



# EDMONTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

## 46th Anniversary year!



MARCH 1999 ISSUE

Volume 46 Issue 3

### 1999 EXECUTIVE

#### PRESIDENT

Joe Bardy

#### VICE- PRESIDENT

Ray Neiman

#### SECRETARY

Michael Schneider

#### TREASURER

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#### DIRECTORS

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#### PROGRAM DIRECTOR NEWSLETTER / EDITOR

Michael Schneider

#### LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

Dan Gosling

#### ANNUAL DUES

Family \$12.00, Regular \$10.00

Junior \$3.00 (16 & under)

#### The ENS is a member of:

Canadian Numismatic Association

American Numismatic Association

Canadian Association of  
Token Collectors

Canadian Association of  
Wooden Money Collectors

Canadian Paper Money Society

Classical & Medieval  
Numismatic Society

### MARCH MEETING NOTICE

**DATE : WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 1999**

**TIME : 7:00 P.M.**

**PLACE: PROVINCIAL MUSEUM OF ALBERTA, 12845 - 102 AVE.**

(Use Archive entrance to Main Floor Lecture Room P138)

**PROGRAM : MEMBER TALKS ON THE FLORIDA FUN  
SHOW, WORLD COINAGE. MEMBER SHOW & TELL, Video**

### MARCH MEETING AGENDA

March's meeting will see Ray Neiman talk on his recent trip to the Florida Fun show. In addition, James Kindrake will give another great talk on world coinage. Dan hopes to have a video ready for the meeting as well. Members are also encouraged to bring in items for show & tell. See you all at the meeting!

***Get your advance Spring  
Coin & Stamp Show  
tickets at March's  
meeting!***

### FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

February saw 23 members at the meeting held at CompuSmart in west Edmonton. Dan once again gave a great presentation on "Numismatics on the Internet". With the Internet growing so rapidly, each day brings new sites and businesses wanting to promote products or individuals showing their collections. Dan visited many sites starting with the ENS Web page. The ANA had articles on rare US notes as well as coins on notes. Several dealer sites were visited including Diverse Equities, Stan Wright, Penny Lane Coins as well as the Royal Canadian Mint. It was noted that the 1911 Can. Dollar was sold for \$1,250,000 US. The Worldwide Bi-Metallic Club site was visited and viewed as well as Ken Potter's site on US. Many other sites were visited including most of the coin related sites: CPMS, Wooden Money, Numismatic Network Canada. Several international sites were also visited. All in all a very interesting evening. Thanks to Dan for providing the refreshments. It was announced that Chapters was selling Krause Mishler's 1998 World Coin Catalogue for \$14.95. Several members took advantage of this sale. Dan is to be commended for his work with the ENS web site and all the CNA related info that has been posted. If you haven't seen it, you should visit it if you can.

***Members input requested  
for Millennium Project  
2000***

**1999 Annual Memberships are Past Due! Please renew your  
membership with the 'Club of the Year' for 1998, today!**

## **FEBRUARY 2, EXECUTIVE MEETING**

The first executive meeting of 1999 was held at Joe's in February. Joe, Dan, Mike, John, Ray, Terry, and new Junior Director, Scott Lakey were in attendance. The following items were on the Agenda:

1. CNA Show Wrap-up - It was finally announced that all the details of the CNA show were almost wrapped up, with the broken cases dealt with, and final cheque sent off to Seattle for the use of their photo for the CNA medal. All in all just over \$14,450 profit was realized, with the proceeds split between the ENS & the CNA.
2. Proceeds of the show- The executive will discuss what to do with the proceeds of the show. The ENS has not had this much money for along time. With 2 successful shows a year and the profit from the CNA, we have to decide on what to do with the money. Members suggestions will be encouraged and considered. For the short term, much of the money will be invested to ensure it is used for the benefit of the ENS for years to come.
3. Millenium Project - The ENS will solicit members input on if or what we should do for a millenium project. One suggestion is a history of the club, with photos of all products produced by club. (medals, notes, woods)
4. Youth Program - It was discussed on what to do to encourage youth into collecting coins. Special Saturday shows at a library, or the Museum Collection put on display or promotion through the Scouting program were all discussed.
5. It was decided to purchase the remaining 10 CNA bronze medals for the club. These can be given out at special meetings, to guest speakers etc.

## **MAY 1 & 2 COIN & STAMP SHOW**

The table sales are going well for the May show. We haven't heard from all past dealers but it is expected most will sign up again. A few new dealers have expressed interest and will be given a chance if we don't get all past dealers to sign up. See the poster at the back of this newsletter for more information.

