



# The PLANCHET Volume 64 · Issue 3

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# The Planchet Team

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# Message from the President

## **Marc Bink**

## April 2017

It looks like spring has finally sprung. Another winter is just about over. With that, there are now other priorities coming into play – like setting up the deck, planning summer trips, and deciding what to do with the lawn.

There are also taxes, which tends to put a damper on quite a few people's coin budgets. Ok, sorry to be a wet blanket...

The March show was a success. The weather refused to cooperate, but the people still came. Saturday's attendance was a bit down, but Sunday's was way up to compensate. Most in attendance reported that they had a good show. The sales weren't bad considering how lousy the economy has been around here as of late.

I'd like to thank the volunteers for all their hard work and dedication for the March 4–6 weekend; it's because of you that the show is the success it is. The coin dealers all report that our show is probably the most professionally run one in Canada. That, along with the biggest show in Canada. We all can be very proud of what we've accomplished!

We held the Annual General Meeting in March, and the previous Executive and board was returned to office. I'd like to congratulate all of you and I look forward to working with you again. On a slightly sad note, we will be saying good bye to Ermin Chow this year as he moves on to a new career in Calgary. Ermin started with us close to 10 years ago as a junior member and was very active on the board and the executive until very recently when he announced he wouldn't run for a board position again. It's too bad he isn't staying in the Edmonton area, but then again, that's life. Our loss will be Calgary's gain; please join me in wishing Ermin success with his new position.

This year I'd like to finally tackle the website and get it into the 21st century. We've got a great and vibrant club, the best show in Canada but we've also got the oldest website in all of Canada. Old is reserved for coins or the cars I drive and should never be said about websites. Let's make this a priority this year and finally get it done.

I will be calling an Executive meeting for late April or early May. At this meeting, I'd like to discuss the website as well as the splitting and sharing of some duties. As usual, members are welcome to attend with their concerns or ideas. Please contact either Pierre or me to ensure that you get on the agenda.

With the summer break just around the corner, it would usually be a bit premature to start preparations for the Fall Show. But this case we're going to have to. Quite a few members of the Executive and the board are planning a little excursion to Berlin in October to take in the Numismata there. So we're going to need some help getting things set up while we're gone. If you're interested to help out, let anyone on the board know, or come to the next Executive meeting. We'd be very happy to hear from you!

Hope to see you at the next meeting!





APRIL 2017



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# Wednesday, May 10, 2017 **Royal Alberta Museum**

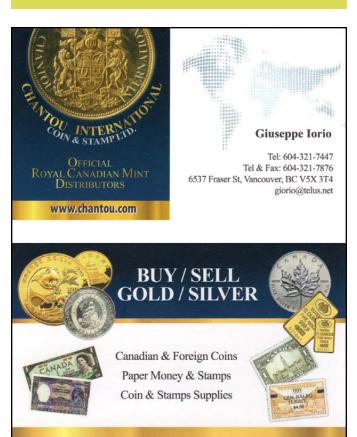
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# **Meeting Starts at 7:15 pm**

- Society Matters Show and tell
- Silent auction
- Presentation: "The Owls of Athens" by Terence Cheesman
- Break for: coffee, pop and cookies
- Door prize draws

For information regarding events, or to add an item to the agenda, please send an email to editor\_ens@yahoo.ca

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THE PLANCHET

# About Your Society

# by Mitch Goudreau ENS Secretary

# Feb 8, 2017 ENS Meeting Minutes

Marc Bink, the ENS President, opened the meeting at 19:20 hrs and welcomed the 41 members in attendance.

#### **Club Matters**

Silver Maple Leaf (SML) coins from the 2016 *Go For Gold* volunteer recognition program, were presented to members who were absent at the December 2016 meeting.

#### 2017 ENS Election

A reminder was given about the upcoming March 2017 club elections and everyone is encouraged to participate. Terence Cheesman is the head of the election committee.

## Canada 150 RCNA Medals

As previously announced the ENS will participate in the RCNA's initiative to create a medal commemorating Canada's Birthday in 2017. The ENS will have medals struck exclusively in silver for the 2017 Go for Gold program, while copper ones will be created and available for purchase. Pierre mentioned that the 100 copper medals originally planned should be raised to 150. Jim Kindrake made a motion that the ENS move forward by ordering the reverse die and striking

medals up to a cost of \$5000, 2nd by Jim Vanderleest. The proposal was approved.

## **ENS Coffee Table Book**

Mirko Dumanovic is hosting another meeting at his home on Saturday Feb 11, 2017 for those participating in the project to record the history of the ENS. Everyone is welcome to take part. The final product will be a coffee table book with an anticipated completion date of sometime in 2018.

## March 4–5, Coin Show

An update was given on the upcoming coin show. The tables are sold out and some banners are already installed on Yellowhead road and Whitemud Drive overpasses. The Howard Johnson hotel has stated that they will be improving the bathrooms in the days leading up to the show.

#### **Presentation**

Marcus Molenda gave a presentation called "The Quebec City Hoard of Canadian Coppers". It was the largest hoard of coins found in Canada and contained about 12,000 tokens.

#### Conclusion

Door prizes were drawn and the meeting was adjourned at 20:55 hrs.





# 2017–18 Executive

Marc Bink – President
David Peter – Vice President
Pierre Driessen – Treasurer
Mitch Goudreau – Secretary
Joe Kennedy – Editor-In-Chief
Jamie Horkulak – Past President

#### **Directors**

Wayne Hansen
Terence Cheesman
Howard Gilbey
Jeremy Martin
John Callaghan
Greg Wichman
Andy Vanderleest
Marv Berger
Mirko Dumanovic
Clinton Beck

# **Youth Director:**Danny Kachkan

Webmaster: Markus Molenda

Facebook: Ermin Chow

Twitter: Roger Grove

**Librarian:** Mitch Goudreau **Show Chair:** David Peter

Social Activities: Pierre Driessen

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# **About Your Society**

# by Mitch Goudreau ENS Secretary

# March 8, 2017 ENS Meeting Minutes

Marc Bink, the ENS President, opened the meeting at 19:19 hrs and welcomed the members to the annual general meeting. Marc reminded everyone that the annual elections are going to be held tonight. The purpose of this is to elect ten directors and five members of the executive, who will lead our society for the next year.

## March 4-5, Coin Show

- A big thank you was given to the volunteers for once again putting on a wonderful show.
- Our total attendance of 968 visitors was pretty good, especially when you consider Saturday's inclement weather.
- The hotel continues to improve its facilities, and the food was also better than it was in November.
- Comments were made on how the Kids' Packs made by Howard Gilbey were great and very well received.
- The Kids' Auction was a grand success where 13 registered bidders purchased 40 lots.
- Howard's Silent Auction was well run as usual, and the sales were almost as high as those achieved at our last show.

#### **Elections**

It was determined that no ENS members who were not already Directors or on the Executive were interested in running for a position in the election. Dan Gosling motioned for the floor to appoint the current board, 2nd by Roger Grove.

Each member of the board was asked if he would run again, and everyone, but one, agreed

to do so. Ermin Chow declined, because he is moving away this summer.

A request was made to see if anyone would reconsider running in the election to fill the available Director position.

Clinton Beck expressed interest in doing so. Pierre Driessen motioned that Clinton Beck be appointed to the board, 2nd by Terence Cheesman.

Ray Neiman made a motion that nominations cease and that the board be elected, 2nd by Jules Rach. A vote was held, and the motion passed.

The new ENS board consists of the following members:

#### **Directors:**

Wayne Hansen
Terence Cheesman
Howard Gilbey
Jeremy Martin
John Callaghan
Greg Wichman
Andy Vanderleest
Marvin Berger
Mirko Dumanovic
Clinton Beck

### Non Voting Youth Director: Danny Kachkan

### **Executive:**

Secretary – Mitch Goudreau Treasurer – Pierre Driessen Editor-In-Chief – Joe Kennedy Vice-President – David Peter President – Marc Bink

## **New Business**

Marc Bink thanked everyone for participating and mentioned that one of the priorities in the next year will be to modernize the ENS website.

#### **Presentation**

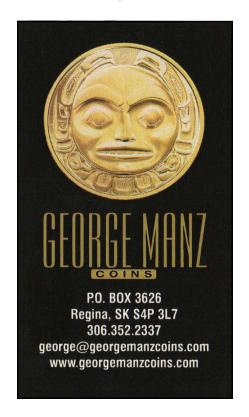
Wayne Hansen gave two presentations on Greek coinage. The first was "Ancient Greek Coins 650 BC to 200 BC", and the second was "Flan and Condition Problems in Ancient Greek Coins".

# Door Prizes & Show and Tell

The door prizes were drawn before some newly acquired numismatic items from our coin show were passed around. These included a Confederate note, a Russian ½ ruble and a Wellington token.

#### Conclusion

The silent auction lots were sold, and the meeting was adjourned at 21:15 hrs.



# 2017 ENS Spring Show (March 4 & 5)

# Silent Auction Summary

# by Howard Gilbey

TOTALS	
Registered Bidders	21
Successful Bidders	17
ENS Member Consignors	9
Consigned Lots (includes 3 duplicates and 8 withdrawn)	142
Lots Sold	86
Percentage of Lots Sold	60.6%
Value of Lots Sold	\$2008
ENS Consignor Fees Collected	\$146
Returned to ENS Members	\$1862

Range of Amounts for Sold Lots: \$4 to \$300 Average Selling Price for Sold Lots: \$23.35

# Kids' Auction Images

# by Dan Gosling







**Kids' Auctioneer: Howard Gilbey** 

# Coming Events

April 22-23, 2017: Regina Coin Club Show at the Turvey Centre, Regina.

May 10, 2017: ENS Meeting at the Royal Alberta Museum; 7:15 pm start.

May 12, 2017: Deadline for edited Planchet article submissions for Issue 4.

June 9: Issue 4 of the 2017 PLANCHET

June 14, 2017: ENS Meeting at the Royal Alberta Museum; 7:15 pm start.

To list your coming events, send them to editor\_ens@yahoo.ca

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# 2017

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APRIL 2017

# Regina Coin Show features Princess Patricia 1917 \$1 Note

# by George Manz, F.R.C.N.A



Canadian \$1 note depicting Prince Patricia (1917)

The Regina Coin Club Show in April 2017 will feature a series of Canadian 1917 \$1 notes that depict Prince Patricia, the grand-daughter of Queen Victoria. The Regina Coin Club is celebrating the hundredth anniversary of these notes being issued.

The notes were the only ones designed during World War I. They display several patriotic and military symbols such as maple leaves and flags. The centre of the face of the notes portray Princess Patricia, the daughter of the former Governor General of Canada and his wife, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught.

Princess Patricia was instrumental in raising a regiment that was called Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI). As well, she designed and hand-made the original PPCLI regimental flag and became its Colonel-in-Chief. The notes are dated March 17, her birthday.

The back of the notes depict the Centre Block of the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa, Canada's capital. When the note was first issued, the Centre Block no longer existed as it was destroyed by

fire on February 3, 1916 with only the Library of Parliament saved from destruction. German sabotage was suspected in the fire.

The PPCLI was formed in 1914 and was the first Canadian infantry unit to fight in France. They fought in some of the bloodiest battles of the war including Somme, Vimy Ridge, Passchendaele and Amiens. Several PPCLI members were awarded the Victoria Cross, the Commonwealth's highest honour. The regiment also fought in World War II, the Korean War, and Afghanistan.

A member of the Saskatoon Coin Club has loaned his collection of Princess Patricia \$1 notes to be displayed at the Regina Coin Club Show. Included in the display are full colour face and back proofs, several different specimen notes, an issued bank note, two vignettes, and numerous progressive face and back proofs.

