



North York Coin Club

Founded 1960

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

MAIL ADDRESS: NORTH YORK COIN CLUB,
3888 Duke of York Boulevard PH34, Mississauga, ON L5B 4P5

Web site: www.northyorkcoinclub.com

Contact the Club :

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

Member :

Ontario Numismatic Association
Royal Canadian Numismatic Association

PresidentBill O'Brien
1st Vice PresidentHenry Nienhuis
2nd Vice President.....
SecretaryHenry Nienhuis
TreasurerBen Boelens
Past PresidentNick Cowan

Executive Committee

DirectorRoger Fox
DirectorPaul Johnson
DirectorAndrew Silver
Junior Director
AuctioneerDick Dunn

Auction Manager.....Paul Johnson
EditorPaul Petch
ReceptionistFranco Farronato
Draw PrizesBill O'Brien
Social ConvenorBill O'Brien

THE BULLETIN FOR JUNE 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Good day fellow members and all the numismatists that receive the North York Coin Club's monthly bulletin. The calendar is telling us that summer will soon be upon us, but the temperatures sure do not reflect that fact. It's below seasonal here in the city so far this spring but maybe we can make it up in the fall; sounds like a plan.

Here Comes the Convention

It's also time to finalize your vacation schedule for this year and if you haven't circled August 7-11 yet then stop reading now and go and find a calendar and circle those days. The Royal Canadian Numismatic Association is having their yearly convention nearby this year, at the Hilton Meadowvale in Mississauga.

To summarize, the event is five days long with exciting tours, a two-day educational symposium, two extensive auction sessions plus the Canada Money Collector Show, which is the largest three-day bourse in the country.

Now the tough part of this job and that is motivating you, the members of the NYCC, to help the R.C.N.A. with this endeavour. The NYCC is the host club for this convention and it is our job, no our duty as a club, to step up and do what we have committed to do, provide volunteers to help the convention run smoothly and efficiently. That's it. Simple isn't it? Just volunteer a few hours of your time during the above-mentioned dates and help the club on this project. Oh, did I forget to tell you that a successful convention will provide the club with some revenue as the club and the

R.C.N.A. share in the profits, so it is a good opportunity for the club to add to our treasury.

For those interested in volunteering for the convention, let Mark Argentino know as he is compiling a list of volunteers and will be making a schedule so that we always have someone manning the registration/admission desk. I will also be collecting names of volunteers who want to contribute something beyond the time at the desk so don't be shy and get with your fellow club members and R.C.N.A. members and participate in this great event.

CAFNE Fund Raising

One last item about the convention and that is during the June meeting I will be asking the club to donate some money to numismatic education in Canada, the way we did last year. Two American numismatists will be proving matching money for everything we donate in an exponential amount. If we donate \$1.00 to CAFNE, the educational arm of the R.C.N.A., these two individuals will donate \$4.00 USD. What a generous pair. We would be crazy to not to invest some of the club's money to promote this worthwhile cause. Please attend and vote your support at the meeting. Now for some news closer on the calendar.

June Meeting Speaker

We are very fortunate to have a club member speaking in June, so that is another reason to come out. Ben Boelens will be giving us a interesting presentation about his

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY, JUNE 19

THAT'S ONE WEEK EARLY!

We start gathering in the
**Banquet Room on the first floor of the
Edithvale Community Centre
at 7:00 p.m. with meeting start
scheduled for 7:30 p.m.**

For the June meeting we have Ben Boelens returning after five months of travel. Ben will be talking about the numismatic aspects of his trip and some of the items he brought home with him.

Also remember to bring along your recent finds or special treasures to share with us during the show and tell!

Please remember to bring your auction lots so we can have a really fine auction at this meeting. Also, we appreciate all donations to our supply of draw prize material.

world travels over the last few months and talking about some of his numismatic acquisitions. The club has speakers lined up until the fall but as a member it is a great chance to showcase your talents with a presentation to the club. See me at the next meeting and book your spot.

Calling for Dues

The club's treasurer has sadly reported that we have about ten delinquent members who have not paid their dues for 2018. This month is the final call for 2018 dues. I don't understand why the club must chase people for ten dollars. Do these members think that they are not getting their money's worth, so don't pay up? I'm only thinking out loud.

