



2004 Executive

PRESIDENT

Dan Gosling

PAST PRESIDENT

Joseph Bardy

VICE-PRESIDENT

Ray Neiman

SECRETARY/NEWSLETTER

Michael Schneider

TREASURER

John Callaghan

DIRECTORS

Marc Bink

Jim Burns

Terry Cheesman

Dave Coupland

Ron Darbyshire

Bob Eriksson

Howard Gilbey

Chris Hale

James Kindrake

Albert Meyer

David Peter

Michael Riedel

PROGRAM / LIBRARY

ARCHIVES

Dan Gosling

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

Edmonton Numismatic Society

51st Anniversary Year!

March

Volume 51 Issue 3

DATE: Wednesday, March 10, 2004 **TIME:** 7:00 p.m. door opens,

Regular meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

PLACE: PROVINCIAL MUSEUM OF ALBERTA, 12845 -102 Ave.,
PROGRAM: MEMBER TALK ON ROMAN SILVER COINAGE FROM
THE EAST; SHOW & TELL

March Meeting Agenda

March's meeting will have one of our regulars talk on Ancient Coinage. Terry Cheesman will have a power-point presentation on 'Roman Silver Coinage from the East'. Discussions will centre around the Imperial Tetrarchy. Show & Tell items are always welcome from the members as well.

February 8 Meeting

Minutes

February's breakfast meeting in conjunction with the coin show was well attended with forty-four (44) members and guests in attendance. Dan welcomed all to the meeting which saw us take over all 3 of the break-

out rooms the hotel has for these functions. After a bountiful buffet, Dan introduced our guest speaker, Alan Hager from Florida. Alan was the inventor of the slabbed coin and coin grading service. He has since licensed several of the grading services in existence today. Alan is a strong supporter

of the Young Numismatist program, and was happy to see Edmonton has its own version with the Kids on Coins program. He presented the 6 or so young numismatists in attendance with free slabbed coins, and donated several more to the Kids on Coins program and the ENS to give out as door prizes. Alan has had a very exciting life and met many numismatists in his time. He is currently trav-

elling across Canada with his wife to all the coin shows. A significant number of his clients are Canadians and he is hoping to expand in this area. One area of interest he recommends to collect is current issue low mintage high grade Canadian coins.

Most coins in Canada have very low mintage compared to the US and he sees the high grades being desirable in the next 20 to 30 years. Following the presentation he was given the clubs 50th Anniversary medallion. After the meeting everyone made their way to the bourse which was opening up at 10:00 am. to the public.

February Show Report

Life Member to be announced at meeting

November Show to have Numismatic Auction!

P.O. Box 75024 Ritchie P.O., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T6E 6K1, Ph: 780-433-7288
WEB PAGE: <http://www.edmontoncoinclub.com>



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS
EDMONTON 2004

EDMONTON 2004

FEBRUARY 7 & 8 SHOW REPORT

The Edmonton Numismatic Society held their first show of the year on February 7 & 8 at the Coast Terrace Inn, in Edmonton. With the weather going from -35 degrees C the week before to above zero the weekend of the show, the change of weather meant the show would be a success. With 50 tables and 32 dealers from across Canada and the US, the show saw over 500 of the public attend the 2 day show. Dealers report the sales were quite good for the time of year. Our breakfast meeting was held Sunday morning with 44 in attendance to hear Alan Hager, of A.H. Collectibles, Florida, discuss his invention of the 'slabbed' coin and grading certification service, and its affects on the coin collecting community. All the Young Numismatists at the breakfast, which 6 were in attendance, received a slabbed coin from Mr. Hager. He also donated a dozen more certified coins to the club and Kids on Coins program. We got to know Alan a bit better Saturday night at the ENS hospitality suite, where the dealers swapped stories for hours after the show. The next ENS show will have an Auction attached to it Saturday night, after the bourse closes. The date of the next show is November 6 & 7, 2004, at the Coast Terrace Inn, Edmonton.