In addition, the Regina Coin Club will display numerous cap and collar badges and shoulder titles from the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry over the



Cap badge, collar badges and shoulder title

Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry

last 100 years. As well, there will be a display of memorabilia from the Regina Pats, a major junior hockey team named after Princess Patricia that is also celebrating its hundredth anniversary. The hockey players wear PPCLI shoulder titles on their jerseys.

The Regina Coin Club Show and Sale takes place at the Turvey Centre, just north of Regina. The show runs from April 22–23, 2017.

George Manz is a Fellow of the Royal Canadian Numismatic Association and President of the Regina Coin Club.

# It's a Presidential Thing

Part 1: American presidents of

the 18th and 19th centuries

by Marc Bink

The other day I received the last of my Presidential Series dollar coins from a coin dealer in the US. It was kind of funny that the timing of my receiving the last coin coincided with the last US election. Of course, at the end of it all there was a lot of acrimonious debate and name calling followed by the socalled "progressive" elements of society doing a lot of hand-wringing and forecasting doom and gloom at the rather unexpected results. It appeared to us in more civilized society that the more dangerous of the two notso-great candidates offered up won and that this individual was potentially the most unhinged person ever to have been elected to high office in the US. I figured there had to be more cases of this in US history, so I started to look at biographies of all 44 presidents. Upon going through the entire roster, I thought it would be interesting to look at some of the more memorable personalities to have held

office in the US and see if this was actually true.

Obverse design for the USA Presidential Dollar Coin series (2007–2016)

The last coin I received was one with Ronald Reagan on it. His issue was the last one for the entire program. Initially I thought the US Mint was going to commemorate every president, but it seems in order to make the cut the ex-president has to have been dead for at least 2 years. By the time the 2016 issue was released, Ronald Reagan fit the bill and therefore was the last president to grace a dollar coin.

It was the last one to complete the set that I've been adding to since 2007. I don't know why I collected them, but I have the full set from the Denver mint. Well, not the full set, I'm missing the 2009 set (mine are from San Francisco) and there are a few "P" mint coins where the "D" coins were either lacking or not good enough. My goal was to collect at least one full set in "business strike" grade; I don't usually collect proofs or collectible grade coins. I don't really know how that started, I just all of a sudden decided that all of my collection was to be circulation grade and not proof. So that's what I have here, with the exception of the entire 2009 run which is proof.

They aren't the prettiest coins, which may explain why they never really caught on with the

public. Americans don't like dollar coins; they never have. Right from the first issues on to the last real silver dollars, most examples extant are in excellent or uncirculated shape. It's not uncommon to see a whole collection of Morgan dollars in MS-63 or better. The public never used the coins. Transactions were done in paper dollars or in gold. Small change under a dollar was circulated to extinction, but the dollar coin never was readily accepted. In the 1970s, the US mint made 2 attempts to re-popularize the dollar, the Eisenhower clad dollar introduced in 1971, and the Susan B. Anthony dollar of 1979. The Ike dollar was "too big" to carry as change. It also had a worn down look right from new. The series was made in limited numbers until 1978. In 1979 after "numerous public consultations" the mint released its new dollar coin that it hoped would gain public acceptance, the new Susan B. Anthony coin.

It fizzled even harder than the Ike dollar did. The Mint had a problem; the legislation approved by the US government was to make the coins for at least 3 years. So coins were struck from 1979 until 1981. The 1981 issues were not released to the public, they went

straight to collectors. The Mint was stuck with millions of unwanted coins that they couldn't even give away at a discount. If it were not for the fact that the US Post office required the use of Susan B. Anthony dollars for stamp machines, they would have never been used up. That was the only way the stock of Susan B. Anthony dollars was exhausted.

But dollar bills are expensive to make and they don't last very long - typically about 3 months in regular circulation. A coin is better than a bill, in that it can hold out for about 10 years or longer and still be presentable. So, in 2000, the US mint introduced the Sacagawea Dollar. The US mint had studied what had gone right with the Loonie introduction in Canada in 1987 and sought to introduce something similar that they had hoped would be as "loved" as the Loonie was. It had what was thought to be the successful aspects of the Canadian "Loonie"; it was smaller and bronze coloured. It too fizzled with the American public. The truth be known, it is not a pretty coin, no matter what they do with it. The first issues had the highest mintage, and then as demand for the coins fell, so did the mintage numbers. They are now



**Examples of \$1 coins previously issued by the United States** 

Left to right: Morgan dollar, Ike dollar, Susan B. Anthony dollar, Sacagawea dollar

pretty well only made for collectors. The US Mint has changed the reverse design from the original, starting in 2009 each year would feature a different aspect of 1st Nations culture. It hasn't helped demand at all; the only people snapping these things up are collectors.

At the same time these dollars were being made, the Mint began issuing new commemorative dollar coins featuring the country's former presidents on them. They would feature the same reverse, the year and mintmark would be incuse on the edge, (along with "E Pluribus Unum") but the obverse would feature a different dead president. And the rule was, the president had to be dead for at least 2 years in order to make the program. Probably a good thing too; the likenesses of many of the presidents looks positively amateurish. I'm sure if Ronald Reagan could see his effigy, he'd be less than impressed; he looks like Chucky from that bad movie about dolls.

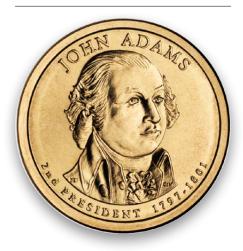
What the coins do provide is a neat window into American history. I decided to collect the full set, even though they are quite ugly.

Now don't get me wrong; I like American coins. I have a fairly large collection of them. I love some of the designs that were made during the 1920s and 30s; the Standing Liberty quarter is in my estimation one of the prettiest coins ever made, (in particular the Type 1). So is

the walking Liberty Half dollar, and of course the St. Gaudens \$20 gold coin. Even the Buffalo nickel was kind of neat in a way, I don't like them, but I know people who do. And of course, there's the Mercury dime; very Art Deco and very fitting to its period. It's when they started putting presidents on coins that



**George Washington**Presidency: 1789–1797



John Adams
Presidency: 1797–1801

things got boring. And yes, even though Lincoln was my favorite president, it started with the penny made with his likeness on it in 1909. They should have stuck with a version of Liberty.

So back to the dollars; looking at the presidents, who was the best, who was the worst? Were there any presidents that were worse than the guy who is there now? Surprisingly, yes, there were. And it starts right at the beginning with George Washington.

George Washington was the father of his country. He is loved and worshipped by millions; even today, 217 years after his death. Go to any school in the US and see the students fed a steady diet of just how wise and sage he was. While he was a very wise man, he was also a terrible strategist and a lousy general. It wasn't until he learned that he could and should trust others that he started to actually make a difference. If it wasn't for British apathy and the fact that they were chest deep in European conflicts there is a very good chance that George and most of the other Patriots would have ended their careers ignominiously at the end of a rope. One thing that Washington eventually learned to do was to bring in the best minds and let them hash out all the problems and he would just then mediate. This is how the Constitution was sorted out, and the structure for the eventual US government.

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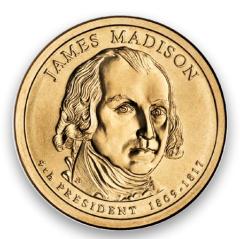
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**Thomas Jefferson** 

Presidency: 1801–1809



**James Madison** 

Presidency: 1809–1817



**James Monroe** 

**Presidency: 1817–1825** 

John Adams was next. Adams was brilliant; but he wasn't a stellar personality. He had the misfortune to be "second banana" to just about anyone. He was never taken seriously. So when it came to be his turn, he felt that he was "owed" the job as president. As such, he wasn't a very good one. It was his good fortune that George had retired and died, this allowed his presidency to stand on its own merit. After fighting with Congress and alienating everyone, he retired quietly and let his nemesis Thomas Jefferson have his day.

Jefferson was a typical theorist. He was incredibly intelligent and was probably the real father of the United States. He was a staunch republican and egalitarian. He was fluent in a number of languages and this eventually helped; he managed to cut a deal with the French over the Louisiana territory, and he managed to run his own diplomacy

after taking care of the Berbers. It was the US's first foreign war; they beat the Berber pirates and wrangled concessions out of them. It showed that the US wasn't just a flash in the pan and that they were serious about protecting their sailors and commerce. The British were starting to take notice, but the Napoleonic Wars had pushed them to the brink as well; they seized US ships and impressed US crewmen into the Royal Navy. Jefferson started the process that would culminate in the War of 1812. His hope was to convince the British economically that they need to trade with the US. Unfortunately his strategy didn't work and actually did more damage to the US cause than it did any good. By the end of his presidency, Jefferson was regarded as one of the best the US ever had.

Madison and Monroe weren't bad; but they were clearly

also-rans to the likes of Jefferson and Washington. Each served two terms. Madison took the US through the War of 1812, and Monroe started flexing US muscle in central and South America. Economically, both presidents allowed the Second Bank of the US to continue on; had this process been allowed to continue it would have probably evolved into the Federal Reserve System that is currently in place a lot sooner than it did.

John Quincy Adams was one of those people who was burdened by the expectations of those around him. Adams was the son of John and Abigail Adams, and he was expected to do well and go far. And he did. He was particularly brilliant as a diplomat and as an orator. Most of his early life was spent in the capitols of Europe in the service of the US. When he arrived home, he was expected to hold office and aspire to the presidency.

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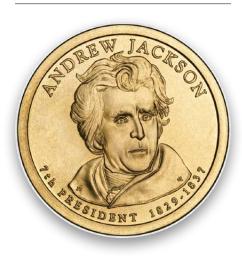
He did that too. As a president though, he was a total bust. He couldn't get anything done. He lost control of both houses and spent most of his presidency in a depression. He let important issues slide, such as the charter renewal for the Second Bank of the US. He was content to maintain the status quo and do nothing. As it was, the whole process was derailed by a person who probably makes Donald Trump look like a paragon of reason and good judgment. That fellow was Andrew Jackson.

Andrew Jackson was quite possibly the most dangerous man to have ever held the office of the president of the United States. He was probably the closest the US ever got to having a certifiable lunatic in office. He was not very bright; in fact, he was quite simple. He tended to shoot first and ask questions later. He had a lot of strong opinions, most of which were pretty backward. As the perennial outsider, he hated the "establishment" and took great pains to discredit it and he actively tried to dismantle it. He started the Democratic Party when he felt he was being ignored by the establishment Whigs. This new party consisted of mostly southerners with an agricultural background, in other words, arch-conservative slaveholders. He also had a nasty habit of challenging anyone who crossed him to a duel and once regretted that the Constitution forbade him from having his enemies summarily shot. He was reputed to have murdered a man and gotten away with it.

He rose to prominence in 1814; he was the hero of the Battle of New Orleans. This battle was the last one fought in the War of 1812 and when General Jackson and company descended on the much larger and better equipped British forces occupying New Orleans and Louisiana, he slaughtered them with very few losses to his own forces. And it



John Quincy Adams
Presidency: 1825–1829



**Andrew Jackson**Presidency: 1829–1837

wasn't because of his brilliant leadership or astute strategies; it was because the British were sick and tired of fighting a pointless war and wanted to go home. It's too bad the battle was more or less useless and didn't affect the outcome of the war. They all wanted to go home. The war had been over by at least a month by that point, it's just that no one knew it on this side of the Atlantic.

