

Edmonton Numismatic Society

The Planchet

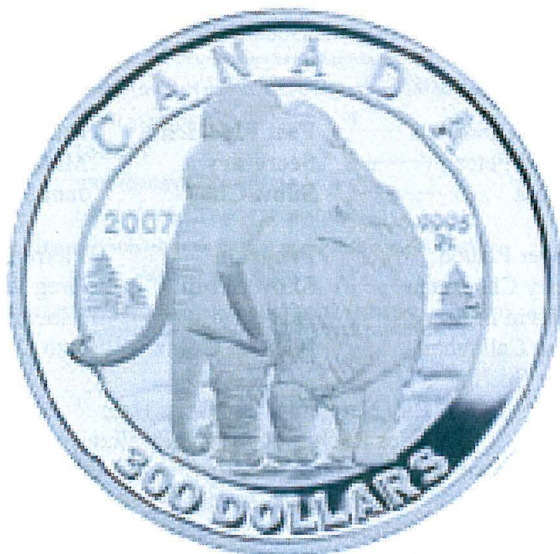
54th Anniversary Year

October 2007

Volume 54 Issue 7

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 75024 Ritchie P.O., EDMONTON, Alberta
CANADA T6E 6K1

WEB PAGE: <http://www.edmontoncoinclub.com>



2007 \$300 Woolly Mammoth Platinum Coin

The Edmonton Numismatic Society

The Edmonton Numismatic Society (ENS) dates back to September 1953. At that time the members met and discussed the hobby under the name, the Edmonton Coin Club. During the 1960's, 70's, and 80's the Club sponsored 20 Annual Coin-A-Rama shows, issuing many collectible souvenirs. In 1979, The City of Edmonton's 75th Anniversary, the Club was host to its first CNA Convention. A number of mini shows and Anniversary shows were held during the 1980's and 90's. As a reflection of the varied collecting interest of the current membership, and a continuing commitment to promote the hobby, the Club changed its name to the Edmonton Numismatic Society (formerly the Edmonton Coin Club) just prior to hosting its second CNA Convention in 1998. Since 1996 the Club has sponsored two shows each year, one in the late winter/early spring and one in the fall.



ENS is a Member of:

Canadian Numismatic Association

American Numismatic Association

Canadian Association of Token Collectors

Canadian Paper Money Society

Classical & Medieval Numismatic Society

Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors

Numerous other Coin Clubs and Numismatic Societies

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Annual Dues Calendar Year

Adult - \$10.00

Family - \$12.00

Junior (16 and under) - \$3.00

ADVERTISING RATES:

Full Page \$30.00

Half Page \$17.50

Quarter Page (Business Card) \$10.00 (10 issues per year – NO July or August)

FULL YEAR 20% Discount; HALF YEAR 10% Discount

FREE CLASSIFIED ADS (FOR MEMBERS ONLY) – Buy, Sell, Want Lists, Trade, Etc.



EDMONTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 75024, RITCHIE P.O.,
EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA, T6E 6K1



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Annual Membership is now due and payable as of January 1. The dues are payable as follows:

FAMILY - \$12.00

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP - \$10.00

JUNIOR \$3.00 (16 and under)

Below is a membership renewal form which can be brought in to the next meeting or mailed to the Secretary at the above noted address.

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MEMBERSHIP REQUESTED (Canadian Funds unless noted otherwise)

ANNUAL DUES: FAMILY \$12.00 \$ _____

REGULAR \$10.00 \$ _____

JUNIOR (16 & under) \$3.00 \$ _____

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(After min. 1 year membership - payment plan available on request)

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(Current internet costs are about \$15.00 per month. All donations accepted)

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

FOR ONE (1) CALENDAR YEAR MEMBERSHIP IN THE EDMONTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY,
(except life membership) JANUARY TO DECEMBER

EDITOR'S NOTE:

I would like to thank Howard Gilbey who volunteered to step up and help with the distribution of *The Planchet*. Secondly, an apology is due to the members for not getting this issue to your mailbox prior to the October meeting. My PhD Candidacy Exam took priority in this rare case (I did pass by the way). Hopefully, with Howard's help, we can continue to deliver to you a varied collection of articles. As always, I encourage our members to submit their personal expertise on their collecting niche in the form of short articles.

