

# Almost Circulated



## Saint John Coin Club

Our newsletter continues. Submissions encouraged. Contact the editor. Visit us at [www.sjcoinclub.com](http://www.sjcoinclub.com)

### Dealer Profiles by Tom Craig

This month we would like to profile a fairly new coin collectors' store from Sussex, N.B.

His name is Don Morris and is assisted during busy times by his wife, Cathy Morris. Together they share the premises on Main Street called "Back Stage Music" run by Dave Steward in downtown Sussex. The name of Don's store is "Gateway

### Does Your Slab have WINGS? by Kevin Day-Thorburn

Finding a consistency when grading coins can be daunting for both the novice and the experienced collector. The difference in value from one grade, even half a grade, to the next can be large. I suspect it is this very reason that has made third party graded (TPG) coins so popular in Canada and the United States.

Canadian companies such as ICCS and CCCS have been a solution for many when it comes to Canadian coins, but grading is by no means an exact science so it doesn't take much effort to find opinions that even differ or disagree with the professional's results. It's not at all extraordinary for someone to resubmit a coin in which they weren't happy about the grade and sometimes it comes back with a different assessment. These are people, not machines, after all.

A professional service in the United States sought to remedy this perceived problem by offering to give their opinion on the grades assigned by the companies PCGS and NGC - CAC. With CAC, if the coin meets their grading standards, they'll verify the results by placing an



### Coins & Collectables."

The store was opened in 2012 and carries coins, mint products, and sport cards, as regular items on display for sale or trade. Don also buys silver and gold coins.

Most of the time in any given week Don is at the store, but on weekends he attends coin shows or flea markets showing his material.

Don's store is on 569 Main Street, right hand side past the railway tracks. Telephone number is 506-432-0521

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## Show and Tell

by Kevin Day-Thorburn

I thought I'd share a couple purely Atlantic Canadian woods from a couple hugely prominent numismatists.

First up is a piece I won in a Saint John Coin Club meeting auction. Would you vote for this guy? I certainly would because this is a wonderfully creative use of a hobby for promotion in the 'real' world. In 1977 Geoffrey Bell issued 500, according to *Wooden Money of Atlantic Canada*, wooden nickels in his bid for election as a councillor in the 1977 Moncton Civic Election. The wood was "good for one vote," but I haven't had a chance to ask him if he won. What's noteworthy for numismatics is that Geoff served as President of the RCNA from 1983-85, then again from 2001-03.

oval green sticker on the slab. This is referred to as a green bean in the hobby.

CAC only certifies US coinage, but now there is a company doing something similar for world coinage – WINGS. WINGS stands for World Identification and Numismatic Grading Service. As with CAC, if the coin meets their grading standards, in their words, "items that are premium quality for the grade assigned to it by a grading service," they will put a sticker on the slab to let everyone know.



The WINGS Logo

In February of this year I posted a question on coincommunity.com asking if anyone had any Canadian coins with the WINGS sticker. Larry Michelson, the co-President of WINGS, responded letting me know that it was unlikely because, "We just started reviewing ICCS coins at the FUN show last month and have not stickered too many." They also mentioned their intent to advertise in *Canadian Coin News* and offer free submissions to try their service out. I note that on their website they are offering three free submissions at the time of writing this – shipping and handling is not included. They can be found at wingscoins.com.



The WINGS Sticker



I found the next item on eBay not too long ago. It's a wood issued by A. M. MacDonald of Halifax and, being issued in 1961, is one of the oldest in my collection. The coin has a denomination of one wooden penny and 200 were issued. Mitch MacDonald would serve as President of the RCNA from 1965-67 and, as noted by Major Sheldon S. Carroll in *The Canadian Numismatic Association: A Half Century of Advancement in Numismatics* by Stan Clute, was the first past president of the organization to pass away.



Why not share something from your collection in a future issue?

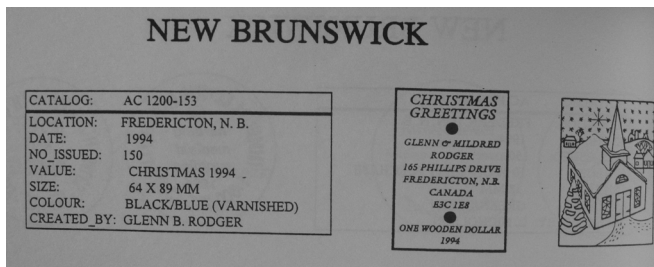
## What's in Your Library?

by Kevin Day-Thorburn

**Editor's Note:** I'm hoping the references that fill this regular feature section will come from a variety of sources. If there's a particular book that you find interesting or invaluable to your numismatic learning, I hope you will share it with the club.

Since I've briefly referred to one of these books for a newsletter article already, I'm going to mention *Wooden Money of Atlantic Canada*, a series of three editions by Glenn Rodger and David Taylor in which the authors meticulously compile an enormous resource for anyone interested in collecting wooden money in our region.

