



# North York Coin Club

Founded 1960

MONTHLY MEETINGS 4TH Tuesday 7:30 P.M. AT  
Edithvale Community Centre, 7 Edithvale Drive, North York  
MAIL ADDRESS: NORTH YORK COIN CLUB, P.O.BOX 10005  
R.P.O. Yonge & Finch, 5576 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario, M2N 0B6

Web site: [www.northyorkcoinclub.ca](http://www.northyorkcoinclub.ca)

## Contact the Club :

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Phone: 647-222-9995

## Member :

Canadian Numismatic Association  
Ontario Numismatic Association

President .....Nick Cowan  
1st Vice President .....Bill O'Brien  
2nd Vice President.....Shawn Hamilton  
Secretary .....Tony Hine  
Treasurer .....Len Kuenzig  
Past President .....Robert Wilson

## Executive Committee

Director .....Tony Hine  
Director .....Roger Fox  
Director .....Vince Chiappino  
Junior Director .....  
Auctioneer .....Bob Porter  
Auction Manager .....Mark Argentino  
Co-Editors .....Paul Petch/Tony Hine

Receptionist.....  
Draw Prizes .....Bill O'Brien  
Social Convenor.....Bill O'Brien  
Librarian .....Robert Wilson  
Program Planning .....

## THE BULLETIN FOR OCTOBER 2008

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi again, fellow members:

First, let me say that perhaps my comments at the last meeting were not to the liking of everyone. These comments were made to my fellow members, that I think share the same feelings as I do, about the Club, the Executive and the longevity of our mutually rewarding meetings. [As a Past President of the Club, I urge all members to support Nick as we find our way in changing times. Editor]

I am pushing for some positive changes and improvements over this next year, such as:

1. New, more and better speakers from outside the Club. (Everyone with contacts can help with this one!!)
2. Bigger and better door prizes. Not just a bag of coins that no one wants, but prizes that you would want to keep or share.
3. A more active Auction with more items of a higher value. I will speak at length on this subject at the next meeting.
4. Our Executive will now meet every second month, if only to ensure that we keep these and future programs on track.
5. Our constitution clearly states that we are a not for profit enterprise. However, with over \$5,000.00 in the bank, I think we did well as a non profit venture. If we need to draw funds to subsidize expenses for innovations, then we will do so.
6. The Christmas 2008 Dinner Meeting is

### NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

*We start gathering at 7:00 p.m. with meeting start scheduled for 7:30 p.m.*

For the October meeting Rick Craig will be presenting his extensive talk on Early Toronto Exhibition Medals. This is a computer-based presentation that Rick says runs for 40 to 45 minutes. Rick has had an interest in collecting and studying this material for many years, so members should look forward to a fine presentation.

**Our supply of draw prize material is very low and we appreciate all donations.**

*Remember to bring some items for the auction!*

again at the Legion. The room has again been reserved for the night of December 9th, starting at 18:30 hrs. This year, we will have a Turkey dinner, but it will be a Buffet, not a served dinner as last year. There will be all the usual trimmings and desserts and beverages. The cost this year is only \$1.00 higher than last year. Including the cost of the room, the food and gratuity @ 15%, our cost is \$28.50 per person. ***I will need a \$15.00 per person deposit at the October meeting. This will guarantee our minimum attendance of 40 persons, to protect our price quote.*** I am looking for someone in the west end to help with getting Bob Porter and his bingo machine to the meeting. There will be some really good Bingo prizes as well this year. ***In addition, would each person please consider bringing 4 cans or packages of non perishable food or a \$4.00 cash donation for the Food Bank?*** It will be delivered to the Fire hall the following

day, as it was last year. Then a few less fortunate than us, can also eat a Christmas dinner as well. A cash bar will be available, from start to finish. Also, there will be one bottle of wine on each table courtesy of your President. (Cheers and applause, please).

Now that our website is up and somewhat running, if anyone has any ideas, items for sale, items wanted, or anything else that you can think of, let Mark or David know ***by e-mail to the club address only please.***

Last but not least, the Elections of a better kind are coming in January. Anyone who is on our Executive and is not running again is asked to advise the President, we also have openings that need to be filled, please think about filling these.

Hoping to see you in a few days,

Nick

## MEETING NEWS OF THE SEPTEMBER 2008 MEETING

The 539<sup>th</sup> meeting of the North York Coin Club was held on September 23, 2008 at the Edithvale Community Centre, 7 Edithvale Drive in Room 123. President Nick Cowan was in the chair and lowered the gavel at 7:32 p.m. to give a two minute warning. He welcomed member Bob Velensky, commenting that this was the first time he could remember Bob being on time. At 7:34 p.m. the president called the meeting to order and Bob Velensky won the on-time attendance draw of \$4.00, half which he donated back to the club. Fifteen members and four guests were in attendance, one of the guests being a junior. Door prize donations were received from Norman G. Gordon and Bill Cross; the latter delivered by Paul Johnson. The president gave an impassioned opening address, much of it being expansion on his bulletin message from September.