Roger Paulen

2007 ROYAL CANADIAN MINT HOLIDAY ISSUES

The plethora of Royal Canadian Mint giftware continues to rain upon us. At some point, we should ask, "Will they ever run out of ideas?" Coloured coins seem to have taken hold of a good proportion of Royal Canadian Mint products for the holiday season. The 2007 holiday gift set has a lovely coloured Christmas tree. Snowflakes are abound with two issues of a \$20 silver coin; one snowflake adorned with blue crystals and the other with iridescent crystals. A brass-plated steel 50 cent coin with Christmas ornaments having coloured motion-filled 3D effects rounds out the holiday series. All of these coins make handsome gifts for the Holidays, but make mine a 1955 one cent No Shoulder Fold instead!



COINS FROM START TO FINISH

Roger C. Paulen

For a new collector, venturing into modern Canadian coins can be daunting. There can be several varieties per year based on minting processes and metal content, such as the one-cent 'P' coins from 2002 to 2006, as an example. The starting point begins with the Royal Canadian Mint. There are two production facilities in Canada. Commemorative (numismatic) coins are produced in Ottawa, Circulation (business strike) coins are minted at a high-speed facility in Winnipeg.

Each collector's coin begins as a drawing by an artist, the artist's design is then captured into an engraving, to bring relief and three-dimensional life to the coin. Meanwhile, the coins begin their journey as cast bars of various metals and alloys. These bars are rolled into strips according to required coin size and thickness. The strips are quite brittle after rolling, so they are heated and cooled in a furnace void of oxygen, annealing them. Coin blanks are punched from the annealed strips. The blanks are then put through a rimming process whereby the edge of each blank is raised to protect the coin's surface. Reeded coins also get their edges finished in this process. The rimmed blanks are then washed and dried before being struck by dies. The type of coin produced can determine how many times each die strikes the blank. Circulation coins then go through a plating process prior to being released to the public.

For the collector who is interested in non-circulating coins, there are several variations of individual coins produced. Brilliant uncirculated coins are found in several coin sets. These coins have a brilliant relief struck on a brilliant background and are struck up to two times on presses. Specimen coins have a brilliant image relief struck against a matte or lined background. This creates a stunning effect. Proof coins usually are struck from silver blanks and are of the highest quality possible. A frosted relief image is struck against a brilliant background up to three times by high quality, hand-polished dies. The result is a wonderful crisp impression with high detail and a mirror finish in the fields. Recently, the Royal Canadian Mint also has produced coins with an 'antique' finish. This is a chemical process that tarnishes the coins to simulate the natural effect of aging and toning. With enough experience, a collector can soon distinguish the non-circulating coins produced in Ottawa versus the coins intended for circulation from Winnipeg. The best advice I can give is to acquire a coin set with brilliant uncirculated coins. Then, buy a roll of each denomination of uncirculated rolls (business strikes). With good lighting, crack open the coin set and the rolls; compare the strike and finish of each coin.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article follows up a brief note on the 1922 concave and flat rim varieties published in the March 2007 issue of *The Planchet*.

GEORGE V FIVE-CENT COINS

Jeff Chapman

As one looks at the 62nd Edition of the Charlton Standard Catalogue of Canadian Coins for George V five-cent coins, you will see the notations that 1922 and 1936 are found in flat and concave varieties. This has not been a secret in Canadian numismatics, and can be found going back many years in previous CNA journal articles. Speculation was that these pieces were the result of an overzealous die polisher, who rounded off the corners of the various working obverse and reverse dies of these years.

Having a number of circulated rolls of these pieces at my disposal, I decided to have a look for myself. On first viewing, the 1922s were difficult to discern. One had to look at them from an almost 90 degree angle to the rim, as well as the obverse and reverse to get a true view of whether there was a gradual upward slope of the field as it approached the rim. Not as easy as one might expect for this year. Indeed, there were some coins that seemed to be somewhere in between, which lent credence to the overzealous die polishing theory.

Next, I started to look at some years between 1927 and 1934, as I had these handy. Much to my surprise, all of these rolls yielded coins with perfectly flat fields that were perpendicular to the rim. No exceptions. Not only that, they were quite easy to identify. I noted the devices in these pieces were often at rim level, or slightly rose above it. All demonstrated the same flat fields, perpendicular to the rim.