When the good general decided to run for office he used the battle as his "schtick" and never let anyone forget that he was a man of action when the action was uncalled for. He also had a pathological hatred of anything British; admittedly

they left him an orphan during the Revolutionary War. That never changed throughout his long life. He also harboured a life-long distrust and hatred of banks. He successfully destroyed the Second Bank of the United States and his draconian and punitive monetary policies destroyed a land rush in the west and ruined the financial sector in New York. It spawned a Panic in 1836-37 which destroyed a great many private banks and set the wheels in motion for the Civil War. It's thanks to him that I now have a large collection of "obsolete American Currency", almost all of it from failed private banks. The notes are all very pretty and it's easy to forget that these things represent the failed dreams of the common man who invested his life savings in these privately run banks and was left "holding the bag" when they failed. Due to a currency shortage caused by his insistence that everything be paid for in gold specie, I also have a large collection of "hard times" tokens which depict what the common man thought of their erstwhile president and his hapless successor.

He had singlehandedly destroved the economy and saddled his successor, Martin Van Buren with an unpopular policy and a failed economy by making him promise to continue his policies. Van Buren would have probably made a good president, but he never quite got out from under Jackson's legacy. He realized far too late that he'd been had. It got to the point where the Whigs could have run a donkey for president against Van Buren and handily won.

To this day Jackson remains a controversial figure. He's loved and respected in the South and reviled in the North. He graces the US \$20 bill and is a reminder that crime and stupidity has its rewards.

APRIL 2017



William Henry Harrison
Presidency: 1841



**John Tyler** Presidency: 1841–1845



James K. Polk
Presidency: 1845–1849

The next few presidents were lacklustre. pretty William Harrison didn't last too long after his inauguration. He contracted pneumonia and died very shortly after being sworn in. Tyler and Polk stayed the course, fought Mexico for more territory and expanded into Texas, and Taylor kicked some serious Mexican butt and got himself elected. Fillmore didn't do too much, he enters history as pretty benign. He was the last "Whig" president, the party of Washington, Jefferson, and Monroe had imploded ignominiously during his tenure. The right-wing folded into the Democrats, and the left-wing remnants would eventually form up into the Republican Party; it on itself would be a major contributor to the Civil War.

Tyler has the distinction of serving the longest single term of any US president. Because Harrison had died, Tyler (as his running mate and VP) took the oath of office and ran things immediately. He didn't do too much; he did more to unravel Jackson's mess and the Whig party platform than anyone else. He was replaced by James Polk, who was regarded as the last "strong" pre-Civil War president. Polk was the one who eventually won out in Texas and beat Mexico. It wasn't enough to get him a second term. Zachary Taylor was a career officer when he decided to run; and then half-way into his term he died. This brings us to Fillmore. He coasted through and didn't really accomplish much. Neither did his successor, Franklin Pierce, Pierce was a northern Democrat who saw abolition as a scourge and did everything to stall it. All he succeeded in doing was ratcheting up the pressure for secession in the South.



**Zachary Taylor** Presidency: 1849–1850



**Millard Fillmore** Presidency: 1850–1853



**Franklin Pierce**Presidency: 1853–1857

James Buchanan was an enigma. He wasn't all that popular. He was another northern Democrat. As a lawyer, he held the law above everything else. As such, he did nothing to prevent Secession from happening. He could have stopped it, but chose not to. He was accused at the time of having covert Southern sympathies - and he might have had. The problem is no one is really sure. Buchanan didn't leave much left for historians to go on, possibly because he might have been covering up for a closeted life. He wanted to go down in history as one of the best presidents in US history and he acknowledged to Lincoln upon the latter's inauguration that he was in fact going down as the worst because of his indecision and waffling.

Abraham Lincoln was the first Republican president. He was initially a staunch Whig, but soon saw the light and signed up with the new party. He helped formulate its policies and stance. As a self-educated country lawyer, he knew how to talk to people and how to listen. He was a gifted leader of men, with a knack for compromise and conciliation as he gathered all the warring factions of his new party together and made it work. He also had a lot of patience. His stewardship of the Civil War is still controversial. A lot of historians believed he could have ended it sooner if he'd have fired MacLellan sooner. But they failed to realize at the time there was no one else; Grant was stumbling around in the Mississippi area and was just starting to make a name for himself. The rest of Lincoln's general staff was incredibly incompetent. The calibre people went south; and for a while they were winning the war. Then the north's economic powerhouse kicked in and the South began to falter. How different things could have been if General Lee had decided to work for the North instead of the South. The war would have been over



James Buchanan Presidency: 1857–1861



**Abraham Lincoln** Presidency: 1861–1865



Andrew Johnson
Presidency: 1865–1869

quicker and Arlington would not be a cemetery.

Lincoln managed to steer the country through its most difficult test. He wanted to ensure that the Southern States ratified the 13th Amendment and guarantee the rights of all under the Constitution before he'd give them full sovereignty again. He also realized that a lot of infrastructure and social work was needed. He did the unthinkable and freed the slaves. But he also had a good idea what it would all cost. Lincoln had modernized the US banking industry by regulating it and determining monetary policy. He had come up with the forerunner of the Federal Reserve System. He and his cabinet understood what it took to put a country on a war footing. He understood the difficulties in maintaining a volunteer army with lousy training standards so he had them improved. When he was assassinated he was working on how to get the South back up and running as fast as possible. Unfortunately, that was now left up to Andrew Johnson, a man who had no business being where he was.

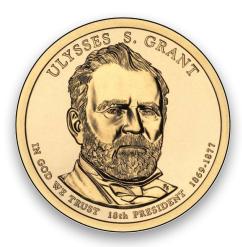
Johnson was selected as Lincoln's running mate because he was initially from the south and he was relatively free from scandal. Johnson was actually a Democrat who Lincoln figured would help him unify the South, so he was selected on the National Union platform. It all came apart from there. On his inauguration, Johnson made a rambling speech that made no sense. Chances are he was drunk at the time. He had a love affair with the bottle: at first Lincoln and his cabinet thought they could contain it by marginalizing him, but in the end, he ended up taking over once Lincoln was assassinated. He might have been drunk while taking the oath; that's at least what his detractors were saying during his impeachment process.

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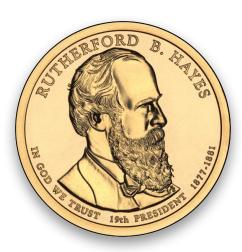
Once in Johnson power, embarked on own Reconstruction. He tried to fold in the southern states as quickly and as painlessly as possible. He did nothing to protect Black rights, in fact, he and his ilk encouraged creative ways to skirt the Emancipation proclamation and the 13th Amendment. He was impeached by congress, and narrowly avoided removal of office and possible conviction by only one vote in the Senate. He served the remainder of his term, and then went back home to the South.

U.S. Grant came next. A bonafide hero of the Civil War, one would expect Grant to do great things. Well he didn't, but not for lack of trying. His administration was riddled by corruption and graft, and he also narrowly averted scandal. He managed to stabilize the country and get Reconstruction back on track after the Johnson fiasco. But it wasn't enough; in his second term there was a sharp recession that ruined a lot of lives and banks. He himself got worked over. He lost his fortune to a swindle and was forced in his last years to dictate his memoirs in the hopes that they would generate enough so his widow and family could survive. A life-long cigar smoker and heavy drinker, he succumbed to throat cancer the same day he finished dictating his memoirs. He was at least successful in securing his family's fortune, the memoirs were a literary success. He was another "shoulda, coulda, woulda, but didn't" presidents.

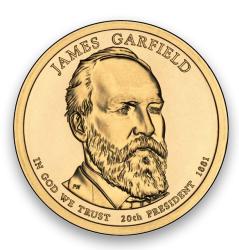
So was Grant's successor, Rutherford Hayes. He didn't really do anything except hold down a chair. During his tenure the Reconstruction officially ended, and the economy was picking up. Banking had finally been strengthened up and was stabilizing. There was hope.



**Ulysses S. Grant** Presidency: 1869–1877



**Rutherford B. Hayes** Presidency: 1877–1881



James Garfield Presidency: 1881

James Garfield was a log cabin president. He was born into extreme poverty and made something of himself. served 20 years in the House, and was looked at as having a lot of promise. His presidency started off well; he was trying to reform the banking system and put it on sound footing, something that had never been done in the US. Instead of doing great things, he ended up getting shot by a disgruntled and somewhat demented office seeker. The guy that shot him figured that he should get an ambassadorship to France, even though he couldn't find it on a globe and knew no other languages. Garfield survived the initial assassination attempt, only to literally die at the hands of his doctors who at the time still refused to wash their hands before examining aunshot wounds. He likely died of septicemia and starvation about 200 days into his term. As is usually the case, a promising man was replaced by a dud, in this case, Chester A. Arthur.

Arthur wasn't a bad guy. In fact, he was a pretty good and stalwart kind of guy. He picked a very able and capable cabinet which included Abraham Lincoln's only surviving child, Robert. Arthur and his cabinet steered the US through some pretty nasty times. This was the period of the political "machine", where one man (with the support of big business or an ethnic group) would control whole cities or industries. **Politicians** and legislation could be bought and sold, careers would be made or broken depending on who one knew. Arthur remained distant from this and even started crafting legislation to curb the influence of the "machines". Needless to say, he eventually lost out and died shortly after leaving office.

The one thing that was beginning to happen was the average man was progressively getting more and more jaded and they were starting to despise politicians and politics. It was in this period where politicians lost any kind of respect they may have had and were then heaped in with Insurance salesmen, used horse dealers and lawyers as the most distrusted aspects of society. So now politicians had to clean up their act, and clean up big business as well. People were being exploited by "robber barons", people who by hook and by crook gained enough economic power and money to do whatever they wanted, which was to usually make more money. Politics became an uphill battle.

Grover Cleveland was one such man who initially couldn't get a break. He was an honest man and a Democrat, rare in those days, and he honestly tried to do what was right for the United States. He served two terms, but not consecutively. He rode in on the popular vote on Arthur's coat-tails. He continued what Arthur started, he broke a strike or two and kept the country out of trouble. But he couldn't keep up the popularity, he lost out after his first term to Benjamin Harrison.

Benjamin Harrison was Republican, and he was the grandson of William Harrison who was president for only a couple of days before he died. Ben Harrison was considered mediocre, but during his presidency the first anti-trust laws were enacted, the navy was modernized and he pushed through trade tariffs. All of these things made him rather unpopular, and he lost out to Grover Cleveland again.



**Grover Cleveland**Presidency: 1885–1889



**Benjamin Harrison**Presidency: 1889–1893

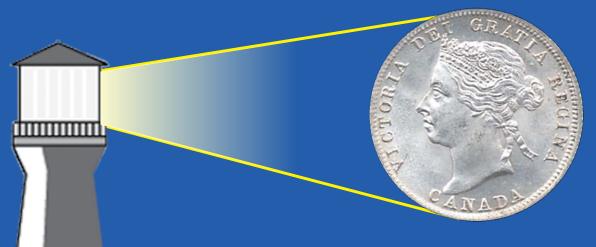


**Grover Cleveland**Presidency: 1893–1897

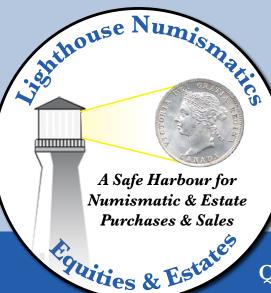
Cleveland should have been good. He could have been good. And he would have been good were it not for yet another financial "panic" in 1893. What most people don't realize is that this sort of thing was normal in the US; quick economic gains followed by quick failures. The Nineties were not gay for anyone except maybe a few cabaret dancers and down-on-their heels artists in Paris, but they were a disaster for most people. Finally though, the modern banking system was beginning to iell together and legislation regarding banks and bankruptcies was starting to finally come into play. For all the good Cleveland did, he could not get over the fact that he had no control over the economy. And, like most politicians, he was publicly hung out to dry as a scapegoat by the public for the latest economic crash while the true culprits, the US private banks, financiers, robber barons and companies who were responsible for the crash went scot-free.

