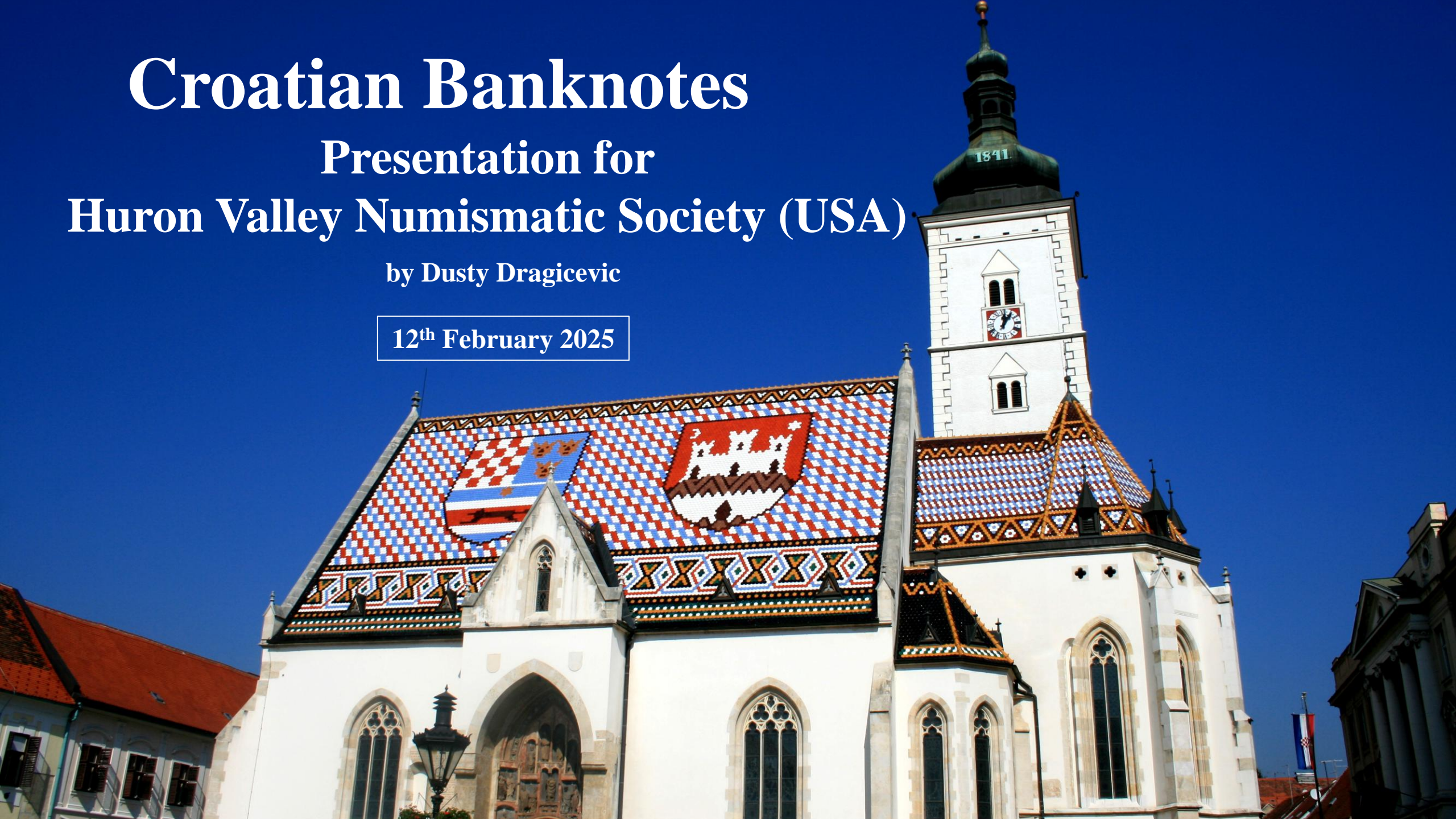


Croatian Banknotes

Presentation for Huron Valley Numismatic Society (USA)

by Dusty Dragicevic

12th February 2025



A little bit about me

My name is Dusty Dragičević (pronounced Drug-Each-Avitch) I was born in Australia. My parents were both born in Croatia. My father was born in a village called Donji Humac on the island of Brac and my mother was born in the city of Split. I currently live with my wife and two children in the city of Perth (Figure 1). You may have heard of Perth as “The City of Lights”, when astronaut John Glenn observed the city with all its lights turned on for him, as he passed overhead during his mission on Friendship 7 spacecraft in 1962.