That brings me to the rolls of 1922, 1935, and 1936. For whatever reason, when the fields were concave, the years 1935 and 1936 seemed slightly more pronounced than 1922. Upon examination, I determined the following ratios:

flat obverse : flat reverse
flat obverse : concave reverse
concave obverse : flat reverse
concave obverse : concave reverse

So how does one explain this? I believe the case of the overzealous die polisher should be ruled out. The reason being the lack of subsequent finds in other years. Can striking pressure play any part in this? My first inclination is unlikely. While the pressure exerted during the minting process will influence the quality of the strike, there is no indication that these years produced fuller strikes than any other years. Typical strikes remain the norm for the series, with the second set of pearls weakly struck in the crown, as with the leaves on the reverse showing weak veins, particularly the left leaf. I did wonder if the more pronounced concave fields of 1935 and 1936 could have been the result of an increase in striking pressure, but ultimately ruled this out for the reasons just listed.

It thus is my conclusion that there were likely two plaster matrixes made for both the obverse and the reverse of these pieces in 1922. From each matrix, a master hub was produced, which in turn was used to create the master die. It is likely the master die contained the date, or at least the "19". This was used to create the working hub, which was then used to produce the working dies. If the master die only held the numerals then the "22" was added to the working hub. This may be more likely the case, as one can see in the years 1926 and 1929, various different styles of punches used to create the 6 and 9, as well as the placement of these final two digits in all years. This accounts for the rarity of the 1926 far 6 for instance. I am speculating the mint produced both types in 1922, flat and concave fields as an experiment. A decision was made sometime thereafter, presumably at the end of 1922, that the flat field either was more esthetically pleasing, easier to strike, or a combination of the two. As usual, when working simultaneously with two different styles of dies, it is not surprising that there would be occasional mix-ups, where a flat obverse and concave reverse were used together, and so on.



Concave rim of a 1922 5-cent coin.



Flat rim and fields of a 1922 5-cent coin.

Now fast forward to 1935. I can postulate two different scenarios: First, a mistake was made, and new working hub(s) were accidentally created from the concave master die (which up to this point had been retired). In this scenario, there were still working hubs with flat fields in use; or the second scenario, the original flat master hub(s) was/were damaged, and rather than create a new one(s), a decision was made to use the concave master hub(s) once again, for expediency sake. I personally find this explanation more of a stretch than the first. I have taken a few leaps in this paper, not the least of which is the small sample size of coins I examined. That being said, I have been on the lookout for more concave examples for quite some time now. I do think this is a fair representation of what I have observed over the past 10 or so years while looking at these little beauties. It is my hope you will find these observations useful in your collecting endeavors.



MULE COIN DISCOVERED IN OLYMPIC COIN SETS

Roger Paulen

Gatewest Coin posted an interesting observation on the Canadian Coin Reference Site (CCRS, <http://www.canadiancoin.com/>) back on September 12. They had noticed that a shipment of coins they received in May contained an error coin struck with the wrong obverse die. Errors of this sort are often referred to as mules.

The error coin occurs on the wheelchair curling issue. All of the Olympic coins have the Vancouver 2010 logo on the obverse to the left of Queen Elizabeth II. The Paralympic coins contained within this issue have the Paralympic logo on them. The recently discovered error coin couples the wheelchair curling reverse with the Vancouver 2010 Olympic obverse.



Regular wheelchair curling coin with Paralympic Logo on the Obverse.



Mule wheelchair curling coin with Vancouver 2010 Olympic Logo on the Obverse.

To date, the mule coin has only been found in the Special Edition Uncirculated Coin Sets containing the circulating 1-, 5-, 10-, and 50-cent coins, the 1 and 2 dollar coins plus five Olympic 25-cent coins for 2007, which include hockey, wheelchair curling, biathlon, curling and downhill skiing coins. Mule coins have not been found in the 14 coin sets, first-day coins or in mint rolls intended for circulation.

Mule coins are rare and are usually highly sought after by collectors. Recent sales of these mule sets on eBay have ranged in price from \$300 to \$450. However, these prices are early sales and until a total estimate of mule coins is attained, could be inflated. Other mule coins in recent years include the 2000 Millennium 25-cent issue, the September and October 1999 Millennium 25-cent pieces and the Nunavut two-dollar mule.

Check your sets!



Examples of other recent Canadian mule coins.