So those were the American presidents of the 18th and 19th centuries. Overall, some of them were pretty bad, some of them weren't too bad, and there were one or two shining lights. One thing that most of them had was a moral code that forbade them from seriously overstepping their bounds or enrichening themselves at everyone's expense, these people had genuine commitment to the cause of American Liberty and they worked hard to preserve the Union and the country. While undoubtedly egoists and selfserving, they had nothing on the people that came after them in the 20th century. By the middle of the 20th century it was clear that those moral restraints were gone. And that will be the focus of Part 2, in the next issue of the Planchet – stay tuned!

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# 'Amid the Ruins' Goes Canadian

# Personal Favorites Revealed

# by Wayne Hansen



1952 - Last George VI Issue

I can be accused of being preoccupied with ancient Greek coins since I write about them fairly regularly. You might say, 'Who cares - we live in Canada, land of snow, maple syrup and the double-double'. And you would be correct. We should recognize and value our own heritage, especially since we have more resources than at any other time to do so. Unfortunately, however, given the current population's penchant for distraction and self-gratification, it's likely that knowledge of history and appreciation for historical objects will steadily diminish. I have tried to do my part to recognize the past as we embrace the present and future, but of course we older people have had the advantage of being more closely tied to the outside world from an early age. A few decades ago, things seemed to happen at a slower pace, allowing better focus on events as they occurred. I also think we witnessed a more definite progression of

technological advances over the last century, rather than the blur of seamless nuance we encounter today. Some of us remember when we had no television, let alone color television, no computers, and even no bathrooms. When black and white television arrived, that is, when you could afford it, the sets were small and fuzzy, and there was one local TV station for which you needed a rooftop aerial. Our first news was, in fact, news (rather than entertainment), and it was heard once a day on the radio or TV and/or seen in a newspaper. We older folk also had not-so-distant relatives who originally helped to settle Canada – in my case, my immigrant great-grandparents, with my future grandparents in tow, broke the prairie sod; while one of the same greatgrandparents helped to build trestle bridges for Canada's first trans-continental railway. Many of us also had parents or other relatives who participated in the world wars - my parents met in Scotland during WWII when my father was on leave while serving overseas. So our direct and indirect real life experiences were linked to important events, altering our attitudes and perceptions. My history, such as it was, gave me an understanding of historical context and an appreciation for the passage of time. This appreciation eventually led to an interest in collecting Canadian coins, groups of which still hold a deeper meaning.

This publication has long hoped to include more articles about Canadian coinage, I had mentioned that I would like to see a series of articles describing the relationship between what the Canadian mint was producing during various historical periods, by type and quantity, and the concurrent economic and social situation in the country. Since no one has done this thus far, I thought I would at least provide a personal view of the most interesting issues from the Ottawa mint.

## **Canadian Circulation Coins**

Those of us at the leading edge of the baby boom grew up with pockets full of circulating silver coins when they were young. Actually, our pockets weren't full since there wasn't much cash around. A quarter, or even a nickel, was real money - a kid could go to a movie for a quarter, and a chocolate bar was a nickel. Mind you, a working man's wage was only around \$3,000 per year. You would probably find coins of King George as often as Queen Elizabeth in your change back in the 1950s. In the early 1960s, specifically in 1964, when the confederation dollar was issued in vast quantities, the supply of new coins began to mushroom. The situation was 'worse' in 1965-1967 when the RCM pumped out dollars like confetti in preparation for the Canadian Centennial (I was working in Arctic Red River, above the Arctic Circle on July 1st that year). Then, like any Ponzi scheme, the climax of silver coin production came to a crashing halt in 1968. Silver was withdrawn from all circulating Canadian coins, and our big, heavy, beautiful dollar was no more - not that anyone ever saw one in change, but it was our anchor nonetheless. In its place was a wimpy, dark-colored facsimile that no one liked nor wanted.

I started collecting the now 'vintage' Canadian coins in the early 1970s, attracted to the combination of silver metal, attractive designs and historical relevance. Maybe I was simply indulging a longing for the lovely older coinage, partly because it wasn't the newer coinage. I had zero interest in coin issues after 1967 and frankly little interest in

coins past 1963 - they were just too plentiful. Familiarity can, I guess, breed contempt. About the same time as I started collecting, there were still a lot of people picking worn silver coins out of their change, several years after they were discontinued - initially in homage the noble little survivors that they were. It was like putting critically endangered creatures in a zoo for safe keeping, except that everyone knew they would eventually go to the slaughterhouse since their hides were worth more than their decommissioned little lives. But I digress.

I've never pretended to know anything much about Canadian coins. My main task initially was to fill in as many blank slots as possible. Since there was virtually no electronic avenue available to see what was around, I went to local auctions to find coins (remember Saturdays at Fenske's when it was on 101 Street?) and to one particular coin shop (remember Henry Wener's in the MacLeod Building?). I did find some nice specimens at auction, like BU 5-cent silvers, but I mostly appreciated any clean, higher-grade Canadian types that would expand my collection in any of the regular denominations. Of course this was long before the marketing juggernaut emerged at the Royal Canadian Mint. There was no avalanche of mint products like one sees today. It was a big deal to buy the leather bound 1967 presentation sets - the one with the \$20 gold coin (I remember taking 40 of those ubiquitous silver dollars to the post office in 1967 to buy a money order for one of the \$40 sets, and the clerk wouldn't take them\*).

My only real interest was in circulation coins since there was always the challenge of finding the best example. However, I did have a fondness for the 1950's mint sets since they were not too common, and I liked the range of denominations. I actually bought a pretty cool 1952 year set at our last Fall coin show just because it was so... 1952 and... a year set - no explanation required. Beyond a Canadian silver fixation and the quest for good quality coins, I must say that I limited my own coin search to what was available in a reasonable price range (my definition of reasonable has changed quite a lot over the years). Like everyone else, therefore, I ended up with quite a number of the more common dates and a lot of holes in my coin pages. A notable addition took place around the time I got married in 1973. My wife's family had lived in one of the old, two storey houses in the Highlands neighborhood since the 1920's, so her father had been there since he was a toddler. I was out in the backyard one day, just poking around a very old plum tree, next to their 1930's garage, and I spotted something shiny in the ground. Well, if it wasn't a 1925 nickel that could have been lost when the kids were playing there in the late '30s, and it was in pretty good shape too. I was pleased to discover that it was one of the 'rarer' dates, worth about \$25. Of course I didn't mention this to my in-laws right away, in case they wanted it back! All in all, collecting was a rather harmless pursuit, although I probably could have spent the time better either quaffing demon brews in the bar or investing in plastics (recommended in The Graduate – who knew?).

<sup>\*</sup> It's interesting to note that in 1967 you could buy the gold coin mint set, with the half ounce gold coin and all of the Alex Colville denomination coins, for \$40/no tax. The gold price was pegged at \$35 per ounce until it was deregulated in 1971. Just after we were married in early 1973, I bought 5 of the one ounce gold ingots for about \$400, so \$80 per ounce – but I sold them after it went up slightly – didn't want to lose money.

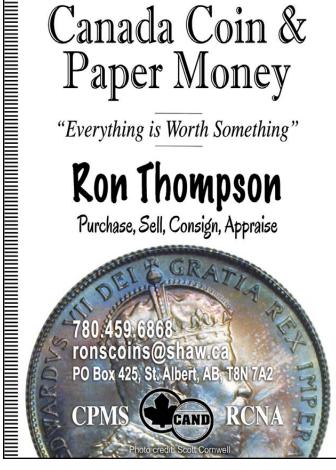
The real killer was when silver became merely a bullion commodity during the great Bunker Hunt market-cornering episode in the early 1980s. Silver coins and everything else that wasn't nailed down disappeared into melting pots. With this deflating of the silver mystique, plus having a growing young family and a continued desire to travel, my overall interest in coins declined at that point. I held my Canadian coins for many years, then sold them for \$4,100 to a dealer in one batch around the year 2000 just after a new interest in ancient coins took hold. The Greek coins I collect now are also about history, but they more broadly encompass geography, trade and warfare, mythology and visual appeal, with their vast range of styles and types. Because they are handmade, they are also more unpredictable and technically challenging, but fortunately they make up for it by being consistently expensive.

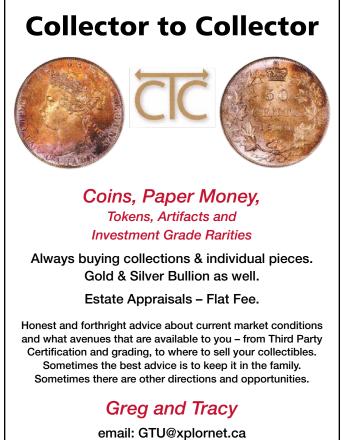
## **Key Periods**

People collect coins for all kinds of reasons, including collecting a continuous series of denominations and dates until ultimately the series is complete. I tried that early on with my Canadian collection - it required a lot of dedication and patience. It's not that I wasn't up to it, but in the end, it became less of a challenge and more of an exercise in how much money you want to spend. The best coins are beautiful, but being machine made, they look much the same as other good ones and they are usually available. Rather than pursue the same process ad infinitum, I began to think of Canadian coin types from a more personal perspective, meaning I didn't need to own a lot of them to fully appreciate their value.

I still like Canadian coins, but primarily those of certain vintages related to my experiences (coincidentally, like fine wine, the vintages can be identified by year). I go with what I like, not knowing much about what's a rare year or a rare variety, so I identify myself as a mere enthusiast rather than a purist. No doubt the mere enthusiasts will be eliminated after the final Reckoning.

The key for me is the association of Canadian coin dates and types with my family history, along with the major series change that occurred in the 1930s. So there is a discretionary angle for me, which probably seems silly to a true collector. As with the ancient Greek coins, my primary attraction is to style, detail and character. I can't relate very easily to pre-1900 coins, partly because I find the styles are a bit plain, but mostly because the bulk of them are quite worn, and the rest are very expensive. These 19th century problems extend to the beginning of the post-1900 period, except that my personal history comes more





into play, and the exceptional, old Canadian crest is used on some coins.

Following is a totally subjective review of the most significant Canadian coin periods using personal experience as a guide. My comments are largely directed at the early Canadian gold issue and the silver dollar coins, but I do also enjoy the lower denominations in the same periods.

