

Welcome to the C.N.A. E-Bulletin Vol. 3, No. 39 – June 29, 2007

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INTRODUCTION

Much is going to happen over the next couple of weeks. The C.N.A. Convention, Canada's largest coin show and the C.N.A.'s largest convention ever (prove me wrong!) will be held in Niagara Falls. With the all-day educational presentations on Wednesday and Thursday, we can indeed promote it as a FULL 5-day event, July 11 to 15. See you there!

A bonus is the introduction by the Royal Canadian Mint of a coin in Niagara Falls. Details in the next C.N.A. E-Bulletin.

WE HAVE MAIL

From Tolling Jennings: "You asked if anyone had updates on charges and fines for the fraud going on in Iraq. I followed the story of a minor overcharge of \$800,000,000.00US for gas supplied by Halliburton in the early days of the war. The US congress was so outraged that after a couple of months of debate they charged them with an \$8,000,000.00 fine! This left them with a minor overcharge profit of \$792,000,000.00US. Boy, that must have really hurt!! You can see why, with penalties like this, no one else would be tempted to dip into the Billions washing around in the old Pork Barrel."

From Bob Graham: "Lots of chuckles and a good belly laugh in today's bulletin - which somehow brings Ma Murray to mind. A plutonium maple leaf, indeed! - that just broke me up." - Since I didn't know who Ma Murray was...hey, I can't be expected to know everything from memory just because I am a world-renowned editor...I looked it up in Wikipedia at en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Margaret_Lally_%22Ma%22_Murray. She was a Kansas farm girl that moved to Canada and became known for her spicy wit, backcountry wisdoms, and down-to-earth style, "Ma" was co-founder and editor (with her husband George) of the Bridge River-Lillooet News, the Alaska Highway News and other publications. Her editorials were famously signed off with the catchphrase "And that's fer damshur!"

From Nick Cowen: "In that the Bank of Canada has a program to recover notes that are mutilated, torn and otherwise less than appealing to the eye, it begs the following question: Does the RCM have any similar program in effect? I just had to ask because, given the amount of coins issued each year, they surely must be pulling some out of the system on a regular basis, especially when nickel is at an all time high. Are they recycling money?" – The Royal Canadian Mint did make public a while ago the fact that they are culling out older coins. I will obtain an update from them for the next bulletin.

From Sven Christensen: "Could you please change the email address that you have on file. I enjoy the newsletter very much and would hate to miss an issue." - This is a reminder to everyone that if you change your e-mail address and you wish to continue to receive these bulletins, please notify us at cnanews@look.ca.

LOONIE CELEBRATES MILESTONE

What has 11 sides, is yellow-gold in colour and is celebrating a birthday? Darn it, I gave away the answer in the heading.

Canada's beloved one-dollar coin, affectionately known as "the Loonie", turns 20 tomorrow, June 30th.

It has been two decades since Canadians said goodbye to one-dollar banknotes and welcomed the new coin in their pockets and change purses. At that time, it was acknowledged as the most significant change to Canada's coinage system in over 50 years. "In 1987, the Royal Canadian Mint was proud to be involved in such an important event and over the years, the one-dollar coin has become a true Canadian symbol," said Ian E. Bennett, President and CEO of the Royal Canadian Mint.

The Government of Canada first announced the introduction of the one-dollar coin in March 1986, after several business and special interest groups suggested significant savings and benefits could be realized.

While the reverse of the one-dollar coin bears the design of a loon in water by Ontario artist Robert-Ralph Carmichael, the coin has seen several variances in the past few years, including:

- the Remembrance design, featuring the National War Memorial in Ottawa in 1994
- special Lucky Loonie designs in 2004 and 2006, to cheer on our Olympic and Paralympic athletes
- the commemoration of the 25th anniversary of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope in 2005, which was the first time a Canadian-born individual was featured on a Canadian circulation coin.

Produced at the Mint's plant in Winnipeg, Manitoba, over 800 million one-dollar coins have been struck since first being launched into circulation.

POPULAR MONEY SHOW CHANGES DATES

I know that a number of dealers and collectors receiving this bulletin attend the Houston Money Show, which is sponsored by the non-profit Greater Houston Coin Club, so this will be of interest to a number of you.

"The Money Show of the Southwest," known to most people as the Houston Money Show, has changed the dates for its next show to November 30 – December 2, 2007 from its previously scheduled January dates. According to Carl Schwenker, show spokesman, this is a permanent change wherein the Money Show will assume the position as probably the last major show of the year for the foreseeable future.

"We have been encouraged for some time by our dealers and suppliers to find a date that is not between the FUN and Long Beach shows and outside of the busy month of January," Schwenker stated. He noted that they wanted to avoid potential conflicts with many local shows in January, the FUN and Long Beach shows, as well as the Super Bowl.

Heritage Auctions has agreed to hold a major auction in association with the Money Show, PCGS has agreed to grade on site, and the new date offers a wonderful opportunity for visitors to shop for Christmas gifts at Houston's world famous Galleria. The weather in Houston in December is normally quite mild. Its complimentary "out-of-this-world" BBQ will still be served to the dealers. There are plans for additional family and youth events at the December show in addition to the Boy Scout and Girl Scout clinics, the "Coins in the Class room" mini-seminar, and educational presentations.

