

Welcome to the C.N.A. E-Bulletin Vol. 3, No. 34 – May 29, 2007

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SPECIAL C.N.A. CONVENTION ISSUE

INTRODUCTION

This is the third and final installment of news of the upcoming 2007 C.N.A. Convention taking place at the Sheraton Fallsview Hotel & Convention Centre in Niagara Falls, Ontario from July 11 to 15. Just like last Tuesday when we included a sprinkling of humor and articles, we are doing the same in this issue.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

In last Tuesday's C.N.A. E-Bulletin, we published a listing of the Pre-Convention Planning Committee. We are pleased to publish the names of all individuals that will assist at the Convention. The committee was drawn from right across Canada, while most of the Coin Kids Committee is from California.

GENERAL CHAIRMAN: John Regitko

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Peter Kostyk

BOURSE:

Chairman: Dick Dunn

Bourse Assistants: Vic Shewchuck & James Williston

Property: Tom Rogers

Security: Dick Dunn & John Regitko

REGISTRATION/ DAILY ADMISSION:

Co-Chairs: Lillian Esler & Monina McCullough-Regitko

HOSPITALITY SUITE:

Chair: Cathie Dunn

Assistants: Sandy Craig, Doris Buth, France Waychison

COIN KIDS ACTIVITIES:

Chairman: Fred Freeman

Coin Kids Info Table Coordinator: Fred Freeman & Walter Ostromecki

Supplies Sales Table: Terry O'Brien & Edward Ford

Treasure Hunt: Walter Ostromecki

Donation Auction Coordinator: Walter Ostromecki

Auctioneers: Lee Gong & Michael "Steamer" Stanley

EXHIBITS:

Co-Chairs: Dan Gosling & Stephen Woodland

Competitive Exhibits Head Judge: Tim Henderson

Awards Chairman: Tim Henderson

EDUCATION

Symposium Chairman: Michael Walsh

Symposium Co-Chair: Dan Gosling

Symposium Presenters: See separate listing
Education Seminar Chair: Michael Walsh
Education Seminar Presenter: Jodie Sales, Bank of Canada
(2nd presenter to be confirmed)

RECEPTIONS AND DINNERS:

Early Bird & President's Welcome Reception:
Monina McCullough-Regitko & Cathie Dunn
President's Welcome Reception Host: Chuck Moore
CNA Past Presidents' Dinner Chairman: Geoffrey Bell
Spousal Continental Breakfast Chair: Cathie Dunn

CNA CLUB DELEGATES BREAKFAST MEETING:

Chairman: William Waychison
Speaker: Michael "Stan" Turrini
Draws & Give-Aways: Bill Waychison & John Regitko

DRAWS:

Hourly Draws Coordinator: John Regitko
In Attendance Draws: John Regitko

CNA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

Chairman: Charles Moore
Recording Secretary: Paul Johnson
Awards Presentations: Tim Henderson & Bill Waychison

CNA BANQUET:

Master of Ceremonies: Graham Esler
Keynote Speaker: Sherman Zavitz
Awards Presenters: Tim Henderson & Bill Waychison

MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES:

C.N.A. Info Table Planning: Paul Johnson
A.N.A. Info Table Planning: Patricia Finner
CNA Judges Breakfast Chair: Tim Henderson
Historical Tour Guide: Sherman Zavitz
Meeting Sign Placement: Christine Woodland
Error Identification & Authentication Table: Lee Gong
Specialty Group Meetings Chairs & Speakers:
Appointed by the respective organizations

PROMOTION:

Numismatic Advertising: John Regitko
Non-numismatic Advertising: Peter Kostyk
Signage Creation: Roger Fox

HOTEL LIAISON: John Regitko

TREASURER: Monina McCullough-Regitko

SOUVENIR PROGRAM BOOKLET: Dan Gosling

CONVENTION MEDAL DESIGN: Paul Petch

C.N.A. LIAISON TO CONVENTION:

Charles Moore, C.N.A. President

EDUCATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

Michael Walsh, C.N.A. Educational Chairman, is pleased to announce that at the 2007 C.N.A. Convention in Niagara Falls will feature the largest and most diverse educational symposium in the past 20 years. Fourteen speakers are now confirmed to present papers on Aspects of North American Numismatics on Wednesday and Thursday, July 11 and 12.

If you are planning on attending the convention this summer, plan on arriving early and attending the Symposium. The papers presented will be compiled and printed in a hardcover book later this year titled "Aspects of North American Numismatics II," following the format of the 1986 edition of Aspects.

