



EDMONTON COIN CLUB

1954 40th Anniversary 1994



JUNE 1994

Volume 40 Issue 6

1994 EXECUTIVE

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Family \$12.00, Regular \$10.00

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The ECC is a member of:

Canadian Numismatic Assoc.

Canadian Association of
Token Collectors

Canadian Association of
Wooden Money Collectors

Canadian Paper Money Society

Classical & Medieval
Numismatic Society

MEETING NOTICE

DATE : JUNE 8, 1994

TIME : 7:00 P.M., Meeting starts at 7:30

**PLACE: PROVINCIAL MUSEUM OF ALBERTA, 12845 - 102 AVE.
(Main floor Lecture Room P138)**

**PROGRAM : NUMISMATIC DONATION AUCTION, MEMBER
TALK ON P.L. DOLLARS BEFORE 1954, KING FAROUK'S
COLLECTION REVISITED.**

JUNE MEETING AGENDA

With summer fast approaching, you won't want to miss the last meeting before the break. Members are asked to bring numismatic related items (coins, tokens, books etc.) to be auctioned off to the highest bidder. This social event is meant to be help a Club member represent the Club at the CNA. This year it is being held in Hamilton, Ontario. We have at least one member who may attend.

Possibly a monetary incentive will be the deciding factor to attend. Your numismatic donation will be appreciated. Should no one attend the CNA this year, the money will go toward the fall show. Support the Club and enjoy a fun meeting with your numismatic friends once more before the summer break. In addition to the auction, Dan G. will give a short talk on proof like dollars before 1954, as well as his interesting anecdotes from Abe Kosoff's book, which will touch on King Farouk's collection. Hope to see you there ! (P.S. Bring a friend to the meeting)

MAY MEETING MINUTES

May's meeting started with a small but enthusiastic group of members meeting for Pizza at Boston Pizza before the meeting. Ten members attended the pre-meeting supper which saw several members bringing their coins to show the members. The pizza and drinks were served till about 7:00 p.m. after which time we all made our way to the Museum. The club offered to pick up a \$5.00 cost for each member in attendance, but the members contributed more than they had to and the Club didn't have to cover very much of the bill. Thanks are extended to those in attendance for the donations. As it turned out only one more member managed to attend the meeting. The small group were treated to an excellent talk and fantastic display of 45 Greek imperial and Roman provincial coinage. Terry C's. presentation covered a representative group of mints from 650 B.C. to 457 A.D. The coinage included gold electrum, silver and bronze coinage. The coins were grouped into packets of 2 to 3 coins of similar design or significance and passed around to each member who were able to study the coins in detail. The members appreciation of Terry's knowledge of the subject matter was highlighted by his attention to the smallest detail on a coin and his instant identification based on a members question on a coin.

Thanks were extended to Terry for the interesting and informative talk. The attendance draw for a 1994 mint set was won by Ray Neiman. (he says it's his first time !)

**JOIN US FOR THE LAST
MEETING BEFORE THE
SUMMER BREAK. YOUR
DONATION GOES TO HELP
OFFSET COSTS FOR A
MEMBER TO REPRESENT
THE CLUB AT THE CNA!**

NEW MEMBERS

As a supplement to last month's new member list, it was discovered that Jules Rach was a past member. He will have his past number (#231) reinstated. Glad to see you back Jules !

NUMISMATIC NOTES

Ed Dreger where are you ! If you read this, please give Joe B. a call. We haven't heard from you since the fire. Please contact Joe if you can.

As an aside to Terry's talk on ancient Roman coinage, the old adage about "buying the book before the coin" has special significance with ancient coinage. One such book that is a good starter for beginners is "The Handbook of Roman Imperial Coins" by David Van Meter. I bought the book from Stanley Clute last year and find it informative and interesting reading. The book, a softcover of 334 pages, covers the period from 27 B.C. to 498 A.D. If your wondering where to start, this book may be of some help. Of course if you can afford it, the definitive books on the subject are by Sear, and are for the serious collector.

