silver coins on the island, the P.E.I. government was not the first to try this procedure. Another example of this procedure is the eight real with a square hole from the French island of Guadeloupe. The plug was worth 20 sous and the ring 180 sous or 9 livres.



The island of Dominica also holed reals to create a local coinage. They began in the 1860s by punching heart-shaped pieces out of eight reals and other denominations. In 1798, they created a second issue by punching the centers out of eight reals. The ring was valued at 11 bits or 8 shillings 3 pence; later it was revalued to 12 bits or 9 shillings. The center plug, weighing 3.2 grams, was stamped with a "D" and valued at 1-1/2 bits or 13-1/2 pence.



The eight reals had an accepted worldwide value based on their weight and fineness. However, the face value was often altered by different governments and authorities to serve more local needs. Like the Prince Edward Island holey dollar, the eight real may have been cut and counterstamped to indicate the revaluation. In Trinidad, the eight real was center punched and the ring had a value of nine shillings and the plug, which was stamped

with the letter "T," had the value of one shilling.

In 1758, the first counterstamped coinage in the British West Indies was introduced in Jamaica. The denominations of 1/2, 1, 2, 4 and 8 reals were marked on each side with a floreated stamp of the letters "GR" (George Rex). The eight real was given the inflated value of 6 shillings, 8 pence and the 1/2 real a value of 5 pence. The practice of giving the counterstamped coins a value greater than their silver content kept them close to the distribution source where they were worth a premium.

In the early 1800s, the eight real was considered a large amount of money and smaller denominations were needed for everyday commerce. The scarcity of some denominations, especially the four real, forced some Caribbean islands to cut the eight real into segments. These pieces were then stamped and circulated as coinage.



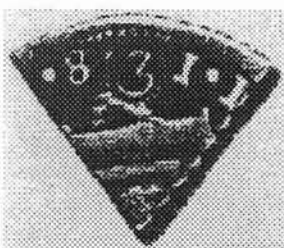


Again, the pieces were valued at an amount greater than their silver value. The initial cutting and counterstamping of eight real coins in the Caribbean were usually approved by the local government and the British Colonial Office. But like Canada, the British Colonial Office did not always recognize the needs of the colonies. On the island of Tortilla, a private issue of cut eight reals supplemented the diminishing number of cut coins supplied by the government. The spelling was changed slightly on the bottom half cut dollar to avoid charges of counterfeiting.

The British colony of Montserrat cut and counterstamped mainly two reals to produce their own coinage. The eight real increased in value from 10 bits in 1786 to 11 bits in 1797 and to 12 bits a year later. The two real or 1/4 dollar was counterstamped with a pointed cross. The half cut two real with the counterstamp "M" was valued at 1 bit. Other Caribbean islands also cut and counterstamped eight reals to create a local coinage in the West Indies. The value of the eight real varied from island to island over time.



In 1884, a large number of holed coins were counterstamped at Puerto Rico's seven custom houses, to legitimize the coins. The majority of the coins in Puerto Rico were U.S. coins, but there were a number of two reals which were valued at 1/4 dollar, the same as a U.S. quarter dollar.



In the early 1800s, the British Government could not supply silver coin for itself, much less its colonies. This situation forced most colonies to improvise. When the British took possession of the Dutch island of Curacao during the war of 1812, they cut a number of 8 reals into fifths. The pieces were counterstamped with a "3" giving them a value of 3 reals which was not equivalent to 3 reals Spanish. When the Dutch regained the island in 1816, they issued a 1/5th cut 8 real to replace the British pieces.



The Dutch pieces were counterstamped with a bundle of arrows and had the value of 18 stivers.



In the early 1800s, Spain also had problems at home and could not support its colonies. Cuba used Spanish coins but most Cubans were not aware that the Spanish had revalued their coinage. Problems arose when Cuban merchants tried to buy items from merchant ships. In 1841, a Royal Order was given to recall all 2 and 4 reals and counterstamp them with a lattice counterstamp. The counterstamp was placed on the obverse and assured the

Cuban people these coins had the correct amount of silver.

