



# North York Coin Club

Founded 1960

**MONTHLY MEETINGS 4TH Tuesday 7:30 P.M. AT  
Edithvale Community Centre, 131 Finch Ave. W., North York M2N 2H8**

**MAIL ADDRESS: NORTH YORK COIN CLUB,  
5261 Naskapi Court, Mississauga, ON L5R 2P4**

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

## Contact the Club :

E-mail: [info@northyorkcoinclub.com](mailto:info@northyorkcoinclub.com)  
Phone: 416-897-6684

## Member :

Ontario Numismatic Association  
Royal Canadian Numismatic Association

President .....Bill O'Brien  
1st Vice President .....  
2nd Vice President .....  
Secretary .....Henry Nienhuis  
Treasurer .....Ben Boelens  
Past President .....Nick Cowan

## Executive Committee

Director .....David Quinlan  
Director .....Roger Fox  
Director .....Vince Chiappino  
Junior Director .....  
Auctioneer .....  
Auction Manager .....Mark Argentino  
Editor .....Paul Petch  
Receptionist .....Franco Farronato  
Draw Prizes .....Bill O'Brien  
Social Convenor .....Bill O'Brien  
Librarian .....Robert Wilson

## THE BULLETIN FOR SEPTEMBER 2011

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Hello to all the members and friends of the North York Coin Club:*

Wow. I can't believe it was over three month's ago since I fell off my bicycle and broke my clavicle. The summer, as usual, has flown by and left us with the next six months or so of long cold nights to pursue our hobbies.

The executive of the N.Y.C.C. have been busy trying to arrange an enjoyable, but educational series of speakers for the club this year. I would appreciate it if all of you to come out and take advantage of these very informative individuals who you will be hearing this season and expand your knowledge of numismatics and related topics.

So, to start off this fall session of our year, the N.Y.C.C. has arranged to have Gina Curro who works with Hugh Wood Insurance. She will be speaking on a topic that most of us do not really think about in detail but is essential in protecting your valuable investments for you or your dependents.

Now for my disappointment with our members and their participation surrounding the hobby show we were trying to arrange. I, and the club's executive, were very disappointed in the level of interest we had in the show. There seemed to be strong interest as the whole idea was presented, but except for a very few members, it didn't turn into table sales. We will be making another attempt at holding this show in the near future and hope that we can sell the few tables we have and that the show will go ahead and be a huge success. So please offer up your support and book a table. Finding those weekends when there is no other local show is the first challenge. The second challenge is getting the space at Edithvale at the same time.

Some good news for the future: the N.Y.C.C. has been awarded the R.C.N.A. convention for 2014. We will shortly start planning for the convention and ask all of you who have signed up to help us organize this event to turn out and help us make this convention one that will be talked about for years to come... and I mean in a positive way! There is nothing like hosting a convention to bring new energy into a club and give all the members of the convention committee a chance to broaden their experiences and make new friends.

### NEXT MEETING TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

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

The September meeting will feature a talk on insurance. Gina Curro will talk about the reasons for insuring your collection and the details of insuring your coin, paper money and other collectibles with Hugh Wood Canada Ltd., an insurance agency specializing in this field. She will bring information to handout to interested members. To get the most out of Gina's talk come prepared to ask questions.

**We appreciate all donations to our supply of draw prize material. Please remember to bring your auction lots if you would like an auction at this meeting.**

This is also an election year for the club. We encourage all club members to consider running for one of the positions available. We need to have you, the members of this club, to step up and volunteer to help the club's executive committee run this club and ensure its longevity.

The last item I would like to mention is the passing of one of our long time members who sadly left us at the end of August. It reminds us how short and unexpected life can be. Please all of you say a prayer for Bob Porter and his family and live life to it's fullest as we never know when our time here on this earth may be up. Until the next meeting take care and happy collecting.

*Bill O'Brien*

### RCM MAKES DONATION

On September 16 the Royal Canadian Mint announced that the sales of its 2010 25-cent poppy coin collector card generated a donation of \$100,000 to the Military Families Fund (MFF), a non-profit organization created to assist military families faced with unforeseen and often immediate needs that have resulted due to conditions of service. The Mint had confirmed its intention to donate all profits from the sale of this product to the fund when it launched the collector card in October 2010.