The first edition was published in 1986 by Capital Free Press Ltd. of Fredericton, NB and is 95 pages in length. There is an image for each piece, along with a set of statistics to the right (see image). This first edition assigned a catalogue number to each wood and included the original numbering system used by Norm Wells of Ontario. It was noted that future editions would indicate only the Rodger and Taylor numbers.



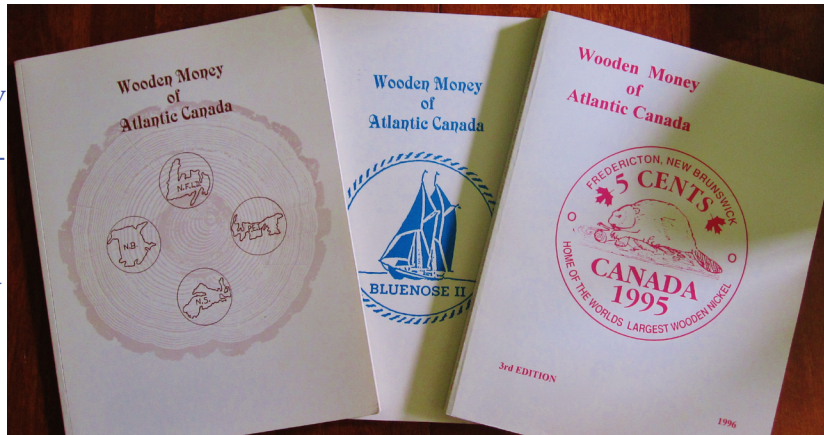
The book included the following information for each entry: Location; date; number issued; value (indicated on the item); size; colour; and rating. The scarcity rating was numbered from 1 to 4 with one being the easiest to obtain.

The second edition was published in 1989 by the same publisher and was 74 pages. There is a good bit of written material in this issue about wooden nickel history and on some specific woods and issuers, including the Saint John Coin Collectors Club. The layout remained the same as the previous edition and provided the same information on each wood.

The third edition was issued in 1996 by Atlantex Publications of Fredericton, NB and is 120 pages long. The authors changed things up a little with this edition by making it in both English and French, with each language having a different section – 120

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pages for each language. The information inside is similar, with the wood image and the information table swapping sides. Additionally, they dropped the scarcity rating.



All three of the editions in my library are signed by the authors. A quick Internet search didn't reveal any copies for sale, but I would suggest watching online or contacting Atlantic Canadian used booksellers if you're interested. Alternatively, I can report that the New Brunswick Public Library system has copies available for both circulation and use in their reference sections.

This is a vital set of books for anyone interested in the wooden money issued in Atlantic Canada, especially the Maritime provinces, thanks to the New Brunswick presence of the authors and the authoritative contributors around the region. It is clear that wooden money was a passion with Rodger and Taylor and that can be appreciated in their efforts. I'm unaware of any other editions – Glenn Rodger passed away in 2007.

## Upcoming Numismatic Events

June 20, 2014 - The Canadian Numismatic Company - Auction and Sale - via the Internet

June 28-29, 2014 - Torex, Canada's National Coin Show - Toronto, ON

Aug. 13 - 16, 2014 - RCNA Annual Convention - Toronto, ON

Oct. 2 & 3, 2014 - Geoffrey Bell Auction Featuring the Ritchie Malone Collection

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**Next Meeting: September 16th, 2014  
Howard Johnson Fort Howe, Portland and  
Main, Saint John, NB**

sjcoinclub.com

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July 2014

## Saint John Coin Club June 17, 2014 Minutes Summary

Minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted on a motion by George, seconded by Robert.

Financial report – the balance of the club was read and Tom went over the proceeds of the collectors' show. Robert suggested having a survey to find out how the dealers attending the show did.

Jim brought up the newsletter and how well done it is. Tom suggested that if ads are sold in the newsletter the proceeds should go to Kevin for the great work he is doing. Guidelines would need to be set on the cost of the ads - \$10. Tom also brought up his idea of profiling local dealers every month for upcoming issues of the newsletter.

There was a presentation on the Milled Coinage of Elizabeth I by Kevin and Tom.

There were coffee and donuts.

Jim oversaw another well-done auction. Proceeds were \$102.

Upcoming shows and events were discussed.

Meeting adjourned.

Secretary Steve Small



**Collectors peruse dealers' material on the bourse floor at our  
May Collectors' Show**

## Newsletter Advertising Rates

Single ad - \$5 per issue  
6 consecutive months - \$20

**Advertising space is limited to 6 ads per newsletter**

**Contact the editor for more information**

## Contact Us

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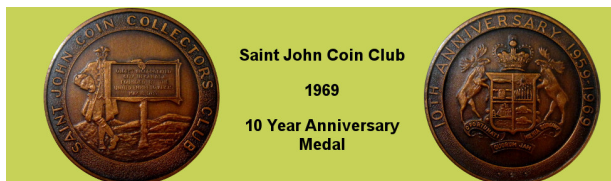
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