

## **“The Bulletin” November/ December, 2003**

### **President’s Message**

Because our November and December meetings are so close together we are once again placing news of the two meetings into one issue of *The Bulletin*. Be sure to keep this issue around to remind you of the December meeting which is just two weeks following the November meeting.

Remember to mark December 9 on the calendar and plan on joining us for the annual Christmas Party. See details to the right and on page 3.

The Club will again be supporting the J. Douglas Ferguson Foundation with a donation of \$50.00 and the Numismatic Educational Services Association (NESA) with a \$50.00 donation.

It is now time to renew your membership for 2004. Please bring the renewal enclosed with this mailing to our Treasurer, Len Kuenzig, at the next meeting or send it in by mail with your dues. Please be sure to update your contact information as well.

I wish to extend very best holiday wishes to all members and their families, especially the ones we don’t see regularly at meetings, from myself and on behalf of the entire Club Executive.

## **The “A” Theme**

The next meeting of the North York Coin Club will be held on **Tuesday, November 25, 2003**, at the Edithvale Community Centre, 7 Edithvale Drive. We start gathering about 7:30pm with meeting start scheduled for 8:00.

We are going to try something a little different this month. We are using the alphabet as our theme and this time out we are starting at the appropriate beginning with the letter “A”. Please bring along a special numismatic item from your collection with a connection to the letter “A” and tell us all about it. We will try this theme approach with other letters, if it works out.

We have a small listed auction this, but please bring along your own additional material if you wish. This is your chance to settle up dues for 2004 and make your reservations for the December Christmas Party. Hope can make it to what promises to be a full and interesting meeting.



The December meeting of the Club will be held on **Tuesday, December 9, at 7:30pm**. Notice the December meeting is the second Tuesday and that we start at an earlier time, because it is our annual Christmas Party. To supplement the purchased Swiss Chalet food (see page 4 about placing your order), we also appreciate whatever family specialties including salads, cookies, cakes, etc. you are able to donate to the “pot luck” buffet table. Because the room is set for dinner, we’re sorry but there will be no dealer tables at this meeting.

If you want to participate in the optional gift exchange, please bring along a numismatic or non-numismatic gift with a value of around \$6 or \$7. Exchange of the gifts will be sequenced by draw. We will also be holding our usual lucky draw.

This being the Christmas Party meeting, we will also have something a little different and entertaining to top off the meeting. Hope you can make it!

***Next Meeting: November 25  
Christmas Party: December 9, 7:30pm***

## Meeting News from the October 28 Meeting



The 488<sup>th</sup> meeting of the North York Coin Club was held on Tuesday, October 28, 2003 at the Edithvale Community Centre, 7 Edithvale Dr., Willowdale, Ont.

The President, Bob Wilson, opened the meeting at 8:00 p.m. and welcomed 26 members and 4 guests.

On Time Attendance Draw for \$4.00 was won by Vince Chiappino.

Minutes of the September 23, 2003 meeting were read by the Secretary and accepted by the Chair.

The Chair suggested this was a good time to pay next year's dues along with the charge for Xmas dinner. As usual, the cost for chicken is \$6.00 and \$8.00 for ribs. The Xmas party will be held on December 9 (the second Tuesday of the month).

We had some sparkling comments from Paul Petch, John Regitko and Dick Dunn regarding Torex. It had narrow aisles, stuffy rooms and in general, "it was a most unpleasant place to be!" Parking was high at \$6.00 but then, they cater to wealthy clients who buy expensive items. Roger Fox reported the Canadian Tire meeting had a good turnout from all over the province. Meeting rooms were free so that was a nice bonus.

The programme for the evening featured Rick Craig who presented his collection of "U. S. Civil War Tokens" in the form of a paper written by Len Buth and originally presented in London, an excellent set of 24 photos of his tokens taken by Ted Leitch and a few of his specimens. Mention was made of one link of the American Civil War to Canada but he felt there was a strong

possibility of a second one. He gave full thanks and appreciation to Len Buth and Ted Leitch and thanked Paul Johnson for assisting him with the presentation. After some interesting comments from the floor and appreciation from the members, the Chair presented Rick with a Certificate of Appreciation.