Rear-Admiral Andy Smith, Chief Military Personnel accepted the donation on behalf the Military Families Fund from Mint President and CEO Ian E. Bennett, at a ceremony hosted by the Canadian Forces Personnel Support Agency at Department of National Defence Headquarters in Ottawa.

## MEETING NEWS OF THE AUGUST 2011 MEETING

The 568<sup>th</sup> meeting of the North York Coin Club was held on Tuesday, August 23rd, 2011 in the Gibson room at the Edithvale Community Centre, 131 Finch Ave. West.

The meeting was hammered to order at 7:37 p.m. by Paul Petch who chaired the meeting on behalf of our President, Bill O'Brien, who was on vacation with his family. There were 15 members and 5 guests in attendance.

The on-time attendance draw was the first order of business. Member Tom Grajnar's name was drawn. Unfortunately Tom was not present. The prize will increase to \$4.00 for the September 27th meeting.

Henry asked the members present if they had noticed any errors or omissions in the minutes of our July meeting as published in the August newsletter. There being no changes noted, Dr. Marvin Kay made a motion to accept the minutes as published. Member Norman G. Gordon seconded this. Motion carried.

The next order of business was to hear the Treasurer's report delivered by our Vince Chiappino acting for our treasurer Ben Boelens who was unable to attend the meeting. The meeting this evening took on a very solemn mood with the request for a moment of silence in honour of the recent passing of our dear friend Robert James (Bob) Porter on Friday, August 19th. Bob was life member #25 and a regular attendee and participant at our meetings; Bob acted as our official auctioneer for many years. Later in the evening we planned a memorial to Bob where members expressed their thoughts and memories of Bob.

As chairman Paul Petch recognize and welcome our guests this evening; Dave O'Brien, Kevin Thorsteinson, Peter Becker and Brent Mackie. Peter and Brent were attending the meeting (along with member David Bawcutt) as members of the O.N.A. Kevin mentioned that he had recently moved to the GTA from Calgary Alberta. His collecting interests were Canadian Decimal and Paper Money.

Paul Petch stood in his role as O.N.A. President to inform everyone present that the association treasurer and founding member Bruce H. Raszmann had recently been taken extremely ill and had undergone surgery. It was clear that Bruce would not be able to resume his many responsibilities within the O.N.A. In order that the association be able to carry on support of its members Paul has assigned Brent Mackie as the new treasurer, David Bawcutt as the club membership chairman and Peter Becker as the "good as gold" draw chairman. Everyone hope Bruce a speedy recovery. [Secretary note: It was with deep sorrow that we later heard that Bruce had passed away on September 6<sup>th</sup>.]

The next order of business was an update on the status of the proposed collectible show to be held jointly with the Mississauga-Etobicoke club. Paul mentioned that he was still waiting on feedback from Betty Fallis-Trow and was unable to report any further progress.

Paul asked if anyone had news of recent coin shows. Brent Mackie and Peter Becker mentioned that they enjoyed the recent show in Paris, Ontario. They mentioned that they saw a number of

NYCC members in attendance including Paul Petch, Dick Dunn, and Nick Cowan to mention a few. Henry mentioned that he had purchased a British copy of the famous Karl Goetz "Sinking of the Lusitania" medal. Henry spent a few minutes talking about the medal and answering questions from the floor.

Paul then opened the floor to any member wishing to talk.

Dr. Marvin Kay asked if we had heard about any impact yet on our room permit from the Toronto Mayor Rob Ford proposed budget adjustments. Paul responded that we have not, as yet, heard that there would be any adjustment to our status at the Edithvale Community Centre.

Dr. Kay asked for the floor to talk briefly about his up-coming 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and his long standing collection of numismatic items and ephemera honouring key year milestones like 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 and etc. He mentioned that it is very hard at times, this time in particular, to find items having that numeric value. He thanked the secretary Henry Nienhuis for making a special "55-year note," based on the 25-dollar commemorative Canadian Banknote, honouring his anniversary.



