



North York Coin Club

Founded 1960 — 50th Anniversary Year

**MONTHLY MEETINGS 4TH Tuesday 7:30 P.M. AT
Edithvale Community Centre, 131 Finch Ave. W., North York M2N 2R4**

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

Web site: www.northyorkcoinclub.ca

Contact the Club :

E-mail: info@northyorkcoinclub.ca
Phone: 416-897-6684

Member :

Ontario Numismatic Association
Royal Canadian Numismatic Association

Executive Committee

President	Bill O'Brien	Director	David Quinlan	Receptionist	Franco Farronato
1st Vice President		Director	Roger Fox	Draw Prizes.....	Bill O'Brien
2nd Vice President.....	Shawn Hamilton	Director	Vince Chiappino	Social Convenor	Bill O'Brien
Secretary	Henry Nienhuis	Junior Director		Librarian	Robert Wilson
Treasurer	Ben Boelens	Auctioneer	Bob Porter	50 th Anniversary Planning	Paul Petch
Past President	Nick Cowan	Auction Manager	Mark Argentino		416-303-4417
		Editor	Paul Petch		p.petch@rogers.com

THE BULLETIN FOR OCTOBER 2010

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome! I hope everyone has been enjoying the splendid fall weather and recent Thanksgiving festivities.

We have a full night planned for the 26th, so I hope everyone will attend. The community centre at Edithvale had its Grand Opening, but is still not in the City's possession. We have been very lucky to be booked into Mitchell Field on such short notice. We expect to be in the new Edithvale building for our November meeting for sure.

As part of the Club's Past Presidents program this month we are pleased to have Nick Cowan back as guest chair.

All members are encouraged to put together a small presentation before our May 2011 meeting. I am hoping to get four or five members monthly to show items at the following month's meeting. Don't forget we have a large number of display cases available to aid and protect your presentation.

The October meeting has Terry & Henry filling us in on the R.C.N.A. Convention from St. John. Then Henry is up again this

time with the highlights of the Edithvale opening. If any member has any numismatic item of interest please bring it to the meeting. I would like members to spend two or three minutes and briefly tell the membership a story about it.

I know I mentioned in my opening about the beautiful fall weather. How about you enjoy a drive to Stratford Coin Club's 50th anniversary show on the 24th. Or for those not as adventurous, or with bigger pocket books, Torex is in Toronto on the 23rd & 24th. Remember as well that Saturday at Torex gives you the chance to attend a Canadian Tire meeting starting at 8:00 a.m. and a meeting on collecting ancient coins at 1 p.m. However, the real action will be the 21st thru 23rd for Canadian Numismatic Company's auction at Torex.

Well, until the meeting, take care and enjoy the weather because before long we will be complaining about you know what!

Bill O'Brien

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26

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

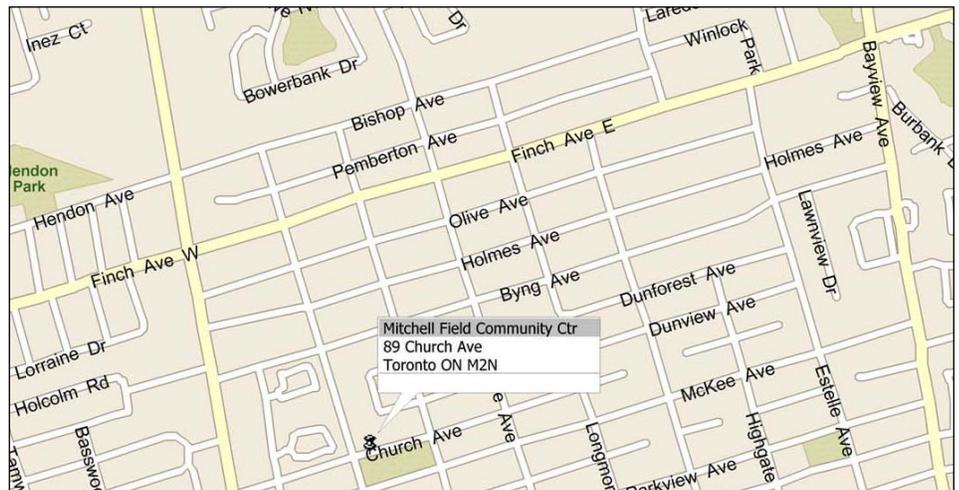
The Edithvale Community Centre is still under construction and we are once again obliged to relocate our meeting location, this time to Mitchell Field, 89 Church Ave... see the map below! After a very busy meeting last month, we are once again scheduling a report on the Royal Canadian Numismatic Association Convention held in July in Saint John, New Brunswick. We also invite member presentations at this meeting, however, we expect there will be very little space for dealer set up or displays.

We appreciate all donations to our supply of draw prize material.

Remember to bring some items for the auction!

Members are invited to pre-list their auction items in the bulletin. Send a description of your planned auction item to the editor at p.petch@rogers.com at least two weeks before the meeting.

Membership Is Important! Club Treasurer Ben Boelens reminds everyone that it isn't too early to start thinking about 2011 membership dues, still only \$10. Payment will be accepted starting at the next meeting. The operation of this club depends upon the revenues from membership dues. Cheques may be made out to the North York Coin Club and mailed to the club address shown on the masthead.



MEETING NEWS OF THE SEPTEMBER 2010 MEETING

The 557th meeting of the North York Coin Club was held on Tuesday, September 28th, 2010 at the Bayview Arena, 3230 Bayview Avenue. Our regular meeting room was not available due to construction activities at the new Edithvale Community Centre building. The Bayview arena facility, the same room that housed our May 25th meeting, was quite roomy, supplying ample meeting space for our needs.

This meeting featured our new name badges, prepared and donated to the Club by President Bill O'Brien. The badges feature the 50th anniversary logo of the club etched into a blue badge with white lettering. Thank you, Bill!

The meeting was hammered to order at 7:37 p.m. Past President, Bob Wilson, who was acting as chair for this meeting with current president Bill O'Brien at his side. In this 50th anniversary year we are trying to allow each of our Past Presidents that is available a turn at chairing a meeting. The turnout for the meeting was an impressive 28 members and 6 guests!

Our on-time attendance draw was the

first order of business; member Phillip Simms' name was drawn. Phillip was present to receive his prize of \$2. The pot will reset to \$2 for the October meeting.

