

Welcome to the C.N.A. E-Bulletin Number 14 – June 10, 2005

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INTRODUCTION

This publication is about money. Not just collectible money, but about money generally. And I will be rolling in a huge pile of it soon, just as soon as I respond to a quantity of e-mails. Over the past month alone, I have received e-mails from relatives of people that have passed away recently. And they all want to send millions to my bank account as soon as I give them all the details...as well as send them money to show my good faith. Some of the people that have contacted me recently are:

Moses Odiaka of the Union Bank of Nigeria in Lagos, Nigeria, who has a client that was among those who died in a plane crash with \$18.5 million in his coded account.

Mrs. Dorothy Maxwell from Libya whose husband passed away with “a substantial amount of money in millions of dollars” and, because she only has six months to live, is looking to donate this fund to either a charity/orphanage home or devoted God fearing individual.” (what, me?)

Daniel Mensah of the Grand Finance and Trust Bank of the Benin Republique, who wishes to transfer \$28,500,000 US from the bank “through a reliable and honest person who will be capable and fit to provide a bank account immediately to receive this money quietly.”

Daniel Mensah, the accountant/auditor of the Finance Corporation in Cotonou, Bénin Republique whose client was the president of the Dominican Tobacco Exporters Association and who also wants to turn over millions.” (Lucky me, the same person wants to send me two piles of money.)

Miss Cynthia Matins of the Ivory Coast, whose father told her just before he passed away mysteriously in France (her Uncle was suspected of murder) that he placed \$5,700,000.00 US in a bank account in her name, gave her all the necessary legal documents to this fund and now says that she is “in a sincere desire of my humble assistance.”

Miss Queen Camara of Sierra Leonean whose father passed away mysteriously in France (her Uncle was suspected of murder) and who had placed a similar amount to the above in a bank account who also doesn't know what to do without my help. (Is this the same woman as the previous writer?)

Allen David of Abidjan-Cote d'Ivoire, whose late father deposited \$15,000,000 US in a trunk box at a local security company which he diverted while he was director general for Gold and Diamond Mining Co-Operative in Sierra Leone and who wants me to assist him in the transfer of this money to my account.

Daniel Kubah also of Abidjan-Cote D'Ivoire (I wonder if he and the previous writer know each other, because they both come from the same place and both state: “For my safety and security of my future I am making this proposal to you for our mutual benefit. This however is not mandatory nor will I in any manner compel you to honour it against your will”) whose father passed away while travelling abroad and whose Uncle is suspected of masterminding the murder, who told him that he had deposited \$12.500,000 US deposited in a bank in the son's name.

All the senders state the same things:

1. Can you honestly help me from your heart?
2. Can I completely trust you?
3. Are you a God-fearing person?
4. You must help me relocate in your country
5. I have suffered a lot of setbacks as a result of incessant political crisis
6. I don't know what to do without you
7. What percentage of the total amount in question will be good for you after the money is in your account? (with some offering 20%, but they don't say if that percentage is subject to negotiation)
8. Your profile pushed me to send you this mail (although in the next sentence they admit not knowing anything about me)
9. I got your contact address on my desperate search for a honest person.
10. Send money first to show your good faith.

Boy, they had me until that last one! Or maybe it was the second-last one.

So what did I learn?

1. Rich people die mysteriously while traveling overseas.
2. There are a lot of suspected evil Uncles out there.
3. A lot of widows need my help.
4. There's a sucker born every minute.

No, telling them to simply hold back a portion of the money they want to send me doesn't work.

WE HAVE MAIL

From Wendell Wolka: "It was a pleasure to have you visit us at the Ohio State Numismatic Association show in May. Everyone I talked to really enjoyed the humor and, yes, the message of your after-dinner speech. You are always welcome in the Buckeye State (unlike some of the folks from Ann Arbor, Michigan - kidding, kidding; a little American College Football humor)!" - Okay, we're willing to give the people from Ann Arbor equal time.

From Frank Fesco: "You are doing a great job with the new E-Bulletin. It is a breath of fresh air in a somewhat stolid area of numismatic media expression. Keep up the good work." - Or as I said, it is a bit of sanity in an otherwise unsanitary hobby. We are a fan of yours too, Frank, always enjoying your contributions to the City of Ottawa Coin Club bulletin.

