



# North York Coin Club

Founded 1960

MONTHLY MEETINGS 4TH Tuesday 8 P.M. AT  
Edithvale Community Centre, 7 Edithvale Drive, North York

MAIL ADDRESS: NORTH YORK COIN CLUB, P.O. BOX 58508 Corner Plaza P.O.  
197 Sheppard Avenue East, North York, Ontario, M2N 6R7

Member  
Canadian Numismatic Association  
Ontario Numismatic Association

President..... Ron Zek  
1st Vice President... Paul Petch  
2nd Vice President.. Bob Porter  
Secretary..... Lucille Colson  
Treasurer..... Harvey Farrow

#### Executive Committee

Director..... Ted Boxall  
Director..... Paul Johnson  
Director..... Basil Latham  
Junior Director.. open  
Auctioneer..... Bob Porter  
Editor..... Paul Petch

Receptionist..... Basil Latham  
Social Convenor.. Ted Boxall  
Librarian..... Jim Heifetz  
Program Director.. open  
Past President..... Harvey Farrow

## \* \* A Double Notice \* \*

### Annual Coin Show is September 23

We have two events to remind you about in this month's bulletin. Everyone is asked to remember the Club's annual show on Saturday, September 23. See the show flyer enclosed with the bulletin.

### Next meeting

The next regular meeting of the North York Coin Club will be held on Tuesday, September 26, 1995 at the Edithvale Community Centre, 7 Edithvale Drive. Club member Rick Craig will share his knowledge on one of his favourite topics in a talk entitled An Overview of Collecting Pre-Confederation Canadian Colonial Tokens. Rick first spoke on this subject at the Scarborough Coin Club and then expanded on it for a presentation to the Toronto Coin Club. He has now added a little more material to round it out as an introduction to the subject. Supported by samples from his collection, this will be an ideal bit of background for all collectors, whether they have never studied the subject or share it with Rick as one of their collecting interests.

### Coming Events

1. North York Coin Club Show, Saturday, September 23, 10am-5pm, Edithvale Community Centre, 7 Edithvale Drive, North York, FREE ADMISSION
2. London Numismatic Society 3rd Annual Coin Show, September 24, 10am-5pm, Ramada Inn, 317 Exeter Rd. (off Hwy. 401)  
Info: Ted Leitch, 543 Kininvie Dr., London, N6G 1P1
3. International Collectors' Fair, Sept. 29, 30 and Oct. 1, Skylon Tower, Niagara Falls, Ontario  
Info: Paul Fiocca, Trajan Publishing, 103 Lakeshore Rd. Suite 202, St. Catharines, L2N 2T6
4. Scarborough Coin Club Celebrates Coin Week Canada, October 28, 9:30am-4pm, Cedarbrae Mall -- Club members will be on hand to answer questions and promote collecting
5. Burlington International Coin Show, October 28, 9am-4pm, Mainway Rec Centre, Walkers Line & Mainway (north of QEW), Burlington  
Info: Nancy Kanerva, (905) 319-3817
6. Torex Show, October 28 10am-5pm and October 29 10am-3pm, Primrose Hotel, 111 Carlton Street, Toronto  
Info: Ingrid K. Smith, (416) 260-9070
7. Stratford Coin Club 33rd Annual Show and Bourse, October 29, 9:30am-4:30pm, Kiwanis Community Centre, Lakeside Drive.  
Info: Ken Wilmot, Stratford Coin Club, RPO Box 21031, Stratford, N5A 7V4

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 26

## News from the August 23, 1995 Meeting

The 398th meeting of the North York Coin Club was held Wednesday, August 23, 1995. The President, Ron Zelk, opened the meeting at 8:00 p.m. sharp and welcomed 29 members and 3 guests. Harvey Farrow observed that this was the first time that a regular Club meeting has been held on a Wednesday.

The on time attendance draw was won by Norm Belsten. The pot returns to \$2 for the September meeting. The mint box was passed to Mark Spatafora, a junior guest.

Ron Zelk started with news from the CNA Convention in Calgary, announcing that Paul Johnson is this year's recipient of the J. Douglas Ferguson Award. This prompted a well-deserved round of applause from all.

Marvin Kay presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the Club, thanking the members of what he considers to be his home club for their support during his presidency of the CNA. The certificate reads: "Certificate of Appreciation Presented to the North York Coin Club with gratitude, Marvin Kay, MD, President, 1993-95, The Canadian Numismatic Association"

Harvey Farrow, club delegate to the Convention, gave a detailed account of activities in Calgary. He reported it was an ideal show with exciting and active programmes, fantastic weather and long evenings.

The Chair presented an article which stated the North York Chamber of Commerce and City Council will be issuing a \$2 trade token. It will show the City Crest on the obverse and will show Mel Lastman, Mayor for 10 terms, on the reverse. It will be sold at most banks, credit unions and trust companies from September, 1995, through January, 1996, as long as supplies last.

Paul Johnson introduced the featured topic for the evening. For almost three years Paul has been leading the efforts to create a Canadian numismatic correspondence course. After much hard work and the support of the CNA and NESAs, the course is now a reality, being launched at the Calgary convention. While explaining its contents, he stated that it represents a one-of-a-kind type book and is all about numismatics in Canada. To take the course and receive a certificate costs \$35 for CNA members, \$45 for non-members. A library edition is available for \$40 and custom binding can be supplied for an additional \$35. It will be promoted across Canada and the US.