Central America was formed in 1821 when Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica declared their independence from Spain. By 1838, every state but El Salvador had seceded from the union. Reals and escudos were minted for the Republic but as the states developed within this union, counterstamped coins appeared.

Guatemala counterstamped eight reals from Peru, Argentina, Bolivia and Chile with four different stamps between 1829 and 1839, before introducing a new monetary system of pesos in 1839. The counterstamp of a sun above a series of volcanoes was used and a sun face in a star was added to the reverse of the fourth type of counterstamp.

The act of counterstamping or mutilating coins of another country was done with the hopes the host country would not want them back and to create their own coinage. In 1894, Guatemala counterstamped eight reals from Peru and Chile with their 1/2 real dies to legitimize these coins. These eight real pieces were already circulating in Guatemala. Costa Rica and El Salvador counterstamped a number of reals during their transition period from a state of Central America to an independent country.



A large number of cob eight reals from Guatemala and Costa Rica are found with holes in them. Sailor skeletons have been discovered at some ship wrecks, with eight reals strung on leather ties still around their necks. The eight real could be used at any port, including a European port.

Not everyone accepted the eight real as a trading currency. The British began trading with the natives of British Honduras by exchanging swords for goods. The swords were stamped with "GR" for George Rex. The British had to counterstamp eight reals with the letters "GR" to get the natives to accept them as an equivalent value.



Brazil, a Portuguese colony, counterstamped reals from 1663 with a crown over a numbered value. This eight real is valued at 600 reis. The value placed on the eight real and smaller denominations varied, with later eight reals stamped at 640 reis.

The state of Minas Gerais in eastern Brazil counterstamped eight reals in 1808 and gave them the value of 960 reis. The silver value of the eight reals was equivalent to about 750 to 800 reis. This markup gave the state a profit.

The eight real became a monetary base in Brazil when Brazil issued its 960 reis piece. The coins were struck over top of eight real pieces. In a large number of cases, the original eight real design can be seen under the Brazilian striking. If the eight real was well worn, the new coin may be slightly lighter in weight than another coin of equal value.

Countries found it difficult to assign a value to an eight real or a portion of it. The problem was to give it a value large enough to keep it in the country but not so large as to encourage counterfeiting the coin. Some contemporary counterfeits were official issue and there was a need for coinage. Today's collector has to determine which is an official issue, a contemporary counterfeit to pass at the time of usage, or a counterfeit made to fool a collector. In the case of the P.E.I. holey dollar, there are no official records to indicate which pieces were the official issue and which pieces were merchant contemporary counterfeits.

Most countries in North and South America based their coinage on the eight real. Some countries changed the name of the eight real sized coin when they became independent from Spain. In Mexico and Chile, it became the peso and in Guatemala it became the 1 sol piece.

During the founding of countries and their coinage, reals were cut up, cut out, counterstamped, revalued and generally mutilated. These silver coins, in part or whole, were the key to commerce in the New World. The eight real was used worldwide and its effect can be seen in the monetary history of many countries.



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THE NATIONAL SCENE

A look at CNA Programs available to ONA members



CNA SCHEDULES "ADVANCED" NUMISMATIC COURSE IN TORONTO ON NOVEMBER 1

The Canadian Numismatic Association and Numismatic Educational Services Association are presenting an "Advanced" Canadian Numismatic Course on Saturday, November 1, 2003 at Humber College located in northwest Toronto.

This course is a follow-up to the "Introductory" course offered in the past. The material presented will be more in-depth and will provide additional technical data and information. There will be three areas of focus: Coin Grading and Counterfeit Detection; Identifying Genuine and Fake Mint Errors; and Coin and Paper Money Conservation. It is not necessary to have taken the introductory course to benefit from this Advanced Course.