NEWS OF THE MAY 2018 MEETING

The 644th meeting of the North York Coin Club was held on Tuesday, May 22, 2018 in the 1st floor Banquet Room at the Edithvale Community Centre. It was hammered to order at 7:30 p.m. with our President, Bill O'Brien, in the chair and 20 members and 4 guests in attendance.

The first order of business was the on-time attendance draw. Member Norm Belsten was present when his name was drawn to receive the draw prize of \$10.00. The draw will reset to \$5.00 for the June 19th meeting.

Bill asked the members present if they had noticed any errors or omissions in the minutes of the April meeting as published in the May newsletter. With no changes noted, Phillip Simms made a motion to accept the minutes, which was seconded by Linda McQuade-Simms. Motion carried.

With the absence of our treasurer Ben Boelens, Bill O'Brien briefly reported the club's cash assets.

Tonight was a very special evening. We honoured one of our long-timers, Bob (Bernard) Velensky, with a lifetime membership for his continued 25-years of membership. Bob also celebrated his 90th birthday recently, on April 19, and as a special surprise his son Robert and Bob's wife, Gwen, brought along a large selection of appetizers! Bill presented Bob with a certificate and an engraved medal; and everyone present thanked Robert and Gwen for bringing along the great food. In addition, we took a moment to assemble six lifetime members who were present at the meeting to capture a photographic memory for the club.

Our guest speaker for the evening was Chris Poissant; his topic was *US Fractional Currency*. US fractional Currency are paper notes of low denomination (less than one-dollar) that was issued by the federal

government in response to a lack of coinage caused by hoarding at the outbreak of the American civil war. There were five series of notes issued between 1862 and 1876. The notes, colloquially *Shinplasters*, were issued in denominations of 3-, 5-, 10-, 15-, 25- and 50-cents. Chris spoke very knowledgeably about his selected topic, relating it to the major historical and economical events of the time period, namely that of the American Civil War (1861–1865).

Bill presented Chris with a certificate of appreciation as small token of how much we enjoyed his talk.

Phillip Simms took a moment to update everyone on the Mentorship program that he administers for the club.

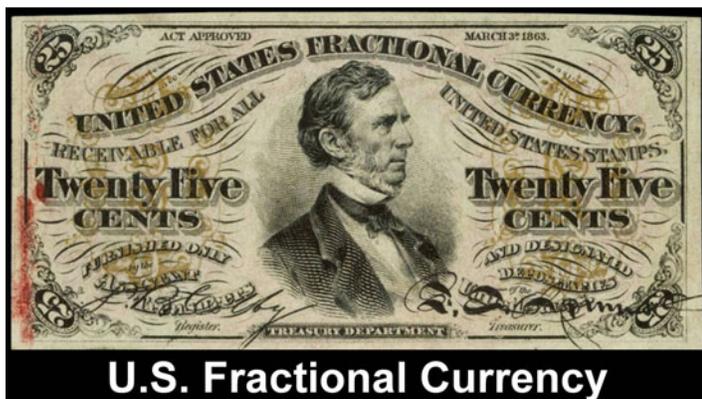
A short refreshment break was called from 8:37–8:47 p.m.

We resumed the meeting with our regular auction and our customary lucky draw. Lucky draw numbers were called at various times while the auction took place. Lucky draw winners for the evening were: Richard Duquette, David Bawcutt, Mike V. (5), Henry Nienhuis (2), and Tony Hine. The club earned \$26.00 through the sale of the draw tickets! Our auction manager, Paul Johnson, reported that receipts from the auction added \$43.50, including \$9.00 in donations, to the club coffers. We thank Dick Dunn, our auctioneer, Jared Stapleton, who volunteered as runner, and Paul Johnson, our auction manger, for their help with the auction.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

The club executive would like to thank members for supporting the club through the purchase of draw tickets and draw prize donations. We would like to thank Marvin Kay, MD for his kind donations and support. Please consider supporting your club through a donation of numismatic material or other items. (Don't forget to mention your donations to the club secretary so that your support can be recognized in the minutes and newsletter.)

Our next regular meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 19, in the 1st floor Banquet room of the Edithvale Community Centre.