NEW MEMBERS

On behalf of the executive of the ENS, we would like to extend our welcome to the following new members. If there are no objections, they will become a members in good standing:

Gord Skulski	#513	Edmonton
Christine Hartmetz	#514	St. Albert
Evan Kozma	#515	Edmonton

Congratulations and welcome to the Edmonton Numismatic Society. A membership card will be forwarded in due course, with an upcoming newsletter.

EXECUTIVE MEETING NOTES- Jan. 2004

An executive meeting was held on January 29th at Royal Pizza. 15 members of the 17 executive were in attendance. John gave a financial report which showed over \$3,000 in our chequing account. (does not include our GIC's) Dan reviewed the current list of GIC's with maturity dates. It was decided to wait after the February show to decide whether to purchase another GIC or not. Volunteers were requested

for the February show, and several executive gave their names to help out. It was requested by Ron D. to put the postal code on our door prize tickets, so we could track where attendees were coming from. A motion was made to make one of our long time & long serving members a Life Member. This was voted unanimously and the award will be made at the next meeting attended by the recipient. (the name will be published after the award)

NOVEMBER SHOW TO HAVE AN AUCTION

Discussions were held with Diverse Equities of Calgary at the February show, and the ENS has agreed to promote a Numismatic Auction as part of it's shows. Stan Wright will be consigning lots for an auction which will be held on Saturday night, after the coin show. The auction will be held in the breakout rooms on the same level as the Bourse, where we have our breakfast meetings. Stan is holding his first auction in Calgary this March, in conjunction with the CNS coin show. Watch for more information in upcoming newsletters and in Stan's ads in Canadian Coin News.

VOLUNTEERING - YOU GET OUT OF IT WHAT YOU PUT INTO IT

Organizations are made up of people who have a common interest and who want to share those interests and experiences. The ENS is made up of over 120 people who share in a variety of ways. Some do not participate and that is their choice. Some have paid their dues and received the newsletters and never make it to a meeting. Others, like Dan Gosling and Ron Darbyshire prefer to be more pro-active and get involved. Not only is Dan the president of our club, but he is a contributor to the NESA CNA correspondence course and the associate editor of the CNA Journal. You can see his articles monthly talking about one thing or another, and in the case of the Jan/Feb issue, talking about Ray Neiman and his coin shop. Dan also has contributed articles to the Numismatist, the publication of the ANA. Ron Darbyshire has chosen to educate young people on the benefits of coin collecting. He has talked to literally thousands of students in the Edmonton area in the past few years, started school clubs, talked to the school boards and in doing so, educated the teachers as well. All this goes a long way in promoting our club and the good things we do. There are many more volunteers you seldom see, except at the coins shows. Stalwarts like John Callaghan (also Treasurer), James Willistion, (now coming from Calgary) Terry Cheesman, Greg Wichman and Jules Rach, who thanklessly man the tables at the shows. I'm sure they are getting what they want out of volunteering as well. We all do what we want in life but some do more than others for various reasons. Friendship is as good a reason as any, and I for one value the many friendships volunteering has given me. Maybe you should try it sometime.

MJS

1814 North American Indian Chiefs Medal



A North American Indian chiefs medal from 1814 is seen in this undated handout photo. (CP)

LONDON (CP) - If it hadn't been for a treasure hunter scanning a muddy Detroit River bank with a metal detector, a rare medal believed to date to the War of 1812 may have been lost forever.

Although the medal's history is somewhat difficult to trace because of how it was found, experts at Bonhams auctioneers in London believe the silver medallion minted for a Canadian First Nations chief is a rare find.

"They are quite scarce," said Andrew Litherland, an expert on coins and medals at Bonhams. He estimates that only a few hundred may still be in existence - and they rarely come up for sale. The medal - which depicts George III facing to the right on one side and the Royal coat of arms, crest, supporters and motto on the other - has been valued by Bonhams at 3,500 to 4,000 pounds (\$8,600 to \$9,800 Cdn). It goes on sale Feb. 24. Litherland said putting a price on the medal, which is 75 millimetres in diameter and described as being in "very fine" condition, was difficult.

