

Welcome to the C.N.A. E-Bulletin Number 17 – July 15, 2005:

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INTRODUCTION

In these days of political correctness, editors must be ultra-careful what they write, or what they publish that is submitted by others. In past C.N.A. E-Bulletins, we have poked fun at Canadians vs. Americans, the average age of members attending club meetings and other attempts at my brand of humor. And speaking of humor, I even bowed to the American way of spelling (i.e. humor instead of humour).

I have received the following e-mail from one of my correspondents.

"Maybe it's my younger age, maybe my training in gender sensitivity, maybe just me, but I am finding the comments in CNA E-bulletin vis-à-vis "wives" often to be out of synch with today's environment. Articles, stories and comments in the bulletin frequently portray the numismatic world as one that is male-dominated and chauvinistic, and where all collectors are male. Such is not the case; there are many women active in numismatics throughout the world, lots of whom are married to their "husbands."

"I find comments about coin-collecting husbands hiding their numismatic activities and expenditures from their wives to be demeaning to both genders. In the most recent issue (#15) of the CNA E-Bulletin, for example, the article entitled "LYING, APPARENTLY, IS THE HOT TREND" survey question 1 uses the term "spouses," which is fine. In the remaining four questions and the closing comment, the article reverts back to the "husband" coin collector and the "wife" spouse!! Other issues have had similar content, often with comments addressed to the entire readership about how "we" (I must presume this means numismatic collectors, which are both male and female) interact with our "wives" about the hobby. *Et cetera*.

"As a husband, I don't refer to my wife in such terms, and I dislike it when other husbands speak of their wife in such a way. As a man, I also do my utmost to treat not only women, but both genders with respect and dignity. I can only ask that the CNA E-Bulletin, and any other CNA communication, do the same.

"I have enjoyed the E-bulletin thus far, and I print each issue so that the members of our club who do not have e-mail have the opportunity to share in its humour and information. The above comments notwithstanding, you're doing a great job! Keep it up! Call me if you would like to discuss further."

The writer is a member of the C.N.A., ANA and Ontario Numismatic Association. It is obvious that he has given this some thought and has taken the time to contact us with his feelings.

Okay, loyal readers, now it is your turn to comment to cnanews@look.ca. I will reserve my own comments until I hear back from others. I don't much care that recipients didn't contact me in the past, but I do want to hear from you on this. My In-box is waiting!

A VERY BRIEF HISTORY OF MILITARY MEDALS – PART 2

In the last bulletin, we reported that The Toronto Star published some facts about military medals, including a quote from Ross McKenzie, curator of the museum at Kingston's Royal

Military College, who stated that Canada's first medals were handed out to those who fought off the Fenian Raids of 1866 and 1870. In response, we received two e-mails:

From Tolling Jennings: "In the last E-Bulletin there was a statement that Queen Vic issued the first medals to enlisted men after the Napoleonic wars circa 1840 .Not so!! Perhaps the first medals in the British Empire were issued then but not in the world. Gen. G. Washington issued the "Purple Heart" to enlisted men during the Revolutionary War in the soon to be United States of America. The medal was first issued on 7 Aug. 1782."

From Mike Findlay: "Regarding your last E-Bulletin, it was mentioned that Canada's first military medals were awarded for the Fenian Raids of 1866 and 1870. I believe that the first medals that were awarded to Canadians for service on the continent were for the campaigns during the War of 1812, at Fort Detroit, Chrysler's Farm, and Chateauguy. These were issued in 1848, had their own specific bars, and are part of the Army General Service Medal series as issued by Queen Victoria for service during the Napoleonic Wars of 1793 to 1815."

Please don't blame your editor if we passed on mis-information. We don't pretend to know everything. After all, I am not a taxi driver! (Oops, is that politically incorrect, saying that everybody else is not as smart as taxi drivers?)

HOW TO MAKE NATIONAL COIN WEEK MORE APPEALING

We have National Coin Week or National Coin Month. There is also National Nude Recreation Week which took place recently.

Can we get the two groups together next year?

