



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

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2001 Albion Road, Units #19 & 20, Toronto ON M9W 6V6

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Member :

Ontario Numismatic Association
Royal Canadian Numismatic Association

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

Executive Committee

Director
DirectorPaul Johnson
DirectorAndrew Silver
Junior Director
AuctioneerDick Dunn

Auction Manager.....Paul Johnson
EditorPaul Petch
ReceptionistFranco Farronato
Draw PrizesRobert Durant
Social Convenor

THE BULLETIN FOR JANUARY 2020

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Your club president and fellow collector is back after our holiday hiatus and is wishing a Happy New Year to fellow North York numismatists and everyone else who receives this monthly bulletin. Before I get into the program for the year, I must thank all who helped at the Holiday Dinner, the club executive or made donations to the meeting draw. Next, I thank those not on the list that helped, because without them there is no club or organized numismatics. In no order I thank Dick Dunn, Michael Findlay, Yvon Chicoine, Paul Johnson, John Regitko, Henry Nienhuis, Paul Petch, Jared Stapleton, Mark Argentino the R.C.N.A. and Trend Signs. Thank-you all.

The club has great things planned this year, so let's get right to the highlights.

The North York Coin Club's executive has already met and hope to be able to provide a bit of everything for your enjoyment and education in the hobby. This program will begin in January with a "how to" presentation about putting together a competitive numismatic display. Paul Johnson will be offering his insights and many years of competitive exhibit displaying and judging experience with an in-depth look at this area of the hobby; hopefully some of our members will be able to bring in a small display for our Diamond Jubilee meeting in February. These would be a single or multiple case numismatic displays that can hopefully tie in with our 60th year celebration night on February 25th, 2020. Once your display has been shown, judges and feedback presented to you, why not enter your competitive display in the R.C.N.A. or O.N.A. convention?

The club executive has also decided that to help celebrate our diamond anniversary in February we should strike a medal to commemorate the event. We will have silver medals by subscription only plus a free bronze medal for all current members. Details on design and sale prices are found further into the bulletin.

Our Diamond Celebration meeting will be held at Edithvale in February with the hope that all present members will be able to attend and join us for this celebration. No formal meeting will take place but instead an evening of food, drink and numismatic camaraderie and with any luck a couple of displays for the members to view.

This takes us up to March, which is the meeting when we annually run our all meeting auction. This is a service to the members and an important source of revenue for the club. So, in preparation for this meeting search through your collection for duplicates or items that you have lost interest in and put together your 10-lot consignment for the club's auction. This very popular night tends to fill up early, so gather up your lots and assign a reasonable reserve to your items and have them ready to submit at the January or February meetings. Please consider the importance of realistic reserve prices on your items, as it helps reduce the number of unsold lots.

I would also like to mention that the club has its permit for the annual coin show. It will be held in the same spot as previous years at Edithvale Community Centre on Saturday, May 9th, 2020. See the treasurer with your

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

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.

January is our Annual Meeting as we start a new business year. For this meeting Paul Johnson will guide you through the steps in creating a numismatic exhibit. The Ontario Numismatic Association Judging Rules will be used as a reference. There are numerous reasons to prepare an exhibit and Paul will explore that using a book that he co-wrote in 1983 titled "Exhibits and Judging in Numismatics".

You are also invited to bring along your recent finds or special treasures to share with us at this meeting during our "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.

completed table application and money and he would be pleased to help you. The show is approximately 60% sold, so do not delay.

The rest of the program for the year is still being developed but if anyone has a suggestion for a topic for the meeting or if they wish to do a presentation for the club e-mail

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You are reminded to pay your \$10 2020 dues at the next meeting so you will be eligible to receive our Diamond Jubilee medal. You may also bring lots for the March meeting consignment auction (members only please)!

NEWS OF THE NOVEMBER 2019 MEETING

The 660th meeting of the North York Coin Club was held on Tuesday, November 26, 2019 in the 1st floor Banquet Room at the Edithvale Community Centre. It was hammered to order at 7:33 p.m. with our President, Bill O'Brien, in the chair with 33 members and 2 guests in attendance.