First Issue – Postage Currency

August 2, 1862 – May 27, 1863

Denominations: 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, 50¢

- first series had depictions of postage stamps for each note
- initially notes had perforated edges (emulating postage stamps)



Our guest speaker for the May 22 meeting was member Chris Poissant with his subject "An Introduction to U.S. Fractional Currency." At the conclusion of his talk the President presented Chris (left) with a Certificate of Appreciation



President Bill O'Brien (left) declared Bob Velensky a Life Member of the club and presented him with both a framed Life Member certificate and an engraved North York Life Member medal. The certificate features the image of a gold membership card showing Bob as Life Member 33 of the club. While Bob has never served on the club executive, he is now in his 25th year of faithful and continuous membership, having joined in 1994.



*Club members very much enjoyed special refreshments as a part of the Velensky celebration. The club extends its gratitude to Bob's son, Robert, for arranging for the refreshments.
Happy 90th Birthday, Bob!*



Life Members of the club that were able to be in attendance for the meeting were (from left) Jim Heifetz (LM29), Paul Johnson (LM17), Marvin Kay (LM30), Bob Velensky (LM33), Norm Belsten (LM19) and Roger Fox (LM7), now the longest surviving life member.

The first Life Member of the North York Coin Club was Louise Graham.

Missing from the photo are Paul Petch (LM8), Carl Anderson (LM16), Russell Brown (LM18), John Regitko (LM20), Leon Saraga (LM23), Dick Dunn (LM25), Mirko Kosic (LM27), Ron Zelk (LM28), Glen Williams (LM31) and Norman G. Gordon (LM32).

President's Message ... continued from page 1

Surplus For Sale

The club's executive has also decided to sell all the old style wooden display cases that the club owns. We have around ten cases and they will be sold, first come first served, for \$25.00 with no limits on purchases. A very limited supply of duplicate medals related to some historic club events will also be available for sale. And finally, surplus library material will be given away at the coin show or used for club raffle prizes or auction material.

Odds 'n Ends

The club still has some Canada 150 medals for sale and a sample will be available for viewing at the meeting. If you missed your chance to purchase the club-sponsored medal last year this is your last chance to obtain one. The selling price is \$15.00.

Please read the bulletin very closely the next few months as the club's meeting night is changing for July and we don't have a

meeting scheduled for August. The July meeting is on the 4th Wednesday of the month, which is on the 25th. The August meeting will not take place due to the R.C.N.A. convention mentioned above.

The show schedule is somewhat quiet the next few months in the GTA with the Torex show on June 23-24 and then the R.C.N.A. convention in August. Check the Coming Events for the full show schedule and our web site to double-check our meeting dates over the next few months as well.

That's a wrap for me so please enjoy the summer weather and outdoors over the next few months and don't forget the R.C.N.A. show in August. We still need some volunteers for that event so add your name to the list and help your fellow club members with this endeavour.

Bill O'Brien

COIN BOOKS IN THE INTERNET AGE

by Andrew Reinhard ANS Director of Publications
From the online blog of the American Numismatic Society

If you are interested in accessing numismatic information on the Internet as you do research then Open Access is good news for you. The American Numismatic Society has embraced Open Access and you need to know what is available.

Why the American Numismatic Society is Open Access

Academic and scholarly publication is at a crossroads as publishers, authors, and institutions of research and higher learning consider both the financial and ‘moral’ implications of publishing new scholarship as Open Access. The American Numismatic Society (ANS) has adopted what some would consider a progressive approach, while others would find these points to simply be common sense and good manners. As you read the points below, I challenge you to formulate arguments against each one that does not include money. Profit and loss in academic publishing is a very real concern, but it can be demonstrated (and has been in my nine years of experience as an academic publisher) that publishing niche scholarship is (and likely always will be) a money-losing venture. Publication is often built into the mission statements of learned societies, and funding needs to be sought from sources beyond book sales and journal subscriptions to keep the publishing enterprise sustainable.

The ANS has addressed each of the following problems in its efforts to make published research open without taking a hit financially.

Gold Open Access

One method some publishers use to offset production costs is to charge those authors (or their institutions) who wish to make their research freely available online immediately upon publication instead of waiting some contractually agreed amount of time before being given permission to post the work the web or via a university repository. These costs often range from the hundreds into the low thousands of dollars (e.g., Maney Publishing’s “Article Publishing Charge” (APC) for immediate Open Access publication). Charging authors for Open Access creates an economic barrier to scholars, some of whom cannot afford the fee, and whose institutions may not have budgeted for such costs. Unaffiliated and independent scholars are especially affected by these fees, which they have to pay out-of-pocket and may even require securing a loan.

