

THE SHORELINE

A PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH SHORE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

Inside This Issue

Club Info.	2
President's Message & Meeting Program	3
Editor's Notes My Two cents Worth.	4
Club Auction	5
Club Elections & 2009 Financials	6
Token Talk by Duff Malkin	7
Minting the Medals on Sussex Dr.	8
Minting the Medals on Sussex Dr. Cont...	9
My Visit to the Mint Pavilion in pictures	10
My Visit to the Mint Pavilion in pictures Cont...	11
Striking a Token At the Mint Pavilion	12
Numismatic Landmark Up in Flames	13
Show Schedule 2010	14

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The Olympic Medals Story
&
My Visit to the Mint Pavilion

www.nsnumismaticssociety.org

THE NORTH SHORE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

Box 44009 6518 East Hastings Street Burnaby BC V5B 4Y2

A NON-PROFIT SOCIETY WORKING FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF
NUMISMATICA AT ALL LEVELS.

MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

www.nsnumismaticociety.org

email: simngenles@hotmail.com

Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at
St. Andrews United Church Annex 1044 St. Georges North Vancouver

MEMBERSHIP DUES

REGULAR - \$15.00 JUNIORS - \$ 7.50

ALL NON-CANADIAN ADDRESSES PAYABLE IN US DOLLARS

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Ken Carter - Stan Chin - Mike Da Roza - Thomas Deeth

William Tan - Michael Walsh - Al Tebworth

APPOINTED POSITIONS

EDITOR Eugene Simms - MEMBERSHIP Mike Souza

PROGRAMS Owen Wright & Lynn Balmer



President's Message

Owen Wright

The President's message is unavailable at this time.

Continued from page 4, Editors Notes "My Two Cents Worth"

The Jan. 21st Meeting In Review - Chairperson: Owen Wright - Auctioneer: Gene Simms.

The program for the Jan. 21st meeting was "SELLING ON EBAY" presented by Lynn Balmer. A lot of us have graduated to buying on ebay but some of us have not yet gotten up the nerve to try selling. After hearing Lynn's very informative talk on the basics of ebay selling, I for one am a lot closer to taking the plunge and trying my hand at selling online. If you need more info just go on line and type in "buying on Ebay" you will find dozens of sites with easy to follow instructions to help you get started.

Show & Tell: Duff Malkin's showing was a 1949 Canadian Nickel with what appears to be defect in the planchet (pictured). Lynn Balmer had a 1937 "Operation Bernhard" 5p counterfeit note that later sold in the club auction. These counterfeit notes were produced in Sachsenhausen concentration camp by skilled counterfeiters and craftsmen. These large size notes measure about 21,5cm to 13 cm, and are uniface.

Typically, these notes were damaged by the counterfeiters to give them a circulated look. There are 4 characteristics to discern an Bernhard note from a genuine 1936 5 Pound note:

1. The top of the crown above the woman is not detailed. 2. The spread head in not black filled on the right side. 3. The robe has a clear border at the right side. 4. The plots around the "FIVE" are not steady roundly.



Operation Bernhard was the codename of a secret Nazi plan devised during the Second World War to destabilize the British economy by flooding the country with forged Bank of England £5, £10, £20, and £50 notes. It is the largest counterfeiting operation in history.

Mike Da Roza's showing was a selection of U.S., Canadian and Mexican coins. Sorry Mike I misplaced my list.

Door Prize Winners: Nathaniel (2), Les Goldsby (2) Mike Da Roza, Lynn Balmer and Al Tebworth all for one each.

Penny Guess: Al Tebworth was the lucky winner of the penny guess with an exact guess of 354.

Update: I had a nice visit with Ken Carter at the hospice on Sunday and he his hoping to be feeling well enough to get out for a few hours later in the week. I also visited Les Goldsby mid last week. He is at Burnaby General suffering from pneumonia. I'm hoping to have another visit with him in the next day or two. Wishing all the best to both.

Important Reminders: **Your Membership Dues are now past due.** You can pay your membership dues at the club meeting or by post. So please don't delay, do it today.

Reminder: February was supposed to be our **Annual General Meeting** and **Elections** but due to the Olympics and the possible road closures the Feb. meeting has been cancelled. The **Annual General Meeting** and **Elections** will now be held during our March meeting. Up for election or re-election are the following positions: **2nd Vice-President, Secretary / Treasurer** and **2 Directors**. If you think you would like to be a part of this great team and would like to participate in the running of the club, let us know by putting your name forward at the Mar. meeting or past the word to a club executive.