My numismatic interests and specialties are Croatian banknotes and polymer banknote issues (example Figure 2) I have collected every paper money issue from Croatia and am still pursuing my quest to collect every polymer issue that has ever been.

My passion for all things Croatian, especially its numismatic history, led to the development and eventual publication of my book Croatian Banknotes: A Standard Reference and is available in English, German and Croatian (Figure 3)

I hope you will enjoy this presentation!!



Figure 1



Figure 2

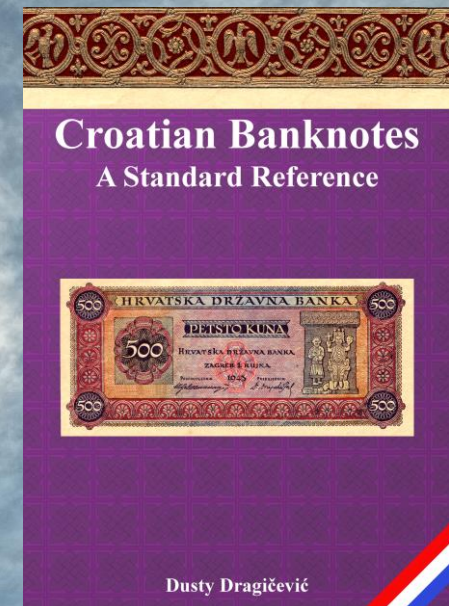


Figure 3

Facts about Croatia



Location in Europe



Map



National Flag

Capital city: Zagreb

Population: 3.9 million (2023)

Name in Croatian: Hrvatska

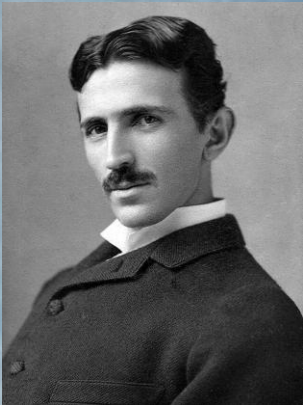
National language: Croatian (Hrvatski)

National Anthem: “Lijepa naša domovino” Our Beautiful Homeland

What is Croatia famous for?

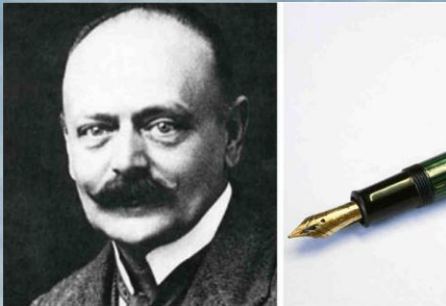


The neck tie: During the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648), Croatian soldiers wore knotted neckerchiefs as part of their military uniform. The French copied the style and made it fashionable. King Louis XIV began wearing a lace cravat around 1646. Cravat comes from “Hrvat” which the name for a Croatian person in their language.



Birth nation of Nikola Tesla.

World renowned scientist, engineer and futurist Nikola Tesla was born in the village of Smiljan.

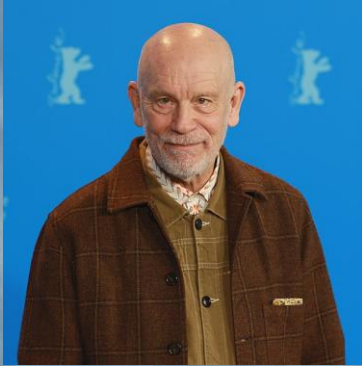


The first solid ink fountain pen was invented by Slavoljub Eduard Penkala in 1907

And of course, it's abundant natural beauty, cultural monuments and delicious cuisine!!!



Prominent Americans with Croatian heritage



John Malkovich is an American actor. He is the recipient of several accolades, including a Primetime Emmy Award, in addition to nominations for two Academy Awards, a BAFTA Award, two Screen Actors Guild Awards, and three Golden Globe Awards.



Michael J. Novosel Sr. of Enterprise, Alabama, served in the United States military during World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. He flew the B-29 Superfortress bomber in World War II. He was awarded the Medal of Honor, the United States' highest military decoration, for his bravery in conducting a medical evacuation under fire in the Vietnam War. In April 2023, Fort Rucker, Alabama, was renamed Fort Novosel in his honour.