From Mike Gale: "I am e-mailing concerning an error I have found in a new 2005 Victory 5-cent coin. It may not be significant, nevertheless I found three in a roll. On the reverse? Queen side where the D.G. is at and before, two beads are near missing." – Congratulations on being the first to report an oddity to us. Anybody else found anything? With all the publicity the Victory nickel is getting, we wonder ourselves which side should be called the obverse and which side the reverse, although tradition would rule that the side the Queen appears on continues to be referred to as the obverse. (Lest we receive e-mails telling us that we were wrong in referring to the Victory 5-cent piece as a "nickel" since Canada does not have pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, etc., have you seen the ad on TV in which the voice-over refers to it as a "nickel?")

From Michael Walsh: "Thank you for your continuing efforts in bringing us these wonderful bulletins. No matter how busy I am, when the CNA E-Bulletin arrives, I stop everything to read it from top to bottom. I am in the middle of my long run of hundred-hour weeks preparing the next Torex Auction, but I had to pause to absorb the latest installment of numismatic news, gossip and humor." (Michael is 2nd V.P. of the C.N.A., 1st V.P-elect for a two-year term starting in July and one of the auctioneers at Torex) – Thank you for the kind words...and your submission published below. I wish more people would send stuff in.

HUMOR PLAGERIZED FROM BOATING DIGEST MAGAZINE

From Michael Walsh: "Here are a couple of numismatically related stories that recently came in one of my boating digests (I admit that I do look at things other than coins from time to time)."

Animals With Expensive Taste. A shop manager in Villach, Austria, fed up with repeated thefts of 50-Euro notes from his cash register, decided to set-up a sting operation to nab the culprit. Thanks to a video camera, the authorities got their man - and it was a mouse. The guilty rodent was caught red-handed with its paw in the till. The mouse was apparently using the bills to build a pricey nest.

Leave it to Beavers. Acting on a tip, Sheriff's Deputies in Louisiana searched a creek for three bags of money, allegedly stolen from a casino days earlier. Two bags were recovered right away, but the third remained missing until a searcher noticed something suspicious. Beavers had discovered the third bag, tore it open, and wove the bills into the sticks and brush of their dam.

POPPY QUARTER ERRORS – PART TWO

In the last bulletin, we wondered what errors have been found on the Poppy Quarter and we offered \$10 worth of Tim Horton gift certificates and a couple of poppy quarters to the first person who proves that they have a poppy quarter with the red die on the Queen side.

Mark Argentino sent us an e-mail with a beautiful scan of a poppy quarter that has the red die over the Queen's face. Not only was he the first one, but the only one. He wins the prize!

What errors have others found recently?

NON-NUMISMATIC ITEMS SOLD AT COIN SHOWS – PART TWO

In the last issue, we wondered how people felt about dealers overrunning their table with non-numismatic items. Gene Bruder writes: "I do not have a coin shop, and attend national coin shows. I must replenish my inventory at these shows, and make the majority of my sales there. I do appreciate having a majority of numismatic items a requirement for dealers. I do like to see other interesting items, especially those related to history and economics, therefore, I am not opposed to having a small percentage in other collectibles. Most of the people I deal with are at the shows for numismatic items also, so I think they would feel the same way.

LACK OF DEALERS ATTENDING BANQUETS – PART TWO

In the last issue, we commented about the number of dealers that attended the banquet of the Ohio State Numismatic Society, asking for comments from dealers. Gene Bruder writes: "As a dealer that travels nationwide, at the end of the day, I am looking forward to a quiet dinner with a few friends, not a banquet with a program and rubber chicken for dinner. I work hard all day, trying to be friendly and engaging with whoever passes by my table. After 9-11 hours of this, I am ready for some peace and quiet. Don't forget that the dealers are at a show 2-4 times per month, often with jet lag, and need some down time. I usually attend club meetings in the

mornings at major shows. Often there are auctions that last late into the night also, so by the end of a show I am exhausted. Then I fly home, regroup, and do it all over again! I hope this helps put things in perspective.

