



ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

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www.ontario-numismatic.org

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President's Message

Looking back on our 48th Annual O.N.A. Convention, I must say that it was a truly fine event. For those travelling, the weather co-operated with fairly good conditions for folks who made an early start on Friday as well as those who were heading home on Sunday afternoon. What was not at all pleasant was the stormy Saturday, which made it difficult to get outside the hotel door and enjoy the sites and shops of downtown Kingston.

Fortunately there was much going on indoors with some competitive bidding at Friday evening's auction, a vibrant bourse floor, very worthwhile educational speakers, collector group meetings and a fine banquet that included Jack Chiang, one of the most entertaining speakers we have had in recent memory. The foremost of the group meetings had to be the Canadian Tire Coupon Collectors Club 20th anniversary all-day gathering on Saturday. I hear there was so much going on that the time virtually whizzed by.

The banquet is as much about awards as it is about food and socializing. Because the CTCCC was joining us in full force at the banquet, it was the perfect time for the presentation of their annual Award of Merit, with Thayer Bouck being this year's recipient. I am pleased to offer congratulations to O.N.A. annual award winners as well. Barry McIntyre, Robb McPherson and François Rufiange were each made a Fellow of the O.N.A. and Scott Douglas was this year's O.N.A. Award of Merit recipient.

The educational side of the convention was well covered with excellent talks by Kingston Numismatic Association members Sandy Lipin on his collection of *Military Currency*, Jeff Einarson speaking about *Roman Republic Coinage* and Trevor Beresford exploring *Coin Varieties*. Ottawa Coin Club member François Rufiange had a group of enthusiastic listeners involved for over an hour with his special topic, *Initiation to Coin Collecting*. These information sessions added much to the worth of the Convention and I thank the speakers for their wonderful contribution.

Personally, I was pleased to be able to meet and chat with so many friends and O.N.A. members. I bumped into them everywhere, but discovered that most people eventually found me when I simply settled in at our Hospitality Suite. One of the kind comments repeated to me numerous times was congratulation for such a successful convention. I am pleased to pass these kind words forward to the group of workers who provided the many types of critical services that, when combined and co-ordinated, are the true foundation of such a successful event... you know who you are!



APPOINTED COMMITTEE

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75 King St. S., Waterloo, Ont. N2J 4V1 (519) 745-3104

WEBSITE CONTACT

webmaster@ontario-numismatic.org

* Available only evenings & on week-ends

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Regular Membership - \$15.00 per year
Husband & Wife (1 Journal) - \$17.00 year
Junior (up to age 18) - \$5.00 year
Club Membership - \$20.00 year
Life Membership - \$450.00*
*Life memberships are accepted only after one year of regular membership.

Send money order or cheque (payable to the ONA) for membership to:

Bruce Raszmann, ONA Treasurer
P.O. Box 40033, Waterloo Square P.O.
75 King St. S., Waterloo, Ont. N2J 4V1

From out of the many faces familiar to convention goers, I must make specific mention of Sandy Lipin, Convention Chairman, Tom Rogers, Bourse Chairman, and Lois Rogers, our chief of the Hospitality Suite accompanied by a host of hard-working ladies. It is a perilous thing that I do when I mention only a few names out of the multitude of workers, but be assured that my gratitude goes out equally to all. Because of the photography talents of Henry Nienhuis and the web services of Judy Blackman there is a good record of this convention in the Members Only area at our web site, www.ontario-numismatic.org.

In closing, I send my appreciation to the hard working members of the Kingston Numismatic Association Convention Committee. Your team has hosted a very successful, and very memorable, convention.



Paul Petch
O.N.A. President

Paul Petch,

President

Coming Events

JUNE 26 - 27, 2010, Toronto, ON

Torex - Canada's National Coin Show, Hilton Toronto Airport Hotel, 5875 Airport Rd. Featuring Canada's Finest Dealers. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission \$6. Under 16 Free. Official Auctioneer: Moore Numismatic Auctions, Charles Moore. The Hilton hotel is located directly across from Toronto's Pearson International Airport. Sponsor/Affiliate: . For more information, call(416) 705-5348. Website: <http://www.torex.net>.

AUG. 8, Paris, ON

SWON, Special Events Building 139 Silver St. (Fairgrounds). Hours 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., admission \$2 (includes ticket on gold coin draw, more than 55 tables of coins, paper money, jewelry, nostalgia items, and more, food and drink available. Buy, sell, trade, and appraise. Sponsor/Affiliate: Ted's Collectables Inc. For more information contact Ted Bailey, telephone 1-866-747-2646, email tedscollectables@bellnet.ca.

OCT. 16, 2010, Oshawa, ON

Durham Coin-A-Rama, Five Points Mall, 285 Taunton Rd. E. Free dealer, public, and membership draws, free admission. Featuring paper, coins, tokens, medals and many other items. Sponsor/Affiliate: Oshawa and District Coin Club. For more information, contact: Sharon, telephone (905) 728-1352, email: papman@bell.net.

OCT. 17, Mt. Elgin, ON

48th Annual Tillsonburg Coin Show, Mt. Elgin Community Centre, Hwy.19. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., More than 25 dealer tables, buy, sell, trade and evaluate, lunch available, admission one loonie. Sponsor/Affiliate: Tillsonburg Coin Club. For more information contact Ralph Harrison, 36 Kamps Cres., Tillsonburg, ON N4G4Z3, telephone 519-842-8790, email rchar@sympatico.ca.

OCT. 23 - 24, 2010, Toronto, ON

Torex - Canada's National Coin Show, Hilton Toronto Airport Hotel, 5975 Airport Rd. Featuring Canada's Finest Dealers. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission \$6. Under 16 Free. Official Auctioneer: The Canadian Numismatic Company, Marc Verret & Eric Pacquet. The Hilton hotel is located directly across from Toronto's Pearson International Airport. Sponsor/Affiliate: . For more information, call(416) 705-5348. Website: <http://www.torex.net>.

OCT. 30, Guelph, ON

South Wellington Coin Society Fall Show, Colonel John McCrea Legion 919 York Rd. Hurs: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30p.m., 50 dealer tables, free parking, fully accessible, large display area, hot meals, free gold coin draw, and selling half dollars for 49 cents. Sponsor/Affiliate: South Wellington Coin Society. For more information contact Lowell Wierstra, 8 Smart St Guelph ON, 519-824-6534, email ljwierstra@sympatico.ca.

ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
Treasurer's Report
For The Period January 1, 2009 To December 31, 2009

General Account

Petty Cash @ January 1, 2009	\$ 78.57	
Bank Balance @ January 1, 2009	\$2898.62	
	\$2977.19	\$2977.19

Receipts

Memberships (Regular, Junior & Club)	\$4511.00	
O.N.A. Convention Draw	\$1665.09	
Club Ticket Rebate	\$ 94.00	
Premium U.S.A. Money	\$ 4.55	
2009 O.N.A. Convention	\$3347.97	
Interest on Certificates	\$ 278.21	
Medals Sold	\$ 75.00	
Donations	\$ 20.00	
Matured Wait & See Certificate	\$2000.00	
Transfer From Contingency Acct	\$1000.00	
Total	\$12995.82	\$12995.82

Expenses

O.N. A. Publication "Ontario Numismatist"	\$6346.54	
Postage	\$ 329.30	
Office Supplies, CK's & Receipt Book	\$ 198.63	
P.O.Box Rental & G.S.T	\$ 131.25	
Safety Deposit Box Rental & G.S.T.	\$ 157.50	
Photocopies & Printing	\$ 22.14	
Annual Executive Allowance	\$2000.00	
Table Covers	\$ 71.10	
R.C.N.A. Dues	\$ 35.00	
Audio Visual	\$ 6.17	
DVD Programs	\$ 162.43	
Trailer Storage	\$ 125.00	
Numismatic Network Canada	\$ 100.00	
Transfer To Life Membership	\$ 300.00	
Transfer To Insce Acct (2009) Subsidy	\$ 644.20	
Transfer To Insce Acct (2010) Subsidy	\$ 634.20	
Total	\$11263.46	11263.46

Excess Receipts Over Expenses		\$1732.36
Petty Cash @ December 31, 2009	\$ 159.51	
Bank Balance @ December 31, 2009	\$4550.04	
Total	\$4709.55	\$4709.55

General Account-Bank Reconciliation

Bank Ledger Sheet Balance @ December 31, 2009	\$4550.04
Outstanding Cheques	NIL
Bank Statement Balance @ December 31, 2009	\$4550.04

General Account Assets

Premium Rate Redeemable Certificates \$6000.00

ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
Treasurer's Report
For The Period January 1, 2009 To December 31, 2009

Contingency Account
Bank Balance @ January 1, 2009 \$640.98

Receipts
Interest Premium Rate Redeemable Certificates \$ 1173.80
Interest Triple Value G.I.C \$ 256.84
Matured Premium Rate Redeemable Certificates \$10000.00
Matured Triple Value G.I.C. \$ 6848.99
Total **\$18279.63**

Expenses
Premium Rate Redeemable Certificates \$17500.00
Transfer To General Account \$ 1000.00
Total **\$18500.00**

Excess Receipts Over Expense \$-220.37
Bank Balance @ December 31,2009 \$ 420.61

Contingency Account Assets
Premium Rate Redeemable Certificates \$36000.00

Insurance Account
Bank Balance @ January 1, 2009 \$1499.62

Receipts
29 (2010) Club Premiums @ \$90.00 \$2610.00
1 (2010) Club Premiums @ \$110.00 \$ 110.00
1 Additional Named Assured \$ 10.00
Interest On Certificates \$ 160.17
Matured Premium Rate Redeemable Certificates \$3300.00
(2009) Subsidy From General Account \$ 644.20
(2010) Subsidy From General Account \$ 634.20
Total **\$7468.57** **\$7468.57**

Expenses
Insurance Premium (Nov 1, 2009-Nov 1, 2010) \$3364.20
Postage & Photocopies \$ 35.03
Premium Rate Redeemable Certificates \$5500.00
Total **\$8899.23** **\$8899.23**

Excess Receipts Over Expenses \$-1430.66
Bank Balance @ December 31, 2009 \$ 68.96

Insurance Account Assets
Premium Rate Redeemable Certificates \$5500.00

ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
Treasurer's Report
For The Period January 1, 2009 To December 31, 2009

Cash Asset Summary @ December 31, 2009

Cash & Bank Balance-General Account	\$ 4709.55
Premium Rate Redeemable Certificates	\$ 6000.00
Bank Balance-Contingency Account	\$ 420.61
Premium Rate Redeemable Certificates	\$36000.00
Bank Balance-Insurance Account	\$ 68.96
Premium Rate Redeemable Cert's Insce Acct	\$ 5500.00
Total	\$52699.12

Cash Assets (2008)	\$51417.79
Increase In Cash Assets	\$ 1281.33

Life Membership Account

Bank Balance @ January 1, 2009	\$841.82
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Receipts

Interest Premium Rate Redeemable Certificates	\$ 299.43	
Interest Guaranteed Investment Certificate	\$ 105.65	
Transfer From General Account	\$ 300.00	
Matured Guaranteed Interest Certificates	\$2700.00	
Donation	\$ 90.00	
Total	\$3495.08	\$3495.08

Expenses

56 Memberships Dues (2009) @ \$15.00	\$ 840.00	
Guaranteed Investment Certificate	\$1000.00	
Premium Rate Redeemable Certificate	\$2150.00	
Total	\$3990.00	\$3990.00

Excess Receipts Over Expenses	\$-494.92
Bank Balance @ December 31, 2009	\$ 346.90

Life Membership Account Assets

Premium Rate Redeemable Certificates	\$9600.00
Guaranteed Investment Certificate	\$1000.00

The Bank Accounts are maintained at the
T.D. Canada Trust, Belmont Branch
Kitchener, Ontario

Treasurer Bruce A. Ratzmann

ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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April 15, 2010

Richard Johnson-Editor
Ontario Numismatist
309 Lorne Ave E.,
Stratford, Ont., N5A 6S4

Dear Richard

Membership

The applications for membership that appeared in the Mar-Apr issue of the Ontario Numismatist have been accepted.