The Chair announced there is a 4<sup>th</sup> variety of the 2003 1 cent. It is the crownless head with a "P".

Paul Petch took pictures of club settings that will be used in the Canadian Numis-



matic Correspondence Course, Part II. A most pleasant and noisy coffee break followed with Roger Fox providing the much-enjoyed refreshments.

Lucky Draw winners were: Shawn Hamilton, Bill O'Brien, Avram Bar-Moshe, Bob Velensky(2), Dick Dunn, Norm Belsten, Len Keunzig, Italo Villella, Russ Brown and Vince Chiappino. The draw run by Roger Fox with Albert Kasman selling the tickets brought proceeds amounting to \$29.00.

The auction of 10 lots was ably run by Bob Porter with the assistance of Mark Argentino and Vince Chiappino earned \$29.55 in donations and commission. Many thanks to Bill McDonald, Frank Zahra and Shawn Hamilton for their donations.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:55 p.m.



**December Meeting Food Selection**



The Club will once again go to Swiss Chalet for food for our meeting on December 9. The two dinner choices are:

1. **Quarter Chicken Festive Dinner Special** with white or dark meat (includes the chocolate treat) member price is \$6, the Club pays the balance.
2. **½ BBQ Back Ribs** member price is \$8, the Club pays the balance.

With each dinner you get sauce, roll, plus your choice of

- A. French fries   B. Baked potato   C. Rice.**

Please select \$6 for chicken or \$8 for ribs, stating your choice of Ribs or Chicken with white or dark meat and fries, potato or rice to Treasurer Len Kuenzig at the November meeting. You should notify Paul Petch by phone at **416-303-4417** or by e-mail at **p.petch@rogers.com** by noon on Sunday, December 7 if you either decide to attend or discover you must cancel. Thanks to Len and Paul for taking the orders and handling the pick up.

**Coming Events**

**Niagara Falls Coin-a-Rama**, Nov. 29 at Our Lady of Peace Hall, 6944 Stanley Ave. 9am-4pm Free parking, \$2 admission. Coins, tokens, jewellery, paper money, medals & more. Free gold draw. Contact (905) 356-5006.

**6th Annual CAND Show**, Jan. 23-25, 2004 at the Hamilton Ramada Plaza Hotel, 150 King St., East, Level P3. Sat. 10am-5pm; Sun. 10am-4pm. Admission \$3 adults, \$2 seniors, young collectors free. Early bird admittance and show pass \$15. Auctions by Jeffrey Hoare Auctions Inc., Numismatic session on Saturday, military sessions on Sunday. Sponsor/Affiliate: Canadian Association of Numismatic Dealers. For more information, contact show chairman Terry McHugh at (905) 318-6458, e-mail [cand@rscoins.ca](mailto:cand@rscoins.ca).

**Torex® Coin Show & Auction**, Feb. 28-29, 2004 at the Novotel Toronto - Centre. Auction viewing starts on Thursday. Daily Admission \$6.00, Children 16 and under Free! For more information, contact Brian R. Smith - [brian@torex.net](mailto:brian@torex.net). Web site: <http://www.torex.net>.

*Courtesy of Canadian Coin News (<http://www.canadiancoinnews.ca>).*

This is my final *Bulletin* for the North York Coin Club. At this time I extend my thanks to the many members who have offered compliments on its contents and format as well as suggestions for its improvement. Both have been most gratefully received.

This has been a great learning experience for me, which has made it possible to step into the important and critical job of editing the Canadian Numismatic Journal. Without the years of experience and effort put into this newsletter, I would not have been prepared to confidently take on this larger task.

My only regret is that no one has been willing take on the editor job as I step down. This does not bode well for the health of this Club. It has long been recognized that a monthly mailing announcing upcoming meetings, feature speakers and updating all members with news from the previous meeting is the best way of getting people out and making meetings a success.

2004 is this Club's 44th year. The New Year will see us hosting the C.N.A. Convention with great new challenges and opportunities. Through all our efforts this Club will survive and flourish.

