



# THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

WATERLOO, ONTARIO

1971 - 1973  
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SO YOU'VE NEVER WON A RIBBON

WELL HERE'S HOW:

By Norman W. Williams

This short article is written for collectors, new or experienced, who have never been successful with competitive displays at local or national coin shows. Follow these suggestions and watch your fortunes change for the better.

Firstly, make up your mind you not only can, but will win a ribbon. A novice often despairs at attempting to compete with more experienced winners. This is a negative attitude, so think positively and set out to find why the same people win over and over again.

At the next show examine the winning displays closely. You will generally be able to see that they are very neat, have eye-appeal and tell a concise story about the items they display. Also examine the non-winning displays -- chances are the differences will be quite obvious. The most common fault is a lack of numismatic information, the most inexcusable fault is a lack of neatness.

Secondly, obtain a set of Display Categories and Judging Rules. Judges are often confronted with displays that will not fall properly within the categories set for competition. There can be no excuse for this. A person never builds a house without first being assured that it properly conforms to the zoning for the area. So it is with Competitive displays. You must be sure the items you wish to display fall within a correct category.

Most competitive categories are fairly broad -- such as Canadian Decimals. Paper Currency or Tokens and Medals. Nevertheless, be sure to check over the categories and other particular requirements. Quite often the display chairman will require advance registration and reservation of display cases.

This brings to mind a common but needless sight often observed at coin shows, even national shows, where the frustrated entrant arrives to find that the numismatic display he has so painstakingly prepared at home will not fit the display cases available at the show, resulting in a necessity of changing or cutting up background cards at the last minute and perhaps rearranging the whole display. Most cases have dimensions of 18" x 30". This problem, however, can easily be averted by simply checking the regulations on this point and, if necessary, writing to the display chairman for clarification.

Now a word about judging point systems used at local and national shows. The C.N.A. point system was developed to encourage displays of outstanding material once a year at the annual convention.

Thus, more points are awarded for rarity. At most local shows the emphasis is on numismatic information, eye-appeal and originality. This is simply to encourage the ordinary collector, who wishes to enjoy his coins and share his material with his fellow hobbyists. However, it has been proven again and again that at the yearly national convention, rarity alone has not produced winners, but often displays of less rare or valuable materials have taken first place, because of superior displaying techniques.

Thirdly, now that you have decided to build a competitive display that conforms with rules and regulations, is neat, has eye-appeal, and tells a story; it is necessary to decide what numismatic items of your collection you wish to display. If you collect Canadian coins, consider building a display around a theme of the Canadian silver dollar, which is Canada's most popular coin. If you have a complete set, with varieties, you may display the whole series. If you have only the commemorative dollars, this can be a series to display with ease. And if you are a new collector with no coins, and only a dollar to spend, then go to your local bank and purchase a new 1971 dollar honouring British Columbia centenary. Your display can tell a story of this single coin or any other item in your numismatic collection.

Fourthly, in order to tell the story of the items you have chosen to display, it is necessary to obtain numismatic information. Current coin catalogues have some information, but usually not too much in the way of interest. Check out past issues of the C.N.A. Journal; Messrs. Fred Bowman and Bob Willey produced an index of the Journal which is most helpful. Hundreds of topical subjects are listed. In addition, Bowman's book, "Canadian Numismatic Research Index" is available and covers hundreds of references to numismatic subjects. Also, Canada Coin, Stamp and Antique News, Coin World, have over the years contained many worthwhile articles you may use.

It is suggested you use a folder to hold the information as it is gathered. Over a period of time you should be able to draw from that many times. If you research the designer, the engraver and the story  
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THE ONTARIO NUMISMATIC is published monthly by the Ontario Numismatic Association. The publication can be obtained with membership in one of the following categories:- Life Membership - \$50., Regular Membership - \$4. annually, Junior - \$2. annually, (up to 18 years of age), Husband and Wife - \$6. annually; Club - \$10. annually.

Special O.N.A. Silver Lapel Pins \$2.50.

Remittances payable to the Ontario Numismatic Association, Mr. Bruce Raszmann, P.O. Box 33, Waterloo, Ontario.

behind the coin, you will end up with a surplus of information.

Fifthly, a few suggestions are now offered on how to physically put your display together.