The Program for the Mar. 18th Meeting

Will be a presentation by two RCMP officers speaking on

*. Counterfeit bills (Canadian and US)

*. Payment card fraud *. Identity Theft *. Fraud

Everyone's Welcome - Bring a Friend.



My 2 Cents Worth

Editor - Gene Simms



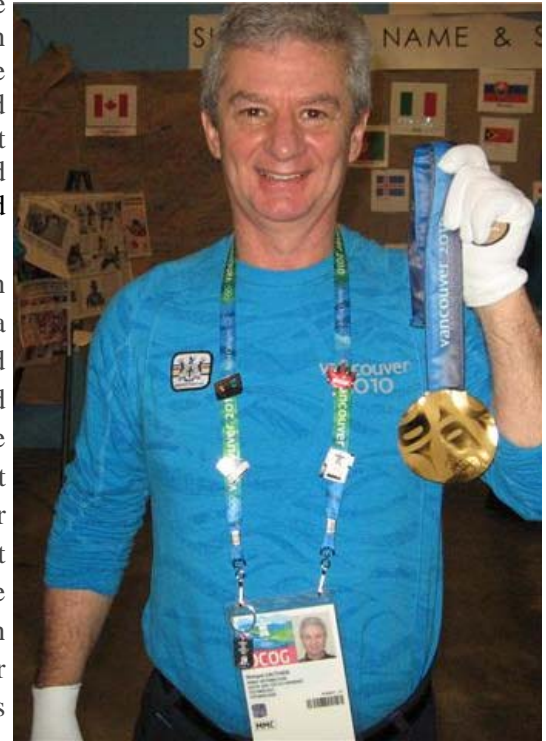
After years of waiting and very little interest or enthusiasm being shown by the general public toward the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics, other than to complain about the cost and the traffic problems it would cause. All that would soon change, starting with the hundreds then thousands who turned out to watch the longest torch run in Olympic History (I read or heard somewhere that the run had been seen by about 95% of all Canadians). The incredible opening ceremonies, the lighting of the Olympic Flame by Wayne Gretzky and our first gold medal on home soil by Bilodeau, all combined to ignite our enthusiasm and our need to show the world that we may be a quiet and polite society but when the occasion calls for it we can be loud and proud. That pride and patriotism was most evident in the spontaneous outbreaks of “O Canada” when ever and where ever a crowd gathered during the games. We may have started with a low whimper but by the time the games ended the whimper had grown to a roar heard around the world. They are being called “The Best Winter Olympics Ever”, and rightfully so.

Sports wasn't the only thing to see at the Olympics and I managed to take in a number of great events around town. At the top of my list of course was a visit to the Royal Canadian Mint Pavilion. My wife Wendy, myself and friends from the States decided to get up early and get there before it opened to beat the line ups. We weren't the only ones with the same idea. We arrived an hour before opening and the line up was already 5 hours long (It was like that every day). The mint tour was in two part, the more popular and with the longest line ups was the Olympic Medal section where you got to hold the medals and take pictures, after which you could proceed to the main tour. Part two of the tour was for the main area with the Million Dollar Gold Coin and displays. (The area I wanted to see.) With this tour you didn't get to view the medals but has access to everything else. I guess we couldn't have it all.

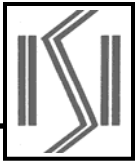
Luck was with us that morning. Just before opening time a mint employee came out and split us into the two tours and we ended up close to the front for the Million Dollar Coin tour that we wanted. It took us about twenty minutes to get inside while the people next to us for the medal tour took over two and a half hours to get inside.

When we got inside there were a couple of great videos on the minting process to watch, a selection of beautiful mint products, a video booth where you could have your picture taken with different Olympic coin themed backgrounds that you could then email to friends anywhere in the world - and of course a gift shop. Plus the main attractions, the Million Dollar Gold Coin (worth over \$3.5 million) and a 27 lb. gold bar worth approx. \$475,000. The bar you could hold and have pictures taken with it. I had read that we would be able strike our own coin/medal as a souvenir but that was nowhere to be found. Two and a half hours later, just as we were about to exit I notice a small open room off to the side that I hadn't noticed before, and not wanting to miss anything had to check it out. I was happy I did for inside was a kids activities area and in the middle of the floor was the elusive coin striking equipment. There weren't many kids there at that time and the staff weren't striking any coins. With a little sweet talking and the story that I was only wanting a picture for my club news letter the lady let me strike the coin you will see pictured inside. I later found out from a co-worker that there were actually 5 dies to choose from. The one I struck and four others, one for each of the Olympic mascots. I was hoping to get back and try for the others but just didn't find the time.

