



THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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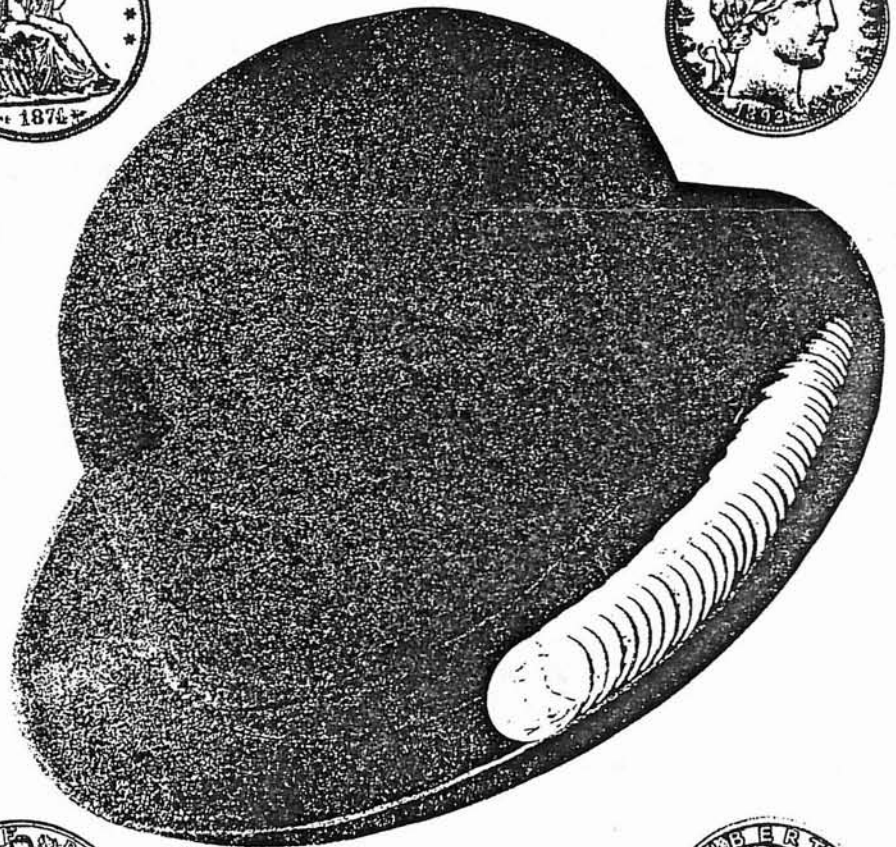
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Editor-Librarian

T. Masters

323 Van Street

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Coins Made Their Careers

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 & 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

The 1990 O.N.A. Convention has become history and will be remembered as a truly successful and learning convention. One of the most obvious things and the MOST important aspect of the Convention was the format of the Delegates Meeting. Comments have been heard and understood, that as far as a Delegates Meeting goes it was a "bust". I agree with those that feel this way, and changes have to be made to give this Meeting back to the Delegates.

What is the sense of getting up early, travelling a fair distance, to hear a Publisher talk on the merits of change in format, and difficulties arising from publishing a Numismatic Publication when all realize that it is just one of life's complexities and not novel to a particular segment? What could the Delegates take back to their Club from this Meeting? Zip! Zilch! Zero! Absolutely nothing. What is the answer?? I wished I knew and could wave a magic wand and all the changes would be in place.

The answer lies in the dedication of our Clubs and a promise to initiate change for the 1991. We want to hear from Club Correspondents and will incorporate as many of the suggestions as is humanly possible. We will make the "91" Delegates Meeting something that you will take back to your Clubs and say "Now, that was worthwhile and this is what I learned...."

Every attempt will be made to avoid the conflict in scheduling that occurred this year as I would have rather been on tour than where I was. One important area that will have to be addressed is an opportunity of dialogue for the Delegates if the meeting is to have any meaning at all. Are speakers really needed for the Delegates' Breakfast? What manner can we improve the attendance and representation from the Member Clubs? Many questions have been posed and we will try for answers, but we also need your help! Please write to me or the O.N.A. general mailing address or hound your Area Directors until they promise to see that your concerns are brought forward at a Directors Meeting.

The Draw exceeded my expectations with sales totalling 604 books of tickets!! This is the highest mark ever and the end result is that cheques amounting to over \$1,200.00 will be going out to Clubs and Associations for their support in this Draw. When you think of it, this is a truly significant money earner for Clubs, with no outlay of cash and no possibility of loss. A full draw report is contained elsewhere.