Secretary, Henry Nienhuis, asked the members present if there were any errors or omissions found in the minutes of our May meeting as published in the September newsletter. No changes were identified; member Dr. Marvin Kay made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, which was seconded by member Norman G. Gordon. Motion carried.

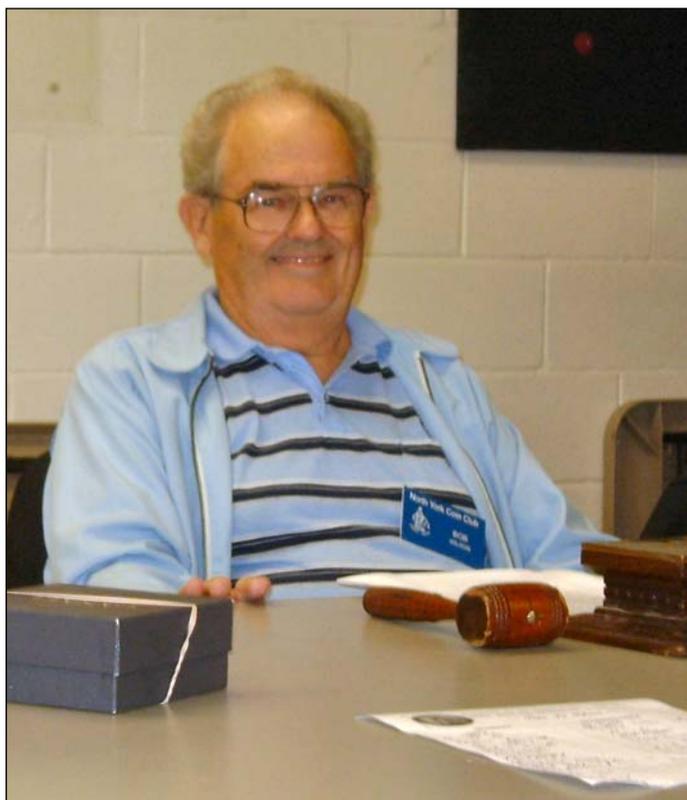
The next order of business was the Treasurer's report by Ben Boelens.

Bob Wilson opened the general business portion of the meeting by welcoming the guests present. It was great to see junior guest, Michael G (and his father Tom) attending our meeting once again. Also attending as our guests were Mick McG., Melissa M., and Myer D. Myer has a collection of Canadian decimal coins he started as a kid.

Bill O'Brien mentioned that he would very much like to see increased participation

from members in our monthly meetings, suggesting that a small display or presentation would benefit the club as well as the member involved. He pointed out that the exhibits/presentations could be informal; no more than a few minutes and could make effective use of the club's display cases. Bill would be willing to bring the cases, with prior notice, for any interested member. This would be an excellent way for our members to display some recent purchases or to give other members an idea of what they collect without a great deal of preparation. All we would need would be 3 to 4 volunteers each month. Please consider taking Bill up on his offer for one of our upcoming meetings.

The next order of business was a discussion on the topic of the North York Coin Club sponsoring the Royal Canadian Numismatic Association Convention in 2014. The last convention held in Toronto was in 2004. At the time, the North York, Toronto, Mississauga-Etobicoke and Scarborough clubs sponsored it jointly. Not only is 2014 the 10 year anniversary of the last R.C.N.A. convention in Toronto it is



Past President Bob Wilson guest-chaired the September meeting



Guest speaker was John Regitko on Special Military Scrip

also the 50th anniversary of the first R.C.N.A. convention! It seems appropriate that NYCC host the event once again. The idea received enthusiastic acceptance by the members present. Henry Nienhuis asked for a show of hands from people that would be willing to volunteer to work on the convention. The executive were pleasantly surprised as twelve people quickly raised their hands showing that were willing to participate and work for the event. The matter will be discussed further at the next executive meeting in November and a plan will be put in place to present a proposal at the R.C.N.A. executive meeting in February 2011.

Paul Petch, our 50th Anniversary Committee Chairman asked for the floor to update the membership on the status of our commemorative medal. Paul was happy to announce that the subscription for the medal was now closed. He added that we had sold 76 medals to a total of 28 purchasers. Although the original plan was to strike 100 medals Paul was able to negotiate with the Mississauga Mint to strike a quantity less then budgeted. The expected availability date will be early December . . . just in time for our Holiday banquet. Paul certainly deserves a pat on the back for his effort in making the anniversary medal a reality.

The evening's guest speaker was John Regitko. John's topic was "Special Military Scrip" that he issued to commemorate MPC (Military Payment Certificates) Fest XI, held at the Holiday Inn at Port Clinton, Ohio, from April 16 to 18. John designed and issued a number of full colour tongue-in-cheek military scrip commemorating the bi-



The Regitko scrip was all in good fun satirizing Canadian/U.S. stereotyping

centennial of Canada's invasion and subsequent occupation of the United States . . . which was renamed, according to John, the United States of Canada.

John's presentation was well received by the audience present . . . receiving many questions and points of clarification regarding the details of the invasion. We were all happy to see that John made it back alive! Apparently the scrip made a big hit at the MPC convention.

After his talk the members were invited to come up and ask questions and view the material the John brought along. John also donated material to the club and made examples of his notes available to the junior guests present.

At 9:00 pm, Bob Wilson called for the refreshment break. We thank Bill O'Brien for once again organizing the refreshments.

The last portion of the meeting was devoted to Lucky Draws and Auction. Lucky Draw winners were Mark Argentino (5), Richard Duquette, Nick Cowan, Bill O'Brien (3), Raj Makhijani (3), Henry Nienhuis, Franco Farronato, Paul Johnson (2), Mick McCready, Dick Dunn, Tony Hine, Vince Chiappino, and David Quinlan. The club earned \$48.00 through the sale of the draw tickets! The lucky draws were inter-mixed throughout the evening's auction, called by our expert auctioneer, Bob Porter, and guest runner, Nick Cowan. Mark Argentino, auction manager, reported that receipts from the auction added \$55.95 to the club's coffers, \$47.00 of which was donations to the club. The executive wishes to thank John Regitko for donating the proceeds from the sale of his Military scrip to the club.

The club executive would like to thank the 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. Special thanks go out to Bob Wilson for his efforts chairing the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:06 p.m.

As a reminder, our next meeting is October 26th, 2010, perhaps at Edithvale, perhaps at another temporary location.