This issue of the Shoreline is dedicated mainly to the Olympic Medals and my mint visit. A special thanks to co-worker and Olympic volunteer Rick Gauthier for his great medals pictures.



Local Rona Olympic volunteer
Rick Gauthier
holding an Olympic Gold Medal



NSNS Club Auction - Mar. 18th.

- 1- Canada 1 Cent 1917 CCCS-MS-62 Red-Brown Est. \$40 Res. \$32
- 2- Canada 10 Cents 1937 CCCS-MS-62 Est. \$20 Res. \$15
- 3- Canada 25 Cents - 1886 6 over 7 CCCS-G-6 Est. \$50 Res. \$40
- 4- Canada PL Dollars - 1968-85 (6 coins) Est. \$25 Res. \$15
- 5- UK Penny - 1912 - EF-40 Est. \$30 Res. \$22
- 6- Canada 1998 Proof Silver Dollar - Est. \$35 Res. \$25
- 7- Canada 1956 set - Est. \$35 Res. \$25
- 8- JFK Medallion - 2 oz silver Est. \$60 Res. \$35
- 9- Japan 1980 Mint set - Est. \$20 Res. \$14
- 10- Bank of Canada 1954 Devil Face \$1 BC-29b VF Est. \$40 Res. \$32
- 11- Bank of Canada \$5.00 1937 BC-23b-F Est. \$25 Res. \$20
- 12- Dominion of Canada 2 Shinplasters 1923-DC-24c/d Est \$28 Res. \$22
- 13- UK 1983 Proof Silver 1 Pound coin Est. \$60 Res. \$45
- 14- Canada 1972 Olympic Medallions Est. \$30 Res. \$15
- 15- Philippines 1975 Proof Set Est. \$40 Res. \$30

IF YOU WISH TO PLACE A ITEM OR ITEMS IN THE AUCTION AND HAVE THE ENTRY APPEAR
IN THE SHORELINE CONTACT LYNN BALMER AT 604-299-3673, CEL 604-218-7154
Floor Submission Items Can be Submitted by Members at the meeting.

All Submissions FREE of Charge.

PRICES REALIZED THE JAN. 21ST AUCTION

Lot #9 \$21, Lot #13 \$150

All other's N/B.

**Keep The Auction Interesting - Bring Your Submissions.
Remember: It cost you nothing to put items In the Auction**

March is Election Time

Up for Election or Re-Election are the following positions:

**2nd Vice-President - Secretary / Treasurer
& 2 Director positions**

A full year end financial report will be available for our A.G.M. in March.

North Shore Numismatic Society Consolidated Profit and Loss Statement For the Year ended December 31, 2009

INCOME	Annual Show	One-Day Show	Regular Meetings	Total
Bourse Table	4,220.00	\$ 3,120.00	\$ -	\$ 7,340.00
Raffle Ticket Sales*	271.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 271.00
Membership	-	\$ -	\$ 573.00	\$ 573.00
Door Draw	-	\$ -	\$ 558.50	\$ 558.50
Advertising	-	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Medal Sales	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Rental of Cases	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Donations	-	\$ -	\$ 22.00	\$ 22.00
Bank Interest	-	\$ 0.88	\$ 184.14	\$ 185.02
Subtotal	4,491.00	\$ 3,120.88	\$ 1,537.64	\$ 9,149.52
EXPENSES				
Church Rent	\$ -		\$ 581.62	\$ 581.62
Door Draw Prizes	\$ -		\$ 668.96	\$ 668.96
Printing & Postage	\$ -	\$ 40.32	\$ 466.62	\$ 506.94
Hall Rental	\$ 987.00		\$ -	\$ 987.00
Table Rental	\$ 296.38	\$ 854.96	\$ -	\$ 1,151.34
Insurance	\$ 116.00	\$ 380.89	\$ -	\$ 496.89
Pickup Cases	\$ 160.00		\$ -	\$ 160.00
Security	\$ 472.50		\$ -	\$ 472.50
Advertising	\$ 279.56	\$ 898.56	\$ -	\$ 1,178.12
Miscellaneous	\$ 485.93	\$ 60.00	\$ 214.78	\$ 760.71
Subtotal	\$ 2,797.37	\$ 2,234.73	\$ 1,931.98	\$ 6,964.08
NET INCOME OR (LOSS)	1,694	\$ 886.15	\$ (394.34)	\$ 2,185.44



