

Edmonton Numismatic Society

The Planchet

54th Anniversary Year

December 2007

Volume 54 Issue 9

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

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



2007 \$20 Silver Coin - Holiday Sleigh Ride

NEXT MEETING: *Wednesday, December 12 2007*

Doors 7:00 pm-- Meeting 7:30 pm

Royal Alberta Museum

12845-102 Ave, EDMONTON

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 | |

2006 Executive and Directors

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| President | Jamie Horkulak | Past President | Dan Gosling |
| FCNA | | | |
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| Treasurer | vacant | Show Chair | Jamie Horkulak |
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| Phone Committee | Terry Cheesman | Show Setup | Greg Wichman |
| Advertising | Marvin Berger | Advertising | Albert Meyer |
| Meeting Setup | John Callaghan | Kids on Coins | Ron Darbyshire |
| Library/Archives | Dan Gosling | | |
| Associate Directors | Ray Neiman | Chris Hale | |
| | Jules Rach | John Gallupe | |

MEMBERSHIP

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.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS

STREET: _____ APT# _____ CITY: _____

PROVINCE: _____ COUNTRY: _____ POSTAL CODE: _____

HOME PHONE NO.: _____ WORK PHONE NO.: _____

FAX NO.: _____ E-MAIL: _____

MEMBERSHIP REQUESTED (Canadian Funds unless noted otherwise)

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------------|----------|----------|
| ANNUAL DUES: | FAMILY | \$12.00 | \$ _____ |
| | REGULAR | \$10.00 | \$ _____ |
| | JUNIOR (16 & under) | \$3.00 | \$ _____ |
| | LIFE MEMBERSHIP | \$300.00 | \$ _____ |

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

(US ADDRESSES IN US FUNDS, OVERSEAS ADD \$5.00)

| | | |
|------------|---------------------------|----------|
| DONATIONS: | CLUB ARCHIVES | \$ _____ |
| | LIBRARY | \$ _____ |
| | KIDS ON COINS PROGRAM | \$ _____ |
| | INTERNET WEB PAGE SPONSOR | \$ _____ |

(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:

This issue marks the completion of my first full year as *The Planchet* editor. As ENS members, you might have noticed a minor change in the past year. There are now nine issues of our newsletter issued annually instead of ten. This was an unfortunate decision influenced by the nature of my career as a geologist. However, what has lacked in quantity, I have tried to reclaim in quality with the articles I have researched and written. Thanks to everyone for the positive feedback I have received.

Now it is your turn. I encourage our members to submit their personal expertise on their expertise. Many of you have fascinating collections or have discovered a new variety yourself. Send me an email with ideas for future editions or submit your articles to me at: sherwood_park_pennies@shaw.ca.

Roger Paulen

EDMONTON'S MONEY SHOW, NOVEMBER 10 & 11, 2007

A message from ENS President Jamie Horkulak

For the first time in several years, the ENS Money Show was held at a new location, the Ramada Edmonton Inn on Kingsway. The new venue boasted a bourse floor that was 2000 square feet larger than the past venue, giving both dealers and buyers more elbow room. The added floor space also allowed a few new coin dealers to attend and some established dealers ones to stretch out a bit. Dealers and attendees alike loved the roominess, layout and good lighting. Over the 2 days, paid attendance was 498, about average for our fall show. The highest attendance, 638, was a few shows ago when we had a major auction.

Greg Jones of Lighthouse Numismatics conducted a silent auction of limited-edition prints. Greg brought the prints all the way from Halifax, and graciously donated the entire proceeds to be split 75% to a charity of our choice, most likely the Children's Hospital, and 25% to the ENS. Thanks once again to Greg Jones, and to all who bid.

The next show is tentatively March 15 & 16, 2008, but Ramada Edmonton (Kingsway) will not confirm these dates yet. It seems that coin shows do not require as much catering as hotels would like, so they book us last. This seems quite common occurrence around the country with Toronto's Torex and Calgary's show both facing the same predicament. The ENS Money Show may have to shift dates slightly but our options are limited. Torex is the last weekend of February, Calgary is the first weekend of March, and Nuphilex is the second weekend in March.

