



# 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

## Contact the Club :

E-mail: [The\\_Club@sympatico.ca](mailto:The_Club@sympatico.ca)  
Phone: 416.945.9299

## Member :

Canadian Numismatic Association  
Ontario Numismatic Association

President .....Nick Cowan  
1st Vice President .....Bill O'Brien  
2nd Vice President.....Open  
Secretary .....Paul Petch  
Treasurer .....Len Kuenzig  
Past President .....Robert Wilson

## Executive Committee

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

Receptionist .....Albert Kasman  
Draw Prizes .....Bill O'Brien  
Social Convenor .....Bill O'Brien  
Librarian .....Robert Wilson  
Program Planning .....Paul Johnson,  
Paul Petch, John Regitko

## THE BULLETIN FOR APRIL 2007

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello again fellow Members;

Well, here it is almost the end of April and another collecting season starts to wind down. However, looking on the brighter side of this, maybe we should re-arrange our meeting schedule, so that we do not meet in January and February, the two worst months of the year for driving and for weather. We might even get a better turn-out for the meetings.

Now, on to a more serious note:

On April 12, 2007, your Executive met for the sole purpose of deciding if NYCC wanted to put forth a proposal to the ONA to host the 2011 Convention. We have decided that before we submit our proposal, it would be advantageous to us, if a few of the executive visited the next ONA to really look "behind the scenes" and talk to as many of the CNA / ONA Directors as possible, with the objective of obtaining as much information as possible.

### NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY, APRIL 24

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

There will be a bit of a travel theme associated with this meeting since we are to get a bit of a numismatic commentary on recent trips taken by David Quinlan and Marvin Kay.

**Please Don't Forget:** *We need some donations to our supply of draw prize material, and please bring some numismatic material for the auction.*

While in Principle, we have agreed that hosting 2011 would be good for all, most of us are new at this and want to make sure that we are truly ready for the show to go on.

All of you are aware that it takes people to run an event successfully. Therefore, I am asking all members, including all of you who have done this before, to step up to the plate and offer your expertise, advice and most of all; your physical help, from the day we decide to do this.

If we agree to proceed, then we will, of course, set up a committee that is ONA 2011 specific. It was asked (suggested) at

the special meeting that if we go ahead, then it should be me that should be the Chairman of the committee. Your comments please!

My Contractor is still trying, I think, to complete the additions, renovations, landscaping, decking, water gardens and then, when he finishes all that, he can start building about 500ft. of fence around 3 sides of my property.

*This way, if they finish, which still looks favourable, I can still host the club BBQ aka the June meeting. Up-dates will follow.*

Nick

### COMING EVENTS

**APRIL 20 - APRIL 22, London O.N.A.** 2007 Convention at the Four Points Sheraton, 1150 Wellington Rd. S. Hours: bourse floor opens at 10:00 a.m. each day Saturday April 21 and Sunday April 22. Admission \$3 per day. For more information contact Tom Rogers, 519-451-2316, [trogers@sympatico.ca](mailto:trogers@sympatico.ca) and visit the web site <http://www.ontario-numismatic.org/convention.htm>

**MAY 5 - 6, Niagara Falls TLC Show,** Ramada Suites Hotel, 7389 Lundy's Lane. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: \$4 Adults, \$2 seniors and children. Tokens, trade dollars, coins, paper money, militaria, jewellery. Free parking. For more information, contact Linda Robinson, 289-235-9288, [lin-darobinson@cogeco.ca](mailto:lin-darobinson@cogeco.ca) or Tom Kennedy, 519-271-8825.

**MAY 6, Windsor 56th Annual Windsor Coin Club Spring Show,** Caboto Club, 2175 Parent Ave. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free parking. \$1 admission includes draws for hourly door prizes and a grand prize. Juniors admitted free. For more information, contact Margaret Clarke, 519-735-0727, [mclarke@wincom.net](mailto:mclarke@wincom.net).

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## Marvin Kay MD, F.C.N.A. biographic vignette

### *Continuing our series on distinguished NYCC members*

Dr. Marvin Kay is a Toronto anesthesiologist who has been collecting for over fifty years. He has been a member of the Canadian Numismatic Association since 1962 and has member number #4537. Marvin specializes in collecting coins, tokens, medals and banknotes that pertain to the field of medicine. He has over 400 pieces in his collection showing Physicians, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, veterinarians and hospitals.

Marvin has written numerous numismatic articles for The Canadian Numismatic Journal, The Medical Post (a weekly newspaper for Canadian physicians), the Canadian Antiquer, the Bulletin of the Philippine Collectors Society, the TAMS Bulletin of the Tokens and Medals Society, as well as for the Toronto daily newspaper, the Globe and Mail.

