

## **Welcome to the C.N.A. E-Bulletin Vol. 2, No. 11 – April 1, 2006:**

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### **INTRODUCTION**

We take a break from our usual content and dedicate this bulletin to the late Jack Veffer, founder of the S.O.B. Numismatists. He would be pleased, being April Fools Day!

We included a number of columns in past issues of the C.N.A. E-Bulletin that were originally published in the bulletin of the Society of Bearded Numismatists. In this issue, we have copied excerpts from the issue that I had the pleasure of putting together. It involves another S.O.B., namely....

### **THE OTHER S.O.B. – THE SOCIETY OF BALD NUMISMATISTS**

Jack was fond of going on annual vacation trips. He called me one day to tell me he was about to depart for an extended visit to some far-off locale. He claimed that he had “very important business commitments which included several trips abroad,” but he didn’t say who the broad was (hey, that’s Jack’s humor, so don’t blame me!). We discussed the idea of a guest editor/publisher. I put together an 18-page bulletin. He accepted my seemingly genuine offer to guest edit a newsletter, but when he saw my front-page that did not contain a single beard on the masthead, he claimed that, bent on destruction, I systematically set out to lower the image of the organization. What some people with beards don’t think of themselves!

Jack didn’t know in advance what the content was going to be. What he also didn’t know is that I would change the name and appearance of the letterhead. Since even back then I did not exactly sport a full set of hair, I felt it appropriate to give equal time to those of us not so well-endowed with hair, whether on the face or on top of the head. So I edited out all the hair and changed the word “Bearded” on the S.O.B. masthead to “Bald” so that it became the “Society of Bald Numismatists.” Because I could never hope to compete with Jack’s sense of humor, I copied the material from a number of sources. It’s called “research,” right?

Following are some of the items published in the special Society of Bald Numismatist bulletin. I had to clean up a few sentences to make them more politically correct in today’s climate.

#### **Letters to the Editor:**

*“It is very refreshing, entertaining and pleasing to have a different Editor for a change. It is the greatest bulletin I have ever had the pleasure to read, anywhere, anytime. Keep up the good work, son!” - Mrs. Regitko, Toronto, Ontario*

From Lynn Ann Herring, Corvallis, Oregon: *“There was this very intelligent numismatist, see. And on the side, he was a mad scientist. And on the other side, he entertained groups and organizations by giving speeches. Either about numismatics, or science. Whichever the case may be. Well, one day he decided he was so busy giving speeches, that he didn’t have any time to play with his coin collection. Aha, thought the mad scientist-numismatist. What I really need is an exact duplicate of myself. Why, I’m so smart, I think I’ll crawl into my laboratory, and make a clone of me. Well, day after day, week after week, month after month, we worked diligently on his clone. And then it was ready. He was ready to show his colleagues his clone, so he planned a large party, intending to unveil his clone at the party, and have him do a speech for him. So he carefully planted his clone outside his large dining room window, so that he could grandly open the curtain on his creation. He got everyone’s attention. Pulled open the curtain, and there*

*his clone stood, abusing himself. Why, the numismatist-scientist got so flabbergasted, that he ran out the door, and pushed his clone off the balcony, and watched him fall 10 stories to his death. And then the police came, and arrested our friend. For making an obscene clone fall.”*

### **HELPFUL HINTS FOR C.N.A. CONVENTION**

Another C.N.A. Convention will be upon us before we know it. We also know that the S.O.B. membership is ninety-nine-and-nine-tenth male and an infinitesimal percentage female. Therefore, it is assumed that the wife is coming along to either keep an eye on you or she figures it's the only way she is going to get any sort of a vacation this year.

We have done some fantastic research as to how to behave with your wife under these circumstances. She will be in a bad-enough mood without your running to some meeting or other and leaving her alone most of the time. Therefore, extra physiological help is necessary to keep the peace. We are about to offer you, free-of-charge, suggestions as to how to keep her happy while you take in all the activities of the Convention.

### **EXCUSES**

How many times have you been out to meetings and receptions all night and when you got back to your hotel room your wife was waiting for an excuse and, as usual, you didn't have one?

Well, never fear again. Here are five tried and tested excuses that are guaranteed to keep you alive when you walk into your hotel room at all hours of the morning:

- 1) I was helping a blind man find his way home.
- 2) I was donating blood.
- 3) I was donating internal organs.
- 4) I was abducted by a UFO.
- 5) I forgot where we were staying.

### **MEETING PEOPLE**

Four things you should never say to a lady while at the Convention:

- 1) What's a girl like you doing in a nice place like this?
- 2) I'm married!
- 3) Could you lend me some money?
- 4) I have a social disease!

### **IMPROVING YOUR SELF-IMAGE**

The first step in having other people like you is to improve your self-image, since an improved self-image can be a simple shortcut to increased business, social and sexual success, according to Dr. Tobias Brocher, professor of psychology at the Minninger School of Psychiatry in Topeka, Kansas.