President Bill O'Brien makes a point as Secretary Henry Nienhuis records

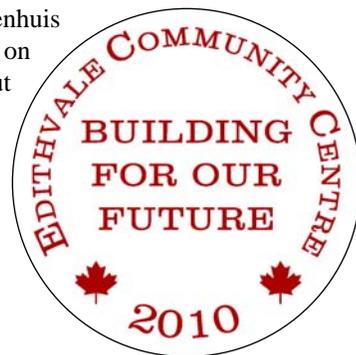


Auctioneer Bob Porter & Auction Manager Mark Argentino zero in on the fine points of an auction lot

OFFICIAL EDITHVALE COMMUNITY CENTRE OPENING CEREMONIES

PHOTOGRAPHY BY HENRY NIENHUIS

North York Coin Club members Bill O'Brien, Henry Nienhuis and Paul Petch, along with Lori Nienhuis hosted a Club information table at the official opening of the new Edithvale Community Centre on Saturday, October 16. The building was rushed into order so that the ceremonies could take place, but immediately afterwards it was returned to the construction crew for finishing touches. There were enough of the Club's Edithvale woods available so that everyone attending had a chance to get one. The Centre may be officially open, but it was learned just two days before the opening that it would not be available for use until the start of November 1, when it will be turned over to the city.



Above left, Bill O'Brien (top), and Lori Nienhuis and Paul Petch (bottom) greet visitors at the North York Coin Club table.
Above right, the Korean Choir entertains prior to the official opening ceremonies.
Below, it took a long ribbon so that everyone could participate in the cutting!



COMING EVENTS FOR FALL 2010



City Councillor John Filion — the new community centre in his ward was a personal dream



Edithvale Director Betty Fallis-Trow — an energetic leader of the new facility



A representative of ZAS Architects comments on the building's design

OCT. 23 - 24, Toronto, Torex - Canada's National Coin Show, Hilton Toronto Airport Hotel, 5975 Airport Rd. Featuring Canada's Finest Dealers. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission \$6. Under 16 free. Official Auctioneer: The Canadian Numismatic Company, Marc Verret and Eric Pacquet. The Hilton hotel is located directly across from Toronto's Pearson International Airport. For more information call 416-705-5348. Website: <http://www.torex.net>.

OCT. 24, Stratford, Stratford Coin Club's 50th Anniversary Show, Army Navy Air Force Hall, 151 Lorne Ave. East. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: \$2 adults, 16 and under free. Buy, sell coins, paper money, tokens. Lunch is available. For more information, contact Larry Walker, telephone 519-271-3352, email lswalker@cyg.net.

OCT. 29 - 31, Montreal, QC Nuphilex: Canada's Largest Coin and Stamp Show, Holiday Inn Midtown, 420 Sherbrooke West. Hours: Fri. and Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission \$3 Friday and Saturday, Sunday free. More than 74 dealer tables of coins, stamps, paper money, tokens, military medals, jewelry and watches will be showcased. Come buy, sell, trade or appraise your valuables. Coin auction conducted by Lower Canada Auction, Friday and Saturday at 6:30 p.m., in the Gouverneur Room. For more information contact Gabriel, telephone 514-842-4411, or email nuphilex@bellnet.ca. Website: <http://www.nuphilex.com>.

OCT. 30, Guelph, South Wellington Coin Society Fall Show, Colonel John McCrea Legion 919 York Rd. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., 50 dealer tables, free parking, fully accessible, large display area, hot meals, free gold coin draw, and selling half dollars for 49 cents. For more information contact Lowell Wierstra, 8 Smart St Guelph ON, 519-824-6534, email lwierstra@sympatico.ca.

NOV. 6, Scarborough, 14th Annual Scarborough Coin Club Show, Cedarbrook Community Centre 91 Eastpark Blvd. Hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We are at the location where our club meets. Coins, paper money, tokens, medals, club table, etc. Free admission and draws, refreshments available. Tables still available, contact Dick Dunn, email cpms@idirect.com. or PO Box 562, Pickering, ON, L1V 2R7.

NOV. 13 - 14, Cambridge, TL Coin Show, Cambridge Hotel & Conference Centre, 700 Hespeler Road. Hours Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sun. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission adults \$4, seniors/students \$2, young collectors 12 and under free. Draw for gold coin. For information contact Linda Robinson, telephone 289-235-9288, email lindarobinson@cogeco.ca, or Tom Kennedy, telephone 519-271-8825. Website: <http://www.tlcoinshow.com>.

NOV. 14, Windsor, Windsor Coin Club Annual Fall Show, Caboto Club, 2175 Parent Ave. Admission of \$1 (juniors free) includes hourly door prize draw and grand prize. Plenty of free parking. For information contact M. Clarke, telephone 519-735-0727, email mclarke@wincom.net.

NOV. 20, Niagara Falls, Niagara Falls Coin Club Show, Our Lady of Peace Hall, 6944 Stanley Ave. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free parking, admission \$2. Free gold coin draw, coins, tokens, jewellery, paper money, medals, and more. For more information contact 905-227-3534.

DEC. 5, Woodstock, Woodstock Toy And Collectibles Show And Sale, Auditorium and Mutual/Market Buildings, Woodstock Fairgrounds, 875 Nellis Street. Hours: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission \$3, children under age 12 free when accompanied by an adult. More than 210 vendor tables. For more information, contact Ian Ward at 519-426-8875, Monday to Friday before 8 p.m., email: toyshow@kwic.com.

DEC. 5, Windsor, Essex County 6th Coin Show and Sale, Fogolar Furlan 1800 EC Row AveE. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Excellent selection of United States and Canadian coins, paper money, merchant tokens, bank notes, bullion, coin supplies, mint products. Co-Sponsored by Canadian Diabetes Association. Admission by free-will donation to the Canadian Diabetes Association. Dan Jones club president, telephone 1-519-733-6296.

DEC. 11, Brampton, Brampton Coin Show, Century Gardens Recreation Centre, 340 Vodden Rd. E. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission: \$3, under 14 free. Buy, sell, trade and appraise at more than 40 tables of dealers, featuring coins, medals, tokens, paper money, trade dollars, militaria. Children's table. Free parking. For more information contact B&W Coins & Tokens, Willard Burton, telephone 905-450-2870, email b_and_w@sympatico.ca.