In The Numismatist dated September 1982, Marvin wrote a major article for which he received the Heath Literary Award. He is the only Canadian in many years to receive this prestigious award from the American Numismatic Association.

And in 1992, Marvin received the Guy Potter Literary Award (along with the co-author, Dr. Richard Golden) for a five-part article in the Canadian Numismatic Journal.

Only one other person has ever received BOTH the Canadian and American literary awards.

In 1984, Marvin made Canadian numismatic history when he organized the first Canada-Israel tour, leading a group of twenty Canadian and American collectors to the Holy Land.

Marvin is a member of numerous local, national and international organizations, including the C.N.A., the North York Coin Club and the American Israel Numismatic Association. Marvin has served on the executive of these clubs and he is a Past President of The Toronto Coin Club.

In the past, Marvin has served the C.N.A. as the 2<sup>nd</sup> vice President and

Chairman of the Awards committee. Later he became the First Vice President and Chairman of the Editorial Committee.

In 1993 he won election to become the 22<sup>nd</sup> president of the Canadian Numismatic Association, the first physician to hold that post.

In 1996, Marvin received the Award of Merit, the highest award of the Ontario Numismatic Association.

And in 2003, he was declared a Fellow of C.N.A. (F.C.N.A.) as recognition of his continuing efforts on behalf of the C.N.A.

On a personal note, Marvin was born and raised in Toronto. He attended North Toronto Collegiate Institute, where he graduated with honours.

Then he entered the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto. After successfully completing his internship at the New Mount Sinai Hospital, he decided to specialize in anesthesiology. This required another four years of training at several medical centres, including the Columbia-Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, the Toronto General Hospital, the Hospital for Sick Children and Sunnybrook Hospital.

Marvin now has an unusual anesthesiology practice. He no longer administers anesthetics in hospital. Instead he administers anesthetics to dental patients in private dental offices.

Marvin is married to Sondra Atkins and has three grown children.



*Dr. Marvin Kay (right) receives his Fellow of the C.N.A. from Awards Chairman Tim Henderson at the 2003 C.N.A. Convention*

**JUNE 10, Brantford** 46th Annual Brantford Numismatic Society Coin Show, Woodman Community Centre, 491 Grey St. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. *Free admission, free parking. 35 dealers at 65 tables. Displays of Canadian coins, tokens, paper money, trade dollars, CTC coupons.* For more information, contact Brantford Numismatic Society, PO Box 28071 North Park Plaza, Brantford, ON N3R 7K5 or Ed Anstett, 519-759-3688, [edanstett@rogers.com](mailto:edanstett@rogers.com).

## COMING EVENTS

**JUNE 16 - 17, Toronto** UKRAINPEX 2007, Ukrainian Canadian Art Foundation, 2118-A Bloor Street West. Hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days. *There is no admission fee, but donations to support the exhibition are appreciated. Competitive and non-competitive exhibits in all areas of Ukraine collectibles, bourse, free appraisals.* Sponsor/Affiliate: Ukrainian Collectibles Society (Toronto) in conjunction with the

international Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society (UPNS). Contact W. Sokoluk, [ucs.to@hotmail.com](mailto:ucs.to@hotmail.com). Web site: <http://www.upns.org/ukrainpex.htm>. **JUNE 23 - 24, 2007, Toronto** TOREX, Radisson Admiral Hotel, 249 Queen's Quay West, Admiral's Ballroom. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission \$6. For more information, contact Brian Smith, 416-861-9523. Web site: <http://www.torex.net>.

## THE ART OF COIN COLLECTING

by Angela Cai, Princetonian Senior Writer

Thursday, March 15, 2007

On the wall of the reception room in Firestone Library's Department of Rare Books and Special Collections (RBSC) hangs an unassuming white frame. The structure contains a display of 18 coins dating to the 11th century Byzantine Empire.

No one is sure why the Byzantines chose to use cup-shaped coins for the 300 years the empire occupied Eastern Europe. But scholars of numismatics—the study and collection of coins, paper money and other currencies—are the ones to turn to for possible theories and explanations.

Alan Stahl is the University's Curator of Numismatics whose job is to archive, research and showcase the library's remarkable collection of coins. Princeton, along with Harvard and Yale, are the top universities who hold numismatics collections, though none of them are "world class," Stahl said.

"Our collection is probably the most comprehensive for [an American] university to hold," Stahl said.