Token Talk...

by Duff Malkin

The 55th Pacific Logging Congress

The Pacific Logging Congress was set up in 1909 by Mr. George Cornwall and Mr. Ed English, two Americans. Mr. Cornwall was visiting with Mr. English "from Mt. Vernon, Washington". The first Congress was held in July of that year in Seattle, Washington. The main reason for the congress was the same, sort of for holding International Exhibitions – "loggers should have frequent contact if they expect to keep pace with the changing times and benefit from associated effort and a frank exchange of views".

Their current executive have a northwest west coast slant, with most of their executive being from Washington or Oregon State, but one is from BC and the other is from Montana. In past they were given to making souvenirs of the various meetings and they may still do so. The item featured here was issued to commemorate their November 18th to 20th, 1964 meeting. I am told that there are varieties with regards to the lettering and that Larry Gingras, who was a well known BC token collector and who I met once or twice before he died in the early 1980's, reported on them. I am not sure which variety this one is. Their website does not mention the 1964 event. I found online an article from the Eugene (Oregon) Register Guard of November 20th, 1964, which is worth quoting at length from because it does mention the business of the convention.



"Vancouver, B.C. (Special)

Resolutions adopted here Thursday indicate the Pacific Logging Congress members approve of Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman, but that the U.S. Forest Service should do more to help the logger.

Freeman was thanked for his work in revising the sale contracts between the buying logger and the selling Forest Service and for several other smaller items. But, the congress resolved that the Forest Service and other federal agencies (1) offer more timber for sale (2) sharpen up the way in which sales volumes are computed and (3) better manage the timber that is sold to make way for roads, reservoirs and power lines.

The Congress, which registered more than 1,100 loggers from the Pacific Northwest when it opened Wednesday, is also concerned with the transfer of lands from the timber production to recreation.

Calling attention to the recently enacted wilderness bill and the Land and Conservation act, both approved by Congress in 1964, the loggers oppose any further removal of "productive lands" from use to "undeveloped status which threatens the growth and fulfillment of the economic needs of the nation."

The loggers also resolved that the money authorized under the Land and Water Conservation Act be used for "recreational development".

In other words, the loggers want no more additions to the wilderness system at all, and they want federal recreation money to be spent developing the present recreation lands and not used to buy more.

The raging controversy over the government's proposal to establish a Redwoods National Park in California also came in for attention here Thursday. Resolution No. 8 was plain – it asked Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall to keep his hands off of any Redwood acres now owned by private interests and, further, to forget about establishing a national park. It would be better, the loggers resolved, that California do more in developing its present park system. There are presently 28 state parks in the redwoods with an estimated acreage of 100,000 acres.

As the logging congress went late the second day of its three-day meeting Thursday, the sober problems of equipment maintenance and how to make better logging profits occupied most of the day.

R. E. Cummings of Springfield's Georgia-Pacific branch was a panel member on proper use and care of log loaders in a Thursday session.

Thursday afternoon W.F. Sargent, assistant state forester for the Oregon Board of Forestry, told how money was saved and better detection afforded when the state used air surveillance rather than stationary lookouts in a coastal district last summer.

The state cut the number of manned lookouts from 17 to 5 and flew a carefully planned survey with rented planes, Sargent reported, and at the end of the summer "we were quite pleased."

Using the airplane not only saved payroll money but proved superior in early fire detection, he said.

Paul Ehinger of Westfir and A.D. McReynolds and Robert Cross of Eugene are here to invite everyone to the Oregon Logging Congress to be held in Eugene Feb. 25-26-27. "Prescriptions for Progress" will be the theme of the Oregon Congress. Gov. Mark O. Hatfield will speak at the Oregon congress."

Of course they may have had a little fun too!

The last medals have been given out. The athletes have all gone home. The streets are quiet again and the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic games are but a memory. And oh what a memory. For the thousands who braved the long lines at the Royal Canadian Mint Pavilion for a chance to touch and hold those ah-inspiring medals will carry that special moment with them for years to come. A memory most will never forget. The following is the story behind those amazing medals as it appeared in the Ottawa Citizen Newspaper Feb.15th 2010.

