

# TYLER COIN CLUB



Vol. 3 Issue 4

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Q4 2009

## President's Corner

*Sowle Food by Dwight Sowle*

At midnight on December 31, 2009, the first decade of this new century will leave us, but the memories will remain. It has been a quick, enjoyable, and eventful ten years in the world of Numismatics. With the mintage of the Washington State Quarters program in 1999, the 21st Century began with interest already running high for collecting all 50 of the new State Quarters, and the first decade is ending with the D.C. and Territorial Quarters and the 100th anniversary of the Lincoln cent. We witnessed some things happen within this hobby we never dreamed would take place, i.e. a \$25.00 box of rolled Lincoln Cents selling for \$350.00. I can't wait to see what happens to an anniversary of the Jefferson Nickel and/or Roosevelt Dime and/or my personal favorite the Eisenhower Silver Dollar.

The year 2009 was good to the Tyler Coin Club; our attendance stayed around twenty, with twelve new members joining us. We enjoyed listening to seven different speakers, our auction lots grew each month, and refreshments were simply yummy. The enthusiasm was epidemic in proportion, several books and coin items were donated to the club, and we ended the year with a special sit-down meal and monthly meeting with our families. Life in the world of Numismatics was good – still is! And, with everyone excited over our possibly hosting a coin show in 2010 right here in Tyler, how could we possibly start the new decade better than that!

The only sad news for our club – but totally understandable – was Tommy stepping down as our Treasurer.

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## Passion for Numismatics

You may already know that Tom Bennington will be stepping down as club treasurer at the end of his current term. He will continue as an active member and carry on as the club's auctioneer. What you might not know is that Tom was a member and officer of the original Tyler Coin Club and has been instrumental in the reviving the club to its current status.

It all started over fifty years ago when Tom first got involved collecting coins. He remembers that day vividly. Tom's place of employment was in the middle of their annual audit, and Tom noticed the auditor had a blue Whitman coin folder spread open next to the register. The auditor explained what he was doing, and the rest you might say is history.

As Tom's interest in collecting grew, he started visiting Bill Corbin's coin shop; Tyler Coin and Stamp. Soon after, Tom started attending the Tyler Coin Club meetings and participating in the auctions. One auction from the early sixties in particular stands out in Tom's mind. It was one where he purchased a 1914-D Lincoln wheat cent for \$50. Afterwards, he was somewhat shocked that he had paid that much for a penny! The shock eventually subsided as the value of this key date trended upwards.

Tom's involvement with the original coin club continued to grow. He served in every capacity from secretary to president. Membership during the 70's and 80's was similar to present day club membership. Interest was far reaching as well with collectors from Winnsboro and Canton regularly attending meetings. Tom was also heavily involved in organizing local coin shows sponsored by the club; some shows with as many as 50 dealers.

Tom's impact on coin collecting reaches well beyond our local community to the state level with the Texas Numismatic Association (TNA). He has been active in the TNA since the late 70's and has been a TNA governor for close to twenty years now.

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# Club Meeting Highlights

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## October

The meeting was called to order by President Dwight Sowle with the pledge to the Flag. Nineteen members and guests present. The September minutes were read and accepted. The club welcomed one new member; Phillip. We are happy to have you as a new member.

Dwight recognized members with birthdays and anniversaries in October. Agenda items included the upcoming 2010 officer nominations in November and December elections, and the Christmas holiday reception. Additional agenda items included review of ANA membership benefits and new ANA members.

Tom Bennington gave a very informative presentation on grading coins; the first in a two-part series. The monthly club auction was held with 23 lots sold. Door prize winners for October were Stephen, Barry and Darrell. A very special thank you to Barry for providing refreshments at this month's meeting.

## November

The meeting was called to order by President Dwight Sowle with the pledge to the Flag. Sixteen members and guests present. A moment of silence and prayer was observed for the victims of the Ft. Hood tragedy. The October minutes were read and accepted.

Dwight announced that Tom Bennington would step down as club treasurer at the end of the current term. He will continue to be an active member and will continue as the club auctioneer. Agenda items for November included nominations of officers for 2010, review of final plans for the Christmas holiday reception and upcoming 2010 officer elections in December.

Tom Bennington gave another great presentation on grading coins; the second in a two-part series. The monthly club auction was held with 32 lots sold. Door prize winners for October were Billy, Barry and Darrell. A very special thank you to Darrell for providing refreshments at this month's meeting.