At the ANS it is our opinion that authors (and their institutions) should never be charged to make their own research available to the world immediately upon publication.

Embargo Periods

Going hand-in-glove with “gold” Open Access is the common practice of an embargo period, which is the time (anywhere from one to five years in most cases) between when research is published and when an author can make that work freely available. The point of the embargo period is to allow the publisher to recover the production costs of that publication prior to making it available as Open Access. Authors are forbidden to post more than a citation or abstract, and their work is often locked behind a paywall until the embargo expires. Timely research becomes less so as long as the embargo period lasts, except to those readers who opt for early access. Scholars who wish to access that author’s work must either pay to access the publication, wait until the embargo ends, ask the author for a PDF offprint (which is normally forbidden) or their login credentials to a paywalled platform (even more forbidden). As with file-sharing of other media, many people tend to look for the free version of something they would otherwise have to pay for, thereby short-circuiting the embargo period and the paywall, which nets both the publisher and paywall provider nothing, i.e., the same amount they would make by giving away the published work.

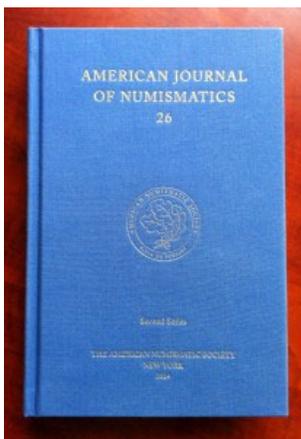


At the ANS authors of ANS publications may place their published work wherever they like upon publication, and may assign to it whichever Creative Commons license that they are the most comfortable using. A brief word on the types of Creative Commons licenses follows below.

Paywalls

As stated above regarding embargos on published research, paywalls do little to discourage the exchange of files between colleagues, and also place a barrier in the way of scientific progress. Platforms such as JSTOR can strike a happy medium in curating content into packages to which institutional libraries may subscribe, thereby providing a revenue stream for publishers. That same content can be shared with individuals on a non-commercial basis provided the publisher has successfully negotiated a content-sharing agreement.

At the ANS we have an agreement with JSTOR, and are making some of its publications available on that platform for library subscribers, while also making those same publications available for free to individuals via the Hathi Trust Digital Library and with our own Digital Library.



ANS, 1916.192.368



Permissions Charges

Most academic publishers ask the authors to pay for their own image permissions. The publishers cannot themselves afford to pay the fees, so the charges get passed to the author. For many authors, however, many of their images can be used without any permissions fees because of the non-commercial nature of their work. Should an institution opt to charge an author for an image, it is possible that the author will opt to find a similar image elsewhere, or will choose not to use an image at all. Either way, the rights holder receives no revenue, and also loses whatever additional exposure it would have otherwise received via a credit line in the publication. Charging authors for image permissions further limits access to content that would otherwise be freely available.

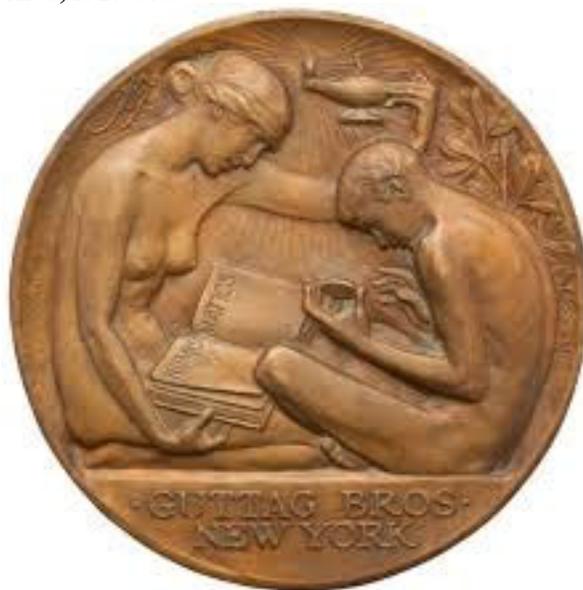
At the ANS we will not charge authors for the use of its images in non-commercial publications.