Nevertheless, once we hammer down a date, March 2008 promises to be the biggest show yet, with the return of Mike Findlay, Louis Chevrier promoting his "hard holders" for CCCS, and possibly 2 new dealers out of Winnipeg.

We'll keep you posted in future issues of *The Planchet*.

2007 NOVEMBER EDMONTON MONEY SHOW



The bourse floor was very busy Saturday morning (photo by ENS member Randy Ash).



Local token collectors eagerly sift through the latest tokens offered by Willard Burton of B&W Coins & Tokens (Ontario).

2007 NOVEMBER EDMONTON MONEY SHOW



The “Best Dressed Coin Dealer Award” once again goes to Matthew Sztym of Rocky Mountain Coins & Antiques (photo by ENS member Dan Gosling).



ENS *The Planchet* Editor managed to get his hands on the *Prince of Canadian Coins*, a 1921 5-cent coin (but was forced to give it back)!

1921 – NOW THAT WAS A GREAT YEAR

Danny Anable

Why was 1921 such a significant year in North American coinage? The year 1921 was a year of transition; 1921 marked the end of five-cent silver coinage and was the last of the over-produced Morgan dollars in the United States. Coins common to this year are the small cents of Canada and the US, the Canada 10-cent coin and the Morgan dollar. Every other 1921 dated coin ranges from a scarce key date to an outright rarity.

Starting from the lowest denomination, Canada moved forward with legislation to move to a larger base metal 5-cent coin similar in size to the US nickel counterpart. The enabling legislation was passed in May of 1921 and thereafter no more circulating 5-cent pieces were minted in silver. The Ottawa mint had struck almost 2.5 million 1921 5-cent silver coins, however the majority of those were melted and only about 400 are believed to have survived.



Photograph of the 1921 5-cent silver coin seen at the ENS November 2007 coin show.

South of the border, the 1921 Buffalo nickel is not as rare, but the 1921S (San Francisco Mint) is a key date from that series with uncirculated examples selling in excess of \$1500.



A mint state US 1921S Buffalo nickel (the mint mark is on the reverse, below the 'FIVE CENTS'); this example trends at \$1800.

The Mercury dimes (Philadelphia and Denver mints) from 1921 also have low mintages relative to other years and uncirculated examples sell well over \$1000.



Here is a US 1921 Mercury dime currently for sale on eBay in about EF grade with a price tag of \$600.

The Canada 1921 25-cent is a relatively easy date to find unless you want a coin grading better than Very Fine (VF). According to the 2007 ICCS Population Report, 41 coins have been graded EF and 36 coins have been certified at AU. Only 25 coins have been certified in mint state grades. Canadian Coin News Trends is \$1700 for MS-60.



For a mere \$3000, you can possess this fine example of a 1921 25-cent piece, graded MS-62 by PCGS.

The coin of equivalent denomination in the US is the 1921 Standing Liberty quarter. With a mintage of 1.9 million this date is thought to be the victim of a weak strike. Before 1925, the Standing Liberty quarters had a raised date, which wore off in circulation fairly quickly. In 1925, the date was recessed and withstood heavy circulation. The 1921 quarter was only minted in Philadelphia and uncirculated coins fetch prices of \$1000 or more.



Here is a US 1921 Standing Liberty quarter currently for sale on eBay in EF condition; it can be yours for only \$750. Note that despite the detail on the coin's devices, the date is heavily worn.

Next is most rare 1921 coin of them all, informally referred to as the *King of Canadian Coins*, the 1921 50-cents. During the early and mid-1920s, the demand for 50-cent coins was low. Only 28,000 coins were issued between 1921 and 1929, the majority of these being dated 1920. When a greater demand for this denomination arose later in 1929, the Master of the Ottawa Mint decided to melt the stock of 1920 and 1921 coins and recoin the silver into 1929 coins. It is believed that only about 75 1921 50-cent coins survived the melting pot. ICCS has certified 23 coins in circulated grades and only 3 in mint state; another 4 have been certified as specimen strikes that were from specimen sets sold to collectors and Mint visitors.