At his point in the evening the members spent time remembering our friend Bob Porter. (See separate tribute.)

At 8:30 pm, Paul called for the refreshment break. Once again, Paul's wife Carolyne-Marie deserves a vote of appreciation from the members for preparing the cookies, juice and coffee for this evening's break.

The last portion of the meeting was devoted to lucky draws and auction. Lucky draw winners were-

Norman G. Gordon (3), Peter Becker (3), Tony Hine, Len Kuenzig, Henry Nienhuis (2), Raj Makhijani, Richard Duquette. The club earned \$23.00 through the sale of the draw tickets! There was no auction this month.

The club executive would like to send out a special thank you to club members for supporting the club through the purchase of draw tickets and for draw prize donations. Please mention your donations to the club secretary so that your support can be recognized in the minutes and newsletter. We would especially like to thank Franco Farronato and Dr. Marvin Kay for their kind donations this month.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

As a reminder, our next club meeting is September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011, in the Gibson room, on the second floor at the top of the stairs in the new Edithvale Community Centre building. The will be a meeting of the club executive on September 13<sup>th</sup> in the Board Room at the Edithvale centre.

*The North York Coin Club extends its sincere appreciation to Mr. Jim Charlton for his recent donation.*



*Conversation during the refreshment break time.*



*A feature of the evening was a display by Norman G. Gordon of his Canadian Tire Material, including brass plaque, credit cards, pucks, Canadian Tire Coupon Collectors Club newsletter, The Collector, and pins and badges. Not pictured was a sign retrieved from the Steeles and Yonge Canadian Tire store where Adrian Petch works. Norm remarked that he was passing at just the right time as Paul Petch's son was changing signage... and his request for the sign saved it from the trash can.*

## COMING EVENTS FOR FALL 2011

**OCT. 1, Guelph,** South Wellington Fall Coin Show - Guelph, Col John McCrae Legion, 919 York Rd. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission adults \$2, under 16 free, free parking, wheelchair accessible, free draw for gold coin, 50 dealer tables. Lunch counter on site. For more information contact Mike Hollingshead, PO Box 1000, Arkell, ON N0B 1C0, email [cholling@uoguelph.ca](mailto:cholling@uoguelph.ca), telephone 519-823-2646.

**OCT. 2, Mt. Elgin,** Tillsonburg Coin Show, Mt. Elgin Community Centre, Highway 19. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. More than 25 dealer tables, buy, sell, trade and evaluate, lunch available, admission \$2. For more information contact Ralph Harrison, 36 Kamps Cres., Tillsonburg, ON N4G 4Z3, telephone 519-842-8790, email [rchar@sympatico.ca](mailto:rchar@sympatico.ca).

**OCT. 15 - 16, Cambridge,** TL Coin Show, Cambridge Hotel and Conference Centre, 700 Hespeler Rd. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5

p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission \$4, seniors and students \$2. Draw for gold coin, free parking. For more information contact Linda Robinson, telephone 289-235-9288, email [lindarobinson@cogeco.ca](mailto:lindarobinson@cogeco.ca), or Tom Kennedy, telephone 519-271-8825.

**OCT. 22, Oshawa,** Durham Coin-A-Rama, Five Points Mall, 285 Taunton Rd E. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free dealer, public, and membership draws, free admission. Featuring paper, coins, tokens, medals and many other items. Celebrating 50 years. For more information contact Sharon at 905-728-1352, email [papman@bell.net](mailto:papman@bell.net).

**OCT. 23, Stratford,** Stratford Coin Show, Festival Inn, 1144 Ontario St. Hours 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission \$2, 16 and under free. Tokens, trade dollars, coins, paper money. For more information contact Larry Walker, telephone 519-271-3352, email [lswalker@cyg.net](mailto:lswalker@cyg.net).

**OCT. 29 - 30, Toronto,** Torex - Canada's National Coin Show, Hilton Toronto Airport Hotel, 5875 Airport Rd. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission \$6. Under 16 free! Official Auctioneer: Moore Numismatic Auctions, Charles Moore. The Hilton hotel is located directly across from Toronto's Pearson International Airport. For more information please call 416-705-5348. Website: <http://www.torex.net>.