A financial report was presented by the Treasurer, Len Kuenzig. The Treasurer also noted an amount of \$110.00 immediately payable to the O.N.A. for club insurance.

David Bawcutt delivered flyers for O.N.A. 2009 and for the Scarborough Coin Club's November 1 Coin Show (note the

listing in Coming Events). Show tables are available at \$50.00 each from Dick Dunn, and member Shawn Hamilton offered to split a table with someone willing to pay \$25.00 for half a table.

Member Henry Nienhuis delivered a club delegates report from the C.N.A. 2008 Convention in Ottawa. His report included a PowerPoint presentation enriched with his personal photographs from the convention. Henry moderated the CNA educational program on Wednesday July 16<sup>th</sup> at which NYCC member Paul Petch was the kick-off speaker. Henry was one of the lucky delegates postmarking his registration form early enough to be included in the VIP tour of the Royal Canadian Mint. The annual meeting included the change of name to RCNA, reflecting the patronage of the Right Honourable Michaele Jean, the Governor General.

Paul Johnson mentioned the RCNA's educational seminar scheduled for Saturday November 8<sup>th</sup> at Humber College. Brian Cornwell will speak on grading and counterfeit detection while Susan Maltby will speak on coin preservation.

Discussion was held about replenishing the stock of draw prize material. Nick Cowan moved that Bill O'Brien, the door prize co-coordinator be given a budget of \$50 to \$100 to purchase material for suitable prizes. By general agreement the motion was carried.

Nick discussed raising our membership fee by \$5 to \$15. Ben Boelens said that even \$20.00 per year was peanuts, while Avner Bar-Moshe remarked that the club is avoiding the cost mail by now distributing the bulletin by Internet. He added that this has created an on-going issue of no longer communicating effectively with members not on the Internet. Nick replied that he would pursue the issue with the Bulletin Co-editor in an e-mail before he slept Wednesday morning.

The club broke for coffee at 8:06p.m. Bill O'Brien generously provided refreshments. After the break, Bill O'Brien took the chair for the second half, as the President had pressing personal business.

Henry Nienhuis's second presentation covered recent counterfeits available over eBay. Many of these items are sold from China as replicas, all shipped from a single Hong Kong address. Purchasers sell some knowingly to unsuspecting dealers or collectors, so it is important to know what you are trying to buy. Henry discussed production techniques of counterfeiters and the telltale marks. Watch for extra surface pits, die clash marks or even bag marks from the master coin from which a cast was made. Details may well be soft rather than crisp. Many Chinese counterfeits are fourrées, plated silver on base metal cores. Henry's PowerPoint included newspaper stories and lots of examples. Henry explained his academic pursuit of forgeries and replicas, and the need for collectors to educate and inform themselves. He finished with the old saying, "if it seems too good to be true, it probably is!" There was a hearty round of applause from the members and guests.

There was no auction this evening. Draw prize ticket sales were \$33.00. Winners included Avner Bar-Moshe, Davit, Tony Hine, Bob Velensky, Ben Boelens, Jared S. and Henry Nienhuis.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

## COMING EVENTS FOR FALL 2008

**OCT. 25 - 26, Toronto,** Torex - Canada's National Coin Show, Hilton Toronto Airport Hotel, 5875 Airport Road, Mississauga Ballroom. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Admission \$6. Official Auctioneer: the Canadian Coinisseur, Michael Walsh.

For more information, please call 416-705-5348. Website: <http://www.torex.net>.

**OCT. 26, Stratford,** Stratford Coin Show, Army, Navy, Air Force, 151 Lorne Ave. E. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Adults \$2 admission includes draw on gold coin, 16 and under free. Buy, sell coins, paper money, tokens. Lunch available. For more information, contact Larry Walker (519) 271-3352, Box 221, Gadshill, ON, N0K 1J0.

**NOV. 1, Scarborough,** Scarborough Coin Club 12th Annual Coin Show, Cedarbrook Community Centre, 91 Eastpark Blvd.

Hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free admission, free draws and refreshments available.

Tables still available. For more information, contact Dick Dunn at

[cpms@idirect.com](mailto:cpms@idirect.com) or PO Box 562, Pickering, ON L1V 2R7.

**NOV. 9, Windsor,** Windsor Coin Club Fall Show, Caboto Club, 2175 Parent Ave. Admission of \$1 includes draws for hourly door prizes and a grand prize. Plenty of free parking. M. Clarke email: [mclarke@wincom.net](mailto:mclarke@wincom.net), telephone (519) 735.0727.