CUSTOMER OF THE WEEK/ PHONE CALL OF THE WEEK

By Tony Swicer

Another installment from a segment in my talks at the local club meeting called "customer of the week" or "phone call of the week." These are true stories of people who have called or come into the coin shop.

1. A customer bought all modern proof sets and mint sets. He sees on e-bay how some coins in high grade are selling for lots of money. So, he breaks up his sets and sends them in to PCI for grading. He spends about \$600 on grading and then sells us the coins at the proof set and mint set prices, losing \$600.
2. A pawn shop calls about a customer with an 18 oz credit Suisse gold bar. We told them there was no such animal, but the guy came in with it and the minute they put it in my hand I knew it was counterfeit.
3. A guy comes in with 10 Confederate \$100 bills. I knew immediately that they were fakes. I turned them over to the reverse side and showed the customer where it said "facsimile," meaning reproduction, in the bottom left corner. The guy says, "well even so, weren't they made in 1864?" I said, "no, they were made in 1964, that's why they are facsimiles." He says, "well my friend looked them up on e-bay, and they are worth \$15,000 each." I said, "your friend doesn't know what he is talking about, does he." Then he left.
4. Here's one that I get quite often. This lady shows me a 1923 circulated Peace dollar. I offer her \$5. She says, "well where else can I go to get more money?" I think to myself, oh, you know there is a special place to sell your coins where they pay too much, they sell below their cost, and they make up the difference in volume. Never Never Land, Disneyland or Shangri-la? No, it's e-Bay.).
5. We receive 3 phone calls about a two-headed nickel. Each time we told the guy that he had a magician's coin worth one dollar. He brings the coin in and again we told him it was worth a dollar and we showed him ours, selling for one dollar. The next day his boss comes in with the coin. The first guy sold it to this guy, knowing that it was worth one dollar, for a lot more money. They both work at a gas station.
6. I sell a customer a beautiful Cuba 100 peso note in choice crisp uncirculated condition. He takes the note out of its protective holder, puts it in his wallet, and leaves. He just lost more than 50% of its value.
7. A guy comes in with a Mercury head dime worth 40 cents. He starts looking in the show cases and says, "I had a chance to buy an Indian head cent just like that one," as he points to a 2 1/2 dollar gold piece. Then he looks at the 2001 Buffalo dollar and says, "I didn't know they made Buffalo nickels that big."
8. A customer comes in with an 1803 half cent. Another customer asked him where he got the coin. He said that he bought it at a hardware store, he buys all his coins there. Then he asks me what it is worth. I said \$10. He said that he paid more than that for it. Then I said, "Well that's what you get at a hardware store."

FREE LISTING IN NUMISMATIC CALENDAR

The Calgary Numismatic Society is putting together an 18-month calendar covering the period July 2006 to December 2007. They are willing to list any show dates and information that has been confirmed in that timeframe. Since the listing is complimentary, we expect that everybody receiving this notice will immediately contact Troy Carlson, the calendar coordinator, at tmc96@telusplanet.net.

"As you may guess, there are going to be a lot of submissions and the Society will try to get as many dates in the calendar as possible," Troy told us. "Also looking for other numismatic dates or anniversary dates of importance," he adds.

Note you or your club does not have to be a member of the Calgary Numismatic Society or the C.N.A., so everybody can take advantage of the free listing. But you don't have too much time since the calendar will be available at the CNA convention in Calgary.

Hey, Troy, wanna bet that even for a free listing to promote their club, very few people will contact you?

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

by Mike Hollingshead, a past President of the Ontario Numismatic Association, as published in Canadian Coin News of St. Catharines, Ontario.

"Club business should be left to the executive meetings. Nothing bores me more than a recitation from a secretary or treasurer. Allow time before the start of the meeting for fellowship and browsing the dealers' wares. Throw in a coffee break to increase the social interaction! Keep it light!"

We have a feeling we're going to get a few e-mails on this one, disagreeing on Mike's position!