## **CLUB NEWS**

- On behalf of the ENS, we would like to send our condolences to Jack Jensen, on the loss of his father recently. Jack has been a supporter of the Club for many years and we wish he and his family all the best from the ENS.
- Also, thanks are extended to George Koyich, who recently donated items to the club, which were sold and made a profit for the club. Thanks George for your support!
- If you haven't read the January/February CNA Journal yet, pick up a copy today. There is a nice article by Don Kabel on the CNA show in Edmonton. Don joined the club at the show and has been attending the meetings. Thanks for the great article Don!
- Watch for an announcement of a Club Bar-B-Que this summer!

## **Millennium Coin Program**

The Mint has issued the Millennium 25 cent series, and they are available at most Coin Shops. The individual coins however, are not as widely available as several banks and Credit Unions have not yet received February's coins. The sets have also apparently been rationed a bit in the area, with all sets received being pre-sold as they come in. Some sets are available below mint issue price at local flea markets, as the Editor picked up a set for \$22.00 and no GST. Who says you can't get a bargain on Mint products!

## **THANKS ONE LAST TIME**

On behalf of the ENS, we'd once again like to thank the members of the CNA Committee for a fine job on the Show. With the final transfer of funds this month into the ENS account, over \$7200 will have been made at the show, as well as the club having sufficient cases to support its own local shows. To Dan, Mike, John, Joe and all the rest, thanks for your hard work and dedication to the ENS!

## **COMING EVENTS**

**April 24 & 25 - Vancouver, B.C.** - Vancouver Numismatic Society Coin & Stamp Fair, Oakridge Centre Auditorium.

**May 1 & 2, 1999** - Edmonton Numismatic Society Spring Coin & Stamp Show - Delta Edmonton South

**July 22 - 25 - CNA Convention** - Kitchner, Ontario - For more information contact Waterloo Coin Society, P.O. Box 40044, Waterloo Square Post Office, Waterloo, Ontario, N2J 4V1

# Edmonton Numismatic Society - 1998 Financial Report

03/01/99

## 1998 Income

Memberships	\$630.00
Archives	\$40.00
Library Fund	\$85.00
Draws (meetings)	\$38.00
Coffee Fund	\$19.65
Spring Show Bourse	\$3,794.00
U.S. Exchange	\$67.35
Donations	\$90.00
Bi-Metal	\$1,271.50
Woods	\$89.50
CNA '98 (Advance)	\$500.00
Louise B. Graham Award	\$250.00
Canada Notes	\$220.00
Fall Show	\$3,481.00
Fall Breakfast meeting	\$255.00
Fall Show Admission	\$524.00
Internet	<u>\$30.00</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$11,358.40</b>

## 1998 Expenditures

Donations (War amps, etc.)	\$30.00
Museum Room Rental	\$406.64
Association Memberships	\$155.80
Postage, office supplies, box rental	\$541.69
Advertising ( Club shows etc.)	\$318.75
Member Award costs	\$99.04
Spring/Fall Show Hotel costs	\$2,740.31
Spring/Fall Show Security	\$399.02
Misc. Show expenses (licence etc.)	\$197.61
Spring /Fall Show Prizes	\$440.30
Show lamps, bulbs, cords, locks	\$235.52
Yearly Insurance Policy for Shows	\$500.00
Show refund	\$176.00
Office Costs ( cheques, typing etc.)	\$73.81
Bank charges, Society registration	\$102.00
Bi-Metallic Production Printing	\$2,173.24
Bi-Metallic Shipping, customs	\$303.19
Cases purchased for CNA	\$1,186.50
CNA expenses - Deposit	\$500.00
CNA expenses - shipping, postage	\$149.48
CNA expenses - Meetings/wrap-up	\$448.20
CNA expenses - Crafts, engraving	\$125.69
CNA expenses - honorariums	\$900.00
Coin Month notes	\$218.00
CNA Woods	\$80.00
Christmas Party	<u>\$40.88</u>

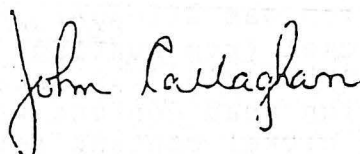
## **TOTAL EXPENDITURES**

**\$12,507.14**

Balance 31 December 1997	\$ 3,301.69
Debits	12,507.14
Credits	11,358.40
Interest Payment	17.44
Services Charge	103.60

Balance 31 December 1998 \$ 2,066.79

Respectfully submitted by

 , Treasurer,

Edmonton Numismatic Society. February 28, 1999.





# CANADA'S

by David Harper

## VICTORY NICKELS

The world was in the midst of global war when the Royal Canadian Mint issued this short series of "Tombac" Nickels.