**NOV. 22, Niagara Falls,** Niagara Falls Coin Club Show, Our Lady of Peace Hall, 6944 Stanley Ave. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Admission \$2 includes free draw. For more information, contact Todd Hume, (905) 871-2451.

Listings are courtesy of Canadian Coin News Coming Events

On September 29, 2008, Dora de Pédery-Hunt, an accomplished designer and medallic artist, passed away. Dora's niece placed the following announcement in the Toronto Star:

*My aunt Dora was less than a kilogram at birth. In the age before incubators, she was lovingly wrapped in cotton wool and placed in a shoebox for warmth and safekeeping. Her father baptized her as she was not expected to last the night. Nearly 95 years later, we will be lovingly placing her ashes in a shoebox - Ferragamo no less - for interment. A celebration of her life will take place at a later date. Messages of condolence can be sent to Ildiko Hencz at 416-967-7424 or henczforth@hotmail.com. In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to the Medallic Art Society of Canada (MASC).*

We are remembering Dora this month with a selection articles, so all members may better appreciate this woman who is best known in numismatic circles for her work in designing the effigy of the Queen, introduced on the Canadian coinage of 1990.

## DORA DE PÉDERY-HUNT

by Del Newbigging

Reprinted from behind the MASC July 2002, Issue 3

Dora was my first sculpture teacher. I learned much from her and still continue to be inspired. To her, even clean up was an art. She had endless patience. As a student I looked up from my work to see that I had become the subject of a miniature portrait. When I thought it was completed she spent two more days on it, carefully observing and contemplating each plane and detail. Quality is a characteristic she lives by, in choosing her friends, her food, her music and especially in the creation of her art.

In her long life Dora has experienced a great deal. As she says, two world wars, three or four revolutions, Spanish influenza and the loss of beloved friends made many changes in her life and that of her family. But for her everything has a story and I have heard many, each with a sense of adventure, sometimes danger and intrigue but most often with lots of fun and laughter.

To visit her home and studio is a celebration. I always learn something new as I marvel at the craftsmanship. Especially in the

medals, you will find the story of Dora de Pédery-Hunt. The stories they tell are endlessly interesting. The illustrations are wonderful but as a medal maker she excels in the lettering, an artistic skill that she has perfected.

To hold one of her medals in your hand is to experience the joys of this art form. I have listened to her talks on the history of medal making. I have learned about the Gonzagas and Pisanello and the medals of France. She has sculpted and chatted with many great people and still has a love for the common folk. Look at her medals and you will find the great honoured by the world and you will also find the small honoured by Dora.

Dora de Pédery-Hunt was born on November 16, 1913, in Budapest, Hungary. "My cheerful young mother, in the midst of an elegant party, suddenly felt that something was happening. And it did. Right there, although I was not expected for another couple of months, I arrived and successfully ruined the whole party. A shoebox was found and I was placed in it as my father was fetched from his usual Sunday Opera Evening. He just peered into the box and declared that if I survived, my name should be Dorothea, "Gift of Gods." Since her arrival, Dora is known as always being on time or a little bit early. She was the middle child of three sisters born to a scientist father who knew and understood art well and a mother, creative by nature and very interested in art.

Talented in many areas, she was almost twenty-five years old when she realized she was meant to be an artist. After six years at The Royal School of Applied Arts, she graduated in 1943 with a Master's Diploma in sculpture with specialized training in medal and coin design. Her student jewellery was sold in the shop of Mme. Joli Gabor, mother of Zsa Zsa and Eva.

In 1945, Dora and her family escaped to Germany as the Communists took over Hungary. Dora worked with her father for four years in Germany on a special lab project for the British Admiralty. She acquired a

*Continued next page...*

## FROM MICHAEL MESZAROS

### AN AUSTRALIAN MEDALIST WRITING FROM MELBOURNE

I was saddened to hear of Dora's death and was moved to recall my various meetings with her.

Our first contact was when my father met her at the FIDEM congress in Athens in 1966. He came back to Australia with a glowing description of this Hungarian Canadian medalist he discovered there. As expatriate Hungarians of the same generation who had gone to English speaking countries with little medallic traditions and who had both initiated a public interest and culture in medals, they had a lot in common, as well as their Hungarian accents.

I subsequently met her at a number of congresses and as my father's medalist son I was immediately adopted as part of the expatriate Hungarian medallic community. Having grown up watching my father's struggles as a sculptor/medallist in Melbourne, as well as my own career, I could relate closely to her tales of frustrating, stupid, mean and ignorant clients and all the problems that beset medallic artists.

I remember one moment on a light plane flight over the Grand Canyon in 1987 when her

camera malfunctioned, film ballooning out of it and ruining all her shots. I earned some points by printing duplicates of my shots and sending them to her. I think the last time we met was in Weimar, which she declared was her last congress, where I gave a paper straight after her. Quite recently she sent me a medal as a present, I think just for old times sake. I was very touched.