Wednesday 11 July

- 9:00 a.m. - Daniel Gosling - "The Life and Times of J Douglas Ferguson"
- 10:00 a.m. - Philip Carrigan - "Auction Sales of the 19th and 20th Century with Significant Canadian Content"
- 11:00 a.m. - Graham Esler (TBA)
- 12:00 noon - lunch
- 1:00 p.m. - Ron Greene - "Early tokens of Nelson, B.C."
- 2:00 p.m. - Henry Nienhuis - "Canadian Error Coinage"
- 3:00 p.m. - Dr. Peter Moogk - "The Value of Archaeological Evidence to 18th and 19th Century Numismatics"
- 4:00 p.m. - David Bergeron - "Banking in the French Regime"

Thursday 12 July

- 9:00 a.m. - Michael Walsh - "Weak Strikes on Canadian Coins"
- 10:00 a.m. - Rob Turner - "The 1858 Canadian Cent"
- 11:00 a.m. - Paul Berry - "The Double Tournois in 17th Century Canada"
- 12:00 noon - Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. - H. Don Allen - "Ones' Own Money: Two Centuries of Cheque Evolution in Canada and the United States"
- 2:00 p.m. - Tolling Jennings - "A Short History of the Lasqueti Mint"
- 3:00 p.m. - Ted Leitch - "The Eight Real in the New World"
- 4:00 p.m. - Dr. Chris Faulkner - "Some Observations Regarding the Production of the PEI Holey Dollar"

The planned format is a series of one hour blocks. Each will start on the hour, with a 30 or 40 minute presentation followed by a question/answer and discussion time to a total of 45 to 50 minutes. The 10 to 15 minute break will allow for tear-down and set-up for the next presenter. For updates on the symposium, check:

www.canadian-numismatic.org/2007symposium.php as the Convention gets closer.

PRESIDENT'S PRE-REGISTRANTS MEDAL

We received the following letter from J.J.: "In the previous bulletin about the upcoming Convention, you wrote about the special medal that President Chuck Moore is donating to pre-

registrants. Did the Lasqueti Mint have an original Thaler that they used for making up Chuck's die, or did they have to start from scratch?"

Whether they had an original Thaler or not is irrelevant, because there were too many changes to make it useful. For example, the Hercules side was changed to Canadian Broad Leaf Maple leaves as the ground and steps, which the figure is ascending, in order to receive the wreath from the hand (manus Dei - hand of God) coming from the clouds.

According to Raymond Lipovsky, Head Coiner and Engraver at the Lasqueti Mint, the die sinking and engraving is done as a mixture of mechanical and hand processes. The lettering on the dies is principally done with a hand stylus controlled, reduction Pantograph. The devices on the medal are outlined from large art models with the Pantograph and then engraved by hand for detail and finish. The die fields are pre-polished and final polished by hand on diamond laps before and after die hardening and tempering.

The Lasqueti Mint will strike this medal in-house, in 1/2 oz fine silver. They pour ingots of .999+ silver, roll to exact planchet thickness, punch the planchets with a hand fly press, confirm exact planchet weight, anneal the blanks in an electric digital control kiln, and strike the medal by hand with a drop hammer.

MEDAL WILL INCLUDE EXPLANATORY PAMPHLET

After the 2006 Convention, we received the following e-mail from Dean Beckley: "I am writing in regard to the 2006 C.N.A. Convention medals I received. Thank you very much for the pamphlet for the medals with tributes to Sir Adam Beck and Nikola Tesla. Also many thanks for the extras you included, the wooden tokens, brass tokens, poker chip and casino tokens in the Uni-safe holder. They are a wonderful surprise."

It is our intention to again include an educational pamphlet with each 2007 C.N.A. Convention medal, explaining the central theme as well as additional background on the Niagara area.

MAN OF THE MIST

One of the major attractions in Niagara Falls, other than the Falls themselves, is the Maid of the Mist. After 32 years of thrilling tourists by close-shaving the Falls, Captain Richard Schuyler has retired, according to a Toronto Star column written by Bill Taylor. Following are excerpts from that article:

The obvious question for the captain of a boat that plays chicken with the Horseshoe Falls a dozen times a day or more must be, "Have you ever seen anyone go over?"

"You bet. I've seen them do it in a barrel and survive. Not everyone does. See that convergence of water there on the right, the fast currents? If I keep that in this window here, I know I'm fine. But you get into that - it's a back eddy - and it'll suck you right in. People have gone over the Falls in a barrel and been caught by that and held there and they've suffocated before anyone could get to them."

As he's talking, Schuyler is quite casually holding his little ship almost stationary at what looks perilously close to the towering, roaring wall of water. A terrier facing off against a pit bull of uncertain temper.

