

Welcome to the C.N.A. E-Bulletin Vol. 3, No. 1 – January 5, 2007

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INTRODUCTION

In the last couple of issues, we have addressed the non-receipt of some C.N.A. E-Bulletins as well as the “Greek” characters that creep in from time-to-time. The other situation I have heard about is that when you receive the C.N.A. E-Bulletin and wish to send us a comment, you are unable to simply click “Reply” on the action bar. You would be notified that the e-mail could not be received by the recipient.

The only way to send us e-mails is via cnanews@look.ca. It is beyond our knowledge to explain why you cannot simply click “reply” and type in your message, but we are not alone. Every other sender of e-bulletins that we know of also asks their subscribers to do the same. Apparently, the hosting site on the ISP’s computer is set up to only send out bulletins, not to receive, at least at the low end of the payment schedule.

WE HAVE MAIL

From Mark Argentino: “Your newsletter is highly read, probably 70% or more would be my guess, people just don't like to respond in case they are quoted!” – I assure everyone that if you point out that you do not want your name mentioned, we will honor your request. So send your comments and weird stuff to cnanews@look.ca and let us know if you do not wish to be identified.

SEVENTY OF YOU ARE NOT READING THIS

Based on the above comment from Mark Argentino where he states that these bulletins are probably read by 70% or more of the recipients, I asked him: “Who are the 30%?” He responded: “My guess is that the 30% are people who have spam detection set too high and the newsletter gets deleted; people who don't have the time to read it; and people whose spouses log on to the computer and delete the newsletter before the intended recipient gets the opportunity to see it.” That means that about 70 of you are not reading this out of the 2,300+ receiving it.

When I had my spam filter set on low, I received everything. Since I changed it to high, it catches most everything, except the junk mail where the message is stripped into the e-mail rather than being typed into the e-mail itself. However, I can still see the e-mails that go directly into my junk e-mail folder. The problem of non-receipt might be with your ISP.

As for your comment about the spouse deleting the bulletin, shame, shame, if your spouse does that!

NEW ROYAL CANADIAN MINT RELEASES

We are pleased to be the first publication in the whole world to reveal the first offerings from the Royal Canadian Mint for 2007. You have not read it anywhere else!

The Royal Canadian Mint today announced six new collector coins and five new painted commemorative 25-cent coins to usher in 2007. The RCM expects sales of these products will surpass 2006 results, where 13 separate products sold out in under a year. “I am proud to be launching a series of collector coins which stand for the quality, craftsmanship and creativity of the people who work at the Royal Canadian Mint,” said Ian E. Bennett, President and CEO of

the Royal Canadian Mint. "The popular appeal of these coins is a ringing endorsement of the RCM's mission to mint world-class products coveted by Canadian and international collectors alike." Here are some of the featured products just announced.

2007 Proof Silver Dollar - Celebrating Thayendanegea (Joseph Brant) - Thayendanegea stands out as a heroic native figure in Canadian history for his battlefield bravery as a British military Captain during the American War of Independence and his peacetime statesmanship as a chief of the Six Nations. Named Joseph Brant upon receiving an English education, he devoted himself to protecting the interests of natives, with the support of the British government. Two hundred years after his death, the Royal Canadian Mint has chosen its 2007 proof silver dollar to honor the achievements and influence of Thayendanegea. This selectively plated coin is exclusively available as part of the RCM's 2007 Proof Set, available under a limited mintage of 60,000. A brilliant, uncirculated Thayendanegea dollar, also in sterling silver, is individually available in a mintage of 35,000.

2007 \$300 Gold Coin - The 1923 Shinplaster - The last of a three coin series, this coin features Britannia as she appeared on Canada's third "shinplaster," printed in 1923. The 25-cent fractional note was originally introduced in 1870 as a temporary measure while the Dominion awaited delivery of new silver coins from the Royal Mint in London, England. The fractional note was so popular that it stayed in circulation for 65 years. In this 14-karat gold coin, a helmeted Britannia is shown bearing a trident. This coin is limited to a worldwide mintage of 1,250 and is available for \$1,440.95 CDN.

2007 \$200 Gold Coin – Historical Commerce, Fishing Trade - The Royal Canadian Mint selected the fishing trade as the subject of its third Historical Commerce series 22-karat gold coins. Since 1497, the bountiful waters of Canada's Atlantic Coast were a magnet for European fishing fleets. This proof-quality 22-karat gold coin features an iconic image of this historic trade: a pair of fishermen manually hauling a net over the side of a small boat. The coin, limited to a mintage of 4,000, is composed of 91.67% gold and 8.33% silver and is available at a price of \$579.95 CDN.