We welcome

J2011 Adrian Van Varik, Troy, Ont.,
2012 Robert Lefebvre, Vanier, Ont.,
2013 Jinrong Liu, Windsor, Ont.,
J2014 Nicholas Carbonara, St. Catharines, Ont.,
J2015 Jasmine Wong, Hawkesbury, Ont.,
J2016 Kirstin Armstrong, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.,
J2017 Caleb Barker, Ottawa, Ont.,
J2018 Felix Romanick, Toronto, Ont.,
J2019 Marcus Cohoon, Brantford, Ont.,
2020 Randal Haigh, St. Catharines, Ont.,
2021 Warren Rayner, Yarker, Ont.,

The following applications have been received

2022 Tina Osovitch, Temperance, MI.,
2023 Kevin Simmons, Aurora, Ont.,
2024 Carole Simmons, Aurora, Ont.,

Bruce H. Raszmann
O N A Treas. & Membership Chairman

DREAM VACATION
2010
Lottery Results
Tickets Sales by Clubs

Clubs	Books Sold
Brantford Numismatic Society	9
Cambridge Coin Club	10
Canadian Tire Coupon Collectors Club	2
Champlain Coin Club	3
Essex County Coin Club	--
Georgian Bay Coin & Stamp Club	9
Ingersoll Coin Club	51
Kent Coin Club	4
Kingston Numismatic Association	15
Lakeshore Coin Club	1
Lake Superior Coin Club	1
London Numismatic Society	7
Mississauga-Etobicoke Coin, Stamp	5
Montreal Hanimneville Collectors	1
Niagara Falls Coin Club	22
Nickel Belt Coin Club	21
North York Coin Club	5
Ontario Numismatic Association	44
Ottawa Coin Club	12
Oshawa & District Coin Club	8
Peterborough Numismatic Society	2
Polish-Canadian Coin & Stamp Club	3
Sarnia Coin Club	--
Scarborough Coin Club	8
South Wellington Coin Society	6
St Thomas Numismatic Association	6
Stratford Coin Club	21
Strathroy Coin Club	5
Tillsonburg Coin Club	18
Toronto Coin Club	6
Timmins Coin Club	6
Waterloo Coin Society	42
Windsor Coin Club	44
Woodstock Coin Club	16
None Member Club	
Masc	1
Total Books Sold	414
Registration Kits (122 Tickets)	

ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
DREAM VACATION

2010

DRAW WINNERS

FIRST PRIZE- DREAM VACATION DRAW WINNER
TODD SANDHAM - KITCHENER, ONT
SELLER PRIZE - (\$100.00 Cash) COLONIAL ACRES COINS

SECOND PRIZE - \$100 GOLD COIN
JIM BAKES - TORONTO, ONT

FIVE CONSOLATION PRIZES - 2010 O'CANADA SETS
M. GIBSON - MIDLAND, ONTARIO
SANDY MENARD - WINDSOR, ONTARIO
LORNE HALL - LONDON, ONTARIO
DAVID POTTRUFF.- BRANTFORD, ONTARIO
MARIO VEZINA - STRAFFORDVILLE, ONTARIO

The ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION would like to thank all those who sold tickets or purchased them. Your support enables us to carry out our many programmes.

Thank you

Bruce H. Raszmann

Bruce H. Raszmann
Draw Chairman



Congratulations

*Tom & Lois
Rogers*

50th Anniversary

May 7, 2010

2010 Convention Awards

Award of Merit



Scott Douglas

Fellow of the ONA



Francois Rufiange

Fellow of the ONA



Barry McIntyre

Fellow of the ONA



Robb McPherson

April 17, 2010

O.N.A. 2010 General Meeting

I have completed my 5th year as the O.N.A. area 7 director. There are 6 coin clubs in the Toronto area. Most clubs are trying to get the word out about their club by having a website.

Oshawa Coin Club is celebrating their 50th anniversary this year with a banquet on Sunday November 7, 2010. At their March meeting they approved the artwork for a medal for their anniversary and the quantity is 105. One is available for each member. Just started a website at <http://oshawaanddistrictcoinclub.wordpress.com>

North York Coin Club had their 50th anniversary meeting on February 23, 2010. They have designed a medal for their anniversary but need orders in advance of 100 before they will strike the medal. Anniversary dinner is on June 8, 2010 at Swiss Pick Restaurant. Their website is: www.northyorkcoinclub.ca

The Polish-Canadian Coin and Stamp Club website is: www.troyakclub.com
The club was established in 2002 and just completed another successful annual show on March 14, 2010.

The Mississauga- Etobicoke Coin Stamp and Collectors club was formed in December 1991 when the Mississauga and Thistletown clubs joined together due to low membership. There is a link on the North York Coin Club web site for more club information.

The Toronto Coin Club will celebrate their 75th anniversary in 2011.

Scarborough Coin Club

- Meets 1st Wednesday of each month at Cedarbrook Community Centre at 7:30 p.m. (No meetings during July and August)
 - We have approximately 50 members
 - We are selling our club wood sets (36 woods) for \$12.00 with shipping extra.
 - We have our 14th Annual Coin Show on November 6, 2010 and will be celebrating our 35th anniversary at our December meeting.

Submitted by
David Bawcutt
Scarborough Coin Club Delegate to the general O.N.A. meeting and O.N.A. Area 7
Director



SNAPPY COMEBACKS

When someone can quickly reply to a jest, it is doubly funny. When the Freeman family lived in Northern Ontario in a modern paper mill town called Iroquois Falls, my Dad experienced such a snappy comeback that he chuckled about it for a long time. He and his friend Jack Kavelman were at the back of the church when the treasurer asked them to take up the collection. Dad winked at Jack and then said we shouldn't let Jack take up the collection because he would take half of it. The treasurer then shot back- "I have already thought of that, you can have the other half." This was certainly good for a laugh for the three men involved.

When Betty and I lived in St. Catharines in the early 1950s, a friend of ours applied for a job at the new Ford plant near Oakville. The personnel manager questioned our friend about the long commuting distance every day from his home to the Ford plant. The applicant replied "Not a problem in a new Ford." This speedy response resulted in a good paying job for our friend.

For the last several years, the writer of this information has volunteered Friday mornings, at our local hospital, on patient escort, showing people to the right dept.. Also I stand near the cash machine and sometimes help people insert the paper money to get change for the parking lot. One morning a young lady had trouble inserting the paper money and I offered to help. After the change came tumbling out, just as a joke, I said that it is customary to tip the person who helps with the money machine. Quick as a wink, she replied- "Here is my tip to you, watch your cholesterol." It was so funny and unrehearsed that I almost rolled on the floor laughing. Of course, under no circumstances would a tip be accepted and the young lady understood that, but she went along with the gag.

Tommy Douglas, the former premier of Saskatchewan and the father of Medicare in Canada was quick with a quip, as was his father. One time at a meeting, his father was taunted by a man in the audience who said "I understand that in Scotland you have oatmeal for breakfast while in England we feed oats to our horses." Tommy's Dad replied- "That is the reason that Scotland is known for it's men and England is known for it's horses." It is these snappy comebacks that bring a smile to all concerned. But if you are like most of us, we think of a witty response the next day.

A QUICK THINKING LOCAL LAD

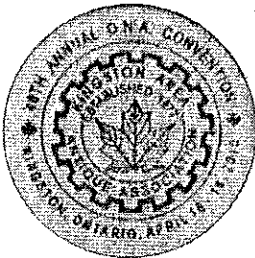
A few months ago, a Woodstock man visited a local supermarket and applied for a position in the produce dept. The manager liked the look of the young man and asked him to leave his resume in case anything might turn up in the future. However the chap persisted and mentioned that not only was he experienced in the vegetable dept. but also he was noted as a quick thinker. The manager had never heard of this qualification before and finally relented and hired the young man that same day.

A month or so elapsed without incident except for one day when an elderly man asked if he could buy half a cabbage because he was living alone and a whole cabbage would be too much for him to eat by himself. The young man went to his manager to see about this request. "There is some nut who only wants half a cabbage, what should I do?" He had hardly said this when he realized that the elderly gentleman had followed him without his knowledge and had heard his rude question. Without hesitation he then said "And this gentleman would like the other half."

The manager was so impressed with the lightning response that he called the young man into his office in a week or so later and mentioned that there was a manager's position available in Sudbury and would the young man be interested. "I will not go to Sudbury, because the only ones coming from that city are hockey players and fast women. The manager was offended and said that his good wife came from Sudbury. "What hockey team did she play on?" inquired the young man.

