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# THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

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## **BUILDING A ZOO**



## **WITH COINS**

The ONTARIO NUMISMATIST is published by the Ontario Numismatic Association. The publication can be obtained with membership in one of the following categories: Regular Membership \$10.00 annually. Husband and Wife (one journal) \$12.00 annually. Junior (up to 18) \$3.00 annually. Life Memberships available for \$100.00 after 3 years of regular membership. Club Membership \$15.00. Remittances payable to the Ontario Numismatic Assoc., P.O. Box 33, Waterloo, Ont., N2J 3Z6.

## P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E

Welcome Back!

After a great summer, we are all becoming active again in our hobbies and from my first two Coin Club meetings it appears that this will be a banner year. My home Club, Stratford started the fall season out on the right foot with 41 members and guests out to enjoy their first meeting. This was followed rather quickly with a meeting in Waterloo which saw 30+ taking in the meeting.

Speaking of Waterloo reminds me of the 1990 Convention which is not that far away. The Waterloo Coin Society have made great strides in preparing for one of the very best, with the Convention Medal design in place, several Bourse Tables sold, and a great deal more preparation already looked after. You will be seeing on a regular basis Press Releases about this upcoming event but to make sure there is nothing on your Calendar I urge you to block off April 28 & 29, 1990 on your calendar for our 28th Annual Convention. It will be a great event and will be held at the Holiday Inn on Fairway Road in Kitchener.

Which brings me to the next point; recently I was asked if the O.N.A. had Guidelines for running a Convention. Unfortunately I had to reply that we did not and the more I think of it, the more we should. We will be putting together an outline of the Organization for Running an O.N.A. Convention to help Clubs in determining if they wish to host one of our Conventions. This will take a little time but we hope that prior to the 1991 Convention to have it well in place and operational.

We would like to see some Club that would like to host a Convention ask us about the 1991 or later Conventions. One thing that is always nice to have is your locations for future Conventions established well in advance. This is a policy of the C.N.A., the A.N.A. and all other well organized groups. Put the pressure on your Club Executive to contact us and we will come up with information and assist in the planning of a successful venture. We would like to have three or four tentatively scheduled conventions.

In closing, I would like to suggest that you put a Life Membership to the Ontario Numismatic Association on your Christmas Want List. It is probably the best value for any organization. It costs only \$100.00 and keeps giving in the years to come.

I hope to see you at a Coin Club meeting in the near future.

Your President



It's election time again! How many have given serious thought of serving your Club by becoming an elected officer? Are you satisfied to leave this up to someone else because you just couldn't do that job or you haven't the time? Or is the real reason you just can't be bothered?

The old saying "Let George Do It", is not good enough today. Many Clubs face the unpleasant task of begging people to take even one of the lesser executive positions. This should not be the case. All executive positions in every Club should be important enough to have two or more clamoring for that office. I ask you, when did your Club have an election for a specific office?

Our National Organization (C.N.A.) with its large membership has had only one office contested these past years, and then less than one third took the trouble to vote. It's been years since there was an election in our own organization (O.N.A.) and at that election the return was even less than the response the C.N.A. received this year. When was the last time your Club had to distribute ballots to determine who would handle your business affairs. I belong to a number of Clubs, and hold an office in several. Only at the Brantford Club about four years ago were ballots distributed to determine a winner for one office.

I'm sure that every reader-member of any coin organization wants to see their organization continue to operate. It's always depressing when we read or hear that some Club has ceased to operate. Failing to secure an executive may only be one of the reasons for that Club's demise, there could be several other reasons as well- decline in membership, finances, lack of participation, to name a few.

If your Club is electing new officers for the new year and you are asked to become one of those officers, don't say no, don't make up some excuse, get on the bandwagon- become a promoter- do your job- get enthusiastic about the hobby and your Club. Don't let apathy control your thoughts and actions. If we all think along these ways our hobby will grow in numbers. You, because you decided to become a leader in your organization will realize what you have been missing. I can tell you from personal experience, that being an executive member of any organization can be very rewarding. Give this matter your utmost consideration and, like the U.S. Army Recruiting Poster Says "WE NEED YOU NOW!!"