It was with sorrow and a sense of loss when I heard of the death of Arnold Conrad. Arnold was a relative newcomer to the Ontario Numismatic Association but, in that short period of time, a bond had been formed with him and his dedication and organizational abilities through his staunch support of the O.N.A.'s annual sale of lottery tickets.

Arnold was a hard working Member of the Brantford Numismatic Society. This giant of a man, who would help anyone at anytime, will be sadly missed by his friends and fellow numismatists.

EDITORIAL

The O.N.A. Convention is now history, and we will await whether this Convention was a financial success. I know it was a Numismatic success, but everything boils down to money today. Bills have to be paid and so forth. I'm sure that financial report will match the success of the Convention.

Each Coin Club faces the same problems of how to pay their bills and balance their books. It's one of the prime concerns with many of the Clubs I belong to, and each year they try to find other alternatives to raising Membership Fees.

The O.N.A. for a number of years have given you the member, and you the Clubs, ideas to help your own cause. First, the O.N.A. asks each of its members to sell one (and I repeat one) book of tickets for their annual draw. From that book your Club can receive a \$2.00 rebate only if you write the name of your Club on the cover. Next, the O.N.A. sends each Club 5 books (and once again I repeat 5 books) of tickets. This represents a rebate of \$10.00 if all tickets are sold and your Club appears on the cover. Surely every Club can sell 5 books of tickets or get some of their members to sell them. One method is to sell these tickets at your meetings. Another way is to include a book at each member with your newsletter. I can tell you the latter way is the most successful, and two Clubs I know of use this method to their advantage. These two Clubs, for a number of years, have sold one third of all the tickets sold, and both these Clubs have a solid financial statement.

When I look over the list, some of those Clubs that worry about their financial balance, sell the least tickets.

Let's review the ticket sales-

2 Clubs sold one third
5 Clubs sold another one third
26 Clubs sold the remaining one third

I would hope that your Club is in the first two thirds of these sales.

Let me give you some more facts.

Both the Stratford and Ingersoll Clubs have received over \$1000.00 each in rebates since the O.N.A. offered this incentive program. That money has gone a long way to promoting their numismatic program. If it has been a benefit to those Clubs, it can benefit you also. Think about it next year. Don't be satisfied with the the five books sent. Request more, like many of those Clubs whose numbers are shown in the double digits.

Members-- you too can help your Club. One book is no trouble to sell - request more books, help your Club make sure you write your Club's name on the cover. This is one way to releave your Club of some of their money worries.

I congratulate all who did take part and sell their tickets, and I look forward to more participation next year.

T. Masters

DEADLINE:

for the July-August edition is July 15, 1990

ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 1989 TO DECEMBER 31, 1989

GENERAL ACCOUNT

Petty Cash @ Jan. 1, 1989	\$ 12.00
Bank Balance @ Jan. 1, 1989 (General Fund)	\$1654.67
Bank Balance @ Jan. 1, 1989 (Library)	\$ 83.84
Bank Balance @ Jan. 1, 1989 (Audio Visual)	\$ 53.77

\$1804.28

\$1804.28

RECEIPTS

Memberships (Regular, Junior & Club)	\$2136.00
O.N.A. Convention Draw	\$2226.91
Club Ticket Rebate	\$ 98.00
Bank Interest	\$ 123.65
Premium U.S.A. Money	\$ 3.61
Lapel Pins	\$ 21.00
Advertising	\$ 40.00
O.N.A. Convention (Partial Profits)	\$ 900.00
Refund Of O.N.A. Convention Advance (1989)	\$ 200.00
Transfer From Contingency Account	\$2300.00

\$8049.17 \$8049.17

EXPENSES

O.N.A. Publication "Ontario Numismatist"	\$2708.55
Postage	\$ 93.50
Printing	\$ 39.58
Safety Deposit & P.O. Box Rental	\$ 138.70
Archives	\$ 226.15
C.N.A. & A.N.A. Dues	\$ 98.16
Office Supplies	\$ 161.84
Telephone	\$.34
Honorariums	\$ 700.00
C.N.A. Delegate	\$ 100.00
Bookbinding	\$ 197.76
Speaker's Circuit	\$ 123.40
Executive Meeting	\$ 19.93
Executive & Life Membership Badges	\$ 26.65
Presentation Boxes	\$ 109.50
Award Of Merit	\$ 27.16
Transfer To Life Membership	\$ 500.00
Transfer To Contingency Account	\$2300.00
O.N.A. Convention Advance (1990)	\$ 200.00