**NOV. 5, Scarborough,** 15th Annual Scarborough Coin Club Show, Cedarbrook Community Centre, 91 Eastpark Blvd. Hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free admission and draws. Refreshments available. We are at the location where our club meets. For more information contact Dick Dunn at [cpms@idirect.com](mailto:cpms@idirect.com) or PO Box 562, Pickering, ON L1V 2R7.

*Listings are courtesy of  
Canadian Coin News Coming Events*

## ROYAL CANADIAN MINT INTRODUCES NEW BULLION COINS

On August 17 the Royal Canadian Mint announced the upcoming release of two new one-ounce bullion coins as investors in Canada and around the world continue to clamour for gold and silver bullion products. The designs of the 99999 pure 2011 "RCMP" gold bullion coin and of the 2012 "Cougar" issue from its popular Canadian Wildlife 9999 pure silver bullion coin series were unveiled at the American Numismatic Association's 2011 World's Fair of Money in Chicago, Illinois, USA, before an audience of coin collectors and long-time distributors of Mint bullion products.

The 2011 "RCMP" gold bullion coin, to be produced on demand, is the fourth issue in a line of one-ounce, 99.999% pure gold bullion coins first introduced by the Mint in 2007. It remains unchallenged to this day as the world's purest gold bullion coin.

The 99.99% pure silver, 2012-dated "Cougar" is the third of a six-coin series of silver bullion coins celebrating Canada's Wildlife. It is limited to a mintage of one million coins and three more issues are scheduled to follow (one dated 2012 and two others dated 2013).

The reverse of the 2011 99.999% pure gold bullion coin features a Royal Canadian Mounted Police officer riding a horse at full gallop, surrounded by a circle of maple leaves, in a classic 1997 design by former Master Engraver Ago Aarand. Its obverse bears the effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II by Canadian portrait artist Susanna Blunt and a \$200 face value.

The reverse design of 2012 "Cougar" silver bullion coin is the work of Senior Mint Engraver William Woodruff and its obverse features the Susanna Blunt effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. This 99.99% pure silver bullion coin bears a face value of \$5.

The "RCMP" 99999 pure Gold Maple Leaf bullion coins and 2012 "Cougar" silver bullion coins will soon be available through the Mint's extensive network of bullion distributors, after shipping begins in September 2011.

**It is important to note that the Mint does not sell bullion directly to the public.** Since the introduction of its first bullion coin in 1979, the Mint only sells bullion in large volumes to a global network of bullion distributors, who have the required infrastructure to sell and buy back bullion on a daily basis, and at real-time market prices.





## ROBERT JAMES PORTER (1921-2011)

It was with deep sorrow that we received the news of the passing of our dear friend and fellow numismatist Robert James (Bob) Porter. Bob passed away on Friday, August 19 in hospital after suffering a heart attack. His welcoming smile and uplifting spirit is missed by the members of the coin clubs that he frequented: Oshawa,

North York and Mississauga-Etobicoke. Bob will always be remembered for his positive spirit and enthusiasm, which often saw him, arrive early and help set up for the meetings he attended.

Bob was born on October 16, 1921. As so many young people of the time did, he left school at the age of 15 to help support his family. His father bought him a bicycle and carrier so that he could work delivering groceries for the Loblaws store at Bathurst and St. Clair for \$10.00 a week plus tips. He especially liked delivering to the Forest Hill area where tips could be as high as 25 cents; quite a large amount of money at the time and welcomed by any junior coin collector. Later Bob, with his friend Jim, secured a job delivering telegrams for the railroad. This job paid \$12.00 a week, with tips of 50 cents for singing Happy Birthday!

