

Welcome to the C.N.A. E-Bulletin Vol. 3, No. 32 – May 22, 2007

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SPECIAL “2007 C.N.A. CONVENTION” ISSUE – Part Two

INTRODUCTION

We are pleased to present Part Two of some backgrounder on the upcoming 2007 C.N.A. Convention. For those of you that will not be attending the Convention, I have included a good sprinkling of articles and humor (like the first article), so that there is still something in it for everyone.

HOW TO KEEP COLLECTORS AT CONVENTION

Some people might be tempted to leave the C.N.A. Convention to attend a ball game in Hamilton or Toronto. Some people might not show up at all because they purchased tickets at sporting events at exorbitant prices.

Do we have a solution for you! No more paying hundreds of dollars for tickets. No more lining up for hours to buy the tickets. No more fighting the crowds to get in and out of the ballpark. How, you ask?

We have commissioned a team of “experts” to advise us what it takes to give people attending the C.N.A. Convention that real ball park feeling without leaving the show. Other than simply turning on the TV set in the hospitality suite to watch the game, here are your options:

RAIN – pour bucket of water on you to simulate the usual weather experienced at ball parks. Note that wetting of seat prior to game also available.

BEER – arrange for person behind you to spill beer on your back, just like at the ball park.

AISLE SEAT – have a group of people go past your seat in front of the TV, in and out, during the whole game. More than one person will block your view during critical plays.

FLOOR SHOW – arrange to have Niagara Falls’ sanitary department bring a quantity of crushed cups, empty pretzel boxes and a liberal sprinkling of spilled popcorn to throw under your feet. (Come to think of it, we can have our own hospitality committee do this.)

CHEWING GUM – We will have a quantity of chewing gum placed a) under your seat, b) on your seat, and c) on the back of your seat in several places.

LINE-UPS – have line-ups form for you a) at entrance to the Hospitality Suite prior to game for up to 15 minutes into game, b) at coffee/snack area, c) washroom (note: special “out of order” signs for washrooms supplied on request), and d) at completion of game both going out of hospitality suite as well as in the parking lot. If you wish stop-and-go traffic beyond the hotel parking lot, please make your own arrangements with the Niagara Falls Traffic Control Department (if it was in Toronto, this would be automatic on all roads and no special arrangements would be necessary).

SPECIAL REQUESTS – muggings, wallet stealing, swearin’ and cussin’ and fighting by special arrangement only. These do not usually happen in the hospitality suite at C.N.A. Conventions.

MARITAL AID – if your spouse thinks you are actually at the ballpark and calls for your whereabouts, we will tell them that you are either a) unavailable, b) eating lunch, c) out to lunch (she probably already knows this), d) crazy (ditto), e) out with your girlfriend/boyfriend or e) running off with one of the cheerleaders.

RESTRICTIONS – note that our insurance policy does not allow us to replace lost children. Please leave the TV behind, since another group is booked into the hotel following our convention and they want it.

I hope I didn't miss anything. If you have any other thoughts about the goings-on at ballparks that we can incorporate at the Convention (like having a baseball hit you on the noggin or having a ballplayer chase you around the hospitality suite through the stands and beat you senseless), let us know at cnanews@look.ca.

PRE-CONVENTION PLANNING COMMITTEE

The following have agreed to serve on the Pre-Convention Planning Committee:

General Chairman: John Regitko
Vice-Chairman: Peter Kostyk
Bourse Chairman: Dick Dunn
Treasurer: Monina McCullough-Regitko
Exhibit Co-Chairs: Dan Gosling and Stephen Woodland
Numismatic Publicity Chairman: John Regitko
Non-numismatic Publicity Chairman: Peter Kostyk
Souvenir Program Booklet Chairman: Paul Fiocca
Bourse Property Chairman: Tom Rogers
Pre-Registration: Monina McCullough-Regitko
Signage Creation: Roger Fox
Convention Medal Design: Paul Petch
Coin Kids Activities Chairman: Fred Freeman
Registration/Daily Admission Co-Chairs: Lillian Esler & Monina McCullough-Regitko
Hospitality Suite Chair: Cathie Dunn
Hotel Liaison: John Regitko
Banquet Activities Planning: John Regitko
Club Delegates Breakfast Planning: William Waychison
Draws & Give-Aways Coordinator: John Regitko
Tours Planning: Sherman Zavitz
CNA Symposium Planning: Michael Walsh
CNA Educational Seminar Planning: Michael Walsh
CNA Awards Chairman: Tim Henderson
CNA Meetings at Convention Planning: Paul Johnson, C.N.A. Executive Secretary
CNA Information Table Manpower Planning: Paul Johnson
CNA Liaison to Convention: Charles Moore, C.N.A. President