"Harvard has Greek and Roman coins but not many others; Yale's is more comprehensive [than Harvard's] but not as much as ours." Princeton is also the only school to have had a curator continuously since the 1930s.

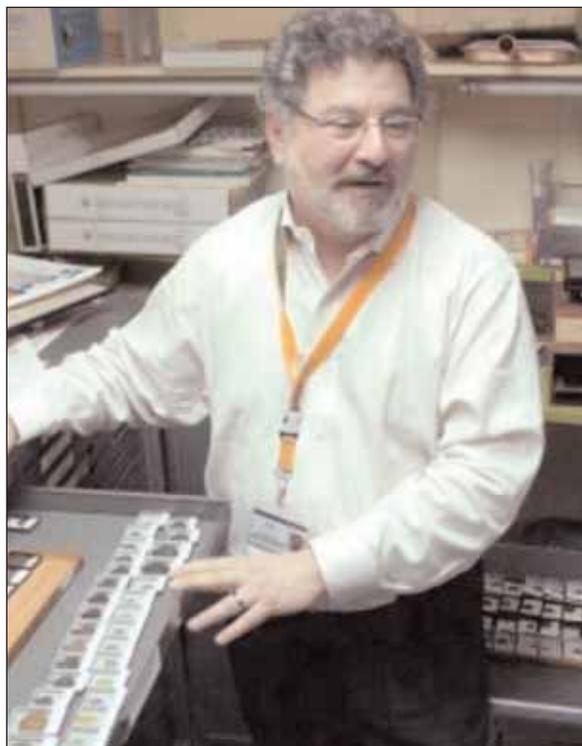
### The vast unknown

Stahl said there is no way of knowing exactly how much the entire collection is worth. Since the entire library is self-insured by the University, no one has looked into the value of the coins for insurance purposes.

"We have no idea how many coins we have," Stahl said, adding that the number is probably between 60,000 and 70,000. Most of the collection consists of ancient, classical, medieval and the recently acquired Chinese coins, but there are also sizeable collections of paper money, modern coins and assortments of medals.

The RBSC employs 12 students who each work to catalogue the coins. In the office where Stahl works, named the "Coin Room," they photograph, label and research the coins, loading the profiles into an online database.

About 90 percent of the University's collection of coins has come from private donations, particularly from the private collections of alumni, Stahl said. "There's also a budget for acquisition that's sizable by numismatic collection standards."



*Alan Stahl, Curator of Numismatics, catalogues coins as part of Firestone Library's section on rare books and special collections*

Rather than gift their coin donations to the numismatics collection, Stahl said some alumni choose to give their coin collections directly to the Princeton Art Museum. With the exception of a Han dynasty money-tree, none are on display at the moment.

Eventually, Stahl said, the coins could be housed with the Firestone collection, though they would still technically be the property of the museum.

The University recently received a donation of more than 2,000 ancient Chinese coins from Lawren Wu '92 and his mother Tung Ching Wu, in memory of Lawren's father, Souheng Wu. Included in this donation were several non-circular coins, such as key-, knife- and spade-shaped coins.

The age of the coins is unclear since there is no good way of determining how old the metal composition of the coins is, Stahl said. Though scholars can date these coins from around 1000 to 500 B.C., the only feasible way to pinpoint their chronological origins is to test the organic material from the tombs from which the coins were excavated.

"The coins are not just for collecting; they are repositories of historical information," history and East Asian studies professor Susan Naquin said in a University press release last month. The metals can hold clues to the social, political and economic circumstances at the time.

Stahl added that he is collaborating with the East Asian studies department to find students who are interested in analyzing the Chinese coins, since he cannot read the reference texts or the coins themselves. "It would be a great JP," he said, adding that he would like some of the coins to be exhibited where the Byzantine coins are currently displayed.

### The man behind the coins

Stahl is a historian by academic training, though he didn't become interested in numismatics until he wrote the dissertation for his Ph.D in medieval history from the University of Pennsylvania.

"There were a lot of documents and coins related to that time period," he said of his research. Stahl ended up studying the coins and eventually became a curator of medieval coins for the American Numismatics Society in New York. In 2004, he took the job at Firestone.

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## Queen Distributes Maundy Coins

“I’m not a collector,” he said. “I’ve never owned a coin [of historical significance] in my life.” His current academic interests involve medieval Venice and Venetian coins; he has published over half a dozen books and 80 articles.

Stahl teaches a graduate seminar on numismatics in the classics department, and he said the attraction to the subject is the tangible history that the coins can bring.

One of his students commutes three hours each way from Fordham University; another comes from Rutgers University. Neither of those schools have sizeable numismatics collections of their own.