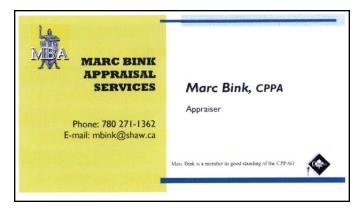
## First Key Period

The first key period for me immediately precedes the First World War, during the early homestead days on the Canadian prairies. This was particularly the time of the first Canadian gold coin issues in 1912-14, whose \$5 and \$10 denominations featured the wonderful old Canadian crest on their reverses. These issues resonate with me since two pairs of great-grandparent ancestors on my father's side had earlier emigrated from Norway and Scotland, taking homesteads a few miles away from each other in southern Saskatchewan when land opened just before 1910. The Norwegian great-grandfather first emigrated in 1874 after being in the Norwegian cavalry. He went back to Norway for a bride in 1876, then returned to Canada in 1879 to work as a foreman on CPR transcontinental bridge construction for six years, until 1885, when he was present at the last spike ceremony. He and his growing family then ranched in the bush for many years, 80 miles/two

days ride from the nearest town. But, in 1908, when he was already 59 years old and his wife 49, they decided to homestead farther south in Saskatchewan. The Scottish great-grandparents, together with one of their sons and a 13 year-old daughter, emigrated from the jute mills of Scotland when the father was 42 years old. They all left on the SS Numidian in March 1906. Their older son, who had apprenticed as a tailor, had already come over in 1903, at age 18, first to find a job and then to scout for land when good tailoring positions were scarce. Until they found homesteads, the father worked during summers on a Manitoba farm for \$25 a month to get experience, and he also worked on the railroad in winters for \$1.35 a day. In 1910, the father and his two sons each found a quarter section homestead and a quarter section cancellation near the CPR line west of Moose Jaw. The three of them qualified for a section and a half in total, costing \$10 for each bare homestead quarter section and \$5 an acre for each of the cancellations. They first built a 16' x 24' shack with a wood stove on the father's land in December that year, so that the mother and sister could join them, but a blizzard blew up, and the shack wasn't finished. The women arrived by train in the dead of winter and drove to the shack in an open cutter, where snow was blowing between the cracks of the one-ply walls. They had to put their feet in the stove oven to keep warm.

Those were the good times. Then came the years of drought starting in 1916, when the grain stalks were only 3 or 4 inches high and the horses got glanders. All in all, the worst of the homestead days were over by then since they had basic stores and train service in the closest town, plus they had the company of many other surrounding homesteaders who were in the same boat.

The early Canadian gold coins remind me of those primitive days on the prairies, dominated by horses, plows, threshing crews, homestead parties visited by buggy, kerosene lanterns and CPR steam. The tailor son of the Scottish family (my great uncle), who took his own homestead next door to the father, was eager to enlist and fight in the Great War, but he had to wait until they lowered the height restrictions. It didn't take long though – he was in by late 1914 and was killed at Ypres in June 1916. The grain from his land that year went to his sister, my grandmother, so she could buy a piano (they had finished a more roomy house the same year). The homesteaders were 'poor' enough that they may not have even seen many, or any, gold coins - most such coins were probably hoarded by the god-like CPR, the bane of prairie grain farmers for their control of all commerce and even the time. Homesteaders may not even have had a practical use for such coins; however, they are from that era, and they are pretty.



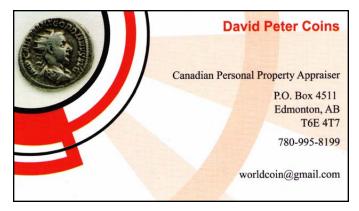


Figure 1 – Homestead Days



Figure 1A – The photo on the left shows my young Scottish grandmother with her parents and brothers on the homestead circa 1913–14 (each of the three men had his own homestead). The brother on the right enlisted in late 1914 and was killed in 1916. The photo on the right is



of my grandparents on their wedding day in 1919 – they were married in her parent's new house. My grandfather's Norwegian parents had a homestead a few miles away, but he was a few years younger and my grandmother said she had to wait for him to grow up.



Figure 1B – On the left, is a photo of the Norwegian homestead family, including my young grandfather, his sister and parents in 1912. The same family, plus my grandmother, is shown doing some swathing on their land about the time of WWI and Canada's first gold coin issue. They farmed 275



acres and had eight children, although several were already out on their own by that time. It is my Norwegian great-grandfather who had worked on the first transcontinental railroad, ranched in the bush in the late 1800's and then secured this Saskatchewan homestead in 1908.





Figure 1C – I went with my grandmother to the old homestead in 1972 and took these photos of the original buildings. On the left, the first shack built by her father in 1910, converted to a shed; in the middle, the house built

a few years later by her Scottish parents (where she was married); and on the right, the house built by my Norwegian great-grandparents.

Figure 2 - Canada's Early Gold Issue 1912-14



Figure 2 – I first bought a \$5/\$10 gold pair years ago when they were cheap, then sold them cheap and later re-bought them when they were twice as expensive. Not my fault - it's of course one of the Laws of the Universe. The above photo is of my 1913 issue of the \$5 coin, which is technically not a high grade, but the reverse on these coins is generally well preserved. My 1914 \$10 gold is a better grade, a part of the recent RCM stash, but it was slabbed so I haven't photographed it. My intent was to have only one coin for each of the two denominations. regardless of year, just for type - not like a regular collector with one coin from each denomination and each year, which offhand seems like it would be a more expensive option... Some dates of the limited, three-year series are scarcer than others, affecting price. I believe this gold issue was the first minted in Canada, rather than Great Britain, which makes it especially significant.

Perhaps others can explain any other production details in a more technical article at some point.

The reverse crest is, in my opinion, a mini masterpiece. It is an early version of the Canada crest, inexplicably lacking representation from the western provinces that were part of Canada at the time, but who cares. The style evokes the rugged, 19th century history of the country and features several pretty little iconic figures within the provincial arms that were deemed important to early Canadian identity. More arms and more figures would have made it cluttered. Whole branches of maple leaves enclose the main crest, making it both elegant and visually appealing. The lettering is neatly done and nicely balanced. The copper in the gold alloy gives these coins a dark, reddish tone compared to more recent gold issues that use more silver as an alloy. (Photo by the author and collection of the author).

# **Second Key Period**

The second key period includes the first few years of the new-style coinage introduced in 1935 – so it covers 1935 to 1938. The new series included the first Canadian silver dollar, ironically when the Canadian economy was at its lowest point. I think the understated 1937 George VI obverse portrait is as attractive as the 1935–6 George V commemorative portrait, but the actual regent is not as important to me as the concept

and style of the reverse designs. All of the 1935 denomination reverses are iconic and quintessentially Canadian. They are in our blood – simple and distinctive – deployed as the primary face of Canadian coinage ever since. The silver dollar's voyageur/canoe reverse is especially poignant. It's frontier aesthetic plays to our sense of historical uniqueness, right down to the HB monogram on the voyageur cargo. Why

do I pick these years when we have had similar reverses ever since? I like these years because they were the first, issued during the Great Depression when money was tight and hopes were down. Family relief was \$5 per month. In 1938–39, my father was a teenager riding the rails to Vancouver, sitting on top of boxcars pulled by a clanking, coal-stoked steam engine through mountain tunnels,

picking apples in the Okanagan and scrounging meals. No wonder he and others joined the army illegally at 15, claiming to be 17, at the start of WWII.

I also like these first years of the series, because there is something semi-magical about the 1930's dates – 1935 – 1936 – 1937 – 1938. The numbers just look fresh for some reason, plus 1937 is such a neat number, and

the 1938 dollar was one of the scarcer coins.

Though I haven't seen this discussed anywhere, it has crossed my mind that there is a connection between the design of the voyageur reverse and the early 20th century expressionist/impressionist art movement created by Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven. I enjoy the Group's work and have visited

some of the major collections, belying my predisposition to that kind of landscape interpretation. That movement, which stemmed from arts and crafts roots and later stirred a sense of nationalism, seems to have influenced the voyageur design in some subliminal way. Perhaps that is why it resonates as authentic, and why wilderness themes such as the loon and polar bear still appear on our coins.

Figure 3 - First Dollar Series 1935-38



Figure 3 – The upper image is a modified internet photo of a 1938 dollar, the third year of the new voyageur series and the second year of the George VI portrait. The designs on both coin faces were simple, uncluttered and bold. It was a modern style at the time, perhaps harkening to the expressionist/impressionist Canadian art movement started a decade or two earlier. It was also a tough period of financial distress and social upheaval in Canada, when a dollar was a whole pile of money.

I'm also showing my recently purchased 1935 and 1937 dollars, which add to a mini collection of favorite Canadian coins. 1935 is the first year of issue for the voyageur type. I don't need them to be perfect, just reasonably sharp and generally free of scratches. The 1930s dollars never had mirror-like surfaces since the dies were given a slightly matte finish. I bought the two new ones from Mike's Coins then had to photograph them through plastic since they were commercially graded. (1938 dollar photo by C Spence, goldsilverguy-nanaimo; bottom photos by author.)

Figure 4 – The Influence of Tom Thomson

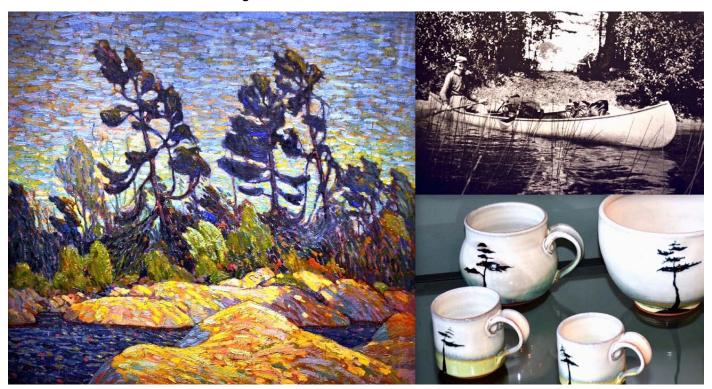


Figure 4 – The reverse design of the 1935 series dollars reminds me of the style exemplified by Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven artists in the early 20th century. The above painting is by Tom Thomson, who created many lonely, colorful 'northern' landscapes after becoming a full time artist in 1913. He died mysteriously on Canoe Lake in 1917, before the Group was formed in 1920, but his technique

greatly influenced their development and ultimately promoted Canadian nationalism. I photographed the painting at the amazing McMichael Collection in Kleinburg. The photo of the artist in his canoe was part of the Owen Sound Tom Thomson exhibit; while the cups, made by the potter Kate McLaren, were displayed at the Owen Sound artist co-op store (I bought the one on the top left).

## **Third Key Period**

In the years 1940–45, when Canada was fully engaged in sacrifice and support for the Second World War, there were no silver dollars and nickel was considered too strategic for coins. The war years were otherwise challenging from a minting point of view. Die availability was hindered and production was relatively low. Mid way through 1942, nickel metal was withdrawn from coin production and a strange alloy of copper and zinc, known as tombac, was used to make nickels. The reverse nickel design was changed to a 'V' for victory in 1943, and tombac was continued through that year. The same reverse was used for nickels until the end of the war in 1945, but in the years 1944-45, tombac was replaced

by a steel coin with nickel/ chrome plating (except that a few 1944 tombacs were made before the changeover).

These war years are obviously interesting for the dramatic change in the metals used for nickels and for the new patriotic design. They remind us that it was a period of scarcity and making-do. Through this whole time, from age 15 to 21, my father served with the Canadian army - trained at Shilo in Manitoba, billeted in England and shipped first to Sicily, then Italy, France and Holland through the last of the war. Before being reassigned to Sicily from Britain, however, he quickly married my future mother in late 1943 without permission from the army - not

seeing her again until mid 1945 when he returned to Canada. She had a job in Scotland inspecting Oerlikon 20mm antiaircraft shells on a 12-hour shift, but decided to leave 14 months after the wedding, under the Free Passage Scheme for war brides. On 15 November 1944, she sailed to wartime Canada on the SS Ile de France, one of the converted ocean-liner troopships, arriving at Pier 21 customs in Halifax eight days later. It was November - in the North Atlantic - during wartime, so the ship had to zig-zag across the ocean to avoid possible attack. The rest of her journey was five days by steam train, arriving in a somewhat forsaken, northern prairie town to stay with the inlaws who had no running water

and a woodstove for heat (we still didn't have full-time running water for the first ten years of my life, which wasn't uncommon in Canada then, though we eventually got a coal furnace to assist in winter). The temperature on her arrival was -27 degrees, and soon there were the strange Canadian Christmas customs to contend with, such as a tree in the house and too

much food, which was unthinkable in wartime Britain. My father was discharged in summer 1945, just after reaching the age of 21 years.