I remember as intelligent, fearless, funny and forthright, a good psychologist who understood how people functioned and as a result, a very good artist.

I will remember her as a friend who did the art she wanted to do, had good reasons for doing it and was not interested in being led by anybody else or by fashion. I will remember her for the close parallels with my father's and my own careers. Her cheerful Hungarianness, which took her to and through a host of life events, is something else close to my own father.

She made a great contribution to medals in Canada and around the world and will be remembered fondly by many.

BMW car and fortunately there were few cars on the roads as Dora's driving talent was not the best.

In 1948 she immigrated alone to Canada. It was not easy to leave her family and home, change countries, learn new languages, meet new people and adjust to seemingly strange customs. She began work as a homemaker, worked in a factory, designed church interiors and taught art classes. She was befriended by Frances Loring and Florence Wyle and they presented her to the art community in Toronto. Alan Jarvis, director of the National gallery bought the first large sized sculpture, which she made in Canada. He encouraged her to apply to the Canada Council for funding. In 1958 she received a grant to study for six months in Europe. It was the year of Expo in Brussels. At the Hungarian Pavilion she observed a magnificent display of medals by Ferenez Csucs. At last, she had found her passion.

In 1961 the Canada Council medal was created. It was the first commissioned cast art

medal entirely created and produced in Canada. In 1963, Dora organized the Canadian contribution to the exhibition of the Federation Internationale de la Medaille (FIDEM) at The Hague. As the only Canadian present, she became the Canadian Delegate, a position in which she served for thirty-five years.

In her "Swansong" address, presented at the FIDEM Congress in Weimar, Germany in 2000, Dora expressed her feelings for the International Medal Federation. "FIDEM gave me some important presents—the friendship of other medallic artists, the chance to see their work, to learn, to compare and to compete. With FIDEM, I had the good fortune to travel, to see parts of the world I would not otherwise have visited. I still call this period of my life the most enjoyable one."

Over the years, Dora de Pédery-Hunt has created well over 500 medals. The themes are varied from everyday happenings, special events, anniversaries, favourite flowers, fantasies, figures and splendid portraits. In her 89th year, Canada's foremost medallist is still working everyday. Her latest commission will be presented to the Pope when he visits Toronto for the World Youth Conference in July 2002.

In 1990 Dora received a commission from The Royal Canadian Mint to design a new effigy of a slightly older Queen Elizabeth II for all Canadian coins. In fact all of our coins now have Dora's design for the effigy of Queen Elizabeth II. The monarch's effigy is to be changed every 20 years in order to accurately depict the Queen. Her first coin commission was received in 1976 from the Royal Canadian Mint. It was a \$100 gold coin to commemorate the Olympic Games in Montreal. In 1986, Dora designed the gold \$100 "Peace" coin and she created the Canadian Government's official medal for Expo '70 in Osaka, Japan.

The National Archives in Ottawa has over 500 pieces of Dora's work. She is also represented in many major European and North American museums including the British Museum, London and the Smithsonian Institute, Washington and the Berlin National Gallery. In Canada her work may be seen in the National Gallery of Canada, Art

Gallery of Ontario, Royal Ontario Museum, MacLaren Art Centre and many other galleries and museums.

Dora de Pédery-Hunt has collected many honours in Canada. She became an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1974 and in 1991 received The Order of Ontario. While holding honorary doctorates from York University, The University of Waterloo and The University of St. Michael's College, Dora is also a Fellow of the Ontario College of Art & Design, Fellow of the American Numismatic Society and a member of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts.

In 1998 I asked Dora to recommend a book that I could use to learn how to create medals. Dora replied. "I am the book." For the past few years I have been reading the book with great delight and I know there are many, many more chapters to study. You never know what new and exciting things you will learn when you turn the page.



Canada Council



Royal Canadian Academy of Arts

## DORA DE PÉDERY-HUNT OBITUARY

BY SANDRA MARTIN

Reprinted from the *Globe and Mail* October 4, 2008

***Sculptor who loved making medals put the Queen on Canada's coinage***  
***Trained in Hungary, she escaped postwar Europe and flourished in Toronto under the patronage of sculptors Florence Wylie and Frances Loring. She later became the 'mother of Canadian medals'***

The name may elude you, but her work is as familiar as the change that jingles in your pocket. Dora de Péderly-Hunt was the Hungarian-born artist who sculpted the image of a "mature" Queen Elizabeth that appeared on all our coins minted between 1990 and 2003. It was the first time a Canadian artist had ever been given such a commission.