Listings are courtesy of Canadian Coin News Coming Events

FROM 100 YEARS AGO: THE BREADTH OF NUMISMATICS

by Burton H. Saxton

*Entered in the W. F. Dunham
Prize Manuscript Competition
and printed in the
December 1910 Numismatist*

The study of the world's coinage, a subject old enough to have had its beginnings twenty-six centuries ago; vital enough to have made itself an ever increasing factor in the subsequent origin and development of nations; varied enough to include within its boundaries history, art, religion, mythology, heraldry, metallurgy and languages; such a study as this can certainly lay claim to a wonderful breadth and to an inexhaustible richness. Not only is it broad in itself, but also because of its breadth it appeals to many tastes.

The student of history can have concrete and essential evidence of important events, vivifying his ideas of antiquity, from the time of ancient Hellas down through the many centuries to the present. It is difficult to realize the stretch of time between the founding of Athens and our own day; but once try to look ahead two thousand years and the effort brings a clearer appreciation of what has gone before.

To cite but one proof of the historical value of numismatics the reader is referred to *Cooke's Medallist History of Imperial Rome* (London 1781, two volumes), in which is traced, almost entirely with the aid of coins and medals, a connected story, illustrated by sixty-one excellent plates, of important events of every reign from that of the First Triumvirate to Constantine the Great. The research involved in the compilation of such a work must have been wide, but it shows to what extent, in one department alone, coins may be of material and unquestioned aid to the historian. Hill, in his latest work, *Historical Roman Coins*, covers, in a somewhat different way, the Roman Republic; and in an earlier book, *Historical Greek Coins*, admirably treats of the more important pieces as official documents confirming events bearing upon the life of Greece. Medieval and modern coinages also are rich in historical significance. If for no other reason than that the coinage of all ages and nations preserves a record of contemporary life in its many phases, numismatics would be accorded high rank among the sciences.

Hardly less important is the artistic value of certain series—for instance, a well-chosen

cabinet of Greek coins. The Hermes of Praxiteles, the Nike of Samothrace, the Venus de Milo and other ancient statues have inexpressibly enriched the world with their wonderful beauty; nothing in modern times has matched their perfection. But even while the marble was taking form under the chisels of these master sculptors, other artists were working over dies from which were to fall coins of silver and of gold whose exquisite beauty has never since been equalled in any age. Their importance to the student of ancient art lies chiefly in the fact that they are not copies, but unaltered originals; more nearly imperishable than the priceless statuary, they have come down to us, in many cases, almost unharmed by time, a rich heritage of a glorious age. Beauty as truly exists in the snowflake as in the mountain, and in these miniature works of art are crystallized some of the finest conceptions of beauty we have inherited from the past.

The long line of Roman first bronze is not without its rugged attractiveness, but toward the last even this disappears, and after the breaking up of the Western Empire coinage designs in general vary from the uninteresting to the ugly; throughout medieval times little improvement is seen, and only within the last three centuries do we find much artistic treatment. It is unfortunate that, as a whole, our own coinage cannot claim distinction from an artistic standpoint; though a notable exception, of dignity and beauty, is found in certain of our recent gold coins, the eagle and double-eagle designed by Saint-Gaudens, undoubtedly the greatest sculptor of modern times.

The love of the beautiful is inherent in the human race, and to it the race owes in part its present elevation. Because of its intimate association with art in its finest forms, numismatics would retain a lasting place even if every other of its interests were entirely destroyed.

To what extent the earliest Greek and Roman coins were invested with a religious significance cannot definitely be stated. That such influence was present in later times, however, is certain. It has been argued by some writers that coinage was intrinsically a sacred institution, owing its invention to the priesthood; but there is little or nothing tangible upon which to base this theory. The mint at Athens was, in all probability, located

in the shrine of Theseus, but it is not certain that this was its original home. The Roman mint was established in the temple of Juno Moneta in 268 B. C., when silver was first struck in Rome; but evidently there was no prior connection between their coinage and their religion. The more reasonable theory would seem that such association would emphasize the integrity of the mint.

Probably the one instance of the entire coinage of a nation having direct reference to religion is that of Judea. The issues, of silver and of copper only, cover a period of little more than two centuries, from about 144 B. C. to 70 A. D., the latter date witnessing the destruction of Jerusalem and the sweeping away of Judean nationality. The "Judea Capta" pieces of Titus bear eloquent testimony of this event. Reverting again to the Roman series, we find religious symbols forming the dominant type under the Byzantine Empire; and recognition has ever since been given, in various ways, to religion, both national and local, among the different coin issuing countries of the world.

Closely allied with the subject of religion is that of mythology; in fact, the terms are almost synonymous when consideration is given to the divine attributes of the gods. We should distinguish between the two, however, in that the term "religion" implies, in the modern acceptance, an element of worship, reverential and centralized and to a degree abstract, with a higher conception of the Supreme Being. But to the ancient Greeks the mythological deities were a concrete reality, with an ever-present material and individual influence.

Every phase of nature and of human life had ascribed to it a special and controlling deity. Zeus, or Jupiter, was one of the gods of the sky; Poseidon, or Neptune, a god of the waters; Demeter a god of the earth. Death and the underworld had their divinities, as Thanatos and Charon, and such divinities as Nike (Victory) and Eirene (Peace) presided over the moral and social aspects of life.

It is little wonder that the epic poetry of Homer immortalized these invisible beings, or that they served as the greatest inspiration in the production of art unapproachable in its beauty; or that we have, in the multitude of types of Greek and Roman coins, a remarkable

Continued next page...

ROYAL CANADIAN MINT PRESENTS PURE GOLD CARIBOU COLLECTOR COIN

The Royal Canadian Mint unveiled the smallest gold coin it has ever offered late in July of 2010. Its press release announcement read:

The Royal Canadian Mint’s spirit of innovation shines bright with this all-new pure gold coin featuring the caribou design from the traditional 25-cent circulation coin.

The 25-cent coin that entered circulation in 1937 as part of a new, modern coin series was introduced to better reflect Canada’s national identity. The Arctic, as essential a theme now as then, was the inspiration for Canadian sculptor Emanuel Hahn (1881-1957) who created this enduring image of a caribou; a design that has not changed in 73 years. During his career, Emanuel Hahn created a number of Canadian coin designs, including the designs for the “Voyageur” silver dollar of 1935 and the Nova Scotian racing schooner “Bluenose” on the 10-cent circulation coin.