"There haven't been any on the market for quite a long time, but we made an educated, what we thought was a sort of realistic estimate," he explained. What makes this medal particularly unusual is the way it was found by someone searching the banks of the Detroit River for lost objects in the 1990s. The treasure hunter was either working on behalf of or sold the medal to an anonymous Canadian collector, who has decided to sell it.

Because the medal is dated 1814, it was probably given to the chief of a Canadian native band for his service to the Crown during the War of 1812. Based on the fact that it was found on the Detroit River, Bonhams believes it would have been awarded over the fall of Fort Detroit on Aug. 16, 1812.

American William Hull surrendered the fort to the British without a fight, terrified by an artillery barrage from the Canadian side of the Detroit River and the prospect of facing 500 First Nations warriors and 700 of Gen. Isaac Brock's soldiers. Brock was declared a hero for taking the fort, which boosted the morale of British troops fighting across Upper Canada. The successful attack on Fort Detroit also persuaded many neutral tribes to make alliances with the British.

Litherland said he expects the medal to end up in a private collection because most museums would likely already have examples of similar medals. And while the medal's recent past may not boost its monetary value, he thinks the way it was found will make it attractive to buyers.

"It's been rescued for the collectors," he said. "It probably doesn't make any great value at the end of the day, but it does make it interesting from the collector's point of view."

The Coinage of German East Africa

This short series with a bold history is one of the few numismatic reminders of German's imperialistic era



(Reprinted with permission of the Ingersoll Coin Club)

In 1885 Germany acquired, through annexation of a 60,000 square mile territory nominally under the suzerainty of the Sultan of Zanzibar, an area which was later to be known as German East Africa. Through subsequent treaty with Britain, Germany retained all the inland territory, while Britain acquired a strip of coast, including Mombasa, in return for an annuity of 16,000 pounds, which was paid to the Sultan.

The territory was administered by the Deutsch Ostafrikanische Gesellschaft (German East Africa Company) until 1902. In that year the area became a colony of the Imperial Crown, and subsequently was known as Deutsch Ostafrika.

The German East Africa Company did not issue a coinage for the area until 1890. In that year two coins were released, the denominations being 1 pesa and 2 rupie. The copper pesa was nominally valued at 1/64 of the silver rupie, or 1/48 of the German mark.

In design the 1 pesa coin resembles the imperial issues of Germany, its obverse presenting the state eagle surrounded by the name of the company. However the reverse carries Arabic inscriptions of the company name and the date according to the Mohammedan Era. Carried on the obverse of the 1 rupie coin, and $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, and 2 rupien denominations introduced in later years, is a helmeted bust of emperor Wilhelm II, and on the reverse the arms of the company.

With the area being switched to colonial status in 1902, a new coinage was designed. Introduced in 1904, this coinage reflected the change in status by the name on the coins becoming Deutsch Ostafrika. At this time the rupie was also converted to a decimal base, with the fractional denomination heller replacing the pesa, it being equal to 1/100 rupie. The value of the rupie continued at 1 $\frac{1}{3}$ marks.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 heller denominations introduced in 1904 presented a crown, the date and the German name of the area on the obverse, and the value within a wreath on the reverse, as did the 5 and 10 heller coins introduced in 1908. The $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, and 1 rupie coins also introduced in 1904 were similar in design, except that for an obverse device they retained the portraiture of



Wilhelm II.

Things rolled along quite smoothly, with German East Africa drawing upon the facilities of the mints at Berlin and Hamburg for her coinage needs, until the outbreak of World War I. However, her last coins from these sources were to be 5 and 10 heller, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, and 1 rupie issues dated 1914 and struck by the Hamburg Mint.

War came and the colony was blockaded by land and sea, a situation which it was expected would bring about quick capitulation. Her staying power was underestimated, however, as a colonial force under the command of Von Lettow-Vorbeck kept up a running guerrilla warfare until

.....

THE COINAGE OF GERMAN EAST AFRICA (Cont'd)

the armistice, shortly after which honourable surrender was achieved.