Print-Only Publishing

Arguably the biggest roadblock to Open Access research is publishing solely in print. Publishing in print restricts access to the content locked on the pages and favors those readers with library access or the ability to purchase the publication. Print editions of scholarship, while useful to many, are themselves silos of information, unable to interact with anything other than the active reader. This is the opposite of Open Access. Making print editions available online as digital editions unlocks that content, making it searchable, and perhaps more importantly, gives the content the ability to link to any other data available openly online, as well as making itself available to be linked to from other online sources.

At the ANS we will continue to produce print editions of scholarship, but it will make digital editions of all of its publications past, present, and future available online as Open Access. Doing so allows the ANS to play well with others, to be a good academic citizen, and to contribute to the work of others. By sharing publications openly, this guarantees that multiple copies will be made and circulated thereby preventing loss of that content should something happen to the original publisher.

ANS, 1927.64.5



A Word on Creative Commons Licensing

There are several varieties of Creative Commons (CC) licensing available to authors and publishers that both protect and promote content on the Internet and elsewhere. Anything published as Open Access must have a CC license attached to it, otherwise the content is not free to use. Most Open Access publications have a CC-BY (users must cite the source) or CC-BY-NC (citation required, and must be used for non-commercial purposes only). On rare occasions, the most open CC license, CC0 (content may be used for any purpose, commercial or otherwise, with or without citation) is used. The ANS's Open Access publications online are posted under a CC license, usually CC-BY or CC-BY-NC. Its publications on HathiTrust are posted as CC0. The ANS works with its authors to determine which CC license they are most comfortable with prior to posting their work online.

Conclusions:

If Open Access publication of content is not part of your institution's / society's / publisher's strategy, it should be. As authors and as consumers of content, it is within your rights to ask (and in some cases demand) that your research (or the scholarship you need) be made openly available online. Open Access does not require the cessation of the sale of that same content. Many readers still prefer to read printed books and journals, and will pay for them (or will ask their libraries to pay for them). Most readers prefer a suite of media with which to work, using print in concert with digital as they produce new scholarship. The end goal of the production of that scholarship should not be to make money, but instead to advance the humanities, arts, and sciences. The best way to do that is to make that scholarship available immediately to the world upon publication. Openly. The ANS hopes that other institutions, learned societies, and publishers will share in this approach to placing published work online without cumbersome restrictions. The Internet is genetically predisposed to facilitate such sharing, which makes it the greatest enabler of advancing our collective intellectual enterprise.

ROYAL CANADIAN MINT COIN LORE: THE COINS OF 1937 THAT NEVER WERE

Product 164563, Mintage 5,500 (2018), \$269.95

For decades, they've been a curious footnote in our history—a collection of sketches that only hint at coins that might have been. Now, thanks to this set, three unused coin concepts by Emanuel Hahn are making their first-time leap from artwork to coin! Hahn (1881-1957) was the artistic force behind two silver dollars, as well as the Bluenose and caribou images that still grace our circulation coins today. But Hahn's legacy runs deeper than even history remembers: when Canada sought to modernize its coinage in 1936, the sculptor submitted several proposed designs that have been preserved as part of the National Currency Collection. Some have been forgotten; others (such as the designs featured here) have captivated those who regard them as art

treasures buried in our history. This set of Hahn's "coins that never were" faithfully complete the sculptor's vision by interpreting his pencil sketches as proof collector coins.

Design:

Each coin features one of several designs proposed by Emanuel Hahn for new Canadian circulation coins to be issued in 1937. To remain true to the artist's vision, the Royal Canadian Mint's engravers pored over every fine detail contained in one of the few resources still available today: Hahn's sketches, which are a part of the National Currency Collection.



The first 25-cent coin design (NCC-1963.59.15.35 - Bank of Canada Archives) features a polar bear standing on an ice floe, its head turned toward the right, while the open sea is visible behind the mound. A stylistic representation of the Aurora Borealis hangs over the low horizon and stretches across the northern sky, only yielding to the Big Dipper asterism that is a common element on all three coins. The word "CANADA" is engraved at the top while the face value "25 CENTS" and the updated year "2018" are engraved over the ice.



The diamond-like stars are more prominent in the second 25-cent coin design (NCC-1963.59.15.34 - Bank of Canada Archives), which centres on a goose in flight. The side-profile view allows for the inclusion of several details, including the flight feathers along the outstretched wings. Here again, the Big Dipper adds a point of interest to the field, where the face value "25 CENTS", the year "2018" and the word "CANADA" are also engraved in the starry sky.