Member Bill was present at the time his name was drawn to receive the on-time attendance draw prize of \$5.00. The draw will reset to \$5.00 for the January 2020 meeting.

The President recognized the guests and asked if they were interested in introducing themselves. Steve P. mentioned that he was a collector of Canadian decimal coinage and bank notes.

He then asked the members present if they had noticed any errors or omissions in the minutes of the September meeting, as published. With no errors identified, Norm Belsten made a motion to accept the minutes as printed, which was seconded by Harvey Shuter. Motion carried.

Bill O'Brien in his capacity as club Treasurer gave a quick finance report.

The members were reminded of our Holiday meeting on December 10 and that this was the last meeting to pay for the dinner (\$35 per person, tax and gratuity included.). Bill reported that there were 25 people that have signed up thus far. He also reminded everyone of the extra draw prizes that would be available to win with the purchase of your ticket.

Paul Petch asked for the floor to formally present his thoughts on striking a medal to celebrate the club's 60th anniversary. Paul suggested that the club strike a copper/bronze medal, based on the design of its founding medal struck by the club in 1962. Preliminary artwork was shown in the presentation. He further suggested that each existing member, in good standing, receive one medal free of charge and that additional copies would be available for purchase. After considerable discussion a vote was taken by show of hands, with unanimous support for proceeding with the project. A budget of \$1,500,

suggested by the executive was agreed to along with the proposed design. It was also agreed that silver versions of the medal would be available on a prepaid subscription basis for \$60 and that further copies of the copper medal would be available for \$15–20. Henry asked that anyone interested in these medals express their interest by adding their names to a list at the front during the break.

Henry brought up the subject of the three Charlton Standard Catalogues purchased by the club for loan to members as a pilot project in 2019. After further discussion it was agreed that we should repeat the offer again in 2020. Henry was tasked with procuring the catalogues.

The next item on the agenda was the evening's presentation by Paul Petch. Paul read the script that accompanied the London Numismatic Society PowerPoint presentation entitled *United States Government Gold, Eagles (1795–1933)*. It was an interesting topic that led to extended discussion of the 1933 eagles that have been the subject of a court case to determine ownership.

A short refreshment break was called from 8:30–8:45 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—Bill O'Brien, Andrew Silver, David Quinlan (3), Richard Duquette, Henry Nienhuis, Jim Heifetz, Andrew C. (2), Robert Durrant, David Bawcutt (2), and Tony Hine. The club earned \$25.00 through the sale of the draw tickets! Our auction manager, Paul Johnson, reported that receipts from the auction added \$42.70 plus another \$79.00, from donated material, to the club coffers. We thank Jared Stapleton, our auctioneer, and Mark Argentino, who volunteered as runner, and Paul Johnson, our auction manager, for their help.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:34 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 thank Andrew Silver and Harvey Shuter for their very kind donations. 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.)

Please remember that our next regular meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 28 in the 1st floor Banquet Room of the Edithvale Community Centre.



The first ten-dollar gold coins, consisting of 400 pieces, were appeared in September, 1795. Prior to 1807 the gold coins were not marked with their denomination but were recognized by size and weight, and the standard was the ten-dollar piece known as an eagle.



There were 445,500 specimens of the Saint-Gaudens double eagles minted in 1933; none were officially circulated and all but two were ordered melted, although about twenty coins were stolen and did not make it to the melting pot. Most of those pieces have since been tracked down. In 1933, Franklin D. Roosevelt attempted to end the banking crisis by ordering all gold coin and bullion to be turned into the Federal Reserve. Congress followed with legislation in 1934 with the "Gold Reserve Act", which prohibited the possession of American gold coins for circulation.

NEWS OF THE DECEMBER 2019 MEETING



The 661st meeting of the North York Coin Club was held on the evening of December 10 and took the form of its annual Holiday Dinner at Tucker's Marketplace, 15 Carlson Court, Etobicoke, Ontario with about 28 participants in attendance. Joining the club were members of both the Etobicoke-Mississauga and Toronto Coin Clubs.