Financing the monetary needs of the colony shortly became quite difficult. To meet the need the governor had an emergency mint set up in Tabora, where brass 5 heller, brass and copper 20 heller, and 15 rupie pieces of somewhat base gold (probably about .600 fine) were struck.

The dies for the coins were both designed and engraved in the colony. The simple designs of the heller pieces were styled after the earlier Berlin and Hamburg issues. The gold piece depicted a rampaging elephant on the obverse and the German eagle on the reverse.

these coins were initially struck in Tabora with minting machine which was nothing more than an adapted pipe-bender. All of the coins had a frozen date and T mintmark, even after the mint was moved to Lulanguru, where an oil-extracting press was used to strike the coins.

Paper notes were also printed, although Von Lettow-Vorbeck felt they would ruin confidence in the provisional coinage, and on one occasion burned many of them.

After the Armistice, the major part of Deutsch Ostafrika went to Britain. It eventually became Tanganyika, with lesser portions going to the Belgian Congo and the Portuguese colony of Mozambique. Today it constitutes the major portion of Tanganyika.

Tribute To Trail Trials By Briggs Bralliar

The design element shown is the main device on the obverse of the Oregon Trail commemorative half dollar, a favorite among collectors.

This coin was first struck in 1926 at both the Philadelphia and San Francisco Mints to honor "the heroism of the fathers and mothers who traversed the Oregon Trail to the Far West with great hardship, daring, and loss of life.

For nearly 50 years this trail was the primary route for pioneer families traveling to the western frontier. It opened up the rich Pacific Northwest to thousands of farmers and lumbermen. Travel was so heavy that in some parts of western Nebraska and Wyoming the actual trail is still visible. In these areas there are deep ruts made by the countless wagons heading west.

With this background information it is interesting to note the position of the Indian's arms on the obverse. He has one hand raised as if he is attempting to stop this flood of newcomers into his homeland.

This coin is important for artistic as well as historical reasons. Ever since James Earl Fraser and his wife, Laura Gardin Fraser, joined forces on this design over 50 years ago it has been admired by collectors as one of the most beautiful and truly American commemorative half dollars.



.....

The majestic pose taken by the Indian represents the pride and nobility of the first Americans, while the ox-drawn cart and rising sun on the reverse symbolize the hardships and hopes encountered by the early travelers on the Oregon Trail.

In recent years U.S. Mint officials have explained our drab coinage designs by saying that their engravers are primarily technicians, concerned with the "strikeability of a design and not its artistic value. The Oregon Trail half dollar is beautiful proof that private artists can produce coinage designs of high artistic merit that are totally compatible with modern minting technique.

But despite its historical significance and handsome design, this coin probably did more harm to the hobby than good. The Oregon Trail Memorial Association, Inc., the coin's sponsoring committee, took advantage of a legislative loophole in the original authorizing bill to artificially prolong the life of this issue.

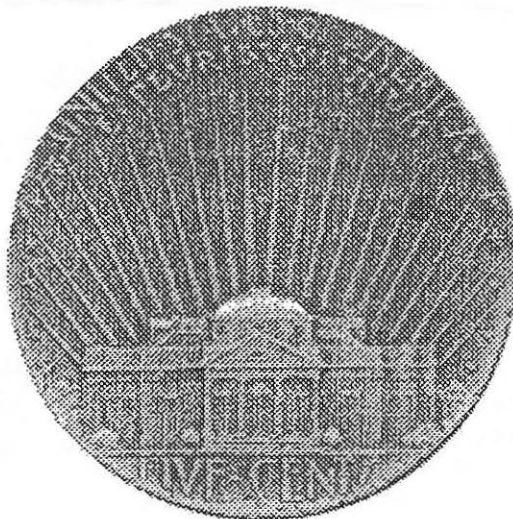
Congress authorized a total mintage of six million coins but only a few thousand were ordered struck by the association each year. At that rate this one-time commemorative could have turned into a lengthy series had Congress not intervened later.