William (Bill) Stephen Belichick is an American football coach who is the head football coach at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

A notable local prominent Croatian-American....



Huron Valley Numismatic Society member

Zdenko “Stan” Madjarac



What's in a name?

During the period of the Independent State of Croatia and up until recently in the Republic of Croatia today, they called their currency the “kuna”

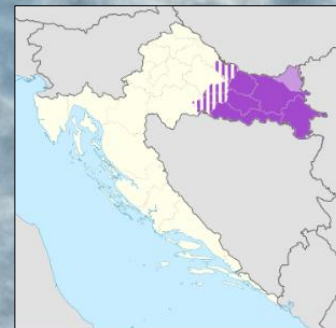
The use of the name “kuna” for a currency stretched far back into the middle ages

Kuna is the Croatian (and Slavic in general) word for a marten.

These furry creatures had their pelts used as a currency for trade and the collection of taxes



The kuna features on the Slavonian Coat-Of-Arms, which is a region in the north-east region of Croatia.



With each banknote I will discuss the following things;

- The artist behind the design
- Whose signature is on it
- Who or what is depicted on the banknotes

There's a lot to go through here!!!



Independent State of Croatia (1941 – 1945)



Printing companies;

- Giesecke & Devrient (Leipzig, Germany)
- Rozankowski i Drug (Zagreb, Croatia)
- Hrvatska Država Tiskara (Zagreb, Croatia)

