

# Edmonton Numismatic Society

March 2001

Volume 48 Issue 3



**DATE:** Sunday, March 11, 2001 **TIME:** 8:00 a.m. Coffee,  
8:30 a.m. Breakfast, Meeting and talk at 9:00 a.m.

**PLACE:** COAST TERRACE INN, 4440 Calgary Trail North,  
Victoria / Richmond Room, Level P1

**PROGRAM:** Breakfast Meeting, Subsidized Cost \$10,  
Guest Speaker on Counterfeit Coins & Paper, Show & Tell

## 2001 Executive

### PRESIDENT

Dan Gosling

### PAST PRESIDENT

Joseph Bardy

### VICE-PRESIDENT

Ray Neiman

### SECRETARY

Michael Schneider

### TREASURER

John Callaghan

### DIRECTORS

Terry Cheesman  
James Kindrake  
Ron McDonald  
Albert Meyer  
David Peter  
Bernie Theriault  
James Williston  
Lub Wojtiw  
Scott Lakey (Jr. Dir)

### PROGRAM / LIBRARY

#### ARCHIVES

Dan Gosling

#### NEWSLETTER

Michael Schneider

### ANNUAL DUES

Family \$12, Reg. \$10  
Junior \$3 (16 & under)

### ENS is a member of:

Canadian Numismatic Assoc.  
American Numismatic Assoc.

Canadian Association of  
Token Collectors

Canadian Association of  
Wooden Money Collectors

Canadian Paper Money Society

Classical & Medieval  
Numismatic Society

## MARCH MEETING AGENDA

March will once again be our Show Breakfast meeting. Coffee will be at 8:00 a.m., Buffet Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. and the guest speaker will be starting at 9:00 a.m. The speaker will be Ray Neiman who will talk on Counterfeit Coins & Paper money. Members are also encouraged to bring in items for show and tell.

## JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

Twenty-three (23) members attended the February "Valentines" meeting. Dan welcomed all in attendance. The main speaker was Bob Ericksson, who gave an informative talk on Canadian 1 cent coins. Bob's collection is of high quality, with some of the highest grades known. The discussion included the mintage numbers of various years and the corresponding population report in mint state condition. Bob provided a handout for the members. (ICCS Jan. 2000) The review included Q.E. II and George VI. Also, varieties and scarcity were discussed with large blow-up handouts of the 1948 & 1949 varieties (pointing to and off of the denticles) Also varieties for '53, '54 & '55 "No Serif"-shoulder fold to denticle and "Serif" - no shoulder fold between denticle. All in all a very interesting and informative talk. Dan reviewed the status of the upcoming show, and asked for members to volunteer their time to set-up and tear down, as well as man the tables. Thanks to those who volunteered. At show and tell, Norm Mitchell, who turned 86 recently, recounted how Wray Eltom once gave him a 1915 3 Pence to commemorate his birth year. Other show & tell included Dan Gosling on die charts

And Terry Cheesman on a recent ancient coin acquisition from 220AD. Maurice Doll announced the museum has put a small permanent display of crowns by the cafeteria, of material donated by Lorne K. Members were encouraged to view the display. Dan also announced the possibility of a 1 day CNA Numismatic Seminar which will be held in Edmonton, hopefully in the fall of 2001. The

## **DON'T FORGET TO CONFIRM YOUR AT- TENDANCE AT THE BREAKFAST MEETING**

## **25 DEALERS CON- FIRMED FOR SHOW**

course would be on Canadian Coinage, and subject to enough instructors being recruited for the event. Anyone wishing to help out are to contact Dan G. Our next speaker was Jules Rach. Jules collects American coinage principally, and each member was provided with a handout of the talk, as well as a specimen copy of the new US "Golden Dollar". The talk was on the new "Sacagawea" dollar issued in 2000. The colourful handout included a history and map of the area where the native girl lived and traveled around the year 1800. The meeting concluded with 7 door prize draws given out to several of the members. Once again, several members continued on with the meeting at the local pub.