By Fred Freeman

WOODS ISSUED FOR THE 2010 ONA CONVENTION



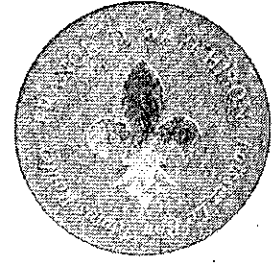
COMMON
OBVERSE
NEXT THREE
WOODS



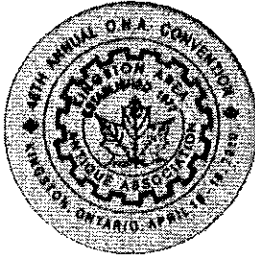
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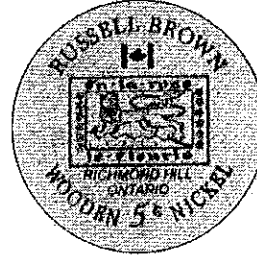
RED



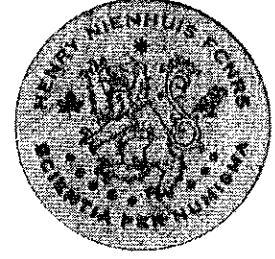
SILVER



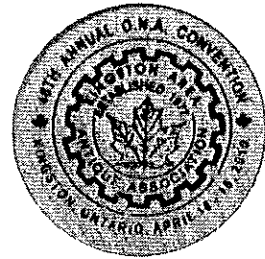
COMMON OBVERSE FOR
NEXT TWO WOODS



RED



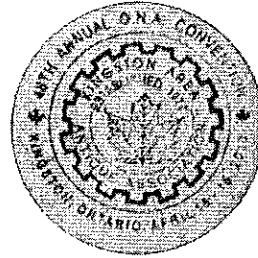
BLUE



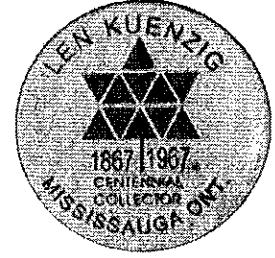
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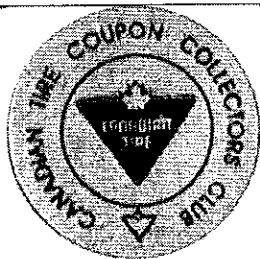
RED



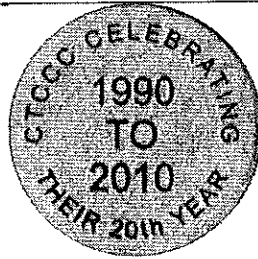
GREEN



GREEN



RED



RED

THE LAST WOOD HANDED OUT AT DIFFERENT CANADIAN TIRE COUPON COLLECTORS CLUB MEETINGS DURING 2010. ALL ABOVE WOODS HOT STAMPED AND ARE 38MM IN DIAMETER.

Southern Ontario Chapter of Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors

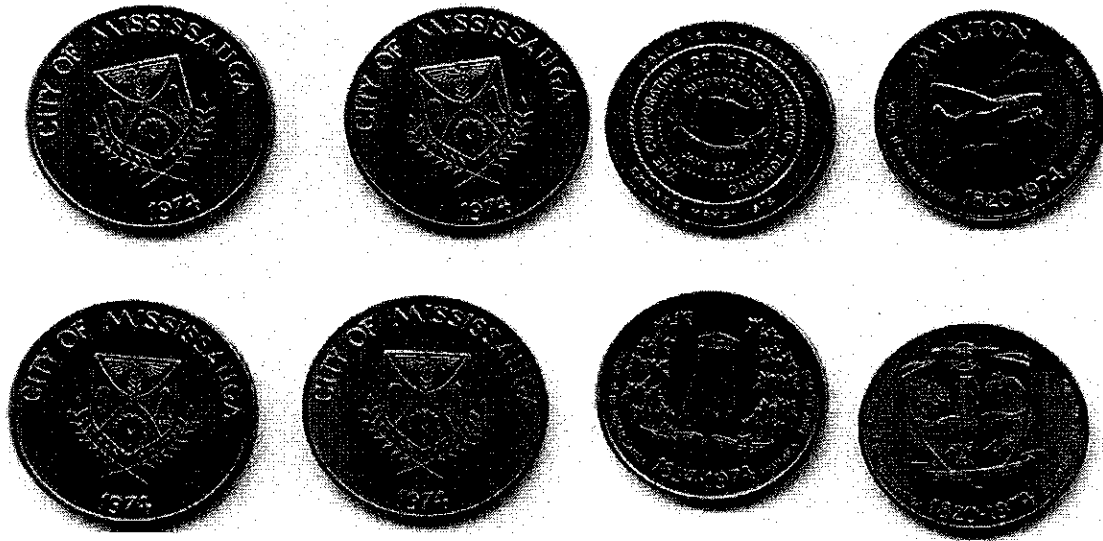
We held a meeting at the Ontario Numismatic Association convention held in Kingston Ontario April 17th. About 15 members were in attendance and many woods were passed around, some new some old. I had a great time at the convention and was able to add a few old woods to my collection and also acquire some that we have yet to identify, hopefully they are Canadian. I look forward to seeing many of those in attendance again at the next Royal Canadian Numismatic Association convention in Saint John NB in July.

Norman Belsten LM C45

1974 Mississauga Board of Trade "Trade Dollars"

submitted by Judy Blackman

Today (April 9th) I picked up a set of four 1974 Mississauga Board of Trade "Trade Dollars" from Colonial Acre Coins in Kitchener. Below is a scan of the four reverse sides (all the same) and then the obverse sides.



According to the 15th Anniversary Edition of Serge Pelletier's "Standard Catalogue of Canadian Municipal Trade Tokens & Notes" published 1993, Mississauga became a city in 1974 with the joining of four smaller communities: Port Credit, Streetsville, Malton and Toronto Townships. These trade dollars were issued by the Mississauga Board of Trade and minted by the Interbranch International Mint. Each has a diameter of 32mm and a reeded edge. The composition and weight of each one is nickel-silver, 12.5g; Gold Plated. There were 60,000 minted of each NS and 200 each of AuP.

ON76 Malton: named for the town of Malton, England from which some of the first settlers came, Malton was established in 1820. The advent of a plank road through the village brought a stagecoach from Toronto and Malton started its growth. The arrival of the Grand Trunk Railway in 1850 further boosted the village's economy and importance. This railway was joined in 1859 by the Great Western Railway and Malton became a major transportation centre. This would be confirmed later on with the building of the Toronto International Airport in the area.

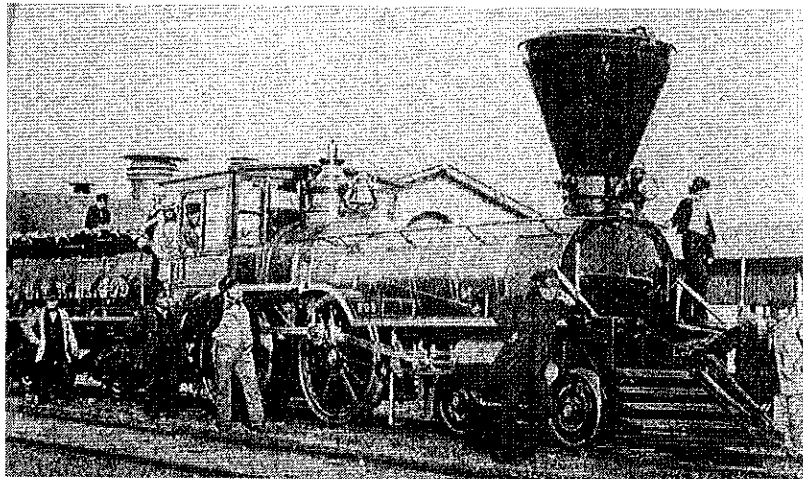


Figure 1 1859 Grand Trunk Railway from CN archives ref CN003849 (ref. Wikipedia)

ON77 Streetsville (nicknamed "the village in the city"): Founded in 1818 on the bank of the Credit River by a surveyor by the name of Timothy Street, Streetsville is the oldest settled village in the County of Peel. By 1857, Streetsville's population had grown to 1,500 people.

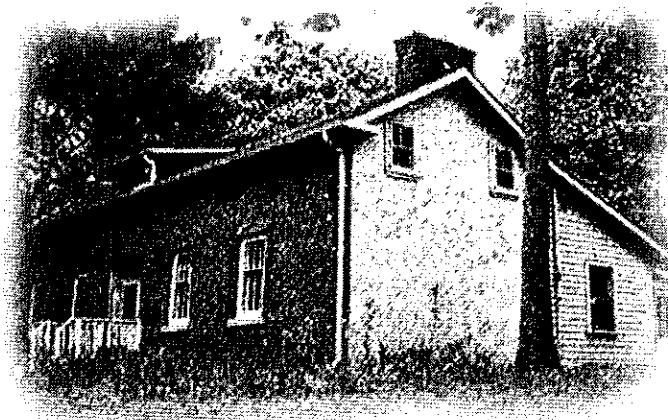


Figure 2 Timothy Street built his family home near his mill in 1825 (ref. Wikipedia)

ON78 Toronto Township: Some 65,000 acres of land were incorporated in 1805 as the Township of Toronto. By the mid 1850's, some 8,000 people were living in the area. Flourishing from its agricultural richness and its prime location, the Township became the Town of Mississauga in 1967.



Figure 3 Badge of the Ojibwe or Mississauga Indians who sold 65,000 acres of land (ref. Wikipedia)

ON79 Port Credit: The first white men set foot in the Port Credit area in the late 1700's but Thomas Ingersoll, father of the famed Laura Secord, is considered to be Port Credit's first settler. In 1805 the government purchased some 70,000 acres from the Mississauga Indians and Port Credit began its growth. Port Credit became a major port until the advent of the Great Western Railway link between Toronto and Hamilton which literally killed the port's business. The town found a new role as a resort community in the early 1900's when summer cottages and homes began sprouting up along Lakeshore Road.

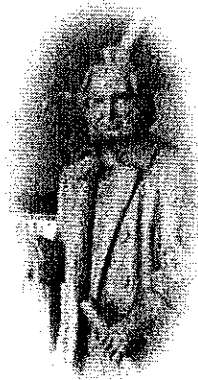


Figure 4 Nell Cox's sculpture of Thomas Ingersoll

Courtesy of the North York Coin Club

LATVIA WINS 2010 COIN OF THE YEAR (COTY) AWARD

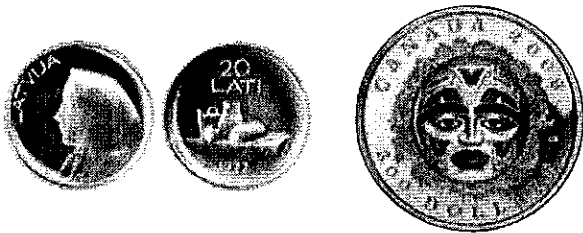
WITH REPORT BY DAVID C. HARPER, NUMISMATIC NEWS

Latvia wins the 2010 Coin of the Year Award and Hungary takes home the People's Choice Award, *World Coin News* Publisher Scott Tappa announced January 12 2010.

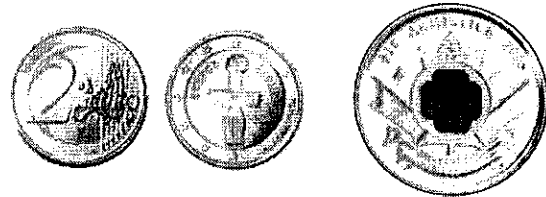
A COTY international panel of judges concluded voting January 8 and the public online voting for the People's Choice Award ended January 10. "I would like to congratulate the winners from both rounds of voting," Tappa said. "What makes the results especially interesting is this is the third time Hungary has won the People's Choice Award."