26th May 1941



Example A

26th May 1941



Example B

26th May 1941



Example C

26th May 1941



B1749805



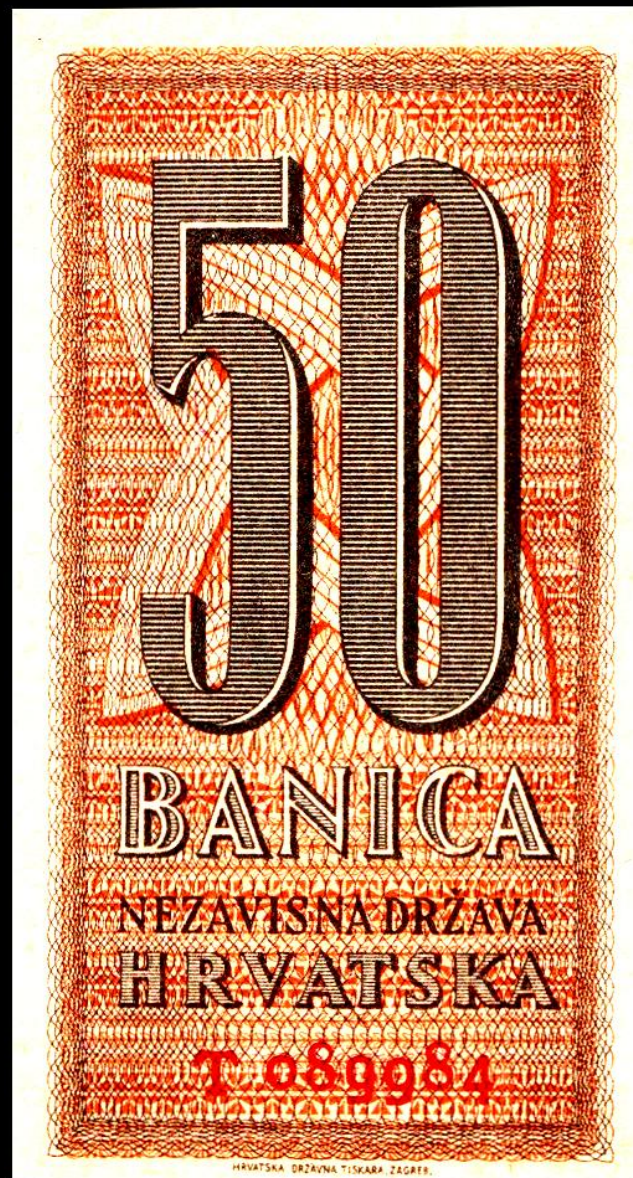
Example D

30th August 1941



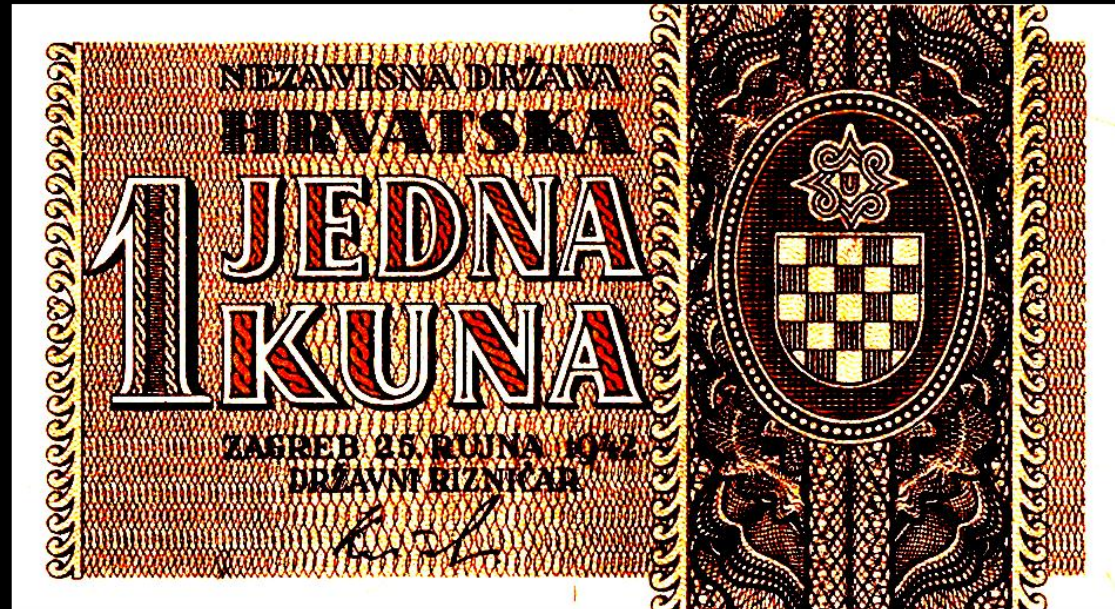
Example E

25th September 1942



Example F

25th September 1942



Example G

25th September 1942



Example H

1st September 1942

Local Issues for the City of Zagreb



Example I

15th July 1943



Example J

1st September 1943



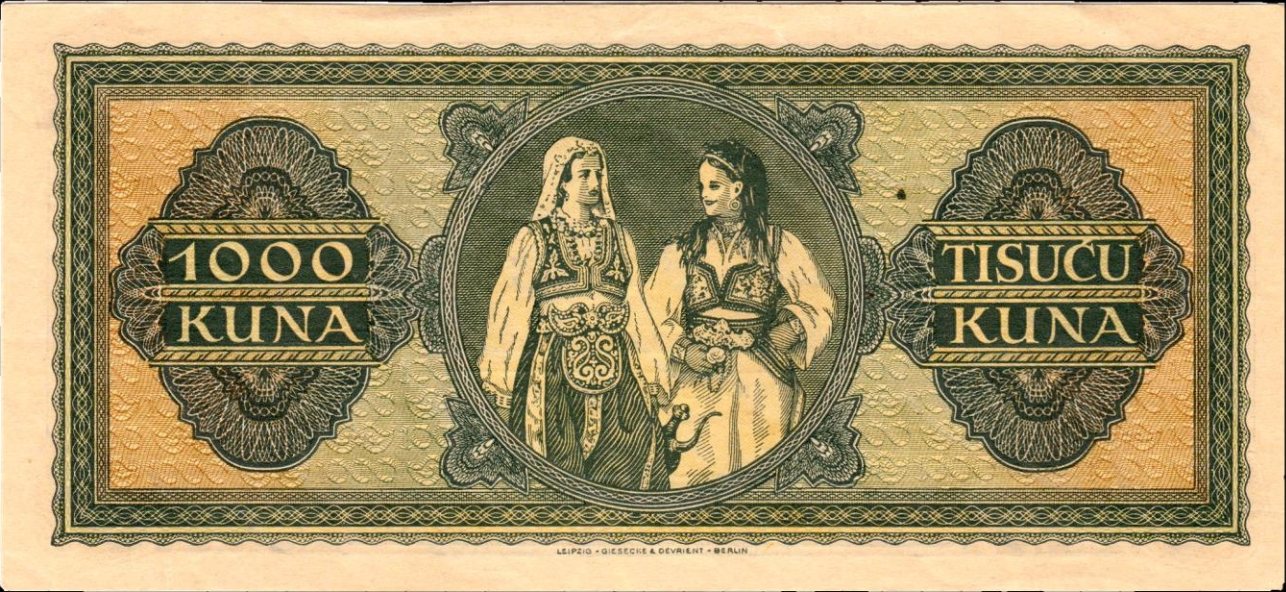
Example K

1st September 1943



Example L

1st September 1943



Example M

1st September 1943



Example N

15th January 1944

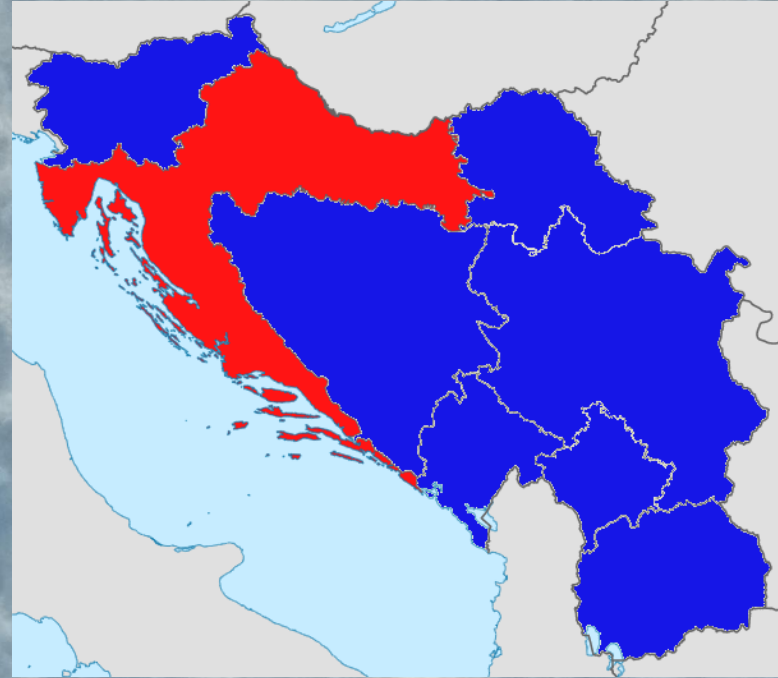


Example O



Example P

Croatia as a Constituent Republic in the Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia (1945 -1991)



- Croatian nationhood is suppressed and discouraged by Communist authorities
- The Yugoslav dinar becomes the currency of the land
- National representation of Croatia is limited on the paper money

Republic of Croatia (1991 – present day)



Printing companies;

Croatian Dinar

- Tumba Bruk (Sweden)
- Zrinski d.d. (Croatia)

Kuna

- Giesecke & Devrient (Leipzig, Germany)