Sacagawea Statue  
(Bismark, ND)

P.O. Box 75024 Ritchie P.O., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T6E 6K1, 780-496-6602  
WEB PAGE: <http://www.compumart.ab.ca/dang/>

## **ENS SHOW UPDATE**

We have 2 new dealers attending the upcoming show in March. Ed Hay of Stony Plain and George Cavic from Red Deer will be attending. This will give us coin & stamp dealers. In addition, Dan Gosling and Les Garvey will be on the 'A' Channel news, promoting the hobby and the show. They will be doing several 3 minute segments on what people have at home that could be worth something or not. Thanks to Kelly Banks of 'A' Channel for allowing us to do the segment. Everything else is in place for another great show in Edmonton. Trajan Publishing has sent us information for Kids to hand out, and we are expecting CCN's and Journals as well. Pre-sale tickets have gone into their 2nd printing, with over 340 tickets out. Don't forget to bring in your books on Saturday or return the stubs and money to Joe. Don't forget to reserve your seat at the breakfast as well. Terry and the phone committee will be calling the week of the show for a head count. We need your reply by March 8th at the latest.

## **ENS EXECUTIVE MEETING NOTES-FEB. 2001**

Eleven executive members met on Feb. 1 this year, to review our progress and set upcoming events. The following is a summary of items discussed and resolutions passed:

- Michael gave a financial summary of the last show
- Advertizing for Mar. show would be as per last show with additional free coverage if possible.
- Main Door prize for show would be gold coin.
- 75% of dealers have put a deposit on March show.
- The treasurer's report shows us with \$4000+ in the current account. Executive would decide how much to put in a GIC after the show.
- Reviewed getting our own domain name for our web page. A web site committee will come back with a recommendation on name and links
- The next ENS bar-b-que will be held at David Peter's house.
- David also volunteered to put stamps on the envelopes.
- It was suggested the club do an inventory of it's assets. (books, medallions, woods etc.)

**Edmonton Stamp Club Presents**

## **EDMONTON SPRING NATIONAL STAMP SHOW**

**"Stamps and Sports"**

Edmonton Hosts 8<sup>th</sup> IAAF World Championships in Athletics  
and 2001 ITU World Triathlon Championships

**Competitive Exhibits, Over 20 Dealers,  
Juniors' Room, Sale Books and Stamp Packs,  
Banquet, Seminars.**

March 30, Fri. (1 pm - 8 pm), March 31, Sat. (10 am - 5 pm)  
April 1, Sun. (10 am - 4 pm)

West Edmonton Mall Conference Centre  
(3<sup>rd</sup> level, Europa Boulevard)

**Admission Free - Public Very Welcome**

For general information call 780-466-9967;  
Dealers call 780-437-1787. Exhibitors call 780-435-7006.  
E-mail: ameech@telusplanet.net

- ENS storage location was discussed. Museum is supposed to do renovation. Edm. Library may have space at \$700/year with office.
- ENS coin show cases need to be repaired.
- Need to have a committee struck to head up our 50th anniversary committee for 2003. We would like to do a history of the Club.
- A review of the ENS annual dues was discussed

The meeting adjourned at about 10:00 p.m.

## **COMING EVENTS**

<b>March 10 &amp; 11, 2001</b>	<b>Edmonton Numismatic Society, Coin &amp; Stamp Show, Coast Terrace Inn</b>
<b>March 16, 17 &amp; 18, 2001,</b>	<b>Calgary Numismatic Society Coin Show, Info - Neil - 403-281-9104</b>
<b>March 24, 2001</b>	<b>Cambridge Coin Club Coin Show, Cambridge, Ontario</b>
<b>March 30 - April 1, 2001</b>	<b>Edmonton Stamp Club, Spring National Stamp Show, West Edm. Mall</b>
<b>April 6 &amp; 7</b>	<b>Vancouver Numismatic Society, Oakridge Centre Auditorium</b>

# Medieval coins

## We'll begin with a little History lesson . . .

Medieval European coinage was standardized by Charlemagne around 800 AD when he conquered most of Europe. The standard Denier (Penny in English, Pfennig in German, Denaro in Italian) was a silver coin about the size of a US penny. Historians have suggested that its value at the time was about that of a meal or a pitcher of ale. For the next 4-500 years, most coinage in Europe followed this standard pattern. Most Medieval coins incorporate a cross somewhere into the design. German and other eastern regions often incorporate an eagle into the design while English coins generally carry a crude portrait of the King, which is a distinction that remains to this day (now Queen Elizabeth). French coins will often show a monogram, castle, or cathedral.