In order to stimulate collector interest in these small mintages the coins were often advertised in coin publications as special commemoratives to noteworthy Oregon Trail pioneers. The 1926 issue was designated the Ezra Meeker coin while the 1928 half was sold in honor of Jedediah Smith. Of course the only thing different about the coins was the date. Collectors resented these questionable distribution procedures. As a result Congress in 1939 amended the authorizing bill and ended the minting of the coins. In that year mintage had dwindled to 3,004 sets of three coins, one each from the Philadelphia, Denver, and San Francisco Mints.

Congress evidently wanted to teach collectors a lesson about such abuses because they refused to authorize any more commemorative coins until well after World War II, and then only on rare occasions. Treasury officials still point to the abuses in the 1930s as a reason for not having an active commemorative program today.

You don't have to be a commemorative specialist to realize the Oregon Trail half dollar, through all its ups and downs, has played an important part in the writing of American numismatic history.

1938 FIVE CENTS DIE TRIAL



Rarity: Unique

This uniface copper die trial weighs 109.4 grains and measures .854 inches in diameter. It is the only known die trial for the entire Jefferson Head Nickel series. Although unsigned, experts believe the die to be the work of Felix Schlag, the man who designed the final version of the Jefferson Nickel in 1938. Most likely, this was a rejected design. The numismatic community was unaware of this coin's existence until 2003, when it appeared in an estate auction along with other numismatic items.

Significant examples (1 known):

PCGS MS-62 (illustrated above). Purchased unattributed at an estate sale in 2003. Upon certification by PCGS, the coin was acquired by Byers Numismatic Corporation. As of October 5, 2003, the coin was available for an asking price of \$100,000.00 US.

Numismatic Nightmare

BOSTON, Massachusetts (AP) -- French doctors were taken aback when they discovered the reason for a patient's sore, swollen belly: He had swallowed around 350 coins -- \$650 worth -- along with assorted necklaces and needles.

The 62-year-old man came to the emergency room of Cholet General Hospital in western France in 2002. He had a history of major psychiatric illness, was suffering from stomach pain, and could not eat or move his bowels.

His family warned doctors that he sometimes swallowed coins, and a few had been removed from his stomach in past hospital visits.

Still, doctors were awed when they took an X-ray. They discovered an enormous opaque mass in his stomach that turned out to weigh 12 pounds -- as much as some bowling balls. It was so heavy it had forced his stomach down between his hips.

Five days after his arrival, doctors cut him open and removed his badly damaged stomach with its contents. He died 12 days later from complications.

One of his doctors, intensive care specialist Dr. Bruno Francois, said the patient had swallowed the coins -- both French currency and later euros -- over about a decade. His family tried to keep coins and jewelry away from him.

"When he was invited and came in some homes, he liked to steal coins and eat them," Francois said.

The case history of the French patient, whose name was withheld, was reported in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine.

The patient's rare condition is called pica, a compulsion to eat things not normally consumed as food. Its name comes from the Latin word for magpie, a bird thought to eat just about anything.

Pica can take the form of eating dirt, ashes, chalk, hair, soap, toothbrushes, burned matches and many other things. Francois once treated a patient who ate forks. Most such objects are small enough to pass on their own, but some must be removed by doctors.

The condition is perhaps best known in children and pregnant women but is also sometimes linked to psychiatric illness.

A few details of the Frenchman's case were presented January 1 along with the X-ray -- but no explanation of the stomach mass -- as a challenge to New England Journal of Medicine readers in a fixture called "A Medical Mystery."

Dr. Lindsey Baden, an editor at the journal, reported that 666 readers in 73 countries -- mostly doctors or doctors-in-training -- contacted the journal to try to solve the mystery. Almost 90 percent settled on diagnoses consistent with pica, but only 8 percent correctly identified coins.

(Reprinted from the Associated Press)

COMING EVENTS

March 5 – 7, Nuphilex – Montreal, For info contact Louis Chevrier at: 450-448-3662

March 13 & 14, Calgary – CNS Coin Show & Auction, For info Contact Sanley Clute at: 403-276-8938

March 26 – 28, EONS, Kingston, Ont. For info contact Ted Bailey at: 1-866-7472646.