Here are five proven suggestions for improving your self-image so that you, too, can present yourself well at the Convention:

- 1) Take a self-image inventory. Jot down all the positive things you can think of about yourself. If you can't think of any, at least put down honesty. Then jot down all the negative things about yourself, if you have enough paper. Comparing the lists could at least give you a good laugh.

2) Change the things you don't like about yourself. For instance, if you drink, too much, try joining the S.O.B.s. If you smoke too much, maybe your clothes are on fire!

3) Sell yourself. When you focus attention on your best qualities you reinforce your feeling of self-worth. Constantly reminding yourself of your areas of competence could change your life if you have any.

4) Forget about past shortcomings. Many of the things that contribute to an individual's poor self-image are relics of the past. It's never too late to bury the past. In your case, it's advisable.

5) Reinforce your improved self-image with positive feed-back. When you do something praiseworthy, tell yourself, "Hey, I did great!" When you do something idiotic say, "That's par for the course."

### **COLOR CODES**

Colors can have a positive or negative effect on others, and your choice of colors in clothing can affect the moods of your mate. Experts say that choosing the wrong colors can turn somebody off, but the right colors can add positively to the rapport between two people.

The S.O.B.s offers this color chart to help guide you in dressing during the CNA Convention, whether it's just for the tie or your whole wardrobe:

**RED:** It's the most sexual color, savage and wild. It tends to stimulate introverted people who associate it with life, vigor and strength. It's the kind of color that could make a dead broad jump out of her grave at you!

**YELLOW:** It's a joyful, wholesome color that tends to appeal to intellectual types, or to the scrupulously honest. If you want those kinds of people around you.

**ORANGE:** This combination of red and yellow appeals to both the sensitive intellectual and the aggressive extrovert. It's also great for attracting schizophrenics.

**BLACK:** It appeals to women who like the mystique and challenge of the unknown. It's also great if you're an undertaker.

**BLUE:** It's a very romantic color, evoking images of tropical islands or blue lagoons. It's a subtle "turn on" color that appeals to the nervous types. It's a perfect color if you're on the make at a rest home.

**GREEN:** It's a wholesome color and appeals to "solid citizen" types and the very mature. It attracts people who tend to overlook a person's appearance and concentrate on personality. It's also a big hit with blind girls.

**WHITE:** This color evokes images of virginal purity (that's why S.O.B. Bulletins are printed on white paper).

### **MARRIAGE MANUAL**

Even though you may be happily married (or wish you were), a marriage can always be made even happier. And because we want our members to be as happy as possible at the CNA Convention, we present these tips on how to make your marriage work better:

1) Listen to your spouse. People tend only to hear the surface message, but with practice you can learn to detect the underlying sentiment or feeling behind the message. For instance, if your wife says, "I need a new fur coat for the winter," what she might really be saying is "I want your attention. I'd like you to go shopping with me." If that's the case, go shopping with her. If it turns out she really wants the coat, stay home.

2) Basic problem solving: When a problem arises, you and your wife should sit down and discuss it together. If you can't come to a mutual agreement verbally, settle the dispute by boxing.

3) Joint activity: You and your wife should sit down together and work out activities that you can enjoy together at least once a week no matter how busy you are or how much money you don't have. Good examples of activities that will keep you close are bowling, playing golf, going to a football game, or gluing yourselves to the sofa.

### **EASY MEET**

Whether it's for fun, business, romance, or to keep from being lonely, almost everyone wants to meet new people, but they don't always know how to go about it. Here are some easy steps for meeting new people at the CNA Convention and leaving a definite impression on them.

1) Notice things about other people and comment on them. Things like their hairdo, their jewelry, or the abundance of hair growing out of their noses and ears.

2) Carry something with you that will strike up a conversation. Things like a kitchen sink, or a baseball bat.

3) Go places alone. It's harder to meet new people when you're with a party or group of people. You're most apt to attract attention if you're by yourself. You're even more apt to attract attention if you talk to yourself.

4) Meet new people by borrowing something simple, like a kidney machine or an electric massage unit.

### **MARRIAGE COUNSELING**

According to a panel of prominent writers and psychologists who held a convention in New York concerned with marriage and the modern family life, sex appeal is vital for keeping a marriage alive and well. It was their opinion that sex appeal between married people was just as important, if not more so, than sex itself.

So, as a public service, we'd like to present these tips for keeping sex appeal alive in your marriage:

1) Don't take your partner for granted. Try to regain the cheer days. Do what you did then to be appealing to her. Like opening doors, lighting her cigarettes, using deodorant, and mauling her eighteen hours a day.

2) Don't become isolated as a couple. When partners limit their lives just to each other, each one loses some of the aura and exoticism that is part of their sex appeal. Make sure to have some activities with other couples. Like skydiving, fishing, car racing or wife swapping.

3) Share fantasies. Your imagination is the sexiest part of you. Tell your wife what turns you on, what you find exciting, what you want her to do. Then turn over and go to sleep as you usually do.