The above listing only covers those positions that require planning in advance of the Convention. The extensive list of volunteers that will take part in the activities at the Convention will be published in Convention Issue Part Three next Tuesday.

C.N.A. PRESIDENT MAKES DONATION

Charles "Chuck" Moore, President of the Canadian Numismatic Association, has donated a

personal medal to the Canadian Numismatic Association for inclusion in the 2007 C.N.A. registration kit. The medals will only be presented to registrants of the Main Registration Kits, and only if they pre-register. Any registrations that are not received at the official Convention address by July 8, 2007 will not be eligible to receive one - no exceptions!

The Lasqueti Mint, located on a small off-grid island in the Strait of Georgia on British Columbia's West Coast, has been commissioned to strike a special low-mintage medal for Charles Moore, C.N.A. President. The medal was designed and struck by Tolling Jennings and Ray Lipovsky at the eccentric and transcendental Lasqueti Mint on Lasqueti Island, British Columbia.

The proof silver medal is struck on a 29.8mm 1/2oz .999 fine silver blank. The Brilliant Uncirculated pieces of limited mintage are stored in inert plastic flips. They are being distributed with a personalized letter addressed to the individual that is to receive it in their Main Registration Kit at the 2007 C.N.A. Convention. Each letter is personally signed by Charles Moore. The reverse depicts the mythical Hercules on a bed of maple leaves, as portrayed on 17th and 18th century Klippe thalers of the German state of Saxony, often referred to as 'wildman' thalers.

The theme for the reverse originated with a 1679 Thaler commemorating the Treaty of Nijmegen. Hercules is shown ascending left above clouds, holding a club over left shoulder, crowned by manus Dei emerging from clouds above. Johann Georg II issued this taler to commemorate the treaty.

When asked why he chose the design for the medal, President Moore stated: "The rumors that it takes a 'Herculean effort' to serve two terms as C.N.A. president are not true. But yes, only a 'wildman' would agree to serve for four consecutive years!" He has served as President of the C.N.A. for the past two 2-year terms.

THE LASQUETI MINT

The Lasqueti Mint is run by "two guys that make artisan, hand-struck precious metal coins," according to their e-mail. The following was forwarded to us by Tolling Jennings - one of the guys:

One must have some understanding of the conditions and equipment at the Lasqueti Mint to truly appreciate the coins we turn out. I don't think one could choose a more disadvantageous situation than that found at the Mint for turning out truly beautiful works of art. Then again perhaps these conditions are exactly what are needed. The Mint is located on an island that is "off the grid," has no road access or car ferry. The buildings the Mint is housed in are primitive by most standards. The tractor shed where our smelting, sheering and machine maintenance takes place has no south wall. Most of our actual minting equipment is situated in a wash house/summer kitchen that is heated by the wood stove in the sauna, a small room in the back of the building. What power there is, is supplied by solar panels, a windmill or a 6kw diesel generator. The machines used in the actual production of the coins have to be classified as antiques. Our drop hammer was made in the 19th century with nonstandard threads on all bolts! Our two fly presses were salvaged from shops that couldn't wait to get rid of them. And our arbor press was made in China and cost \$75.00. Our Pantograph was state of the art 50 years ago and the big lathe we use was old in the 1920s. We do have some small "state of the art" hand tools: very accurate scales, a microscope and engraving machines. We went to great lengths to assemble these tools, much to the amusement of the locals. You don't know what fun is until you load a 2,500 pound fly press off a barge, into a 12 foot aluminum skiff and head out

to sea. Considering the conditions we work under and the equipment we use, each of our coins could be considered a small miracle. I look upon the minor imperfections of our coins as marks of originality. There is an old Sufi saying that "One tries for perfection and settles for what one gets."