April 3 – 4, Vancouver Numismatic Society Money Show, Info contact Peter Moogk, 604-228-9445

April 17 & 18, Regina, Sask., Coin & Stamp Show, Best Western, Info-Tom Rogers at: 306-868-4528

April 17 & 18, Woodstock, Ont., ONA Convention, Info contact Tom Rogers at: 519-451-2316

June 26 & 27, Torex, Toronto, For more info contact Brian Smith at: www.torex.net

Edges on Coins

Probably more than three-quarters of circulation coins across the world have either plain or milled edges. Usually the smallest denominations have plain edges and the higher denominations will be milled, except in the case of multi-sided coins which are often with just plain edges for simplicity of manufacture.

The use of edge milling was first introduced on higher value coins to make it easy to know if some precious metal had been filed from the edge of a coin. Even today very few gold coins have plain edges. In modern times one very useful reason for this feature is to help those with impaired vision distinguish between one denomination and another. The use of fine and coarse reeding is often to help with this too.

The milling itself can vary between different coins in a few ways other than the obvious fine and coarse varieties as already mentioned. The shape of the milling (the shapes of what one might call the crest and trough) can vary, the two basic varieties are those with square troughs and those with vee-shaped troughs. These variations are only of interest when coins are known that differ only by such a feature. Another variation on the milled edge is that with slanted serration's, slanting to the left or to the right, another is where the serration's intentionally do not reach from one side to the other of the coin's edge. These two variations on the milled edge theme are very seldom, if ever, encountered on coins of the last hundred years or so and they are therefore of little interest to me.

That still leaves hundreds of world-wide coin types with something other than a plain or a simple milled edge. These other edge types are usually used for reasons of either increased security or increased aesthetics. A simple combination of plain and milled edge can be found on coins with what is known as an interrupted milled edge. These have a certain number of equally spaced milled sections on an otherwise plain edge.

The most common additional feature to an edge other than milling (or serrations) is, of course, edge lettering. This can be either incuse or raised. Edge legends are often mottoes or country names, some even include dates. Combining standard edges with the two basic type of lettering we could have four possibilities these are:- (a) incuse lettering on plain edge, (b) raised lettering on a plain edge, (c) incuse lettering on milled edge and (d) raised lettering on a milled edge. Well common sense makes one realise that last possibility (d) is not really practical. The nearest we get to (d) is with edges where the milling is interrupted with plain sections that have on them raised lettering.

A more sophisticated adaptation of the milled edge is the security edge. These are used by quite a number of countries throughout the world and have a groove along the central line of the milling around the circumference of the coin. This groove usually has a pattern of raised lines and dots along it. A special case of the security edge is that found perhaps only on a few types of 5 Dollar coins of Hong Kong. These are quite thick coins and the groove around the otherwise milled edge has in it, raised edge lettering.

Earlier I mentioned multi-sided coins. These seldom have any edge milling. A few do though and in such case the milling is applied only to the middle section of each edge. Very few multi-sided coins have edge inscriptions. In fact perhaps the only ones are some 50 Pence coins from the Isle of Man that were made by the Pobjoy Mint around 20 years ago. These pieces have incuse lettering on otherwise plain edges. I do not know of any scalloped edge coins with anything other than plain edges. This would, no doubt, be quite a difficult thing for a mint to achieve. Furthermore it seems that lots of recent scalloped edge coins are of lower denominations.

Other things to be said about an edge are more to do with shape. For example "chinks" of regular shape can sometimes be seen in the edges of coins. The recent 50 Peseta coins of Spain are an example of this. "Chinks" in the edge make the otherwise circular coin a shape known as "Spanish Flower". The future 20 Eurocent coins will have this special shape too. Finally, a few other things to see on the edge of a coin.

A few coins with edge inscriptions include a mint mark within the inscription. The current British 1 and 2 Pounds coins have on their edges the "cross crosslet" mint mark of the British Royal Mint.

Normal milled edges are applied during striking, the coin when hit by the force of the press stretches outwards from the centre and into the collar around the planchet. If this operation goes wrong the milled edge will be malformed. Such pieces are called broad-strikes and often have an amount of the milling missing.