Club President Bill O'Brien expressed the club's thanks to the coin dealers and individuals who donated the draw prizes for the meeting. These comprised the **R.C.N.A.**, dealers **Yvon Chicoine** (Monnaies de Versailles Inc.), **Michael Findlay** (Marcus & Co.), **Jared Stapleton** (Metro Coin & Banknote) and members **John Regitko** and **Dick Dunn**.

Other highlights of the evening, besides the wonderful Tucker's buffet and attentive, friendly staff, were a great gift exchange and a 50-50 draw prize of \$82 won by Chris Poissant.



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me at wsobcoins@hotmail.com anytime to discuss. The club's executive would also welcome some fresh ideas on meeting format or topics so that the program may be more interesting and appeal to the group. All ideas are welcome because the club needs to change with the times and most of what we do is the way it has always been done. Nothing wrong with doing what works but we need to increase membership and broaden our appeal.

I won't dwell on the club finances for the year 2019 but without non-club generated income we would have suffered another loss during the year and expect a loss in 2020. The treasurer will provide a more detailed look at our finances during the January meeting and would be open to idea's on how the club can generate more funds or save money during the year. Don't get me wrong, we are in good financial health right now, but we must be looking at the long-term.

I think that covers all the club news from the first few weeks of the year and the program of events for the first third of the year. Please

support these events and get back to me if you have any ideas or concerns. In the meantime, get out and visit one of the many great shows that are held in the area. We have the Paris Coin Show on February 2nd owned by one of our club members and an auction, mini coin show, in Brantford the night before. The next show in the area is out the other direction in Oshawa with Coin-A-Rama on February 16th. February closes with the Torex coin show and auction in downtown Toronto on February 22nd and 23rd.

Well that's a wrap on the club news this month. Circle next Tuesday, January 28th, for the next meeting of the club at 7:30 p.m. but come early to submit or view the auction items and view our dealers' wares.

Winter has finally arrived so be safe, enjoy the winter and keep your fingers crossed that spring will soon arrive and the snow will be nothing but a memory.

Bill O'Brien

THE 2020 NORTH YORK COIN CLUB DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDAL



The North York Coin Club is commemorating its 60th anniversary in 2020. To mark this milestone a commemorative medal is being struck in bronze and .999 pure silver. One of the club's earliest endeavours was the striking of a founding medal in 1962, making it most appropriate that a special commemorative medal should be struck upon its 60th anniversary.

A.N.Y.C.C. 60th anniversary bronze medal will be presented free of charge to each existing member of the club that is in good standing with dues paid as early in the year as production allows. For a limited time it is also being made available in bronze and silver by advance subscription sale. The North York Coin Club has once again selected the Mississauga Mint Ltd. for the production of this medal. The Mississauga Mint produced our 50th anniversary medal and our Canada 150 medal.

Obverse Design

It has been decided to continue to use the North York Coin Club's standard obverse design, first used on its founding medal and now an insignia of the club, appearing on its letterhead and the masthead of its monthly newsletter. The design's central element is the figure of justice as it appears on the obverse of the Lesslie twopenny piece. Two founding members of the club, John Curtis the club's first President and Ken Bunnett its second President, shared a strong interest in pre-confederation Canadian tokens, and the Lesslie twopenny is a classic in the series. The particular token from which the figure is taken is dated 1822 and features the name "Toronto" in its legend. It is hoped that the token collectors of today continue to find this to be classic image.

Reverse Design

The reverse design repeats the arms of the Township of North York just as it was used on the founding medal. It consists of a shield showing a sheaf of grain and scales, surmounted by a beaver on crown, and border of maple leaves on the right and left-hand sides and the motto "Progress with Economy." To this design are added "Diamond Jubilee" and the date "2020."