On September 1, 1939, Hitler's troops began their march across the face of Europe. The world had been plunged into the most devastating war in it's history. "A war for survival," as Winston Churchill later called it.

By 1942, the most critical stages of the war had been reached, one battle could turn the tide for either side. The most critical factor in the conducting of any war, popular support, was beginning to ebb. In that year, the Royal Canadian Mint had changed the content of the nickel from pure nickel to a copper-zinc alloy (tombac) in order to conserve nickel which was to the war effort. This alloy contained 88% copper and 12% zinc. It was intended that later they would be melted down and with the addition of copper and tin they could make pennies out of it.

In 1943, a design change was instituted to spur the public's support for the war. It entailed using a "V" in the reverse design doing double duty as a numeral valuation and as a representation of Winston Churchill's famous "V" for victory sign and a torch of liberty illuminating Canada. The standard obverse design of King George VI was maintained. What further made this coin unique from any other was a message in More Code around the edge. The message reads, "We win when we work willingly." The coin was minted in the copper-zinc alloy during 1942 and was an immediate success, as it was kept in large numbers as souvenirs.

The "Tombac" nickels received their name from the alloy they were made from. Malayan jewelers, over the years, created many intricate and ornate items from this copper-zinc alloy. They called the alloy "Tombaga," hence the name "Tombac".

In 1944, the war was still raging but the Nazis were on the retreat however, even with victory in sight the nickel shortage was still evident and a copper shortage had materialized. So two years after Canada's initial alloy change they had to find another. The mint officials arrived at a steel composition for the nickel and by watching the United States experiments in using steel cents, they carefully avoided the mistake of coating their steel nickels with zinc. Instead they used a chrome plating which was stronger and more durable than the zinc and it kept the steel nickel from rusting, which the zinc coating had failed to do. The 1943 "V" design was retained and the nickels were issued. In 1945, this design and content was again used, with the familiar beaver design and nickel content returning in 1946.

Nickels of the 1943-1945 war years did more than serve as mediums of exchange, they did more than conserve the critical war metals--in a

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## CANADA'S VICTORY NICKELS (Cont'd)

way they helped win the war. One facet of war most people have a tendency to overlook is psychological warfare. These nickels were an intricate part of the allies overall propaganda program. Wars are not won on the battlefield alone. The "Tombac" nickel helped create a state of mind, a mind which was dedicated to only one goal, total victory. Who knows what would have happened without such propaganda. Would the populace have grown so tired of war that they would have settled for a negotiated peace, say in 1944? We will never know, but when you pick up a nickel, any nickel, consider the role the Canadian "V" Nickel played in World War II.

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### INDIAN HEAD CENTS

#### GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

by Ed Reiter

The indian head cent--like the Indian himself--has slipped "out of sight, out of mind" with the inexorable passage of time.

Once, this distinctive coin was as common in the marketplace as the redskin warrior was on America's Western plains. The cent had its heyday in commerce, in fact, during the time the Indian tribes of the West were most on people's minds.

Neither has been much on people's minds in many a moon. The Indian head cent was last minted in 1909, and last seen in circulation, in any appreciable quantity, perhaps a quarter century thereafter.

But just as the winning of the West ranks among the most exciting chapters in the history of the nation, the Indian head cent is surely one of the most fascinating entries in the annals of American coins.

Storm clouds were gathering over the nation when the Indian cent first appeared on the scene, in 1859. The Civil War lay just ahead, and the ship of state already was tossing fitfully in a sea of sectional emotions.

It was a turbulent time for the nation's coinage, too.

Three new denominations--the silver three-cent piece, the gold dollar, and the \$3 gold piece--had introduced within the preceding decade. Plans for several others were being discussed. And two years earlier, mintage of the half-cent had been halted and the copper large cent had given way to the copper-nickel small cent.

The small cent had gained immediate favor. People had grown disenchanted with the bulky large cents, not only because of their size but also because they had an annoying tendency to blacken and become foul.

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## INDIAN HEAD CENTS...GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN (Cont'd)



The flying eagle design of the first small cents had not been universally popular, though. Soon after they made their appearance, in fact, James Ross Snowden, director of the U.S. Mint, had suggested to their designer, James B. Longacre, that he replace the eagle with the head of Christo-

pher Columbus.

Busts of actual persons had not been used on U.S. coins up to that time, and for that reason Longacre balked at the suggestion. He did set to work revising the coin, however, and the product of his labor was the Indian head design.

Actually, "Indian head" is a misnomer, for the head on Longacre's cent is that of a Caucasian garbed in an Indian Headdress. It's said the designer used his daughter, Sarah, as his model.