Crafted in 99.99% fine gold, this coin is the smallest gold coin ever offered by the Royal Canadian Mint. It’s a proud and very collectible keepsake of Canada.

- Composition: 99.99% Gold
- Size: 11 mm
- Weight: 0.5 grams
- Mintage: 15,000



THE BREADTH OF NUMISMATICS (CONTINUED) ...

exposition of one of the most vital factors in ancient civilization.

No numismatic library is complete without at least one standard work on mythology. Coins have played an important part in the study of this subject, as they have in historical research, and many are the direct references made to numismatic evidence. The collector who is ignorant of the real motives governing the selection of the god or goddess portrayed on one of his coins, and who has not felt the charm of the ancient legendary beliefs has missed a thoroughly enjoyable experience.



Photo by Jean Bradford

Burton H. Saxton
at about 80 years of age

Heraldry, as we know it today, dates from the second crusade, which began its memorable march in the year 1147. The devices borne upon the polished shields of the French knights were few, primarily chosen because of the necessity for a distinguishing emblem; but from this time on development began, though slowly and without system at first; gradually confusion gave way to order, and eventually heraldry assumed the dignity of an exact science. Its importance has been such that for centuries it has held a recognized place in the traditions of all civilized nations.

Vast and intricate as the subject is, unless the collector learns at least the rudimentary principles much of the interest of his numismatic possessions is meaningless to him. A series of English or of French silver, though rich historically, with abundant recognition given to religion, with an occasional type of much beauty, and with now and then a touch of mythology, would suffer a distinct loss if no consideration were given to the message of

heraldry. The same illustration can, with equal truth, be given general application. To neglect a study of this phase of numismatics is to narrow the generous breadth of the pursuit and to lessen by just so much the satisfaction to be derived from one’s collection.

A poor investment indeed would be a collection of coins, no matter how well selected, if its market value held the chief interest for the owner; value in the best sense takes no account of price—what one gets out of his collection rather than what he puts into it is the true measure of its worth. Full appreciation of this genuine worth can come only from comprehensive knowledge, and such knowledge cannot be gained except by comprehensive study. What we get by merely scratching the surface is only superficial; the rich veins lie deep, and the collector who is willing to dig for them is never disappointed. This is urged more as a privilege than as a duty; and the fact that a lifetime is all too short to exhaust these riches need not be a discouragement, but an inspiration.

About the Author: B.H. Saxton (b. 9/5/1876 d. 9/14/1958) was life member number 204 of the American Numismatic Association. He served as second vice president of the ANA in 1909 and first vice president in 1910. He assumed the responsibilities of editor of *The Numismatist* December 1, 1942. After two years, 1943 and 1944, he resigned as editor to be replaced by Stuart Mosher. He continued to serve as advertising manager until his death. This information is from Pete Smith’s *American Numismatic Biographies*.

THE CULTURAL PROPERTY CONFRONTATION — COMPILED FROM THE WEB BY PAUL PETCH

Did you know there is a war being fought between ancient coin collectors, museums, archeologists and governments? The source of the conflict is ownership of historic treasures by organizations or individuals outside the geographic area where the items originated. A new-found, or at least re-born, interest in the relics of the past by civilizations, cultures and nationalistic governments of today could lead to the packing up of items in our museums and collections for shipment back to the land of their origin.

Can you imagine it? Items from all over the world being shipped back to the place from which they came! Well, things are not that bad yet, but some collectors of ancient coins are besieged by threats of their collections being confiscated. One of the “generals” on the collector side is Wayne Sales, an intelligent student of numismatics and a moving force for collectors’ rights. His blog gives interesting insight into the current state of the conflict.

New Import Restrictions sought on Greek “Cultural Property”

*Posted By Wayne Sayles
on August 31, 2010*

A request from Greece asking that import restrictions be imposed on cultural property will be considered by the US State Department in October.

A Federal Register notice filed by the US State Department (DOS) on 25 August 2010 announces receipt of a request from the Greek government for import restrictions on cultural property from Greece. Despite all the previous concerns expressed about fairness, once again the period provided to collectors to make comment is rather short. Although DOS received the request on 2 July 2010, forwarding of the notice to the public was delayed for nearly eight weeks, and now the opportunity for public comment ends on 22 September 2010 – a span of only 4 weeks. This tight window to assemble arguments and publicize the issue to interested parties is increasingly typical of the State Department’s public comment policies.

A three-hour public hearing by the Cultural Property Advisory Committee (CPAC) was scheduled for 12 October 2010. Oral comments at such a hearing are typically limited to five minutes. The option to fax or e-mail comments was also eliminated.

In recent CPAC deliberations, thousands of faxes were received from coin collectors. Instead, it will now be necessary for those wishing to comment to use the online comment feature of the <http://www.regulations.gov> website. Those electronic comments will reportedly be made available for review by the public. Though a summary of the request is promised, the actual details of the request are secret. In other words, it is unlikely that DOS will announce whether coins are to be considered in this request.

It may be worth noting that coins were included in import restrictions recently imposed on cultural property from China and Cyprus. Members of the archaeological community also argued before CPAC recently that coins should be added to a renewal of the Memorandum of Agreement with Italy. That action is still pending.

**Ancient Coins: The Yin and Yang –
A Smorgasbord of Views on Cultural Property**

*Posted By Wayne Sayles
on October 18, 2010*

This week I was treated to a smorgasbord of views on cultural property from members of the archaeological and collecting communities.

On Tuesday morning, I listened with interest to the presentations of several archaeologists at the U.S. State Department’s Cultural Property Advisory Committee (CPAC) in Washington, DC. This was my fifth appearance at a CPAC hearing in as many years. In every case, the general tenor of oral comments by public presenters has reflected a dichotomy of interests—those of collectors versus those of nationalist governments (defended mainly by the archaeological community). The dividing line has always been clear, and not just in the rhetoric that is entered into the public record at these events. Even the informal assemblage of speakers prior to the event (call them gaggles, if you will) is indicative of the diverse philosophical views. I suppose it’s only natural for like-minded people to congregate, but the atmosphere is and has very much been one of “us and them.” This is not to say that either camp is overtly unfriendly, in fact the opposite is true. I think both camps try very hard to be polite and cordial in a personal sense. But camps there are, and gaggle they do.