Placing a Medal Order

The bronze and silver medals may be ordered at a price of \$15 for bronze and \$60 for .999 pure silver. Payment may be made in person to the Treasurer at the January 2020 meeting. Payment may also be made by mail to:

**NORTH YORK COIN CLUB,
2001 Albion Road, Units #19 & 20,
Toronto ON M9W 6V6**

Cheques should be made out to "North York Coin Club." Please add \$5 for postage if you are unable to pick up your medal(s) in person. Existing club members are reminded that they will receive one bronze medal free of charge.

The North York Coin Club is offering its 60th Anniversary Medal on a subsidized basis from club reserves. There will be no further strikes utilizing this combination of obverse and reverse dies. The obverse die may be used on future North York Coin Club medals; the reverse die will not be used again and will be retired to the club's archives.

UNINTENTIONAL WAYS COLLECTORS DAMAGE COINS — AND HOW TO STOP!

by Joshua McMorrow-Hernandez, December 19, 2019 from the CoinWeek web site on the Internet

Most coin collectors know the major deadly sin regarding the handling of coins: don't clean them! Yet a variety of coin-handling accidents will happen anyway. Many of the most well meaning coin collectors have made some of the gravest mistakes when it comes to how they've handled, stored, or otherwise managed their coin collections. It's simply too easy to damage coins beyond repair—the slightest of surface friction, an errant slip of the finger, or even buying an outdated coin holder can spell figurative and literal doom for coins.

There are a million-and-one ways that coins have been permanently damaged in the otherwise caring hands of the collectors who love them. So, what are some of the more common ways collectors have unintentionally ruined their coins, and how can you prevent such fates from happening to you and your prized numismatic possessions? Here's a look at some of the most frequent offences and how to stop them from happening to you!

Can't Return To Sender . . .

Is there a more heartbreaking way to damage a new arrival to your collection than by accidentally cutting it with an X-Acto knife or another sharp object as you open the mailer in which it was shipped? It's happened to so many collectors and dealers that it's easily one of the top ways numismatists mishandle their coins.

Most often, the coins are shipped safely and well but are layered in bubble wrap, bound in tape, or otherwise covered in tightly wrapped, well-sealed packaging that necessitates the use of a knife or blade to open. Take extra care when opening these packages and remove each layer as if performing meticulous surgery on the item. Yes, we know you're in a hurry (aren't we all?). Yes, we know you're anxious to see what your new purchase looks like. But take the time to open your packages carefully . . . Remember, any damage that happens to your purchase after it arrives is not eligible for a refund!



2x2s of Doom

2x2s are ubiquitous. Probably the only supply item more numerous in coin collecting than 2x2 cardboard holders or similar mounts are the staples used to secure them. And while the staples are an important part of keeping your coins secured inside, there are a few inherent risks involved in sealing a coin within or removing a coin from a 2x2.

The first dangerous part comes in stapling the holder together. Don't position the stapler too close to the coin, lest you ding it with the head of the stapler; rather, staple the holder as close to its edges as possible. One errant move with a stapler placed too close to a coin and your pristine piece could be damaged goods. But that's not the only numismatically risky part of working with a 2x2. Oh, good heavens no . . .

Ever tried using pliers to crimp the bubbly loops on the business end of a staple against the flat panel of the 2x2? Not only does crimping the staple loops help save space in row boxes, but it also helps prevent scratching of the staple ends against other coins, and crimped staples are the mark of polish and professionalism.

But be careful how close those pliers get to the coin. You don't want to put big ol' cuts into the rim!

And taking coins out of 2x2s can seem innocuous enough of an act that some of us let our guards down, but there's a lot that can go wrong when taking coins out of stapled cardboard holders. The coin could get scratched by a staple. You might accidentally put your greasy fingers on the coin's surface. The coin might drop out of the holder and get damaged upon impact with a hard surface such as a table or floor.