Since the target is a maximum of 25 participants, we encourage ONA members to register early. Each participant will receive a personalized "Certificate of Participation" at the end of the course.

The three well-qualified instructors will supplement their presentations with slides, overheads, demonstrations, handouts and displays of actual numismatic material.

Coin Grading and Counterfeit Detection

Brian Cornwell, one of Canada's leading experts on the subject and President of the International Coin Certification Service (ICCS), will be the first presenter. The material will focus on the practical aspects of grading Canadian decimal coinage as well as detecting coins that have been altered or counterfeited. Students will spend approximately 75% of the allocated class time in a "hands on" or problem-solving mode both on an individual and team basis. The remaining 25% will consist of key presentations that emphasize selected grading tips and methods used by experienced graders. The presentation will focus on the three fundamentals of accurate and consistent grading: knowledge, technique and objectivity. A detailed discussion of the fine points that distinguish one grade from another is also included, as well as a hands-on look at "coin problems," specifically those that are cleaned, altered or counterfeited. This is your opportunity to learn about grading coins from one of Canada's foremost authorities on the subject.

Identifying Genuine and Fake Mint Errors and Recognizing their True Values

John Regitko, a Past President of the Canadian Numismatic Association and collector of error coins for more than 30 years, will explain how error coins occur during each stage of production where known fraudulent errors have been created. For example, participants will be shown how to tell a genuine clipped coin from a fraudulently damaged one through the use of close-up slides. Slides and actual coins will also be shown of other known questionable errors. From a monetary point of view, it is very important to know the difference between genuine and fraudulently produced errors. He will also reveal which errors can no longer be produced by the new equipment at the Royal Canadian Mint and will also explain which errors, although very similar in appearance, are actually worth considerably more than their look-alikes.

Coin and Paper Money Conservation

Susan Maltby, one of Canada's leading experts on the subject, has presented dozens of courses on numismatic conservation and is a regular columnist for "Coin World" magazine, the world's largest circulating coin publication. This advanced course offers the collector an opportunity to learn, in a practical "hands-on" manner, more about the proper care and conservation of numismatic collections. Topics discussed will include: agents of deterioration, environmental requirements for numismatic collections, environmental monitoring techniques, establishing a controlled environment, storage, holders and cleaning, care and handling of numismatic material. She will also address the topic of what materials and holders to avoid, environmental requirements for various kinds of material and tips for good care and handling of coins. You will find out what you can do to ensure minimal reduction in value of valuable numismatic material.

The Moderator

Paul Johnson, Chairman of the CNA Education Committee, will act as Moderator. His involvement with educational programs over the past 20 years is well-known. He has held a number of important positions on the CNA Executive during that time, including as Chairman of the Young Numismatists Committee. He spearheaded projects that resulted in the completion of the "CNA Club Organizational Handbook" and the "CNA Exhibits and Judging in Numismatic Handbook." He was Co-ordinating Editor of the highly successful Numismatic Correspondence Course sponsored by the CNA and NESAs (released in 1995, it has now gone into a 5th printing due to its fantastic success, having sold over 1,200 copies). He has also served the ONA well, including Chairman of the prestigious ONA Awards Committee as well as Head Judge of competitive exhibits at the annual conventions.

Cost and contact information is published in the ad below.

CNA/NESA "ADVANCED" NUMISMATIC COURSE

Saturday, November 1, 2003 (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

Humber College, 205 Humber College Blvd., Etobicoke, Ontario

(a detailed map of how to get there will be sent to all registrants)

Free parking in the parking lot located directly in front of the building entrance

Registration Cost - CNA members: \$ 55.00
- Non-CNA members: \$ 65.00
- Collectors under 18: \$ 30.00

Note: Registration will be limited to the first 25 students only. Don't delay!
Cost includes Certificate of Participation, handouts, coffee, donuts and numismatic books.