The Collector camp is comprised mainly of collector advocacy groups. Occasionally, individual collectors, dealers or concerned citizens have appeared or have been represented by counsel. However, the lion’s share of opposition to Memorandums of Understanding these days has come from the Ancient Coin Collecting community and the Art Museum community. The former is represented by advocacy groups, like the Ancient Coin Collectors Guild (ACCG) and the American Numismatic Association (ANA), along with representatives of the numismatic trade and other non-profit organizations like Ancient Coins for Education. The latter is represented primarily by the Association of Art Museum Directors (AAMD).

The proponents of Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) are primarily the representatives of governments seeking import restrictions and the archaeological community, including its related museums—most of which are institutional. The advocacy group Saving Antiquities For Everyone (SAFE) has consistently supported import restrictions, but has not appeared before CPAC in the public sessions lately. A rather late attempt by SAFE to compile and introduce a petition in support of the MOU with Greece was apparently aborted when it failed to meet the State Department imposed deadline for public comment.

One of the most striking views that I heard during the public session was a comment from Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) president Dr. Brian Rose. In response to a question from the committee, Dr. Rose stated that he was not aware of any schism between the collector community and the archaeological community. That statement must have shocked most of those in attendance, regardless of their philosophical position. Even some eyebrows of normally stoic CPAC members showed signs of disbelief. For the past decade, the antagonism between collectors and archaeologists has grown exponentially and can hardly be unknown to the leadership of the AIA. Perhaps Dr. Rose was expressing his hope that such a schism is not insurmountable, and if that were the case I do share his sentiments.

THE CULTURAL PROPERTY CONFRONTATION (CONTINUED) ...

Hot on the heels of the public comment session came news of a post by one of the more vocal archaeo-bloggers that called American dealers and collectors “cultural property bandits: xenophobic, neo-colonialist, introverted, self centered and careless consumers.” While viewed by many as an irrational extremist, this blogger is sometimes defended and encouraged by more reputable names in the field. The blogger went on to say “I think it would save a lot of people a lot of time and angst if the USA was to simply withdraw from the 1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Cultural Property.” This is of course a preposterous and ridiculous suggestion. America enjoys the largest legitimate market for cultural property in the world and clearly has a responsibility to maintain the integrity of that market. The United States legisla-

ture worked hard and long (13 years in fact) to craft a law that serves the interests of the international community regarding the protection of cultural property. That law, the Convention on Cultural Property Implementation Act (variously CPIA or CCPIA), is also designed to protect the interests of American citizens and businesses that are equally a part of the international community. The collector community opposition to recent Memorandums of Understanding is predicated on what we see as a failure of the Executive Branch of the U.S. Government to implement the law as enacted and intended. That opposition does not in any way reflect a disdain for the law, nor for the original intent of the UNESCO resolution. Hopefully, the drift away from that original intent can be corrected to allow for a return to cooperative and inclusive efforts rather than a further schism.

The huge gulf between the statement of Dr. Rose and the statement of the blogger referred to above represents a sort of Yin and Yang of views within the field of archaeology. There are similar polarities within the collecting world. In both cases, rationality and balance seem to be nurtured by moderation. As I said in my closing remarks to CPAC, “The general interest of the international community is best served by inclusive cultural policies. We should be working together—stewardship should include the private sector.” By that, I simply mean that private collecting and independent scholarship are in the general interests of the international community and should, in light of demonstrated expertise, experience and dedication, be fully partnered with governments and institutions in preservation of the past.

This issue will be with us for some time and it is worthy of the attention of all coin collectors to monitor it and see how it plays out.

CANADIAN COIN OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS FOR 2010

About the middle of October, 2010 Krause Publications announced the nominations for the 2011 Coin of the Year (COTY) awards. COTY awards are made in 10 categories and the overall winner announced from the winners of each category. Krause also holds a People’s Choice poll at www.numismaster.com. Voting for the People’s Choice will begin later this year.

Winners will be announced in January 2011 at the World Money Fair in Berlin, Germany.

The following are the Canadian 2009 coin nominees as published by Krause:

- Most Historically Significant Coin**
- Best Contemporary Event Coin**
- Best Trade Coin**
- Most Innovative Coin**

No Canadian nominations

Best Gold Coin

Royal Canadian Mint – 2,500 Dollars, Modern Canada, KM# 902

Best Silver Coin

Royal Canadian Mint – 20 Dollars, Crystal Snowflake, KM # 944

Best Crown Coin

Royal Canadian Mint – 15 Dollars, Silver, George VI, KM # 922

Most Popular Coin

Royal Canadian Mint – 50 Cents, Silver, Lenticular, Montreal Canadiens Hockey, KM # 847

Most Artistic Coin

Royal Canadian Mint – 300 Dollar, Gold, Summer Moon Mask, KM # 877



George VI Vignette

Most Inspirational Coin

Royal Canadian Mint – 50 Cents, Copper-Nickel, Six-String Nation Guitar, KM#887



Modern Canada



Six-String Nation Guitar

A HISTORY OF THE NORTH YORK COIN CLUB

BY HENRY NIENHUIS

Boom and Bust

Along with the successes the North York Coin Club enjoyed in its formative years came disappointments as well. Paralleling the club's success, the numismatic hobby as a whole expanded substantially during the early 1960s. One reason for the popularity the hobby enjoyed was a growing trend of non-collecting speculators entering the hobby. During the January 1965 club meeting, the newly elected president, Mrs. Louise Graham, led a discussion about the popularity of numismatics and the growing speculation.

A significant trend indicator was the expanding international speculation in silver that was driving popularity of the collector, 'proof-like' sets (containing 1.1089 ounces of silver) produced by the Royal Canadian Mint. In 1964, these sets sold for C\$3.00, which was \$1.09 (or 30%) over face value. The mint had almost tripled production of the set from 673,006 in 1963 (which already had tripled the previous production in 1962) to 1,653,162 for 1964 in an attempt to meet the exponential demand. At the same time, the sale of silver reserves by the United States treasury held the bullion price of silver at US\$1.29 an ounce. Market speculators, expecting the US would soon let the price of silver float on the open market, flocked to the sets forcing the after-market price above \$12.00 per set.