In other words, 2x2s lend a plethora of risks that could easily and irreparably damage coins. Nevertheless, there are ways to help mitigate these risks. In addition to the precautions listed above, you might consider the following to safely remove coins from 2x2s:

- Wear cotton gloves to avoid direct contact with the coin surfaces.
- When removing coins from 2x2s, do so over a soft, padded surface.
- If you can practically do so without imparting more damage to the coin inside the holder, remove the staples with a staple remover—but be very careful not to scrape the coins inside the holders.
- If you can't safely extricate the staples from the holder before removing the coin, then carefully pry the holder open and be sure the coin within does not come in contact with any part of the staples—or fall out onto a hard surface.

While 2x2s aren't considered ideal for long-term storage, they do represent a good combination of decent short-term storage safety and overall economy. Thus, 2x2s will likely remain an important part of our hobby for the foreseeable future.

However, an excellent way you can remove the risks commonly associated with conventional 2x2s is to buy self-sealing 2x2s both for selling your coins or storing the ones you have in your collection. Self-sealing 2x2s are a little more expensive but they can save money on staples, the time required to work with 2x2s, and they can also eliminate the staple-related risks that come with later removing coins from the holder.



Slimy PVC Holders

There was a time in our hobby during the 1960s, '70s, and even into the '80s, when polyvinyl chloride—more notoriously known in numismatic circles as PVC—was considered a beneficial product. This popular polymer helps make plastics more pliable and less brittle, and it was once found in everything from coin albums to display cases.

But time hasn't been kind to PVC's standing in our hobby—and it certainly hasn't been nice to the coins once contained within PVC-riddled holders.

The reaction between PVC and coin metals (especially coins stored in hot, humid conditions) has left many coins with pernicious and permanent PVC damage. And not only does PVC damage the coins it has directly come into contact with, but, even more scarily, the PVC damage can also spread to other coins in a collection, much like an infectious disease.

Acidic PVC damage manifests in many corrosive forms. The most common and widely known sign of PVC damage is a green film that forms on coins—though it may also be seen in blues, greys, yellows, and other colors, as well as in streaks or splotches across some or all of the coin's surface. Porosity and other forms of corrosion may be seen as localized or widespread pitting.

While PVC damage is generally irreversible, there are ways to prevent further damage to coins already afflicted by this synthetic scourge.

One of the most common methods is to bathe the coin in acetone for at least 30 seconds to remove the PVC goo, a process most safely done while wearing gloves and working in a well-ventilated area.

You could also submit the coins for professional conservation, though many such services have certain restrictions and special contractual clauses concerning the treatment of PVC-damaged coins.

So how do you avoid subjecting your coins to PVC altogether? Quite simply, keep them away from coin supplies that may contain PVC. Be wary about placing them in older holders, especially those with plasticized elements such as slides or covers. The softer the plastic, the more likely it contains PVC, so be sure to avoid using unvetted soft plastic flips or any albums that contain (especially pliable) plastic components.

It's best to play it safe and buy modern coin supplies that are marked as "inert" or otherwise PVC free. If you suspect any of your coins are presently in albums or other display products that may contain PVC, be sure to remove them as soon as possible and place them in inert holders. It may not be a bad idea to have the coins professionally treated for PVC exposure, as well.

Preventing Environmental Damage

Coin metal is finicky. While gold is fairly stoic when it comes to responding to the environment around it, silver and especially copper are highly reactive metals. Copper in particular is prone to corrosion and a host of other problems. And like a canary in the coal mine, copper coins will often be the first in one's collection to exhibit naked-eye visible responses to problematic environmental issues such as heat, humidity, and fumes.

Many collectors are prudently cautious about how they store their copper coins, and some dealers who attend coin shows in various regions of the United States or other parts of the world won't travel with them during hot summertime weather. Some altogether avoid going to places like Florida, where the air mass is generally humid and, particularly near the state's hundreds of miles of shoreline, is also somewhat salty.

Regardless of what types of coins you collect, you need to be careful about how you store and handle them. It's best to keep them in a cool, dry environment away from direct sunlight, sources of heat, and any fumes. Don't store your coins in places with excessive humidity, namely any non-climate-controlled areas of your home, such as a basement, attic, or garage. If storing your coins in a bank safety deposit box or other off-site location, make sure you know what the climate settings are like, and don't assume they're necessarily within safe parameters for coins storage. If necessary, add silica gel packets to your vault or other storage containers to wick away moisture and help stabilize humidity levels.