Medieval history is fascinating as it is quite chaotic. From the disintegration of Charlemagne's empire in the mid to late 10th century, the region of what is now modern-day France emerges as an incredibly complex web of feudal states, ruled by Counts and Dukes who owed nominal allegiance to the King who in reality was often less powerful than his subjects. This is the feudal era where political intrigue and complex inter-familial relationships lead ultimately to the mess called the Hundred Years War (1337-1451). The coinage of this time is very complex as well. Every Count or Duke had his own mint, as it was a very profitable enterprise. The variety of these coins, while adhering to the basic Denier style, is staggering. There are literally thousands of varieties.

## Different grades of Medieval coins



GOOD



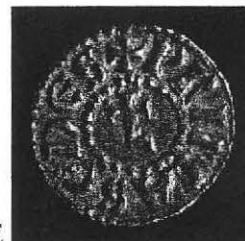
VERY GOOD



FINE

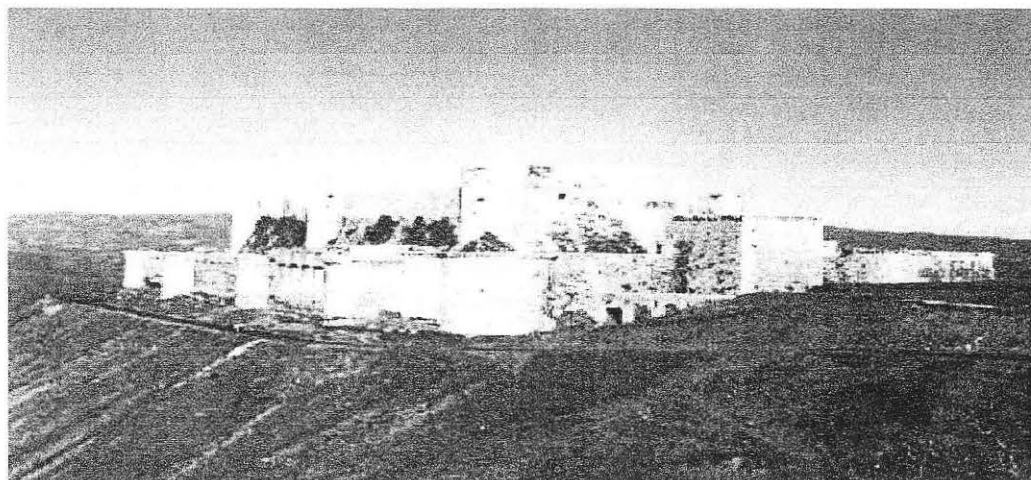


VERY FINE



EXTRA FINE

# Crusader Coins



This is the "Crac de Chevaliers" or Castle of the Knights. It is a European style castle built during the Crusades in what is now Syria. Many examples of these Crusader castles remain in the Levant to this day.

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The Crusades were a series of military expeditions that continued on and off for several hundred years from 1086 until about the 14th century. Over twenty "official" Crusades were launched, with varying degrees of success. Once the European invaders established themselves in and around the Holy Land, they began to mint coinage. Not surprisingly they styled their coinage after that which they already knew and utilized similar styles in an effort to confirm their legitimacy. What follows are some coins from Crusader states established in what is now Greece and parts of Turkey. There is also Crusader coinage that was minted in Jerusalem, but that generally commands a higher price given the general public's great historical interest in that city.

## Isabella de Villehardouin - Princess of Achaea 1297-1301



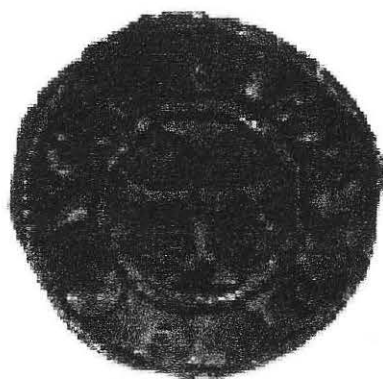
Obverse



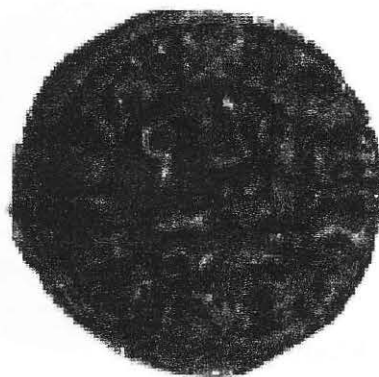
Reverse

This is a billon Crusader denier of Isabelle de Villehardouin who ruled as Princess of Achaea from 1297 - 1301. (Achaea was in what is now Greece and was "on the way" to the Holy Land) The obverse states + YSABELLA P\*ACH (Isabella, Princess of Achaea) surrounding a short cross. The reverse shows the "Castle Tournois" surrounded by \*DE CLARENCEIA (of Glarentza). This is one of the few medieval coins minted under female authority. This is in G to VG (Good to Very Good) condition.