Minting the medals on Sussex Drive

The athletes standing on the podium in Vancouver will receive gold, silver and bronze medals made at the Royal Canadian Mint on Sussex Drive. For the athletes, they represent the highest achievement in their sport. At the mint, they are celebrated as the pinnacle of craftsmanship.

"Their true journey starts now," says Renato Romozzi, the mint's design co-coordinator.

"When these medals find their rightful owners, they are going to represent Canada all over the world. We're so proud. They're such beautiful medals." The mint assembled 34 engineers, engravers, die technicians, machinists and production experts to make the 615 Olympic and 399 Paralympic medals.

It was probably the most challenging job ever faced by the mint, says Romozzi, 53.

"I don't think we've made anything that comes close to the complexity," he says.

"We've never put together a group of people like we did for this medal; a lot of people, a lot of technologies." It was the final step of a two-year creative process that spanned the country.

"It's all done with love," says Romozzi.

The medals were designed by artist Corrine Hunt, 50, and industrial designer Omer Arbel, 33, both of Vancouver. Hunt, of Komoyue and Tlingit heritage, comes from a renowned family of West Coast artists.

Viewed from the side, the medal forms a gentle wave shape, inspired by the ocean, mountains and snow drifts of British Columbia.

"They will be unique," says Jim Greensfelder, a Florida collector who wrote a reference guide to Olympic medals.

"There's never been a medal that's had that (wavy) contour," he says. "People will recognize it as being very distinctive for Vancouver and Canada." No two medals are alike. Each of the 1,104 medals is engraved with a different segment cropped from two drawings by Hunt.

She chose to depict a killer whale or orca on the Olympic medals "because of its strength and beauty and athleticism, as well as the idea that the orca travels within its community," she says.

"Just as the athlete is not alone but it is always surrounded by his or her community, which would be the team or nation." Hunt's orca is drawn in four panels as it might appear on a traditional bentwood box "used to contain the treasures of our culture," she says. "The idea was that the athletes would receive their treasure from this box." For the Paralympics medals, Hunt drew a raven in three parts in the style of a totem pole. The raven is associated with creativity.

"My uncle is paraplegic," she explains. "He's risen above all these challenges to become the captain of a fishing boat and an engraver and he taught me how to engrave." Each athlete will receive a scarf printed with the master artwork in which they will be able to find their fragment.

"All the medals together make the complete art work," says Arbel. "Every athlete's story is unique, but together they're part of a larger Olympic whole." Weighing between 500 and 576 grams, the medals are among the heaviest in Games history.

"Athletes like them heavier," says Greensfelder. "They feel like it's more substantial, that it's worth more." The Olympic medals are circular, 100 mm in diameter. The Paralympic medals are a squared-circle and measure 95mm by 95mm.

For the first time, Paralympic medals are equal in size to Olympic medals. "Paralympic are usually much smaller," says Romozzi. "These set the standard now for the rest of the world to follow." While the mint produces circulation coins in Winnipeg, the Crown corporation's Ottawa headquarters makes collectors' coins and medals, including military medals and Order of Canada medals. It has made Olympic medals once before, for the 1976 Montreal games.



Continued on page 9

Minting the medals on Sussex Drive *Continued from page 8*

Romozzi, a native of Ottawa and a graduate of Algonquin College in electro-mechanical technology, met with Hunt and Arbel in Vancouver to discuss how the mint could bring their design to life.

"We bumped heads on the shape," he recalls. "It was pull, take, give." Arbel's original proposal consisted of two discs that opened and contained an interior cavity. Arbel envisioned the medal as a locket that could hold an item of sentimental value such as a lucky charm or a photograph.

The locket idea fell away. But the undulating surface would push the mint team to the limit.

"The challenge for us was to strike a medal with bumps," says Romozzi. "This is not something that is very common in our industry. Coins are flat. Some have high relief, but nothing like this." They experimented with press settings and designs of dies, metal blocks imprinted with undulations which give the medals their shape. Many early attempts were melted down.

"Every time you struck, the dies would move apart," recalls Romozzi. "The undulations don't actually meet each other. That's where we had a lot of trouble. It was so critical for the shape to be exactly what we needed and to be consistent." Not least of all for the laser machine which etches the motifs onto the medals. "The laser follows the bumps," says Romozzi. "If they're all different, the laser freaks out." The 102-year-old mint is a familiar landmark in Ottawa. Sitting on a bluff above the Ottawa River, it resembles a castle with its stone walls and turrets.