RCM TO INTROUCE NEW ALBERTA, SASKATCHEWAN COINS

The Royal Canadian Mint will be unveiling a new 25-cent piece in Regina just before the 2005 C.N.A. Convention to commemorate the centenary of Saskatchewan. As well, they will be unveiling another quarter to commemorate the centenary of Alberta.

Both quarters will be available at the Royal Canadian Mint booth at the C.N.A. Convention in exchange at face value. The Terry Fox dollar and the "V" nickel will also be available for exchange for as long as supplies last.

You would have read it here first but for the fact that we passed on this information to our friends at Canadian Coin News.

SHE BEATS 419 MILLION TO 1 ODDS TO WIN A MILLION TWICE

It is estimated that to win a million dollars once in the Pennsylvania lottery scratch-off game, the odds are 1.44 million to 1 on a \$20 ticket. Donna Goeppert did it in January.

After winning another \$1,000 or so in small wins over the next five months, she hit the million dollar jackpot again. People Magazine reports the odds of winning twice are 419 million to 1...if you bought 100 tickets at \$20 each...according to Robert Storer, a professor at Lehigh University.

And I can't even win a free ticket. Even once!

DUMB CRIMINALS

Here are a few items from People Magazine:

Bank Bozo #1 Robbed his Own Bank – Thomas Dorsey seemed oddly familiar with the Southington, Conn., bank he robbed of \$1,200 last year. For good reason: it was his own branch – and he wasn't disguised. Dorsey, who was sentenced to 2-1/2 years, told cops who arrested him that he should appear in a list of America's Dumbest Criminals.

Bank Bozo #2 wants to deposit exploding die pack – “I think your purse is on fire,” the Burlison, Texas, bank teller told Sharon Ann Luck as she approached. But that eye-catching crimson the teller spotted wasn't flames – it was a dye pack that had exploded when Luck entered the branch; the more than \$1,600 she was trying to deposit she had stolen earlier that day from another bank.

Bank Bozo #3 used stupidity defense – A guy walks into a bank, deposits \$160 – then shows the teller a gun-shaped object in his pocket and walks away \$3,000 richer. At least that's what prosecutors claim Abraham Aessa, 24, did. However, at his trial last June, Aessa argued, unsuccessfully, that he couldn't have committed the robbery – because no one could be that dumb.

PUT HEROES OF 1812 ON NEW CURRENCY

Although we missed the original letter of July 5, the following letter, published in The Toronto Star, is self-explanatory:

“Re; Celebrating history, letter July 5 – In response to Ron Bezan's excellent call for better recognition of our military heroes on our currency, why not place both the Marquis de Montcalm and General James Wolfe at opposite ends of the same bill?

“Less controversially, new bill designs between now and 2012 should display portraits of Gen. Isaac Brock, Tecumseh and other heroes of the War of 1812, leading up to the bicentennial of the war and – more locally – the 200th Anniversary of the Battle of York. This conflict marked the beginning of Canada but also the end of an 18th-century world in the Great Lakes – an extraordinary, pluralistic era of Natives, French, British and Americans.

“Our Victorian bias blinds us to appreciating this more essential chapter in our story. Let our currency exhibit the faces of people of substance from an earlier time.” – Andrew Stewart, Toronto.

What do you think? E-mail us at cnanews@look.ca.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Joe Boling, who will receive this year's Farran Zerbe memorial Award for Distinguished Service at the ANA Convention in a couple of weeks. According to an article by C. Frederick Schwan published in the July ANA Numismatist, he is past president and current treasurer and advertising manager of the International Bank Note Company, an authority on Military Certificates, an author on World War II Military Currency and award-winning exhibitor. He previously received the ANA Medal of Merit (1991), the Glenn Smedley Memorial Award (2000) and 12 first-place awards in various exhibit categories at ANA Conventions.

