

# TYLER COIN CLUB



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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Q1 2009

## President's Corner

*Sowle Food by Dwight Sowle*

I've become very proud of our club since joining in March 2008. And being asked to be your president is overwhelming - and I am enjoying every minute of it. Already in 2009 we have had four new members to join our club, and many visitors have attended our meetings. The interest is high and I am encouraged. Thank you for your encouragement and support.

In a world filled with terrorists, corruption, greed and turmoil, being a numismatist exemplifies a wonderful example of good in the world. I have found collectors, young and old, male and female to be people of character and integrity. The world of coin collecting, in spite of what goes on around us, is still fascinating and fun.

In my younger days coins were easy to find. Every week something would turn up by just checking my pocket change; a buffalo nickel, an old wheat penny or a Franklin half dollar. As the years rolled by, the number of avid coin collectors increased by leaps and bounds and the coins that were so plentiful virtually disappeared. But, I am not discouraged; the hunt goes on and will continue to.

The prediction for gold and silver in 2009 varies. Some predict gold to reach \$1000 and stay there; some say it will hit \$2000. As for silver, it will reach \$15.00 or even \$18.00. And the Cent will be safe for a little while thanks to the Mint celebrating Lincoln's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth. This is exciting!

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## Digging History

Kyle Wright and Jeff Youkey from the Smith County Metal Detecting Association were the special guest speakers at the February meeting. Kyle presented information about the metal detecting club including their monthly meetings and special club events like their seeded hunts. They also hold seminars on a regular basis to help newcomers learn how to use equipment. Kyle discussed how current laws impact the hobby. He also gave a few pointers about obtaining permission from land owners

They brought a fantastic collection of finds. One display featured civil war bullets and buttons. Two of the buttons were found at Camp Ford and another in Canton, TX. There was also a collection of suspension badges. Suspension badges are usually inscribed with dates and honor big events from the past. Examples included an 1895, Texas Fruit Palace badge, an 1899 badge honoring the unveiling of a Civil War monument, and a 1910 volunteer fire department carnival with an engraving of a horse drawn fire carriage.

The collection also included old coins, trade tokens, love tokens and rings. Most of the coins were found in Smith and Henderson County. There was an 1828 Capped Bust half dollar and a very nice 1919-D Standing Liberty Quarter.

Kyle got into the metal detecting hobby about nine years ago. Kyle is president of the Smith County Metal Detecting Association and Jeff Youkey is vice president. If Jeff looked familiar to you, it may be that you've been in his place of business; the Jewelry and Coin Exchange located in Tyler. Jeff is also a licensed reseller of Fisher metal detectors.

Owning a metal detector is not a requirement to join the Smith County Metal Detecting Association. In fact, people often join and use the information shared in their meetings and events to help determine the best equipment for their needs before purchasing.

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# Club Meeting Highlights

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## January

The meeting was called to order with 12 members and guests present. New club officers for 2009 are Dwight Sowle, President; Darrell Deitenbeck, Vice President; Tom Bennington, Treasurer; and Carl Shotts, Secretary. An information sheet was handed out to all members and guests. The club discussed items on the information sheet which included special presentations, adoption of a local charity, announcements, door prizes, raffles, and refreshments.

Guest speakers have been arranged for the next several meetings. Topics include metal detecting, currency including Texas Treasury Warrants, and counterfeiting presented by the local U.S. Secret Service. The club will start advertising in the club section of the TNA Newsletter as well as send club meeting information to the Tyler Morning News for inclusion in the Rose City Calendar section.

A motion was made and passed to approve the membership of Bruce and David. Welcome to

both. Tom explained the auction process to the new club members and the regular club auction followed; fifteen items were sold. Door prize winners were David, John and Dwight.

## February

The meeting was called to order with 19 members and guests present. The club welcomes three new members; Mitch, Becky and Sherry. We are happy to have you as new members. Club interest and membership appears to be on the increase from recent advertising in the Tyler paper. A special thank you goes to Tom for mentioning the club in his radio ads.

Guest speakers from the Smith County Metal Detecting Association gave a really informative presentation on metal detecting and brought an awesome collection of items found.

Thirteen items sold at the monthly club auction. Door prize winners were Tracy, Peggy, Paul and Stephen.

# Pocket Change

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Like most coin collectors, I've searched my fair share of rolls and bags acquired from local banks. From time to time, I occasionally find a wheat cent or war nickel. I was even fortunate enough to find a couple of the Speared Bison nickels when those rolls were first released in our area.