The “mist” is more the rainstorm of your nightmares. It’s warm and dry on the bridge and the glass muffles the shrieks of the passengers in the bows, their blue plastic slickers over-whelmed by the deluge.

“We’re not as close as you think,” says Schuyler. “About 100 metres. It’s so big that it looks closer.” The irony is that the nearer you get to the Falls, the less you can see. On a perfect day, with a north wind whipping away the spray to improve the view, some passengers complain that they’re being short-changed and not going close enough. “I’ve heard people say they took this trip 50 years ago and the boat sailed straight through the Falls,” says Schuyler, grinning. “I tell them, ‘It’s solid rock behind there!’”

He’s used to less-than-logical comments and questions. Among his favorites: Where’s the United States? Which construction company built all this? Do they use special lights to make the rainbows?

The boat, like a white toy in a rambunctious toddler’s tempest-tossed bathtub, turns and heads back to calmer waters. The mate, Dean Hume, recalls his first trip seven years ago. “I wondered, ‘What are we doing? Why are we bringing a ship into this place?’ I thought I was a pretty good ship-handler but these guys were unbelievable.”

Schuyler can’t explain how he sails with such precision. “I’ve been doing it for so long, I just...do it. There’s an old saying: Better to be in inch off than a foot on. You don’t go too close.”

He can’t keep tally of the number of 20-minute, two-kilometre trips he’s made but, with up to 22 a day in peak season, 100,000 probably isn’t far of the mark. His last one, before he sails into retirement, departed at 4:37 p.m. on Tuesday, October 24, the trip that ended the 2006 season.

Schuyler, a captain since 1989, made his first trip as a mate on May 1, 1974. “I was living in St. Catharines and it was a warm day there so I didn’t wear a coat. Man. Oh man, it was cold down here. I froze my butt off all day.” He sailed on lake freighters before, taking his job, which narrowed his horizons but let him sleep at home every night.

Over the years, his passengers have included Wayne Newton, Regis Philbin, William Shatner and Princess Diana who, in 1991, visited the bridge with her young sons, William and Harry.

Even on a dank and cloudy day, there’s still a lineup for the Maid of the Mist. Sometimes people get a little..what’s the word? Anxious? No, overwhelmed. They don’t know what to expect, how wet they’re going to get. But they usually wind up loving it.”

Once again, the boat is plowing heavily past the American Falls. Seagulls bob unconcernedly on the broken, churning water. As the ride gets rougher and the spray denser, the PA speaker kicks in with, “Ladies and gentlemen, this is Niagara Falls.”

Schuyler figures any time he feels like taking a sentimental journey, he’ll get a ride for free. And he wants to build a canoe.

WHO’S GOING TO THE C.N.A.?

The Calgary (Alberta) Numismatic Society reports that 28 of its members attended the 2006 C.N.A. Convention in Niagara Falls, Ontario.

Can another club beat that, or can we consider that a modern-day record?

NIAGARA POWER CLEANS UP TORONTO

Tony Hine sent us the following clipping from a recent issue of The Globe & Mail:

"Niagara Power Now in Toronto" declared The Globe on November 20, 1906, hailing the first transmission of electricity from the region to the city, the previous day. "Almost every big city in Canada has long been using water-produced power, while in Toronto the air has become like that of Pittsburgh, and a dense pall of smoke from the steam plants hangs almost continually over the business quarter. Pure air and cheap power may not be a matter of today, but they will inevitably follow the harnessing of Niagara."

THE FIRST TIGHTROPE WALKER OVER THE FALLS

Following a recent conversation about the unusual things that have happened in Niagara Falls, Rick Craig sent us the following:

Tightrope Walkers Jean Francois Gravelet, the great Blondin, was the first of many tightrope walkers to appear at Niagara Falls. He was a professional artist and showman trained in the great tradition of the European circus. At age 31 he came to America and made the announcement that he would cross the gorge of the Niagara River on a tightrope.

On June 30, 1859 the rope was in position and at five o'clock in the afternoon Blondin started the trip that was to make history. Incredulous watchers saw him lower a rope to the Maid of the Mist, pull up a bottle and sit down while he refreshed himself. He began his ascent toward the Canadian shore, paused, steadied the balancing pole and suddenly executed a back somersault. Never content merely to repeat his last performance, Blondin crossed his rope on a bicycle, walked blindfolded, pushed a wheelbarrow, cooked an omelet in the centre and made the trip with his hands and feet manacled.