\$7771.22 \$7771.22

Excess Receipts Over Expenses

\$ 277.95

Petty Cash @ December 31, 1989	\$ 15.50
Bank Balance @ December 31, 1989 (General Fund)	\$1929.12
Bank Balance @ December 31, 1989 (Library)	\$ 83.84
Bank Balance @ December 31, 1989 (Audio Visual)	\$ 53.77

\$2082.23 \$2082.23

ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 1989 TO DECEMBER 31, 1989

GENERAL ACCOUNT - BANK RECONCILIATION

Bank Pass Book Balance @ December 31, 1989	\$2093.73
(2) Outstanding Cheques	\$ 27.00
Statement Bank Balance @ December 31, 1989	\$2066.73

CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT

Bank Balance @ January 1, 1989	\$8010.50
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RECEIPTS

Interest Guaranteed Investment Certificates	\$375.00	
Bank Interest	\$645.66	
Transfer From General Account	\$2300.00	

	\$3320.66	\$3320.66

EXPENSES

Transfer To General Account	\$2300.00	\$2300.00
Excess Receipts Over Expenses		\$1020.66
Bank Balance @ December 31, 1989		\$9031.16

INSURANCE ACCOUNT

Bank Balance @ January 1, 1989	\$1216.40
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RECEIPTS

23 Club Premiums	\$805.00	
Bank Interest	\$125.08	

	\$930.08	\$930.08

EXPENSES

Insurance Premium	\$350.00	
Hardship Club Premium	\$ 35.00	
Printing	\$ 59.51	
Postage	\$ 14.44	

	\$458.95	\$458.95
Excess Receipts Over Expenses		\$471.13
Bank Balance @ December 31, 1989		\$1687.53

ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 1989 TO DECEMBER 31, 1989

CASH ASSET SUMMARY @ December 31, 1989

Cash & Bank Balance - General Account	\$2082.23
Bank Balance - Contingency Account	\$9031.16
Guaranteed Investment Certificates - Contingency	\$4000.00
Bank Balance - Insurance Account	\$1687.53

	\$16800.92 \$16800.92
 Cash Assets (1988)	 \$15031.18
 Increase In Cash Assets	 \$ 1769.74

LIFE MEMBERSHIP ACCOUNT

Bank Balance @ January 1, 1989	\$1044.90
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RECEIPTS

Life Memberships Not Invested	\$400.00
Interest Guaranteed Investment Certificates	\$462.62
Bank Interest	\$160.98
Transfer From General Account	\$500.00

	\$1523.60 \$1523.60

EXPENSES

Memberships Dues (1989)	\$700.00 \$700.00
 Excess Receipts Over Expenses	 \$823.60
 Bank Balance @ December 31, 1989	 \$1868.50

LIFE MEMBERSHIP ASSETS

Guaranteed Investment Certificates	\$4100.00
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The Bank Accounts are maintained at
The Canada Trust, Belmont Branch
Kitchener, Ontario

Treasurer Bruce H. Lesyniak

This Treasurer's Report was approved at the O.N.A.
General Membership meeting at Kitchener, on
Saturday, April 28, 1990.

DELEGATES' REPORTS:

At this year's Delegates Breakfast at our Annual Convention, five written reports were given to me. The edited version of these reports are as follows:

INGERSOLL COIN CLUB meets third Monday each month, except July and August. Membership 123 plus 9 life members. Cost per membership \$5.00. Very financially sound. Publish a seven page newsletter each month. Meetings feature - Numismatic Education, Auction, Fellowship, Draws, and Social. Participate with Ingersoll Kiwanis Club in April each year to raise money for Disabled Children. 1990 will be I.C.C. 25th year of participation - total raised for Disabled Children during those 25 years - almost \$17,000.00.

Recommend to O.N.A. that they up-date their Audio Visual library and look to purchasing new Audio Visuals and VHS programs.

NORTH YORK COIN CLUB meets 4th Tuesday each month, also meet during summer months. Membership 74, average attendance of about 35. 1990 is their 30th Anniversary, and they will issue a wooden token to record this 30th Anniversary. Meeting consists of Numismatic Education Draws, Auction, Fellowship, and Social. Club financially sound, and able to project a strong impact to the Numismatic family in the Toronto area.

Noted they had hosted two O.N.A. Conventions in 1976 and 1987.