Please remit payment (money order or cheque payable to CNA) to:

CNA/NESA Educational Course

**4936 Yonge St., Suite 601
North York, ON M2N 6S3**

For further information, you can also reach the Administrator at (416) 223-5980
(including evenings and weekends), or by e-mail at cnainfo@look.ca

NOW ACCEPTING MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS IN THE CANADIAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

If you are not yet a member, please contact us now for information on the benefits of joining the CNA, including to obtain the reduction in the upcoming CNA/NESA Numismatic Course. Membership is only \$33 per calendar year (\$16.50 for collectors under 18 years of age).

For complete membership details and application form:

Canadian Numismatic Association

4936 Yonge St., Suite 601
North York, ON M2N 6S3

Telephone: (416) 223-5980 Fax: (416) 223-6782 E-mail: cnainfo@look.ca

Information about the CNA and the CNA/NESA Numismatic Course
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An idyllic scene to adorn the quintessential Canadian coin? We suggest a coffee and doughnut.

WHY THIS COIN COULD IMPROVE THE WEIGHT OF YOUR WALLET

New 83-cent piece would ease burden: Professor Number of coins needed to make change would drop

by Peter Calamai, Science Reporter, Toronto Star

The following article was published in the June bulletin of the North York Coin Club. It originally appeared in the June 7, 2003 edition of the Toronto Star.

Say goodbye to purses that feel like you're carrying a sack of potatoes. Or trouser pockets that leak a trail of copper and nickel.

A computer scientist at the University of Waterloo has a scheme to lighten the burden of Canadians - a new 83-cent coin. Professor Jeff Shallit has produced pages of equations to back his idea, mathematically if not practically. Here's how it would work:

You pay for a \$3.14 purchase with a \$5 bill and wait for your change - \$1.86.

You expect the usual handful of coins: a loonie, three quarters, a dime and a penny. Six coins to add to the ever-growing weight already in your purse or pocket. Instead, the cashier hands over just four coins - two times and a two of Shallit's 83-cent coins.

Shallit has calculated that Canadians would handle one less coin on average in every change transaction if we added the 83-cent piece. The precise change saving works out to four fewer coins in every three transactions.

"I hope you realize that this is a bit tongue-in-cheek," he says. "After all, there are psychological reasons why no one would want an 83-cent coin." The extra mental effort of adding and subtracting such an ungainly amount would be a big hurdle for most people, the computer scientist acknowledges. Not to mention raising the stakes in the sofa-cushion search, forcing the redesign of vending machines and thinking of a catchy name for the coin.

But "it would definitely cut down on the weight in your purse or pocket," say Shallit.

To get an idea of the possible weight reduction, empty your pockets of all change. Take away one coin out of every six, favoring quarters and loonies. Pocket the remainder and feel the difference.

Over-all, the weight savings would be immense. The Royal Canadian Mint estimates that more than 30 billion coins are sloshing around the country, piling up on dressers and bedside tables much more often than being neatly rolled up by banks.

Shallit's calculations found that Canadians use 5.9 coins on average when making change of up to \$4.99. With the new coin in circulation, that average drops to 4.6.

The 83-cent coin was essentially a postscript to Shallit's article in the May issue of *Mathematical Intelligencer*, an American magazine where math-lovers let down their hair.

The Waterloo professor actually focused on the best new coin for the U.S., where change only needs to be made up to 99 cents, because the dollar bill is still in use.

His answer was a new 2-cent coin or an 18-cent one, either of which would also reduce change-making for Americans by one coin on average. That proposal provoked a cybernet storm, with 1,129 e-mail postings in just two days to the Slashdot Web site, which bills itself as "News for Nerds."

"Actually the U.S. does have an 18-cent coin. It's called a Canadian quarter," said one poster.

At the Mint in Ottawa, spokesperson Phil Taylor was unperturbed by Shallit's call for change.

"We'd want something with application in the real market and not simply hypothetical," Taylor said.