The five-cent coin's reverse (NCC-1963.59.15.25 - Bank of Canada Archives) has a remarkable tie to the present: it is Hahn's original caribou design, the precursor to the one now synonymous with Canada's 25-cent circulation coin. Viewed in side profile, the ungulate moves beneath the night sky, where the Big Dipper is clearly visible. The caribou's antlers reach into the legend, where the word "CANADA" is engraved alongside the year "2018"; beneath the flat landscape, an oversized "5" winds its way through the word "CENTS".

Background:

- Emanuel Hahn's caribou design can be traced back to 1934, when Hahn was invited to present a concept for Canada's first silver dollar. The caribou was well received but another idea was proposed instead; this led to Hahn's famous Voyageur design, which graced Canada's silver dollar and almost appeared on the reverse of our circulation dollar coin.
- In January 1936, the death of King George V meant that all of Canada's coins needed new obverse designs; this was the perfect opportunity to update the reverse of all but the dollar coin, too. A committee was formed and 12 Canadian artists (including Hahn) were invited to submit sketches for new circulation coins. The artists were given broad artistic freedom, although suggested themes included Canadian flora and fauna, or scenes highlighting agriculture and industry.
- Initial submissions were all rejected, including the polar bear and goose featured in this set. It seems these two images were dismissed because they did not dispel the view of Canada as a northern wilderness—a surprising decision today since the polar bear is a fixture on our two-dollar coin, and a similar-looking goose was featured on the 1967 Colville-designed dollar coin.
- When Hahn's caribou design was selected for the 25-cent coin instead of the five-cent piece, it was changed to a close-up view of the ungulate's head and antlers. The Big Dipper was also removed from the background, but not entirely: if you look closely at a 25-cent coin today, you'll notice three small stars were integrated into the legend!
- Hahn's older brother, Gustav Hahn (1866-1962), helped pioneer the Art Nouveau style in Canada. He, too, is associated with Canadian coin lore: his idea for Canada's one-cent coin was brought to life in the Royal Canadian Mint's 2017 Forgotten Designs of 1927 set.

COMING EVENTS FOR SUMMER 2018

June 17, Mississauga, Mississauga Coin & Stamp Show, 4300 Cawthra Rd. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. *Over 30 dealers & 60 dealer tables. Canadian and world coins, banknotes, stamps and supplies. Buy, sell, trade, appraise.* For more information contact Les Plonka, email leszekp@rogers.com, telephone 416-5057999. Website: <http://www.troyakclub.com>

June 23 – 24, Toronto, Torex® – Canada's National Coin Show & Auctions, Hyatt Regency on King, 370 King St. W. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission \$7. Under 16 Free! *Numismatic excellence since 1962, featuring Canada's finest dealers in Canadian, ancient, and foreign coins, paper money, coin and paper money supplies and reference books.* Official Auctioneer: The Canadian Numismatic Company. Auction viewing begins on Friday. For more information contact Brian R Smith, email brian@torex.net, telephone 416-705-5348. Website: <http://www.torex.net>

Aug. 7 – 11, Mississauga, RCNA 2018 Convention, Hilton Mississauga / Meadowvale, 6750 Mississauga Rd. For full details, visit the Royal Canadian Numismatic Association's website. For more information contact Bill O'Brien, email wsobcoins@hotmail.com, telephone 1-416-897-6684. Website: <http://www.rcna.ca/2018>

Aug. 12, Paris, Paris Coin Show & Auction, Paris Fairgrounds, 139 Silver St. Hours 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$4 Admission includes draw tick for a Gold Coin. It's Canada's Best 1 day Coin and Collectables show! Over 50 tables of coins, paper money, military & more. We have 35 dealers to buy, sell & appraise. Hot & cold food and drinks are available. In conjunction with the show, attend the live Geoffrey Bell Auction Saturday Aug. 11 Grand Ballroom, Hampton Inn & Suite, 20 Fen Ridge Ct., Brantford. Viewing 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Live auction at 5 p.m. For more information contact Jared Stapleton, email pariscoinshow@gmail.com

