

“The Bulletin” November/ December, 2000

President’s Message

Well, this is a first for me: two meetings in one issue of *The Bulletin*. The idea of not publishing prior to the December meeting has been under consideration for quite some time. Ron Zelk suggested it over ten years ago, but it always seemed quite “do-able” to get the December issue out and into members’ hands in the two short weeks between meetings. Now, with rising postage and the cost of printing it is more than prudent to give in to reality and produce a double issue to end off the year.

So, the best place to start is with the reminder that you should mark December 14 on the calendar and plan on joining us for the annual Christmas Party. See details to the right and on page 3.

Once again the Club will support The J.D. Ferguson Foundation and the Numismatic Educational Services Association (NESA) with donations of \$50 to each organization. This year the NESA donation is being made in memory of Basil Latham.

I had an interesting discussion with member Bob Wilson regarding the Royal Canadian Mint’s 1999 Plated Specimen Set described in last month’s bulletin. He

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To End Our 40th Year...

The next meeting of the North York Coin Club will be held on **Tuesday, November 28, 2000**, at the Edithvale Community Centre, 7 Edithvale Drive.

Chris Boyer will be the guest speaker at the November meeting with his talk “The Changing Uniform of the RCMP”. He has been very fortunate recently to acquire an extensive collection of RCMP insignia, symbols and uniform items. He has approached building the collection as a numismatist, it being accumulated in a short period of time with the objective of acquiring a representative or type set of the insignia. Included, of course, are varieties, counterfeits, and even an error patch! Now well-organized into a formal collection, it has been photographed and will make for a worthwhile presentation for both collectors and non-collectors.

The meeting will be rounded out with a listed auction which is detailed on page 3. Hope you can make it in November!



The December meeting of the Club will be held on **Thursday, December 14, at 7:30pm**. Notice it is a different night and an earlier time because it is our annual Christmas Party. To supplement the purchased Swiss Chalet food (see page 3 about placing your order), we also appreciate whatever family specialties including salads, cookies, cakes, etc. you are able to donate to the “pot luck” buffet table. Because the room is set for dinner, we’re sorry but there will be no dealer tables at this meeting.

If you want to participate in the option gift exchange, please bring along a numismatic or non-numismatic gift with a value of around \$6 or \$7. Exchange of the gifts will be sequenced by draw.

In place of the question of the month we are planning a non-numismatic social activity, so come prepared for something that’s a bit different, but entertaining all the same.

Next Meeting: November 28
Christmas Party: December 14, 7:30pm

Meeting News from the October 24 Meeting

The 457th meeting of the North York Coin Club was held on Tuesday, October 24, 2000 at the Edithvale Community Centre, 7 Edithvale Drive, Willowdale, Ontario.

The President, Paul Petch, opened the meeting at 8:05 and welcomed 22 members and 4 guests.

Brian See, a very regular attendee who was fighting a flu bug this particular evening, will be so cross that he missed out on the \$10. pot in the On Time Attendance Draw. We're holding \$12 for you at the November meeting.

Minutes of the September 26 meeting were read by the Secretary and accepted by the Chair.

Coming event coin shows were listed and discussed. The Chair advised that Harvey is accepting reservations for the Christmas Dinner and that it is \$6 for chicken and \$8 for ribs from Swiss Chalet. The Executive was advised their next meeting is on November 8.

Roger Fox brought greetings from the Waterloo Coin Society where he was a guest speak in September. Their new location is in the RCAF Legion Hall. He also showed old and new packages of Canadian Tire Money, just as they are shipped from the printer, and advised the new series numbers will start with "2".

Dr. Marvin Kay graciously introduced the guest speaker for the evening, Mr. Del Newbigging of Toronto. Mr. Newbigging has spent a lifetime involved in many fields of art. After drawing animals as a wee child he then moved on to painting birds and flowers. He now specializes in bronze, clay and plastic sculpture. Many of his sculpture pieces have been used as awards and much of his artwork is in private collections throughout the world.