Dealers who had committed to the January dates will be receiving a call from the Show committee shortly to advise them of the change.

For additional information on the Money Show of the Southwest, go to: www.houstoncoinshow.org or call 281-788-1036.

CASINO CHIPS AND TOKENS SHOW

As General Chairman of the upcoming C.N.A. Convention being held in Canada's number one gambling...sorry, gaming...city, Niagara Falls, I have become somewhat fond of casino chips and casino tokens. I have picked up a number of them from various casinos during my travels throughout Ontario, before they all disappear in favor of the pieces of paper they now dispense in all the newer machines.

I would dearly love to attend the Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club's annual convention in Las Vegas, running from Wednesday, August 8 to August 11 at the Riviera Hotel & Casino. According to Sheldon Smith, their publicity director, many wonderful and exciting pieces of casino memorabilia will be on display and available for purchase. If it's associated with gaming you'll find it on the floor at the CCGTCC convention.

If you are a member or join when you attend, you will not only receive the award winning Casino Chip Token News Magazine, but will also be able to attend the Educational Seminars scheduled for Thursday, Friday & Saturday, and the Friday night auction of exciting casino memorabilia.

For more information, go to www.ccgcc.com.

WWII TRIVIA

Tony Hine sent us the following that he felt we history buffs might enjoy. It was published by Col D. G. Swinford, USMC, Ret

1. The first German serviceman killed in WW II was killed by the Japanese (China, 1937), the first American serviceman killed was killed by the Russians (Finland 1940); highest ranking American killed was Lt. Gen Lesley McNair, killed by the US Army Air Corps. So much for allies.
2. The youngest US serviceman was 12 year old Calvin Graham, USN. He was wounded and given a Dishonorable Discharge for lying about his age. His benefits were later restored by act of Congress.
3. At the time of Pearl Harbor, the top US Navy command was called CINCUS (pronounced "sink us"), the shoulder patch of the US Army's 45th Infantry division was the Swastika, and Hitler's private train was named "Amerika." All three were soon changed for PR purposes.!
4. More US servicemen died in the Air Corps than the Marine Corps. While completing the required 30 missions, your chance of being killed was 71%.
5. Generally speaking, there was no such thing as an average fighter pilot. You were either an ace or a target. For instance, Japanese Ace Hiroyoshi Nishizawa shot down over 80 planes. He died while a passenger on a cargo plane.
6. It was a common practice on fighter planes to load every 5th round with a tracer round to aid in aiming. This was a mistake. Tracers had different ballistics so (at long range) if your tracers were hitting the target, 80% of your rounds were missing. Worse yet tracers instantly told you

enemy he was under fire and from which direction. Worst of all was the practice of loading a string of tracers at the end of the belt to tell you that you were out of ammo. This was definitely not something you wanted to tell the enemy. Units that stopped using tracers saw their success rate nearly double and their loss rate go down.

7. When allied armies reached the Rhine, the first thing men did was pee in it. This was pretty universal from the lowest private to Winston Churchill (who made a big show of it) and Gen. Patton, who had himself photographed in the act.

8. German Me-264 bombers were capable of bombing New York City, but they decided it wasn't worth the effort.

9. German submarine U-120 was sunk by a malfunctioning toilet.

10. Among the first "Germans" captured at Normandy were several Koreans. They had been forced to fight for the Japanese Army until they were captured by the Russians, and forced to fight for the Russian Army until they were captured by the Germans, and forced to fight for the German Army until they were captured by the US Army.

Saving the best for last...

11. Following a massive naval bombardment, 35,000 United States and Canadian troops stormed ashore at Kiska, in the Aleutian Islands. 21 troops were killed in the assault. It would have been worse if there had been any Japanese on the island.

CORNY MONEY JOKES

By now you must know that I will go to great length to give you all the unusual news. I even went as far as buying the Toronto Sunday Sun just so I can bring you the following money-related jokes found in the Comics section:

Q. How do you know when a rhino's about to charge?

A. He asks: "Will that be all, sir?"

Q. What does a rhino do when it's broke?

A. Look for glue.

That's about as corny as anything you ever read in these bulletins!

From the same comics comes Frank and Ernest: One of them, a lawyer, tells his partner: "I'm done with criminal law. It's just not fair. My last case was clearly entrapment. The machine said 'swipe credit card.' So my client swiped a credit card."

Okay, one more. From the same comics: "I've started doing a bit of divorce law. I really enjoy it. The hours go by so quickly. Time flies when you're halving funds!"

CROSUS AND THE PAWNBROKER

Blame Michael Ryan for submitting the following to Readers Digest:

King Ozymandias of Assyria was running low on cash after years of war with the Hittites. His last great possession was the Star of the Euphrates, the most valuable diamond in the ancient world. Desperate, he went to Croesus, the pawnbroker, to ask for a loan.

Crosus said, "I'll give you 100,000 dinars for it." "But I paid a million dinars for it," the King protested. "Don't you know who I am? I am the king!"

Crosus replied, "When you wish to pawn a Star, makes no difference who you are."

CONCLUSION

I have some good news and some bad news:

- There will not be another issue of the C.N.A. E-Bulletin for 21 days.
- We will resume publishing on Friday, July 20.

You decide which is the good news and which is the bad news!

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

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