

## **Welcome to the C.N.A. E-Bulletin Vol. 2, No. 32 – November 10, 2006**

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### **INTRODUCTION**

One of my titles for the C.N.A. is Liaison to the Royal Canadian Mint. I have been asked to issue a special invitation to all recipients of this C.N.A. E-Bulletin. As a loyal reader, consider this YOUR very special invitation!

The Royal Canadian Mint cordially invites you to the official presentation of the 2006 Architectural Treasures - Pengrowth Saddledome coin and The Calgary Flames Special Edition – Vintage Hockey to Mr. David Bronconnier, Mayor of Calgary; Mr. Ken King, President of the Calgary Flames; and Calgary Flames hockey legend Jim Peplinski.

You will get the opportunity to rub shoulders with key Mint personnel, see the video photographers from the TV networks in operation, meet the Mayor of Calgary and President of the Calgary Flames and more.

The event will take place on Wednesday, November 22, 2006, in the Telus Conference Rooms 1 & 2, Pengrowth Saddledome (Main entrance), 555 Saddledome Rise South East, Calgary, Alberta. The schedule calls for 10:15 a.m. arrival, with presentations starting at 10:30 a.m. A short reception will follow.

If you are planning on attending, please call the toll-free number 1-888-859-1120 and let them know you are coming. If you go, maybe you can drop us a line afterwards at [cnanews@look.ca](mailto:cnanews@look.ca) and tell us how things went.

### **WE HAVE MAIL**

From Gale Comin: "I think you do an absolutely marvelous job of the on-line cnanews mag. Humour is great and I find myself forwarding it on to friends. Keep up the great work." – Thanks for your positive comment. And I appreciate the attachment you sent us, which we will use just as soon as we set up a page within our E-Bulletin website so that we can publish pictures and other attachments.

From Jeanne: "Dear friend, I found your picture on one of the websites, can we talk to each other? I might be coming to your place in few weeks. This would be a great opportunity to meet each other. Btw, I am a woman. I am 25. Drop me a bline at xxx@supergoodfood.com." - Well, thank you for the invite, but since I am spoken for, maybe some of the people receiving this could help you with your spelling when they meet you. Why are all the Internet scam artists poor spellers?. Incidentally, what "supergoodfood" are you selling?

### **WILL THIS GIVE THE BANK OF CANADA IDEAS?**

Poland's central bank recently issued 2 million collectors' banknotes bearing the image of the late Pope John Paul II, marking the 28th anniversary of the late pontiff's election.

The National Bank of Poland's special notes have a face value of 50 zlotys, the equivalent of about \$18. They sell for 90 zlotys, or about \$33.

Here is a challenge for you: What Canadian or U.S. theme(s) would you select for the appropriate North American institutions to sell collectors' banknotes at nearly double face? Remember, any serious suggestions sent to [cnanews@look.ca](mailto:cnanews@look.ca) will automatically be rejected!

### **SCOTSMAN ADAM SMITH TO APPEAR ON ENGLISH BANKNOTE**

Tony Hine has made us aware that economist Adam Smith is the first Scotsman whose likeness will appear on an English bank note.

An image of the economist, regarded as one of the fathers of modern economics and famous for his 18th century book "The Wealth of Nation," is to appear on a new 20 pound note that will be issued next year by the Bank of England.

The economist joins William Shakespeare and Isaac Newton as other famous figures that have appeared on English bank notes, and replaces composer Edward Elgar on the 20 note.

### **HOW TO COLLECT FINES THE MODERN WAY**

Here is a new way of getting money from people:

British offenders who fail to pay their court fines could receive a text message warning them "to pay up or get locked up," Reuters reports.

Magistrates courts in England and Wales are looking at sending messages by text or email to fine evaders and those who fail to show up to court. The messages warn those that don't comply with their court orders that they could face further action. It follows a successful trial in Staffordshire, central England, when 150 offenders were sent messages to their mobile phones. Seventy-five percent then immediately paid up.