To Adna G. Wilde Jr., who is the ANA's 2005 Numismatist of the Year. Wilde an ANA member for 58 years, has served as their executive secretary from 1968-72 and as a member of the board of governors from 1973-83 as well as treasurer. He is a recipient of an honorary ANA Heath Literary Award, the ANA's Exemplary Service Award, Lifetime Achievement Award and

medal of Merit, as well as the Association's highest honor, the Farran Zerbe Memorial Award of Distinguished Service. He was inducted into the ANA Hall of Fame in 2002.

To James Majoros, who received the Numismatic Ambassador Award recently. He received it for his volunteer efforts at the local, state and national levels. He has been president of the Ocean County Coin Club and corresponding secretary for the Garden State Numismatic Association. He is especially well known for his promotion of various Young Numismatists activities. According to Numismatic News, the award was created in 1974 to recognize the hard work of hobby volunteers who often don't get the acknowledgements and thanks they deserve. Majoros has even taken the time to correspond with the C.N.A. E-Bulletin editor.

To Kevin Foley, another recipient of a Numismatic Ambassador award. He received it at the recent Central States Numismatic Society's 66th annual convention. According to Numismatic News, Cliff Mishler, former president of Krause Publications, presented the award. Foley has served as president of the Central States Numismatic Society and has organized such popular shows as the Chicago International Coin Fair, Chicago Paper Money Expo, New York International Numismatic Convention and the Professional Currency Dealers National Convention.

To Debbie Alves, circulation supervisor and member of the accounting department at Trajan Publishing, publishers of Canadian Coin News, Canadian Stamp News and other collectibles magazines, who is on maternity leave until November 1.

ANA ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to the following individuals that have just been elected to the ANA board. They will be installed at the banquet on July 31 at the upcoming ANA Convention in San Francisco, California.

For President: William H. Horton Jr., Keyport, NJ

For Vice President; Barry Stuppler, Woodland Hills, CA

For Governors:

Patricia A. Jagger-Finner, Iola, WI

Donald H. Kagin, Tiburon, CA

Alan Herbert, Belle Fourche, SD

M. Remy Bourne, Minneapolis, MN

Prudence Fitts, Framingham, MA

Michael S. Fey, Morris Plains, NJ

Walter A. Ostromecki, Jr., Panorama City, CA

\$10 MILLION STOLEN ON CSI – PART 2

In the last issue, we asked you to tell us what you could about the stack of currency from a vault that was stolen, with the only thing left behind being the money bands and the video not showing anything untoward.

The actual answer from the episode of CSI: Crime Scene Investigation was that the money was stolen all right. The thieves were kind enough to leave the money bands behind to make it easy for the owner to collect the \$10 million from the insurance company, because they provided the proof to the insurance company of how much money was stolen. But why would thieves take the time to remove the bands?

Ten million dollars weighs 220 lbs. and is very bulky. How could so much money get out without being spotted by the surveillance cameras? Money bands are wrapped very tightly around bills. The only way to get the wrappers off is to tear them. And none of the money bands were torn.

So the answer is the money was taken sometime before the theft was reported, with the video surveillance tapes no longer available, by or with the knowledge of the owner who took the time to remove the bands for insurance reasons.

CSI could not prove that the owner was involved, so he got off, at least temporary until one of his accomplices, who left the country, got homesick and returned to confess. In the meantime, the insurance company was notified of the scam and the viewer was left with the impression that no insurance money would be paid.

A PRIMER ON AUCTION ETIQUETTE - PART 2

In the last issue, we published details on one club's wording about their liability with respect to auction lots in their possession. We know wording similar to the following exists in many club bylaw:

"All auction lots are submitted at the owner's risk and we will take all precautions to safeguard all lots submitted. The members of the club who are looking after the auction, are not responsible for loss or damage to any material that is given to them while it is in their possession."

We are all used to disclaimers and we are conditioned to sign such conditions when confronted in contracts, so it is not unusual for the club to include "all auction lots are submitted at the owner's risk" or "we are not responsible for your material in our possession." We have seen similar or even stronger comments in other clubs' auction rules. We wonder what exactly that means? We would like to hear comments at cnanews@look.ca from three groups of people that we know are on our mailing list:

- 1) Other Auction Chairmen – does your club have similar clauses and have you run into problems with it?
- 2) Consignors – how do you feel that, apparently, you have no recourse if your coins are lost, stolen or damaged while in the possession of the club representative.
- 3) Lawyers – we are appealing to the lawyers receiving this E-Bulletin to let us know the legality of such waivers that are written into club By-laws regarding the auction material while in the possession of authorized club personnel.