World Coin News recognized both winners January 30 at the World Money Fair in Berlin. Krause Publications of the United States publishes *World Coin News* and *Numismatic News*, in addition to many respected numismatic catalogues and research titles. The annual *Coin of the Year* competition receives nominations from an international consortium of mint representatives and numismatists. The judging is conducted by an international panel of the world's leading Mint officials, medalists, journalists, central bank and museum officials.

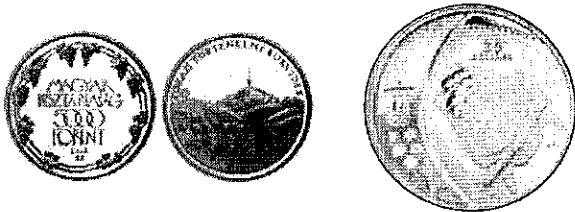
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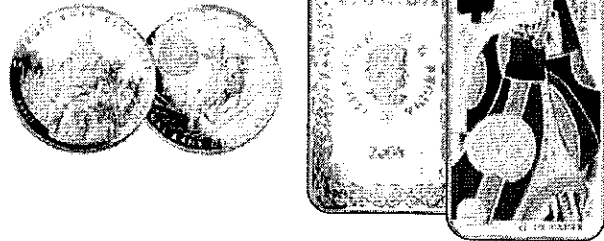
The new Coin of the Year topped the **Best Gold** category. It is a 20 lati issued by the Bank of Latvia. It marks the 15th anniversary of the renewal of the lats currency after Latvia regained independence from the old Soviet Union. The original design was created in 1922 by Teodors Zalkalns but never used. The Best Gold nomination from Canada was the \$300 Summer Moon Mask.



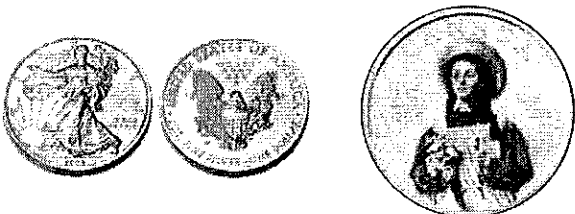
This year's **Trade Coin** category winner is a bimetallic 2-euro coin issued by the Central Bank of Cyprus. The coin depicts an ancient statue cross. The Canadian entry was the 25-Cent Poppy Circulation Coin



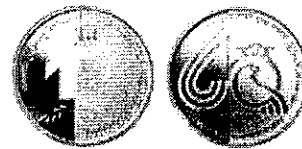
The Hungarian **People's Choice** winner is a 5,000 forint .925 fine silver coin designed by Gabor Gati to honor the Tokaj wine region of Hungary. There is just one round of People's Choice voting and the nominees are handled independently of the COTY competitors. The Canadian nominee was the Vancouver 2010 \$25 Silver Hologram - Bobsleigh.



Other first-round winners include a silver 100 tenge commemorating Ghengis Khan from the Kazakhstan Mint. It topped the **Most Historically Significant** category, which honors persons or events of 100 or more years in the past. The Canadian nominee was the striking \$15 Silver Playing Card Money - Queen of Spades.



The U.S. American Eagle one-ounce silver coin won the **Most Popular** coin category in the first-round COTY vote. The Canadian entry for Most Popular was the 25-Cent Anne of Green Gables



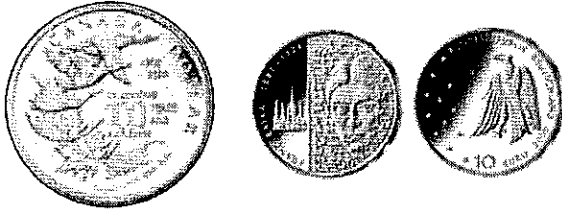
In a related category of **Best Contemporary Event**, which marks events or persons from less than 100 years ago, a silver 10 sheqalim from the Bank of Israel that commemorates 60 years of statehood of modern Israel received the most first-round votes.

Courtesy of the North York Coin Club

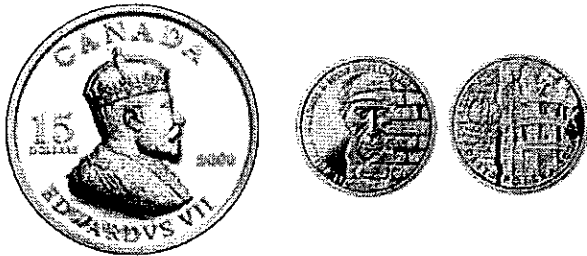
This year's competition, featuring coins dated 2008, was passionately contested. The COTY winner was chosen in two rounds of voting. The first determined the winners of 10 categories and the second round chose the Coin of the Year from those 10 initial winners.

The Royal Canadian Mint was a standout in the running for the awards, after it received nine nominations for the 2010 awards. This was the most nominations to be earned by any mint.

The Mint was also delighted that two nominations received by Panama (for the commemorative Children's Hospital Quarter Balboa and the Breast Cancer Awareness Quarter Balboa) represent coins engraved and produced by the Mint. The Mint produced circulation coins for 16 foreign countries in 2008.



A German silver 10-euro commemorative coin topped the **Best Silver Coin** category. The issue honors writer Franz Kafka, who was born 125 years before, in 1883. The Canadian entry in this category was Special Edition Silver Dollar - Royal Canadian Mint Centennial



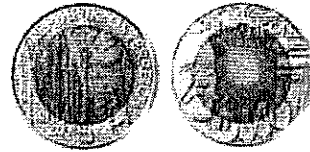
The 65th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising against the Nazi occupation is the theme of the 200 zlotych gold coin issued by the National Bank of Poland that won the **Most Artistic Coin** category. The Canadian entry was the Edward VII image in the \$15 Silver Effigies of Royalty series.



The Austrian Mint's 10-euro silver coin for Abbey Klosterneuberg received the most votes in the **Best Crown** category. Crowns are coins that are 34 millimeters or larger in diameter and usually are silver or a base metal silver substitute.

"The Royal Canadian Mint celebrated a century of achievement in 2008 and we take great pride in knowing that so many of the collector and circulation coins we produced were worthy of early recognition by the prestigious *Coin of the Year Awards*," said Ian E. Bennett, Royal Canadian Mint President and CEO. "Garnering the most nominations of any mint is a testament to the excellence of our coins and to the talent of our people."

Nominations for the 2011 award can be made by anyone from among the many world coin issues dated 2009. Submit them with images and full descriptions to Lisa Bellavin at lisa.bellavin@fwmedia.com.



Winner of the title of **Most Innovative Coin** is an Austrian 25-euro piece that consists of a silver ring and niobium center. The niobium is colored a shimmering green by a special oxidation process and this effect celebrates the phenomenon of light. The design on the obverse shows a gas lamp of the 19th century and the other side carries a portrait of Austrian inventor Auer von Welsbach and an evolutionary series of lightbulbs. The Canadian entry in this category was once again the \$15 Silver Playing Card Money - Queen of Spades.

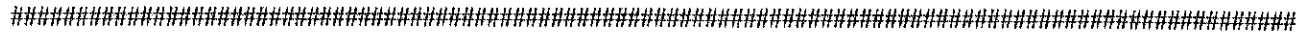
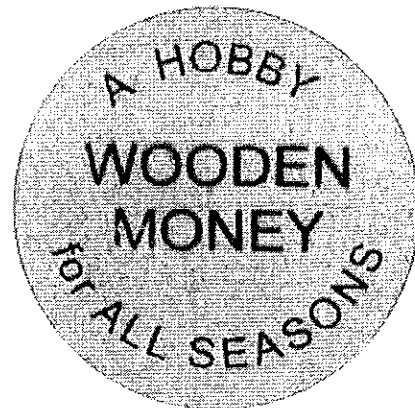
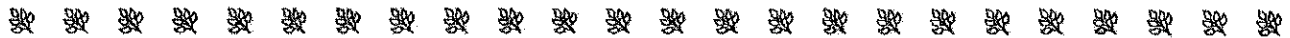


Canada was the 10th category winner. Its \$2,500 gold piece, "Towards Confederation," was named **Most Inspirational Coin**. It is part of a series for the 2010 Vancouver Olympics and the design presents the full sweep of Canadian history. This particularly outstanding design is the work of Susan Taylor, a long-time employee of the Royal Canadian Mint.

MY WOODEN NICKEL'S WORTH..... *by Lou Vash*

THE CONCEPT of "a hobby for all seasons" sounded like a good idea to me, since collecting wooden money *is* certainly a year round hobby. Matching up the colours of the leaves with the seasons, however, presented a problem. Maple leaves are green in summer, and both red and yellow in the fall. But how do I portray the little undeveloped buds of spring? And what about winter, when maple trees have no leaves at all! So I compromised by simply selecting 4 colours that contrasted nicely and appeared to divide a time period into four parts.

The colours are brushed on, using acrylic paints, with a single coat of varnish for protection. Total issue is 200. A quantity has been donated for this month's "wood of the month".



Forgot the Year, Forgot the Place, Never Forgot the Feeling

Sometime in the mid eighties, I did the "wifely" thing and accompanied my husband in one of "his" coin conventions. Bill tried so hard to get me interested that he took the time to tour the displays with me and to demonstrate the numerous areas of interest relating to the hobby. We came across a large display of spruce dollar money. Frankly I was fascinated. As we admired the display, somebody approached us to explain and talk about the club. What, there is a club for people who collect pieces of wood!? Somehow I ended up making a commitment to attend the breakfast on Sunday morning.

So on Sunday, I entered a room where I could only recognize a few faces seen the day before. A nice gentleman, a fantastic welcome committee all by himself, Norman Wells, was kind enough to come and greet me. I remember vaguely saying my name, and that I was joining the group. Norman, towering over me, pointed his finger down to the top of my head and yelled: "HEY, Joe (or whoever he was talking to), NEW MEMBER! I think half the room turned to look at me then. Those who know me personally know that I am far from shy but then I just wanted to disappear. Somehow, I survived and became a long time friend with many people whom I met at that time.

Continued next page

Courtesy of Timber Talk

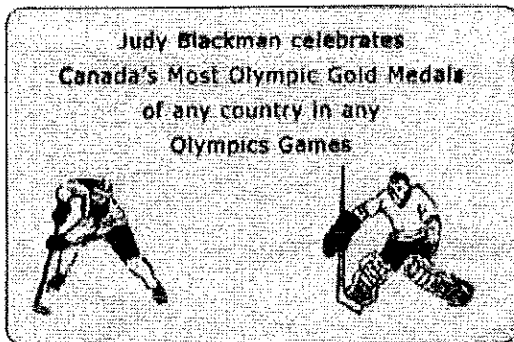
I sat at a table with friendly people and the meeting went on. Then another gentleman, whom I later could identify as John Regitko, presented what I remember being an at least ten minutes long rant about something that must have been collection related. This was one of the most hilarious thing I heard in my life! And I remember thinking: "Those people are completely nuts! I love it!"