The scheme may now be incorporated into the new National Enforcement Service which is to be tested from April next year. In January the government, which estimates the cost of unpaid court fines runs into tens of millions of pounds a year, announced plans to clamp the cars or dock the wages of those who failed to pay up.

### **COIN, PAPER MONEY AND STAMP INFORMATION REQUESTED**

It is the intention of the 2007 C.N.A. Convention to include a 3-ring portfolio in the registration kit about Nikola Tesla, the inventor of alternating current and many other things. The portfolio will include the following items:

- A write-up will include the background on Tesla and detail his many inventions. Since the Convention will again be held in Niagara Falls, Ontario, site of the world's first generating station to produce alternating current, it seems like a fitting item for the registration kit.
- Illustrations of the many stamps that were issued in his honor, commemorating the anniversaries of his birth and death, as well as his inventions. We are aware of stamps being issued by Yugoslavia, Croatia, Ghana, Cyprus and the U.S., although there are probably others.
- Illustrations of paper money and coins issued about him.
- Actual banknotes issued by Yugoslavia and Croatia in 3-ring vinyl holders, possibly others if they are in an affordable price range.
- Possibly actual postage stamps in mint condition of any that are affordable.

To this end, we ask for your help in three areas:

- If you know Scott catalogue numbers of the stamps featuring Nikoli Tesla, please forward them to us

- If you know the Krause catalogue numbers of the banknotes and coins, please forward them to us.
- If you are a dealer and have this material available, please let us know. We would want a quotation on one of each so that we can scan them if they are affordable and then use them in a non-competitive display at the Convention. Any that are too expensive, we would illustrate in the portfolio. Possibly, you can send us a nice color scan.
- If you have, or know where we can obtain, a quantity of 150 of low-priced banknotes, coins or stamps on Tesla, please contact us. For example, the new stamp commemorating the birth of Nikola Tesla issued on July 10, 2006 by Croatia, which features a high frequency transformer and his portrait and signature, should be cheap enough.

This project is only possible if we obtain assistance from a few of you. If you are a dealer and have the material available and are a generous person, we promise you some publicity in the C.N.A. Journal, in this E-Bulletin both before and after the Convention, and in write-ups sent to the numismatic press. If you are generous enough, you will also receive a complimentary ad in the Convention's souvenir program booklet, suitably engraved, acknowledging your generous donation.

The contact information of the 2007 C.N.A. Convention Chairman, John Regitko, is either [cnainfo@look.ca](mailto:cnainfo@look.ca) or (416) 407-4122.

### **GREED AND GOOD LUCK SYMBOLS EXTEND AROUND THE WORLD**

While unwinding in a hotel room during my recent visit to Europe, I watched "Deal or No Deal" in both German and Italian (you don't have to understand the language to know what is going on). The host was not Howie Mandell, but a local personality. When I first tuned in, six of the high amounts were eliminated out of the 10, versus only 1 out of 10 from the left side's low amounts. People's greed won't allow them to take 50,000 Euros if there is any sort of chance to win more, but will eventually settle for 5,000 Euros and consider themselves lucky.

Another game had 5 low amounts and 500,000 Euros remaining. Again, greed got the better of the individual who lost everything (the game in Germany is a little different than the North American version). The contestant got a copy of the home game as a consolation prize. Even rubbing the back of the dog that he brought along for good luck (no kidding, he said so) didn't help. He should have used one of our Canadian Lucky Loonies instead!

### **WHISPER THOSE THREE LITTLE SWEET WORDS IN MY EAR**

I went to a Flea Market last month. One of the things that caught my eye, other than a few overpriced medals, was a sign that said "Three Little Words That Make The World Go Round" followed by the three words. Want to guess what they were before you read on?

I guessed "I Love you" like most of you just did. I also guessed "I don't know" which I use quite often...certainly a heck of a lot more than the first guess. Neither was correct.

They were "Buy and Sell." I should have guessed. After all, it was a Flea Market.