Sometimes though, things show up when you least expect them. I had just put two crisp \$1 bills into a coke machine and made my selection when the dreaded flashing light appeared. No, it wasn't the police; it was the flashing 'Sold Out' indicator. Luckily, all was not lost as there was another coke machine right next to the one that had my money.

Luck smile on me again when I actually received my money back after pressing the refund button; the second dollar bill I had originally feed into the machine plus four quarters. As I'm feeding quarters into the other coke machine, I noticed one was a Wisconsin quarter. Without my glasses, any attempt to examine the quarter would be useless. So, I slid the quarter into my pocket and proceeded to complete my purchase.

As I'm emptying my pockets later that night, the Wisconsin quarter reappears. With reading glasses

and a loupe close by, I finally had a chance to properly inspect the quarter.

I couldn't believe my eyes; a 2004-D Wisconsin High Leaf error. What a find!



*Close up of 2004-D Wisconsin State Quarter reverse cornstalk (left) normal, (middle) low leaf error, (right) high leaf error*

This "error" coin was quite controversial when it first hit the street. Were these intentional die varieties created by a U.S. Mint employee or just trivial die gouges and/or die dents?

Regardless of which version you believe, it's pretty neat to find a coin like this in circulation. And it just goes to show that coins like these are still out there changing hands on a daily basis. Just be sure to check it when one lands in your hand.

- Carl Shotts

To quote from an article by Arthur B. Coover, first published in the September 1908 issue of *The Numismatist*: "A well conducted HOBBY is a necessary auxiliary to every man's business and profession. So, take a break from life's pressures and spend a few relaxing hours playing with the past. Your collection of coins, tokens, medals or paper money awaits."

That is this 'portion' of Sowle Food. Happy hunting and collecting, and God bless.

*Digging History continued from page 1*

**We Dig History** is the Smith County Metal Detecting Association's club motto.

For additional information on visiting one of their meetings as a guest or a membership application, please contact one of the representatives below or send an email to [scmda47@embarqmail.com](mailto:scmda47@embarqmail.com)

Ilona Allen	903.882.3076
Billy Herring	903.566.9257
Kyle Wright	903.849.5900
Jeff Youkey	903.534.5438

The Tyler Coin Club would like to thank Kyle Wight and Jeff Youkey for their outstanding presentation. It was both interesting and informative.

## Puzzle Coiner

Unscramble the words below to find the interesting things you might see on a coin. (answers on page 4)

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- 1 DEEG \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2 RMNATIMK \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3 TULSRE \_\_\_\_\_
  - 4 GEELDN \_\_\_\_\_
  - 5 LFWO NSEIL \_\_\_\_\_
  - 6 ESLIDF \_\_\_\_\_
  - 7 MTOOT \_\_\_\_\_
  - 8 NOOITMNDAEIN \_\_\_\_\_
  - 9 NGNITO \_\_\_\_\_
  - 10 MCEAO \_\_\_\_\_
  - 11 TLNCDEIE \_\_\_\_\_
  - 12 VICDEES \_\_\_\_\_

## News Bytes

On January 22<sup>nd</sup>, the U.S. Mint opened sales of the 2009 Ultra high Relief Double Eagle Gold coin. The 24-kt one-ounce gold coin is a digitally reproduced version of sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens ultra high relief 1907 Double Eagle Liberty gold piece which was never released into circulation.

On February 12<sup>th</sup>, the U.S. Mint released into circulation the first redesigned Lincoln cent in 50 years. The new cent features a log cabin on the reverse side of the coin, emblematic of Lincoln's humble roots in Kentucky.

On February 26<sup>th</sup>, House Resolution (HR) 1209: Medal of Honor Commemorative Coin Act of 2009 was introduced in the House of Representatives. If the legislation passes, it would require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in 2011 in recognition and celebration of the establishment of the Medal of Honor in 1861. The Medal of Honor is America's highest award for valor in action against an enemy force that can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the Armed Services of the United States.

The American Numismatic Association's 86<sup>th</sup> Annual National Coin Week is April 19-25. Lincoln's Legacy: A Nation United is this year's theme celebrating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lincoln's birth, and his role in history and numismatics.

The United States Mint has temporarily disabled the *Track My Order* feature on their website due to security concerns. Online customers must call the Mint's 1-800 number to inquire about the status of an order until the feature is made available again. Although the Mint has remained quite on the subject, problems ordering the new Ultra-High Relief gold eagle seem to coincide with a change in the Mint's fulfillment contractor.