Paul then called on fellow committee members to provide background on the material they

had written and to receive medals and copies of the course. Paul Petch spoke on the chronology of events leading to the release of the course and the contents of chapters on Canada's circulating coins and commemorative coins. Marvin Kay related the contents of his chapter on collecting strategies. Susan Maltby stressed the importance of putting forth sufficient effort in safely storing the items you collect. Ted Banning, a co-author of the chapter on aspects of collecting as an organized hobby, highlighted reference and information sources, sites of collections, collecting organizations and ways in which a personal computer may assist the collector. Brian Cornwell rounded out the authors' comments with information on his chapters relating to acquiring new material and novice and advanced coin grading.

Ted Leach was commended for his extensive contribution of photographs with thanks to John Regitko for supplementary material. Certificates of appreciation were awarded to Rick Craig and Jack Veffer for their contributions as well. Following the meeting, members were able to inspect the course and order their own copy.

As always, our thanks to Ted Boxall for organizing a providing refreshments.

The lucky draw winners were: Mark Spatafora(2), Lucille Colson, Harvey Farrow(2), Nathan Naster(3), Ted Boxall, Mary Ellen Johnson and Italo Villela. Many thanks to Bill McDonald and Marvin Kay for their donations. An auction of 10 lots was run by Bob Porter with the assistance of Basil Latham.

The meeting closed at 9:50 p.m.

## Question-of-the-Month

During his time presenting background on the CNA/NESA Course, Paul Petch revealed that for the last year, the question of the month has been drawn from material found in the course. If you have not been doing so well in this department, the Course is just what you need!

Since September's meeting will be running on a token theme, do a little research and define those pieces that have been described as "Borderline Tokens".

The question for August was one that some members may have seen before: Why is the "\$" the symbol for the dollar? One answer holds that it is from the two upright pillars and the flowing sash on the Spanish milled dollar. Another is that the peso was once the common form of currency in America. The abbreviation for pesos is PS, which was further shortened to an S with a bar through it. It is thought by some that the S with two bars was

a later elaboration. One fact is sure: the British had their pound symbol to designate currency and following the American Revolution there was a rejection of anything with a British origin in the United States. There was actually a need for a new symbol to designate currency... and the "\$" became it.

### Nevada's Casino Tokens

A few months ago, Al Bliman showed a few of his casino tokens, a branch of collecting new to many of the club's members. From a paper found at the back of a bottom desk drawer I'm reprinting an episode from the radio programme "A-N-A's Money Talks", by Michael Knapp.

What do you do when the fodder you need to fuel your business suddenly begins disappearing? Why, you make your own, of course!

Until 1965, Nevada's gambling casinos used U.S. coins for their slot machines. The highest denomination machines took silver dollars.

Then, when the U.S. Mint announced that it would begin phasing out silver coins, there was a run on silver coins, especially silver dollars. Casino customers began removing them from play faster than the casinos could replace them.

Realizing they were running out of coins, the casinos applied to the federal and Nevada

state governments for permission to mint their own silver-dollar size tokens. The token had to be the exact same size and weight as U.S. silver dollars, or else the coin acceptor in each slot machine would have to be changed at a tremendous cost. Permission was granted, and the minting of private casino tokens began.

The first privately-minted casino tokens appeared in 1965. Most were made by the Franklin Mint in Philadelphia. Casino tokens are of relatively recent vintage, while casino chips and checks go way back---centuries in fact. The Franklin Mint continued producing casino tokens, grabbing more and more of the market, until 1979, when the government decided to produce the Susan B. Anthony dollar. Since there was now an official dollar coin, and since the government wanted to stimulate use of the Anthony dollar, it revoked permission for the private minting of casino tokens.

The Anthony dollar never caught on, and few casinos changed their coin acceptors to handle them. Private casino tokens weren't made again until ten years later, when the federal ban was lifted. By this time, the Franklin Mint was out of the casino token business, and several other mints had stepped in and taken its place.

"This is a production of the American Numismatic Association, America's coin club for over a century."

We hope to see you at our next meeting



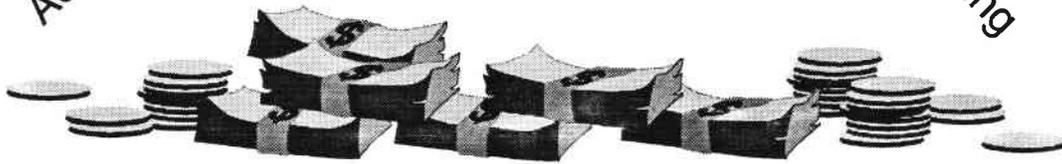
# North York Coin Club

Founded 1960

## **ANNUAL COIN SHOW**

Free  
Admission

Free  
Parking



Coins, Tokens, Medals, Bank Notes, Canadian Tire Money, Wooden Money

Saturday, September 23, 1995,

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Edithvale Community Centre

7 Edithvale Drive, North York

**A wonderful chance to:  
Buy, Evaluate, Trade, Identify,  
Learn**

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