In 1942 Bob enlisted in the Royal Canadian Naval Reserve. He, along with Jim, were trained as wireless operators because of their telegram experience. His training in Saint Hyacinthe, QC was quickly followed by mobilization to the Halifax shipyard, where Jim was assigned to a British destroyer and Bob to a Canadian Corvette, HMCS Barrie. After the Corvette, Bob was assigned to the HMCS Kenora, a Canadian minesweeper with orders to patrol and clear the British Channel of German mines. Here his duties as wireless operator were augmented to include the task of depth charge duty; the deafening sounds of which Bob never forgot.

On June 6, 1944, Bob witnessed the horrific sights and sounds of war from the deck of the Kenora which was assigned duties as escort to clear the way and secure the safe passage for the huge Allied fleet on its way to the beaches of Normandy for the D-Day landing.



*HMCS Kenora*

Bob proudly participated in the Warrior's Day Parade each year; he was, however, modest in his discussions of his war experience. When speaking of the medals he received, he termed them "E.G.O. medals"—Everybody Gets One. This was Bob's true nature. His smile and manner made you feel like you were a special friend.

Bob is remembered as a great supporter of his church and was well thought of within its community. He was known as the "Candy Man" for his habit of passing treats to all he met and spoke with at the services he attended. He is remembered as always being happy and never having a negative thought.

A religious man, Bob was a non-smoker and non-drinker and would trade his daily military cigarette and rum allotment for numismatic goodies, including Military Payment Certificates from occupied Europe in the days after V-E Day.

Over time Bob's numismatic collecting led way to his becoming a dealer. He would setup tables at many of the coin clubs that he was a member of as well as at many of the club shows. He was often seen encouraging young collectors, selling items. Typically, when a youngster approached his table Bob would guess his age and then invariably he would give the youngster a free coin from his birth year.

His support of numismatics was not limited to these acts of generosity. Bob contributed to many local clubs by serving on their executive. He was president of the Thistleton Coin Club until it amalgamated with others to form the Mississauga-Etobicoke club, affectionately known as Bob's club, where he remained president and chairman for many years. Recently, in recognition of his energetic and vital support of the club Bob was presented with a long-time service award, an honorary presidential gavel. The inscription reads:

*"Robert J. Porter*

*Thank you from all the Members, past and present.*

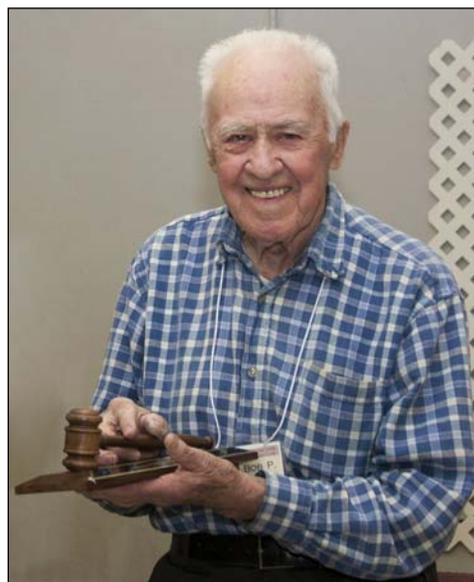
*Your never-ending hard work, diligence and positive attitude are much appreciated by all Club members.*

*Thank you. MECSCC April 5, 2011"*



Bob was also secretary and director for the Oshawa Coin Club

as well as an active member of both the Scarborough, North York and Toronto coin clubs. In fact Bob was life member #21 of the North York Coin Club, an honour bestowed after 25 years of continuous membership. As if all of this was not enough, Bob also acted as official auctioneer at many of the clubs, bringing his many years of experience forward to make the auctions exciting and humorous.



*Farewell Bob,  
we all miss you very much!*

## MEDALS FROM THE FENIAN RAIDS FIND THEIR PROPER HOME

by Tom MacGregor, from Legion Magazine

*A bit of detective work on the part of Ontario Command of the Canadian Legion has connected long forgotten medals for service in the Fenian raids with family members who were unaware of the medals' existence.*

The story began seven years ago in Ottawa when Jacques Bolduc was working as a contractor for Ottawa Community Housing, the city's social housing agency for seniors and people with low income or disabilities. Bolduc was tasked with cleaning out the apartment of a resident who had died with no estate or known relatives.