So I was a member of the CAWMC for a few years, then left when my attention turned mostly to raising our boys, Michael and Gabriel, who also attended their fair share of conventions and who to this day seem to enjoy receiving one of Mom's woods. Do they think I am completely sane? May be not but they love me anyway.

I rejoined CAWMC about 4 years ago and I still enjoy playing with my woods. I find that collecting and playing with my stuff is a good stress reliever that takes me away from the turbulence of earning a living as a tax auditor. And to be honest, to this day, I find that woods are as or more fascinating than any paper money or other collectibles you can put under my nose. I guess I am right where I belong!

France D. Waychison

Future free wood of the month donated by Judy Blackman. The wood is to commemorate the Canadian Winter Olympic achievements by Canada's athletes in 2010 in Vancouver. As you see on the wood it is related to the medals Canadians won at the games. The wood is black both sides and done on a three layer plywood.





Next year is the 30th Anniversary of the Southern Ontario Chapter of Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors, my how time flies. During those years we held monthly meetings at various locations, Hosted the 1996 ONA convention in Toronto, as well as held meetings at most ONA conventions. In 1981 we held a show at the Holiday Inn Yorkdale, and three all wood conventions in Niagara Falls 1988, 1990, and 1993. The chapter was formed in 1981 by

several CAWMC members from the Toronto area, Norm Belsten, Russ Brown, John Curtis, Albert Kasman, Don Robb, and Norm Wells.

We also issued several woods over the years and had two different logos as shown above and I am sure we will be issuing more for our 30th.

Norm Belsten LM C45

ELECTRONIC "FINGERPRINTING" OF COINS A REALITY

COMPILED BY PAUL R. PETCH

One of the impressive items on display at the San Francisco Mint Show, November 6, 2009 and again at the Florida United Numismatists (FUN) Show in Orlando Florida from January 7 through 10 this year was a new gizmo specifically engineered to assist in the unique identification and grading of coins. The unit is dubbed the CP16 Coin Analyzer™ invented, patented and built by a company called CoinSecure Inc.

CoinSecure, Inc. started out as a Delaware corporation founded in 2008 for the purpose of developing instrumentation systems for the worldwide analysis and identification of coins.

With a price tag of about \$4,500 US, it is not the type of device that will make it into the hands of very many private collectors. The Collectors Universe Coin Division, owner of the Profession Coin Grading Service (PCGS), and the Numismatic Guarantee Corporation (NGC) both announced on March 25 that it is being added to their arsenal of equipment used in coin grading. It is at the core of a new product, PCGS Secure Plus, made available by PCGS on announcement day. The folks at NGC expect to roll out their new offering by the start of June.

Let us first examine and understand the CP16. The CoinSecure web site describes their *Unique Digital Coin Identification System* this way:

The CP16 Coin Analyzer™ scans each coin, finding the unique characteristics of that coin and storing them on a computer in a CoinPrint™ ID file similar to a fingerprint file. An individualized serial number is added to this identification record.

This CoinPrint™ is stored in a central database, enabling future identification of the coin by its own unique characteristics. Once identified, the linked serial number and image files may be retrieved.

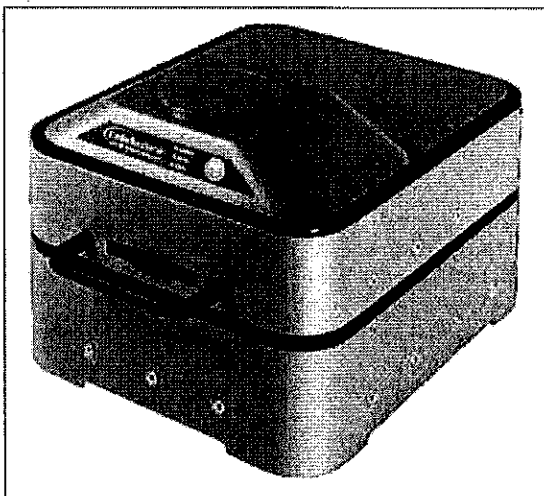
A CoinSecure Registration Certificate Provides:

- An ownership record
- Counterfeit & fraud protection
- Advanced quality control information
- Added value by creating serialized coins

Coins become more like numbered lithographs, which directly carry their serial number within the art itself. The coins can be scanned and have the serial numbers verified at time of purchase or sale with distributed units at coin dealers and elsewhere. This is a great improvement over current practices, such as adding a small paper certificate, which is not secure and can easily be separated, lost or fraudulently duplicated.

Additionally, the system produces a digital image of the coin at the time of scanning. This digital image is also stored in the database along with the CoinPrint™, adding extra system value and secondary identification. The imaging system has a computerized illumination component, consisting of a ring of 48 LEDs, each individually controlled. This allows a custom illumination pattern to be optimized for each coin and stored in the system for use whenever the same type of coin is scanned.

- The ability to digitally fingerprint each coin and store the identity in a central database that can be remotely searched on a one-to-many basis offers a powerful tool to help reduce fraud, theft and loss on a worldwide basis
- The speed of the one-to-many search algorithm allows thousands of comparisons a second, far beyond any current method of cataloguing collectable coins
- The registration of gold and silver bullion coins can provide a safeguard worthy of reductions in insurance premiums for holding precious metals
- A historic pedigree of each registered coin can be created allowing ownership records of key coins to be traced for future generations of collectors.



On display at the San Francisco Mint

Courtesy of the North York Coin Club

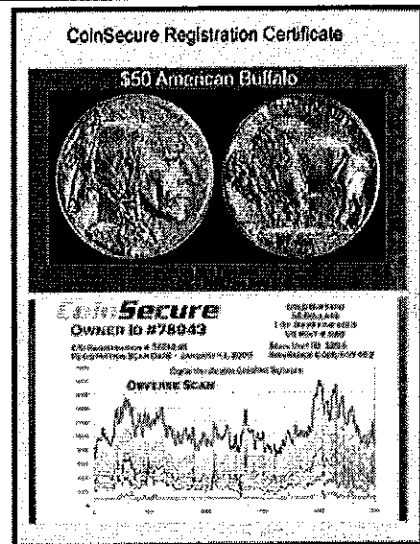
Digging a little deeper, we learn that CoinSecure, Inc. is now a Palo Alto, California-based company whose President is Richard M. Haddock. Haddock is the former CEO of the LaserCard Corporation, a company specializing in secure identity solutions that include difficult to counterfeit identification cards and the technologies to detect counterfeit cards. A search of patent records at the World Intellectual Property Organization shows that Haddock has been awarded 16 international patents for various types of optical-related work including for security-related devices.

As part of the PCGS Secure Plus workflow, coins will be imaged using the CP16 CoinAnalyzer and the data saved on an internal database. PCGS CEO Don Willis said that once the coin is imaged, it will go through the normal grading process where it will be reviewed by three graders before being assessed by a finalizer. Only the finalizer will have

access to the digital information and will take appropriate actions.

Secure-Plus is an optional service for all coins except those submitted under two grading tiers: **Rarities**, coins submitted with a maximum coin value of \$200,000, and **Ultra Rarities**, with unlimited values. PCGS Secure Plus is the only service for these coins. The digital fingerprinting concept also has the potential to protect the high end of the market from the dangerous counterfeit coins emerging from China. But, because for most coins it is an opt-in process, it will take some time to determine what its impact will be, and generally, Chinese counterfeiters have not successfully replicated high-end coins.

It is the assertion of PCGS that with the unique identification through the CP16's digital signature, a coin can be recognized, even following potential coin doctoring, and especially if it is removed from its slab and resubmitted in order to achieve a higher grade.



It can also be used to determine if the coin was doctored from its previous submission, such as being artificially toned.

Continued next page...

PATENTS PENDING FOR RICHARD M. HADDOCK AND COINSECURE INC.

1. 20100039818 Numismatic Storage Container to Prevent Counterfeiting of Coinage

In various exemplary embodiments, a coin storage device is disclosed. The coin storage device comprises an encapsulation portion configured to secure a coin therein and allow for visual inspection of the coin. A viewing port is arranged on an edge of the encapsulation portion and is configured to both allow a light source to impinge upon an edge of the coin and return a light signal from the edge of the coin. Read more: <http://www.faqs.org/patents/app/20100039818#ixzz0kzVHQMkC>

2. 20090303478 Apparatus for Producing Optical Signatures from Coinage

An apparatus for producing scattering signatures from a coin comprises a platform configured to hold the coin and an electromagnetic radiation source configured to produce a beam directed toward a portion of at least one surface of the coin. The electromagnetic radiation source is arranged to produce a far-field scattering signature upon interaction the at least one surface of the coin. A plurality of collection elements is configured to produce an electrical signal based upon collecting at least a portion of the far-field scattering signature. Read more: <http://www.faqs.org/patents/app/20090303478#ixzz0kzT09ika>

3. 20090296365 Calibrated and Color-Controlled Multi-Source Lighting System for Specimen Illumination

A coin illumination source comprises a geometric feature configured to surround a coin under evaluation, a plurality of illumination sources mounted within the geometric feature, and a viewing aperture through which an imaging device can capture an image of the coin. Read more: <http://www.faqs.org/patents/app/20090296365#ixzz0kzUAagLI>

4. 20090295912 Coin Edge Imaging Device

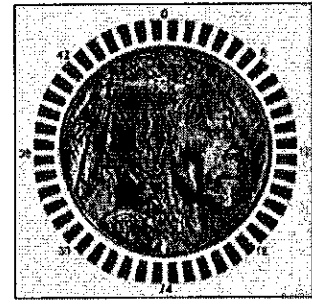
An apparatus to record images from a coin, the apparatus comprising: a stage configured to position and rotate the coin, the stage further configured to provide an angular positional signal output related to a rotational position of the coin; and a first and second reflecting device configured to concurrently image near-edge portions of both obverse and reverse sides of the coin. Read more: <http://www.faqs.org/patents/app/20090295912#ixzz0kzWW54tj>

5. 20090286458 Self-Centering Loading, Indexing, and Flipping Mechanism for Coinage and Coin Analysis

An apparatus to locate a coin comprises a rotary platform configured to hold the coin and a plurality of coin contacting mechanisms, coupled to the rotary platform. Read more: <http://www.faqs.org/patents/app/20090286458#ixzz0kzWgZXkv>

6. 20090284754 Method for Optically Collecting Numismatic Data and Associated Algorithms for Unique Identification of Coins