As the Club is a member of the Classical & Medieval Numismatic Society, we recently (April) received the Society's annual publication for 1993, entitled "The Picus". This Society's newsletter and annual publication are top notch and even if you are a novice in ancient collecting, they are highly recommended. The monthly newsletters are frequently 6 to 8 double sided pages and the 1993 annual journal is 180 pages covering 11 articles on the topic of ancient coinage.

Speaking of books, I recently received my copy of the 3rd in the series of J.D. Ferguson Historical Research Foundation sponsored books called "Coins of New Brunswick". The first two, were the 'Currency and Medals of Newfoundland' and the 'Currency and Medals of Prince Edward Island'. The book is written by Richard W. Bird. The book is a must for anyone interested in Canadian tokens. The subject is covered in great detail and details on varieties are highly illustrated. Historical information is given on many items and the photographic record is quite good. This hard cover book is fully referenced and consists of 184 pages.

Just received a letter from Earl Salterio, First Vice-president of CNS and past president of the CNA. Earl informs us he will be attending our 40th anniversary show in the Fall. We have had Earl up to our shows in the past and always enjoy his company. Hopefully we can have him perform some official duties on behalf of the CNA.

The newsletter will be cut short this month as I will be going on a short trip to south western Ontario at the beginning of June. Dan G. will be mailing the newsletter out for me if I can get it printed before I go. If you receive this in time, you'll know everything went ok. I hope to stop in to see Jeffery Hoare if I have time and possibly contact Tom Masters, president of the Ingersoll Coin Club. As you all know, they have been very helpful in passing along numismatic stories over the years and allowing us to print them in our newsletter. I'll be back in time for the meeting and hope to have fun bidding on a variety of numismatic lots. See you all in June. MJS.

HARMON AND HIS PUFFINS

By: Guntram Weisbrich

The London financier Martin Coles Harmon was a man who had fantasies of being a monarch of his own sovereign state. In 1925, the opportunity to realize his dream presented itself, Harmon purchased the small island of Lundy near the entrance to the Bristol Channel for 16,000 pounds sterling.

Lundy at the time had a population of just 45 residents and a large settlement of puffin birds on it's three mile by one-half mile land mass. Interestingly enough Lundy in Icelandic means Puffin. The island has a long history. In 1625 it was captured by Turkish pirates, and in 1633 by the Spanish. The French reportedly used it as a base against English shipping. Also, prehistoric remains have been found on Lundy.

In 1929, Harmon commissioned the Birmingham Mint to strike Penny and Half Penny coins for his island in the denominations of one Puffin and one-half Puffin. The reverse was designed with the bust of a puffin and the denomination underneath. The obverse portrayed Harmon with his full name around the effigy and the date 1929 underneath. Fifty thousand of each size were minted. The fact that Harmon used his own bust on these coins angered the English Crown, as it was felt that since Lundy was part of the British Empire, it's coinage should bear the effigy of the King of England. Martin Harmon disagreed with this claim as he felt the island was his to rule. The English charged him with violating section five of the Coinage Act of 1870. Harmon argued that his claim to the island was greater than the Crown's, since no taxes or customs duties had been collected by England. Furthermore he pointed out that the Crown had completely ignored a significant segment of the population that had been attacked and completely wiped out. When asked in court who had died, he simply stated "the Rabbits", as the entire population of the rodents had been exterminated several years earlier.

Unfortunately for Harmon, English jurists have not been known for their sense of humour. Harmon was found guilty and fined five pounds and 15 guineas in court costs. The Courts found Harmon's claim to Lundy illegitimate. It seems that collectors of world coins feel differently, as most catalogues of world coins now list the puffins. In 1965 puffins were struck again with the date 1965 on them. This time no court case was involved as they were considered tokens and struck mostly for the tourist trade and not a statement of autonomy. The set issued in 1965 consisted of 4 coins, 2 one Puffin coins consisting of a copper and a brass coin in proof and 2 half Puffin coins, again consisting of one copper and one brass. These were issued in a black presentation box. In 1969 Jack Harwood, another English millionaire, bought the island for 150,000 pounds and gave it to the English people.