The coins from the Lasqueti Mint are truly magical and seem to bring joy and happiness to those who are fortunate enough to possess them.

For additional information about the Lasqueti Mint, either E-mail lasquetimint@yahoo.ca or telephone (250) 333-8868.

(Editor's comment: contrary to Tolling's remarks about the state of the equipment, the work they turn out is simply phenomenal, rivaling the quality produced by many mints boasting ultra-modern state-of-the-art equipment. Wait until you see Chuck Moore's medal. If you do not pre-register and, therefore, not receive one, you will be sorry! Even if you are unable to attend the convention, you can register and we will ship the full registration kit to you.)

WHAT DID HE MEAN BY THAT?

Opening comment by M.C. at C.N.A. Banquet:

"I am glad to see such a dense crowd here tonight!"

THE LEGACY OF MY PAPER ROUTE

by Tony Hine

From 1966 until 1968, I delivered the Globe and Mail newspaper early in the morning in West Oakville. My initial foray was to take over a single route of 36 newspapers that went from Lakeshore Road to Rebecca Street on the two main residential thoroughfares of Westminster Drive and Woodhaven roads. I would pick up my newspapers from a drop at Hixon and Woodhaven, and pedal south to start the route, working my way north as my load lightened.

Although a 5:30 start was a new experience for me, I enjoyed the extra pocket money, and adjusted sufficiently that I soon looked to add further territory. Luckily a route to the west of mine soon opened up, so I added it. Later, I added a third and fourth route, until my morning empire included well over two hundred papers. My paper route enabled me to pamper my self with two luxuries: numismatics and travel.

Back in the 1960s, carriers had to collect payment weekly from virtually every customer. This was a major nuisance, even in a relatively affluent neighborhood. I quickly began to scan my change for older coins, some of which were actually silver. The Centennial Year added to the excitement, as the 1967 coinage was given new patterns. Soon, I was stopping at the coin dealer near the north end of my route to fill gaps in my collection.

The second legacy of my route was to acquire a love of tourism. A neighbor who was born in Niagara Falls invited me to travel there for a two-day visit with his former neighbors. I enjoyed the trip sufficiently to plan a return trip by train with my eight-year-old brother and ten-year-old-sister. For a 13 year-old kid with a pocketful of change, the single-day trip was magic. We took a morning train and visited the tourist traps of Clifton Hill, including the wax museum and Ripley's Museum. Late in the afternoon, we decided to cool off in the rooftop pool at the Sheraton Foxhead Hotel. However, as we were not registered guests, our swim required some subterfuge. The three of us changed into our bathing suits one floor down and took the elevator

up to the roof. I had coached my siblings to follow an adult onto the roof, so we could tailgate on his access privileges for the pool area.

Shortly after my Niagara Falls trip, a change of schools required that I give up my Globe and Mail route. But last summer my youngest child was 12, the same age as I was when I visited the Falls in 1968. My younger sister died in 2003. But I am looking forward to taking Kaleigh to Niagara Falls for the CNA Convention. As a registered hotel guest, she will be able to use the pool without sneaking in. I certainly hope she enjoys herself.

SIGN AT C.N.A. CONVENTION

A note tacked to the entrance of the bourse room beneath the "\$5 Daily Admission Charge" sign: "No one ever went to heaven gate crashing!"

MASC SOLICITING DISPLAYS

The Medallic Art Society of Canada (MASC) has called for entries to the "MASC Permanent Exhibit" which will be set up July to December 2007 at the Canadian Sculpture Centre, 69 Merton Street, Toronto, Ontario. The deadline for entries is June 15. For full details, contact MASC President, Saulius Jaskus, at (416) 966-3101.

And why are we mentioning it in this Convention issue? Because submitted medals can be previewed in a display in the convention foyer at the Convention in Niagara Falls.