COMING EVENTS

SHOWS – USA & INTERNATIONAL

Oct 27-28	COINFEST, 90 Harding Road	GREENWICH, CT
Mar 7-9 2008	ANA National Money Show	PHOENIX, AZ
Apr 18-20	Gold and Silver Over Niagara NY Conference Center at Niagara Fall	NIAGARA FALLS,

SHOWS – CANADA

Oct 27-28	TOREX Canada's National Coin Show Radisson Admiral Hotel	TORONTO, ON
Nov 2-4	NUPHILEX, Holiday Inn Midtown	MONTREAL, QC
Nov 3	11th Annual Scarborough Coin Club Show Cedarbrook Community Centre	SCARBOROUGH, ON
Nov 10, 11	EDMONTON'S MONEY SHOW Ramada Edmonton Inn (Kingsway)	EDMONTON, AB
Nov 25	Vancouver Coin & Stamp Show Oakridge Centre Auditorium	Vancouver, BC
Feb 23-24 2008	TOREX Canada's National Coin Show Radisson Admiral Hotel	TORONTO, ON
July 18-20 2008	2008 CAN Convention	Ottawa, ON



A superb example of a 1948 specimen silver dollar is on the auction block at the October TOREX show in October. This coin is tied as the finest known and is graded PCGS SP-67. Estimate is at \$22,500.00.

QUEEN VICTORIA SURFACES

Roger C. Paulen

Royal Canadian Mint, 2008 Vignettes of Royalty Series - Queen Victoria

This series begins with Britain's longest reigning monarch; the woman who was the inspiration behind Britain's Victorian Era of rapid industrialization, tremendous accumulation of national wealth and imperialism. Although coins with Queen Victoria's effigy were issued for the Province of Canada in 1858 and 1859, this crowned portrait appeared on the 1-, 25- and 50-cent coins that were issued between 1870 and 1901.

The unique part of this coin series is that they are double-effigy coins (a monarch on both the obverse and reverse). A unique showcase of effigies from the monarchy that will appear on five coins to be released over three years including 2008 Queen Victoria, 2008 King Edward VII, 2008 King George V, 2009 King George VI and 2009 Queen Elizabeth II. These coins are individually hand-polished and quadruple struck, producing a very strong relief.



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

According to ENS Secretary Marc Binc, ENS has 74 (paid) members for 2007. New members that pay via cheque will have their membership cards mailed to them in a subsequent issue of *The Planchet* while those who pay cash at the meetings will get a card either mailed to them, or in person. Due to the age of our database, we'd like to ask that members provide a current mailing address when renewing their membership. ***Please note that the Society does not, and will not, sell or use any personal information obtained from the membership for commercial uses or for publication.*** Any information we collect will only be used for club functions such as the newsletter, and a call out list for any special events.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

As we return from the summer break, the September meeting customarily greets the membership back with free pizza night, enjoyed by the 27 members in attendance. President Jamie Horkulak welcomed the members back and requested volunteers for the show setup on the evening of Nov 9th at the Ramada. If you want to help for a couple hours, please contact Jamie. Howard Gilbey volunteered to assist Roger with the mailing of the Planchet.

The first speaker of the evening was Howard Gilbey, who had a very active coin-related summer. Howard attended the Winnipeg show on June 9&10, followed by the Vancouver show on June 17th. Next was the CNA convention on July 12-15 in Niagara Falls. Howard then attended the largest show the east coast has ever seen in Halifax on August 17-19, and shared his sight-seeing experiences throughout Nova Scotia. Howard then donated a price catalog of certified coins written by Alan Hagar. The catalog lists values for all the top third party grading companies, and can be viewed at our regular meetings.

The second speaker of the night was Dan Gosling, who was the ENS club delegate for this year's CNA convention in Niagara Falls. This year, Dan was one of the guest speakers at the CNA. His talk was on the life and times of J. Douglas Ferguson, a prominent collector and numismatic researcher from the 60's whom the CNA has named awards after. Dan started with a comprehensive slide show of who's who in the CNA, it was nice to put the faces with the names we've heard all these years. Dan then showed a very interesting 10 minute video from the Royal Canadian Mint on the design and production of the world's first \$1,000,000 face value 100Kg pure gold maple leaf coin, which was released earlier this summer. The coin retails for about \$2.8 million.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 with some of the members continuing the fellowship at Boston Pizza.

- ☒ Selling Numismatic Items - uncertified and certified coins, sets (proof like, specimen, proof) including varieties and errors
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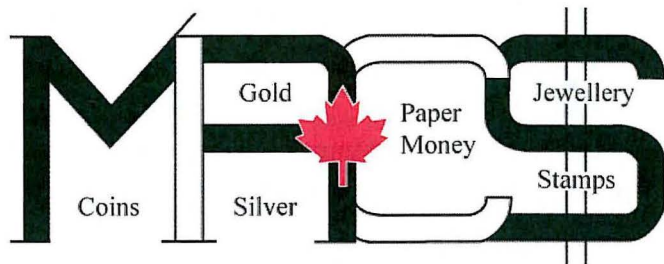
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