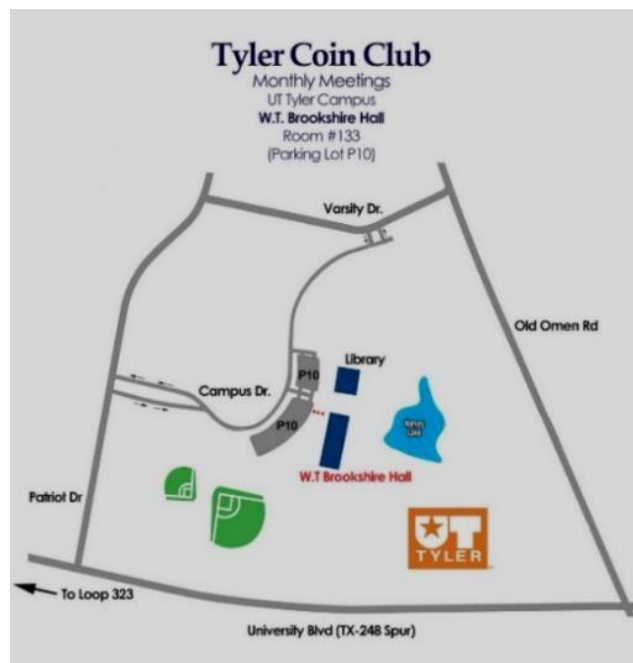


YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH JANUARY 2022



(Visit the Tyler, Texas Coin Club in person and on the internet at: tylercoinclub.org)

The Tyler, Texas Coin Club (TCC) meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Please consider yourself welcome. Meetings include great fellowship, numismatic education, a brief business session, and a spirited numismatic auction. The TCC meets on the campus of the University of Texas Tyler in room 133 of the W. T. Brookshire Building. Enter the campus via the identified “west entrance” off University Boulevard. Turn toward campus onto Patriot Dr. Enter campus and proceed on Campus Dr. to Parking Lot P10. (See map below) The W. T. Brookshire Building is in full view from the parking lot just to the right of the library.





NUMISMATIC NOTES

Thoughts from Our Vice President

Larry V.

Happy New Year!

We had a great time in 2021. Now we are ready to move ahead in 2022. I trust each one of us has selected at least one of our resolutions for the New Year to relate to enjoying our hobby to the fullest. Being involved in our club should be high on each of our lists. From participation in club coin shows and auctions, to contributing articles in our newsletter, to giving Show-N-Tells at our meetings, being actively involved is fun.

Remember that January 2022 is our month to elect a new club president. Club president nominees are Richard Graham and Kern Lunde. Both have provided short biographies for the December newsletter to help us better know them. I have included these biographies again, in this newsletter, for your convenience in reviewing them for voting. We are very lucky to have 2 such good nominees to consider. Ballots will be provided at this month's meeting and everyone is encouraged to come and vote.

Be safe and I look forward to seeing you soon.

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 14, 2021 MEETING **OF THE TYLER COIN CLUB** **TNA District 12** by Carl S.

Meeting called to order by Treasurer, Royce Jackson with Pledge to the Flag

Attendance Members: 22 Guests: 13 Total: 35

Discussion of Agenda Items (Royce)

- The club was lead in prayer by Dwight S.
- Members and guests enjoyed traditional Christmas dinner catered by Fresh.
- Royce presented a brief Treasurer's report.
- Introduction/recognition of guests, visitors, and new members.
- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in month of December.
- Officer elections for 2022 are scheduled for the January 11th meeting.

- Nominees for President, Richard G. and Kern L., were introduced to members and guests. Their bios were included in the November club newsletter.
- Members and guest enjoyed the evening participating in a Christmas trivia game.
- The next regular club meeting is January 11, 2022 at W.T. Brookshire Hall (room #133) on the UT Tyler campus.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm

Door Prize Winners

- Dudley V, Jan H., Carolyn W. and Cathy N.

A VISIT WITH DR. COYNE

Questions for Dr. Coyne

1. Why do War Nickels of 1942-45 seem to have many more planchet problems than other Jefferson Nickels?
2. What is a “Henning Nickel”?



3. Do average circulated War Nickels (35% silver) sell for their calculated silver value?
4. When did U.S. silver and gold coins begin being 90% precious metal and 10% copper? Were they ever made with higher purity?
5. What is a “Franklin Cent”? Is this an authorized U.S. coin?