The medals were made at the plant inside, which is organized into rooms equipped with large machines. Each medal took 24 hours to complete and went through more than 30 steps.

The metal came from Vancouver mining giant Teck Resources, a Games sponsor.

They supplied 1,950 kilograms of sterling silver (for the silver and gold medals), 2.05 kilograms of gold (to plate each gold medal with six grams of gold), and 903 kilograms of copper (for the bronze medals.) Production started at a massive furnace where the raw materials are melted down. "It looks like molten lava," says Romozzi. "It's red hot." The liquid metal exits the furnace through a device that forms it into bars about 60 centimetres long and 15 mm thick. These bars pass through a machine in which two giant rolling pins compress them to the required thickness of 9.2 mm.

As the metal gets thinner, the bars stretch to strips about 2.5 metres long.

The strips are chopped into square plates called blanks, which measure 106 mm by 106 mm.

Washed, rinsed and heated in the furnace, the blanks are ready to be struck. Each blank is hand-placed on the press between the two dies. The medal is struck nine times with 1,900 tonnes of pressure, the weight of 760 cars piled on top of each other.

"The tonnage is incredible. We've never struck anything as high as 1,900 tonnes," says Romozzi.

By comparison, a silver dollar is struck twice with between 200 and 300 tonnes.

"There's so much material," he says. "Pressing it once doesn't fill it properly. We have to squish it nine times. The press looks like it's taking a big bite every time it comes down." The blank is struck in three sets. In between each set, the blanks are heated in a 600C furnace for four hours to make them softer.

After the strikes "you've got this thing that looks like a little pizza," says Romozzi. "The design is right in the centre. You've got all this excess material around it." A milling machine trims the surplus. Another tool cuts a slot in the edge of the medal in which a hanger for the ribbon is inserted.

The next step is to etch the artwork onto the discs with a laser machine which is programmed to apply the motifs. This proved a struggle.

The pattern of the artwork on the front of the medal goes through the Olympic rings or three Paralympic agitos. But the machine could not laser on the rings.

"Our guys did the most incredible thing," says Romozzi. "They did something the (machine's manufacturer) didn't know you could do. They trained the laser to know what the rings were. They would jump over, laser inside and jump out." On the reverse side, the medals contain the official names of the Games in English and French, Vancouver 2010's emblems, and the name of the sport and event the medal was awarded in. Finally, each medal is clad in transparent protective coating to prevent wear and tarnishing.

After 402 days, the medals were finished. The \$2 million feat was part of the mint's sponsorship of the Games.

"They shipped out Jan. 8, so we lost them," says Romozzi. "It was a sad moment. We got so attached to them." In the search for a medal that would reflect Canada and delight athletes, the design team learned "just how much meaning a small object could have," says Arbel.

photo by Rick Gauthier



2010 Paralympic Medals

photo by Rick Gauthier

2010 Paralympic Gold Medals

photo by Rick Gauthier



Yours truly (Eugene Simms) next to the Million Dollar Gold Coin at the Royal Canadian Mint Pavilion. photos by Wendy Simms



Looking down on the main foyer of the mint pavilion.





The one and only time I may ever get to hold 27lbs. of pure gold.



Mint Pavilion



Waiting for the Mint Pavilion to open.
Both sides of the street.



My wife Wendy sending a video message & post card to her friend in New Jersey.



Striking the medal (at right)
At the Mint Pavilion



Top & Bottom dies



HISTORICAL SITE | FIRE

Landmark goes up like 'Roman candle'

Elevator once pictured on \$1 bill | Building was being restored

BY WILLIAM DEKAY
SASKATOON NEWSROOM

FLEMING, Sask. — Doreen Banks' home town doesn't look the same anymore.

The 86-year-old had never known a time when Saskatchewan's oldest existing grain elevator hadn't dominated the skyline.

That all changed in the early morning of Feb. 9 when the 115-year-old prairie landmark burned to the ground.

Mayor Philip Hamm said the fire burned a big hole in this community of 75 residents.



Philip Hamm, mayor of Fleming, Sask., takes a close look at the town's old elevator, which was featured on the back of the \$1 bill during the early 1950s. The historic elevator burned to the ground under suspicious circumstances Feb. 9. | WILLIAM DEKAY PHOTO

Elevator destroyed in fire

"A lot of buildings have gone, but that was one big building in town that had stayed," he said.