In addition to Stahl’s constant watch, University classes and professors of medieval and ancient history often visit the collection, Stahl said.

Outside scholars and collectors sometimes request to see the coins as well, though these showings are generally not as frequent.

“I don’t usually show people the vaults,” Stahl said. Starting this November, however, many coins will be open for public viewing in the main exhibit hall of Firestone.

The small room where the collection is currently held lies behind a locked fence. Stahl said he is transferring the coins to chemically neutral plastic cases and acquiring new cabinets to house them.

But the security precautions and the old age of the coins don’t stop Stahl from displaying them for visitors.

“When I pass around the tray of coins, people get so excited because they’re actually handling in their hands something that people in the time period we’re studying actually held as well.”

Stahl said that while some collectors insist on taking precautions when handling the ancient coins, he doesn’t insist on such strict protective actions.

“Some people make a fuss about handling coins, but I just pick them up with my hands,” Stahl said, lifting a coin from the time of the Roman emperor Nero. “I mean, this coin has been buried in the soil for over 2,000 years. There’s really not much that I could do to damage it.”

### *The Queen has handed out Maundy Money to 162 pensioners in an Easter church service ahead of her 81st birthday.*

Thursday, 5 April 2007

The Queen gave 81 men and 81 women two purses, filled with coins, at the ceremony at Manchester Cathedral.

One purse contained 81p in freshly minted Maundy coins marking the Queen’s forthcoming 81st birthday.

The second purse held a £5 coin commemorating her diamond wedding



anniversary and the centenary of the scouting movement.

It was the first time this service has been held in the city. ‘Great honour’

The recipients were all retired pensioners recommended by clergy and ministers of all denominations in recognition of service to the church and the community.

Among them was Bill Birchby, who said he was “surprised but delighted” to be attending the event.

The 87-year-old, from Bolton, said: “It will be a great honour to meet the Queen—she’s a wonderful person.”

As the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh stepped out of the cathedral they were greeted by cheers and clapping as the bells rang.

After the service the royal couple took a short walk to a reception at Chetham’s School of Music before attending a lunch at the town hall hosted by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Manchester.



The Maundy Service dates back hundreds of years and until the 18<sup>th</sup> Century

the monarch would also wash the feet of the poor selected to receive the coins.

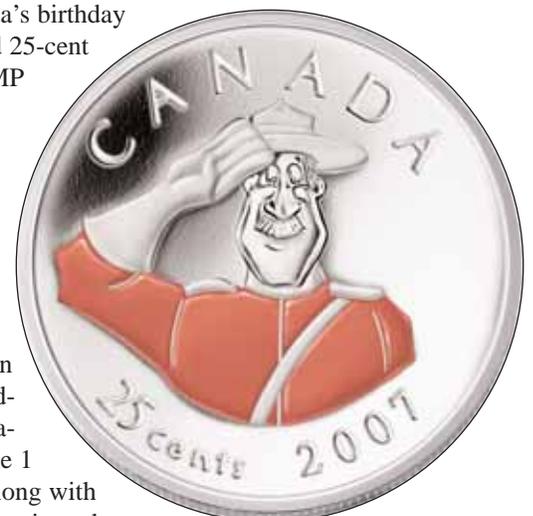
The origin can be traced to the Last Supper when, as St John recorded, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples.

Afterwards Jesus gave the disciples a command or “mandatum”—the Latin word from which Maundy is derived—to love one another.

## 25-CENT CANADA DAY COLOURED COIN AND ACTIVITY KIT

The RCM prepares to celebrate Canada’s birthday with its seventh Canada Day Coloured 25-cent coin. The coin pays tribute to the RCMP with a depiction of “MacLean the Mountie”, wearing the famous Red Serge. The coin is housed in an activity set featuring a trivia quiz and four temporary tattoos perfect for Canada Day celebrations.

The RCM also introduced the very popular and collectible 50-cent piece in a commemorative paper wrap roll holding 25 coins. As well, two special occasion pure silver wafer gift products: the 1 oz. silver wedding and baby wafers, along with a Special Edition Wedding Gift Set were issued.



## 25-CENT ICE HOCKEY COIN COMMEMORATES VANCOUVER 2010

*Ice Hockey is the second sport featured in the series of 17 special coins going into circulation over the next 3 years*

**WINNIPEG, MANITOBA—April 3, 2007**—The Royal Canadian Mint (RCM) today officially released the second of 17 circulation coins to celebrate the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. Ice hockey—widely considered Canada’s game—is depicted on the 25-cent coin. The coin entered circulation in conjunction with the 2007 Women’s World Hockey Championship being held in Winnipeg from April 3 to April 10.