Dr. Coyne responds:

1. The 1942-45 five cent coins were made from an alloy new to the U.S. mint. Nickel metal was being conserved for the war effort. The 56% copper/ 35% silver/ 9% manganese alloy was not always perfectly mixed, and the resulting planchets were prone to fissures, lamination, discoloration, and other ills.

2. A Henning Nickel is a counterfeit Jefferson Nickel made by convicted counterfeiter Francis Leroy Henning of New Jersey about 1953 to circulate at face value. Unlike in his earlier career, when he focused on printing fake \$5 bills, this time he specialized in turning out perhaps two million fake nickels bearing dates from 1939 to 1953. He seems to have made copy dies (by transferring images from existing coins), but deliberately made the coins appear somewhat worn, even as they came off his dies. Henning was caught because one of the dates he chose for an obverse was 1944. But he paired it with a non-War Nickel reverse. It thus lacked the large “P” or other mint mark over the dome. The composition of the blanks for all his nickels approximated the 75% copper / 25% nickel and were purchased from Scovill Mfg. Co. All mint-made 1944 nickels were of the 35% silver composition and had the large mint mark. The other coins he made, dated 1939, 1946, 1947, and 1953 are more difficult to detect.

3. War nickels of 1942-45 seem to get little respect in the market from silver refiners or “silver stackers”. The root problem is that the silver is quite dilute, at 35%, leading to higher refining costs that would be typical of refining 90% “coin silver” or 92.5% “sterling silver”. The same situation is present with the 40% silver half dollars of 1965-69, and to some extent with Canadian 80% silver coins. We see a range of offers out there for War Nickels, but most of them seem to be in the region of 30% below the calculated value using contained Actual Silver Weight.

4. U.S. silver and gold coins adopted an almost universal alloy of 90% precious metal around 1835. There was the exception of the 1851-53 issues of the silver three cent piece (at 75% silver). The major departure, however, was all the gold coins issued up to 1835. Our 1795-1835 gold was issued on the British standard of 11/12 fine (.917). If you regard the American Silver Eagle and American Gold Eagle issued since 1986 as a “coin”, we have to add them to the list, as they approach 100% precious metal.

5. There is no official “Franklin Cent”. Collectors have sometimes referred to the Fugio Coppers of 1787 as Franklin Cents because Benjamin suggested part of the design and inscription. There is also an English Conder token of 1794 showing the type of printing press where Benjamin once worked.



EDUCATIONAL BLASTS FROM THE PAST

Value Not Stamped on Early Coins

On the first United States gold coins, the value was not stated. It was thought the sizes of the pieces would be sufficient. In 1807, however, the value of the half eagle was given as 5 D; in 1838, TEN D was added to the eagle.

UPCOMING COLLECTOR OPPORTUNITIES

Tri-Lakes Coin Show – January 13, 14, & 15 ...Double Tree by Hilton, 4813 Central Ave, Hot Springs, AR

Houston Money Show – January 21 & 22 ... Lone Star Convention Center, Conroe, Texas

A VISIT TO “THE COIN CABINET”

by Richard L.

A FRIEND THROUGH HISTORY:

ENCOUNTER WITH A CITIZEN OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS



(Front of an original Republic of Texas Treasury Warrant identified by Hugh Shull in his *Guide Book of Southern States Currency ... History, Rarity and Values* as AW5B. The purpose of the issue of this piece was to pay James Baker for his service to the General Land Office of the Republic of Texas as a “Spanish Clerk,” aka an “interpreter.”)

I’ll admit it has been, as some of my Mississippi folk were wont to say, a “goodly while” since I purchased a piece of paper such as the one above. The reader will note that it is a Treasury Warrant from the last days of the Republic of Texas. Hugh Shull, in his 2007 published *A Guide Book of Southern States Currency*, lists an example such as this on page 382 as #AW5B, with “AW” referring to “Austin Warrant”. At the time Hugh gave this type of note a rarity of 7 on an 11 point scale. In his experience there are 101 to 400 examples kicking around today. This means an easily acquirable type number.

Yet, as the collector knows, when items of this nature are considered, the story isn’t just in the note’s type identification because, in the case of any Republic of Texas Treasury Warrant, the historic detail is in the stated, unique purpose written on the Warrant itself.