### **MONEY OF THE ANCIENT WORLD ON DISPLAY AT ANA MUSEUM**

You can see the impact of the Romans on today's money by the Latin words on U.S. coins and dollar bills. Political leaders featured on currency? Thank the Macedonians for that. Modern society owes much of its money's design and utility to the coins developed in the ancient world. These coins provided countless stories about the art, politics, wars, and pastimes of people living more than 2,000 years ago. Throughout history's most famous and infamous empire,

money was used to pay salaries, purchase slaves and glorify emperors. Like much of today's currency, ancient Romans could expect to find the likeness of political leaders on their money. Emperors used coins to let their subjects know of their ascendance to power, promote their policies, and showcase their accomplishments.

According to Jay Beeton, Marketing & Public Relations Director for the ANA, these stories are explored in the American Numismatic Association Money Museum's new exhibit "The Die Is Cast: Money of the Ancient World" that opened yesterday. The exhibit offers visitors the chance to travel back in time to the great civilizations of Greece and Rome, while viewing coins produced between the 7th Century B.C. and 476 A.D., the year the Roman Empire collapsed.

"This exhibit not only shows what ancient coins looked like, but explains how the people that used the coins lived," said Doug Mudd, Curator of Exhibits at the ANA. "Coinage was one of the best ways to spread ideas and propaganda throughout the ancient world. Roman Emperors would promote their military prowess, generosity and policies through coins."

The Money Museum, located at the Money Museum, 818 N Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, Colorado, is open Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Admission is free and group tours are available by calling (719) 482-9834. "The Die Is Cast: Money of the Ancient World" is scheduled to close in Sept. 2007.

For full details, visit [www.money.org](http://www.money.org), or call 719-632-COIN.

### **TRUTH IN ADVERTISING**

If we get any more e-mails like this, we will have to institute our own "Truth in Advertising" award. It was forwarded to us by Tony Hines.

"Hello. Mr. Regitko, I am Joe Salesman from Midnight Securities. We would like to take your money and our experience, and when it is all over, we will have your money, and you will have had the experience. At our firm we make money the old-fashioned way. We churn our clients' accounts (churning is trading to generate commissions rather than profits)."

If you know of any funny advertisements as they relate to money, how about sending them to us at [cnanews@look.ca](mailto:cnanews@look.ca).

### **STUPID CRIMINALS**

Here's one from Quinlan Publishing of Boston, MA, publishers of Law Enforcement "E-News Alerts" that we subscribe to just so that we can give you news about stupid criminals who think they can just steal your money. It was originally distributed by Associated Press.

#### **A Series of Unfortunate Decisions**

1. You decide to break into a woman's home, armed with a knife.
2. The home is local.
3. You decide to record the entire burglary.
4. The woman beats you up, forcing you to flee, and it's all caught on tape.
5. You were only wearing a thong?
6. You reused an old family home video for the recording, and didn't erase the hours-long tape before attempting the minutes-long burglary.
7. You left the recorder at the home when you fled.

After Fort Mitchell (Ky.) police officers recognized some of the family members at the end of the tape, they stopped by McMillen's mom's house, where they arrested McMillen for the burglary.

McMillen, if any fellow prisoners ask why you're in jail, I'd make something up if I were you.

### **GIFT CARDS WITH EXPIRY DATES TO BE BANNED**

Get ready for a new series of gift cards for your exonomia collection if Ontario's proposed legislation is passed. And it is bound to spread across North America.

Government Services Minister Gerry Phillips announced last week he will introduce legislation within the next few weeks to ban expiry dates on gift cards and certificates, which have turned into a multi-billion dollar annual business for Canadian retailers.

Ontario will be the first jurisdiction in Canada to prohibit expiry dates on gift cards. Five U.S. states have adopted legislation with a ban and other restrictions while more than 20 others require clear disclosure of the date and other terms.

Most major retailers in Canada offer some type of gift card, which invariably includes an expiry date, usually ranging between 18 and 24 months. The proposed legislation would ensure the cards retain their value no matter when they're redeemed. Since retailers will need time to change their cards, the regulations would not take effect in time for this year's Christmas shopping season.