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 phone call: "I 've got a error nickel with the face off to the left." I thought a second and asked: "Is there a buffalo on the back and is it dated 2005?" "Yes." "Spend it, that's the new nickel they just made one billion of."
2. Another phone call: "I have a gold quarter from 1789. What is it worth?" I said that they did not make a quarter until 1796. Then he said it was 1797. That's when I realized it was a

Delaware quarter. Often times, if there are two dates on a coin, they will only give you the earliest date, ignoring the later date on the coin.

3. "I've got a buffalo nickel with an E mint mark What is it worth?" I asked where he was looking. He said on the back above the buffalo. I said: "Sir, there is no E mint mark, you're looking at the motto, E Pluribus Unum, meaning from many nations, one nation." I then asked what the date was and he said, "Where is it?" I said on the Indian head side at the base of the neck. He said he couldn't see it, so I told him he had a no date buffalo nickel worth 9 cents.

4. A gentleman called and asked me what we were paying for silver coins. He said his wife is in the hospital with lung cancer and he needed money for that purpose. After I told him where we were, he says: "Oh yes, I know right where you are. We buy our cigarettes right across the street."

5. A long-time vest-pocket dealer and coin club member comes in the shop with six Confederate notes in his shirt pocket. He hands them to me and I turn them over and point to the word "facsimile" in the bottom left corner of each one. He then says: "Oh no, I'm not going to be Customer of the Week, am I?" I said: "Of course not!!!!"

ARNPRIOR PLANT CLOSING ANNOUNCED

If we told you that Playtex Products will begin a phased shutdown of its manufacturing plant in Arnprior in eastern Ontario as it restructures its Canadian operations, you would wonder if your C.N.A. E-Bulletin editor has completely lost sight of what this bulletin is all about. Except collectors of Canadian decimal coins, no doubt, recall its numismatic significance.

Back in 1955, the management of the manufacturer of undergarments located in Arnprior, Ontario, obtained 2,000 Canadian silver dollars directly from the Royal Canadian Mint, to give to their employees for Christmas. Collectors discovered that they had two-and-a-half waterlines at the right of the canoe. They became known as the Arnprior Dollar. These dollars became so popular that any Canadian silver dollar with a similar grouping of waterlines is commonly referred to as an Arnprior variety.

The plant whose employees received the silver dollars is the one being shut down during the first quarter of 2006 as part of a plan to consolidate North American operations.

A MEMORIAL MEDAL FOR JEROME REMICK

Yvon Marquis reports that, thanks to the collaboration and generosity of Alan Trammell of Pressed Metal Products, a die has been cut at no charge to commemorate the memory of the late Jerome H. Remick III. This die can be used free of charge by those interested in having a personalized medal struck as a tribute to this well-known Canadian numismatist who passed away March 2005.

The die shows Remick's portrait in the center flanked by symbols representing the beginning and the end of life and the dates 1928 and 2005 respectively below each. JÉRÔME H. REMICK, III appears above the design with a fleur-de-lys at left and a maple leaf at right. Below the portrait is the Latin expression IN MEMORIAM centered between two symbols representing the transmitted heritage, and with words NUMISMATIST to the left and NUMISMATE to the right. The latter highlights the fact that Jerry used both languages, English and French, on a daily basis as a geologist and a numismatist.

According to his last wishes, Jérôme requested that donations be made to an organization instead of sending flowers, etc. This inspired the present project by which, those who wish to participate would strike a number of personalized medals employing the memorial die, retain a few for personal use, and donate the remainder to Les Apprenp'tits Numismates (Apprentice

Numismatists) as a fund raiser. This numismatic organization was dear to Jerry, and works to promote numismatics among juniors in several Canadian provinces.