Del's slide presentation of "The Art

Medal in Canada" included not only the early medals that followed the first exquisite one created by Pisenello in 1438 (notice that this corrects an erroneous date in last month's bulletin) but included many of the better ones displayed at the FIDEM International Congress held in Germany this past September. He attended the convention with Dora de Pedery Hunt and, now that she has retired after 37 years, Del will succeed her as the new Canadian Delegate. One of the most important points Dell made was determining whether a particular piece qualified as a medal, or was really more of a small relief sculpture. Del favoured smaller pieces which could be easily held in the hand. Del is also co-founder of a new organization called the Medallion Art Society of Canada.

Del's delightful presentation was very well received. In an interesting twist, Don Bunjevac and Jim Heifetz assisted in the interpretation and translation of a medal produced to commemorate the IBM Deep Blue vs. Kasperov "man against machine" chess match. Del was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and a 1986 set of North York Coin Club Trade Medals by Paul.

Refreshments were served by Roger Fox and this allowed time for members to closely examine Del's beautiful sculptures on display as well as those brought in by Marvin Kay and Dick Dunn.

The Lucky Draw was called by Roger Fox. Winners were: Len Kuenzig(3) Paul Petch(2), Don Bunjevac, May Bunnett, Bob Velensky(2), Dick Dunn(2), Roger Fox, Norman G. Gordon(3), Harvey Farrow, Mark Argentino, Willis Shortt, Leon Saraga and Norm Belsten. Proceeds amounted to \$24.

Bob Porter was unable to attend this evening following a "tune up" on his heart. (We were glad to hear after the meeting that everything went well for Bob.) In his place, Paul Petch made his debut as

the auctioneer and was ably assisted by Marvin Kay doing the running. The special auction of 17 lots was run alternately with the draw and brought \$18.67 in donations and \$7.35 in commission. Many thanks to Rick Craig, Mark Argentino, Len Kuenzig, Bill McDonald and Frank Zahra for their donations.

Prior to closing, Dick Dunn sadly announced that Elmer Workman had passed away yesterday, October 23rd.

There being no further business, the very full meeting closed at 10.00 p.m. with lots of help from many members who stayed on and assisted with a very

President's Message...

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points out that the price is very close to \$100 for a product that is almost identical to a proof like set which sells for about \$13. He thinks it's over-priced and is in the process of sending off a few letters of complaint making his point.

It is now time to renew your membership for the next year. Please bring the renewal enclosed with this mailing to Harvey Farrow at the next meeting or send it in by mail.

Here's another important reminder: The Bulletin needs your help in the form of original articles, clippings or suggestions for reprints!

The President continues to collect the e-mail addresses of all members. If you are now on the Internet, send an e-mail and let him know at **p.petch@home.com**. Phone calls are welcome at **416-745-3067** (leave a voice message if you can't get through) or at the cell number **416-303-4417**.

While it is a little early, I wish to extend very best wishes to all members and their families, especially the ones we don't see regularly at meetings, for a Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah from all the members of the Club executive and myself.

Listed Auctions

Bring any material you would like to sell by listed auction in January, 2001 to the November or December meeting and give it to Rick Craig. The items should be presented for consideration in person in an ordinary envelope showing your name, phone number and your estimated value (i.e., reserve bid). Rick is assisting us by assuring consistent descriptions of quality and by pegging fair starting amounts for the listing in the

Question of the Month

Okay, we've got a couple of two-bit questions for November: what is the theme of Canada's final millennium coin and which U.S. States are due to be honoured during 2001?

The October question of the month asked "what do you know about the events leading to the United States switching from a large cent to a small cent?" Again this month the question was answered correctly by May Bunnett. By 1857 the large cent had become unpopular and too expensive hence the "flying eagle" small cent came into being. Canada "went small" in 1920.

Coming Events

Coin-A-Rama Niagara Falls, November 25 at Our Lady of Peace Hall, 6944 Stanley Ave. 9am-4pm Coins, tokens, jewellery, paper money, medals and more. Free gold draw, free parking, admission \$1. Contact (905) 356-5006.

TOREX Show & Auction, February 24/25, 2001 at the Primrose Hotel, 111 Carlton St. (Pearson Ballroom). Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 10am-3pm. Daily admission \$5. Contact Brian R. Smith, e-mail: brian@torex.net, (416) 861-9523, website: www.torex.net.