**Are you a member of the TNA?  
Ask a club officer for membership details.**

### 411 Help Wanted

We need articles for **your** newsletter. Please submit your fascinating find, interesting story or article for review to the newsletter editor. You can deliver your material to the editor at one of the monthly coin club meetings. You can also email your article to [csho@suddenlinkmail.com](mailto:csho@suddenlinkmail.com)

## TYLER COIN CLUB

The Tyler Coin Club was organized to bring collectors together from the East Texas area that share an interest in the great hobby of numismatics. The club has a diverse membership ranging from beginners to experts representing a wide range of collecting interests including coins, tokens, medals and paper money.

Meetings are held once a month and include discussions on current numismatic news and events, member show-and-tell, and a small member auction. Our meetings are somewhat informal so our members and guests can relax and enjoy our common interests.

We invite you to attend as many meetings as you like as our guest, however, we do encourage you to join. Membership dues are only \$15 per year and entitle you to benefits including the monthly newsletter, full participation in monthly auctions and more. You do not have to be a member to bid on auction items.

### 2009 Club Officers

#### **Dwight Sowle, President**

thebirdhouse@suddenlink.net

#### **Darrell Deitenbeck, VP**

ddeitenbeck@aol.com

#### **Carl Shotts, Secretary**

csho@suddenlinkmail.com

#### **Tom Bennington, Treasurer**

texican@suddenlinkmail.com

**Newsletter Editor**, Carl Shotts



**VISIT US ON THE WEB**

<http://www.tylercoinclub.org>

## 2009 Meeting Schedule

**March 10 • April 14 • May 12 • June 9 • July 14 • August 11  
September 8 • October 13 • November 10 • December 8**

**March 10** ~ Special presentation by Mike Bloodsworth on currency and Texas Treasury Warrants

**April 14** ~ Special guest, Agent Burke, from the United States Secret Service

**May 12** ~ Special guest, Peter Galbraith, forensic accountant and former FBI agent

**All meetings start at 7pm in the lodge room at Gander Mountain located just off Highway 69 South.**

**Gander Mountain  
151 Market Square Blvd.  
Tyler, Texas 75703**



## Show Calendar

**March 13-15, 2009 ~ Annual South Plains Coin Show ~ Lubbock, TX**  
Lubbock Memorial Civic Center, 1501 Mac Davis Lane, Lubbock, TX  
Contact: Marty or Lynn Parker 806-785-1030

**March 28, 2009 ~ Red River Valley Coin Show ~ Paris, TX**  
Red River Valley Fairgrounds, 570 E. Center St., Paris, TX  
Contact: 214-289-4545 tkhales@yahoo.com

**April 11, 2009 ~ Collin County Semi-Annual Coin Show ~ McKinney, TX**  
Quality Inn, 1300 N. Central Expressway, Hwy 75 North, Exit 40B  
Contact: Gary Rollins, (972)978-1611 grollins1@peoplepc.com  
[www.collincountycoinclub.org](http://www.collincountycoinclub.org)

**April 17-19, 2009 ~ Texas Coin Show ~ Grapevine, TX**  
Convention Center, 1209 S. Main Street, Grapevine, TX 76051  
Contact: Ginger or David Pike, TexasCoinShows@aol.com

**April 25, 2009 ~ 29th Annual Waco Coin Show ~ Waco, TX**  
Bellmead Civic Center, Bellmead, TX  
Contact: alanew@aol.com  
[www.wacocoinclub.com](http://www.wacocoinclub.com)

**May 15-17, 2009 ~ TNA 51st Annual Convention & Coin Show ~ Fort Worth, TX**  
Will Rogers Memorial Center, Carter Exhibit Hall,  
3410 West Lancaster Ave, Fort Worth, TX  
Contact: Ginger & David Pike, txtnashow@aol.com  
[www.tna.org](http://www.tna.org)

**May 30, 2009 ~ San Antonio Coin Show ~ San Antonio, TX**  
Live Oak Civic Center, 8101 Pat Booker Rd. at Loop 1604, just off IH 35 N  
Contact: Ray Tate retate@msn.com  
[www.gatewaycoinclub.com](http://www.gatewaycoinclub.com)

ANSWERS: 1. EDGE; 2. MINTMARK; 3. LUSTER; 4. LEGEND; 5. FLOW LINES; 6. FIELDS; 7. MOTTO; 8. DENOMINATION; 9. TONING; 10. CAMBIO; 11. DENTICLE; 12. DEVICES