A method to develop an optical signature from a coin comprising: recording, using an optical instrument, values from a plurality of optically detected parameters; processing values to produce a unique optical identifier for a coin; and combining values into a searchable parameter. Read more: <http://www.faqs.org/patents/app/20090284754#ixzz0kzWoVkcD>



Courtesy of the North York Coin Club

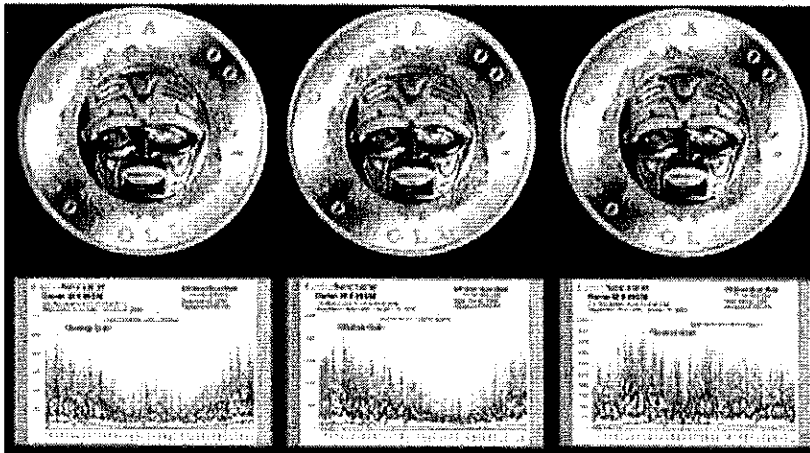
During the announcement, PCGS President David Hall said that this should end "gradeflation" as well as work out errors in the population reports when people submit coins multiple times. Hall said that multiple submissions did not serve the industry and hope that this would end the practice. Hall noted, "We did not start PCGS to grade a coin 40 times." It is said that PCGS has been working on this service for two years with CoinSecure.

As part of the announcement, PCGS said that it will mark premium quality coins for its grade with a plus as part of the grade. When Willis made the announcement, he said that PCGS has been experimenting with a 700-point grade scale to score a coin based on its technical grading and eye appeal. Coins that grade in the upper end of the grade range will receive the plus. As Hall noted, this will unlock the value of better quality coins. Plus grades will be available for grades XF45 through MS68 except for MS60 and MS61.

The plus designation was announced in conjunction with Numismatic Guaranty Corporation. This "plus" service will only be available for selected classic series and is not planned for the modern issues they grade.

As part of the plus designation announcement, Collectors Universe, the parent company of PCGS, announced that their Certified Coin Exchange market place will offer sight unseen bidding for plus grade coins. Sight unseen bidding means that purchasers will not be allowed to return a coin after auctions through the exchange. Since CCE is an exchange for dealers, it will be interesting to hear what those dealers think of this policy.

One understated announcement is that PCGS has updated their holder and added new anti-counterfeiting features to the label. Coins graded as part of the Secure Plus service will be placed in a holder that has a label with a shield. The shield will be printed with a color shifting ink that makes it difficult to



What appear to be three identical proof coins produce three different "CoinPrints"

duplicate. Color shifting ink is similar to the technologies that are being used on US Federal Reserve Notes. Also, Willis announced that microprinting will appear behind the shield. Microprinting prevents the vast majority of imaging technologies from being able to duplicate the label. However, PCGS should provide a guideline as to what to look for so that collectors can verify the labels of the coins they buy.

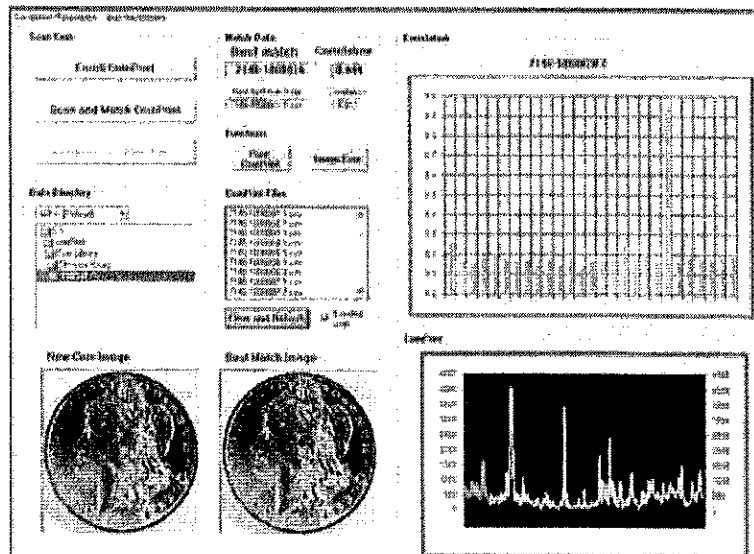
There has been no shortage of analysis of what the CP16, in the hands of professional graders, is going to mean to the hobby. It remains to be seen whether dealers and major auction houses will use the PCGS Secure Plus tier as it may alienate one of the key groups of coin buyers and bidders at

auction: the coin doctors who pay strong premiums for coins they can upgrade.

This is a great start to using technology to assist in grading. Add the ability to digitally fingerprint the coin to create hard evidence of a coin's provenance, prevent coin doctoring and also prevent crack-out artists from resubmitting a coin multiple times hoping for better grades, we are potentially entering a new

world where collectors of modern as well as ancient coins can have greater confidence in the coins they buy and the appeal of the coins they own.

The question of whether or not the CoinSecure system with the CP16 and its patents really work seems to already have been answered with the strong buy-in from PCGS and NGC. I believe that CoinSecure sees its agreement with the grading services as only its first step. Ultimately it would like to see its equipment as a part of any premium coin transaction, assuring the coin is a known and registered specimen. And that's a worldwide objective! It would represent a guarantee from the seller and security for the buyer.



A screen shot of the CP16 computer monitor display

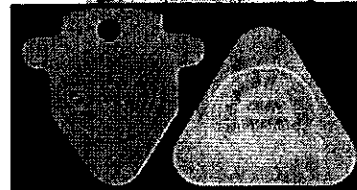
A Loyal Long-Standing South Wellington Coin Club (SWCC) Member Demonstrate Innovation

submitted by Judy Blackman

Anton Pavlis is a quiet unassuming gentleman, who welcomes any interest shown in the numismatic hobby. At a local Guelph seniors centre, Anton keeps a big jar requesting numismatic donations in any condition. He visits the jar regularly sorting the Canadian and U.S. currency and the Canadian Tire Coupons and surrenders these to the centre as donations. Additionally, Anton gives the centre a Canadian nickel for every foreign coin found in the jar regardless of the condition of the coin. From there, Anton takes the foreign coins home searching for any to complete his own sets, and the balance goes to a 97 year old friend who welcomes the foreign coins with much joy, as he likes to share them with his very large family of children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.



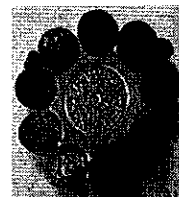
You never know what kind of surprises Anton will have on display at a numismatic promo day or a club meeting. At the March 27-28th, 2010 SWCC Display Days at the Stone Road Mall in Guelph Anton had a cream separating bottle on display. Before milk was homogenized the cream would rise to the top of the milk bottle. Consumers would want to pour the cream off but in a conventional milk bottle the milk would just mix with the cream as it was poured out. Thus there was a lot of interest in designing a milk bottle that would allow one to remove the cream without mixing it with the milk. Anton also had dairy tokens which were set on the door step to let the milkman know how many milk bottles to leave.



Anton also likes to write out numismatic poems. The challenge is that he wants to ensure that every single line and poem measures exactly the same from card to card. This takes a great deal of discipline and refined penmanship to achieve. One of the poems posted at the SWCC shows April 10th was:



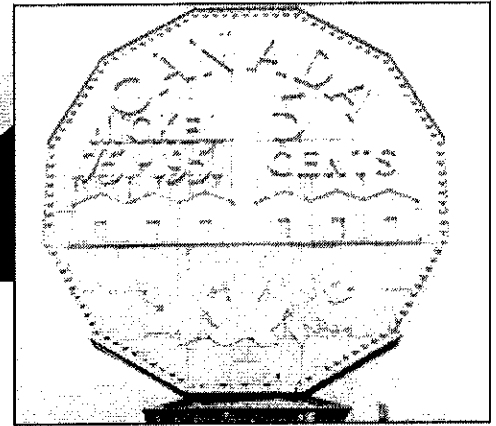
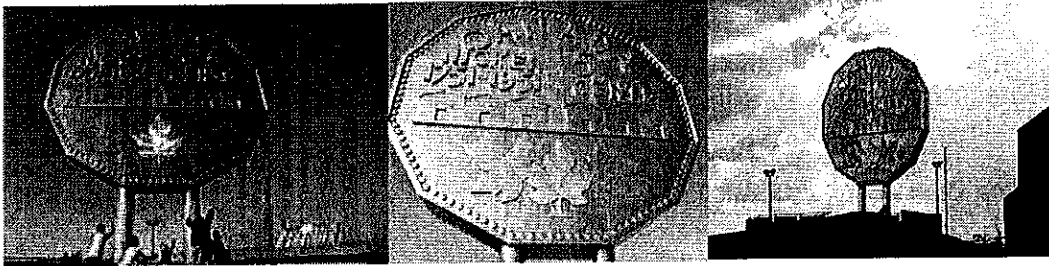
Going for it, is the chase,
Having it is almost a must,
My doubles need to be traded,
The hoard is growing fast,
Best Wishes, Anton Pavlis



Anton also had numismatic jewellery, and other hobby related devices and gadgets, including these Mexican ashtrays made from Mexican coins. Most interesting of all to me was Anton's outstanding artwork. It goes back to his years working GE Canada in their Guelph plant which focused on water and processing technologies, and electrical delivery systems. Part of Anton's job involved testing steel in conductors, and if the test failed, there would be a blow out of the steel core with sheet metal becoming indented and falling to the bottom floor many levels below where these brown solid steel rusted lumps would cool and pile like little mini mountains. Anton was able to bring one of these "lumps" home. Anton then got a square grey stone paperweight. He drilled a hole in order to screw the "lump" onto it which he could only do after filing down one section of the lump so it would sit flat on the paperweight -- not an easy exercise. Anton then added plastic screening on the side of the paperweight to resemble a ladder. On the side of the mini mountain, he mounted a silver man which originated as a charm on a bracelet. The little "climbing" man is held in place with puddy. At the top of the "lump" is a Canadian double-date nickel which is also held in place by puddy. Anton has an ongoing concern with people

handling the art and the man and nickel subsequently coming loose. So he took margarine dishes and cut the tops off to form a base to raise a bell jar, and he used paper spirals to hold it in place. Anton had previously broken a 300 day anniversary clock so he took the bell jar from that and put it over the artwork which sits inside the margarine container frame so that the bell jar is raised up as the jar was is not tall enough to cover the artwork on its own. Anton likes to tell people who show interest in his artwork that the little silver man is Anton himself trying to climb up and steal the nickel. Most significant is that Anton did not even know about The Big Nickel and Sudbury and he certainly never knew anybody had ever attempted to steal pieces of it. He made this artwork long before the attempted thefts ever came to light. It's because of Anton's unique numismatic artwork, that I decided to submit the following article on The Big Nickel in Sudbury. Thank you to Anton for helping to make the numismatic hobby very interesting items beyond the normal collections.