Sept. 8 – 9, Mississauga, National Postage Stamp and Coin Show, Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale, 6750 Mississauga Road. Hours: Sat 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. *The show will feature stamp and coin dealers from across Canada, who are selling, buying and appraising all kinds of philatelic and numismatic materials.* Admission is only \$3 on Saturday and FREE on Sunday. Parking is also free. Special room rate available at the hotel. Check out our website for show updates and list of dealers. For more information contact Mike Walsh, email info@trajan.ca, telephone 800-408-0352x228. Website: <http://www.stampandcoinshow.com>

Sept. 16, London, London Numismatic Society Coin Show, Ramada Inn, 817 Exeter Road, (off Hwy 401) 26th Annual show. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission \$2, under 12 free. *Displays and dealers for coins, metals, banknotes and tokens.* For more information contact Lorne Barnes, email lwain5@gmail.com, telephone 519-643-6541.

Sept. 22, Guelph, Guelph Fall Coin Show, Colonel John McCrae Legion Branch 234, 57 Watson Pkwy. S. Hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Not just FREE admission to Guelph show, each attendee will receive a coupon for FREE admission to the Toronto Coin Expo the following week! *Free level parking, fully accessible. Legendary lunch counter. Coins, banknotes, tokens, Canadian Tire money, medals, books and supplies at more than 35 dealer tables. Featuring some of Canada's and Europe's top numismatic dealers. Club-sponsored Kid's Table for under 14; buy, sell, trade or evaluate.* For more information contact Mike Hollingshead, email cholling@uoguelph.ca, telephone 519-823-2646. Website: <http://www.southwellingtoncoinsociety.com>

TWO CENTS VS. THREE CENTS

A short editorial of interest appeared in *The Numismatist* one hundred years ago reporting on the creation of new coin denomination in the United States. Back then, during the waning years of World War I, small change was in heavy use and there was no consideration of withdrawing smaller denominations from circulation as there is today. This text was written by Mr. Frank G. Duffield and ran in the March 1918 issue.

In normal times Congress does not take kindly to innovations, particularly on the question of our currency. Within the past year it has been compelled to do many unusual things, and will doubtless have to do many more before the war has been won. But whatever else it may do, we do not believe it will authorize the coinage of a 2-cent piece, upon the recommendation of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association, merely to provide a convenient coin for purchasing newspapers, the price of which in many cities has recently been increased to two cents.

If Congress is to authorize the coinage of new denominations of coins to correspond with the prices of commodities in daily use, we respectfully submit that we need a 3-cent coin to buy a stamp, a 7-cent coin to buy a pint of milk, a 9-cent coin to buy a pound of sugar, and a 23-cent coin to buy a gallon of gasoline. And the list might be extended indefinitely.

In our currency we need only a sufficient number of denominations of small coins to make purchases of all commodities with the handling of a minimum number of coins, either in the actual purchase or in receiving change. There is a gap in our coinage between the 1-cent and 5-cents that should be bridged. A 2-cent coin would help considerably, but a 3-cent piece would have greater utility for all purposes.

A new denomination of coin is not to be had for the asking. When it is asked for, if favourable action by Congress is expected, the request will have to be backed up by more logical argument than the American Newspaper Publishers' Association has presented.

A two-cent piece was produced by the Mint of the United States for circulation from 1864 to 1872 and for collectors in 1873. There were decreasing mintages each year, as other minor coins such as the nickel proved more popular. A three-cent silver coin was produced from 1851 to 1873. Both coins were abolished by the Mint Act of 1873.

A three-cent nickel coin was produced from 1865 to 1889. It was actually the same size as the dime and caused confusion upon the introduction of mechanical vending machines.

Sept. 28 – 29, Toronto, Toronto Coin Expo – Canada's Coin & Banknote Show, Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge St. Located on the 2nd floor. Hours: Fri. and Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission \$6, under 16 free. *Featuring 30+ internationally renowned coin and banknote dealers. This is the place in Canada to buy, sell, trade. Appraisals with internationally renowned dealers in coins, banknotes, tokens, medals, militaria, gold, silver and jewelry.* Partnering with Geoffrey Bell Auctions; auction Sept. 27-28, 2018. For more information contact Jared Stapleton, email torontocoinexpo@gmail.com, telephone 647-403-7334. Website: <http://www.torontocoinexpo.ca>

Listings are courtesy of Canadian Coin News Coming Events