"It was just like a Roman candle at 4:20 a.m. It lit up everything around. By 6:30 it was pretty well toast, pardon the pun."

Firefighters focused much of their attention on the historic Windsor Hotel, built around 1890 across the road and south of the elevator.

"It was so hot that the fireman just touched the hotel and you couldn't keep your hand on it," Hamm said.

"They sprayed it down to cool it down."

Hotel owner Fenton Martens was sleeping upstairs when the phone call came to get out.

"I ran downstairs and out the front door, but it was too hot so I ended up going out the back door. It was crazy. I was scared."

Martens has childhood memories of delivering grain to the old elevator with his father around 1970.

The Fleming elevator received more than its 15 minutes of fame when it was featured on the back of Canada's one dollar bill in the early 1950s.

The hotel can be seen on the dollar bill with help from a magnifying glass.

The elevator was owned by Fleming and the Fleming Historical Preservation Society, which was nearing the first phase of its restoration as a historical site. It was scheduled to open this summer.

The elevator was built in 1895 and owned by the Lake of the Woods Milling Company Ltd. It was originally used for buying and storing milling

grain. Two horses on a turn belt initially powered the leg.

Agricore United operated the elevator until 1999, when it was slated for demolition in 2000. Residents formed the preservation society and saved the elevator with help from Agricore United and Canadian Pacific Railway.

"We knew it was old," Hamm said.

"The style of it was different than any other elevator around, but we didn't realize how significant it was, or how old it was."

He said the provincial government's heritage branch told the community that its elevator was not only the oldest in the province but possibly the oldest in Canada.

It was square shaped with a unique hip roof, built in one of the experimental stages of grain elevator development and long before the standard slope shouldered design became popular.

Hamm said events had been held since 2003 to raise money for the elevator's cleanup and restoration.

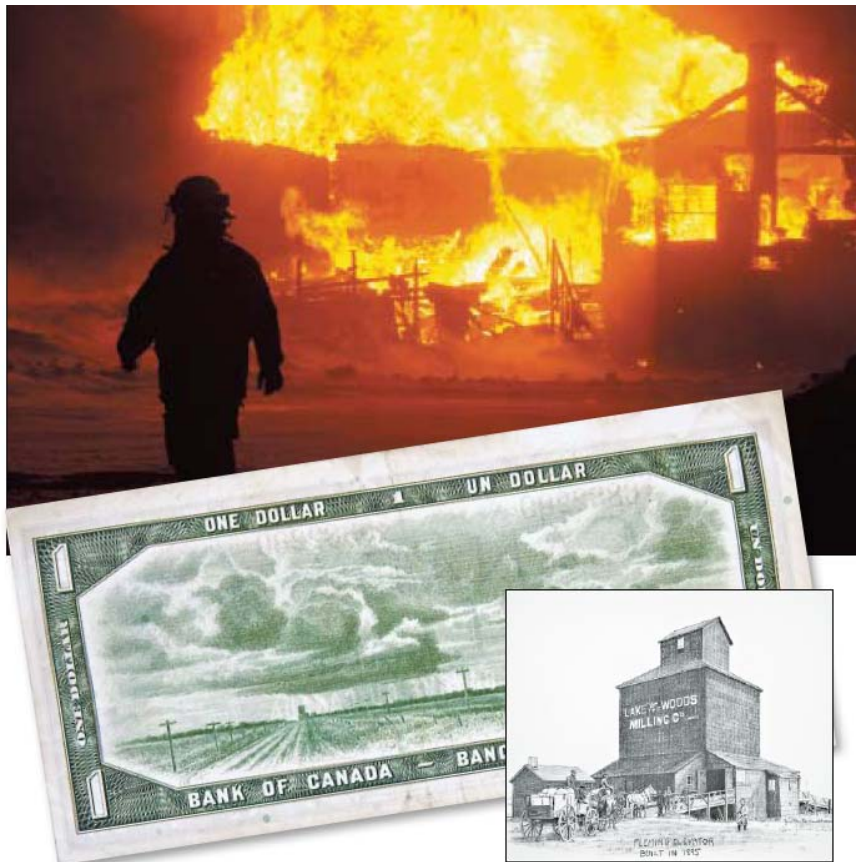
RCMP are treating the fire as suspicious.