Ms. de Péderly-Hunt also designed and moulded hundreds of art medals, beginning with the Canada Council Medal in 1961. Our foremost medallic artist, she created commemorative pieces for Canada's Centennial in 1967, Expo 70 in Osaka, the Montreal Olympics in 1976, the CBC's *Reach for the Top* program, organizations such as the Ontario Arts Council and the Toronto Zoo, and symbolic events such as the 300th anniversary of the Hudson's Bay Co. and the portrait medallion of Dr. Norman Bethune that prime minister Pierre Trudeau presented to Mao Zedong in China in 1973. A founding member of the Medallic Art Society of Canada (MASC), she was also the first (1963)—and for many years the only—Canadian delegate to the Fédération Internationale de la Médaille d' Art (FIDEM), the International Art Medal Federation.

Dora de Péderly was born in Budapest, Hungary, two months after the start of the

First World War. The middle of three daughters born to physicist Attila and Emilia (Festl) de Péderly, she was so tiny at birth—less than a kilogram—that she wasn't expected to survive. She was wrapped in cotton wool, baptized by her father and placed in a shoebox. That makeshift incubator saw her through the night and launched the beginning of a long, adventurous life that transformed her, as she herself liked to say, into "the mother of Canadian medals."

After graduating from the State Lyceum in 1932, she vacillated between her artistic ambitions and pleasing her father by becoming a scientist. By her mid-20s, she had found her vocation, however, and entered the Royal Hungarian School of Applied Art in 1937. She earned an honours diploma, followed by a master's degree in sculpture and design in 1943. For her graduation project, she sculpt-

ed some drawings to international fashion magazines and had a bust and a life-sized plastic sculpture exhibited by the National Gallery of Hungary.

All of that changed in March, 1944, when Germany occupied Hungary, imposed martial order and soon began mass deportations of Jews to the death camps. The de Péderlys, who were Catholic, were spared that horror but they knew that the Germans were losing the war and they were afraid of the Soviets marching toward them from the east. On Christmas Eve, 1944, Ms. de Péderly, her parents, two sisters and a young niece and nephew fled Budapest by foot and then train. Mr. de Péderly lugged his daughter's bronze elephant, considering it an example of her artistic bona fides. The journey to Dresden took them 23 days on a barely functioning rail system. Fortuitously, the de Péderlys left Dresden the day before the

Allies launched their intensive bombing sorties in February, 1945, heading northwest until they reached Hannover, in what became the British occupied zone.

Ms. de Péderly and her father both found work at the British admiralty—he designed anti-sonar devices from 1945 to 1948. During this time, the family was befriended by Major S. C. Chutter of the Canadian Army, who was serving with the occupation forces. In 1948, Ms. de Péderly, then 35, married a Hungarian journalist

named Béla Hunt (the anglicized form of his name). Coincidentally, Maj. Chutter, whose family was in Ottawa, offered to sponsor Ms. de Péderly as a Canadian immigrant. To increase her chances, she posed as an unmarried woman and agreed to work as an indentured servant for two years in return for her passage.

ed a 30-centimetre solid bronze elephant.

Life in Hungary carried on in a twitchy fashion during the early years of the Second World War. The country had formed an uneasy alliance with Germany so it wasn't occupied like many of its neighbours, but many young men went away to fight. Ms. de Péderly found work designing clothes and accessories, and did some private teaching. Eventually, she



After disembarking in Montreal, Ms. de Pédery told immigration officials that she was a sculptor and quickly realized she was in trouble artistically when they asked her to spell the word, according to an oft-told family tale. She was sent to Toronto, where she worked as a housekeeper for a family named Olson. They turned out to be warm and hospitable, opening their home for Ms. de Pédery's parents and her husband-fiancé when they arrived (with her prized bronze elephant) several months later. Shortly thereafter, Ms. de Pédery "remarried" her husband and added his last name to hers. Then she and her reconstituted family moved into a small apartment above a store.

Although she was the financial mainstay for four adults, she also found time to make art, whether it was painting lampshades, repairing and restoring an antique metal rooster, or sketching designs for fountains for landscape architects. "My husband was impossible," she told biographer Elspeth Cameron in an interview for the book, *And Beauty Answers: The Life of France Loring and Florence Wyle*, complaining that he refused to take on the menial painting jobs that she accepted with relish. By 1958, her parents had emigrated to Argentina to join one of her two sisters, and Ms. de Pédery-Hunt and her husband had separated, although they didn't divorce until the early 1960s.

Finally, she was free to concentrate on her abiding passion—art—and she had some stalwart and influential supporters in sculptors Florence Wylie and Frances Loring and their friend Alan Jarvis, who, in 1955, became the third director of the National Gallery of Canada. The Chutters were probably the Ottawa catalyst that brought her together with Mr. Jarvis and The Girls, as they were known. "We like her very much—and think she will be a great acquisition to Canada," Ms. Loring wrote to Harry McCurry, then director of the National Gallery, in August, 1948. They fed her Sunday dinners at their studio in a former church in the Moore Park area of Toronto, encouraged her artistic aspirations and arranged for her to take over A. Y. Jackson's room in the Studio Building (an artist's facility in the Rosedale Valley, designed by Eden Smith and financed by Lawren Harris) while he was away on a sketching trip. They also helped her get a job teaching sculpture beginning in 1950, supported her for election to the Sculpture Society of Canada in 1953, and

encouraged Alan Jarvis to support her work.