The US 1921 Walking Liberty halves (San Francisco, Philadelphia and Denver mints) are very low mintage (548,000, 246,000 and 208,000, respectively) compared to almost 12 million pieces minted in 1920. Mint state examples of these coins fetch over \$5000. In 2003, the Long Beach Elite Coin Auction saw a PCGS MS-64 coin (Lot 2661) sold for \$11,500.



A gem example of a US 1921 Walking Liberty half.

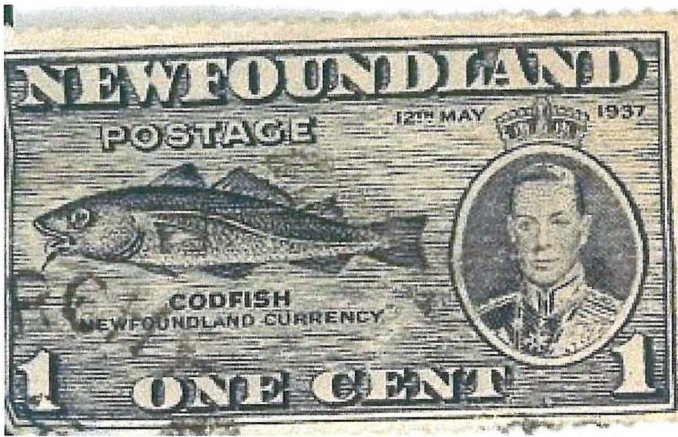
The last coin in this special year is the beautiful 1921 Peace Dollar. Following the death and destruction of World War I, peace became a priority in America and throughout the world. Following some nudging by a numismatist named Farran Zerbe, America began issuing a "Peace" Dollar in 1921. Unfortunately, by the time the original concept turned into the finished product, "PEACE" became a small word relegated to the bottom of the back of the coin. The 1921 Peace Dollar was struck in very high relief, giving the coin an impressive, medal-like appearance. The first Peace Dollars were of a high relief design and of a low mintage of just over 1 million pieces. Recently, two coins graded PCGS MS-65 have sold for over \$1200.

So why was this a special year for numismatic rarities? Perhaps the end of the First World War coupled with low demand is part of the mystery? I doubt anyone has a complete collection of 1921 coins (Canada and the US) but what a sight to behold if all of these coins were gathered together all at once.

SOMETHING IS FISHY ABOUT THAT CURRENCY

Until the late 1700s, cash in Newfoundland was quite scarce and the majority of Newfoundlanders used dried salted codfish, known as “quentils”, as the chief medium of exchange. Merchants and their customers carried out business under the truck credit system whereby the merchants outfitted the fishermen in the spring of the year and the fishermen repaid the merchants with dried codfish in the fall of the year (usually with the entire catch of the season).

Codfish is still revered in Newfoundland, but the mighty cod never graced the reverse of any Newfoundland coin. However, it did make an appearance on postage stamps.



These pre-confederation stamps illustrate the importance of the cod fishery to Newfoundland settlers and the use of codfish as a currency.

COMING EVENTS

SHOWS – USA & INTERNATIONAL 2008

| | | |
|-----------------|---|----------------|
| Mar 7-9 | ANA National Money Show | PHOENIX, AZ |
| Apr 18-20 NY | Gold and Silver Over Niagara Conference Center at Niagara Fall | NIAGARA FALLS, |