Figure 5 – Separation in War

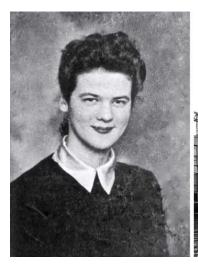






Figure 5 – My parents during the war, with the lle deFrance troopship painted in admiralty grey. My 19 year-old mother

crossed the Atlantic on this ship as a war bride, arriving in Canada in late November 1944.

Figure 6 - Wartime Coinage Exigency 1942-45



Figure 6 – These available images show the unusual nickels struck by the Canadian mint between 1942 and 1945. Tombac coins, mostly copper with 11% zinc, were introduced mid 1942, although some were struck earlier in the year using nickel metal. The 'V' for victory reverse

was instituted in 1943, lasting for the rest of WWII. Tombac metal was dropped for Canadian nickels in 1944 and 1945, replaced by coins with a steel core and nickel/chrome plating. (Collection of J Kennedy and photos by J Kennedy)

## **Fourth Key Period**

My childhood began just after the war when Canada returned to the silver dollar standard. Strangely, I am not as keen on the immediate post-war coins as I am on the 1950s coins. The '50s coins seem softer and more silvery, and the numbers are neater. Plus cultural restraints were loosening and young people were becoming a more prominent part of Canadian society. Then there was the new queen who began her reign while I was in grade 1 (we still had no running water or bathtub). In the '50s, I would have been using the pennies and nickels on the rare occasions we could go to the corner store for jaw breakers or licorice. All of the small coins were important. First Class mail (was there any other?) would have been 5 cents per letter. We needed dimes and quarters for going to movies at the Grand Theater on Main Street, Movies

were very big then, before there was any television - it was either go to a Saturday movie or stay home and listen to the single radio station, that is, when we weren't outside playing all day. There were winter days when we would jump off boxcars into the snowbanks and summer days we would go rafting at a nearby slough. Other days were spent plucking ducks, geese or grouse, or chipping stored lake ice to melt in the reservoir of the wood and coal stove. When the town's stores were open late on Saturday nights, the Salvation Army band would play on the sidewalk outside the Star Store.

In this period, I see the full range of denominations as equally important – the smaller coins since they were essential everyday and the larger coins since they still look so nice. As a kid, I don't recall seeing any fifty-cent

coins or maybe even the silver dollars. Of course the old style, one-dollar and two-dollar bills were still in circulation, used regularly for normal store and personal transactions. A dollar could still buy something useful. I found a \$2 bill on Main Street one day, and you'd think I'd struck it rich. Interestingly, the 1954 issue one-dollar bill had an elevator scene on the back that looked exactly like a bend in the gravel highway a few miles north of town. We used the same series of coins and notes right through my childhood, both in our town and in the big city after we moved in 1956. I cut off my favorite years at 1957 for various reasons, including a less idyllic childhood that followed, the change of dollar reverse design in 1958 and a recession in the Canadian economy, which caused more hardship.

Figure 7 - 1950s Small Town Life







Figure 7 – These are photos of my parents and me, along with various recently-expired wildlife, circa 1954–55. Life in our small prairie town, or in the city after 1956, was not ideal but who knew any differently? As kids, we used the few coins we got to go to the corner store for candy or to the movie theater. In the city, the ancient Strand theater

right downtown, and the lowly Gem across from the riverbank, were our favored Saturday afternoon haunts. At that time, films repeated continuously from morning until night on the same admission and kid's matinees still featured Roy Rogers, Hopalong Cassidy, the Lone Ranger, the Marx Brothers and the Bowery Boys.

28 THE PLANCHET

Figure 8 - Familiar Childhood Currency 1950-1957



Figure 8 – Coins issued in my rustic childhood years of the early 1950s provided a full assortment of silver, nickel and copper denominations. The 1 cent, 5 cent, 10 cent and 25 cent coins were the most available and the most useful for small, everyday purchases. One-dollar and two-dollar bills were regularly used for transactions above the quarter. The lovely reverse designs of the mid-1930s series were retained in these 1950s mintages. Fresh coins from

these years are quite pretty, largely because of their size and the soft, translucent grey color of the silver coins. The Canadian mint assembled proof-like sets in cardboard and cellophane starting in 1954. They are very attractive as well, although those from 1954, 1955 and 1956 are quite pricey. I purchased this 1952 year set at our Fall coin show from Matt's Coins. (Photos by the author.)

## In Closing...

Forgive my candid view of the Canadian coin experience. I thought that these musings might add another dimension to our view of the coin hobby and possibly encourage others to reflect on their connections to Canadian coins. I was fortunate in that I bothered to make audio recordings of my grandmother and parents before they died, trying to preserve a bit of their early experiences. We all have a personal history, and coins have been part of our lives for much of the way. We sometimes forget these obvious relationships when we purchase a coin simply as an object to be slotted into a group of other such objects.

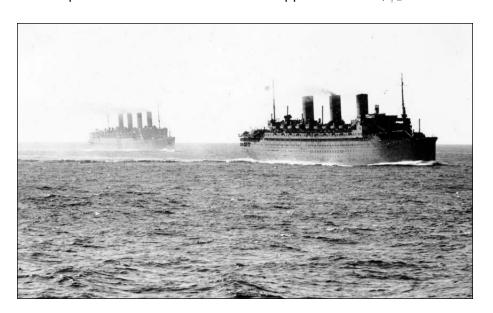
### **Addendum**

While looking for a photo of the SS Ile de France in wartime, I found this photo posted on redditt.com/imgur.com. It shows the Ile de France sailing across the Atlantic in 1943, with the RMS Aguitania following. The Ile de France (790 feet averaging 23 knots) was built in 1926, while the Aguitania (900 feet long averaging 23 knots) was built in 1913. The Aguitania was a contemporary of the Titanic and served as a troop ship in both world wars. In WWI it used a dazzle paint scheme at times and carried up to 8,000 troops per trip. Its first WWII task, in November 1939, was to take Canadian troops to England; while its final job was to transport war brides and their

children back to Halifax. When its war service was finished, after sailing 500,000 miles in eight years, and transporting almost 400,000 soldiers from all over the world, the Aguitania was scrapped. The Ile de France was the first passenger liner built with art deco interiors. In September 1939, it left France only hours before the declaration of war and headed for New York – it was lucky since 16 other ships were sunk while it was on route. It was roughly stripped and converted to a troop ship in South Africa by early 1943 so it didn't transport as many troops. After 5 years of war service, it returned to transatlantic liner service in 1949, but it was scrapped in 1959. 🕱

### **Editor's Note**

If you have any comments on this story, or have recollections about coins in your own history, please send a letter to the Editor or even submit your own article. Were there specific coin issues or events that sparked an interest in collecting or that were especially meaningful? Other readers would be interested. Address comments or submissions to: editor\_ens@yahoo.ca



SS lle de France and RMS Aquitania sailing across the Atlantic (1943)

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# The New York International Coin Show

# by Terence Cheesman

For many years, I have heard of this legendary coin show. I have often thought of attending, but I always had two reasons why I didn't go. The first was weather. The weather both here in Edmonton and in New York in January can be brutal, and one must anticipate weather related delays. The second is accommodation. Hotel rooms in New York City can be very small and make up for it by being really expensive. One time, when I was looking up a hotel in the Bed Bug Registry, I found, "This hotel has no bedbugs probably because the rats ate them". Yikes! That's not something that would recommend the place to a boy raised in rat free Alberta. However, last December, a number of factors converged, and I finally decided to go to New York City and attend the New York International coin show. All I can say about it is... Great. It might be the best show I have ever attended.



Unlike my trip to Paris, I did not do much that was not coin related while I was in New York City. This was because, unlike Paris, which was a one day show, The New York International event activities cover a full ten days. This year it started on Friday, January 6th with lot viewing for the Heritage Auction and it ended on Sunday afternoon, January 15th. The whole convention can be something of a marathon. There are four coin auctions: Heritage, Classical Numismatic Group's Triton XX, The New York Sale and Stacks Bowers, as well as one numismatic book auction, Kolbes. Any one of these auctions can last three days or more. With a bit of extra time, I did manage to check out some of the city as well. The weather, according to my computer, was between zero degrees centigrade for a low and about plus ten for a high. Compared to the minus 20°C with snow and other unpleasantness which was current in Edmonton, New York seemed actually quite pleasant. The one day I did walk for some hours seemed to be similar to a fall day here.

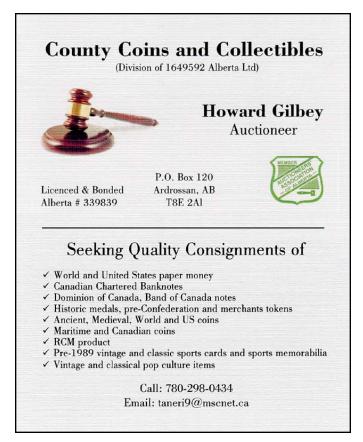
Because I spent most of the day at the show, I usually wandered around the city at night. The

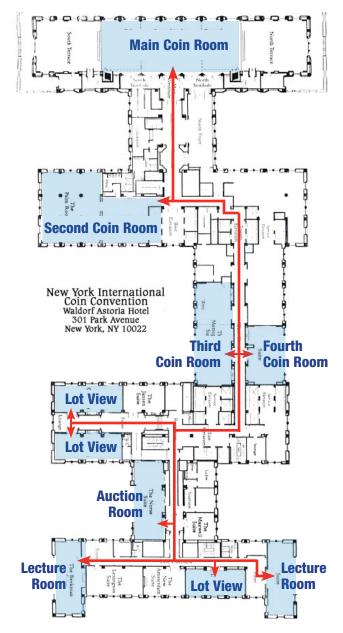
nighttime New York City looks very much different from what it does during the day. This is because during the day, what you see is the city of concrete, stone and glass. At night, many of the buildings have flood lights shining on them. One I did see a lot of was the Helmsley Building a 35 story building done in the beaux arts style. This building is associated with Leona Helmsley, the infamous "queen of mean". At night, the building is flood lit with either red or blue light. It is quite impressive. The spire of the Empire State Building is also colored as well.

I did not stay at the show venue. I did try but the rooms were already booked long in advance, though I did find a hotel only some three blocks away. Called the Roosevelt, the hotel was built early in the 1920's and had a very elegant lobby. The Roosevelt honored was not Franklin D Roosevelt but Theodore, and there was a very large bas relief (in copper?) honoring him. As expected, the room was somewhat smaller than what is the norm out west but, what was nice was that everything worked, and the internet functioned well. Being only about a block from Grand Central Station, the

hotel was surrounded by numerous restaurants, food carts and even some small grocery stores. People can eat pretty well any way they want within a few blocks of the hotel. Except for one night when it seemed that city workers were ripping up the street next to the hotel, the place was quiet. One thing, although the food at the hotel was good, it was expensive.

The show, as well as the auctions, were held at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel on the eighteenth floor. This hotel is legendary and probably still one of the best. It was completed in 1931. It is noteworthy in having a number of long term guests such as President Herbert Hoover, General Douglas MacArthur, The Duke and Duchess of Windsor and Frank Sinatra. The building is rather austere on the outside but has a very richly appointed interior. There are something like 1400 hotel rooms and suites. The floor set up was less than ideal since the rooms used for the show and the auctions seemed to be scattered throughout the eighteenth floor. There were even hotel rooms along some of the show hallways. Also, the bourse rooms, as well as those rooms involved with the auctions, were not directly connected to each other (see Floorplan diagram). This meant that the venue wasn't completely obvious to a first-time visitor, and I probably would not have known of the existence of two rooms full of coin dealers had I not wandered past them looking for an auction I was planning to attend.