With this in mind, I make a few observations. First off notice the two dates present. The first is June 26th, 1845 when the initial request was submitted to the government for payment. The second date appears to be January 5th, 1846. This is the day that the payment, for the June 26th request was finally made. Even though the “official” date, when Texas was proclaimed the 28th United States state was December 29th, 1845, it wasn’t until February 19th, 1846 that the formal transfer occurred. This means the January date on my new investment was still within the era of the functioning of the government of the Republic of Texas.

Another interesting point related to this is the person to whom the warrant was issued. The endorsement signature on the back is that of one Joseph Baker. Granted Mr. Baker was not a frontline historical figure. His name isn't one which comes immediately to mind. Yet, acquiring this piece of old paper, has given me the opportunity to meet and explore one whose presence was important to our Great State's early years.

According to the *Handbook of Texas*, Baker, at the age of twenty seven, came to Texas from his home state of Maine. He settled into community life at San Felipe de Austin. In the years between then and his untimely passing on July 11th, 1846, just a few months following the signing of his name to the back of my warrant, Baker acquired quite a collection of accomplishments. Here are a few as shared by Handbook of Texas and other sources available to the researcher:

School teacher in San Felipe de Austin

- Secretary of the town council
- Co-founder of two newspapers
 - The Telegraph and Texas Register in San Felipe (1835)
 - The Houston Houstonian (1841)
- Served in Moseley Baker's (no relation) Company at the Battle of San Jacinto
- Appointed Second Judge of Austin Municipality (1836)
- First Chief Justice of Bexar County (1836)
- Elected from Bexar County to the Republic of Texas House of Representatives (1837 - 1838)
- Became "Spanish translator" in the General Land Office of the Republic of Texas (1845 - 1846)

As stated above Baker died on July 11th, 1846. His grave in Austin's old Oakwood Cemetery is adorned by an official 1936 Texas Historical Marker.

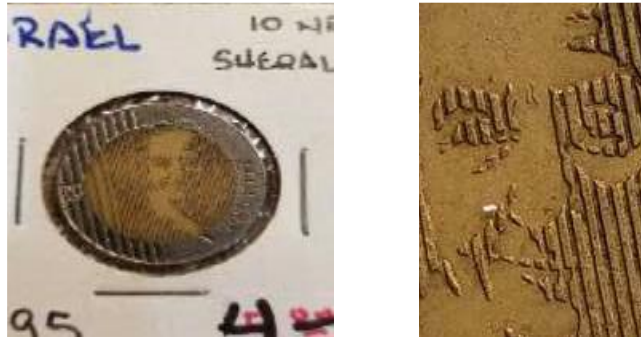


(The back of the Republic of Texas Treasury Warrant the front of which is pictured above. The signature is that of Joseph Baker who is not a familiar name to us from our study of the late Republic of Texas. Nonetheless Baker was an important servant to the Texas cause.)

A VISIT TO “THE COIN CABINET”

by Larry V. (reprint)

The 10 shekel coin pictured was minted in 1995 and depicts the portrait of Prime Minister Golda Meir of Israel.



It is interesting to note that when this coin was issued, it was described as a poor way of commemorating the only woman to head the Israeli government, from 1969 to 1974, and one of the country’s best-known personalities overseas. Upon obtaining my example of the coin, one of about 1.5 million minted, I couldn’t help but *DISAGREE*. I find the coin to be a brilliant piece of art.

While the portrait is clearly a realistic portrayal of the Prime Minister when viewed in its coin size existence (23 mm diameter), the small size actually masks its true creative detail. Note that as the portrait is blown up to examine its detail, it takes on an abstract personality of ridges and marks. It was engraved by Gabi Neumann.

The coin is made from a planchet with a bronze center bonded in a nickel steel ring. It was minted at the Utrecht’s Royal Dutch Mint in the Netherlands.

Golda Meir was born Golda Mabovitch in Russia in 1898, grew up in Milwaukee and settled in pre-state Palestine in 1921. She died on December 8, 1978. She was an Israeli teacher, kibbutznik, stateswoman, politician, fourth Prime Minister of Israel and the first female Prime Minister.