ST. CATHARINES COIN CLUB Meets third Tuesday each month, at 108 Russell Ave. Membership at a low ebb of about twenty. Since 1988-89 many of their founding members and older members have passed on, reflecting somewhat on their decline in membership. Meetings consist of Numismatic Education, Bourse, and Auction. They stress that members should attend meetings of other Clubs in the Niagara area. Also perhaps in the future all these Clubs may join and become one large Niagara Region Club with meetings rotating in St. Catharines, Fort Erie, and Niagara Falls. It was noted their Annual Coin Show would be on Saturday, September 29th, at the Community Centre, 108 Russell Ave., St. Catharines.

STRATFORD COIN CLUB Meetings 2nd Monday each month, doors open 7:00 p.m. to allow members to buy, sell, and trade, from bourse dealers and members. Meetings consist of Numismatic Education, Bourse, Draws, Fellowship, Auction, and Social. Past meetings have featured Newfoundland and Foreign Currency, Treasure Hunting Films. Perth County Medals and Tokens, and a Christmas Party. Average attendance of about 35-45 members and guests. June features a catered banquet, and this year's speaker will be Rev. McCome, speaking on the importance of Humour in our Lives.

Noted their Annual Coin Show, October 28th, Kiwanis Community Centre, Lakeside Drive, Stratford. Also noted it was their 30th Anniversary Coin Show.

WOODSTOCK COIN CLUB meetings 1st Thursday each month, Poultry Building meeting room, Woodstock Fair Grounds. Membership 23 up from 10 in 1989. Believe some of this increase due to the fact the O.N.A. 1989 Convention was held in Woodstock. In 1989 re-introduced the Woodstock Coin Club Publication, and have made one member responsible for a meeting during the year. 1988 produced a medal to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the first baseball game played in Canada, at Beachville just west of Woodstock. Now producing their own reverse design die, depicting a Farm Scene which will be used for several future medals. One such is the 100th Anniversary of the World Champion,

WOODSTOCK (Cont'd)

Tug of War Team from Embro, in Oxford County, just west and north of Woodstock.

Meetings feature, Buy, Sell, & Trade, from 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. then Numismatic Education, Draws, Auction, Fellowship, and Social. Each member is encouraged to donate a coin to the coin box which is drawn for at each meeting.

Believe some of this past year's success is due to the President getting as many people involved as possible.

1990 O.N.A. DISPLAY WINNERS

CANADIAN PAPER	-	1st	-	Mike Hollingshead
FOREIGN COINS	-	1st	-	Noreen Howcroft
		2nd	-	Ross Blakey
		3rd	-	Tillsonburg Coin Club (Charles Laister)
MEDALS & TOKENS	-	1st	-	Norman Howcroft
		2nd	-	Noreen Howcroft
		3rd	-	Max Brail
MISCELLANEOUS	-	1st	-	Wilf Becker
BEST OF SHOW	-			Noreen Howcroft

EDITOR'S NOTE: I found it very strange that there were no displays entered in the Canadian Decimal or Foreign Paper Category. Let's make sure these categories have some entries for 1991. Prepare your display now! Congratulations to all winners, your participation helped to make this Convention a success.

AWARD OF MERITDON ROBB

Don's contribution to the Numismatic Hobby is numerous. He is the Past President of the Home Club, Waterloo Coin Society, and the Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors, currently Secretary, Editor and Auction Coordinator of the W.C.S. Member of most Clubs in the area, Board Member of the J. Douglas Ferguson Foundation, past Director for Ontario C.N.A., collector of Newfoundland, Canadian Coins, Commemorative Medals & Tokens of Canada's 1967 Centennial Year and Canadian Wood Tokens. One who is always eager to impart Numismatic knowledge with others, has been speaker at numerous coin meetings and banquets. In 1990 was the General Chairman for the O.N.A. Convention. A Most deserving recipient for the O.N.A. 1990 Award of Merit. Congratulations Don!



BEST CLUB BULLETIN AWARD

1990 saw the introduction of this Award, and the Ingersoll Coin Club Coin News was judged the best of those entered. This Publication is issued 10 times each year of at least seven pages. It features a President-Editorial message, Minutes, Meeting Notes. Feature Article, and Auction. Editor is T. Masters. Honourable mention goes to Nickel Belt,

BEST CLUB BULLETIN AWARD (Cont'd)

Huronian, and Stratford Coin Club Bulletins. Rules state that Ingersoll Coin Club will not be eligible to win this award for another three years. This rule is to encourage other Clubs to produce a better newsletter.