Store your coins in holders that don't allow for the passage of air or the entry of moisture and impurities. Modern coin slabs from the major reputable third-party coin grading firms represent some of the very best coin-storage technology around today.

But if you can't have all of your coins encapsulated, then the next best bet is to seek coin albums and display cases that provide similar protection (of course, per the previous point, avoid buying supplies that may contain PVC!). Inert flips are OK for storing your coins though perhaps not quite as ideal as containers and organizational supplies that seal the coins off from air and moisture entirely.

Don't store your coins in paper envelopes, which not only permit the free flow of air and moisture but also contain sulfur—an element known to damage coins over time. And although coin folders are popular for organizing coin collections, this method of storage is not chemically ideal for the coins themselves, as the sulfur within the cardboard and glues used in the folders may damage your coins in the long run. What's more, coin folders, coin envelopes, and similar methods of storage can also impart friction on the high points of a coin—something that is irreversible and could actually decrease a coin's wear-based grade.

High-point friction is in part why the use of coin cabinets fell out of favour during the early to mid-20th century. Though a most ornate and ostensibly luxurious method of coin storage, coin cabinets pose several numismatic storage problems, including the cabinet friction imparted on coins as they slide in and out of drawers, exposure to air and moisture, and the risk of fingerprints in lifting the coins out of their drawer trays and placing them back inside.



Don't Leave Fingerprints

Sometimes we leave our tracks behind on coins, and this is most commonly done by way of fingerprints.

It's not difficult to impart these unsightly and often permanent memorials to our stewardship of the coins we have in our collections. One misplaced finger on the obverse or reverse of a coin and we may be reminded of this mistake months or years down the line when a fingerprint shows up in that spot. This is especially true with Uncirculated and Proof coins, as well as copper coinage in general. Though in theory, a visible fingerprint could show up on any coin regardless of its grade or metallic composition.

Thankfully, it's easy to avoid leaving fingerprints behind on coins. These distracting and often grade-impairing imperfections are typically seen on coins that have been handled by dirty or greasy fingers and stored in hot, humid locations. Wearing gloves and properly holding a coin by its edge with your thumb and forefinger virtually eliminates any chance of leaving fingerprints behind—though gloves may increase the chances of dropping your coin.

You can further mitigate these risks by washing your hands prior to touching any of your coins to remove grease, dirt, and other foreign matter beforehand.

Don't Be Taken to the Cleaners

It's pretty much impossible to overstate the immediate and long-term problems that come with cleaning coins. Not only does cleaning a coin potentially remove a thin layer of its metal from the surface, but it also artificially alters a coin's appearance by removing the natural patina it has accrued over a period of years. Stripping away a coin's outer layer leaves many immediate and undesirable post-cleaning effects. The long-term effects can be even worse . . .

Sometimes coins re-tone unevenly after cleaning, leaving splotchy or streaky coloration or toning on affected pieces. Often the colors the coin acquires don't appear natural. And, besides, a skilled numismatist will be able to tell a coin was cleaned even many years after its re-toning process has begun. This is especially the case with harsh cleanings involving caustic chemicals and abrasives. Cleaned circulated coins often have an unnatural but flat shine, higher-grade pieces may have dull surfaces, and pieces that once showed plenty of gorgeous mint lustre will lose their beautiful bloom.

Of course, not all cleanings are undertaken with the intent of defrauding a collector. Certainly, there are many innocuous reasons why a collector may attempt to clean a coin. A well-meaning coin

collector simply may be trying to remove old adhesive left behind from someone who once taped the coin to the inside of a folder or a display. Or maybe a collector wants to remove a greasy clump of residue sitting in the crevices of the coin's design or lettering.