Consider the amount of material and information you wish to show. It is suggested you take the material and lay it out on an 18" x 30" coloured cardboard to determine how much space is remaining for information cards and accessories. Try using blank information cards first to find out how much space you have. This may appear to be working backwards, but trying to place too much information in a crowded display is just as deadly as having insufficient information.

Consider the use of photographs relating to the display, props such as flags, coats-of-arms or anything that relates to the items and will create an interest to the viewer. Remember, you wish to tell a story and that story should be simple and direct.

It is further suggested you again examine other displays for ideas and methods of presenting your material. You can only learn by experience, so why not borrow from the experience of others who have been proven in competition.

You should type your information on cards if possible, unless you can print impeccably. Consider also various background colours and/or materials to best show off your display. Again, you will probably have to arrange and re-arrange your display several times, but keep in mind your purpose is to tell a concise story to the viewer in a neat eye-appealing display with interesting information that can only compel the judges to award you a ribbon.

It should be noted that even when you do not receive a ribbon in competition, you have become a winner anyway because of the numismatic information you have researched and retained, thereby becoming a more knowledgeable collector.

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AMMENDMENT TO OUR CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

The following ammendment is published to enable our members to come to the annual General Meeting to discuss such ammendment further.

Ammendment is as follows:-

Article 7 - Officers - election - Section 1, reads "Any life or regular member who has been in good standing for two years or longer shall be eligible to hold office in the Association". The ammendment will read as follows:- "Any life member or regular member who has been in good standing for two years or longer shall be eligible to hold office in the Association. In the event that no eligible member is nominated to any position, the executive shall have the authority to appoint any member in good standing by a majority vote of the Executive".

Motion proposed by Ken Prophet, seconded by Ed. Stahley - any queries please contact Mr. William English, P.O. Box 4, Waterloo, Ont., N2J 3Z6.

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THE DEBBIE JANE GOULD MEMORIAL AWARD

-C.N.A. President, Norm Williams, has announced the establishment of the C.N.A. Junior Numismatic Award of the year to be known as The Debbie Jane Gould Memorial Award. It has generously been sponsored by Maurice Gould, FRNS-FCRNS, the Assoc'n director for the western U.S., in memory of his daughter, Debbie Jane, who had been a very ardent junior collector. All enquiries may be directed to Paul Siggers, 945 Seacote Road, Richmond, B.C., giving all pertinent details, such as junior's name, age, etc. and C.N.A. number.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1973 - 1975

Following the procedure as laid down in our By-laws under Article 7, section 7 reads "The chairman of the election committee shall cause the names of the nominees to be published three months prior to the opening of the Annual General Meeting in the Association's official publication". Carrying out these instructions herewith is a list of the nominations received by Chairman William English, P.O. Box #, Waterloo, Ontario, N2J 3Z6 ;-

- President...W..E..Pat.Lambert.....
- First Vice-President...Melvin.Fiske.....
- Second Vice-President..William.Gage.....
- Secretary.....Mrs..Trudy.Lambert.....
- Treasurer.....Bruce.Raszmann.....
- Director Area No. 1.....Howard Whitfield
- Director Area No. 2.....Melvin Fiske
- Director Area No. 3.....John Craig
- Director Area No. 4.....Ken. W. Wilmot
- Director Area No. 5.....William Gage
- Director Area No. 6.....Frank Lieshout
- Director Area No. 7...Ray.Pleau.....
- Director Area No. 8...Paul.Sullivan.....
- Director Area No. 9...Gerry Albert
- Director Area No. 10...Elliott Jephson.....

All names listed are submitted with the understanding that all the nominees have agreed to stand for office.

Please notify chairman William English, P.O. Box 4, Waterloo, Ontario, N2J 3Z6, if the listings as noted above are not correct.

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"WORDS THAT COUNT"

The seven most important words in the English language are:  
"I made a mistake and I'm sorry"

The six most important words in the English language are:  
"You did a very good job".

The five most important words in the English language are:  
"And what is your opinion"?

The four most important words in the English language are:  
"How can I help"?

The three most important words in the English language are:  
"I appreciate you".

The two most important words in the English language are:  
"Thank you".

The least most important word in the English language is:  
"I".



CITY OF OTTAWA COIN CLUB -

At the last meeting with 13 members present the main topic discussed was "How To Attract New Members" and different members expressed their opinions on the subject. It was decided to get a program secretary so the meetings would be better planned.