IN MEMORIAMARNOLD CONRAD

I'm sorry to report the recent death of Arnold Conrad of Brantford. Arnold was a member of several Coin Clubs in the area, and the O.N.A., and a long-time member of the Brantford Numismatic Society. For several years he was their treasurer and most recently their secretary. He was the prime worker for their Annual Coin Shows. His devotion to the B.N.S. cannot be measured with these few words. His death will leave a heavy burden for members of the B.N.S. to shoulder. The Numismatic Family in the community has lost a great worker and friend.

To Arnold's family we express our deepest sympathy.

CONVENTION CALENDAR

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| June 22-24 | (TOREX Auction and Show - Auction held on the first day |
| October 26-28 | (at 7:00 p.m. Also on Saturday at 6:00 p.m. Coins, (Paper Money, Stamps, Jewellery, Watches, Military, etc. (Primrose Hotel, 111 Carlton St., Toronto, Admission (\$3.00 Info: Ingrid K. Smith, P.O. Box 865. Adelaide (St. P.O., Toronto, M5C 2K1, Tel. 1-416-586 0098. |
| August 16-19 | C.N.A. Annual Convention, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Vancouver, British Columbia. Info: C.N.A. 1990, P.O. Box 86315N, Vancouver, British Columbia, V7L 4K6. |
| August 18 | Collingwood Coin & Stamp Club's Annual Show, Leisure Time Club, 100 Minnesota St., Collingwood. 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Free admission. Lunch available. Info: Jim Alexander (705) 445 5744. |
| August 23-26 | A.N.A. Convention, Seattle, Washington. Info: A.N.A. 1990 Convention, P.O. Box 88984, Seattle, Washington, U.S.A., 98188. More info to follow. |
| September 8 | Huronian Numismatic Association. Coins, Stamps & Antique Fall Show. Bayfield Mall, Bayfield St. N., Barrie, Ont. Info: P.O. Box 243, Barrie, Ont., L4M 4T2. |
| September 29 | St. Catharines Coin Club Coin Show, Russell Ave., Community Centre, 108 Russell Ave., St. Catharines, Info: St. Catharines Coin Club, P.O. Box 1492, St. Catharines, Ont., L2R 7J9. |
| September 30 | Sarnia Coin Club, Canterbury Inn, 1485 London Road, Sarnia. U.S. & Canadian dealers. Free Admission. Info: Carl Williamson, 931 Greendale St., Sarnia, N7V 3P4. Tel. (519) 337 9191. |

CONVENTION CALENDAR (Cont'd)

- October 14 Tillsonburg Coin Club's Annual Coin & Hobby Show, Tillsonburg Community Centre (Fair Grounds). Info: W. Baxter, 46 Queens Street, Tillsonburg, Ont. N4G 3G9.
- October 28 Stratford Coin Club's 30th Anniversary Coin Show, Kiwanis Community Centre, Lakeside Drive, Stratford. Free Admission. Info: Stratford Coin Club, P.O. Box 262, Stratford, Ont., N5A 6T1.
- Second Sunday Each Month Ottawa Coin & Stamp Dealers Association Show, at the Nepean Sportsplex, Woodroffe Ave., 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Info: Allan Davis, P.O. Box 307, Carp, Ont., DOA 1L0

1991

- April 26-27-28 Ontario Numismatic Association 29th Annual Convention, Holiday Inn, Oshawa
Host - Oshawa & District Coin Club
INFO: Oshawa & District Coin Club, P.O. Box 212, Oshawa, Ont., L1H 7L1

CONVENTION CALENDAR IS A FREE SERVICE!!!!!!

GET THOSE SHOW NOTICES IN NOW. DEADLINE FOR JULY-AUGUST ISSUE IS...

JULY 15, 1990

F O R S A L E

J. KUBICKI
23756 Dolphin Cove
Lagun Niguel, CA. 92677

LARGE SELECTION OF PRE-WWII POSTAL HISTORY MATERIAL
ON FOLLOWING TOPICS.....

Pilsudski Legions, Polish-Soviet War, Military Mail 1921-39, Civilian Mail WWII, Gen. Gouv., POW & Concentration Camps, Post WWII Early Censorships, and Picture Postcards: Historical, Legions, Patriotic, Military and Views from Vilno, Lwow and Surrounding Areas. Free Lists of Banknotes, Military Medals & Badges, Commemorative Medals, Pre-WWII and Recent. Some Books, A.K. Badges, Coins

THANK YOU to the following people and organizations for their donations to the O.N.A. Library....