## Charles II of Anjou - Prince of Achaea 1285-1289



Obverse



Reverse

This is a billon Denier Tournois issued by Crusaders in Greece during the 13th century. Greece was essentially overrun by Crusaders on their way to the Holy Land during this period, and several principalities were established and ruled by French nobles. This coin was minted by Charles II of Anjou who ruled as Prince of Achaea from 1285-1289. The obverse shows a cross surrounded by the legend + KH PRINC AChS. The reverse shows a Castle (see the Louis IX above) surrounded by + DE CLARENTIA (of Glarentza - where the mint was). This coin is in VG/F (Very Good to Fine) condition.

## William de la Roche - Grand Duke of Athens 1280-1287



Obverse



Reverse

This is a billon Crusader denier from William de la Roche, Grand Duke of Athens from 1280-1287. The obverse legend states + G DVX ATENIS (Grand Duke of Athens) surrounding a short cross, while the reverse shows the "Castle Tournios" surrounded by THEBE CIVIS (City of Thebes). This coin has been "whizzed" - polished with a wire brush. This process gives it the bright "silver" color but removes the patina. Thus while it might look nice, it's actually better to leave the dark patina on the coin as a preservative against further oxidation. It is the worst condition coin on this site and would grade only G (Good). Like the other Crusader coins on this site, I picked it up for \$5 as an unknown coin. I then spent several hours poring through reference books trying to match the fields and decipher the legends with a magnifying glass. This work pushes my estimate of its value to \$10, merely because I can attribute the coin with relative certainty. Of course, it's really only worth what someone is willing to pay for it . . .



## Philip of Taranto - Prince of Achaea 1306-1313



Obverse



Reverse

This is a coin of Philip of Taranto, Prince of Achaea from 1306-1313. This coin is in horrible condition and was probably the hardest one to finally attribute. I literally spend hours trying to identify some of the letters, then comparing them to the references and see if there were any matches. The obverse reads +PhS\*ACH V C surrounding a short cross. As you can see on the reverse, this coin shows the distinctive "Tournois" style. Superman will be able to read the +DE CLARENCIA legend surrounding it - I needed a magnifying glass.

Philip of Taranto was the son of Charles II of Anjou. He was given Achaea, Athens, Albania, Corfu, and Epirus by his father in 1294. He ceded Achaea in 1301 as a wedding present to Philip of Savoy and Maud of Hainault. He regained the title in 1306 when Charles II declared Philip's marriage to Maud as illegal. Philip ceded the principality once again in 1313 to Louis of Burgundy upon his marriage to Maud of Hainault. Philip died in 1331.

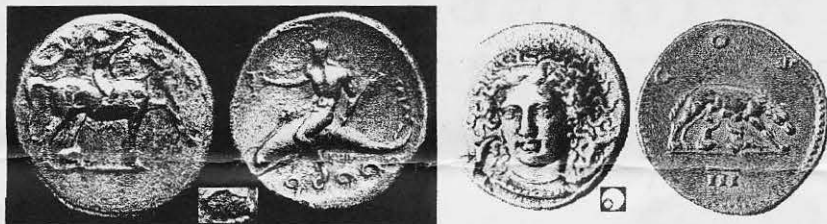
The reason I've included this coin is to highlight an interesting characteristic - sometime in the past a hole was drilled in this coin. As you can see, it's quite small - only the smallest of chains would fit, so I am guessing that this was sewn onto a garment. This was often done to provide adornment for a person of moderate means, not as a way to save or hide the coin.

(Copied from a larger article from "Jim's Medieval Coins" at <http://members.tripod.com/~Charlemagne64/medieval.html>)

# Millennium Coin & Stamp Show

MARCH 10 & 11, 2001, The Coast Terrace Inn  
4440 Calgary Trail North, Edmonton, Alberta

**Admission \$1.00 in advance, \$2.00 at the Door, 16 & under FREE!**



49 dealer tables and 25 coin & stamp dealers with 100's of thousands in inventory! Displays for public viewing Saturday & Sunday including decimal coinage, Ancient coinage, Paper Money and More!