Spring Coin Shows saw an upswing in attendance this year and a number of Fall Shows are hoping that trend continues. I hope that you will take particular notice of the Coin Shows in your area and plan to attend. It never ceases to amaze me the number of regular members who rarely attend these shows. There are so many benefits for you and your Club. First, if the Show produces a profit, you benefit by lower membership fees. At these Shows there are several bourse dealers and with a variety of coins for sale. Many of these coins never show up at your Club meetings or auctions. Here's a great way to add to your collection. Prizes are offered at these Shows. Displays can be seen. Why don't you get a display together and become part of the action. Then there is the fellowship of mingling with fellow collectors, meeting and making new friends, learning more about the hobby. Coin Shows offer so much more than just the selling of coins. If you have never been to a Show before, plan to do so now. It's another rewarding and exciting phase of our hobby.

T, Masters

## CNA CONVENTION ONE OF THE BEST EVER

by John Regitko

If one were to judge this year's CNA Convention held at the Convention Centre in Quebec City against all other 37 held since the CNA's founding, one would be hard-pressed to find one that appealed to CNA members and the local public more. The convention boasted one of the largest displays of both competitive and non-competitive displays. Although not a record, the 50 dealers and 4 Mints boasted a wide array of numismatic material sure to satisfy all collecting interests and pocket books. Participation by the national mints of Canada, Australia, France and Mexico was a definite plus to the convention.

The educational programs were tops, and the various meetings hosted by CPMS, CAWMC, CATC, APMI, ANFC and CNRS were also well-attended.

The total attendance was a surprise, and will probably come out higher than ever before once the final tally is in. Also of a surprise to even the most optimistic collector where the number of Registrants that "signed up" for the Convention. The final figure of around 250 is higher than at any previous convention.

No one was disappointed with the contents of the Registration Kits. It consisted of books, trade dollars, wooden nickels, pins, a beautiful and informative Souvenir Program Booklet, "admission tickets" that acted as reminders for the various free education and numismatic association's meetings, and much, much more.

The convention was hosted by the Societe Numismatique de Quebec (SNQ). Of all the Conventions I have attended over the past decade, I have never seen a harder-working committee! With the highest registration and the highest attendance ever, you can readily imagine the pressures on the Committee to assure that everything was taken care of. The Committee rose to the occasion beautifully! Although I am sure that the usual behind-the-scenes problems arose, the Convention-goer only saw a smooth-running reception area as soon as he/she set foot on the Convention premises, and was awed by the number of exhibits and the size and layout of the bourse. When they entered a meeting room, it was properly set up. Meetings were well-organized. Everything ran smoothly as if by magic. Whole families assisted (four members of the Fecteau family, for example, chipped in). Others moved from assignment to assignment, doing what needed to be done without any prior experience or training. The General Chairman, Jean-Luc Marret, and his committee can take a well-deserved bow!

A lot of the credit for the high turnout must go to Jerome Remick, who handled the publicity for the Convention. Not only did he provide the local coverage in French and the national publicity through the CNA Journal, CCN and other publications in English, but he also "personalized" his publicity by sending communiques directly to individual CNA members. The listing of local sights, restaurants, churches, etc. were a welcome addition to normal publicity campaigns.

The situation concerning bilingualism was handled superbly, from the Registration and Admission Table personnel, right to the individual meetings. Yvon Marquis, who is listed in the Convention Souvenir Program Booklet as being in charge of "protocol", did an excellent job of providing the instant translation at the CNA general membership meeting, at all numismatic organization's meetings and especially at the Banquet where, in his capacity of Master of Ceremonies, he provided both the English and French commentary impeccably.

In the Souvenir Program, Stephane LeBlond, President of the Societe Numismatique de Quebec, stated: "For over a year now, the members of my club have been intensively involved in the preparation of this prestigious event. All those men and women who gave their time and their talent hope that you will enjoy attending this convention." And we sure did!

Everyone who had the pleasure of being their can take their hats off to one of the finest Convention Committees the CNA has ever produced. Every committee member, whose names will no doubt be enshrined in the minds of all Convention-goers for a long time to come, should be proud of their accomplishment!