In virtually every case, what ends up happening is the cleaning leaves more negative results than it does positive ones. It's never a good idea to clean a coin—at least not in the conventional ways most collectors hear about. You'll find 1,001 online articles, YouTube videos, and other posts describing all manner of ways to clean copper coins with vinegar and baking soda, remove "tarnish" from silver coins using toothpaste and jeweller's rubs, or otherwise make old coins look "new" again. And more recently there have been a rise in the number of posts suggesting the use of acidic tomato-based ketchups and salsas for lightening copper coins.

However, vinegar, baking soda, and condiments add up to nothing more than a recipe for numismatic disaster. These are all highly damaging and extremely amateurish approaches to the matter at hand. If tepid running water isn't sufficient for sloughing off loose dirt or debris on your coins, and acetone won't do the trick in knocking out adhesives, glues, or other unwelcome surface guests, then submit your coin to a professional conservation service. The professionals know what coins can—or cannot—be properly conserved and will employ best-practice techniques for safely conserving your coins or saving them from further ruin.

Being the Best Coin Collector You Can Be

If you've committed any or even all of the coin handling mistakes listed in this article, take heart—everybody makes mistakes. Many of these unintentional errors are worse than others. But sometimes it's only through trial and error that we learn what not to do in life. And through our mistakes we can become better numismatists.

So, if you've accidentally scratched a coin while removing it from a mailer or a 2x2, placed coins in PVC-riddled holders, or left behind a biomarker or two on some of your coins—why, even if you've scrubbed your old silver dollars with the harshest combination of toothpaste and baking soda known to mankind—laugh and learn from your mistake, then move on. What's done is done. You've gained invaluable wisdom in the process and surely you now know what to do differently to avoid making the same mistake again. It's all part of the enriching learning experience in this great hobby we call numismatics.

[The illustrations of U.S. coins and the fact that CoinWeek is based in the U.S. make the origin of this article quite apparent. However, the content of the article has value that transcends borders and it is worth a careful read by everyone! *Ed.*]

COMING EVENTS FOR WINTER / SPRING 2020

Jan. 25 – 26, Hamilton, CAND Annual Convention & Coin Show, Sheraton Hamilton Hotel, 116 King St. W. Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25; 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26. Admission on Saturday is \$4 for adults, \$2 for seniors and free for young collectors under the age of 12. Admission on Sunday is free. *The annual show and convention of the Canadian Association of Numismatic Dealers (CAND) returns to the Sheraton in Hamilton. This popular show, which kicks off the Canadian coin show season each year, features dealers from across Canada.* Jeffrey Hoare Auctions will also host a numismatic and military sale in conjunction with the show. For more information contact Tom Kennedy, email cand@bellaliant.net, telephone 519-271-8825. Website: <http://cand.org>

Feb. 1, Brantford, Coin & Banknote Show & Auction, Hampton Inn & Suites, 20 Fen Ridge Ct. Hours 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Free admission. *Join us for a fun day of coins, banknotes, tokens, medals, collectables and numismatic items. Buy, sell & appraise at the show with professional coin & bank note dealers. Twelve dealer tables.* Auction conducted by Geoffrey Bell Auctions. Viewing from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Auction from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Register for the live auction and receive a ticket for free admission to the Paris Coin & Collectable Show the next day. For more information contact Jared Stapleton, email pariscoinshow@gmail.com, telephone 647-403-7334.

Feb. 2, Paris, Paris Coin Show, Paris Fairgrounds, 139 Silver St. Hours 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$4 Admission and includes draw tick for a Gold Coin. Canada's Best 1 day Coin and Collectables show. Over 50 tables of coins, paper money, tokens, military & more. Buy, Sell & Appraise at the show with professional Coin & Banknote Dealers. Hot & cold food and drinks are available at the show. For more information, email pariscoinshow@gmail.com, telephone 647-403-7334. Website: <http://pariscoinshow.com>

Feb. 16, Oshawa, Coin-A-Rama, Jubilee Pavilion, 55 Lakeview Park Ave. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free admission, free dealer and membership draws, new hourly public draws. *Featuring paper, coins, tokens, medals, books and supplies and many other items. There will also be a "mini-auction" at 2 p.m. Free parking and food available.* For more information contact Sharon MacLean, email papman@bell.net, telephone 905-728-1352. Website: <http://www.oshawacoinclub.com>