SHOWS – CANADA 2008

| | | |
|------------|---|--------------------|
| Jan 18-20 | International Coin Show Sandman Hotel | LONGUEUIL, QC |
| Jan 25-27 | CAND Annual Show Plaza Hotel | HAMILTON, ON |
| Feb 23-24 | TOREX Canada's National Coin Show Hilton Toronto Airport Hotel | TORONTO, ON |
| Feb 24 | Vancouver Coin & Stamp Show Oakridge Centre Auditorium | VANCOUVER, BC |
| Mar 1-2 | CNS Annual Spring Show Radisson Hotel Calgary Airport | CALGARY, AB |
| Mar 7-9 | Nuphilex Holiday Inn Midtown | MONTREAL, QC |
| Mar 15 | 17th Annual Cambridge Coin Show Cambridge Newfoundland Club | CAMBRIDGE, ON |
| Apr 12-13 | Vancouver Numismatic Society Show Oakridge Centre Auditorium | VANCOUVER, BC |
| Apr 19-20 | Regina Coin and Stamp Show Western Christian College | REGINA, SK |
| May 23-25 | TNS Quality Hotel | ST. CATHARINES, ON |
| June 28-29 | TOREX Canada's National Coin Show Hilton Toronto Airport Hotel | TORONTO, ON |
| July 18-20 | 2008 CNA Convention Crown Plaza Hotel | Ottawa, ON |

MEMBERSHIP FEES NOW DUE

Memberships are now due for 2008 renewal, payable to the ENS, or if you're paying cash, pay it to the Secretary/ Membership chair (Marc Bink). Membership fees are unchanged from last year, and membership cards will be sent out with the next issue of *The Planchet*. Those 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. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. 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.

DECEMBER MEETING

Our December meeting will be held at the Royal Alberta Museum on Wednesday, December 12th. The meeting will start at 7:30 pm; door will open at 7:00 pm.

Speakers: Mark Henschell - *Geocaching*

Donation Auction:

Anyone can bring items for auction, including items that are not of a numismatic theme. The auction will occur at the December meeting with the proceeds being divided between Kids on Coins and an expense account for sending ENS President Jamie Horkulak to the 2008 CNA (Canadian Numismatic Association) in Ottawa. This is an important CNA event, because the ENS is hosting the following CNA meeting in 2009. Jamie will be in Ottawa trying to lure new dealers to Alberta in 2009 for the greatest CNA ever!

- ☑ Selling Numismatic Items - uncertified and certified coins, sets (proof like, specimen, proof) including varieties and errors
- ☑ Also selling Banknotes (Dominion of Canada to present)
- ☑ Interested in Special Number Banknotes, Error Notes & Coins (varieties & errors)

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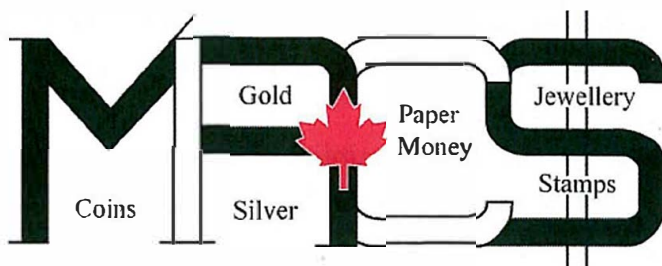
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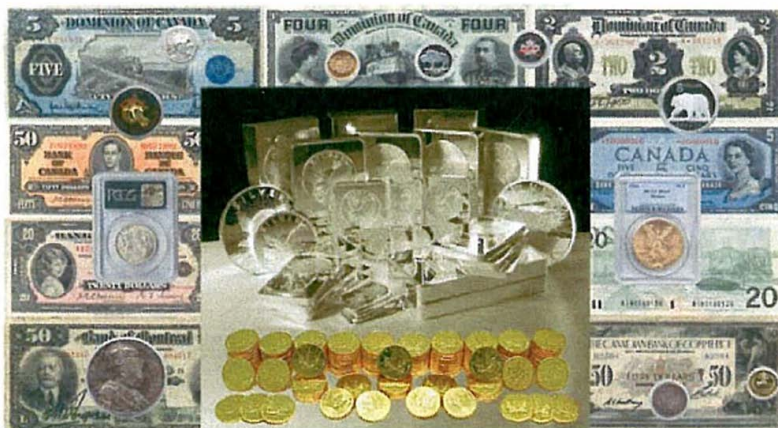
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