Edge lettering, it seems, is most often done separately to striking since most coins with edge lettering occur in two varieties. Looking at the edge lettering on a coin with the lettering upright you will see either the obverse or the reverse on top of the coin. These two varieties for a particular coin will most often appear in similar numbers as one another, so we know that which way up a planchet with a lettered edge lands under the press for striking is left to chance and nothing else. You just might be thinking that these two varieties come about because sometimes the upper die is that for the obverse some days and that for the reverse other days, however this arrangement is believed to be kept very constant.

I reckon that before long some new innovation will come about for coin edges, either through the need of a mint to increase sales of their collector coins or for them to increase the security of their products (i.e. improve anti-counterfeiting properties). Only time will tell.

Coins Will Travel

(All about how coins can get to collectors.)

It never ceases to amaze me that coins forever manage to turn up in different places. Forgetting a visit to a coin dealer, one rather obvious way to get foreign coins is to go to a foreign country or ask to someone who has just been to one. Tourists to most popular destinations will get to use that country's coins and never manage to spend them all before they return. Many people will also have a few left over from the last time they went abroad, to work or holiday and maybe from a few times before that too. These are the simpler routes that coins can take from their country of use to the hands of a collector in another country, there are of course many less simple routes too.

Someone from England might go to Jersey for a week's holiday. They'll notice that some of the coins in use there are Jersey coins and they are of the same sizes as British coins. So they'll bring a few back with them and perhaps a few weeks later they'll spend them. Jersey's coins are so similar to British coins that any such pieces entering circulation in England will likely circulate for a few weeks or months until the day that someone actually notices they are different. With their foreign nature noticed, the coin will then quite likely be taken from circulation and could soon end-up with a "collector". The coins of Guernsey, Gibraltar, the Isle of Man, the Falkland Islands and St. Helena & Ascension are also just like British coins in all but design. Coins of Jersey, Guernsey, Gibraltar and the Isle of Man do occasionally appear in change in England as these places are all popular with British tourists and vice versa. Of course very few British tourists get to go to the Falklands or St. Helena & Ascension so I'll assume that the 1998 5 Pence piece of the Falkland Islands I got from change a few months ago was due to a member of the British Armed Forces having served there recently.

Other countries' coins can also be found in circulation but on a much smaller scale, since it will rarely be so that any are the same as any British coins currently in circulation. Also, any smaller dimensional differences are easily picked up by mechanisms in vending machines and coin counting equipment.

People are not always necessary for bringing foreign coins into a country. Some might come here with other goods/commodities as if by accident. At my place of work once, a Swiss 2 Franc coin turned up in a consignment of thousands of tiny parts from Switzerland. A careless packer in Switzerland? Well one man's loss is another man's gain! The piece soon found its way to the nearest coin collector. This coin weighed as much as 580 of the parts. Another piece I got through trading of goods was a less common 1 Yuan circulating commemorative coin from the People's Republic of China. Around 10 years ago whilst at university, I mixed with people of many nationalities. A number were from Singapore, apparently it would have cost them more money to study in Singapore's university than in England. A Singaporean friend got me this Chinese coin. They had got it from a man in one of the local "Chinese Supermarkets". (Food stuffs that my Singaporean friends could not buy in the "Chinese Supermarkets" they would have sent over from Singapore!). One can only assume that the man in the "Chinese Supermarket" got the coin sent to him from China along with the goods that he (or his supplier) would frequently import.

What about dealers? Where might they get all of their foreign coins from? Of course they often get them from the public. If the public were a bit better educated on these things, then they might manage to get their spare coins straight to a dealer (but never mind...). Also many coins with a coin dealer will be from another coin dealer or perhaps from a coin collector. The other obvious source of coins for a dealer (or a collector) is a mint, for whom dealers are often a go between. Coins, especially "commemoratives" bought directly from a mint in a country other than the issuing country, will often never go to the country that has "issued" them - some collectors do not like that thought. So looking more at inexpensive coins that actually have seen some use - dealers have one other great source and that is charitable organisations.