Feb. 22 – 23, Toronto, Winter 2020 Torex, 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 is The Canadian Numismatic Company. Auction viewing begins on Friday. For more information contact Brian Smith, email brian@torex.net, telephone 416-705-5348. Website: <http://www.torex.net>

Mar. 8, Mississauga, Mississauga Coin & Stamp Show, John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre, 4300 Cawthra Rd. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: \$5 at door (youth under 16 years of age free). Fully accessible with free parking. *Over 30 dealers & 60 dealer tables. Canadian and world coins, stamps, paper money, tokens, medals, trade dollars, official Mint products, hobby supplies, reference books and much more. Buy, sell, trade, appraise.* For more information contact

Les Plonka, email leszkep@rogers.com, telephone 416-505-7999. Website: <http://www.troyakclub.com>

Mar. 21, Cambridge, 29th Annual Cambridge Coin Show, Cambridge Newfoundland Club, 1500 Dunbar Rd. Hours: Sat. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission! Voluntary cash donations will be gladly accepted at the door in support the Cambridge Self Help Food Bank. Fully accessible with free parking and a convenient lunch counter. *A significant portion of the show proceeds will be donated to the CSHFB and RCNA to benefit the local community and help promote numismatics. Buy, sell, trade and have your collection or inheritance evaluated at over 50 qualified dealer tables with coins, paper money, tokens, medals, trade dollars, official RCM products, hobby supplies, reference books and more.* For more information contact Brent Mackie, email coinshow@waterloocoinsociety.com. Website: <http://www.waterloocoinsociety.com/events.php>

Apr. 4 – 5, Mississauga, Spring 2020 National Postage Stamp & Coin Show, Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale hotel, 6750 Mississauga Rd. Hours: Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday 0 a.m.- 4 p.m. Admission is \$4 on Saturday and free on Sunday. Parking is free. Presented by *Canadian Coin News* and *Canadian Stamp News*. *The show features 50-plus professional coin and stamp dealers from across Canada. Highlights include a two-day live auction by Colonial Acres, various seminars, the Young Collectors discounted sales table and popular free youth auction on Sunday.* For more information contact Mike Walsh, email info@trajan.ca, telephone 1-800-408-0352. Website: <http://www.stampandcoinshow.com>

Apr. 5, Chatham, Kent Coin Club Spring Coin Show, Active Lifestyle Centre, 20 Merritt Ave. Hours: 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Admission and parking are free. *The Club gives a free token or foreign coin to all children who attend the show. There are about 25 dealer tables of coins and paper money plus hourly draws and a raffle. Food is also available on site.* For more information contact Roger Bechard, 519-360-9900.

Apr. 17 – 19, Montréal, QC Spring Nuphilex, McGill University New Residence Hall, 3625 Parc Ave. Hours: April 17-18 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., April 19 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Early-bird admission, which begins Friday at 8 a.m., is \$25. Admission is \$5 on April 17-18 and free on April 19. *The Spring 2020 Nuphilex combined coin and stamp show will feature more than 50 dealers and 75 tables of coins, banknotes, stamps and supplies.* For more information contact Emmanuel Andreou, email montrealnuphilex@gmail.com, telephone 514-889-7740. Website: <http://www.nuphilex.com>

May 9, North York, North York Coin Club Annual Coin Show, Edithvale Community Centre, 131 Finch Avenue W. Hours: 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Free admission and parking plus a wheelchair-accessible facility. Dealers offering all sorts of collectibles from coins to paper money, tokens, Canadian Tire scrip and more. Buy, sell, trade or evaluate with light refreshments on site. Please join us for our annual community event. For more information contact William O'Brien, email coinshow@northyorkcoinclub.com, telephone 416-897-6684. Website: <http://www.northyorkcoinclub.com>

*Listings are courtesy of
Canadian Coin News Coming Events*