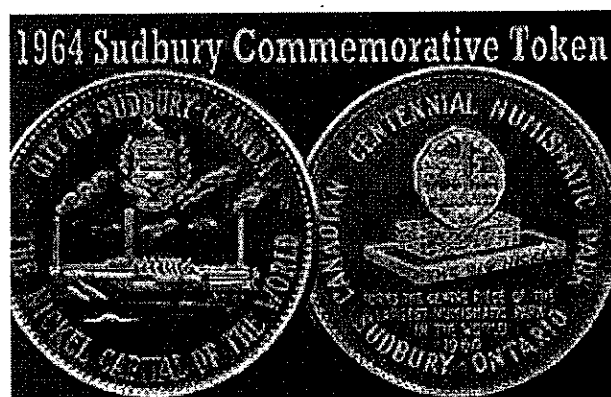
The Big Nickel was completed in 1964 and is a nine-metre (30 ft) replica of a 1951 Canadian nickel, located at the grounds of Dynamic Earth in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada. This monument weighs close to 13 tons, and is over 64,000,000 times the size of the real nickel. It is listed in the Guinness Book of Records, as the world's largest coin. The twelve-sided nickel is located on a small hill overlooking the intersection of Municipal Road 55 and Big Nickel Drive at the westernmost end of the Gatchell neighbourhood. The Big Nickel celebrated its 45th anniversary on July 22nd, 2009 with a "birthday party" on the grounds of Dynamic Earth, including a display of coins from Science North's Inco Coin Collection.



Figure 1 Ted Szilva

The idea for the Big Nickel began in 1963 when Ted Szilva, at the time a 28-year-old City of Sudbury fireman, read about a contest in the Sudbury Star. The contest, sponsored by the Sudbury Canada Centennial Committee, chaired by Maurice Lacourciere, requested that citizens of Sudbury forward suggestions on how they would like to see the City of Sudbury celebrate the Canadian Centennial. Among the many entries, Szilva put forward the suggestion for a major tourist attraction featuring a giant replica of a five-cent coin, an underground mine and a mining science centre. Szilva's idea was rejected because the committee felt that "it did not have sufficient use for the citizens of Sudbury as such." By this time, Szilva had independently researched his idea, and had concluded that it could indeed be a very viable and worthwhile project. He

began to make this dream a reality by scouting out all of the highest hills in Sudbury to find the best location. On December 11th, 1963, he purchased 17.5 acres (71,000 m²) of land from Walter Holdich for \$1,000 Canadian dollars with a \$25 down payment. The land was ideal because of its unique location just between Sudbury and Copper Cliff. From the west, the large, rocky mountain provided a sensational view of the INCO mining and smelting complex, including the nightly slag dump, while from the east one had a beautiful view of the City of Sudbury.



After the land was acquired, the city refused to give Szilva the building permit for the nickel or a road allowance for access to the landlocked property, so he visited the president of INCO, John Pigott, and requested a lease for 4 acres (16,000 m²) of adjacent INCO land in Copper Cliff. This acquisition would ensure that Szilva would have access to his land. The land was leased for 99 years at \$1.00 per year. Eventually he bought the leased land from INCO, in addition to 15 other acres. Szilva contracted a firm to

build the Big Nickel road, and Pioneer Construction paved the new road. The Big Nickel was eventually built on the crest of the hill, exactly three feet outside of the City of Sudbury limits in Copper Cliff, which did not require a building permit. Not yet financially secure, Szilva needed investors in order to make the dream a reality. Three men from Sudbury indicated that they would invest, but when the time came, they refused to put any money into Szilva's new company, Nickel Monument Development Ltd. Szilva eventually owned 99% of the shares of the company. In order to raise the money for the development of the project, Szilva had a series of commemorative coins struck which represented each of the monuments to be erected at the park. To have worldwide appeal, he conceived the idea for a numismatic park and called it the Canadian Centennial Numismatic Park. The Big Nickel would be its centerpiece. The uniqueness of this park is what appealed to the numismatists around the world. They purchased the medallions in order to support the construction and development of the park.

On such medallion package, mailed out to purchasers in 1964 from Nickel Monument Development contained three coins and a descriptive project brochure. Two of the coins were identical silver dollar

sized .999 silver content Kennedy commemorative coins. The third was a silver dollar sized copper-coloured Kennedy commemorative coin. All three coins were identically marked on the obverse with a Kennedy profile above the words 'In God We Trust, 1964' surrounded by 'Canadian Centennial Numismatic Park, Sudbury, Canada'. On the reverse each was marked with an eternal flame above the words 'and so let the word go forth that the torch has been lit', and the words 'John Fitzgerald Kennedy 1917.1963'. The brochure discussed the medallions, the park ('Canada's Most Unique Tourist Attraction -- Canadian Centennial Numismatic Park'), other fundraising ideas and planned future attractions.

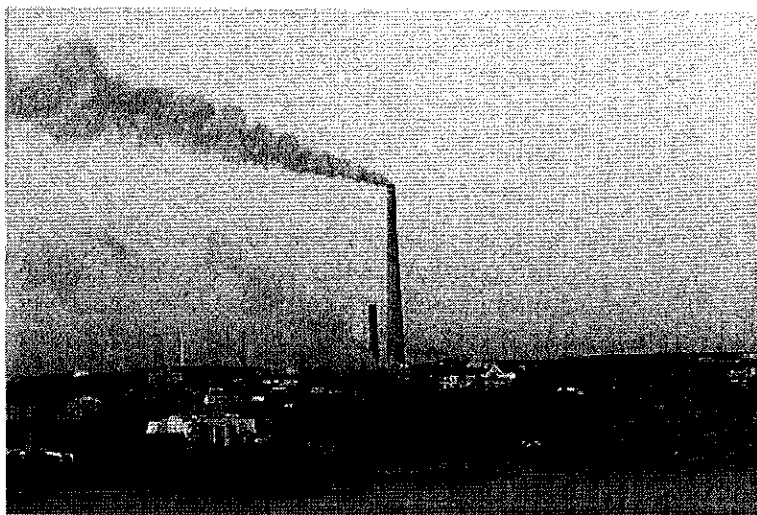


Figure 2 The Big Stack

In December of 1963 Szilva had earned enough funds through mail-order sales to proceed with the first phase of the proposed development. He chose the 1951 five-cent piece and "coined" the phrase "The Big Nickel". Artist Steve Trenka designed the 1951 five-cent piece. His rendition of a nickel refinery was not based on any actual complex, though some believed it to be the INCO refinery in Sudbury. In 1951 the INCO smelter had three stacks, not one (unlike the five-cent piece) and the INCO Superstack which supposedly appeared in the centre of the buildings, was not erected until 1971. It would seem that The Big Nickel was the cause of these rumours, because of the similarity of its design to the five-cent coin and its proximity to the INCO complex.

The 1951 design was chosen for The Big Nickel since it marked the bicentennial of the chemical isolation of nickel by the Swedish chemist Baron Axel Frederic Cronstedt. This metal, of course, played a large role in the establishment of Sudbury as a mining town. Before 1751, the element now known as nickel played havoc with refiners. Thought to be an alloy of copper, German miners coined the term, "Kupfernicker" or "Old Nick's Copper". This "Devil's Copper" could not be extracted with the technology of the time. Cronstedt, however, was able to prove that the trouble refiners faced was due to an unknown element which he named nickel. Szilva ultimately chose the 1951 Canadian nickel, minted by the Canadian Mint in 1957, to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the isolation of nickel as a metal, to show where Sudbury's wealth came from, and to be a lasting tribute to the men and women who mined and processed the

minerals in the Sudbury Basin. In short, the nickel was intended to exhibit Sudbury's pride to the whole world.

Bruno Cavallo, a local sign manufacturer and artist, also had an idea of constructing a five-cent coin out of chromium. He contacted Szilva, and the two proceeded with the construction of the 1951 nickel. It was to be built out of stainless steel, which Szilva suggested so it would endure the harsh Sudbury elements. Cavallo spend several months forming the artistic work. The first step was to project the image of the 1951 five-cent piece against a large wall at the Sudbury Steelworkers Hall. After projecting the image, it was traced by Szilva and Cavallo over a period of two nights onto large, thick pieces of brown paper. The traced sections were then transported to Cavallo's shop where he handcrafted the numerous steel sheets from a wooden mould. The individual parts were then fastened to a moulded girdle structure and welded together with silver solder. Szilva worked with Jim Nemis, whose company Noront Steel was contracted to engineer, fabricate and install the framework of the Big Nickel. The large stainless steel panels were fabricated by Dalite Corporation of Toronto and shipped to The Big Nickel site in May 1964. When completed, The Big Nickel was 30 feet high, and 24 inches thick. The artistic work such as the design of the King George VI head, the numerals, maple leaf and the refinery were contracted to Cavallo Signs. All artistic work was affixed to the stainless steel panels on site. The 12ft x 8ft x 6ft base, constructed by the Maple Leaf Masonry Company of Sudbury, was made of the various ore bearing rocks, field stone, and minerals found in the Sudbury basin to indicate this amazing source of the wealth in the Sudbury area. Upon its completion in 1964, the total cost of the construction of The Big Nickel was approximately \$35,000.

Every year the seasonal staffs of approximately fifty-five students was supervised by shift managers Samuel Szilva, Alec Szilva, Bruno Cavallo, Norm Blatchford, and Ed Reid. The bookkeeper was Margaret Reid. These managers and staff are partly responsible for The Big Nickel's success as a result of their dedication to family and the City of Sudbury. Each guest was received with open arms, and trips to The Big Nickel were always enjoyable for all. The Big Nickel Park had an atmosphere of pride, with a sign at the entrance to the park, which read, "Take nothing but pictures and leave nothing but good will." On July 27th, 1964, the park was officially opened. Szilva was extremely pleased that John Fisher, the Canadian Centennial Commissioner, accepted his invitation to come to Sudbury that day to unveil the impressive Big Nickel Monument to a crowd of 1,500 family, friends, dignitaries and local residents. There was extensive media coverage of the event by The Sudbury Star, Canadian Coin News, and other Canadian publications as well as television coverage. This monumental day marked both the culmination of many months of planning, and the beginning of an era, which would see The Big Nickel develop into a world-renowned landmark, and Sudbury into the tourist centre of the north. In an attempt to market the park as a world class tourist attraction, Szilva co-operated with the Sudbury Jaycees under president Allan Barnard in Sudbury in entering a float into the November 28th, 1964 Grey Cup Parade with a replica of the monument along with the newly crowned Miss Big Nickel.