## The Gift of Numismatics

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Introducing kids to coin collecting through Christmas gifts is a very effective way to spark interest with the next generation of collectors. And with a little work, you can put together a nice little vintage set for about the same price as a PS3/Wii video game.

When I was 8 or 9 years old, my aunt and uncle gave me a small Buffalo nickel and Mercury head dime collection for Christmas. The sets were presented in the old blue Whitman coin folders. Of course, there were no key dates in either set, but to me that didn't matter; they were spectacular.

In fact, purposely keeping key date coins out of an introductory set would be wise. I remember taking the coins out of the folders and shining up a few of the dull ones. I even spent a few of them before I had a real grasp on their value. These are all mistakes that might occur (and did in my case) with young collectors.

Giving state quarters and other modern coins as gifts is fine too. There's no doubt, the U.S. Mint's State Quarter program brought a huge number of new collectors into our hobby. But there's just something about the vintage coins that seem to spark interest.

I would speculate that most of the coins in the two sets I received were picked from circulation. Of course, finding a Buffalo nickel or Mercury dime in pocket change these days would be rare indeed.

However, with \$50 and a couple of trips to the bank and the local coin shop, you should be able to fill quite a few slots for a United States 20<sup>th</sup> Century Type Coin set. On a 30-coin type set, 9 or 10 can be filled with coins still available from the local bank. Then you can concentrate on acquiring the older vintage coins that make up the majority of the set.

For around ten dollars, you can pick up a buffalo nickel, Liberty nickel, a couple of wheat cents and possibly an Indian cent at the local coin shop. The older silver coins will be more expensive due to their age and recent price increases of silver. But leaving a few holes open will give the young collector a goal to work towards.

There's a lot of room for creativity here and many different ways to build type sets. Regardless of which set you build, you're sure to put a smile on a young collector's face.

- Carl Shotts

Please take the time to read the article in this issue about Tommy, *Passion for Numismatics*. He's a good man.

On behalf of the officers for 2009, Darrell, Carl, Tommy and I, thank you for your support and the contribution you gave to us and the Tyler Coin Club; we could not be where we are without you.

That's it for this 'portion' of Sowle Food. My wishes and prayers include you and your family - may you have the Merriest Christmas ever, and may 2010 be your best year yet. God bless!

- Dwight

Passion for Numismatics continued from page 1

In fact, Tom received the illustrious TNA Outstanding Governor Award two years ago partly for his commitment and involvement in reviving the Tyler Coin Club. In addition to his TNA officer responsibilities, Tom has coordinated the silent book auction at the TNA state conventions for the last four years. He's also first in line with donations to the Coins-For-A's program; a TNA program designed to encourage students by providing collector coins for good grades.

Tom is happy with the progress made by the new club. And although he is passing on his duties as Treasurer, rest assured, he will continue to promote the club and the hobby of numismatics with the same passion as the last fifty years.

## Puzzle Coiner

Holiday Things You Might Find On Money

K	C	U	B	L	E	R	D	D	S	<b>ANGEL</b> <b>BELL</b> <b>BLUE</b> <b>WREATH</b> <b>BOW</b> <b>BUCK</b> <b>DEER</b> <b>SILVER</b> <b>EVERGREEN</b> <b>GOLD</b> <b>RIBBON</b> <b>STAR</b>
W	D	L	D	F	N	L	E	A	I	
H	R	S	E	I	O	E	B	T	L	
E	V	E	R	G	R	E	E	N	V	
W	Y	I	A	X	N	C	L	Y	E	
L	O	O	T	T	K	A	L	J	R	
N	J	B	S	X	H	B	L	U	E	
L	U	K	N	O	B	B	I	R	M	

Answer on website: <http://www.tylercoinclub.org>

## News Briefs

### 2010 National Coin Week

ANA National Coin Week is slated for April 18-24, 2010. **Beautiful Places: Landmarks and Mintmarks** is the theme for 2010. The theme celebrates the many landmarks and scenic places that have inspired coin designs. The ANA will offer activities and resources for clubs to promote the hobby in schools, libraries, malls, or other places. There will be a scavenger hunt, but it will be different than in previous years. Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks on how the Tyler Coin Club will participate.