- Charles Springborn -- Marysville, Michigan
- J. Douglas Ferguson Foundation Royal Canadian Mint
- Ontario Numismatic Association Ingersoll Coin Club
- Jeff Fournier -- Sudbury Thomas Masters -- London

T. Masters
Librarian

ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

BOX 33, WATERLOO, ONTARIO, CANADA N2J 3Z6



FOUNDED - 1962

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May 16, 1989

P R E S S R E L E A S E

The Official Report on the 1990 Ontario Numismatic Association Convention Medallions is:

Issue		No. Struck	Available
Convention Strike.			
Gold Plate.	(Registration)	75	0
Bronze		125	15
.999 Silver		45	0
24 carat Gold		3	0
Uniface. Convention Die.			
Gold Plate	(Display)	8	0
Silver Plate	(Display)	8	0
Bronze	(Display)	8	0
Nickel/Silver	(Committee)	25	0

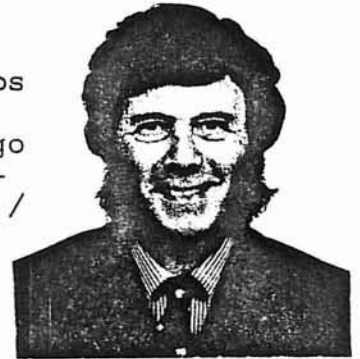
Note: The Display Uniface that were not awarded have been scored and not shown as available.

The few Bronze available can be obtained through the Ontario Numismatic Association, Box 33, Waterloo, Ontario. N2J 3Z6

Issue Price \$7.00

DIE AVAILABLE FOR PERSONALIZED MEDALS FOR 1990 C.N.A. CONVENTION

The North Shore Numismatic Society, the host Club for the 1990 C.N.A. Convention, has paid for a die which can be used by C.N.A. Members and Clubs for 38 mm personalized medals for the 1990 C.N.A. Convention. The die shows the C.N.A. Members' logo with the Voyageur Canoe, and below the canoe "VANCOUVER, B.C. / HYATT REGENCY HOTEL / AUGUST 16-19 / 1990 / CONVENTION". The rental fee for the die is \$35.00 payable to C.N.A. 1990, Box 86315, North Vancouver, B.C., V7L 4K6.

**JÉRÔME H. REMICK**

The die was engraved by Pressed Metal Products, 505 Alexander Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6A 1C8. Medal prices run \$5.04 each for 25 to 50 medals, \$3.92 for 50 to 99 medals, and \$3.35 for 100 to 249 medals.



Pressed Metal Products struck a small issue of personalized 1990 C.N.A. Convention medals for Jerry Remick. The reverse side of the 38 mm medals shows Remick's numismatic interests and his name and address. Specimens are available in copper, gold plated copper, and silver plated copper, postpaid at \$3.00 each, or 3 for \$8.50 from

Jerry Remick, Box 9183, Ste. Foy, P.Q., G1V 4B1.

Personalized medals of identical design were issued by at least several C.N.A. Members for the 1984-1989 Conventions. Remick can supply specimens of his medals for each of these Conventions in the 3 metals listed above postpaid, at \$3.00 each, or 3 for &.75.

PARTICIPATION BY "YN" IN ALL YOUR CLUB'S ACTIVITIES IS

THE KEY TO KEEPING THEM ACTIVE IN YOUR CLUB

by Jerry Remick

Participation by young numismatists (YN) is all your coin club's activities is the key to keeping them as active members in your club. This implies that club officers and all members have to pay more attention to those members 18 years and younger, and to aid and encourage them in the hobby.

The Association des Collectionneurs de Monnaies Des Laurentides (ACML), founded in 1984, has a total membership of 71, including 19 YN. Monthly meetings average 20 to 25 members including 6 to 7 YN.

I recently asked Bob James, ACML's vice president and the officer responsible for the YN program, how his club had gotten and kept so many YN members. He told me "The first hour of our club's monthly meeting is open and informal. We try to treat the young members as equals, no matter how rudimentary their collections are. We try to explain any questions and show them and guide them to better methods or easier ways to keep their collections. The main thing is to show interest in them and to encourage them. Also stress that all have to start at some point in time,

PARTICIPATION BY "YN" IN ALL YOUR CLUB'S ACTIVITIES (Cont'd)

even at the nickel and dime level. Collecting is the point-- not the \$100. or \$100. coin. Most of them are groups of friends from local schools and share on projects and information sources. A few are children of members." A larger than normal portion of this club are ladies and are very active.

YN and adult members participate equally in all the ACML'S activities. The YN elect two directors from their age group and the adult members elect two directors from their age group.

At each meeting, there is an auction of ten or so inexpensive numismatic pieces restricted to bids from the YN group. A YN runs the auction and assists at the auction later on for all Club members.