*Paul Petch*

**November Meeting Auction List**

**Starts at**

- 1) *ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF THE US MINT*, 1897. 138pp. soft cover, good condition. Est. \$25.00-30.00 ..... \$15.00
- 2) *ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA, PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS BY R W McLACHLAN*, May 1915. Hardcover, Illus., subject of the address is the history of money in Canada. EF. Est. \$40.00-\$50.00 ..... 25.00
- 3) *VADE MECUM du COLLECTIONNEUR* by DR. JOS. LEROUX 1885. Early "handbook" of numismatic terms etc by one of the experts of the time. Only fair condition but appears complete. This is arguably the least expensive entry into original early Canadian publications available to collectors today. Est. \$20.00..... 15.00



The distinctive shape of the white trillium's three large petals is very appealing, but picking this floral gem can affect the trillium's ability to bloom for several years, an occurrence that has turned Ontario's once highly visible floral emblem into a rare prize. The white trillium has been Ontario's provincial floral emblem since 1937. The flower is common in Southern Ontario, Quebec, Western New England, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan,

South and North Carolina, and Mississippi.

"Trillium grandiflorum" once dominated Ontario's landscape, blooming throughout its southern regions and as far north as Lake Nipissing. From late April to the end of May, the shade of Ontario's deciduous forests is illuminated with large white blooms. As these petals fade, they turn to various shades of pink before giving way to red berries.

The mintage for the 2003 Pure Gold Coin – White Trillium has been limited to 2,003 coins worldwide. Each coin has a face value of \$350.00 and is available for \$1099.99.

#### Coin Specifications:

<b>Composition:</b>	99.999% gold
<b>Weight:</b>	38.05 grams
<b>Diameter:</b>	34 mm
<b>Thickness:</b>	2.7 mm
<b>Edge:</b>	Reeded
<b>Face value:</b>	\$350
<b>Mintage:</b>	3,003
<b>Finish:</b>	Proof (frosted relief on a brilliant back ground)

## The Mint That Pride Shut Down

by R. S Yeoman

But for one man's civic pride, the Canadian province of British Columbia would have had a mint.

A great gold rush was on in 1858 in the rugged British Columbia mountains. The Hudson's Bay Company yielded to a provincial government of two colonies: British Columbia, with its capital at New Westminster, and Vancouver Island, with Victoria as its capital city. The Chief Factor of Hudson's Bay, James Douglas, was appointed governor of both colonies.

Lack of coinage was the greatest problem of the citizens, with the rivalry between the two capitals running a close second.

Captain W. D. Gossett, treasurer of the British Columbia province, worked long and hard for an assay office, which was finally established at New Westminster in 1860. Governor Douglas, who lived in Victoria, urged the erection of a mint. Of course he had expected the mint would be set up in Victoria, but the machinery went to New Westminster instead, and dies for ten and twenty dollar gold pieces were made at the Tower Mint in London.

When everything was in readiness, Captain Gossett asked for the governor's sanction to proceed with coinage, but the request was abruptly refused. A decrease in gold production was presented as the official reason for refusal, but many believe that the governor was miffed at the failure to locate the mint in his home city.

At any rate, Gossett, on his own responsibility, struck off five each of the \$20 and \$10 pieces from an allotment of gold supplied by some friends. The mint machinery was never used again.

## Question of the Month

The October question asked you to identify the item in the picture above. This is a new, but expensive, item from the Royal Canadian Mint. It's story in the form of a press release follows:

### ROYAL CANADIAN MINT CELEBRATES THE FLORAL EMBLEM OF ONTARIO

**September 9, 2003** – The Royal Canadian Mint introduces the 2003 Pure Gold Coin – White Trillium, its sixth issue in the provincial flowers series.

Designed by Canadian artist, Pamela Stagg, the 2003 Pure Gold Coin – White Trillium celebrates the importance and meaning of Canada's cultural symbols. This gold coin is 99.999% pure, the highest standard of fine gold available in the world and is hand polished to proof perfection. Each coin is offered in an anodised gold-coloured aluminium box with cherry wood stained siding and is accompanied by a numbered certificate of authenticity.