COIN DESIGNER SHOWS NEW WORKS AT TORONTO GALLERY

A major gallery in Toronto's Yorkville District is displaying new paintings by Alex Colville, the 84-year-old artist that designed the series of coins in 1967 for Canada's centennial to international acclaim.

His showing, entitled "New Paintings and Drawings," runs to June 18 at Mira Gallery, 22 Hazelton Ave., Toronto. Bring your Platinum card. Or wait for Securicor to have another bag of money fall off their truck.

COUNTERFEIT MONEY FEATURED PROMINENTLY IN CSI EPISODE

An episode of CSI: Crime Scene Investigation, the highly rated TV program, featured counterfeit money. The crime scene investigators referred to the micro printing and showed blowups of the areas under discussion. The high quality of the counterfeits was even more difficult to detect by the fact each note bore a different serial number, so the notes were not printed from one set of negatives and plates.

Another fact that was brought out was that the color of green on the seal was off from the genuine notes. Apparently, no comparable green from that used on the seal is available, so the blue and yellow always "bleed" in somewhat. Can someone in the printing industry receiving this confirm that this is indeed the case in real notes?

So who would turn out close-to-perfect \$100 notes? Who would have that technology available to them? Answer: the FBI was the one doing the counterfeiting!

The CSI investigator stumbled across an FBI sting operation in which they produced counterfeit money in a print shop so that the bad guys would come to them.

We also learned that 97% of all \$100 notes have traces of cocaine on them. Does that mean that if I lick enough \$100 notes, I get high?

Never mind. If I ever get any \$100 bills, I will test it for myself.

YOUR WIFE WILL NEVER BELIEVE THAT COINS CAUSED THAT RASH

Bill Waychison recently made us aware that a story was circulating on the regional CBC Radio network in Northern Ontario about the possibility that coins manufactured from nickel at the Royal Canadian Mint could cause a rash. Interestingly, the story originally surfaced in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada's Nickel Capital. The logic or illogical argument results from the fact that nickel powder produced when nickel ores undergo a hydrometallurgical process is toxic in powder form. It is this powdered nickel that was used to produce most of Canada's coins. In solid form as in a pure nickel coin, nickel is obviously not toxic. Currently, most of Canada's circulating coins are made of nickel plated steel.

A subsequent Royal Canadian Mint press release reads as follows: "The Royal Canadian Mint issued a clarification today after news reports indicated that 5 people at the Sudbury Centre Mall developed a rash, purportedly after handling coinage sent directly from the Mint. The coins involved were not rolled in materials used by the Royal Canadian Mint, indicating that the coins were not received from the Mint's distribution facilities. Coins struck by the Royal Canadian Mint and their packaging do not contain any substances, agents or products that could produce a skin rash or biological reaction of any sort."

Now I won't be able to use that excuse any more if I pick up another rash!

VALLEY OF GOLDEN MUMMIES YIELDS GOLD COINS TO PAY FOR AFTERLIFE

According to an Associated Press release, archaeologists last month unveiled the tomb of a member of a powerful family that governed a swatch of Western Egypt about 2,500 years ago, along with a dozen mummies from Roman times. The mummies were located in what Egypt has dubbed the Valley of the Golden Mummies, located about 375 kilometers southwest of Cairo.

The rare limestone sarcophagus that covered Badi-Herkhib – the elder brother of a governor of Bahariya who lived around 500 B.C. – was discovered last month, allowing archaeologists to more closely study a family that ruled this part of Egypt.

The Egyptian antiquities council said that "Greek gold coins found with the mummies were believed to be left to bribe the ferryman in the afterlife."

The press release did not state how many coins there were, nor the denomination(s), description of any kind, nor their approximate current numismatic value.

SUMMER MEETINGS OR NOT?

Since most clubs shut down for the Summer, those of us whose children have flown the roost and don't have to plan vacation around them and the wife, will have an opportunity to pull out weeds in the garden, cut the grass, trim hedges, paint the garage, fix the eavestroughs, prop up the corners of the patio stones, build a new trellis to hold the ever-growing climbing rose bush, build another long row of planters, fix the footing on the fence posts that have rotted through, clean out the garage, clean up the wreckroom (sic)...hey, wait a minute, that describes my plans!