HURONIA NUMISMATIC SOCIETY -

At the last meeting the following slate of officers were elected for 1973:- President - Bill Gage, Vice-President - Richard Ford, Treasurer - Cec. Sharpe, Secretary - Alma Gage, Directors - Lorraine Acker, Noreen Howcroft, Marie Ford, Dan Cybulski, Charlie Ott. After the business a film was shown featuring W. C. Fields in the "Dentist". The members were shown a special calendar depicting the history of the R.C.M.P. since its inception and this is available at the Post Offices.

KITCHENER COIN CLUB -

The last meeting was the first at the new meeting place, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 54 Queen Street North. The highlight of the evening was a set of slides on the Voyageur Silver Dollar and this was followed by an auction. The door prizes were consisted of a Canadian Mint Cuff Links and the Ladies Pin.

NIAGARA FALLS COIN CLUB -The last meeting had a good turn-out and the following slate of officers for 1973 were elected:- President - Howard Hill, Vice-President - Carl Coleman, Secretary - Marjorie Smith, and Treasurer - Mrs. T. Daley. Mr. Hottot conducted a very interesting quiz on foreign coins, which was won by George Oblinsky.

ST. CATHARINES COIN CLUB -

The last meeting was dedicated to Juniors with Junior displays and Dianne Kosiba was presented with the junior trophy by its donor, Pat Lambert. The officers for 1973 are as follows:- President - Lawrence Shepard, Vice-President - Victor Potter, Secretary - Marion Foulser, Treasurer - Fred Barley, Librarian - Mrs. Ritchie, Historian - Bernice Burns and Membership - John Morrison.

SARNIA COIN CLUB -

At the last meeting the new President, Honourable Fred Webb, chaired the meeting. The guest speaker was Thomas Masters from London, Ontario who spoke on the complete history of the Liberty Bell in Independence Hall, Philadelphia and its significance to Numismatics and exhibited a display of commemorative metals issued by the Franklin Mint. This was followed by a lively auction.

ST. THOMAS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION -

At the last meeting the special feature was a set of slides on St. Thomas by Don Cosens. The new officers for 1973 are as follows:- President - Mrs. Clunas, Vice-President - Cloyd Berryhill, Treasurer - A. W. O'Neil, Secretary - Mrs. Kloosterman, Auction - Jim Whitchurch, Directors - Jan Kloosterman, Bob Clarkson, Arnold Baxter, Doug Butterwick, Mrs. Cloin, Clarence Miedema.

STRATFORD COIN CLUB -

The feature of the last meeting was Mike Walton as guest speaker with two of his St. Bernards and all enjoyed his talk on these famous dogs. The turn-out was not large but hopes are high for a good year in 1973.

TIMMINS COIN CLUB

At the last meeting two films were enjoyed, They were "A Place to Stand" and "The Great Toy Robbery". This was followed by a very successful auction. There were some great bargains that it would have been a pity to miss.

WATERLOO COIN CLUB -

The Waterloo Club did not need an election this year as everyone went back into office. These officers are :- President - Wilfred Erb, Vice-Pres.- Phillip Mueller, Secretary - Ted Turanski, Treasurer - Bruce Raszmann, Membership - Bob Lenz, Editor - Heinz Herzog, Librarian - Bev. Lenz, Ex-Officio - Ed. Stahley.

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MY FAVOURITE TOKEN - CANADA'S MEAT RATION TOKEN OF WORLD WAR 11

By Prof, Harold Don Allen

Don Allen, O.N.A. 788, has been a student of rationing and a collector of ration documents since Canada's wartime rationing period of the 1940's. This paper he prepared recently for a New Zealand journal, but sent us a copy with the observation that while many of our younger collectors recognize Canada's rationing token, they have only the vaguest of ideas as to how and why it was used. Professor Allen produced and presented to the C.N.A. a definitive study of Canadian food rationing collectibles in 1956.

While issues down in the thousands or even hundreds are unusual for the kinds of trade tokens that many of us study and collect, my personal favourite enjoyed a press run at least in the tens of millions, and here in Canada should be and is relatively easy to acquire. Twenty-five years after making token once again a Canadian household word, a rather distinctive, centre-holed blue disc of pressed fibre reposes in many a dealer's junk box, with ten cents to twenty-five cents the going price. Roughly quarter size (22 mm.), it is the meat ration token which so aided in Canadian efforts to assure fair distribution on the "home front" while alleviating food shortages in the British Isles and continental Europe during the months immediately after World War 11.