This speculation culminated in the planned mintage for 1965 mint sets selling out on January 1, the day sales opened; even with restrictions on the number of sets that could be ordered by an individual and a price increase to \$4.00 per set. The unprecedented early sell-out led to a debate in the House of Commons, contributed to by the Honourable John Diefenbaker, resulting in the government increasing the mintage to meet demand! The Honourable Walter L. Gordon, Minister of Finance, in a press release dated February 1, 1965 stated, "We shall keep presses running on the 1965 sets for just as long as may be necessary to meet requirements." At the end, these requirements meant that 2,904,352 proof-like sets were produced, a record which has never been approached since.

As history has revealed time and time again, unbridled speculation results in a 'bubble' that will inevitably burst! The 'proof-like' set bubble burst in late 1965 to early 1966 and the numismatic market suffered a widespread crash causing a depression that which spread throughout the hobby as a whole. The crash caused an overall decline in participation in organized numismatics, and unfortunately, the North York was no exception; the club's momentum began to falter.

The NYCC Bulletin for November 1965 published the names of what was described as a "Strong and Firm Executive" committee acclaimed for 1966. Among the executive members were- Mr. Martin Stocker, President; Mr. Paul R. Petch, Secretary; and Mr. Roger A. Fox, Editor. President-elect, Martin Stocker, introduced the featured speaker for the November meeting, Dr. Marvin Kay, secretary of the Toronto Coin Club. Dr. Kay's talk was a based on his topical collection "Medical Numismatics" which he had started two years previously.

Unfortunately, the club was struck by tragedy at the outset of 1966 with the report of Martin Stocker's sudden death forcing Lionel M. Affleck, the 1st Vice President, to assume the presidency at the general meeting in January. In April the club mourned one of the original charter members as Mrs. Louise Graham announced the death of Elizabeth Wynn Wood, sculptress and wife of the late Emanuel Hahn.

The lethargy stemming from the numismatic depression began to affect the club as early as March of that year. A plea for member participation was published in the Bulletin for the first time in the club's history. The once very popular annual coin show and sale was postponed from March to September 10th. The lack of participation and the

dropping attendance resulted in yet another, more detailed, plea published in the November Bulletin by the newly appointed editor, Paul Petch. This lethargy became more prevalent in 1967; an even more urgent plea published in the June issue of the Bulletin expressed concern that the club might fail due to the significant drop in meeting attendance and the cancellation of the annual show and auction.

Paul Petch stepped down from the Editor position in February 1968 and Roger Fox quickly stepped in for the March issue. His closing statement of "going into a kind of retirement" was anything but true, the real reason being a need to devote full attention to his professional career. Paul relocated from North York and attended very few meetings until returning with a young son in the late 1980s.

The executive initiated special "Coin Carnival" meetings in an attempt to bolster membership. It was hoped that members who were not able to attend the regularly scheduled meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the month might attend these secondary meetings scheduled on the second Saturday of the winter months. The first of the extra meetings is held on February 8th, 1969 starting a 1:30 to 5:00. The event was very successful; 40 people turned out including three new membership applications. The second Saturday meeting continued the success streak, however, attendance fell off sharply at the third meeting; which was primarily blamed on poor member participation. No further carnivals were held.

Returning editor Roger Fox published a special report issued by the executive in the May Bulletin indicating that the club was in severe financial distress. Its total cash assets amounted to a mere \$53.83. Once again they appealed to the members to help the club by volunteering to participate. By November, 1969, the club was on the precipice of disaster; little interest was expressed by the members to run for executive roles; the club was essentially bankrupt, with the treasury not holding enough money to pay for a December meeting. Members were urged, possibly for the last time, by the Bulletin editor, to attend the November meeting, which would be



A HISTORY OF THE NORTH YORK COIN CLUB (CONTINUED) ...

crucial to the club’s future! Reprieve came during this meeting, due largely to the stirring efforts of club director Fred C. Jewett, when a “tremendous amount of enthusiasm” was generated. The club’s future existence was put to a vote, the unanimous result was for the club to continue with the current executive extending their term into 1970. At that meeting one of the original charter members, Mr. R. Blake Graham, re-joined club.

Recovery

As the new decade opened it was clear that the NYCC had successfully weathered the great numismatic depression of the late-1960s. Many clubs unfortunately did not survive the spiralling membership drop-off, lack of interest and rising operating costs. Through the determination of its club members and executive the NYCC managed to survive into its 11th year, celebrating its 10th anniversary meeting in February 1970. The following year saw the resumption of the club’s once popular annual coin show and sale on March 20, 1971.

Beginning with the 1973 executive term the Bulletin fell under the guidance of the new editor, Stanley Clute who expanded the format of the Bulletin to a multi-page publication including photographs, numismatic fact snippets and select articles. In 1975, when Clute became club president, Ted Banning took over as editor. Banning continued to expand on the numismatic articles reprinted in the Bulletin.

With the renewed interest of the mid-1970s the club’s membership began to expand once again. In January of 1975 the club was pleased to accept the future numismatic columnist and lawyer, Robert Aaron as a member. This was actually Aaron’s second time as a member. He had previously joined the club in November of 1970 after being a special guest speaker at the October meeting but allowed that membership to lapse.

February 25, 1975 saw another milestone in the club’s history. It celebrated its 15th anniversary by issuing a novelty note to celebrate this major event. The main vignette of the note featured a pair of beavers that were searching through a bag of coins; a secondary scene, to the left, depicted an ancient coiner to the left and a lady justice figure to the right.

O.N.A. Convention Host Club

The executive officially made known the North York Coin Club’s intent to host the 1976 Ontario Numismatic Association Convention at its May 1975 meeting. The success in sponsoring a convention of this size relies on a significant commitment by the members of the club to act as volunteers in many areas. This sponsorship was a strong indicator of a revitalized club! In September, Stanley Clute was identified as the O.N.A. convention bourse chairperson, with junior Tom Becket, as assistant bourse chair (Becket had declined the nomination as bourse chair position due to criticism he received because of his age). Unfortunately Stan Clute found it necessary to resign as bourse chairman at the December 18th meeting; he was replaced by Mrs. Graham. Member Paul Johnson acted as display chairman for the convention.

- At the annual general meeting in January 1976 the new executive assumed their roles:
- Mrs. Louise Graham - President (Acting)
 - Paul Johnson – 1st Vice President
 - Fred Jewett – 2nd Vice President
 - Lucille Colson – Secretary (a post she held since 1973)
 - Ted Banning, Harvey Farrow, Basil Latham – Directors
 - Jon Jones, Tom Beckett – Junior Directors
 - Ted Banning - Editor

Mrs. Louise Graham, acting president, declared that the club was financially healthy once again, primarily due to the proceeds of the last NYCC show and sale.