2007 \$100 Gold Coin – 140th Anniversary of the Dominion of Canada - The 140th anniversary of the founding of one of world's most respected and envied nations merits an elegantly designed gold coin with a premium finish. Minted from 58.33% gold and 41.67% silver, this 14-karat gold coin features Queen Victoria's Coat of Arms as it appeared when the British North America Act was signed on March 29, 1867. It is accompanied by the opening preamble of the Act in fine detail and the coat of arms of the Dominion's four founding provinces: New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec and Ontario. Only 5,000 of these coins have been minted, each priced at \$369.95 CDN.

2007 Specimen Set - Trumpeter Swan - This year, the trumpeter swan, one of the most majestic birds in North America, graces the limited-edition one-dollar coin featured in the 2007 Specimen Set. A universal symbol of beauty and nobility, the trumpeter swan is cherished in Canada and around the world. The 2007 Specimen Set is the only set that includes this limited-edition one-dollar coin of the trumpeter swan. Also included are all of Canada's traditional circulation coins (except the Common Loon) in specimen finish. The limited worldwide mintage for this set is 40,000, and it is available for \$45.95 CDN.

2007 Commemorative Coin Sets – 5 Unique Painted 25-Cent Coins - The Royal Canadian Mint has issued five new 25-cent painted commemorative coins, exclusively available as the centerpiece of a proof set of 2007 circulation coins. Each 25-cent coin appears through a die-cut

in the cover of the collection folder, presented in five different themes: new baby; birthday; congratulations; wedding; and Oh Canada. Each set is available for \$19.95 CDN.

The Royal Canadian Mint also introduced a 2007 uncirculated set and the first ever Canada calendar and uncirculated coin set. The RCM has also released a boxed collection of baby keepsake tins and special edition sterling silver dollar; a baby lullabies CD and sterling silver dollar set; and set of 2007 proof coins with a special sterling silver dollar and bronze medallion.

All of the Mint's products are available from coin dealers or directly from the Mint at 1-800-267-1871 in Canada, 1-800-268-6468 in the US, or on the Internet at www.mint.ca.

EURO SUCCESS RAISES CURRENCY DEBATE

Hey, good news. My money might be worth an extra 14 percent if Don Drummond is right about our Canadian money. And it might give us another series of banknotes to collect!

Now that Europe's common currency, the euro, has celebrated its fifth anniversary, the chief economist at Toronto Dominion Bank, Don Drummond, states that if Canadians are going to debate the idea of a single North American currency, now is the time it should be on the table. "If we're going to have the debate about doing it, one would want to do it when the Canadian dollar is relatively strong, because you wouldn't be looking in such a large standard-of-living loss," Drummond said in an interview with Tara Perkins, business reporter for The Toronto Star.

I'm just wondering how our beaver would fare if there is a giant eagle flying above it on the new banknotes? Or the evil eye above the pyramid looking down and scaring the poor little critter to death?

Maybe we could use Churchill instead? Who's that, you ask? That's the name that won out for Canada's polar bear on the Toonie, according to the Royal Canadian Mint's website where people could vote for the name of Churchill, Wilbert, Makwa, Sacha or Plouf.

EQUIPMENT CAUSES PROBLEMS FOR TOKEN COLLECTORS

Collecting transportation tokens over the years, I have noticed many with scratches on them, the result of having been used in automatic dispensing machines and turnstiles. However, that is not the only problem encountered with the equipment.

For over two weeks, two of the machines located at the Yonge Street subway stop at St. Clair Avenue accepted people's money but did not dispense the subway tokens. At the entrance located in the concourse beneath an office tower at this location as well as at other subway stations, the booths are staffed during morning and afternoon rush hours, but not at off-peak times. In between, single tokens or larger amounts may be purchased from dispensing machines near the entrances and used in the turnstile to enter the subway.

A reader wrote to the Toronto Star: "The Toronto Transit Corporation booth employee was just coming in, so he opened the door to let me through after trying to get my coins out," adding that he thought the booth guy would report the problem. "Imagine my surprise yesterday when the same thing happened to me and a group of European tourists. We were all stuck outside and lost at least \$6 each."

A Toronto Star employee went to check it out. He asked the TTC employee in the booth during afternoon rush hour if he was aware of it. Yep, he said, adding he reported it a couple weeks

ago. Shouldn't there at least be a sign on them warning people not to pour in money, the attendant was asked. Yep, he said, but it's up to somebody else to do it!

See, you and I are not the only ones saying: "It's not my job!"

BABY CHARGED IN TOKENS THEFT

We regularly read reports that people have been caught attempting to steal subway tokens out of automatic turnstiles and dispensing machines. In Canada, we have the "Young Offenders Act" which basically would do nothing to discourage young people from doing that. The Act even gives a slap on the wrist to convicted killers and other criminals if they are under 18 years of age. If the following happened in Canada, we might have had to pass legislation to create a "Baby Offenders Act."