"When that happens, all the contents of the apartment become the property of Ottawa Housing," said Bolduc. Among the possessions were two apparently empty suitcases. "My boss told me to take them. I just put them in a closet and didn't look at them for six and half years," said Bolduc.

When he finally looked, he was surprised to find war medals. Among them were two Canada General Service Medals with Queen Victoria on the obverse and bars for service to Canada in the Fenian raids. One had a bar stating Fenian Raid 1866 and the other had two bars, for 1866 and 1870.

The Fenians were mostly American Civil War veterans who believed that by attacking British forces in North America, they could assist in gaining independence for Ireland from Great Britain. In 1866 the Fenians made a failed attempt to attack New Brunswick. At the end of May that year about 800 Fenians crossed the border at Buffalo, N.Y., and on June 2 fought the Battle at Ridgeway against Canadian militia in Southwestern Ontario. Though the Fenians won the battle, they had no reinforcements and quickly retreated over the border. Other minor attacks were carried out unsuccessfully in Quebec in 1870. The lasting impact of the Fenian raids was to increase the momentum for Canadian Confederation the following year.

The medals had never been mounted and one was missing its proper ribbon. Two other medals were from the Second World War with no way of tracing who had received them, but the Canada General Service Medals were inscribed along the edges to Frederic Christian Wurtell and John James Mason, respectively. Having served in the military himself, Bolduc wanted to see the medals in the right hands and took them to the Legion's Ontario Command Service Officer John Morrison who has an office in Legion House in Kanata.

Morrison and Bolduc began searching for family that might still be in Ontario. Using the Internet and volunteer genealogists, the two were able to track the men who were awarded the medals. Mason's name was too common to make a positive identification, but they had better luck with Wurtell. They were able to follow a



family tree leading to the Ottawa area. Eventually Bolduc called all the people with that last name in the area until he tracked down two brothers, Peter Wurtell, 64, and Paul Wurtell, 61.

After Bolduc starting going over his family's history, Paul Wurtell realized the medal must have belonged to his great-great-grandfather. "It was when he knew my family had come from Quebec, that I knew he was on the right track," said Peter. "The family had come from Germany to Quebec City some time after the battle on the Plains of Abraham"

Morrison took the medals to Steve Heiter of the Dominion Command Supply Department who had the ribbons repaired and the medals mounted and framed.

The medals were presented at a small ceremony at Legion House back on March 15. Morrison and Bolduc presented Wurtell's medal, with the two dates, to the two brothers, along with the Henry Fry English Prize medallion that was also in the suitcase and would have belonged to their great-grandfather. The other medals, which included a Colonial Auxiliary Forces Long Service Medal with Queen Victoria's royal cipher, were presented to Eric Fernberg, collections manager for dress and insignia at the Canadian War Museum.

Fernberg said the war museum has 47 Canada General Service Medals. About 15,000 were originally issued, all with bars that said Fenian Raid 1866, Fenian Raid 1870 or Red River 1870, for those who fought in the Red River Rebellion in Manitoba against forces led by Louis Riel.

Morrison said it was a happy ending for the family, otherwise the lost medals could have ended up in the hands of dealers who would sell them to collectors.

## AMERICANS ALSO LOOK AT THEIR 1-CENT COIN... AND NICKELS TOO!

by David L. Ganz, *New York Times*, August 20, 2011

**David L. Ganz**  
is a former president of the  
*American Numismatic Association.*

In this time of fiscal strain, Americans can find some savings by simply looking in their purses and pockets.

Because of increases in commodity prices, it now costs more than one cent to make a penny and more than five cents to make a nickel. The United States Mint, sensitive to the risks of changing the composition and feel of our coinage, has been reluctant to revise the composition of these two coins.

But that is precisely what the Mint—which last year produced 4 billion pennies and 490 million nickels—should do.

While eliminating the penny has been debated for decades, it is not a realistic option; the penny has tremendous symbolic value and removing it would have the effect of raising prices—particularly for people of modest means, who use currency the most—because retailers would round up. Reducing the size of the coins is impractical because of the cost of recalibrating vending machines and the need to ensure that the coin is not interchangeable with any foreign coin.