## Floorplan for the New York International Coin Convention

Disconnected rooms at the show.

There were probably 140 dealers present. Unlike the ANA show, there were almost no US coins for sale. Virtually every coin was either ancient or foreign. The quality of the material was very high, probably higher than any other show I have attended. There were two coins at the show which one could buy if they had something in excess of \$200,000. There were numerous coins valued at over \$50,000. I saw some three or four hundred Roman gold aureii, dozens of medieval French and British gold coins, a few hundred Spanish co-Ionial 8 Reales coins, as well as numerous talers, medals, and even some ancient Greek pottery. The dealer list was very cosmopolitan, with dealers from the U.S., the U.K., the Netherlands, France, Germany, Switzerland, Austria and Italy.

Most of the major coin dealerships were in attendance including Classical Numismatic Group, Numismatica Classica, Goldbergs, Baldwins, Harlan Berk, Nomos, Gorny and Mosch, as well as many others. The show has a \$120 dollar "early bird" entrance fee for Thursday which I promised myself I wouldn't pay, but I did. Damned Obsessive Compulsive Disorder! Actually, one of the dealers in attendance put up a coin which I really liked at a decent price, so there I was paying to get in on Thursday. That fee also covered the entrance for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and I did buy the coin at a reduced price. For the rest of the weekend, the entrance fee was \$10 dollars. Overall attendance was very good, even on the Thursday so I wasn't the only sucker, and sales seemed brisk. Attendance did seem to taper off by Sunday, and by noon, many of the dealers had already packed it in. Another feature not observed at one of our local shows was that a small number of dealers were observant Jews, and so their tables were empty on Saturday. Like all the North American shows there were chairs for the customers, a feature that was greatly appreciated especially by people of my age group.

There were a number of meetings set up by various societies. These included the Ancient Coin Collectors Guild (AACG), British Numismatic Society, Medal Collectors, Oriental Numismatic Society and others. Most had talks and the one by the AACG was most informative. It seems that the driving force behind the MOU's restricting the antiquities trade is funded by Goldman Sacks, the financial octopus (This company might be the inspiration for SPECTRE the nemesis in the James Bond films).



**Show bourse** 



**Auction area** 



**Auction in progress** 

Oddly, the reptiles that sell their slabbing services were not present, but their insidious handiwork was very much in evidence. The North American "collectors" have embraced this cult much more than Europeans. In Anaheim, I wondered if the slabbing services would make coffins for really big coins. I got my answer here in New York. Yes, they do. I saw some of the biggest, ugliest slabs that I would ever want to see. One of them was at least eight inches wide and over a foot long. Auuuuuugh !!! I am surrounded by Philistines (I wonder if Goldman Sacks is behind slabs as well)? Needless to say, the dealer tables were completely infested with slabs. I would say that about half the coins I saw were in coffins. However, the resistance is still strong. There were fewer ancient coins in slabs, and I saw numbers of broken and discarded slabs littering the floor and garbage cans. There is hope, the resistance lives.

For what I collect, the New York International has to be the biggest and best show, certainly in North America and probably the world. It is a great show, and I will probably do it again. The combination of a large number of important dealers, coupled with a very active auction schedule, means that even with an impressive (for me) buying fund, I was reduced to destitution quickly, efficiently and enjoyably.



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# Strange Relations and Curious Convergences

# by Wayne Hansen

Ancient numismatics involves considerable investigation and interpretation, especially where early mints issued eclectic assortments of coins with unusual dies. With the constant assessment and comparison of images on similar coins, collectors soon come to recognize most typical mint types and styles, especially for god and ruler portrait coins. This can lead to curious encounters where you have a portrait image burned into your mind, and suddenly you see a person in your everyday life that is the spitting image of the portrait.

#### **Random Associations**

Such random associations have happened to me on at least three occasions. One young man in a restaurant looked exactly like the attic portrait of young king Perseus of Macedon, who is presented on the tetradrachm as a finely rendered, sharply featured profile.

I was so impressed when I saw the fellow that I told him of his amazing resemblance. I also once saw an older man who could have posed for the very odd portrait of king Ptolemy I of Egypt, complete with recessed eyes and an angled, thrusting jaw. Another time, I saw

an engaging young woman, who, with the right hairstyle, could easily have stepped into a Syracusian tetradrachm as goddess Arethusa. It is the distinctive coin portraits, full of character, which are most likely to trigger this sort of recognition.







Figure 1: Evocative Portraits – Examples of the three character-imbued tetradrachm portrait coins mentioned above – the finest Perseus die, a very early Ptolemy I die by the Delta Engraver and a Syracusian Arethusa die.

(Perseus coin ex Goldberg; Ptolemy and Arethusa from author's collection with photos by Philippe Saive and CNG).

## **Special Comparison**

Recently, a different image convergence situation arose. I purchased a rare silver triobol from the ancient Crimean mint of Pantikapaion that features an unusual facing lion head. It is about the earliest coin issued from that mint, dated 480–470 BC, right at the end of the archaic period. The lion head is accordingly rendered in a totally naïve style,

emphasizing somewhat strange proportions and remarkably bare features. On the other hand, the image has an honest sensibility and it is loaded with charm and character. I consider it to be primitive art.

When I showed a photo of this new coin to another collector, he quickly concluded, despite the coin's noble origins, that it bore an uncanny resemblance to a well-known world leader. Indeed, there are similarities that I will not itemize here lest I invite undue attention from a random hit squad. This same world leader invaded the Crimean home of the coin a couple of years ago, so there is a connection on that level as well. You might enjoy the comparison... just don't spread it around.



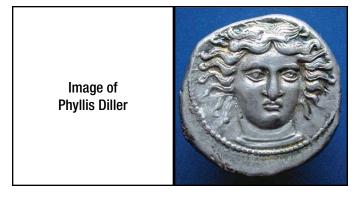


**Figure 2:** Primitive Art – An ancient silver triobol from Pantikapaion appears to be the spitting image of a random world leader.

(Triobol collection of the author, but photo courtesy of CNG.)

# **Lesson on Copyright**

I was all set to provide another photo comparison, this time with my Larissa drachm next to the previously well-known comedian, Phyllis Diller. Very cute, but unfortunately, the most appropriate Diller photo, by US photographer Deborah Feingold, is copyrighted by Getty Images. I first contacted the photographer by email. She seemed to be amused by the joined photos but referred me to the archivist at Getty, who referred me to its Chicago rights office. After talking to the office by phone and sending a request by email, Getty sent me an official quote for US\$378 in order to use the photo for limited educational purposes in The Planchet (minimum for any use is US\$250). Needless to say, I am not using the photo. Instead, I'll just show the photo of my Larissa drachm from 400-370 BC, and you can use your imagination to do the rest. If you are interested, the comparison photo is publically viewable at: http://media.gettyimages.com/ photos/phyllis-diller-picture-id533123480.



**Figure 3:** Comparitus Interruptus – The first ever potential comparison of Phyllis Diller and nymph Larissa.

(Larissa collection of the author.)

# 10¢ Coins

# Canadian Retail Coin Prices

# by Dean Silver

Victoria 10¢	G 4	VG 8	F 12	VF 20	VF 25	VF 30	VF 35	EF 40	EF 45	AU 50	AU 55	MS 60
1858	18.57	35.05	58.85	110.83	130.35	149.87	169.39	188.91	222.50	289.67	365.23	516.37
1870	15.47	30.69	61.38	123.49	144.17	164.85	185.53	206.21	241.44	311.91	419.68	635.22
1871	22.48	48.40	86.41	176.17	216.02	255.87	295.72	335.57	405.48	545.30	699.10	1,007
1871H	25.94	53.84	95.04	191.87	225.39	258.91	292.43	325.96	401.87	553.69	704.69	1,007
1872H	102.67	212.02	319.70	562.08	648.07	734.05	820.04	906.03	1,116	1,536	1,952	2,785
1874H	14.19	24.16	40.89	87.25	112.08	136.90	161.73	186.56	229.96	316.77	397.70	559.57
1875H	276.84	503.77	872.48	1,460	1,818	2,176	2,534	2,892	3,523	4,786	6,381	9,572
1880H	15.85	31.31	53.69	100.67	127.94	155.20	182.46	209.73	254.47	343.96	439.03	629.19
1881H	17.12	34.65	59.58	115.25	151.46	187.66	223.86	260.06	315.99	427.85	548.09	788.58
1882H	17.52	35.05	56.35	109.77	138.95	168.14	197.32	226.51	276.84	377.51	520.13	805.36
1883H	52.44	104.35	197.41	411.07	487.45	563.84	640.22	716.60	846.86	1,107	1,397	1,977
1884	209.73	440.80	805.36	1,418	1,755	2,093	2,431	2,768	3,523	5,034	7,050	11,083
1885	55.09	109.43	220.12	411.07	518.03	624.99	731.96	838.92	1,189	1,889	2,456	3,588
1886 - Small 6	26.30	52.17	108.36	219.11	282.12	345.13	408.15	471.16	649.96	1,008	1,404	2,196
1886 - Large Knob 6	34.32	67.71	130.84	248.43	320.10	391.77	463.43	535.10	762.19	1,216	1,601	2,371
1886 - Large Pointed 6	89.14	179.66	344.65	628.93	786.29	943.65	1,101	1,258	1,510	2,013	2,666	3,972
1887	49.33	102.74	171.40	347.99	449.75	551.51	653.27	755.03	924.89	1,265	1,822	2,936
1888	13.02	24.80	46.33	91.22	117.35	143.47	169.60	195.73	233.88	310.20	413.73	620.80
1889	664.95	1,164	2,013	3,263	3,939	4,615	5,292	5,968	7,551	10,717	13,856	20,134
1890H	19.45	38.40	74.71	153.43	193.85	234.26	274.67	315.08	373.74	491.06	618.73	874.06
1891 - 21 Leaves	19.02	37.99	72.61	151.01	190.85	230.70	270.55	310.40	369.12	486.57	609.61	855.70
1891 - 22 Leaves	18.93	37.06	70.12	147.55	185.13	222.71	260.30	297.88	344.11	436.56	562.01	812.90
1892 - Small 9	17.10	35.23	59.58	120.85	147.29	173.74	200.18	226.63	281.30	390.64	507.27	740.52
1892 - Large 9	208.85	370.65	544.62	1,077	1,347	1,618	1,888	2,159	2,516	3,231	3,749	4,786
1893 - Flat Top 3	45.45	79.84	126.04	239.14	292.71	346.27	399.83	453.39	565.75	790.45	1,054	1,581
1893 - Round Top 3	807.54	1,428	2,295	3,977	4,824	5,670	6,516	7,362	8,862	11,863	14,349	19,321
1894	30.93	66.15	114.35	219.11	244.81	270.50	296.20	321.90	404.76	570.47	677.13	890.46
1896	14.02	27.36	43.20	82.77	101.86	120.96	140.06	159.16	204.64	295.61	369.68	517.81
1898	13.30	24.83	42.81	81.42	100.51	119.59	138.67	157.75	202.71	292.61	364.89	509.46
1899 - Small 99	10.86	21.66	38.46	69.04	85.19	101.33	117.48	133.63	157.11	204.09	268.76	398.09
1899 - Large 99	21.61	42.98	70.11	141.48	167.04	192.61	218.17	243.74	292.38	389.67	510.99	753.63
1900	10.28	17.12	34.28	65.44	81.38	97.31	113.25	129.19	144.98	176.54	229.55	335.57
1901	9.52	16.28	31.74	56.79	71.18	85.57	99.97	114.36	133.55	171.95	232.48	353.55