Hamm said the building had no electricity or source of heat.

"There was a set of footsteps leading from the highway into the elevator and back out."

Hamm said he saw a lot of grief on the faces of residents who gathered to watch the smoldering ruins.

"People saying, 'why would something like this happen?' We were getting so close to having this open and all the potential that we saw. The community had a lot of pride on it."



TOP: The elevator was in the middle of renovations when it burned down. | CARLI MARTENS PHOTO
MIDDLE: The Canadian \$1 bill depicted the Fleming elevator and general store. BOTTOM: An artist's sketch of the Fleming elevator recently destroyed by fire. | BILL DEKAY PHOTOS

Submitted by Lynn Balmer

Courtesy "The Western Producer"

Vol.88, #7 - Thursday, February 18, 2010 - www.producer.com

Show Schedule: 2010

(VNS) Annual Coin Show, April 10th & 11th

(NSNS) Coin & Stamp Show, June 20th

(NSNS) Annual Coin & Stamp Show, Sept. 11th & 12th

(NSNS) Coin & Stamp Show, Nov. 14th

Location: Oakridge Auditorium - 41st and Cambie St. Vancouver BC

(West Side of Oakridge Shopping Center)

Doors Open: 10am - Free Admission - Free Parking

Coins - Stamps - Tokens - Paper Money - Post cards - Medals

BUY - SELL - TRADE - APPRAISALS

For more info. Contact: Lynn Balmer (604) 299-3673 balmoralnu@telus.net

- **APRIL 10 - 11, Vancouver, BC Vancouver Numismatic Society Annual Coin Show**, Oakridge Mall Auditorium, 41st and Cambie St. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free parking and admission. More than 30 dealers, RCMP counterfeit display. Sponsor/Affiliate: Vancouver Numismatic Society. For information contact L. Balmer, telephone 604-299-3673, email balmoralnu@shaw.ca.
- **APRIL 22 - 25, Chicago, IL Chicago International Coin Fair**, Crowne Plaza Chicago O'Hare. The Chicago International Coin Fair is one of the most popular conventions in the United States serving the interests of collectors and dealers of world coins and paper money as well as ancient coins, antiquities and allied collectibles. It features a major auction of world and ancient numismatic rarities cataloged and conducted by Heritage Auction Galleries of Dallas, Texas, a 90 booth bourse area featuring leading dealers in the field from 30 states and several foreign countries, as well as club meetings and educational programs. Sponsor/Affiliate: Krause Publications. Scott Tappa bourse chairman, email scott.tappa@fwmedia.com, telephone 800-726-9966 ext. 13428. Website: <http://www.cicfshow.com>
- **JUNE 20, Vancouver, BC North Shore Numismatic Society Coin and Stamp Show**, Oakridge Centre Auditorium, 41st and Cambie. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., free parking admission, more than 30 dealers. Sponsor/Affiliate: North Shore Numismatic Society. For more information contact L. Balmer, telephone 604-299-3673, email balmoralnu@shaw.ca.
- **JUNE 26 - 27, Toronto, ON Torex - Canada's National Coin Show**, Hilton Toronto Airport Hotel. 5875 Airport Rd. Featuring Canada's finest dealers. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission \$6. Under 16 free. Official Auctioneer: Moore Numismatic Auctions, Charles Moore. The Hilton hotel is located directly across from Toronto's Pearson International Airport. For more information call 416-705-5348. Website: <http://www.torex.net>.
- **JULY 14 - 17, Saint John, NB 57th RCNA Convention, Canada's Money Collectors Show**, Hilton Saint John, 1 Market Square. Several events have been planned for those who wish to partake in the tours. Come East for the Hospitality. Sponsor/Affiliate: The RCNA and the Saint John Coin Club. For more information contact Bourse Chairman Tom Craig, email ycart@nb.sympatico.ca. Online hotel reservations can now be made from a link at www.rcna.ca/2010saintjohn.php. Further information to follow in the coming months.
- **SEPT. 11 - 12, Vancouver, BC North Shore Numismatic Society Annual Coin Show**, Oakridge Centre Auditorium, 41st and Cambie. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free parking and admission. More than 30 dealers, RCMP counterfeit display. Sponsor/Affiliate: North Shore Numismatic Society. For more information contact L. Balmer, telephone 604-299-3673, email balmoralnu@shaw.ca.