### **GROWING UP**

With the elections in the U.S. just concluded, this is timely. It comes to us from bobsworld.com. You might want to try it on your children or grandchildren.

A man and his wife were discussing what they thought their son might be when he grew up.

"I have an idea," said the father. He put a ten-dollar bill, a bottle of whiskey, and a Bible on the coffee table. "If he takes the money he'll be a banker. If he takes the whiskey he'll be a wino, and if he takes the Bible that means he'll be a preacher."

So the man and his wife hide just before their son comes in the door, and watch from where they're hiding.

The boy saunters over to the coffee table. He picks up the ten-dollar bill, looks at it, then sets it down. He picks up the bottle of whiskey, uncorks it, sniffs it, then sets it down. Then he picks up the Bible, leafs through it, then sets it down.

Then the boy takes the money and stuffs it into his pocket, grabs the whiskey, and walks off with the Bible under his arm.

"Well how do you like that!" exclaims the father. "He's going to be a politician!"

### **A TAX BREAK FOR SENIORS USING PUBLIC TRANSIT**

And another transit item to collect, thanks to the government actually reducing the tax.

You probably didn't believe that you read that right, so allow me to repeat it: The government is reducing the tax on something! And it will actually create a new collectible for the numismatists collecting transportation items.

The Government of Ontario's GO Transit board of directors will consider a proposal to offer a monthly pass for seniors. A monthly pass would allow seniors to claim a new 15.25 per cent tax credit introduced by Finance Minister Jim Flaherty in his Spring budget.

Riders age 65 and up already get a 50 per cent discount on single fares, and so GO has not seen the need to provide a monthly pass in the past. The monthly pass would give us another transit collectible.

### **STUPID HALLOWEEN CRIMINALS**

So what happened on Halloween involving robberies? As with every year, some crooks are just all too eager to get into the holiday spirit. "E-News Alerts," published by Quinlan, includes the following:

- A Scream ghost robbed a Kentucky Long John Silver's. Another victim reported that the Scream ghost robbed a Pennsylvania BP.
- A heavily warted ghoul with a bulbous nose robbed a Costa Mesa, Calif., bank before being arrested an hour later.
- A horned demon robbed a New Hampshire Dollar General store.
- A four-man team of ninjas crashed a pickup truck through a Tampa, Fla., Sunoco before making off with the station's ATM. Not surprising, police have since found no sign of the ninjas.
- Darth Vader walked into a Mobil station wielding a toy gun and demanding that the register be opened. When the teller told Lord Vader that the register could not be opened without a purchase first being scanned, Darth Vader left -- apparently falling prey to the oldest Jedi trick in the book. He came back later, scanned a pack of gum, and then robbed the station. Attendants at the station plan to add "Dress up like Luke Skywalker" to their robbery prevention methods.
- A man in a ski mask robbed a bar in Wisconsin. It was no real trick, evidently, as the man was robbing the bar in the restaurant owned by his parents. In fact, it was his second time there that day; earlier he had completed his regular shift. He was arrested after the bartender identified his voice.
- And just the opposite of wearing a disguise: an Ohio prosecutor was recently charged with indecency after security videos in his government building caught him walking the halls after hours ... naked. To his defense, his lawyer has said that he suffers from bipolar disorder, has a seizure disorder as well, and his wife recently had a miscarriage. Aside from the charges, he has also been placed on paid leave.

And you thought that you had an eventful evening escorting your kids door-to-door!

### **CONCLUSION**

Please send us some e-mails of the weird and unusual.

John Regitko  
Your C.N.A. E-Bulletin Editor  
Canadian Numismatic Association

*The Canadian Numismatic Association is a not for profit organization devoted to serving those who enjoy coin collecting/numismatics by promoting fellowship, communication, education and providing advocacy and leadership for the hobby.*

*If you have a comment to make, or would like to submit an item for publication, email:*

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