### American Silver Eagles Soar

Sales of 2009 American Silver Eagle Bullion Coins have soared this year, easily surpassing 2008 record sales of 19.5 million (accomplished back in early October). In early December, the US Mint had sold more the 26 million of the 1oz silver coins.

### UHR Double Eagle Gold Coins

If you plan to order any 2009 Ultra High Relief Double Eagle Gold Coin from the United States Mint website, you need to get busy. Online orders for the 2009 UHR Double Eagle Gold Coin will be accepted until 3pm ET on December 31, 2009. As of December 6, 2009, the US Mint had sold just over 108,000 coins; a fairly low mintage for a one-year issue coin of this type. The Mint's new pricing policy and increase in gold prices could be a contributing factor.

### America The Beautiful Quarters™ Program

The United States Mint will kick off their America the Beautiful Quarters™ Program starting in 2010. A total of 56 quarters featuring designs depicting national parks and other national sites will be produced (5 different designs per year). The five quarters scheduled for released in 2010 will honor Hot Springs National Park in Arkansas, Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming, Yosemite National Park in California, Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona and Mt. Hood National Forest in Oregon. The Texas quarter will honor Missions National Historical Park in San Antonio and is scheduled for 2019.

### 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 meeting 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 quarterly 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>

## 2010 Meeting Schedule

**January 12 • February 9 • March 9  
April 13 • May 11 • June 8**

**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

### **December 12-13, 2009 ~ Cowntown Christmas Coin Show ~ Fort Worth, TX**

Lockheed Martin Recreation Center, 3400 S. Bryant Irvin Rd., Ft. Worth, TX 76109

Directions: 2.6 miles south of I-30 or 1.3 miles north of I-20

Saturday: 9am-5pm ~ Sunday: 9am-3pm

Admission: \$3 for adults

### **January 15-17, 2010 ~ Texas Coin Show ~ Grapevine, TX**

Convention Center, 1209 S. Main Street, Grapevine, TX 76051

Directions: 4 miles NW of DFW Airport off Hwy 114, exit Main, right on Vine

Friday: 2pm-6pm ~ Saturday: 9am-6pm ~ Sunday: 9am-3pm

Free parking, police security, Gold Prizes; Admission \$2

Contact: TexasCoinShows@aol.com

### **January 23-24, 2010 ~ Cowntown Winter Coin Show ~ Fort Worth, TX**

Lockheed Martin Recreation Center, 3400 S. Bryant Irvin Rd., Ft. Worth, TX 76109

Directions: 2.6 miles south of I-30 or 1.3 miles north of I-20

Saturday: 9am-5pm ~ Sunday: 9am-3pm

Free parking, In-room snack bar

Admission: \$3 for adults

Contact: apctexas@aol.com

### **February 19-21, 2010 ~ 47th Annual Coin Show ~ El Paso, TX**

Sponsored by International Coin Club of El Paso

El Maida Shrine, 6331 Alabama Ave, El Paso 79904

Free Admission, Free Parking, Kid's Auction on Saturday at 2pm

Show Theme: Saluting Ft. Bliss and our Troops

Friday: 1pm-6pm ~ Saturday: 9am-6pm ~ Sunday: 9am-4pm

### **February 27, 2010 ~ San Antonio Coin Show ~ San Antonio, TX**

Sponsored by Gateway Coin Club [www.gatewaycoinclub.com](http://www.gatewaycoinclub.com)

Live Oak Civic Center, 8101 Pat Booker Rd. at Loop 1604, just off IH 35 N

Saturday: 9am-4pm

Free Parking, Door Prizes, Police Security

Admission: Free

### **February 27-28, 2010 ~ Forth Worth Coin Club Winter Coin Show ~ Fort Worth, TX**

Lockheed Martin Recreation Center, 3400 S. Bryant Irvin Rd., Ft. Worth, TX 76109

Directions: 2.6 miles south of I-30 or 1.3 miles north of I-20

Saturday: 9am-5pm ~ Sunday: 9am-3pm

Free parking, hourly \$10 gift certificate drawing, in-room snack bar

Admission: \$3 for adults

The Tyler Coin Club makes every effort to insure the information above is accurate; however, promoters do from time to time change the dates and/or location or even cancel shows. It is strongly suggested that you verify dates and locations with the promoter and/or sponsor. Neither the Tyler Coin Club nor the newsletter editor assumes any responsibility for any losses associated with usage of the information above.