Yet even these stunts failed to satisfy Blondin's urge to test himself. He announced that on August 19 he would cross the gorge carrying his manager, Harry Colcord, on his back. It was to be the supreme test of Blondin's skill and stamina. According to Colcord, the trip was a nightmare. In the unguyed centre section, the pair swayed violently. Blondin was fighting for his life. He broke into a desperate run to reach the first guy rope. When he reached it and steadied himself, the guy broke. Once more the pair swayed alarmingly as Blondin again ran for the next guy. When they reached it Blondin gasped for Colcord to get down. Six times in all Colcord had to dismount while Blondin struggled to gather his strength. In the end Blondin had to charge the crowd on the brink to prevent the press of people forcing them back in the precipice. The Great Blondin had done it again, but this time he had only just made it.

He died in England at the age of 73.

ELECTRIC UTILITY CELEBRATED ANNIVERSARY

Tony Hine sent us the following e-mail:

The April-May issue of The Beaver Magazine reports: "This spring would have marked the 100th birthday of Canada's first provincially owned electric utility, at one time the largest in North America. But someone left the cake out in the rain."

The last line is an allusion to the popular song of the 1960s MacArthur Park, popularized by actor Richard Harris. A picture caption notes that Queenston-Chippewa project (since renamed

for Adam Beck) cost \$80 million - four times its original estimate. I hope the C.N.A.'s auctioneer will find that last fact an omen for optimism for consignors.

The URL for the Beaver is <http://historysociety.ca>.

ONE MAN'S OPINION ABOUT THE FALLS

Tony Hine tells us that Magenta magazine, included with the Globe and Mail, quotes Oscar Wilde on Niagara Falls: "The stupendous waterfall must be one of the earliest, if not the keenest, disappointments in American married life."

QUESTION ABOUT CONVENTION HOTELS

How is it that at a hotel when you want to sleep, they want to make up the room at 7:00 a.m.? And when you want to check in, they still haven't made up the room at 7:00 p.m.?

MEN CAN'T HELP BUT IGNORE THEIR WIVES

If your spouse doesn't want you to go to the C.N.A. Convention but you go anyway, it's not your fault. The following was published by the Journal of Experimental Social Psychology:

Psychologists have long known about "reactance," the tendency to do the exact opposite of what's requested by a loved one. The new study aimed to find out whether the phenomenon might occur at a subconscious level. Participants were asked to name a significant person they perceived as controlling their lives, and another who just wanted them to have fun. Then they were asked to discern words from jumbled letters on a computer screen while the names of the people they had mentioned were flashed subliminally. The names were flashed too quickly to be registered consciously.

"Our participants were not even aware that they had been exposed to someone else's name, yet that non-conscious exposure was enough to cause them to act in defiance of what their significant other would want them to do," said Gavan Fitzsimons, a professor of marketing and psychology at Duke University.

"People with a tendency toward reactance may non-consciously and quite unintentionally act in a counterproductive manner simply because they are trying to resist someone else's encroachment on their freedom," said Tanya Chartrand, also a professor of marketing and psychology at Duke. "My husband, while very charming in many ways, has an annoying tendency of doing exactly the opposite of what I would like him to do in many situations," Chartrand said. Her husband happens to be Fitzsimons, who said the results "suggest that reactance to significant others is so automatic that I can't possibly be expected to control it if I don't even know it's happening."

Regardless, maybe you should bring your spouse along to the Convention in Niagara Falls, or at least give him/her some flowers on the way home.

SOUVENIR PROGRAM BOOKLET

We are planning a press-run of at least 1,000 souvenir program booklet, expected to be as many as 48 pages, that will be distributed to 250 registrants, bourse dealers and daily admissions. If you are participating at the convention, be it as a bourse dealer or a club holding a meeting, and you wish to place an ad in the booklet, please contact us at cnanews@look.ca. It costs only CDN\$75 for a full page, \$40 for half and \$25 for a quarter page. Non-profit organizations receive a sizable discount.

REMINDERS

Did you send in your registration form (remember, even if you do not attend and wish to obtain a copper souvenir medal, special President's silver medal and other items, we will ship it to you after the convention)?

- Did you make your bedroom reservation at the Sheraton Fallsview Hotel?
- Did you make your travel plans?

Want additional information? Go to www.canadian-numismatic.org or e-mail cnainfo@look.ca.

Want to speak to someone live? Call John at (416) 407-4122 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

CONCLUSION

If you haven't figured out yet how excited I am about the way plans are falling into place, you haven't been paying attention! With what is turning out to be at least the second largest bourse in C.N.A. history and with the record-setting activities planned, I predict that we have a winner on our hands!

For the full C.N.A. Convention information, please go to:

www.canadian-numismatic.org/2007niagara.php. Thank you for allowing me to tell you all about the upcoming Convention.

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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