I like the token because I hunted it, studied it, collected it and chronicled it at the time when it was current and when my numismatic instincts were being developed (1). The token (unlike its U.S. counterparts, the red and blue "points") has no major varieties but some of its misstrikes are visually interesting. My study, understandably, extended to rationing in general, and led to a sophisticated interest in security printing (evidenced on ration coupons - the Canadian term - and ration stamps) and made for me good friends among the collectors of several nations, (2).

Canada rationed a variety of commodities during World War 11, reflecting wartime priorities, world food shortages, and problems with shipping. Foods that were rationed by coupons were sugar, tea and coffee, butter, preserves, meats and canned milk. Gasoline rationing by coupon severely restricted "pleasure" driving, and liquor distribution was affected by a number of provincial schemes requiring coupons or permits. Food rationing came under the wartime Prices and Trade Board which distributed, between July 1942 and November 1947 ration cards and six ration books to Canada's entire civilian population. At the height of war-time shortages, from May 1943 to February 1944 meat was rationed by coupon in part to assure supplies for the military. With

two coupons validated each week, the ration proved generous enough, but the coupon arrangement restricted an individual's purchases to two per week. A family could, of course, pool its coupon resources, but for those living alone, possibly without adequate refrigeration, there might be some hardship. Accordingly, when meat was again rationed on September 9th, 1945 (not because of domestic shortage but to freeze supplies for overseas), provision was made, based possibly on United States experience for the use of ration tokens to "make change". One coupon, good for a week's ration, became valid each Thursday, and a coupon was equivalent to eight tokens. Thus, up to seven tokens could serve as change and could be used in one or more subsequent purchases.

One token by itself, would buy little, from two to six ounces of meat depending on the meat classification, but the token made the system workable. Canned meats also were on the ration, with one token equated to, typically, a three ounce tin of sandwich spread.

Meat tokens were inscribed, in impressed letters, CANADA/RATION, (between maple leaves) and MEAT/VIANDE. Unlike meat coupons, the tokens had no expiry dates, and imposing strings of them often were to be seen in shoppers' purses. With a population of twelve million, further increased by returning servicemen, the number of tokens released during the 81 - week ration period must have been many tens of millions, official figures are not known (3).

Meat rationing by coupons and tokens continued through March 26, 1947, allowing Canada, at one point to be exporting 40% of her production of meat. Further, through church groups and otherwise, Canadians were donating unexpired meat coupons to permit prompt release to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Association of further supplies.

Soon ration books were to be keepsakes or curiosities, and meat token strings a child's plaything. But Canada's unusual blue ration token had, in truth, functioned well, and in a sense had been more of a necessity than cash. Accordingly it deserves more than a footnote when we talk of tokens and their roll in peoples' lives.

#### Notes

- (1) The chronicling can be found in Canadian and American numismatic Association libraries as Canada - Rationing: a Numismatic Record (privately published in 1956).
- (2) Tending to specialize in United States material, but with international interests the society of ration token collectors can be contacted through the editor of its publication, The Ration Board, Mr. Joseph A. Lowande, 135 Duer Street, Plainfield, New Jersey, Z.C. 07060.
- (3) When the W.P.T.B. ration administration closed its doors in 1947 all the official records were destroyed.

This article will be of special interest to our younger collectors who have never experienced a meat ration and we print it, with the idea that they may know what their parents had to endure in the 1940's.

Special thanks are expressed to Professor Allen for giving us the benefit of his research and a most interesting article.

Ye Ed.



TO MY MANY FRIENDS IN THE O.N.A.

By Arthur Honour, Former O.N.A. Director

"Ye Ed" has asked me to write a few lines on what I have been doing since I left Ontario, so here goes.

I am now in Vancouver, B.C. and have not as much time to devote to numismatics as I used to have in Hamilton, mainly because I have changed my line of work. I am now in a public accounting office and studying at night school to qualify as a Certified General Accountant. Now in the third year of a five year programme, the courses require about 20 hours a week study and class work and on top of a full time job this does not leave much time for hobbies.