Only a few clubs hold meetings in July and August, because the majority of members present at a meeting said they would not or could not attend. Although some clubs have no choice but to close down because of where they meet – for example, a school that is closed during the

summer break – other clubs choose to shut down based on a vote of the majority by the members attending the meeting when the vote took place. But should it really be by majority rule? If 40 people voted and, say, 22 said they would not attend, why not hold a meeting for the other 18 plus anyone else that might show up?

Is there a demand for summer meetings? It would appear that the answer is yes! That is logical, since no hobby...or anything else one enjoys...is a 10-month proposition. I know I enjoy my hobby 12 months out of the year, whether it is working on the C.N.A. E-Bulletin, attending club meetings, writing an article, sorting my collection, etc. Dave Barry, the comedian, says in one of his books: "There is a very fine line between "hobby" and "mental illness." What he means is that if you're addicted to something, you are addicted all the time! Mind you, he also says: "If you had to identify, in one word, the reason why the human race has not achieved, and never will achieve, its full potential, that word would be 'meetings'."

Has your club executive decided not to hold meetings this Summer? Have your members decided on a majority rules basis? Or will meetings go on because a sufficient number of members stated they would attend?

What we are always curious about is to know who showed up at their local club meeting in July or August and found out the hard way that there was no meeting because they didn't read their bulletin or had missed a meeting or two prior to the Summer shut-down. We'll be asking in the Fall.

WATERLOO ANNUAL DINNER LOCATION CLOSES DOORS

We have always been a fan of Tien Hoe Chinese Restaurant in Waterloo, where the Waterloo Coin Society has held their annual Dinner meeting for a number of years. The separate room for the group allowed for speakers, announcements, displays and draws. A number of us met there regularly for dinner prior to their monthly meetings. The buffet had a great selection of Chinese and Canadian dishes, including macaroni & cheese, chicken fingers, scalloped potatoes and a great variety of Chinese dishes and desserts.

We learned some time ago that Tien Hoe closed its doors to make way for a new business venture. Driving past it recently, we noticed that it is now a Shoppers Drug Mart store

A number of members who always attended the annual dinner meeting are hoping that the club will decide to go back to the previous location, Angie's Kitchens, that served some of the greatest Wiener Schnitzel and Ribs!

CENTRAL STATES PUBLISHES CLUB MEETING AND SHOW DATES

If you live in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio or Wisconsin, you might want to consider joining the Central States Numismatic Association. In addition to the interesting and informative articles, they publish 3 pages of club meeting information in each issue in addition to the 4-5 pages of upcoming show information. That certainly is very useful information whether you are a dealer wishing to rent bourse space, or a collector wanting to know what shows are scheduled in your area.

For information in joining Central States, go to www.centralstates.info.

2005 C.N.A. CONVENTION NEWS

July 20-24, 2005 – Calgary, Alberta - 52nd Annual Convention of the Canadian Numismatic Association. Hosted by the Calgary Numismatic Society. Location: Westin Hotel, 320 - 4th

Avenue SW, Calgary, AB, Canada. For room reservations, call (403) 266-161. Bourse room open Thursday through Saturday, July 21 – 23. General Chairman, Al Munro, at wood5cents@shaw.ca or phone 403-273-6133; Bourse Information from Stanley Clute at info@albern.com; Exhibit Information from Lawrence Duncan at lr Duncan@shaw.ca.

The most important information to pass on to everyone about the Convention at this time is deadlines. If you are planning on going to the C.N.A. Convention in Calgary and have not yet made a room reservation at the hotel, the deadline for a guarantee of the special room rate of \$129CDN single or double occupancy is June 19. Further, the deadline for making firm commitments for tours is June 15. The danger of having insufficient advance bookings for the tours is that any that falls below the threshold count might be cancelled. If you are just filling out a registration form, please e-mail Al Munro and tell him it's on the way and tell him what tour you are booking so as to avoid disappointment.

A hands-on demonstration of how coins were struck during the ancient days by Mints in Rome, Greece, Byzantium, Turkey and the Orient will be featured at the 2005 C.N. Convention. Kyle Mutcher, who has the necessary equipment to show the 2,000-plus year old production process, will be illustrating the process for the 3 days of the convention. It is our understanding that you will be able to strike your own coin for a small donation.