# The Labors of Hercules

by Carl W. A. Carlson

Hercules, mythical son of Zeus and Alcmene, and whose name has become synonymous with supernatural strength, was regarded by the Greeks and Romans as much more than a symbol of physical power. His role in mythology was that of protector of mankind and destroyer of monstrous or unnatural creatures.

After his death, Hercules became a minor god in his own right, both by virtue of his descendance from Zeus and because of his earthly deeds. Alexander the Great regarded Hercules as one of his ancestors, and the most familiar coin portrait of Alexander shows him wearing the lion skin of Hercules. Since the mortal Hercules became a god after his death primarily because of his deeds, he served as a model for the edification of the Roman emperors, beginning with Julius Caesar.

Beginning in 140-141 A.D., the Romans began issuing from the mint in Alexandria, Egypt, a special series of copper drachmae commemorating among other things, the labors of Hercules. These issues, all under the reign of the Emperor Antoninus Pius (138-161 A.D.), seem to have been part of an attempt to revive and enlarge the knowledge and appreciation of Greek culture among the non-Greek native population of Egypt.

The Hercules types occur in several years from 141 to 161 A.D. There are 15 major types, though not all were issued in any one year. The year 142 provides 13 types, greatest in any year of issue, but the coins of 147 A.D. are much more common, even though only 12 types were struck. Several types are scarce only in one or another year of issue, yet are extremely rare or even unique for a different year. A few single-year types are known, and one is known from a single coin.

The most common type is Hercules and the lion, a type or motif repeated on the coinage of other countries and in other ages, most recently on the coins of Albania around 1930.

Many of the pieces show extreme wear. Since the copper drachmae were legally limited to circulation in Egypt under the Romans, they tended to stay in circulation until most of the design had been worn off. It is difficult to find specimens of most of these types in any grade better than fine..

(Unless otherwise noted, illustrated specimens are in the collection of the John Hopkins University.

The first labor of Hercules, destroying the Nemean lion, is depicted on a coin struck in 141 A.D. that may have been from the first set of dies in the series. After killing the lion by hand, Hercules wore the skin as a cape.



Also from 141 A.D. is coin showing the second labor, destruction of the Echidna or Hydra.



Sacred to the goddess Artemis, the Ceryneian (or Menalian) stag was captured alive by Hercules as his third labor. (Coin from the author's collection).

Enroute to his fourth labor, Hercules visited the Centaur Pholos, a scene shown on this coin from 143 A.D. (From the author's collection).



For his fourth labor, Hercules captured the Erymanthian boar and brought it back to Eurystheus, his master and half-brother. The frightened Eurystheus hid in a large jar, from which his arms protrude on this coin of 147 A.D.

THE LABORS OF HERCULES (Cont'd)

To clean the vast Augean stables in a single day, Hercules became the first large-scale polluter when he diverted a river through the stables. The fifth labor is shown on a coin of 147 A.D.



Man-eating Symphalian birds were Hercules' victims in his sixth labor. Coin from 143 A.D. shows the hero shooting the birds in flight. (From the author's collection).

Hercules went to Crete, captured the Cretan bull, and brought it back to show to Eurystheus before releasing it. The seventh labor is shown on a copper from 147 A.D.



Diomedes of Thrace owned some man-eating mares that were no match for Hercules in his eighth labor, shown on a coin of 142 A.D. Diomedes, shown at left attempting to escape, suffered the same fate as the mares.

After defeating the Amazon warrior maidens in battle, Hercules brought the girdle of Hippolyta to Eurystheus. The ninth labor is depicted on this coin from 143 A.D.



As a warmup for his tenth labor, Hercules freed Prometheus from the eagle that had been torturing him. Prometheus, giver of fire to mankind, had been chained by Zeus. Unique piece is from 157 A.D.

The tenth labor called for Hercules to slay the monster Geryon and bring back his famous herd of cattle. On this coin of 141 A.D., the vanquished Geryon lies at the feet of Hercules.



It seemed Hercules was forever being sidetracked enroute to more serious business, and on this 161 A.D. coin he wrestles the giant Antaeus in the course of his eleventh labor. Antaeus could not be defeated so long as he maintained contact with earth, so Hercules lifted him in the air and strangled him.