"He liked a little plasticine head I had made," Ms. de Pédery-Hunt told Ms. Cameron. "He took it and made six copies. He bought one for the National Galley, gave me one and sold the rest for me." Later, he helped her get a \$700 grant to go to Europe for six months. "It got me started."

That trip coincided with Expo 58 in Brussels. "She was hungry, so she went to the Hungarian pavilion," said her niece Ildiko Hencz. "And apart from the food, she saw a fabulous collection of art medals and she said, 'Aha, that is what I am going to do in Canada.'"



#### DORA DE PÉDERY-HUNT

Dora de Pédery-Hunt was born in Budapest on Nov. 16, 1913. She died of colorectal cancer in the palliative care unit of St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto on Sept. 29, 2008. Ms. de Pédery-Hunt, who was 94, is survived by a niece, two nephews and extended family. A celebration of her life is planned for the Arts and Letters Club in Toronto on what would have been her 95th birthday, Nov. 16, 2008.

Working in an artistic tradition derived from her cultural heritage must have been an enormous incentive, but there were other, more practical, reasons to create medals rather than work in other sculptural forms. By definition, they are small and so they don't require a huge financial outlay for materials. And, as her niece pointed out, they can be moulded in bed, a key consideration if you are so poor that pulling the covers up is one of best ways to stay warm.

For the rest of her life, she kept making medals—many as commissions, but many as well to commemorate friends, including poet George Faludi, and family occasions such as births and weddings.

"Medals are my favourite form of expression," Ms. de Pédery once said. "They are like short poems." She expanded on the idea by describing the lure of making a medal in a passage that appeared in *Medals*, a trilingual book about her work, with photographs by Elizabeth Frey.

"I have to accept the challenges of working inside the limits of a small disc and obeying the strict rules of the striking, casting and finishing processes. But the clay is soft and it yields pleasantly, almost too easily to the touch of my fingers. Maybe, after all, these limitations are necessary. I welcome these odds—my medals are the result of a good fight against them—and at the end at least I can look back on a bravely fought battle."

Journalist Bronwyn Drainie observed part of that process. It was 1968, two years after her father, actor and broadcaster John Drainie, had died of cancer at age 50. Ms. de Pédery-Hunt had been commissioned by ACTRA to create a medal as part of the John Drainie Award established in his memory.

"It happened that she lived right next door to us when she was fashioning it, and she brought a working model over one afternoon. That was brave of her, because my mother and all my siblings and I put in our two cents' worth on the length of the nose and the set of the mouth until we had completely deconstructed her work! Dora remained calm and smiling, listening to our rather chaotic feedback, and then she went home and created a perfect image of my dad."

Besides being an artist, Ms. de Pédery-Hunt was also a passionate advocate for her art form. In this role, she described the "magic" of owning a medal.

"Clasp it in your fist, let your warmth enter the cold metal and then take it to the window. Watch it: The light hits some edges, hidden crevices appear, there are some mounds you had not even seen before. Feel the tension of the surface, There is life underneath. It is not a cold piece of metal any more: Trees grow here, bodies leap high, faces emerge. All of this is brought about by you, and only you can arrest this magic moment or change it at any time with a light flick of your fingers."

## I REMEMBER DORA DE PÉDERY-HUNT

BY DEL NEWBIGGING

I met Dora de Péderly-Hunt when I was the Art Supervisor for Elementary Schools in Waterloo in the early 1960's. She was accompanying "The Girls" (Frances Loring & Florence Wyle) to one of their exhibitions at the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery. The next year Dora had an exhibition of her own work and I learned about a course she was giving in the summer. She became my first sculpture teacher at Tutzi Sequin's Muskoka Workshop and later at the Doon School of Fine Art with Bess Hamilton. It was then that I learned to be precise and accurate in observing the proportions of the human figure as well as to clean up until the studio was spotless every night.

In 1997 I was looking for a small project to explore as the years were creeping up on me. I asked Dora to recommend a book to explain the process of medal making. She said, "I am the book" and proceeded to help me with my first art medal. I had it cast in bronze at Artcast in Georgetown. This foundry, owned by Eric Knoespel, was the one that Dora used for most of her bronze work in Canada.

Dora had been the Canadian Delegate to FIDEM (Fédération Internationale de la Médaille / International Art Medal Society) for 35 years. She had attended many congresses including those at Neuchatel, London, Budapest, Helsinki, Prague, Paris and Haag. Attending the congresses and seeing old friends from around the world was a great joy for her. In 2000 she asked me to become the Co-delegate and together we attended the FIDEM Congress in Weimar, Germany. At

this congress she gave her "Swan Song" speech.