**GOLD COIN & OTHER DOOR PRIZE DRAWS!**

**\*\* FREE UNDERGROUND PARKING \*\***

## **Coin & Stamp Show hours:**

Sat., Mar. 10, 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Sun., Mar. 11, 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**JOIN US SUNDAY FOR OUR**

**"NUMISMATIC ROAD SHOW" FOR**

**FREE COIN, MEDAL & PAPER**

**MONEY IDENTIFICATION!**

**BUY**

-

**SELL**

-

**TRADE**



**PUBLIC WELCOME**



**JOIN US FOR EDMONTON'S PREMIERE COIN  
& STAMP SHOW OF THE YEAR**

*The following Dealers attended the last show:*

*West Edmonton Coin & Stamp; Lucky Dollar Coins; Kameron Coins; Ed Jackson Coins; Morris Gunderson Coins, Leduc; Collins Coins, Canada Coin & Paper Money Abbotsford, BC; R&D Coins & Paper Money, Red Deer; OK Coin & Stamp, Kelowna, BC; National Pride Coins & Stamp; Calgary Coin Gallery, Calgary; Newcan Coins, Cards & Collectibles, Kenora, Ont.; John Weisbrich Coins, Calgary; Joe Bardy Coins; Loose Change, St. Michael; Pack Rats Antiques Coins & Stamps, Busby; Kensington Coin & Stamp; Royal William Stamps; R.D. Miner Philatelics, Calgary, M.J. Daniels, Winnipeg*

*2 additional dealer tables will be available in March.*

**For Hotel Reservations call  
Toll Free at: 1-888-837-7223**

**For more information contact the  
Edmonton Numismatic Society**

**P.O. Box 75024, Ritchie P.O.,  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada  
T6E 6K1**

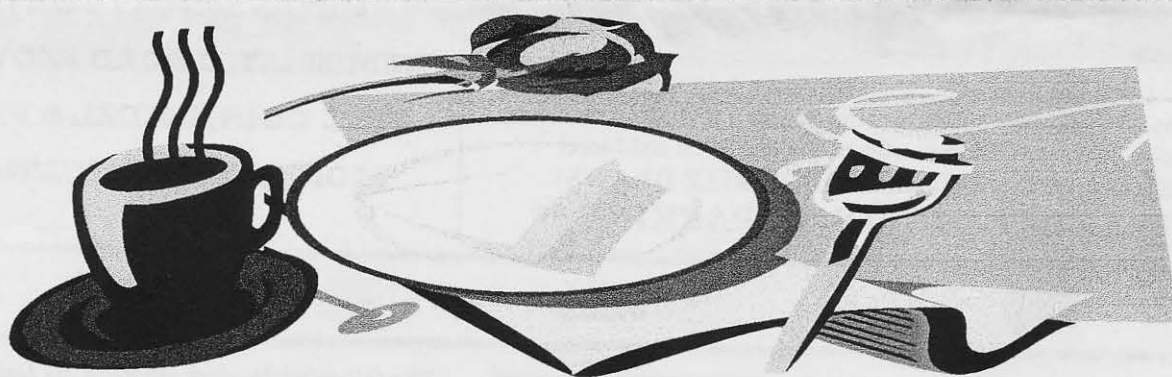
**Ph. 780-496-6602, Fax: 780-496-6618**

**e-mail: michael.schneider@home.com**

**Web page: www.compumart.ab.ca/dang**

# **EDMONTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY**

**MAR. 11 BREAKFAST MEETING AT  
THE COAST TERRACE INN, IN  
CONJUNCTION WITH THE ENS MAR.  
10 & 11 COIN & STAMP SHOW**



**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2001  
DOOR OPENS AT 8:00 a.m., BREAKFAST 8:30 a.m.  
COAST TERRACE INN, 4440 CALGARY TRAIL N.,  
P1 LEVEL, VICTORIA/RICHMOND ROOM**

## **BREAKFAST MEETING AGENDA**

**GUEST SPEAKER - Mr. Ray Neiman, Edmonton, will talk on  
"Counterfeit coins & Paper Money" and  
other numismatic areas of interest.**

**ATTENDANCE DRAW - MEMBERS AND GUESTS WELCOME!**

**MEMBERS & GUESTS \$10.00 (JUNIORS under 16- \$5.00 )**

**RSVP BY MAR. 8 TO TERRY AT 455-0480 OR RAY AT 433-7288,**

**OR MIKE AT 450-0155**

**COIN & STAMP SHOW OPENS AT 10:00 A.M.**