THE LABORS OF HERCULES (Cont'd)

For his eleventh labor, Hercules traveled to the mystical Garden of the Hesperides, slew the guardian serpent, and pilfered some of the sacred golden apples. Scene is memorialized on a coin of 142 A.D.



As his last task, Hercules descended to Hades to bring back the three-headed dog Cerberus, guardian of the gates of the underworld. He persuaded the god Hades to let him borrow Cerberus, took the dog to Eurystheus, then returned him. Scene is on a coin of 143 A.D.

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IN MEMORIAM

Howard Hill, President of the St. Catharines Coin Club, died suddenly on July 31st, while returning from a vacation with his wife Violet.

Howard has been an active member of the St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, and Welland Coin Clubs for many years.

Howard was President of the St. Catharines Coin Club in 1970 and 1986 until his sudden passing, he was a Past President of the Niagara Falls and Welland Coin Clubs.

Numismatics has lost a wonderful Numismatist.

Sympathy is extended to his wife Violet and family.

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CALL FOR NUMISMATIC AUCTION TENDER

The Ontario Numismatic Association will be holding a Coin Auction in conjunction with their 28th Annual Convention. It is being held on April 28-29, 1990, at the Holiday Inn, Kitchener, Ontario.

Those interested in conducting this Auction are requested to reply in writing, stating terms and conditions, to the address below. The deadline for submissions is October 31, 1989.

ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION  
54 Trinity Street  
Stratford, Ontario, N5A 4P4  
Attention: Tom Kennedy

Mark Envelope - AUCTION TENDER

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# ASSOCIATION NEWS

## MEMBERSHIP

The New Members which appeared in the July-August Issue have now been officially accepted.

CORRECTION: #1317 should have read John G. Hachey, Mississauga, instead of the Timmins Coin Club as shown.

Timmins Coin Club number should be #C101.

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## CLUB DIRECTORY

ST. CATHARINES Coin Club.....

Has a new meeting place and date  
.....Meet the 3rd Sunday at 1:00 p.m. each month except July and August, at the Russell Ave. Community Centre, 108 Russell Ave., St. Catharines.

MAIL ADDRESS - St. Catharines Coin Club  
P.O. Box 1492, St. Catharines, Ontario  
L2R 7J9 Info:- Phone (416)227 1229 (Gary)

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DEADLINE ---for submitting articles, show notices, etc., for the November-December issue of the O.N.A. Numismatist, is NOVEMBER 15, 1989.

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# Greenland Trade Dollar - by Ken Forbes

In regard to the article by Mr. E. J. Vaskas, subject - GREENLAND TRADE DOLLAR, in July, Aug 1989 issue of O.N.A.

As a dealer of 35 years, specializing in Foreign Coins, with a fairly extensive knowledge of this field, especially on the subject of CROWNS from 1484 on up, on a world wide basis, I go all out to find out, or know what needs to be known from a historical, scarcity, and current value information.

The article by Mr. Vaskas pretty well takes care of the known facts, and the controversy surrounding where they were used, where they were made, and where they ended up being used as currency, although there are some errors in his article, I would like to add the following information on the so-called Greenland Dollar, that was not touched on.



## 1771 Greenland Trade Dollar:

Davenport #411 : Hede #21 : Craig #78 : Krause 1985 (2 Vol. set) : All of these reference list under DENMARK, which is where this date was struck at the mint in Copenhagen.

543 pieces struck in 1771

44,900 pieces struck in 1774 for a total of 45,443 pcs.

At present, subject to revision, the pieces known to exist are: 17 pieces, all in museums

4 pieces in private hands in U.S.A.

## 1777 Greenland Trade Dollar:

Davenport #412 : Hede #9 : Craig #78 (Under Denmark in error) : Krause 1985 (2 Vol. set) under NORWAY which is where this date was struck at the mint in Kongsberg.

50,001 pieces struck

At present, subject to revisions, the pieces known to exist are:

8 or 9 pieces in museums

4 pieces in private hands in the U.S.A.

## Price Structure of either 1771 or 1777:

I have records of what they have sold for, however as either date of these coins come up for sale on a world wide basis so seldom, but depending on condition, for lower grades the price would be between \$4000 to \$6000 U.S. A most recent record I have is the 1771 in B.U. at \$25,000 U.S.