In the late 90's we discussed the possibility of forming an art medal Society for Canada. We were both members of BAMS (British Art Medal Society) and AMSA (American Medallic Sculpture Association). On July 16, 2000 we had a meeting with several sculptors at my home in Etobicoke and the Medallic Art Society of Canada (MASC) was born. I became the first president. Dora, as Canada's foremost medallist was the spirit behind the medal society. She guided the society through its infancy by her creative ideas and knowledge as well as financially. Some of the founding members at the first meeting included Toronto sculptor, Anne Lazare-Mirvish and Susan Taylor, Royal Canadian Mint artist

In October of 2002 Dora gave the welcome address at the inaugural MASC exhibition at the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa. It was the largest art medal display ever presented in Canada and was on view for over six months. This was one of many talks that I heard her give. They were always interesting, humorous and entertaining. She often pointed out that she had lived through two world wars and several revolutions.

Dora was delighted with the growth of the medal society over the past eight years. She held the position of Honourary Director. MASC has members in Canada, USA, Australia, Ireland and England including the British Museum.



Always a promoter of the art medal Dora continued to create and this year exhibited medals at "The Best of MASC" group show in Kelowna, B.C. At the FIDEM Exhibition in Colorado, USA where she represented Canada in the renowned medallist display, she showed 20 medals spanning over forty-five years of creativity in Canada.

She took delight in the installation of my Alexander Wood Monument, which is situated within walking distance from her home on the corner of Church & Alexander Streets. A lover of history Dora was happy to see this historical figure, a magistrate in York in the early 1800's, standing proudly on the street that bears his name. Even in her old age it was not too much trouble to attend the digging and construction of the site for the monument. She was proud of the accomplishment of her student.

With such a long relationship we always had much to discuss. Even during my last visit at the hospital she was chatty and interested in what I was creating. It is hard to lose a good friend but the memories are very fulfilling. I consider myself fortunate to remember the great Canadian artist, Dora de Péderly-Hunt, my teacher, my mentor and my friend.



*Freedom for Hungary -  
Freedom for All  
1956 - 1966*



*Sermon on the Mount*



*This effigy of Queen Elizabeth II was prepared by Dora de Péderly-Hunt and adopted for Canadian coinage in 1990*

## Remembering the 2008 C.N.A. Convention

by Henry Nienhuis, NYCC Club Delegate  
with photos by Henry Nienhuis and Dan Gosling

This year's C.N.A. convention was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel situated in our nations capital, Ottawa Ontario, from July 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>. Hosted by the City of Ottawa Coin Club (COCC).

Organizing committee chairman, Stephen Woodland, and C.N.A. President Michael Walsh have both called it a *resounding success, possibly the largest and most successful* in the C.N.A.'s 58 year history, with proceeds totalling \$23,000.00. And what more fitting a venue than Ottawa on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the Ottawa Branch of the Royal Mint in 1908!

As usual, a number of collector clubs held meetings during the convention.

These club meetings included:

- Canadian Paper Money Society
- Canadian Errors & Varieties Assoc
- Newfoundland Numismatic Enthusiasts
- Medallion Art Society of Canada
- Canadian Assoc of Wooden Money Collectors
- Canadian Tire Coupon Collectors

From a numbers perspective there were:

- 241 registrants
- over 600 room night sold
- sold-out bourse, 68 tables, 50 dealers and over 500 walk-ins
- 134 attended the banquet



This year there were many events that would appeal to the numismatist and casual collect alike. Highlights such as:

- Educational symposium – Thursday
- VIP Tours of RCM - Thursday
- Royal Canadian Mint reception – Thursday
- Numismatic Book Fair – Thursday
- Bank of Canada reception – Friday
- Meet the Engraver's event – Friday/Saturday
- C.N.A. General Meeting - Saturday
- C.N.A. Banquet – Saturday
- World Class, Newfoundland, non-competitive exhibit

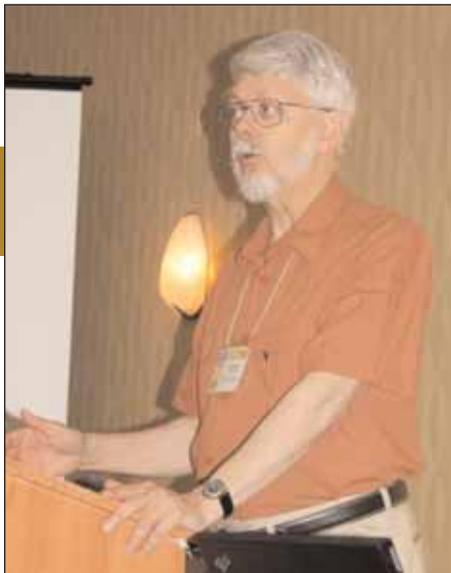
The C.N.A. executive meeting was held on Wednesday, July 16th.