There is a door prize for the YN and another for adults.

Each month there is a contest for the YN. A recent contest was to design a 10¢ Canadian coin for the year 2,000. Seven designs were submitted. Another project was a research-essay contest on the 1943 Canadian 5¢ coin. Prizes for each contest are scrip, valid in club auctions and are as follows: first prize (\$5.00), second prize (\$3.00), and third prize (\$1.00). The prizes for the 2,000 Canadian dime contest were more elaborate and consisted of a 1990 proof set for first prize, a proof silver 1990 dollar as second prize and an unc 1990 set for third prize. Drawings for the 2,000 Canadian dime and winning essays for the 1943 nickel were published in the club's monthly bulletin and on display at the club's April 1990 Coin Show!

Each month there is a theme contest for numismatic pieces open to all club members with a prize of \$5.00 for the winning YN entry, plus prizes for adult entries. This contest ensures that the YN group sees a wide variety of numismatic material including coins, banknotes, tokens, medals, etc. The May 1990 contest was to bring as wide a selection as possible from as many countries as possible of coins and banknotes showing birds.

Much of the credit for the ACML'S YN program must go to its president Claude Proulx who got the YN program under way about two years ago. Claude recently gave a three part grading program attended by 9 YN members.

The YN group have several pages and sometimes more of material for them or written by them, in each monthly issue of their club's bulletin. There is a page devoted to announcements and happenings for them as well as news of other YN members. The pieces for their monthly auction are listed on a separate page. Winning entries on their monthly contest are also published.

YN are encouraged to participate in the ACML'S two yearly coin shows. The judges award separate first, second, and third prizes (a 50 mm club medal) to YN for the best exhibits. Exhibits of winning entries for various YN contests are also on display at each coin show.

Each new YN member receives an envelope with a book for registering the coins in his/her collection, a few minor coins, other numismatic pieces and a catalogue on Canadian coins.

The Club de Numismates de Bas St. Laurent with headquarters in Rimouski, Quebec, has had an active YN program for the last 6 or 7 years under the direction of past club presidents Yvon Marquis and Diane Devesque.

Some former YN members are now adult members. The quality of YN exhibits at the club's annual coin show is very high. YN members get reduced rates to club banquets, etc.

PARTICIPATION BY "YN" IN ALL YOUR CLUB'S ACTIVITIES (Cont'd)

As can be seen from the above, each young numismatist must be made to feel that he/she is an important member of the club, and implicated in all club projects. Special competitive projects for YN members alone are necessary. All club members must take an interest in their club's youthful members. A gift package of numismatic pieces and a reference catalogue is a welcome gift for each new YN member. By doing this and following the above-mentioned activities, your club can have an active and permanent group of YN members, some of whom will later become adult members.

Further details on the YN program for the ACML may be had from either Bob James or Claude Proulx, % L'Association des Collectionneurs de Monnaie des Laurentides, Inc., 979 Boulevard Lasalette, Bellefeuille, Quebec, JOR 1A0.

Yvon Marquis and Diane Levesque, Box 687, Bic, Quebec, GOL 1B0 can give further details on the YN program for the Club de Numismates de Bas St. Laurent.

Coins Made Their Careers

(COVER STORY)

by Clarence T. Hubbard

There are some men who earn a living by buying and selling coins, a few who do it by "manufacturing" them. But of all coin-connected ways to make a living, this may be the most fascinating.....

The fabulous career of T. Nelson Downs was odd, indeed. He made a fortune out of a dozen or so half dollars. That was about all he used; other than a derby hat and later, a coin ladder.

Down was a "coin manipulator". He was an advanced coin magician, a specialist who performed only coin tricks. There have been many others since, but none who "stuck to their last" as he did. He never deviated from his coin routine.

Coming from a small midwest town wherein later he became the owner of considerable downtown property, Downs, as a young man found that he possessed wonderful skill as a sleight-of-hand artist, especially with coins. So he built a vaudeville act around what the conjurers call "The Miser's Dream".

In this demonstration a hard derby hat is borrowed from the audience. The performer with his sleeves rolled back, catches coins allegedly "from the air" and deposits them in the borrowed derby hat. Down used genuine half dollars in this trick, sometimes producing two dozen. Before this showy trick, he would manipulate coins, vanishing and reproducing them, and wind up with the "coin ladder".

This was more for a showy climax. The coins he deposited in the hat were placed in a tumbler, the tumbler put on top of a ladder made of mirrors. Another empty glass was placed at the foot of the ladder. At his command the coins left the upper tumbler, trickling down the mirrored slats, clinking and flashing, and landing up in the lower glass.

