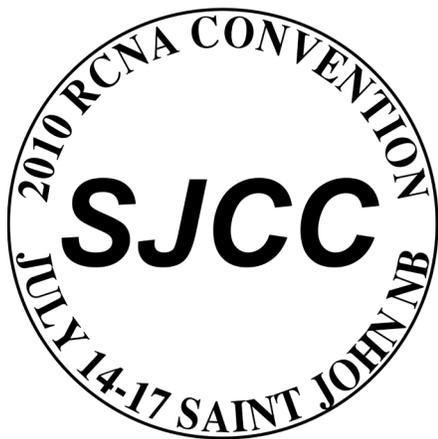


# Almost Circulated



## Annual Social Night

by Tom Craig

The December annual social night between the Saint John Coin Club and the Stamp Club, took place at the Mediterranean Restaurant on Rothesay Avenue, Dec. 14/16.

As luck would have it, the weather conditions were perfect that evening. It would appear we had a good crowd from both clubs with attendance at 40. The evening was great with current events, both numismatic and not, providing material for lots of good discussions taking place at all tables.

Some members were not able to attend due to other commitments.

The coin club and stamp club provided some 20 items as prizes to be won. That made the odds a 50% chance of winning.

As usual, the evening went too fast. The meals were excellent, hearing feedback from the members.

Our next meeting is in January 17th of 2017.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all. <>

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## Saint John Coin Club

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

### Jolly Trolley Casino Wood

by Kevin Day-Thorburn

I was recently given a few woods by a Saint John Coin Club member and two of them were from the Jolly Trolley Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada. Here's the lesson: use these unknown pieces as a chance to broaden your knowledge of the world – not just the numismatic world either.

Without a huge interest in casino related material, I almost dismissed these two, but my curiosity got the better of me because of the reverse of one of them. The two woods have the same



obverse, but while one reverse is blank, the other has a familiar logo from IGA grocery stores, with BOX in large letters above and Wooden Quarter below (I guess I can't refer to this as a wooden nickel). Why would a grocery store chain's logo be on a casino promotion?

I also learned a little about the Jolly Trolley Casino. The building that housed the casino began as a shopping centre sometime in the 1950s on the Las Vegas strip. With the rise in automobile use, strip malls, with their large parking lots and convenient to access stores were all the rage.

In 1963 the first casino opened in part of the mall – Honest John's. Next to Honest John's two different casinos operated from 1971 to 1977, and it was then that the Jolly Trolley took over. On one of their billboard they announced, "Burlesque

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is Back – Naked but Nice.”

Around 1981 the casino closed its doors and the Bonanza Gift Shop, which is still there today, opened with their trade marked slogan, The World’s Largest Gift Shop and with one reassuring sign reading, “If it’s in stock, we have it.”

IGA grocery stores began life in 1926 as Independent Grocers Alliance in the United States and the logo on the wood is unmistakably the same as this company’s logo. I did wonder if that meant there was a grocery store in the same strip mall as the Jolly Trolley Casino, which would make the most sense, but I could find no record of that being the case either in print or through photographs.

Robb MacPherson, through chipguide.com, found a possible answer with a fellow member commenting that IGA stands for International Grocers Association who, “held a convention here in Las Vegas and these \$0.25 Wooden Nickel were used to help promote a visit to the casino.” That would make sense as a promotion and “International” may actually be “Independent.”

With the short life of the casino, I don’t know if I’ll ever know. I did find one more wood in John K. Kallman’s book, Casino Woods – it featured the same obverse, but the print on the reverse reads, \$50.00 / on your next visit / Fun Book.

Learning a little bit of history is still fun, so make the most of opportunity when she knocks. <>



## Contact Us

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## Newsletter Changes

I fully enjoy issuing each Saint John Coin Club newsletter, especially when there are lots of article contributions, so I thought it would be a good idea to inform everyone of some coming changes and elicit feedback. It is your newsletter, so feel free to let me know how you would like it to look.

I have recently switched to a Mac computer and the software for producing the current newsletter still resides on a rather slow-working Windows laptop and is now only available through Adobe by subscription - currently priced at \$19.99 USD/month - so I'm switching to an Apple desktop publishing product (which will present a bit of learning curve for designing the newsletter, but I'm sure it's not too difficult). By the way, I love the Mac and wish I'd switched many years earlier!

This means the newsletter will have a new look, which also means it only makes sense to ask for members' feedback on how you'd like it to appear. Here's a summary of the current appearance: 4 pages; 2 columns per page.

It's important we come up with something that works smoothly both online and in print. So let me know what you feel would work best. I'm leaning toward more of a classic newsletter look, since that tends to "keep it simple," so to speak. I heartily look forward to considering any suggestions though. If you think the current layout style is working, let me know. If you have an example of another newsletter style you enjoy, feel free to forward it to me.

It's hard to believe this issue already marks the end of the third year of production of Almost Circulated. I think it's a valuable resource for the club, so let's make the most of it!



### Newsletter Advertising Rates

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## Upcoming Numismatic Events

June 1-2, 2017 - Geoffrey Bell Auctions Ltd. - Toronto Coin Expo 2017 Spring Sale, Toronto, ON

July 18-23, 2017 - RCNA Annual Convention, Boucherville, PQ

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**Next Meeting: January 17th, 2017**  
Chateau Saint John, 369 Rockland Road,  
Saint John, NB 7pm

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## Minutes for the Saint John Coin Club for the November 15th, 2016 Meeting

14 members present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as read on a motion by Lloyd, seconded by Paul.

The Christmas party being held in conjunction with the stamp club is December 14th at the Mediterranean Restaurant at 6:30pm.

The financial report was delivered by Tom.

The last show in Woodstock was a success.

The Moncton Coin Cabinet show is November 27th with the Geoffrey Bell Auctions sale the night before.

Kevin delivered news from the RCNA about the possibility of striking a Canada 150 medal with

a die provided by the national organization and us supplying the obverse die. Details are still being hammered out and will be presented at a future meeting. It was suggested that we look into the possibility of using a past medal for the obverse, if the RCNA is able to enlist Pressed Metal Products. Jim asked if everyone was in agreement that we look into proceeding with this venture.

George did a very well received presentation on the progression of coin grading.

Rory Grant talked about the Bank of New Brunswick, showing us photos of a display he had at the RCNA show in Ottawa.

Kevin was thanked for another newsletter.

Jim conducted our auction.

Meeting called to close.

Steve Small, Secretary

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