By the way, has your club appointed a delegate yet to attend the 2005 C.N.A. Convention? Here's the deal: if you're club is not yet a member of the C.N.A., appoint a Club Delegate anyway, have him/her register (form available from www.canadian-numismatic.org) and have the club join the C.N.A. when the delegate arrives at the Convention.

But please, make sure you appoint someone with a positive attitude and for the fun & fellowship. We remember a couple of years ago, every delegate's report in their local coin club bulletin having nothing but praise for the way things were organized both at the Club Delegates Breakfast Meeting as well as at the rest of the Convention, such as at meetings, tours, banquet, educational seminar, bourse, exhibits and fun & fellowship...with one exception. I mean, does it really need reporting that there was a 5 minute delay in starting a meeting, or that the Hospitality Suite's complimentary coffee was not ready for a full 7 minutes after the published opening? Incidentally, the same gentleman in the same report stated that he did not attend most of the meetings.

In view of the great comments received by everyone else and since the gentleman obviously did not enjoy his visit, our only suggestion is that the club should appoint someone next time that will actually enjoy going to convention and take the time to attend the meetings that are part of the commitment when someone agrees to take on the assignment.

We welcome comments at cnanews@look.ca from any club delegate that attended the Convention.

THE S.O.B. NUMISMATISTS - PART ONE

As we stated in the last issue, we take a break from our usual "fun & fellowship" C.N.A. E-Bulletin and present excerpts from the after-dinner speech given by the C.N.A. Executive Secretary/E-Bulletin Editor at the banquet of the recent Ohio State Numismatic Association. More to follow in future issues.

Thank you, Wendell. Mr. President, members of the Ohio State Numismatic Association, guests!

Before I start, I should point out to you that my job tonight is to speak to you, and your job is to listen. I only hope I get finished before you do.

I won't keep you too long, because I learned a long time ago that a speech should be like the horns of a bull: a point here, a point there, and a lot of bull in-between.

I prefer to compare my speech to a skirt of a woman: short enough to be interesting, but long enough to cover the subject.

When Bill Kamb and I discussed a topic, we agreed that since people take this hobby way too seriously, I would like to tell you about the funniest numismatic organization that I ever belonged to.

One day, the late Jack Veffer and the late Col. Grover Criswell were sitting around a bar at an ANA Convention when the discussion got around to forming an organization that would put some fun back into the hobby. By the time the bar closed, which was about a dozen drinks each later, the manifesto had been written on some paper napkins.

Within a matter of months, it became a recognized "legitimate" numismatic organization, with bulletins and all. It was accepted into membership of both the C.N.A. and the ANA. The fact that they never applied for membership in the Ohio State Numismatic Association should tell us something, but I'm not sure what. Except maybe you're too serious!

Jack wanted a catchy name. He thought up the name "S.O.B. Numismatists."

It became a numismatic organization that, more than anything else, attempted to put some fun back into an otherwise serious hobby. Or, as I put it at the time, to put some sanity back into an otherwise unsanitary hobby.

Incidentally, "S.O.B. Numismatists" stands for "Society of Bearded Numismatists."

Only lifetime memberships were offered, at \$2 if you met the criteria of:

1. A beard
2. A healthy liver
3. A strong dislike of rules and regulations
4. A good sense of humor

Of course, a member could be expelled for shaving the beard.

Associate membership could be awarded to men without beards, also for \$2, under one condition: they must always pick up the tab when having a drink with an S.O.B., something Jack enforced every time he and I went to a coin show.

If you were a female, associate membership would be \$2.02. For the extra 2 cents, female members would be allowed to "throw in their 2 cents worth" at meetings.

Membership reached over 400.

Jack appointed himself 1/2 President of the S.O.B.s. Grover Criswell was the other 1/2 President. Although there were no elections, all you had to do to get your name included as a member of the Executive was to bribe your way onto the masthead.

