

SOU'WESTER COIN CLUB CELEBRATES L'ACADIE'S 400th ANNIVERSARY

This year marks the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Sieur de Mons and Samuel de Champlain, and their establishment of the first North American French settlement on the island of Sainte Croix. To mark this truly important event, and to help celebrate the French Acadian heritage here in Atlantic Canada the members of the Sou'wester club got together earlier this year and discussed several possibilities. The striking of a medal was ruled out due to the club's lack of sufficient funds, and with "woods" somewhat on the decline. The members thought back to the piece of scrip that they issued back in 2001 at the fall APNA show, which was held at the Grand Hotel in Yarmouth, N.S., and depicted same. They had found that this form of numismatic collectable had costs that could be kept to a minimum, unlimited potential for subject matter, and afford ability for the collector, all of which signalled a "green light" for the project.

Over the winter months and after several meetings the club had agreed on producing three different notes, with subjects and themes that they thought was the most representative of the French Acadian heritage here in this area of the Maritimes. During this time they were very fortunate to have the guidance of a graphic artist by the name of Ulrich Johanns. Who is the owner of Seeblick Publishing in Lockeport, N.S.. Having never filled a request for this type of print work, he took our club's project very personal. His enthusiasm for this venture was very contagious among the members, which resulted in a well-designed product. Having previously met with program director Bernice d'Entremont at the West Pubinco Acadian Museum, Doug Shand asked if she would translate the scrip's text into proper French, which she kindly agreed to. After several drafts the final version was sent to print on May 10th/04.

The face of the first note in the series depicts Sieur de Mons and his ship, while the back shows a copy of Samuel Champlain original map of the St. Croix settlement, which is valued at "Une Livre". The

face of the second note shows Samuel Champlain on the left, with a view of the Port Royal Habitation on the right. The back of this note feature Champlain's map of Port Royal. This note carries a value of "Deux Livres". The face of the third note features a likeness of Longfellow's heroine, Evangeline and a pastoral scene, while the back contains a view of the chapel at Grand Pre. Which a value of "Trois Livres" The chosen denomination, "Livres" used on these notes was a common monies of account during the French colonial period.

The over all colours for the three notes are red, white and blue, which signifies the colours of the French flag. The face of the notes contain two numeral counters on quartfoils, and is dual dated (1604 - 2004) at the top and bottom, while the left and right margins contain the written denomination. The words, "not legal tender" appear below the centre written denomination. The back also carries two numeral counters, one at the left and another on the right with "L'Acadie 1604 - 2004" at the top and "Sou'wester Coin Club" at the bottom. Each of the three notes have matching serial numbers. all of which begin with the letter "A" denoting that this is the first printing of this note. Followed by "2004" denoting the year that they were printed, which in turn is followed by a three-digit number that begins at 001 and continues up to 200. The first 20 sets (001 - 020) where all allocated to club members, with the majority of the remainder being distributed to chosen retailers throughout the region. A set of these first run printings with three matching serial numbered notes are available while supplies last at a cost of \$10.00 (\$8.50 plus \$1.50 postage) To place orders please contact SWCC Corresponding Secretary, Douglas Shand , Box 78, Shag Harbour, Shelburne County, Nova Scotia, BOW 3B0 or shawimm@klis.com

Special scrip printed for CMA

Article by Carla Allen

The Yarmouth VANGUARD - June 15th, 2004

The Sou'wester Coin Club has printed souvenir Acadian scrip in honour of the Acadian Congress.

The scrip will be available at the Acadian Museum & Archives in West Pubnico.

Shag Harbour resident, Doug Shand, is the corresponding secretary for the 10-year old coin club and president of the Atlantic Provinces Numismatic Association (APNA), the parent organization for the coin clubs in Atlantic Canada.

Shand's interest in collecting French colonial coins played a part in the development of the old-fashioned scrip.

Members of the Sou'wester Coin Club discussed how they would mark the 400th anniversary of the first settlement of the Acadians. They didn't have enough funds to strike a medal as they had done in the past for hosting APNA shows.

"We decided we'd try a piece of scrip instead," said Shand.

Scrip is the collecting term used for this historic currency.

Three notes were produced to represent the era.

"We thought that the first settlement, 1604, at Saint Croix was very appropriate.

"For our area, 1605, Champlain at Port Royal; and to represent the whole lifestyle, that would be reflected in the Grand Pré note," said Shand.

He says the scrip represents the old French evaluation, the livre.

The notes have no redemption value and are intended as souvenirs.

Bernice d'Entremont, chair of the Acadian Museum & Archives committee says they have already received a request from "cousins" in Louisiana.

Shand was pleased when he heard of the request.

"I think it's kind of neat. We don't plan on marketing them ourselves, we are supplying them to people who are going to market them for us," said Shand.

Two hundred sets of three notes have been printed.

The Sou'wester Coin Club covers Yarmouth and Shelburne Counties and has approximately ten members.

SOU'WESTER COIN CLUB
400th ANNIVERSARY SCRIP
(Additional information)

The face of the first note in the series depicts Sieur de Mons and his ship, while the back shows a copy of Samuel Champlain original map of the St. Croix settlement. This note is valued at "Une Livre". The face of the second note shows Samuel Champlain on the left, with a view of the Port Royal Habitation on the right. The back of this note feature Champlain's map of Port Royal, and carries a value of "Deux Livres". The face of the third note features a likeness of Longfellow's heroin, Evangeline and a pastoral scene, while the back shows a view of the chapel at Grand Pre. This note has a value of "Trois Livres"

The over-all colours for the three notes are red, white and blue, which signifies the colours of the French flag. The face of the notes contains two numeral counters, and is dual dated (1604 - 2004) at the top and bottom, while the left and right margins contain the written denomination. The words, "not legal tender" appear below the centre written denomination. The back also carries two numeral counters, one at the left and another on the right with "L'Acadie 1604 - 2004" at the top and "Sou'wester Coin Club" at the bottom. Each of the three notes have matching serial numbers. All of which begin with the letter "A" denoting that this is the first printing of these notes. Followed by "2004" denoting the year that they were printed, which in turn is followed by a three-digit number that begins at 001 and continues up to 200. The first 20 sets (001 - 020) were all allocated to club members, with the majority of the remainder being distributed to chosen retailers throughout the region. The club wishes to acknowledge, and thank club member Ulrich Johanns of Seeblick Publishing in Locke Port, N.S. for his help with the designing and printing of these notes.

A set of these first run printings, with three matching serial numbered notes, included in a 3 pocket currency protector are available while supplies last at a cost of \$10.00 (\$8.50 plus \$1.50 postage) To place orders please contact SWCC Corresponding Secretary, Douglas Shand , Box 78, Shag Harbour, Shelburne County, Nova Scotia, BOW 3B0 or shawimm@klis.com