So if you ever see a strange looking penny type coin with a bird as the denomination, remember the man who thought he was the King of Lundy and, of course, the poor rabbits.

PATTERNS AND TRIAL PIECES

by Jeff Fournier

You've probably heard the terms "pattern" and "trial" before in reference to coins, but do you understand what they mean? Most collectors tend to confuse the two, often using them interchangeably, but there is a significant difference.

A pattern is a tentative design for a coinage which is struck and presented to authorities for their approval. If the design appearing on the coin is not chosen for the proposed coinage, the piece becomes a "pattern".

On the other hand, a trial piece is a test strike used to note details of the design. They are most often struck in a metal not used for proposed coinage. Furthermore, many are struck on dies of varying thicknesses and weights.

It is easy to see why such confusion over the two terms could occur.

The most famous pattern coin is the 1911 dollar. Nobody knows exactly how these pieces (two are known) came about.

Why the two silver dollars were struck is shrouded in mystery. To this day it is not known if these were the only two pieces struck in silver, or if more exist.

A third piece struck in lead is properly termed a "trial" piece and resides at the Bank of Canada Currency Collection in Ottawa.

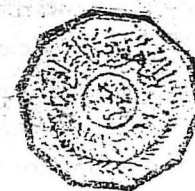
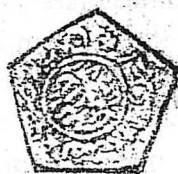
Not surprisingly, patterns and trial pieces are excessively rare and correspondingly expensive.

Very few collectors - even those who are quite advance - can claim to have even one example in their collection.

ODD SHAPES ADD VARIETY

T. Masters

When one mentions the word 'coin' he immediately visualizes a solid, round, metallic object, used to facilitate trade. This is not always true; there are many deviations, such as the coins with holed centers, both round and square. These include such pieces as the British West Africa 1 cent and the famous Chinese cash. From the island of Ceylon comes a square coin with round corners. Yemen had a five-sided coin in both 1/16 and 1/8 Ahmadi denominations. Six-sided coins were used in the Belgian Congo, Egypt, and Reunion, Mewar, an Indian native state, issued an eight-sided piece, and there are twelve-sided coins from Argentina, Fiji, Jersey, and Great Britain. Scalloped coins have been issued by numerous countries, varying in size and number of scallops usually six, eight or twelve. The amazing number of oddly shaped coins would make an interesting collection and a colorful display. Nearly all are inexpensive and relatively easy to obtain.





Royal Canadian
Mint

Monnaie royale
canadienne

Communiqué

1994 COMMEMORATIVE CIRCULATION DOLLAR COIN SALUTES OUR CANADIAN HEROES



THE HONOURABLE DAVID DINGWALL UNVEILS SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO CANADIANS WHO DEMONSTRATED OUR LOVE OF FREEDOM

Ottawa, April 25, 1994 — The Honourable David C. Dingwall, P.C., M.P., Minister of Public Works and Government Services and Minister responsible for the Royal Canadian Mint, today unveiled a new dollar coin honouring our Canadian war heroes.

"Today we celebrate the courage and sacrifice of those Canadian men and women who went abroad and to the millions of dedicated citizens of this country who worked together on the Home Front to support them. They have eloquently demonstrated our love of freedom, respect for human rights, self-determination and compassion," stated Minister Dingwall.

The Commemorative Circulation Dollar Coin is part of the Royal Canadian Mint "Remembrance and Peace" Program, designed to commemorate the sacrifice of those Canadians who took part in the Second World War. Other elements of the program include the "Canada Remembers" Medallion Set and the \$100 "Home Front" Gold Coin, which was unveiled in March. Next year, the Mint will present a second Commemorative Dollar Coin, paying tribute to "Peace". It should be noted that the regular dollar coin bearing the Loon motif will continue to be issued for both years.