Police charged a suspect in Patna, India, after a bus driver was robbed of his fares, then realized the suspect was a 3-month old baby. The boy, Parveen Kumar, had been listed along with his father on an initial charge sheet after the bus driver was robbed, police in the eastern Indian state of Bihar said.

The baby had been charged with robbery, extortion and banditry, said local superintendent of police, Rattan Sajai. Though the robbery in the remote village of Muzzafarpur occurred Sept. 19, the fact that a prime suspect was an infant only came to light recently when police launched their investigation.

Police blamed the bus driver, saying he reported the baby as a conspirator because of a personal grudge he had with the father. The charges against the boy have since been dropped, according to The Associated Press.

DO YOU RUN YOUR BUSINESS THIS WAY?

I wonder what the taxman would say if you ran your coin business this way:

Ontario's Auditor General Jim McCarter released a report on some of the money spent by Ontario Power Generation. What he found was that \$120,000 worth of gift certificates were doled out to employees last year without paperwork. But that was small potatoes compared to the \$6.5 million in OPG credit-card purchases for which not a single receipt had been submitted to Accounts Payable

And what was bought? Stuff from department and home furnishing and sporting-goods stores! The digital cameras and computer scanners were not located and OPG could not provide evidence that they were in its possession.

If you can legitimately get your hands on one of these credit cards, I wouldn't mind having it. Or at least borrowing it for a while.

I love it when the government sets examples for the rest of us to follow. See next article.

C.N.A. E-BULLETIN EDITOR TO OPEN CASINO

Some of us seem to be following the examples set by our politicians. This includes piling up debt by spending more than we can afford and living beyond our means due to our inability to differentiate between needs and wants. Well, I have the solution how to wipe out my debt!

Raising taxes leads to a taxpayer revolt that will see them kicked out of office next election. The government has figured out a sure way of no longer worrying about running a deficit and having to raise taxes. The Federal and Provincial Governments have licensed race tracks, casinos, charities and other establishments to get into the gambling business. The City of Toronto, recognizing a good thing when they see it, is also considering their own casinos.

I don't ask for much, only to have the same rights to eradicate my own fiscal deficit. How, you ask? I say that if they think it's such a good idea and have proven that it indeed is, then why can't I apply for a casino license also?

And I promise to improve the odds of winning!

ANA INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE

The ANA is accepting applications for three summer internships at ANA headquarters in Colorado Springs. Experienced young collectors, college or graduate students and numismatic professionals are encouraged to apply. Applicants will be selected for ANA Numismatic Internships, and will work with the museum's numismatic collection, help prepare a museum exhibit, gain experience managing the ANA lending library and summer seminar book sale, and assist with publications work or with organizing summer seminar educational programs and original numismatic research using ANA resources.

Information and applications are available at www.money.org. Click on "Internships" from the "Explore the World of Money" drop-down menu.

MONETARY MORAL LESSON

A father sought to teach his young son a moral lesson. He gave the boy a quarter and a dollar for Sunday school. "Put whichever one you want in the collection plate and keep the other for yourself," he told the boy.

After the services were over, the father asked his son which amount he had given. "Well," said the boy, "I was going to give the dollar, but just before the collection the preacher reminded everyone that the Lord loveth a cheerful giver. I knew I'd be a lot more cheerful if I gave the quarter, so I did."

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Overseas tourists sometimes have trouble with our pay telephone system. According to Helen Atchison, B.C. Tel's assistant manager of Operator Services, says one call went like this:

"Operator, I've just arrived in Canada, and I can't tell what coins I must deposit for \$1.45. Can you help me?"

"Just put in four elks, four sailboats and a beaver," the operator replied.

KISSING YOUR MONEY GOODBYE

I don't know how old this is because I cut it out of a paper and no longer know the date:

New Orleans police solved the mystery of the kissing couple and the empty parking meters. Cops said they videotaped a couple walking along a street and appearing to embrace passionately every few yards when in fact the man was busy removing the coins out of parking meters. The man, a locksmith, coined about \$150,000 a year for seven years, police estimated.

GOING OUT FOR BUSINESS

Just another friendly reminder that the C.N.A. website at www.canadian-numismatic.org is waiting for your membership application or renewal!

CONCLUSION

So what will two thousand and seven bring? I mean, besides the Visa bill from two thousand and six?

So far, were you like me? I gained at least 10 pounds over the past couple of weeks. So I decided to get into shape. The shape I decided on is a giant Coke bottle.

Or I might eat nothing but Silly Putty for the next month, so I can stretch my body into any shape I want!

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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