Due to lack of free time I have only been able to help out in coin clubs in capacities that can be done more or less when time permits such as Librarian in the Vancouver Numismatic Society, which I am now filling for a second year. This has been an interesting challenge, trying to obtain good books of wide appeal and ones that would encourage the members to use the books available and thus justify the money I spend. Keeping the list of books available before the members in the club bulletin and by book reviews is getting results.

Another venture that started out very small centres around a group interested in world coins and paper money and is patterned somewhat after the Chedoke Numismatic Society and the Society for International Numismatics, after various ups and downs is beginning to flourish. We are now incorporating under the B.C. Societies Act and are calling ourselves the Vancouver International Coin Enthusiasts (V.I.C.E.).

Impatient as we are, we have already launched our first major public programme. On the long weekend of May 19, 20 and 21, 1973 we will be welcoming Virgil Hancock of Bellaire, Texas and John Hunter of Detroit, Michigan to Vancouver to present their famous seminar on counterfeit coin detection. These two leading experts on this subject have been presenting this course for several years at the A.N.A. Headquarters at Colorado Springs, Colo., and last year also gave it in California. This will be the first such programme in Canada. We have received excellent co-operation from the University of British Columbia in providing lab facilities and accommodations at their new convention centre. We will probably have the best lab facilities that have ever been available for this seminar.

We have planned a full weekend package including some entertainment and sight-seeing and expect to have a lot of fun as well as learning for self-defence. The seminar is open to the first 40 people who wish to register, the fees being \$75.00 and all enquiries should be sent to:- Vancouver International Coin Enthusiasts, P.O. Box 35484, Station "E", Vancouver 13, B.C.

And that, I notice, is starting to sound more like a commercial message than a letter but this seminar has my enthusiasm at the moment and is consuming the major part of my hobby time and energies right now.

My collecting interests have still refused to settle down and I find myself bouncing from one attraction to another and enjoying them all. In the past couple of years my fancy has touched upon (in varying degrees) world paper money, odd and curious items (I have found a Nigerian "manilla" that fits my wrist perfectly), large bronze 19th century medals, Indian native states "dumps" and many just plain "beau-

tiful old coins". There does seem to be a tendency towards ever more unusual and off-beat items. But the name of the game is fun after all, and that is wherever you find it.

Yours numismatically,  
Arthur.

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LATE, LATE, LATE COIN CLUB AND SHOW DATE

CENTRAL COIN CLUB - The last meeting opened with the new president, Frank Lieshout, in the chair. Life memberships were presented to the two outgoing executives, Eric Miller and Roy Longo, and to Bob Shillingworth the treasurer. A large auction was conducted by Bob Shillingworth assisted by the members of the club who are being trained to help record the auctions. Plans went ahead for the upcoming show on February 3rd and 4th.

ST. THOMAS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION - Coin Show and Banquet in Grace United Church on May 5th, 1973. For further details please contact E. Klaosterman, Secretary, St. Thomas Numismatic Association.

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THIS 'N THAT -

First of all, I wish to congratulate all the new executives of the various coin clubs throughout th Province.---It is my opinion that 1973 is going to be a crucial year for many clubs, I trust that the various club members will realize that their executive are only as good as the membership co-operation allows them to be. May I single out two clubs in particular who have been having a rough time, I speak of Ingersoll and Stratford. We give you special mention in the hope that your members will take the hint and support you 100% --- I always like to make mention of people who do nice things for others, this week Ye Ed was most agreeably surprised to receive an honorary membership in Oshawa & District Coin Club, a very nice gesture which is much appreciated --- You can see by the list of forthcoming shows that this spring starting next week (Feb. 3rd and 4th) and continuing until May 13th (these are all that clubs have advised us) so that there should be no lack of somewhere to go, it is not our intention to promote one show more than another so let it suffice that we reccommend all our members and friends to try to attend them all, where we hope to see many of you --- It will be noted that there are many more coin club news items this issue, due to the fact that club secretaries and/or editors sent them a few days after their club's meeting, but may I please point out again that my new address is as follows: POST OFFICE BOX 311, ST. CATHARINES, ONTARIO, to reach me no later than the 24th of each month if at all possible.--- Meanwhile we wish all that you wish for yourselves, see you in March

Ye Ed

From Mrs. Ye Ed - I, too, would like to say a big "Thank You" to the Oshawa & District Coin Club on behalf of my honorary membership.