ONA 39th Annual Convention, April 27-29, 2001 at the College Inn, Guelph. Featuring a Friday evening bourse, Saturday auction and Sunday "brunch" reception. Reserve your weekend!

November Meeting Auction List

- | | Starts at |
|---|------------------|
| 1) Medals and Tokens of THE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION ASSOCIATION OF TORONTO by Norman E. Wells. 79 pages. Card covers. Coil bound. | est. 15.00 |
| | \$8.00 |
| 2) \$2.00 Trade Medallion from Wildwood, Alberta. Dated 1993, copper, and featuring the great blue heron. 1986 medal from the Commonwealth games in Edinburgh "THE CANADIANS". Attractive goldine medal in original plastic holder. 2 pieces est. 5.00 (donation to the Club)..... | 2.00 |
| 3) 1944 Cdn. 50c VG. 1912 and 1927 Cdn. 25c fillers, but dates clear. Three silver Cdn 25c, Geo. V, date worn away, 1940, and 1962. 6 silver pieces est 4.00 (donation to the Club)..... | 2.00 |
| 4) 1811 1 Penny Token "PATENT SHEATHING & NAIL MANUFACTORY", Bristol. Features the model used by British coiners to strike some of our Nova Scotia Colonial tokens. EF. est. 25.00..... | 15.00 |
| 5) Set of U.S. Coin Cards. Deck of coin ID cards featuring popular and rare U.S. coins. As issued new. est. 10.00..... | 5.00 |
| 6) THE CANADIAN ANTIQUARIAN AND NUMISMATIC JOURNAL, Third Series, Vol 1, No. 1. Published Jan. 1897. Original card covers and frontspiece loose, but all contents intact and VF. The feature article topic is the Medals of the Chateau de Ramezay complete with glossy photos. est. 35.00..... | 22.00 |
| 7) Pair of Quebec tokens. "MARY ANN SOCIAL CLUB" Montreal. Good for 5c and 25c. VF. Listed as Bowman 2822c. est. 5.00..... | 3.00 |
| 8) Canadian Patterns by Fred Bowman, C.N.A. 1957 Reprint. 11 pages. Card Covers (donation to the Club) Est. 12.00..... | 2.00 |
| 9) McKay-Clements sale by Frank Rose Auctions, May, 1976. 110 pages plus plates. Card Covers. (donation to the Club) est. 4.00..... | 1.00 |
| 10) Lot of 8 Charlton Numismatics auction catalogues, ranging 1973 through 1977. Not a complete run, but includes Walter D. Allan Paper Money Part II and Part IV, ONA 1973 Sale, CNA 1975 Sale, and C.A.N.D. 1975, 1976 and 1977 sales (donation to the Club)..... | 8.00 |

December Meeting Food Selection



The Club will once again go to Swiss Chalet for food for our meeting on December 14. The two dinner choices are:

1. Quarter Chicken Festive Dinner Special with white or dark meat (includes the chocolate treat) member price is \$6, the Club pays the balance.

2. 1/2 BBQ Back Ribs member price is \$8, the Club pays the balance.

With each dinner you get sauce, roll, plus your choice of

A. French fries B. Baked potato C. Rice.

Please select \$6 for chicken or \$8 for ribs, stating your choice of 1/2 and A/B/C to Treasurer Harvey Farrow at the November meeting. You should notify Harvey by phone at **416-923-5545** or by e-mail at **690667@ican.net** by noon on Tuesday, December 12 if you either decide to attend or discover you must cancel. Thanks to Harvey for taking the orders and to Ron Zelk for handling the pick up.

They Stand On Guard

Perhaps, if you are not too quick to throw out the envelope you receive your copy of *The Bulletin* in, you will have noticed that most mailings of the year feature a current commemorative stamp.

This month we've used the final issue of 2000 that was released on November 11 to salute two illustrious Canadian Regiments: Lord Strathcona's, Horse (Royal Canadians) and Les Voltigeurs de Québec.

The stamp representing Lord Strathcona's Horse Regiment displays a portrait of Sam Steele in early 1900s uniform, while Les Voltigeurs de Québec features a regimental drummer in modern uniform. The stamps were issued on a sheet of 16 in what is known as the se-tenant format, that is, alternating designs appearing side by side.

Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians)

Donald Alexander Smith (1820-1914), 1st Baron Strathcona, raised a cavalry unit (with his own money) for service in South Africa. A very wealthy man, he is famous as a Member of Parliament, a moving force of the Canadian Pacific Railway and also as the man who drove Canada's "last spike".

His proposal for a regiment was accepted in January of 1900, and the regiment eventually became known as Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians). The first commander of the regiment was the legendary Samuel Benfield "Sam" Steele (1849-1919) of the North-West Mounted Police, known for bringing law and order to the Yukon Territory during the Gold Rush.

Made up of former cowboys and mem-

bers of the North West Mounted Police, all were experienced riders and marksmen. It distinguished itself in South Africa where Sgt. Richardson won the Victoria Cross. During the First World War, Lt. Frederick Harvey earned the Victoria Cross at Guyencourt, France and Lt. Gordon Flowerdew won the same award at Moreuil Wood.

With the outbreak of the Second World

War, the regiment traded their horses for tanks and saw important engagements at the Melfa River in Italy, and later in Holland. They celebrated their centenary in May of 2000 with many of this distinguished regiment's brave veterans on-hand.



Les Voltigeurs de Québec

A new Canadian militia unit was created in Quebec City in 1862, becoming known as "The 9th Battalion Volunteer Militia Rifles, Canada" (or Voltigeurs of Québec). The regiment first saw service during the Fenian Raids (1864-1866 and 1870), then served during the Northwest Rebellion of 1885.

Joseph Vézina, a celebrated Quebec musician and composer, was the regimental band's director from 1867 to 1879. On the 24th of June, 1880 (St. Jean-Baptiste Day), he assembled a group of musicians. These included members of the military band of the 9th Battalion. They played a series of popular Canadian

melodies including "Chant national", an arrangement that would in time become our anthem "O Canada".

In the First World War, the regiment would contribute more than five hundred volunteers and recruits for service with the Canadian Expeditionary Force.

While most Canadian military units have flags (or "Colours") bearing the regimental insignia and combat history, Les Voltigeurs (a rifle regiment) uses drums to display their battle honours. The stamp reflects this great tradition by featuring a member of the regiment in present-day uniform with the drum bearing the honours "Northwest Canada 1885" and "First World War".

The U.S. State Quarter Program

1999 Quarters

Delaware

The Delaware quarter, depicting the historic horseback ride of Caesar Rodney, galloped onto the scene as it kicked off the much anticipated U.S. Mint's 50



State Quarters Program

Caesar Rodney was a delegate to the Continental Congress. On July 1, 1776, despite suffering from asthma and cancer, Rodney set off on the 80-mile journey to Philadelphia withstanding thundershowers and a severe summer heat wave. The next day, he arrived at Independence Hall just in time to cast the deciding vote in favor of U.S. independence. This native of Dover has also held more public offices than any other Delaware citizen. In addition to an extremely dedicated delegate, Rodney was also a soldier, judge, and speaker of Delaware's Assembly

Mintage for circulation:
 1999-P 373,400,000
 1999-D 401,424,000

Pennsylvania

The Pennsylvania quarter, the second coin in the Program, depicts the statue "Commonwealth," an outline of the

state, the state motto, and a keystone. This design was chosen to further help educate people about the origins of the second state, founded on December 12, 1787.

The statue "Commonwealth," designed by New York sculptor Roland Hinton Perry, is a bronze-gilded 14' 6" high female form that has topped Pennsylvania's state capitol dome in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, since May 25, 1905. Her right arm extends in kindness and her left arm grasps a ribbon mace to symbolize justice. The image of the keystone honors the states nickname, "The Keystone State." At a Jefferson Republican victory rally in October 1802, Pennsylv-



vania was toasted as "the keystone in the federal union."