Krause 1985 (2 Vol. set) shows the 1771 under DENMARK and the 1777 under NORWAY, Davenport and Hede indicate the same, the prime reason for this is the fact that these are the countries they were made in.

Krause 1985 (2 Vol. set) indicates that the 1771 is twice the price of the 1777, in either case the Krause prices are too high in my opinion, in light of what they have sold for in recent times.

I have never handled one of these pieces. The above observations are based on research. However, as I have indicated, I keep a close eye on crowns and their prices, for reasons outlined earlier.

Inquiries or comments - write to the O.N.A. N.I. F.R.N.S.  
author....

*Ken Forbes*  
Professional Numismatist.

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CONVENTION CALENDAR

- October 14 Hamilton Coin Club Show - Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 58, 1180 Barton St. E. 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Free admission. Info:- Hamilton Coin Club, P.O. Box 9271, Stoney Creek, Ont., L8G 3X9.
- October 15 Tillsonburg Annual Coin & Hobby Show, Tillsonburg Community (Fair Grounds). Info: W. Baxter, 46 Queens St., Tillsonburg, Ont., N4G 3G9.
- October 27-29 (Torex Coin, Banknotes, Stamps, Jewellery, Watches, (Military Badges, Books, etc., at the Pearson Ballroom of the Ramada Hotel, 111 Carlton St., Toronto. Auction. Admission \$2.00. Info:- Ingrid Smith, (416) 920 6461 or 586 0098.
- October 29 Stratford Coin Club - Kiwanis Community Centre, Lakeside Drive, Stratford. Free admission. Info:- Stratford Coin Club, P.O. Box 262, Stratford, Ont., N5A 6T1.
- November 17-19 T.I.C.F., Lakeshore Inn, Toronto. Info: T.I.C.F. P.O. Box 973, Stn B, Willowdale, Ont., M2K 2T6, 1- (416) 229 COIN.
- December 3 (Metro Toronto Coin Exhibition (M.T.C.E.) Bond Place (Hotel, 65 Dundas Street, E., Toronto. Hours - (10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Admission \$2.00. 30 Bourse (Dealers. Free Grading and Numismatic advice. Info:- (Ingrid K. Smith, (416) 920 6461 or (416) 586 0098.
- March 31, 1990 North York Coin Club 30th Anniversary Coin Show & Banquet - North York Memorial Community Hall, 5110 Yonge St., Willowdale. Info:- North York Coin Club, P.O. Box 294, Stn A, Willowdale, Ont., M2N 5S9.
- April 28-29 1990 O.N.A. 28th Annual Convention - Holiday Inn, 30 Fairway Road, Kitchener. Info:- Waterloo Coin Society, P.O. Box 41, Waterloo, Ont., N2J 3Z6.

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LANDMARKS ON COINS

.....is another field the topical collector can find great enjoyment and a wealth of coins from around the world to make their choice.

Canada has a number of coins that fit into this category. Those that come to mind immediately are the 1939 silver dollar featuring the Centre Block and Peace Tower of the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa. The 1951 Commemorative 5 cent showing the nickel smelters; 1973 P.E.I. Centennial Dollar with the Provincial Legislature Building; the 1974 Winnipeg Centennial Dollar with scenes of Winnipeg; the Parliament Library on the 1976 dollar.

The U.S. coinage offers a number - the Lincoln cent, the Jefferson nickel, and their Commemorative series. Israel, Turkey, Hungary, Gibraltar, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, Austria, Russia, are just a few that you can add to the series. Many of these coins can be purchased for less than you think. Happy hunting and good luck!!

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COVER

Let's begin a coin menagerie!

Webster defines Menagerie as a (1) "Collection of Wild Animals kept for Exhibition (2) The Enclosure in which they are kept (3) Zoo."

Let's start with the coin used on this issue's cover- the South Africa "Springbok", a small African gazelle noted for its ability to leap high in the air. This 5 shilling .500 fine silver coin can be readily purchased for less than ten dollars.