Edward 10¢	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 25	VF 30	VF 35	EF 40	EF 45	AU 50	AU 55	MS 60
1902H	9.43	15.57	23.68	31.79	40.97	50.15	59.33	68.51	82.07	109.18	133.92	183.40
1902	11.55	25.17	39.43	53.69	73.64	93.60	113.55	133.50	168.76	239.29	333.72	522.57
1903H	11.84	22.13	37.15	52.18	66.42	80.65	94.89	109.13	134.89	186.40	269.06	434.39
1903	21.76	50.38	84.38	118.39	173.80	229.20	284.61	340.02	470.17	730.47	976.94	1,470
1904	17.61	33.81	54.26	74.70	96.41	118.12	139.84	161.55	195.86	264.48	345.69	508.10
1905	14.93	35.06	61.24	87.42	110.11	132.81	155.51	178.21	233.46	343.96	479.85	751.64
1906	10.88	19.46	29.87	40.27	55.45	70.63	85.82	101.00	126.74	178.21	248.72	389.74
1907	10.34	17.11	25.88	34.65	45.39	56.14	66.88	77.63	95.57	131.47	200.56	338.75
1908	18.18	35.74	57.17	78.59	101.31	124.02	146.73	169.44	190.17	231.63	289.89	406.42
1909 Small Leaves	13.65	29.28	46.15	63.02	84.15	105.28	126.42	147.55	188.37	270.03	386.03	618.03
1909 Broad Leaves	17.56	36.75	57.93	79.11	104.44	129.77	155.11	180.44	252.04	395.22	554.87	874.16
1910	10.80	16.77	22.82	28.86	37.01	45.17	53.32	61.48	72.79	95.43	123.26	178.93

George V 10¢	VG 8	F 12	F 16	VF 20	VF 25	VF 30	VF 35	EF 40	EF 45	AU 50	AU 55	MS 60
1911	12.06	19.05	26.22	33.39	40.35	47.32	54.28	61.25	72.94	96.32	131.10	200.65
1912	5.58	8.47	11.84	15.20	22.73	30.27	37.80	45.34	68.34	114.35	173.67	292.31
1913 Small Leaves	5.42	7.22	9.54	11.86	18.34	24.82	31.30	37.78	57.09	95.72	138.05	222.71
1913 Broad Leaves	154.83	292.24	438.76	585.27	788.61	991.96	1,195	1,399	2,089	3,470	5,445	9,396
1914	5.71	7.26	9.64	12.02	18.03	24.04	30.05	36.06	53.68	88.93	129.19	209.73
1915	11.69	22.90	37.50	52.11	76.83	101.56	126.28	151.01	195.75	285.23	371.11	542.86
1916	5.07	6.31	8.04	9.77	13.81	17.85	21.88	25.92	36.59	57.93	77.41	116.37
1917	5.08	6.25	7.21	8.17	10.33	12.48	14.64	16.79	25.97	44.31	56.95	82.21
1918	5.08	6.25	7.19	8.12	10.04	11.95	13.86	15.77	23.94	40.27	52.01	75.50
1919	4.58	5.75	6.56	7.37	9.53	11.70	13.86	16.02	24.59	41.74	53.00	75.50
1920	4.58	5.77	6.70	7.64	10.13	12.63	15.12	17.62	28.54	50.38	64.02	91.31
1921	5.13	6.42	7.72	9.02	13.48	17.93	22.39	26.85	38.89	62.97	84.11	126.39
No 1922 to 1927 10¢	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1928	4.53	5.73	7.13	8.52	12.09	15.65	19.21	22.78	31.41	48.66	67.14	104.11
1929	4.53	5.70	6.86	8.01	11.19	14.36	17.54	20.71	28.91	45.30	60.82	91.87
1930	4.57	5.80	7.40	9.00	13.04	17.09	21.13	25.17	36.09	57.93	72.18	100.67
1931	4.53	5.73	7.08	8.42	11.84	15.25	18.66	22.08	29.82	45.30	61.01	92.43
1932	4.87	6.93	10.29	13.65	20.78	27.92	35.05	42.19	52.47	73.05	95.24	139.63
1933	5.72	8.12	13.60	19.08	29.48	39.87	50.27	60.66	77.60	111.46	155.97	244.98
1934	7.52	12.27	22.95	33.63	50.04	66.44	82.85	99.26	127.66	184.47	258.46	406.45
1935	7.56	12.46	23.13	33.80	50.61	67.41	84.21	101.01	131.89	193.65	264.58	406.45
1936	5.15	7.28	8.48	9.68	11.22	12.77	14.32	15.87	24.79	42.64	53.69	75.80
1936 Bar	22.87	33.39	39.23	45.08	51.13	57.18	63.23	69.28	90.15	131.89	165.62	233.08
1936 Heavy Bar	29.51	43.08	50.62	58.16	65.97	73.78	81.59	89.40	116.32	170.18	213.70	300.75
1936 Dot rev Wreath	109.94	153.96	236.38	318.79	402.68	486.57	570.47	654.36	1,107	2,013	2,517	3,523







# Writers Wanted!

Experience a new dimension in coin collecting! Club members are encouraged to write an article for the PLANCHET:

- share your knowledge and enthusiasm for your collecting interests
- conduct some research into your collection
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Contact: editor\_ens@yahoo.ca

# **Edmonton Numismatic Society**

# DTS AVERAGE • 10¢ COIN RETAIL PRICES

George VI 10¢	VG 8	F 12	VF 20	VF 25	VF 30	VF 35	EF 40	AU 50	AU 55	MS 60	MS 62	MS 63
1937	2.52	3.64	5.26	6.21	7.15	8.10	9.05	14.19	17.83	25.13	38.44	45.10
1938	2.47	5.16	8.77	10.92	13.07	15.21	17.36	38.52	50.36	74.05	150.55	188.80
1939	2.26	3.46	5.01	6.60	8.19	9.78	11.36	26.85	37.95	60.15	121.06	151.52
1940	1.80	2.81	3.42	4.41	5.40	6.39	7.38	11.56	16.65	26.85	54.32	68.06
1941	1.80	2.64	5.40	7.02	8.63	10.24	11.86	25.17	36.27	58.46	142.75	184.90
1942	1.76	2.34	3.51	4.58	5.66	6.73	7.80	19.11	26.85	42.31	87.10	109.49
1943	1.76	2.39	3.51	4.36	5.21	6.06	6.90	11.41	16.00	25.17	53.49	67.64
1944	1.76	2.47	3.66	4.70	5.73	6.77	7.80	16.22	22.13	33.96	67.90	84.87
1945	1.76	2.39	3.46	4.35	5.24	6.13	7.02	11.41	15.77	24.50	50.65	63.72
1946	2.05	3.46	4.52	5.49	6.46	7.42	8.39	17.73	25.24	40.27	61.04	71.42
1947	2.05	4.02	5.53	6.94	8.36	9.77	11.19	22.26	30.25	46.23	91.56	114.23
1947 Maple Leaf	1.76	2.39	3.64	4.30	4.97	5.64	6.30	9.43	12.52	18.71	35.23	43.49
1948	6.53	9.05	14.54	17.83	21.13	24.42	27.72	42.61	52.89	73.46	143.91	179.14
1949	2.06	3.01	4.06	4.54	5.03	5.52	6.00	9.87	12.15	16.71	29.22	35.48
1950	1.76	2.84	4.14	4.83	5.53	6.22	6.92	8.62	11.09	16.04	28.89	35.31
1951	1.76	2.84	4.14	4.83	5.53	6.22	6.92	8.62	9.94	12.58	23.32	28.69
1952	1.76	2.84	4.06	4.59	5.11	5.64	6.17	7.62	9.09	12.04	19.66	23.47

Elizabeth II 10¢	VG 8	F 12	VF 20	VF 30	EF 40	AU 50	MS 60	MS 61	MS 62	MS 63	MS 64	MS 65
1953 - NSF	1.75	2.75	3.53	4.13	4.73	6.03	7.68	12.02	16.36	20.70	25.04	63.44
1953 - SF	2.50	3.50	4.48	5.13	5.78	7.11	9.68	16.86	24.04	31.22	38.40	151.92
1954	2.50	3.50	4.48	5.32	6.16	8.35	17.70	27.05	36.39	45.74	55.09	153.59
1955	1.75	2.75	3.80	4.37	4.93	6.08	7.85	11.52	15.19	18.86	22.54	65.94
1956	1.75	2.75	3.80	4.37	4.93	5.89	7.51	10.43	13.36	16.28	19.20	55.93
1957	1.75	2.75	3.80	4.74	5.68	6.68	8.35	10.42	12.50	14.57	16.65	49.25
1958	1.75	2.75	3.80	4.37	4.93	5.58	7.01	9.42	11.83	14.24	16.65	41.74
1959	1.75	2.75	3.80	4.37	4.93	5.53	6.84	9.14	11.44	13.73	16.03	41.74
1960	1.75	2.75	3.80	4.37	4.93	5.53	6.84	9.56	12.27	14.98	17.70	51.75
1961	1.75	2.75	3.80	4.37	4.93	5.53	6.84	9.56	12.27	14.98	17.70	51.75
1962	1.75	2.75	3.80	4.37	4.93	5.53	6.84	8.97	11.10	13.23	15.36	26.71
1963	1.75	2.75	3.80	4.37	4.93	5.53	6.84	8.97	11.10	13.23	15.36	26.71
1964	1.75	2.75	3.80	4.37	4.93	5.53	6.84	8.97	11.10	13.23	15.36	26.71
1965	1.75	2.75	3.80	4.37	4.93	5.53	6.84	8.97	11.10	13.23	15.36	26.71
1966	1.75	2.75	3.80	4.37	4.93	5.53	6.84	9.14	11.44	13.73	16.03	28.38
1967	1.75	2.75	3.80	4.37	4.93	5.53	6.84	9.14	11.44	13.73	16.03	28.38
1968 Silver	1.75	2.75	3.80	4.37	4.93	5.53	6.84	9.18	11.52	13.86	16.19	26.71
1968 Nickel	0.26	0.31	0.37	0.42	0.48	0.53	1.70	5.20	8.70	12.19	15.69	49.12
1969	0.26	0.31	0.37	0.42	0.48	0.53	1.70	5.20	8.70	12.19	15.69	49.12
1970 thru 1979	0.22	0.28	0.33	0.39	0.44	0.50	1.67	4.84	8.01	11.18	14.36	40.57
1980 thru 1989	0.22	0.28	0.33	0.39	0.44	0.50	1.67	5.26	8.85	12.44	16.03	49.42
1990 thru 1999	0.22	0.28	0.33	0.39	0.44	0.50	1.67	4.92	8.18	11.44	14.69	42.40
2000 thru 2009	0.17	0.22	0.28	0.33	0.39	0.44	1.39	3.88	6.37	8.86	11.35	23.37
2010 thru 2016	0.17	0.22	0.28	0.33	0.39	0.44	1.22	3.67	6.12	8.57	11.02	22.54





# Poorer

# by Joe Kennedy

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Answer to the Puzzle Page from the January 2017 issue of THE PLANCHET:



The answer to this issue's puzzle will be in the next issue of THE PLANCHET

bankrupt
beggar
bills
broke
charge
charity
debt
dependant
expenses

handout
hitchhiker
homeless
impoverished
inflation
IOU
lacking
liquidate
loan
loss
meager

mortgage
needy
owe
paltry
pauper
penniless
poor
poverty
receivership
secondhand
slave

spent
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subsistence
taxes
toll
unemployment
unlucky
wanting
welfare
wretched

40

fee

forfeit

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