Speaking at the official launch ceremony held at the RCM’s state-of-the-art manufacturing plant in Winnipeg, Ian E. Bennett, President and CEO of the RCM, said: “It’s no coincidence that we’re in Winnipeg, the site of both the world’s premier annual hockey event for women and our facility that has produced the ice hockey coin. The Mint is delighted to recognize Canada’s passion for this sport as we build towards the

Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.”

Up to 22 million 25-cent ice hockey coins will enter into circulation and will be available exclusively at RBC Royal Bank and participating Petro-Canada outlets. RBC Royal Bank is a Premier National Partner and Petro-Canada is a National Partner of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. Canadians can also look for these special coins in their change. Participating Petro-Canada gas stations will also sell ice hockey sports cards, containing a uniquely painted version of the coin. The sports cards will sell for \$7.95 and will also be available as of April 3.

Canadian men won the first gold medal for ice hockey in Olympic Games history at the 1920 Summer Games in Antwerp and the team has been a perennial favourite and serious competitor ever since. The Canadian women’s team has medaled in all three Games in which ice hockey has been a full medal sport, beginning with Nagano in

1998—the last two consecutive have been gold medals.



Designed by Canadian artist Glenn Green of Vancouver, BC, the coin features a hockey player in the centre, a stylized maple leaf and the words ‘Vancouver 2010.’ The obverse features the portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, rendered by Susanna Blunt.

Additionally, for enthusiasts and serious collectors in Canada and abroad, the RCM has introduced a sterling silver collector version of the ice hockey coin, featuring the sport and a stunning hologram. The sterling silver coin was designed by Canadian artist Steve Hepburn of Richmond, BC.

## MILLIONS IN EU STILL HAVE PROBLEMS USING EURO BILLS AND COINS, SURVEY SAYS

### BRUSSELS, Belgium:

“A significant number of respondents within the euro zone countries — 41 percent — still claim they have some difficulties with the euro,” said the EU-commissioned Gallup poll. “Fifteen percent experience a lot of difficulty with the euro, virtually unchanged since 2003.”

The euro came into circulation Jan 1, 2002, in 12 nations: Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain. Next week, Slovenia also will adopt the euro, bringing the total population of the eurozone to 316.6 million people.

Today, the currency fares best in Ireland and Luxembourg: 81 percent and 77 percent of people there say they have no problem using the currency. But in Italy, those having trouble with the euro outnumber “those who say there are no difficulties at all” by a margin of 56 percent versus 45 percent, the survey found.

Germans, the Dutch and Austrians struggle the most with euro coins: 37 percent, 31 percent and 29 percent respectively. But the coins are only a problem for 7 to 9 percent of the Spanish, Portuguese and Finns.

“The ratio of those who consider using

*Four in 10 Europeans using the euro still have difficulty handling the currency — five years after it went into circulation, according to a recently released survey.*

euro bank notes difficult is rather low” across the 12 euro nations, the survey said.

While the euro has quickly become a benchmark for small purchases — a cup of coffee, a shirt or a magazine — it is only “slowly becoming the benchmark currency for significant purchases.” Forty percent of “major purchases” such as homes and cars are still calculated in the old national currencies, the survey found.

While in 2002, 59 percent of eurozone users thought their new currency was “overall advantageous for their country, currently only less than half of respondents hold such a favorable opinion,” it added.

The survey questioned 12,000 people by phone between Sept. 4-9. The margin of error was 4.4 percentage points.

The poll tapped a lingering perception that the euro has raised prices, even though inflation figures do not show that.

EU Monetary Affairs Commissioner Joaquin Almunia blames isolated pricing abuse at the time of the January 2002 changeover for that, and the fact that price rises are remembered longer than the price drops for electronic products, consumer goods and telecommunications services.

Almunia said governments must better communicate the merits of a single currency.

“The euro has brought us many advantages,” he said, citing “inflation and interest rates (that) have never been so low for so long.”

The euro has spared the EU from “exchange rate crises and market speculation” that engulfed Europe’s old currencies, has been stable and strong, making imports cheaper and made travel across Europe easier and more affordable, he said.

One thing the euro has not done is make Europeans feel more European. “Most citizens in the euro area do not think that the euro has had any effect on their feelings of being European,” said the poll.

The total value of euro bills in circulation has almost tripled since 2002 to €95 billion (US\$783 billion). The values of coins has risen from €13 billion (US\$17 billion) to €17.6 billion (US\$23 billion), the European Commission said.