Let's begin again with our own Canadian coins from our pocket change. Our five cents gives us two coins that fit into this topical collection- the beaver from almost any date, and the rabbit from the 1967 Commemorative coin. The caribou is found on our current 25 cent, and the cougar appears on the 1967 quarter.

1967 also features the wolf on our 50 cent, a bear and a moose on our Commemorative dollars. Also on our Coat of Arms are featured an elk, ram, and lion. The 1985 100 dollar gold coin features a big horn sheep. Also on our gold sovereigns 1908-1919 we see St. George and the dragon. This mythical serpent-like winged monster could fit into this category. One could suppose that St. George is astride a wild horse, and this could be classified as a wild animal.

If we have all these coins in our collection we are off to a good start, so let's move on to the United States.

The most familiar would be the buffalo that appeared on the Buffalo Nickels minted from 1913-1938. The magnificent animals roamed the Western plains by the millions, but were almost hunted to extinction prior to the turn of the 20th century for their hides. Many efforts are being successful today to enlarge herds of these animals. Also on their Commemorative Halves we find the grizzly bear, a catamount (U.S. puma) and a badger.



Our journey continues to Australia, where we find the Kangaroo prominently displayed in full flight on their coinage. Also a sheep appeared on their shilling from 1938-1963.

China has featured dragons on some of their coinage.

Elephants are featured on a number of countries coinage, and shouldn't be too hard to find.

Peru features a winged llama on their 1/2 and 1 sol 1966-1975.

Poland features the chamois lynx, beaver, moose, and bison, on their 100 Zlotych Environment Protection Commemorative Series.

Singapore shows the ox and tiger on their 10 dollar coins. A camel appears on

COVER (Cont'd)

ON Somalia 1970, 200 shilling coin commemorating their 10th Anniversary of Independence from British rule.

Also, on the Ceylon, Sri Lank coinage we can find a whole zoo of animals on their 5 rupees, .925 silver coin, to commemorate 2500 years of Buddhism. This country also features elephants on several denominations of their stiver and rix dollar coins.

These are but a few countries from which to choose coins for your collection. If you should decide to add birds, fish, and many domestic animals to this topical series, the list becomes endless.

There are many Fall Coin Shows featured in various areas. Plan to visit one or more of these shows. Search through the dealers' bargain boxes and begin your topical collection. It can be an inexpensive way to get further enjoyment from the hobby. One does not have to stay in the field of wild animals. Some of the other topics could be famous people, buildings, flowers, birds, and boats, to just name a few. I leave that decision up to you.

Happy hunting - looking forward to seeing a topical display at some future Coin Show.



T. Masters

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CONGRATULATIONS: TO...

AL BLIMAN

who was elected the new President of the C.N.A. Al's interest in Numismatics and the hobby is well known through his hard work. I'm sure the C.N.A. will continue to enjoy its success of the past under the tenure of Al's Presidency.

TO... TOM KENNEDY

who became the C.N.A. Area Director for South & West Ontario. Tom also has worked hard to further the interest of Numismatics, and I'm sure that all Clubs in his area will be hearing more from him on how the C.N.A. can benefit their organization.

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EX LIBRIS:

New books to the O.N.A. Library are always welcome, and I invite any member who has a book they have no longer use for, to donate it to the Library. At today's prices for books, and the O.N.A.'s limited budget, it becomes difficult to secure as many books as we would like. Books that have been added to the Library are as follows:  
 From Charlie Springborn - 1989 Edition World Coins - Krause & Mishler  
 Harry Eisenhauer - Canadian Paper Money Journal Vol 13-15 1977-79  
 John Regitko - Guidebook - British Commonwealth Coins, 3rd Edition  
 Royal Canadian Mint - 1988 Annual Report  
 Thomas Masters - Charltons 1989 Canadian Coins

I wish to thank all for their donations. Your contributions help us to maintain a viable service to our members.

T. Masters  
 Librarian

ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION



*Convention  
&  
Coin Show*

April 28 & 29, 1990

**Holiday Inn**

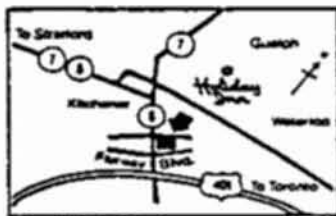
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