Gabi Neumann was born in Obyce, Czechoslovakia, in 1937. In 1942, his family was deported to Auschwitz. He and his sister were sent to the children’s block, where they remained until liberation. In 1949, he immigrated to Israel with the Youth Aliyah and studied graphic design at the Bezalel academy of Art and Design.

Richard Graham Biography

Hello fellow coin enthusiast, my name is Richard Graham and from the onset of this Bio, I would like for it to be known that I feel very honored to have been chosen as a candidate for the presidency of the Tyler Coin Club.

I love the people who make up the Tyler Coin Club and would love to serve in this position. I started collecting coins when I was around 6 or 7 years of age. It all started when my mother, who worked as a bank teller, would bring home rolls of Jefferson nickels. With anticipation; I would sort through the nickels, hoping to be able to complete my blue Whitman album. I never found the 50 D or the 39 D, but somewhere in the process I contracted the coin collecting fever.

I am just turning 58 and this passion for coins has never left me.

I love coins, I love trading coins, I love selling coins and I love buying coins. At the present time my wife “Dede” and I are heavily involved in the coin business and community. We set up at about 25 coin shows per year, and are having a blast.

I am also very involved in my church “Tyler Tabernacle”, I have a strong belief in Jesus Christ and I try to the best of my ability to live my beliefs.

I am currently a board member of the 350 member church, I am also the evangelism director, and the department head of a recovery ministry “Helping Hands” in which I founded in September of 2012.

My wife and I have lived in the Tyler area for 30 years where we have raised 3 wonderful children, two daughters and one son (Hunter) who still lives at home. At 17 he’s still a daddy’s boy and he holds one of the keys to my heart.

I also enjoy business, my wife and I own 3 businesses: New Life Auto Sales, Tyler Escape Room, and Longview Escape Room.

All the things that I have put in the biography above has helped to mold me into the person that I am today.

I am excited about our clubs future and would love to serve the club in whatever capacity the club sees fit.

Sincerely,

Richard Graham

P.S. Whether I am elected president or not, our best days are before us and not behind us.

Kern Lunde Biography

I, Kern Lunde, grew up in Mt. Horeb, Wisconsin. My grandmother introduced me to coin collecting around age 10, focusing on filling in Lincoln cent folders. Three years later when my grandmother died, I inherited her modest collection of small cents and silver dimes.

I took a break from my interest in coins during my high school and college years, but once I had been in the Navy a couple of years, I chanced upon a coin shop in Chula Vista, CA and realized that I could afford this hobby again!

Following graduation from Mt Horeb High School in 1981, I earned my B.A. in Russian Language and Literature from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1985 and was commissioned an Ensign in the US Navy.

Over a 20 year Navy career, I served onboard USS GERMANTOWN (LSD-42), Naval Security Group Activity, Keflavik, Iceland, onboard USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN-72), the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California (where I earned my M.S. in Engineering Science in the Space Systems Engineering curriculum, hence my claim to be a rocket scientist!), Naval Security Group Activity, Winter Harbor, Maine, the National Security Agency, and finally at Space and Naval Warfare Command, San Diego, California, after which I retired as a Lieutenant Commander.

While on active duty, I focused on building a complete collection of Icelandic coins, as well as a birth year set of coins from around the world. While stationed in Iceland, I was the President of the Keflavik NATO Base Coin Club. Regrettably, I sold these collections when I retired from the Navy and took another short break from collecting coins.

In 2005, I was hired into the Distance Support program as a defense contractor, supporting the US Navy. In 2010, I became the Program Manager, and in 2014 moved to Texas and continued to work remotely. I still support the same program today, now as the Fleet Support Coordinator. Over the last 11 years I have managed a team of IT professionals located in California, Virginia, Louisiana, and Indiana.

My coin collecting focus over the last 10 years has been putting together a nice type collection of US coins, specifically those meant for circulation. I had a slow start, but my passion for building my set got a kick start at the ANA National Money Show in 2018 in Irving, TX where I purchased a beautiful 1917-S Type I Standing Liberty Quarter (my favorite design) in MS-65 FH for only \$800!

I live in Noonday with my wife of 36 years, Dawna, and our youngest daughter, Anika. Our oldest daughter, Kayla, lives in Bloomington, Indiana with her husband, Raine, and son, Toby. We attend services at New Covenant Church where I sometimes play bass in the worship band and have served on two mission trips to a gypsy village in Lazareni, Romania.