You must have often seen collection boxes in public places for numerous charities, some are specifically for foreign coins (for example in airports) and others are intended just for British coins - but either way both types end up with foreign coins in them. Other charities have smaller boxes that they ask people to fill at home, these ones are intended for British coins but of course there is nothing to stop foreign coins being included. The result of all of this is that charities get bulk quantities of foreign coins, mainly of types currently in use somewhere in the world, plus some obsolete types and various coin-like tokens etc.. These bulk quantities can often amount to a number of tens of kilograms. The best thing that the charities can do with all of these coins is to sell them to a dealer. The first thing a dealer will do is take out the higher exchange value pieces such as those that can easily be sent back to their country of origin. Lower denomination coins, those of lesser visited countries (e.g. many African and Asian countries), obsolete coins and also tokens will be left. These remaining pieces will then pass from one dealer to another in bulk bags, with each dealer (and/or his customers) taking out a few pieces to meet their own requirements. Whenever I look through such bulk coins it might take me half an hour or so to find what I want from each 10 kilogram bag but so long as I find one or two new bits I'll be happy - that is most often the case.

EDMONTON'S MONEY SHOW'S

Coin Show & Auction, Nov. 6 - 7, 2004

*The Coast Terrace Inn, 4440 Gateway
Boulevard, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada*



Coin Show Hours:

Saturday - 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

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

Over 30 coin dealers at over 50 tables with millions of dollars in inventory! Displays for public viewing including Canadian Decimal, Ancients, Paper Money and More! See our "Kids-on-Coins" display table!

Bring in your coins for FREE Appraisal!

GOLD COIN & OTHER DOOR PRIZE DRAWS!

The following Dealers attended the February 2004 Show:

1. National Pride Coins & Stamp; 2. Loose Change, St. Michael; 3. & 4. AH-Collectibles Inc., Florida, USA; 5. West Edmonton Coin & Stamp; 6. Collins Coins, Sherwood Park; 7. Canada Coin & Paper Money, St. Albert; 8. OK Coin & Stamp, Kelowna, BC; 9. Kensington Coin & Stamp Edm.; 10. Lub Wojtiw Paper Money Edm.; 11. Calgary Coin Gallery, Calgary; 12. Diverse Equities, Calgary; 13. Lucky Dollar Coins, Edm.; 14. Kameron Coins, Edm.; 15. David Peter Coins; 16. M.J. Daniels, Calgary; 17. A&E Coins, Edm.; 18. D.B. & D Collectables, Edm.; 19. Norms Coins, Edm.; 20. MRCS Canada, Edm. 21. George Manz Coins, Regina; 22. Lorne Paydli, Bruno, Sask.; 23. Al's Coins, Edm.; 24. Bluenose Coins & Stamps, Penticton; 25. Andrew McKaig Coins, Calgary; 26. Pack Rat Antiques, Morinville; 27. The Canadian Coinoisseur, Vancouver, B.C.; 28. Charles D. Moore Numismatics, California, USA; 29. Newcan Coins & Collectibles, Kenora, Ont.; 30. Cadillac Coins, Hamilton, Ont.; 31. C&P Numismatics, Quebec City; 32. M7 Inc. (Financial Mgmt), Edm.; 33. Kids-on-Coins



Numismatic Auction by Diverse Equities Inc., Saturday, Nov. 6, 2004, 5:30 pm
Contact Stan Wright at 403-230-9321, Fx: 403-274-3828, E-mail: stan@diverseequities.com

Breakfast Buffet Meeting Sunday Morning - 8:00 am coffee, 8:30 buffet
Sunday Breakfast meeting with Guest Speaker TBA

Show Admission \$2.50/day at the Door, 16 & under FREE!



**Sponsored by the
Edmonton Numismatic Society**

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

Phone: 780-496-6602

Email: michael.schneider@shaw.ca

Web Page: www.edmontoncoinclub.com

**FREE PARKING
UNDERGROUND AND
AROUND THE HOTEL!**

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