FREE PARKING AT CONVENTION HOTEL

We have negotiated with the Sheraton Fallsview Hotel and Convention Centre a terrific deal on parking during the height of the tourist season. All attendees to the C.N.A. Convention will be provided with parking at no charge. This applies whether you are staying at the hotel overnight or are just visiting for the day.

To qualify for the free parking, you must park in the parking lot across Stanley Street, and advise the parking attendant that you are with the coin show when you enter the parking lot.

Note that we are not responsible for any costs you incur if you park in the parking lot located beside the hotel, or do not advise the parking attendant that you are with the coin show when you first enter the lot.

COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS VERY REWARDING

If you want the satisfaction of displaying your collecting specialties and possibly being rewarded with a Best of Show gold medal or one of the silver, copper or bronze medals for coming in first, second or third in various categories, go to www.canadian-numismatic.org/2007exhibits.php for the exhibit application form, category breakdown and rules & regulations.

MORE CONVENTION INFORMATION

For full information on the 2007 C.N.A. Convention, please go to the C.N.A. Website at: www.canadian-numismatic.org/2007niagara.php.

COIN KIDS INFORMATION

We received the following e-mail the other day:

"The upcoming Niagara C.N.A. Convention will be our fourth in the past five years and we want to come with our daughter of 5 years old. My wife wants to make all tours and we want to know

what the price for the tours for our daughter is and if she needs the Young Numismatist Registration Kit, because she doesn't collect coins at all."

We thought we would pass on the answer for everyone that is bringing a young collector:

Although there are benefits for adults registering for the Convention (as opposed to simply paying \$5 daily admission), any junior can participate in any of the junior programs even if they do not register. Admission to the bourse is free; they can participate in the Treasure Hunt and receive rewards; they can attend the Coin Kids meeting; they can attend all educational programs; they can visit the Hospitality Suite as often as they like (note that adults that accompany juniors must be registered to visit the hospitality suite). They will also receive some Coin Kids auction dollars for participating in various events, for bidding in the auction.

Any junior visiting the Coin Kids Information Table will receive a quantity of coins. This might be a good time for your five-year old to start her coin collection.

What juniors that do not register will NOT receive are the contents of the registration kit. The Coin Kids registration kit, selling for \$40, includes \$40 worth of auction dollars, so if your son or daughter, niece or nephew is bidding on material they want to add to their collection, the registration kit winds up being free! Doesn't that sound like a great deal, eh? Remember, if you pre-register and find the contents are not worth the price, you get a full refund.

Juniors are welcome to accompany an adult on either tour whether they are registered or not. For a 5-year-old or younger, there is no charge. Older kids will pay half price.

BANQUET OPTIONS

We recently received a request for vegetarian dishes at the Banquet. We have chosen the International Buffet for the Banquet because it is quite extensive and offers, in addition to various meat varieties, a number of vegetarian options (salads, pasta, fish, etc.) which most people find to be a nice balanced selection.

However, should anyone wish to go with a plated meal, please let us know on the registration form and we will pass on your specific request to the hotel's head chef. In either case, the cost is the same.

EXCHANGE RATE

As we all know, currencies fluctuate against other currencies on a daily basis. People who cross the border between Canada and the U.S. over the years have found out that our two currencies can fluctuate drastically. Canada had a 20 cent coin many years ago, which equaled an American 25 cent coin in value. My, how times have changed.

Some of us might remember getting more than 20 percent from our bank when we exchanged our American money that we didn't spend on a trip to the U.S. Today, we obtain just over 8 percent.

When we first published the 2007 C.N.A. Convention registration form, we started off with a 12 percent exchange rate. Because of publishing lead time, the June C.N.A. Journal will show that we are offering 11 percent exchange for anyone paying for their registration in U.S. funds.

Although we are not worried about being a dollar or two short, we hope that you will remember this and adjust the exchange rate accordingly.

CONCLUSION

Remember, I try to answer the C.N.A. Convention Hot-Line from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. 7 days a week. If you have any questions, please call me at (416) 407-4122.

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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