### **KISS THOSE CALORIES BYE-BYE**

Even love has its price in an age when the energy conscious are counting up the cost of everything from gasoline to a kiss.

Italian nutritionists, armed with a computer, have calculated that the energy cost of a kiss varies between six and 12 calories -- "depending on intensity" according to an article in the Environmental Nutrition newsletter. A round of lovemaking can burn up as many as 300 calories.

On an annual basis, three kisses a day at an average cost of nine calories add up to a tab of 9,855 calories. Two amorous interludes a week works out to 31,000 calories in energy use over a full year.

So don't spend all your time at meetings.

### **S.O.B. NUMISMATISTS PROPOSE NEW GRADING SYSTEM**

Many grading systems have been expounded since coinage was invented. The old G, VG, F, etc. have been overshadowed by the numbering system. As a compromise, the S.O.B. Bulletin proposed an alternative: two new systems that would replace the numbering system and the G/VG/F/etc. system, as follows:

SYSTEM ONE: In reviewing past issues of Canadian Coin News before taking them to the cottage (the Eatons mail order catalogue was discontinued, remember), I turned to a Monarch Coin & Stamp Galleries ad and noticed that the following terms were used on one single page. In honor of Monarch's extensive use of these terms, we dub this grading system the "Monarch Mess."

Extremely Rare  
Very Scarce  
Special  
VG or better  
Seldom Offered  
Special 200 Pieces  
Special - one roll of each

The beauty of this system, of course, is that it does not cause the buyer and the seller to disagree with the degree of wear on the coin. The old systems unfortunately referred only to condition, not value, and consequently did not help get top buck for those precious gems.

SYSTEM TWO: A number of variations of the basic grading system have been introduced over the years. To legitimize these terms, we are pleased to propose this system, which can be used side-by-side with System One. Using these two systems in conjunction with each other will avoid the confrontations we are now facing on the grading systems.

Almost About Uncirculated  
Slider Unc. (no kidding, I have seen this one)  
Proof-like with Bag Marks

Nearly VG  
Extremely Very Good  
Very, Very Nice  
Choice Fair

We certainly do not wish to imply that we are the originators of either system, and consequently neither should be referred to as the S.O.B. system. Credit should be given to all the dealers who have used these terms in their advertising or pricelists, and to the numismatic publications who allow terms such as "Slider Unc." and the likes.

### **SIMPLIFIED GRADING**

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### **THE NUMISMATIST IN HISTORY**

Unknown for centuries, the numismatist has had many accomplishments for which he has not been properly recognized. Until now!

It indeed gives us great pleasure to acknowledge the inventions, accomplishments and significant performances of coin collectors the world over, by exposing the following facts. Please remember as you read through this list, that these feats were accomplished by coin collectors.

- George Washington invents quarter bearing his name.
- Caesar tosses salad to confirm it's "heads" lettuce.
- Morse invents Canadian 12-sided coin, 1942.
- Reported that the number of alcoholic coin collectors in North America is "staggering."
- Carl C. Wooden invents the nickel bearing his name
- One-Cent Sale in drugstore starts a counter revolution.
- U.S. Mint Building completed. President christens new quarters.
- Mrs. McIntosh sues for divorce. Says husband is rotten to the core.
- Lloyd R. Waste invents paper bearing his name.
- Optometrists discover that those who wear dark glasses take a dim view of things.
- Leaning Tower of Pisa fails to meet building code. Windows too small.
- Pete Moss discovers peat moss.
- Olde English sheepdog publishes memoirs. First shaggy dog story.
- Shepherd Ernest Bringle first to prohibit ewe turns.
- Banker Herb Rich sails on Titanic. Has to float alone.
- Organization in Europe adopts Venus de Milo as symbol for disarmament.
- Arabia bans all sheik to sheik dancing.
- The city of Anchorage, Alaska installs first parka meter.
- British caddies demand a "tee" break.
- Newly formed butchers' union holds first "meating."
- Simon Gink, employee of Winchester Rifle Co. fired for reading "magazines."
- Stock market collapses. 300 cows injured.
- First girdle manufacturer goes out of business due to lack of support.
- It's curtains for the Ajax Venetian Blind Co.
- Rudolph Antwerp walks around world. Congratulated on tremendous feet.

- Little Wanda Ginch becomes 8th Wanda of the World.
- Birth of Oliver Twist, inventor of the pretzel.
- George P. Running invents board bearing his name.
- Dr. Brunwalde Snort invents the wooden whistle that wooden whistle.
- Beginning of trouser manufacturers' slack season.
- Marvin Dirty invents the jokes bearing his name.
- Rose Bushe of Peoria, Illinois, discovers plant bearing her name.
- Birth of Samuel Cold, inventor of the horse bearing his name.
- Stomach doctors in Tibet discover "Abdominal Snowman."
- Birth of Marco Polo, inventor of the shirt bearing his name.

## **CONCLUSION**

Now aren't you sorry some of you told me you wanted to hear more about the S.O.B.s? Actually, there is a lot more where that came from.

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

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