The O.N.A. convention, held at the Westbury Hotel, from May 13-16, was a great success for both the O.N.A. and the NYCC. In true NYCC fashion, the reverse of the convention medal depicted the club’s “Lady Justice” logo. This design had been used since July of 1962 on the letterhead of the Club bulletin, following its introduction on the founding medal produced earlier in 1962. Now, fourteen years later, it had its first opportunity to serve as the official public image of the NYCC.

The celebrated numismatic auction associated with the convention was catalogued by Frank Rose Enterprises. The auction featured the “Renowned McKay-Clements” collection which contained many numismatic rarities such as a 1921 50-cent thought to be from a proof-set, rare 10- and 20-dollar pattern gold pieces from British Columbia, a 1907 Trial Run token and highlighted by the first occurrence at public auction of the only known example of the 1911 pattern dollar available to collectors. Mrs. Graham reported that the pattern dollar (lot 2521) sold at the Saturday evening session for \$110,000 to buyer Douglas Robins of Corvallis, Oregon. Robins had the dollar on display at his bourse table for \$135,000 the following day.

There are a couple of little-known facts connected with the McKay-Clements sale. It was through the sale and the energy of North York Coin Club member William H. (Bill) McDonald that the J. Douglas Ferguson Historical Research Foundation was founded. A letter from the Foundation to John McKay-Clements in the front of the auction catalogue acknowledges “kindness in donating a percentage of the proceeds of the sale to the Foundation.” This was the “seed” money that got this Foundation, so instrumental in the publication of key Canadian numismatic books, started. Those who know Bill personally recall hearing his story of darting through the busy traffic of Yonge Street to the Frank Rose Enterprises Ltd. offices with the 1911 dollar in his pocket! A number of early NYCC members have the hard-bound version of the catalogue.



*Up next:
The Junior Rights Controversy*

HOARD OF AMERICAN GOLD DOUBLE-EAGLES DUG UP IN HACKNEY, GREATER LONDON, UK

BY DANIEL PETT

On October 18, 2010 at St Pancras Coroner's Court, an inquest was opened into the discovery of a hoard of American gold dollar coins found in Hackney, which are currently being examined in the Museum of London. The inquest will determine whether the hoard qualifies as Treasure. This is an interesting case, because the coins are less than 300 years old, so for them to qualify as Treasure they need to meet the following criteria:

1. Made of gold or silver
2. Deliberately concealed by the owner with a view to later recovery
3. The owner, or his or her present heirs or successors, must be unknown

The inquest has been adjourned and is due to be at the Poplar Coroner's Court on the 8th of February 2011.

The public will be able to view these coins in the British Museum from Tuesday 19th October, in gallery 41. Anyone with any information about the original owners of the coins, their heirs or successors, should provide this to the Treasure Registrar, the British Museum. The Museum will require evidence about how, when, where and why the coins were concealed and evidence upon which they can be sure of the ownership by any potential claimant.

There is no penalty for mistaken claims made in good faith but any false claims may be reported to the police for consideration of charges of perverting the course of justice, or other offences of dishonesty.

The hoard contains 80 coins, minted in the United States between 1854 and 1913. They are all \$20 denominations of the type known as 'Double-Eagle.' The find is totally unprecedented in the United Kingdom.

The coins were reported to Kate Sumnall, Finds Liaison Officer for the Portable Antiquities Scheme, and are currently on show in the Museum of London. The coins will qualify as 'Treasure' under the terms of the Treasure Act 1996 and thus the property of the Crown, if the coroner finds that they have been buried with the intent of future recovery. However if the original owner or his or



The 80 coins are all gold 20-dollar pieces of the United States, issued between 1854 and 1913. The coins are thus all the same denomination, introduced in this form in 1850, and were struck to the same standard, 90% gold, used from 1837 until the end of US gold coinage in 1933. The catalogue shows that the coins gradually increase in number across the decades from 1870 to 1909 (13 coins from 1870-9; 14 from 1880-89; 18 from 1890-99; and 25 from 1900-9). Over a quarter of the total were issued in the last 6 six years represented. Together these factors suggest that the material began to be put aside during this later period, rather than being built up systematically across a range of time represented. The main element among this latest material are the 17 coins dating to 1908, which suggests that a single batch of coins from that year might have formed the core for the group.

her heirs are able to establish their title to the coins, this will override the Crown's claim.

Hackney Museum has expressed an interest in acquiring the coins, which would then be valued by the Treasure Valuation Committee at their full market value. Hackney Museum would then have up to four months to raise the money to pay for the hoard, and this sum would be divided between the owner of the land and the finder.

The Hoard Population

Date	Mint	Total
1854	San Francisco	1
1867	San Francisco	1
1870	San Francisco	1
1875	Carson City	1
1875	San Francisco	1
1876	San Francisco	5
1876	Philadelphia	2
1877	San Francisco	2
1877	Philadelphia	1
1881	San Francisco	1
1882	San Francisco	2
1883	San Francisco	3
1884	San Francisco	2
1885	San Francisco	1
1888	San Francisco	4
1889	San Francisco	1
1890	Philadelphia	1
1891	San Francisco	1
1893	San Francisco	1
1894	San Francisco	4
1896	San Francisco	3
1898	San Francisco	4
1899	San Francisco	4
1900	San Francisco	2
1901	San Francisco	3
1902	San Francisco	2
1905	San Francisco	2
1907	Philadelphia	1
1908	Philadelphia	17
1909	Philadelphia	1
1910	Philadelphia	1
1913	Philadelphia	3
1913	Denver	1

This article was published on the Portable Antiquities Scheme website. This is a voluntary scheme to record archaeological objects found by members of the public in England and Wales. Every year many thousands of objects are discovered, many of these by metal-detector users, but also by people while out walking, gardening or going about their daily work. Such discoveries offer an important source for understanding our past.

The Treasure Act of 1996 prescribes that all finders of gold and silver objects, and groups of coins from the same find spot, which are over 300 years old, have a legal obligation to report such items. Now prehistoric base-metal assemblages found after 1st January 2003 also qualify as Treasure. Their website provides further information for finders of potential treasure, background information on the Portable Antiquities Scheme, news articles, events listings and access to a database of objects and images at <http://finds.org.uk>.