Mintage for circulation:
 1999-P 349,000,000
 1999-D 358,332,000

New Jersey

The New Jersey quarter, the third coin in the Program, depicts General George Washington and members of the Colonial Army crossing the Delaware River en route to very important victories during the Revolutionary War. The design is based on the 1851 painting by Emmanuel Leutze, "Washington Crossing the Delaware," which currently hangs in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

It was a cold Christmas night in 1776 and the Delaware River was frozen in many places. General George Washington calculated the British would not be expecting an assault in this kind of weather. He and his soldiers courageously crossed the Delaware River into Trenton, NJ. Using surprise as their



greatest weapon, Washington's army captured over 900 prisoners and secured the town. Later that night, his army continued towards Princeton, NJ, again taking the British by surprise. These two victories proved very important to his army as they gave the soldiers courage, hope, and newfound confidence. The ammunition, food and other supplies confiscated from their captives also helped them survive the brutal winter of 1777.

Mintage for circulation:
 1999-P 363,200,000
 1999-D 299,028,000

Georgia

The Georgia quarter, the fourth quarter released under the Program, is a real peach. The selected design incorporates several symbols associated with this traditional, yet very diverse southern state.

Just from studying the Georgia quarter

(Continued on page 6)



design, one can learn a lot about the fourth state of the Union. The selected design prominently features the peach—a symbol long associated with the state—within the confines of a silhouetted outline of the state. Live Oak sprigs border the central design paying homage to the official state tree, the Live Oak. And if you ever need to know the Georgia state motto, simply look across the top of the design, where the words “Wisdom, Justice, Moderation,” grace a hanging banner.

Mintage for circulation:
 1999-P 451,188,000
 1999-D 488,744,000

Connecticut

The Connecticut quarter, the last Program coin issued in 1999, features “The Charter Oak”: an integral part of Connecticut’s heritage and existence. If not for the famed “Charter Oak”, Connecticut—and the United States in general—might be a very different place



than it is today!

On the night of October 31, 1687, Connecticut’s Charter was put to a test. A British representative for King James II, challenged Connecticut’s government structure and demanded its surrender. In the middle of the heated discussion, with the Charter on the table between the opposing parties, the candles were mysteriously snuffed out, darkening the room. When visibility was reestablished, the Connecticut Charter had vanished. Heroic Captain Joseph Wadsworth saved the Charter from the hands of the British and concealed it in the safest place he could find, in a majestic white oak. This famous tree, “The Charter Oak,” finally fell during a great storm on August 21, 1856.

Mintage for circulation:
 1999-P 688,744,000
 1999-D 657,880,000

2000 Quarters

Massachusetts

The Massachusetts quarter, the first quarter of the new millennium, features a design of “The Minuteman,” a famous statue that stands guard at The Minuteman National Historical Park in Concord, Massachusetts.

The selected design captures a piece of the Bay State’s exceptional history. The Minutemen played a big role in protecting the U.S., as they rallied together to help defeat the British during the Revolutionary War. These small, influential forces consisting of regular farmers and colonists, were always at-the-ready and were trained to assemble and fight on just a minute’s notice—hence the term ‘minutemen’.

Mintage for circulation:
 2000-P 629,800,000
 2000-D 535,184,000



Maryland

The Maryland quarter, the 2nd in the Year 2000 series, highlights the striking dome of the Maryland Statehouse.

Through its new quarter, the 7th state shares its pride for the honored Maryland Statehouse. A distinctive building dating back to 1772, it features the country’s largest wooden dome built without nails. Besides housing Maryland’s colonial legislature, it was also crucial to our national history. From 1783-1784, the Maryland Statehouse served as the nation’s first peacetime capital. The Treaty of Paris was ratified here, officially ending the Revolutionary War. A treasure preserved, the Statehouse continues as the country’s oldest state capital building still in legislative use.

Leaf clusters from the official state tree, the White Oak, and the nickname The Old Line State complete the selected design. Maryland is nicknamed the Old



Line State in honor of its “troops of the line.” These troops won praise from George Washington, who was Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War.

Mintage for circulation:
 2000-P 684,480,000
 2000-D 556,526,000

South Carolina

The South Carolina quarter, the eighth coin released under the Program shows key state symbols, a Palmetto Tree, the Carolina Wren and the Yellow Jessamine. An outline of South Carolina, nickname “The Palmetto State” and a star indicating the capital, Columbia, form the quarter’s background.

The Carolina Wren, the state bird, and the Yellow Jessamine, the state flower,



are native throughout South Carolina; the importance of the Palmetto Tree, the state tree, dates back to the Revolutionary War. In 1776, colonists in a small fort built of Palmetto logs successfully defeated a British fleet trying to capture Charleston Harbor. Since then, South Carolina has been called, “The Palmetto State.”