Changing the composition of the penny by using less costly materials is the only feasible alternative. The Mint, part of the Treasury Department, has changed the size or composition of the cent more than a dozen times since 1793. Two of the most recent alterations were the switch to zinc-coated steel in 1943, caused by the wartime shortage of copper, and the switch to zinc with copper plating in 1982, a response to rising commodity prices.

Past debates have brought forth a variety of unconventional suggestions: plastic (used as sales-tax tokens—representing fractions of a cent—in the 1930s, but cheap-looking), industrial porcelain (Germany and Thailand tried this, but it breaks easily); and vulcanite rubber (used as currency in Guatemala

early in the last century, but too exotic for American tastes).

Metallic alloys are probably the best choice for a new-composition penny and nickel. The precise choice needs to reflect four values: cost effectiveness, security of supply, aesthetic acceptability and minimal disruption to vending machines. (Pennies are not commonly accepted by machines, but are sometimes inserted anyway; a penny of a different composition could cause machines to jam.)

fed directly into a coining press. It would work for the penny and the nickel—and the dime, if it were ever threatened.

Let's use a new aluminized-steel alloy that allows the Mint to produce an affordable penny. Ideally, this would be accompanied by a redesign, and a collector's-edition one-cent coin made of gold and silver. This would complement the success the Mint has had with the state quarters program and with collectors' coins made of precious metals.



In a 1976 study of the penny, the Research Triangle Institute rejected chromium, tin, titanium, copper-aluminum-nickel-zinc derivatives and zinc mixtures. At current prices, none of these would be cost-effective. In practical terms, that leaves two basic metallic groups: an aluminum alloy, which is better, heavier and stronger than the pure aluminum cent proposed in the 1970s, but still expensive, and steel, which is the clear favourite for affordability and security, but poses technical challenges.

The best approach is to meld the two. Aluminized steel is ideal because it is available coiled—squeezed by rollers and then put into a lasso-like form that can be

Contrary to the song, pennies do not come from heaven. Ours come from the Mint, which must supply them now and in the future. Let's reintroduce the penny as a coin that matters, and put its production on a sounder financial footing.



## CANUCKS AND AUSSIES SELL COIN SETS AT THE A.N.A.

by Jeff Starck, Coin World and the Internet, Sept. 14 2011

About one dozen world mints were in attendance during the American Numismatic Association World's Fair of Money in Rosemont, Ill., and several of them offered special sets for collectors.

The Perth Mint in Western Australia and the Royal Canadian Mint were among the mints with a special set available for sale to those attending the show. Both mints released show-specific sets earlier in 2011 for the World Money Fair in Berlin, but the makeup of those sets is different than the ANA sets for 2011.

Two precious metal coins are offered in the Little Aussies set from the Perth Mint. The set is limited to an edition of 2,000. The Perth Mint offering is still available from official distributors. The Perth Mint's set offers miniature versions of the standard bullion program offerings, a Koala tenth-ounce .999 fine silver coin and a Kangaroo half-gram .9999 fine gold coin.

The Koala coin, denominated 10 cents, made its debut earlier this year as an extension of the silver bullion series. A bright-eyed baby joey watches viewers from the fork of a gum or eucalyptus tree, while itself being observed by the watchful eye of the mother koala. The scene appears on the reverse of the silver coin, which was designed by Elise Martinson.

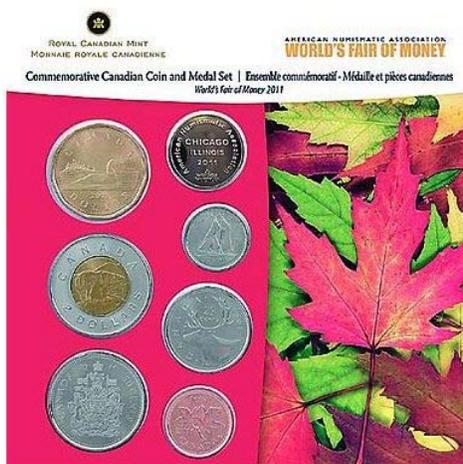
The Kangaroo coin in the set is a much smaller version than the standard 1-ounce size. The reverse of the coin in the set shows an adult kangaroo paused in a classic pose in the Australian outback by designer Wade Robinson. The Kangaroo coin is denominated \$2.