An honorary Presidency would cost \$1,000. Hank Gibson was the big spender, picking the Title of "Vice President in Charge of Vice" for himself at \$750.00. A number opted for a directorship at \$50.

The beauty was that members of the Executive were expected to do absolutely nothing...and did a very good job at it. Very much like some members of the Executive of some numismatic organizations today.

Every cent raised through bribes and other donations was donated to a numismatic charity. Jack just kept paying the bills out of his own pocket. Printing and postage sure added up.

Meetings were held in suites in conjunction with the ANA, CNA, New York International, Chicago International, Houston Paper Money Show, Torex and others. It would not be unusual to have Jack pick up a tab of \$500.

Very little was published about the meetings. There is only one record of a meeting: "The meeting was called to disorder at 8:00 p.m. Things became a little hazy after that. Certain resolutions were made and as soon as I remember the name of the person who acted as Secretary, the minutes of the meeting will be made public, with some exceptions. I vaguely remember motions being made, but that was mostly in the direction of the pretty waitress. To protect our privacy, we must remember to hire a guard next time."

Dora de Pedery-Hunt's coin designs are known to every Canadian numismatist and to most collectors around the world. She designed the newer Queen on our coins. She designed the 1981 C.N.A. Convention medal. Not only does she have talent, but she also has a good heart. She volunteered to design a medal for Jack that was to be awarded to members that he felt contributed to the success of the S.O.B. Numismatists. The cost to Jack for the medal design was dinner with Dora and the cost of casting each medal.

It was never spelled out what sort of criteria qualified one to receive the award, but we do know that bribes in the form of donations to the J. Douglas Ferguson Memorial Foundation could be made.

I did not receive the award even though I paid for the printing and mailing of a huge bulletin, I think because I was semi-bald and refused to grow a beard or even a moustache.

For the lifetime membership of \$2...\$2.02 for the ladies...you certainly got your money's worth. A number of letter-size bulletins were issued, any one of which would have more than used up the lifetime membership fee. He even put out a 32-page bulletin, complete with heavy cover, folded and stapled. He put a pile of his own money into its creation and distribution.

Their letters to the Editor again dealt with their infatuation with beards:

"It began in my late teens, many years ago. I awoke one morning to find that God had put hair on my face. I took a razor and cut it off. The next morning, God had put it back again so I took the razor and cut it off again. This continued for over two decades and finally I let God have his way." - Stan Howe.

"I qualify on three of the four requirements for membership to a very high degree, but alas, on the requirement for a full beard, I am somewhat lacking, having only a small moustache. Please

overlook this discrepancy, and issue my membership anyway...maybe one of these days we'll have n electrical failure and then I won't be able to shave." - Ernie Von

He was rejected!

Due to the cost of printing and postage, Jack felt it necessary to send out a renewal notice. This is the only instance that is known in Canada and probably in the world where a numismatic organization asked members to renew their life membership. At \$10, nobody objected to paying twice in one's lifetime. Not even the lawyers.

So what did Jack get out of all of this? We know the bribery money all went to charity. We know he paid for the printing of bulletins. He paid for postage. We know he rented suites at conventions and stocked it with snack and drink. He paid for the cost casting each S.O.B. of the year medal. He even spent money on his very own wooden nickel. Jack said: "This organization of ours has given me some time to frolic and poke fun at the Hobby."

When I look at my own involvement in this hobby over the past 50 years, I know that fun and fellowship played a big role in my longevity. Jack and I were of like mind in that respect. The other reward he received was a plaque, suitably engraved, mounted on a wooden backing. The wording on the metal label below the backside of a donkey protruding from the wooden backing said: "To Jack Veffer - the Biggest JACKass of the them all!" I remember it well. I had it made and presented it to him.

One thing that can be said about the plaque was that it was unique. Just like Jack and the S.O.B. Numismatist organization!

CONCLUSION

Hope you enjoyed it. Next one June 20!

John Regitko
Your C.N.A. E-Bulletin Editor
Canadian Numismatic Association

The Canadian Numismatic Association is a not for profit organization devoted to serving those who enjoy coin collecting/numismatics by promoting fellowship, communication, education and providing advocacy and leadership for the hobby.

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