1991 - 1995

Croatia in Crisis

- Croatia is fighting for its very existence, after declaring independence from Serb dominated Yugoslavia
- The war resulted in numerous civilian deaths and deliberate civil destruction
- The war lasted until August 5th 1995 with a complete victory by Croatian forces over rebel Serb militias



Town of Vukovar destroyed by Serbian shelling. Sometimes referred to as Croatia's "Stalingrad"



The "Pearl of the Adriatic" town of Dubrovnik attacked by the Serb led Yugoslav navy and army



Victorious Croatian Army generals and first President of Croatia raise the national flag in Knin after major liberation offensive known as "Oluja" in August 1995

Croatian Dinar (1991-1993)

8th October 1991

15th January 1992

30th May 1993

Obverse



Example Q

Detailed View



Detailed View



Reverse

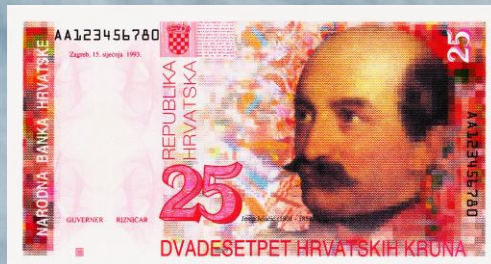
Example R

15th January 1993

Already in late 1991, the government is working on issuing a new currency

It was to be called..... the “Hrvatskih Kruna” (Croatian Crown)

After a competition was held to design the new banknotes, a winner was selected and drafts were presented to the public for comment.