Both coins carry legends indicating their fineness and purity, as well as the Perth Mint's "P" Mint mark.

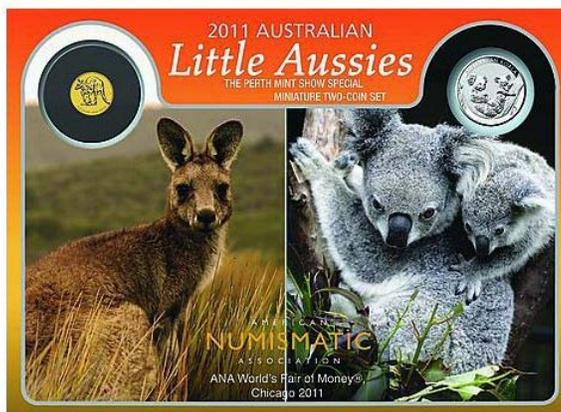
The Ian Rank-Broadley effigy of Queen Elizabeth II appears on the obverse of both coins in the set.

Both coins are struck in Reverse Proof, and are displayed in special packaging marking the ANA show. The coins are not new versions but the special packaging is limited.

On the packaging, the ANA logo appears with images of the animals shown with each respective design, as well as text reading "2011 Australian Little Aussies," "the Perth Mint show special" and



The Royal Canadian Mint offered at the 2011 World's Fair of Money a special set of Uncirculated examples of six circulating coins plus a medalet available only in the set. With a mintage of 500 sets and a retail price of \$15, the set sold out quickly.



A special two-coin set from the Perth Mint offered small versions of the standard Kangaroo gold and Koala silver bullion coin program, a half-gram .9999 fine gold \$2 coin and a tenth-ounce .999 fine silver 50-cent coin.

Images courtesy of the Perth Mint and [www.TalismanCoins.com](http://www.TalismanCoins.com).

"miniature two-coin set." Additional text reads "ANA World's Fair of Money Chicago 2011."

The original show issue price was \$60, with the price rising after the show. To order the set, visit Talisman's website at [www.talisman-coins.com](http://www.talisman-coins.com), telephone the company at 888-552-2646 or fax the business at 314-968-3801.

Circulating coinage features in the Royal Canadian Mint's set, which also includes a small medal unique to the set. The six-coin set contains one Proof-like (Uncirculated) example of each circulating coin, from cent to the \$2 piece, except for the 5-cent coin. Included coins feature the standard circulating motifs: maple leaves (1-cent coin), the schooner Blue Nose (10-cent coin), caribou (25-cent coin), the national coat of arms (50-cent coin), the loon (\$1 coin) and the polar bear (\$2 coin).

Joining the coins in the set is a copper medalet that, on one side, marks the show with text reading American Numismatic Association aligned in a partial circle along the periphery of the design, with Chicago Illinois 2011 in three lines at center, with an arrangement of maple leaves at the bottom (RCM officials have not stated which side is obverse or reverse.) The other side shows the RCM's logo (what the RCM calls a Mint mark, and what collectors have dubbed the "Circle M" mark) at the center, and the RCM name spelled out in English and French.

No specifications were available for this medalet, but it is presented in the spot a 5-cent coin might otherwise have appeared, suggesting they are similar in size. The medalets are struck on the same blanks the RCM has used to allow visitors to strike their own souvenir medalets on an older press. This is the same format of special packaging that was made available at the RCNA show where a Windsor medalet was included.

Packaging for the set includes an image of a large and colorful maple leaf, as well as text reading "Commemorative Canadian coin and medal set" along with the same phrase in French. The ANA show logo and "World's Fair of Money 2011" on the packaging identify the issue as a show special. Five hundred sets were issued at \$15, but they sold out quickly. Collectors will have to search the secondary market to purchase one.