Canada

BACKGROUNDER

THE 1994 COMMEMORATIVE CIRCULATION DOLLAR COIN



THE NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL

The National War Memorial was unveiled on May 21, 1939 by His Majesty King George VI to commemorate the response of Canadians in the First World War. Over the years, it has come to symbolize the sacrifice of all Canadians who have served Canada in time of war in the cause of peace and freedom. For that reason, the Memorial was rededicated in May 1982 to their honour and the dates 1939-1945 and 1950-1953 have been added on each side of the monument.

Rising 21 metres from its base, the cenotaph consists of an arch of granite surmounted by emblematic bronze figures of Peace and Freedom. Shown advancing through the archway are 22 bronze figures - symbol of the "Great Response" of the people of Canada who answered the call to serve.

All branches of the service engaged in the war are represented. Leading the way are infantrymen, the mainstay of the army. On the left is a Lewis gunner, on the right a kilted soldier, both followed by a pilot and an air mechanic. A cavalryman emerges from the arch, and at his side is a mounted artilleryman. There is a field artillery piece in the rear. A sailor marches on the pilot's left. Two riflemen press through the arch, and behind them are the men and women of the support services, including nursing sisters, a stretcher bearer and a lumberman with his cant hook.

The National War Memorial, which stands majestically in Confederation Square in the heart of downtown Ottawa is a visible reminder of the people of Canada who fought valiantly to win peace and to secure freedom.

THE DESIGN OF SCULPTOR VERNON MARCH

In 1925, a world-wide competition was held to choose a design for a national commemorative war monument. The competition was open to architects, sculptors and artists resident in the British Empire, or to those who were British subjects by birth but residing elsewhere, or subjects of Allied nations. A total of 127 entries was received. Seven finalists were chosen to submit scale models of their designs.

In January of the following year, the Board of Assessors selected the model submitted by Vernon March of Farnborough, England. His theme was "the Great Response of Canada". The idea, he wrote, was "to perpetuate in this bronze group the people of Canada who went Overseas to the Great War, and to represent them, as we of today saw them, as a record for future generations..." Vernon March was assisted by his brothers and his sister who completed the work after his death in 1930. The figures were completed in July 1932.

In 1938, under the supervision of Sydney March and two of his brothers, the granite pedestal and arch was completed. On Wednesday, October 19, 1938, the Memorial was completed and on its permanent site in the Nation's Capital.

BACKGROUND

THE 1994 CANADA REMEMBERS MEDALLION SET



The Battle of Britain

Title : We Flew with the Heroic Few

Canadian Artist : Rich Thistle

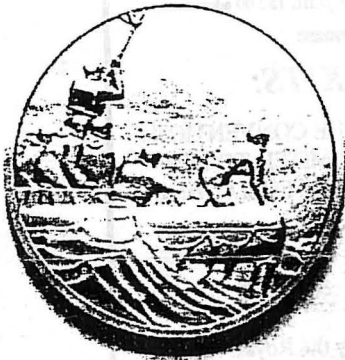
Date of Painting : 1989

More than half a million Canadian men and women served in the defence of Britain during the Second World War. Among the first and most gallant were the fighter pilots who fought the Luftwaffe in British skies during the summer and fall of 1940. "Never in the field of human conflict," said Winston Churchill, speaking of all the Allied airmen who flew in the Battle of Britain, "was so much owed by so many to so few".

The Canadians who joined the fray that hot summer, both in RCAF and RAF squadrons, symbolize the determination of the beleaguered island to resist the formidable power of Nazi Germany. Flying mostly in Hurricane fighter planes like these, sometimes in Spitfires, they helped to defeat a numerically superior enemy and to prevent the planned German invasion of the British Isles. Canadian and Commonwealth pilots often flew up to seven sorties a day against waves of German bombers and fighter escorts. Their heroic struggle, the subject of books and film, has made the Spitfire and Hurricane two of the most famous aircraft types in history. The Canadian aircrew and ground crew who followed in subsequent years and trained in Canada under the British Commonwealth Training Plan made a vital contribution to winning the war in the air.

THE ARTIST : RICH THISTLE

Born in Ontario in 1946, Rich's training at Ontario College of Art and the University of Western Ontario has provided a solid basis for the development of his personal painting style, although the artist considers himself basically self taught. Rich is making an international name for himself in the field of aviation art, and his originals depicting historical and current military and civil aviation, are collected and commissioned by aviation enthusiasts, the military and corporations. His passionate portrayals of significant themes in aviation are valued for their beauty, emotion, and technical mastery.