T. Nelson Downs' act was just as acceptable in Berlin, Germany, as the Palace in New York, so he travelled the world over. He was acknowledged by magicians to be the "King of Coins" in his expert and finished performances.

COINS MADE THEIR CAREERS (Cont'd)

A business man in Schenectady, Chester Woodin, an active Rotarian and owner of a building in the city, probably could command the title today. As an avocation he pursued sleight-of-hand but specialized with coins. After a TV appearance on the General Electric Station fan mail poured in from teenagers who had never heard of "coin manipulation" and were stunned with his finger abilities.

Most coin tricks are short in demonstration but the "Miser's Dream" as you can see is quite a production for it allows side flourishes with coins, such as pushing some through the bottom of the hat. As a coin routine it went out with the derby hat. Soft hats do not permit the necessary "clinks" when the coins arrive. Some magicians tried putting a China saucer inside of a soft hat--but only the derby was the real ticket. The produced coins, with a derby, could be held as a "roll" under the stiff brim.

Today the Miser's Dream is performed with "pails". I have one, made of tin, and the coins (I still use genuine half dollars) can be heard to drop as they are tossed in. Also the real half dollar has given way to the Roterberg magic coin. This is a coin about one third the thickness of a half dollar. It has corrugated edges which help the fingers to hold it and of course, due to the thinness, a conjuror can "stack" many more coins. But they don't clink too authentically. Rotenberg, the manufacturer, was a magic supply manufacturer in Chicago.

While vaudeville no longer supports any professional "coin manipulators" there are many good ones who play club dates, to say nothing of the doctors, dentists, lawyers and merchantmen who, as amateurs, keep the art of coin conjuring alive. The best performers today are to be found in these ranks. They usually have an association in every city.

Harry Houdini, whom I came to know, showed me a trick with four half dollars that he picked up in London. A half dollar was placed at each corner of a spread out handkerchief. He put a playing card over each coin. As he picked up the card, the coin was gone but found in another corner. Finally all four were in one corner.

To explain the secret would accomplish little. To "do it" requires hours of practice using basic sleights learned over a period of years.

Mercedes, a vaudeville magician, would close his act by leaning against a table and running a half dollar back and forth on his out-stretched hand, over the upper part of his fingers. It brought him tremendous applause. This is not a trick but a bit of effective juggling. Turn your right hand palm down, place a half dollar between your first and second finger. With your thumb push it over, it will fall between the next two fingers then to the third and back again. Each time the coin turns completely over.

This trick became habitual with me. I used to do it unconsciously while sitting in railroad stations and people would gather around to watch me.

An English prestidigitator who appears at the better places--I saw him do this at the Waldorf Astoria--would borrow a half dollar and cause it to enter a common, empty Coca Cola bottle. Donning gloves, he would smash the bottle with a hammer and extract the borrowed half dollar. A hint to you anyway--the coin that went into the bottle was a substituted half dollar cut in two lengthwise, and a sheet of rubber inserted between the two halves. The coin itself was also quartered, which permitted it to fold up and be pushed into the bottle through the neck, but would expand open when it hit bottom.





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May 16, 1990

P R E S S R E L E A S E

STRATFORD SWANS SOAR TO RECORD HEIGHTS

In an unbelievable show of confidence, bidders at the recent Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors pushed the 3 month old Stratford Swanbucks to new heights with spirited bidding seeing 5 of the S.R.O issue hammered down at \$4.50 each. When President Larry Walker was asked what he thought was behind the unprecedented popularity of such a new issue, he was quick to reply; " I BELIEVE THAT COLLECTORS ARE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING THAT IS SOLIDLY BACKED, AND REDEEMABLE AT ANY TIME!"

While President Larry may be correct, it appears that much of the credit can be attributed to the Numismatic Press as orders poured in from across Canada and a few of the Northern States immediately following release of an article in the C.C.N. and the C.A.W.M.C. TIMBER TALK on the merits of the issue.

Future plans of the Stratford Coin Club call for a 1991 issue that will be restricted to a maximum of 250 (same as 1990). One important change will be in the maximum number allowed to each order being reduced from five to four. It was felt this would allow for wider distribution and prevent speculation in the product. There is a \$1.00 postage and handling charge for all orders that are shipped. Orders will be accepted at any time but delivery will not be until after Jan 1, 1991. Anyone not wanting to be disappointed can write to the STRATFORD COIN CLUB. P.O. BOX 262, STRATFORD,ONT. N5A 6T1

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