Les Apprenp'tits Numismates will offer the personalized memorial medals in appreciation for a donation with the proceeds to be awarded as an annual prize to a winning young student of a literary contest organized by Les Apprenp'tits. The contest would be open to any youth attending a Canadian school. Students would submit their text to Les Apprenp'tits Numismates in either English or French.

The purpose of this literary contest is not to compete with other numismatic literary awards but rather make students aware that there is more to currency than a medium of exchange. To achieve this goal and to open the contest to as wide an audience as possible, students would prepare a text that need not be numismatic but rather would be inspired by the theme and imagery of a coin or note. A three person Award Committee organized by Les Apprenp'tits Numismates would judge the submissions. An independent three person Management Committee would manage the funds and develop future fund raisers as required.

If you already have a personalized die with Pressed Metal Products or if you plan to order one, we invite you to be part of this memorial project. Those interested in obtaining the medals from Les Apprenp'tits should be able to do so during the fall of 2005. Details regarding the list of issuers and the process to obtain them will be published here at that time.

For additional details regarding the preparation of a personalized die or to obtain the cost of producing personalized medals, visit the Pressed Metal Products web site at www.pressedmetal.net or contact Alan Trammell at alan@pressedmetal.net or tel: 866-922-5500. For any additional information regarding Les Apprenp'tits Numismates, visit www.apprenptits.org or contact info@apprenptits.org.

COIN SHOW TRAPS

The Toronto Star recently published information of things to watch out for when travelling. We are reprinting a few that apply when travelling to a coin show.

BARGAINING IN THE BOURSE ROOM

If it seem absurdly cheap, it's probably fake

If it seem absurdly expensive, it's probably fake;

Americans coming to Canadian coin shows: Don't bother haggling over the 7% GST, even on principle;

The "special price" you're offered isn't that special most of the time.

Canadians traveling to U.S. coin shows: If you're a visible minority, nobody will believe you're Canadian.

The Toronto Star also included: "With reference to hotel rates, you're charged four times as much as the locals - and that's by government decree." That's a reference to the national GST tax, Provincial sales tax, hotel tax, tourist upcharge and city hotel tax. And that doesn't even cover what you leave behind in taxes at a coin show, including, the 10% surtax in the cost on your silver convention medals.

Incidentally, here is a partial list of how you can recognize other Canadians when you're on the road: Maple Leaf on suitcase, backpack, daypack, jacket sleeve, toiletry case, tattooed on arm and shaved into chest hair. But be aware that Americans sometimes sport them to travel incognito. They could also be travelling with a Tim Hortons coffee mug.

Numismatic Quiz

According to ads we have seen:

1. "Unique" means how many pieces are available:
a) 6 b) 12 c) definitely less than 100
2. A condition never found on an ICCS slab:
a) almost about uncirculated b) slider Unc c) nearly BU
3. Number of grades in the old G/.VG/Etc system:
a) 6 b) more than 6
4. Number of categories in the new Sheldon grading system:
a) 62 b) More than 100

Answers:

1. All three answers are apparently correct, depending on the advertiser
2. None
3. Let's see, Good, Very Good, Fine, Very Fine, Extremely Fine, Uncirculated. That's 6!
4. The last time we checked, it went from 5 Good up to 67, however by the time this gets published, there might be half-numbers in use, or higher than 67.

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR COINS AND MONEY

Ways you make yourself feel secure when travelling to a coin show, but really you're not:

Using tiny padlocks or twist ties to fasten all your zippers;

Wearing a money belt under your pants;

Hiding your documents under the mattress (nobody will think of that!);

Swaying from side to side while standing so nobody can cut your backpack

CONCLUSION

I hope to see a lot of you at the C.N.A. Convention in Calgary. If you don't know when and where, you have not been paying attention. Look me up at the C.N.A. Information Table.

Don't forget to respond to a few of the above items.

Incidentally, the next bulletin, which would normally be scheduled for August 1, might be a day late because I do not get back until late that evening.

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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