The Battle of the Atlantic

Painting : Passing?

Canadian Artist : Harold Beament

Date of Painting : circa 1946

A testament to the importance of shipping supplies and munitions to war-torn Europe was the furious effort made throughout the war by German U-boats, aircraft and surface raiders to sink ships in the North Atlantic and elsewhere. Many of our seamen, both in the merchant marine and the navy, cast adrift when their ships were sunk like those represented in this famous Canadian painting, experienced terrible hardships.

The fledgling Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) expanded faster than any other in the world, until at the end of the war it was third among the Allied navies. In 1943, as the Allies began to defeat the German attack on shipping, the Canadian Northwest Atlantic became the only theater of war with a Canadian Commander-in-Chief. The RCN developed a sophisticated communications system, and trained personnel of the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service to operate many of the stations intercepting enemy signal traffic, as well as to staff operation rooms in shore bases. By the end of the war, the Canadian navy provided practically all the escort vessels for North Atlantic convoys. Both the non-combatant merchant seamen and the sailors of the wartime RCN came from towns and farms all across Canada, many never even having seen salt water before they went to sea. They shared identical risks and often paid the identical price.

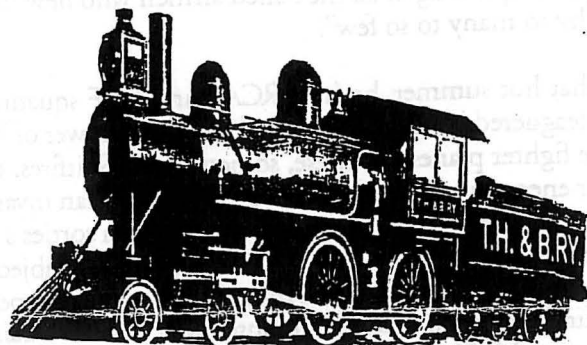
THE ARTIST : HAROLD BEAMENT

Harold Beament held the highest service rank of any Canadian artist during the war — Commander. He was the senior war artist in the Canadian Navy.

He was already an artist when he was invited to become a war artist, having studied at the Ontario College of Art in 1922. Working in the field, Beament used watercolours and coloured pencils. On D-Day in Normandy, he scribbled on the back of a signal pad. Born in 1898, Beament passed away in 1984. (Source : Canadian Artists of the Second World War. The Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa)

HAVE YOU MADE PLANS TO ATTEND?

1994 CNA CONVENTION



JULY 21 - 24

ROYAL CONNAUGHT HOTEL
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HAMILTON, ONT.

LOCATION

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HOSPITALITY SUITE
TOURS
FUN & FELLOWSHIP

BOURSE HOURS

FRIDAY, July 22, 1994:

REGISTRANTS PREVIEW: 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
OPEN TO PUBLIC: 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. (\$2.00 admission)

SATURDAY, July 23, 1994:

OPEN TO PUBLIC: 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.. (\$2.00 admission)

SUNDAY, July 24, 1994:

OPEN TO PUBLIC: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (\$2.00 admission)

REGISTRATION KITS:

BY PRE-REGISTRATION OR AT THE CONVENTION
(SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY - LIMITED TO 150)
AT \$25.00 EACH WHICH INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

- * Official convention souvenir medal in bronze (struck at the Royal Canadian Mint)
- * Daily admission for all three days of the convention to bourse and exhibits
- * Admission to full-bar reception hosted by the Royal Canadian Mint
- * Access to Hospitality Suite serving complimentary coffee, tea and snacks
- * Souvenir program booklet listing all activities taking place at the convention
- * Wooden nickels and other numismatic souvenirs
- * Convention souvenir ribbon

FOR A "PROFITABLE" EXPERIENCE, PLAN TO ATTEND!

* Meet new friends and fellow collectors

* Renew old acquaintances

* Fun & Fellowship

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