The public reaction was unanimous in its dislike for the currency name
“Hrvatskih Krune” (Croatian Crown)

In fact.... They hated it!!!!

It was deemed too foreign, cumbersome and not in tradition
with Croatian history

It was only at the last minute, just before the printing press
started, they called to halt proceedings

The constitution was changed and the “KUNA” officially
became the national currency of Croatia

NARODNA BANKA HRVATSKE

A1628272A

PET KUNA



15th January 1993

Example S



PET KUNA

ZAGREB, 31. LISTOPADA 1993.
GUVERNER

[Signature]

NARODNA BANKA HRVATSKE

15th January 1993

Example T



15th January 1993

Example U



15th January 1993



Example V



15th January 1993

Example W



15th January 1993

Example X



15th January 1993

Example Y



15th January 1993

Example Z



15th January 1995

Example A1

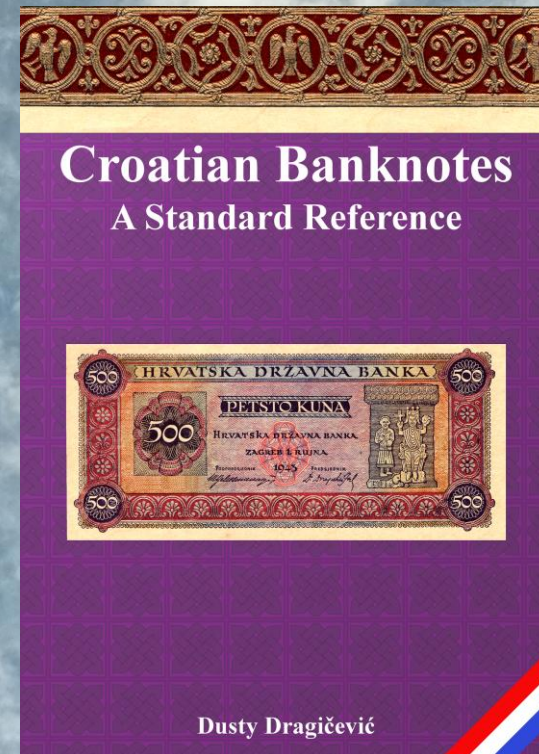
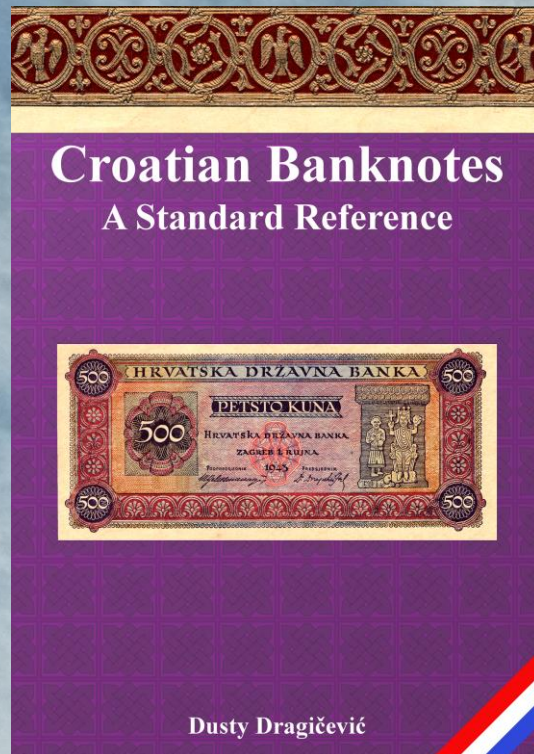


If you would like to learn more in depth knowledge on the artists, the people behind the signatures and Croatia's cultural monuments and historic personalities....

Plus, all the fantasy issues prior to independence!!!

You can find my book on Amazon or from RB Numisbooks (Europe)

Croatian Banknotes: A Standard Reference



Thank you to everyone at
Huron Valley Numismatic Society, for your time!!!
Most of all, thank you for inviting me!!



If you have any questions about Croatian banknotes,
Croatian history or would like any travel tips to Croatia



You are welcome to email me
torcida1976@gmail.com