Figure 3 Toronto Star re Big Nickel in Grey Cup Parade



Over the years there have been attempts to rob the nodules (beading) on The Big Nickel.

Figure 4 Sudbury Starr
"Thwarting Thieves"



Thwarting Thieves

Like death and taxes, the souvenir hunter, it seems is always with us. Promoters of the Big Nickel at the city's western outskirts discovered this, even though they were dealing with a pretty hotly commodity in their 30-foot stainless steel "coin" on a 10-foot rock base. Visitors who liked the nickel so much they were loath to leave without a souvenir, sometimes chose the nodules around the

edge of both sides of the coin. But no more. Those within reach of prying hands today were welded into place, and it is hoped the Big Nickel from now on will retain an unscathed look. Jim Barnett is doing the welding in this picture. Other steps, to discourage visitors climbing on top of the base, are contemplated. For other pictures of welding, in a different setting, see page 13.



Figure 5 meteor rock

The underground model mine was tunnelled and built in 1965 by J.C. MacIsaac, of MacIsaac Mining and Tunnelling Co., and was expanded by the same company in 1969. Not only was the underground mine visited by over 100,000 people every year, but the mine represented the first time in Canadian history that a private enterprise and an educational institution, Cambrian College, would collaborate in order to provide on-site practical training in all facets of mining for students. The park

was always expanding and adding new features. Some of these features included helicopter rides, a train which ran around the circumference of the park carrying 55 passengers, a carousel, the famous "jail", moon module, and informative film. Articles and pictures featuring The Big Nickel appear in hundreds of books, and it is recognized as an international landmark. The Big Nickel, as the world's only numismatic coin park, also featured coin monuments that were smaller than the 1951 nickel. Some of these coin monuments were the \$20 gold coin monument, the Kennedy half-dollar coin memorial (featuring an eternal flame), the fantasy copper (Canadian one cent 1965) penny, and the Lincoln coin memorial (1965 American penny). Mayor Joe Fabbro dedicated the wampum monument and Brotherhood of Man Memorial in May of 1975. This memorial symbolized the early money traded by Canada's Aboriginal peoples and European settlers. In 1971 Apollo 16 astronauts visit Sudbury "Meteor Capital" to train for their moon landing. During the Apollo manned lunar exploration program, NASA astronauts trained in Sudbury to become familiar with shatter cones, a rare rock formation connected with meteorite impacts. However, the popular misconception that they were visiting Sudbury because it purportedly resembled the lifeless surface of the moon dogged the city for years. In 1972 Apollo 17 astronauts also trained in Sudbury. In March 1975, Szilva expanded on the idea of creating a world-class mining science centre and submitted his proposal to the provincial minister of tourism in Toronto and to the Regional Municipality of Sudbury. Similar to the proposal of The Big Nickel, the idea was rejected by the government. The government at the time refused to give money to private enterprise. In documented proposals and files, Ted continued his efforts, and in 1980 he convinced the Regional Municipality of Sudbury to proceed with the development of a major tourist attraction, as the government was willing to grant the funds to non-profit organizations. Szilva sold The Big Nickel to the Regional Municipality of Sudbury for \$550,000, and the Sudbury Science Centre, later to be named Science North, was founded.

Science North considered dismantling The Big Nickel due to high maintenance costs. Instead, the hill was stripped of everything Szilva had constructed, except the underground mine and The Big Nickel monument. Thankfully The Big Nickel was a unique, unmistakable landmark for Sudbury, and Science North decided to refurbish it in 1984 at a cost of \$12,000 Canadian. During the week of January 22nd, 2001 The Big Nickel was removed from its original base at The Big Nickel Mine in Sudbury. Dismantled for refurbishing, this was the first time in almost 40 years that the Nickel was absent from Sudbury's skyline, and the city felt its absence. In April 2001, The Big Nickel was temporarily relocated to Science North. Visitors to Sudbury looked for the nickel, but its temporary home at Science North did not do the

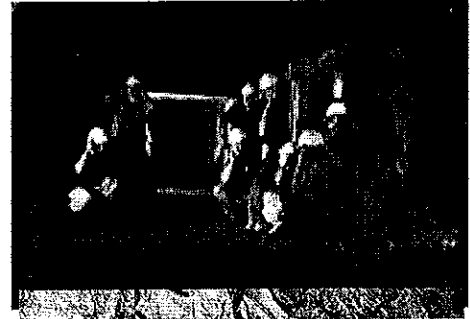


Figure 6 underground mine tunnel

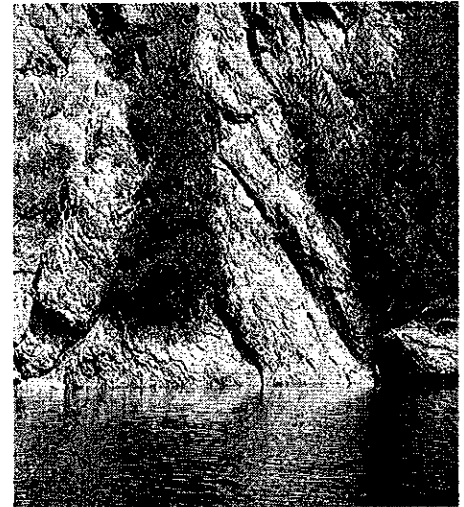


Figure 7 shatter cones

coin justice. Thankfully, The Big Nickel was returned to its home above the Sudbury skyline on Big Nickel Mine Road at the newly constructed Dynamic Earth Project (mining and geology facility) on May 10th, 2003.

Szilva attributes his success to the many people who supported his dreams. He thanks; his business partner and friend, the late Bruno Cavallo; Margaret and the late Ed Reid; his former firefighter colleagues, Jean Paul Beaudry, Norm Barber, Val Fortin and many others in the fire department; the many business associates he has made over the years; and most importantly, his wife, Betty, and his five children. He writes, "I will never forget the encouragement and kindness I have received from the people of Sudbury. Above all, I am thankful to God for having given me the energy, health and vision to have been part of this great project" (Sudbury Star, Monday, February 12th, 2001).

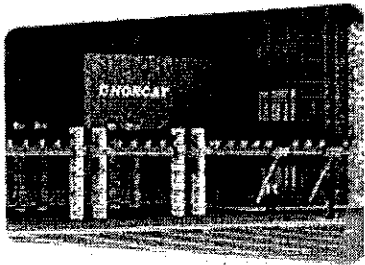
Today Sudbury is very much involved in NASA contracts. It remain a world leader in science exploration for mining, geology, and space. The Juno Rovers ("rover" named after the Greek God of Strength)-- about 1 metre x 1 metre in size and 30 centimetres high -- look like remote controlled toys and scoops up surface samples. While they aren't built from Lego blocks, the u-shaped vehicles do share something with the children's toy. Their component parts, set in the middle of the "u", can be quickly changed. A scoop can be switched with drills or a ground-penetrating radar system or a prospecting kit. These rovers, assembled in Sudbury, will be integral in sustaining life on the moon. They can smooth moon dust into flat landing areas; scoop up rock and carry it to a type of oven, which will cook out any oxygen and water in the rock for humans to use; as well as, perhaps, help with the establishment of a permanent station under the moon's surface.



Figure 8 NORCAT in HAWAII with Sudbury built rover

The Sudbury-based Northern Centre for Advanced Technology, or NORCAT, is leading the mission -- commissioned by NASA and the Canadian Space Agency, with participation from the German Aerospace Center and Space Resources Canada -- to test equipment that it and a handful of other Canadian companies have developed to, one day, send to the moon and later, hopefully, Mars. The Sudbury NORCAT team, space scientists and engineers from Canada test rovers, site preparation systems, resource and prospecting instruments, as well as oxygen production equipment that could be used for future space exploration missions. The tests provide valuable information about systems that could support an extraterrestrial or planetary exploration mission by minimizing the amount of water and oxygen that must be transported from Earth. NORCAT has invented its own simulated lunar regolith called Chenobi that it sells for \$40,000 a ton. However, like moon dust, it's made up of tiny particles shaped like fish hooks that can do a lot of damage if inhaled, so it's difficult to work with. While there is no wind on the moon, Mars

has does have severe gusts that space explorers' equipment will likely one day have to contend with. Cold will also be a factor as temperatures on the moon can vary from about 0 C to -200 C deep inside a crater. It's kind of like a super magnifying glass that has a spot beam, the size of a hockey puck. This solar concentrator is the heat source used to cook the oxygen or water out of rock and sediment. However, the cold and the wind, which has blown dust that has scratched its mirrors, have been issues for the solar concentrator. Lower atmospheric pressure on the volcano has also affected the way motor cooling works, which has resulted in a couple of burnt out motors. Then there's the high iron content in the volcanic dust that has infiltrated circuit boards and imaging systems, causing failures in the electronics. NORCAT's mandate is to transfer technology between the space sector and the private sector. The earliest possible take-off for their rovers to the moon would be 2015. NORCAT can be testing anywhere at any given time, such as a volcanic mountain in Hawaii, Devon Island in the high Arctic or Pavilion Lake in B.C. The experiments help to mirror conditions that may be faced by the rovers in outer space such as on the moon or Mars.



The Northern Centre for Advanced Technology Inc. (NORCAT) is a not-for-profit, non-share incorporated company based in Sudbury. For over a decade NORCAT has been a leader in occupational health and safety training, mine training, technology innovation and commercialization. NORCAT's newly constructed 60,000-square-foot Innovation and Commercialization Centre is located at 1545 Maley Dr. It is the central location for innovation development, contractor training, occupational health and safety resource centre and eLearning production.



Mathesonville Park, Sudbury, October, 2011

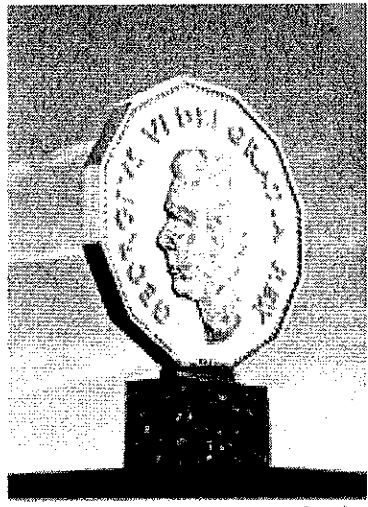


Photo by P. K.

(this article submitted by Judy Blackman utilizing many internet resources, Science North, newspapers, and NORCAT)