New Hampshire

The New Hampshire quarter’s reverse showcases the rock formation, “The Old Man of the Mountain.”

The New Hampshire quarter, the ninth

coin released under the Program, honours one of the state’s most unique natural attractions, “The Old Man of the Mountain. “ The state’s motto, “Live free or die,” and nine stars, representing New Hampshire being the ninth state to ratify the Constitution, complete the design.

“The Old Man of the Mountain” is a rock formation that can be found on Mt. Cannon in the Franconia Notch gateway to Northern New Hampshire. From the right view, this unique rock formation, comprised of five layers of Conway red granite, depicts the distinct profile of an elderly man gazing eastward. Geogra-



phers believe that the layers of granite were positioned by the melting and slipping away action of an ice sheet that covered the Franconia Mountains at the end of the glacial period - some 2,000 to 10,000 years ago. Today, the formation, measuring over 40 feet high with a lateral distance of 25 feet, is held in place by cables and turnbuckles to prevent further slipping and possible destruction.

Virginia

The Virginia quarter, the tenth coin released under the Program, honours the U.S.’s oldest colony, Jamestown, VA. Jamestown turns 400 years old in 2007. The selected design features the three ships, Susan Constant, Godspeed, and Discovery. These ships brought the first English settlers to Jamestown.

On April 10, 1606, King James I of

England chartered the Virginia Company to encourage colonization in the New World. The first expedition, consisting of the three ships depicted on the quarter, embarked from London on December 20, 1606. On May 12, 1607, they landed on a small island along the James River nearly 60 miles from the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. It was here the original settlers (104 men and boys) established the first permanent English settlement called Jamestown, in honor of King James I.

The selection of the design for Virginia’s new quarter began when Governor James Gilmore III selected State Treasurer Susan F. Dewey to serve as liaison to the U.S. Mint for the 50 States Quarter™ Program. Ideas were solicited from colleges, universities, museums, and state agencies. Public comment was overwhelming, with thousands of responses received.



Representatives from the Library of Virginia, the Department of Historic Resources, the Virginia Tourism Corporation and the Department of General Services assisted the State Treasurer in selecting design concepts for the Virginia quarter. The citizens of Virginia were encouraged to provide their comments. Governor Gilmore then forwarded his final design concept recommendation, the Jamestown Quadricentennial, to the Secretary of the Treasury who gave final approval.

BIRTH OF THE "SMALL" CENT

by Kenneth Bressett

A long time ago, "pennies" were much larger and more valuable than they are today.

Until 145 years ago, pennies were as big as a half dollar . . . and by today's standard, were worth just about that much in purchasing power. But people complained about their size, and the Mint complained about what it cost to make them. Yet officials were afraid the public would reject a smaller-sized cent.

The cent's new design in 1856 featured a flying eagle, easily the most beautiful ever used on a small coin. The coin was slightly thicker than pennies of today, made of copper-nickel, with a pale golden color.

Several hundred trial coins (or patterns) were made that first year, to see how they'd be accepted. Nearly everyone took an immediate liking to them.

In 1857 an act was passed which not only provided for striking the small cent but also disallowed passing coinage from other countries, particularly the Spanish and Mexican dollars.

New coins, dated 1857, went into production the next year, and were an instant hit.

The Mint tried to make up for a short supply of 1856 pennies by making more in the years that followed. At least a thousand or more 1856 pennies were made two years later, just to satisfy the demand of collectors. Today, it's impossible to distinguish between the original 1856 coins and those made later. They're all considered rare, and often valued at more than \$2,000.

Over the years, some people tried hoarding 1856 "Flying Eagle" pennies. A Pittsburgh collector, who died in 1925, managed to accumulate 731 pieces!

Most collectors would be happy with just one of these interesting coins. Owning an 1856 "Flying Eagle" cent is considered the hallmark of any collection. It's the rarest date, and the key to any set of pennies.

In Canada, the switch from a large cent to a small cent took place much later, in 1920.

Money Talks
Transcript No. 2055
August 18, 2000