Longacre was impressed by the symbolism of the feathered headdress, for it struck him as a truly American device--a device far more appropriate for U. S. coins than the Phrygian slave's cap so widely used on them before and since.

"We have only to determine that it shall be appropriate," he declared at the time, "and all the world cannot wrest it from us."

History was to prove him correct, for the design has, indeed, been acclaimed by all the world as one that was well conceived and uniquely American.

In addition to the headdress, the "Indian" on the cent also wears a strand of beads around her neck. The word "LIBERTY" is inscribed on the headdress.



In the first year of issue, the design on the cent's reverse consisted of a simple laurel wreath circumscribing the words, "ONE CENT". In 1860, Longacre substituted a thicker wreath of oak, separated at the top by a shield--and the new design prevailed from that time on.

The change, presumably, was prompted by the thought it would improve the coin's appearance. The use of the shield--the symbol of the federal government--gained added meaning, however, after the outbreak of the Civil War the following year.

Indian head cents, along with all the rest of the nation's coins virtually vanished from circulation during the war, as inflation led to hoarding of massive proportions. The government was producing cents in record quantities, but people were putting them away just as fast as they were made.

Interestingly, the coin shortage led to the creation of a new kind of cent--the kind we know today.

To enable themselves to make change in the absence of coins, businessmen took to issuing imitation cents, usually made of bronze. These so-called "Civil War tokens" often were patterned after the Indian Head cent, with "NOT" in small letters above the words, "ONE CENT".

Congress outlawed such tokens in 1864, but federal officials saw the merit of the bronze composition and adopted it for the real cents, at the time reducing their weight by one-third, from 72 grains to 48. Today's Lincoln cents likewise weigh 48 grains.

Earlier Indian head cents, like their flying eagle predecessors, had been composed of 88 per cent copper and 12 per cent nickel. From 1864 on, the cents were 95 per cent copper, 4 per cent tin, and 1 per cent zinc.

Despite their long absence from circulation, Indian cents generally command only modest premiums except in proof and uncirculated condition.

Most valuable coin in the series, in circulated grades, is the 1877, which has a mintage of only 852,500. The 1864 "L" bronze cent, on which

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## INDIAN HEAD CENTS...GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN (Cont'd)

Longacre's initial appears on the ribbon of the headdress, is the highest-priced Indian of them all.

With only two exceptions, Indian heads were produced throughout their 51-year run exclusively at the Philadelphia Mint. The exceptions



occurred at the end of the run, in 1908 and 1909, when the San Francisco Mint also turned them out. The 1909-S Indian has the lowest mintage in the series, just 309,000

Indian heads gave way to Lincoln cents in 1909, and from then on it was just a matter of time before they would be gone from public view.

Many were dispatched to the happy hunting grounds, via government melting pots. Others were stashed away in cigar boxes and sugar bowls. Still others were saved in collections--in Indian head reservations, as it were.

They are gone, as far as the general public is concerned. But they never will be completely forgotten, as long as there are collectors of coins and students of history who prize the rich legacy of our nation's colorful past.

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ONE COIN COLLECTOR'S NIGHTMARE, ANOTHER'S FOOD FORTUNE.....

SAN DIEGO.....

Rare coins were recently found, priced at face value, at a garage sale in Chula Vista, Calif. An area coin collector chanced upon the once-in-a-lifetime find and happily forked over \$210. for the coins which would have easily fetched more than \$40,000. at auction. Among the albums were collections of Lincoln pennies in almost-uncirculated condition, Indian Head cents, (Buffalo) nickels, also in almost-uncirculated condition, and sets of Barber dimes, quarters and halves, all in extra-fine condition. Also included was a near completed set of Trade Dollars in very fine condition, along with several dozen mixed encapsulated Morgan silver dollars in MS-65 and better.

When the lucky garage sale shopper asked the woman why she was selling the coins, he was told she'd had a fight with her husband and was selling his collection while he was out of town for the weekend. The woman said she intended to frame the ad and give it to her husband when he returned. (She'll probably get that divorce she's been after.)

Needless to say, the garage sale shopper didn't give the woman a personal check with his name and address imprinted on it. He gave her untraceable cash.

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# Edmonton Numismatic Society COIN & STAMP SHOW

## DELTA EDMONTON SOUTH

(FORMERLY CONVENTION INN)

4404 CALGARY TRAIL  
EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA

**MAY 1 & 2, 1999**

**Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

**Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

**Admission \$1.00 Advance**

**\$2.00 at the Door (16 & under FREE)**

**COIN DISPLAYS, DOOR PRIZE DRAWS**

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