*This is a great way to hear and understand the issues confronting the executive; I recommend that anyone interested in the organization attend, all members are welcome.*



Wednesday evening the C.N.A. and the COCC sponsored a Welcoming Reception. It was a great opportunity to meet new fellow collectors and old friends.

On Thursday, the all day Educational Symposium, sponsored by the C.N.A., included eight speakers presenting on a wide variety of numismatic topics. Following on from last years, the event was a great success.



Time	Title	Presenter
9:00 - 9:30	Opening Remarks	Michael Walsh
9:30 - 10:30	The Canadian Numismatic Bibliography: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow...	Paul Petch
10:30 - 11:30	Early tokens of a Town in East Kootenay	Ron Greene
11:30 - 12:30	Collecting Newfoundland Decimals - What's Different Here?	Phil Carrigan
12:30 - 1:30	Lunch	
1:30 - 2:30	Pritchard & Andrews, Ottawa Token and Medal Manufacturers	Scott Douglas & Chris Faulkner
2:30 - 3:30	1859 Wide 9 Over 8 Cents	Rob Turner
3:30 - 4:30	Recent Collector Coin Counterfeits	Henry Nienhuis
4:30 - 5:30	Commemorative Silver Dollars	Michael Turini



*Thursday also included VIP tours of the Royal Canadian Mint, for those luck enough to have their registration forms in first... a reason for not procrastinating when it comes to next years registration!*



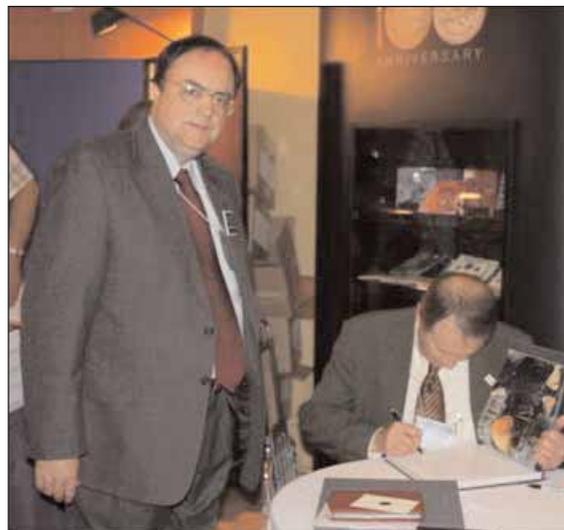
*The Royal Canadian Mint sponsored a reception on Thursday evening. It was another opportunity to meet old friends and perhaps talk to executives of the Royal Mint*



*Yet another event held on Thursday was the numismatic book fair, a new idea from the organizing committee, gave authors of numismatic books a chance to show their products and perhaps sell them to avid collectors!*



*The very successful bourse was opened Friday morning, by Michael Walsh and Ian Bennett CEO of the Mint!*



*Mr. Bennett stayed around to sign autographs, some lucky collectors were able to get him to sign the new book commissioned by the Royal Canadian Mint on their 100th anniversary.*



*On Friday and Saturday a number of Mint engravers attended the bourse also signing material for collectors. What a great photo-op with Cosme Saffioti, chief engraver at the mint*



*Stan Witten, Sr. Engraver*



*Not to be out-done the Bank of Canada sponsored a reception Friday Evening, those attending were allowed to tour the Currency museum.*



*Paul Berry, Chief Curator*

Saturday morning was the club delegate's breakfast; Bill Waychison, C.N.A. Club Services chairman, along with Paul Petch and Dan Gosling, talking about club newsletters and the use of computers to produce eNewsletters. General consensus was that it was absolutely critical for a clubs success to issues newsletters in electronic form, even with the caveats of copyright.



*Fred Freeman, Paul Johnson, Paul Petch and Bil Waychison at the Delegates' Breakfast*

Saturday was also the day of the C.N.A. General meeting . Among the regular business of the meeting including the presentation of reports, there was a special motion presented.

C.N.A. President Michael Walsh asked past president Charles Moore to read the motion changing the name of the association to **Royal Canadian Numismatic Association**.

The motion was passed: 61 for, 7 against

Jim Charlton was the (unofficial) honorary seconder of the motion.

The C.N.A. Banquet was Saturday evening, the guest speaker Christina Tessier, Director of the Bytown\_Museum, gave the keynote banquet speech: The Scoundrels of Ottawa, and she didn't mean the current politicians inhabiting the environs!

Among the many awards presented during the banquet, Michael Walsh introduced the Paul Fiocca award, the first recipient was James E. Charlton. Unfortunately Mr. Charlton was not able to attend the banquet to receive his award.

