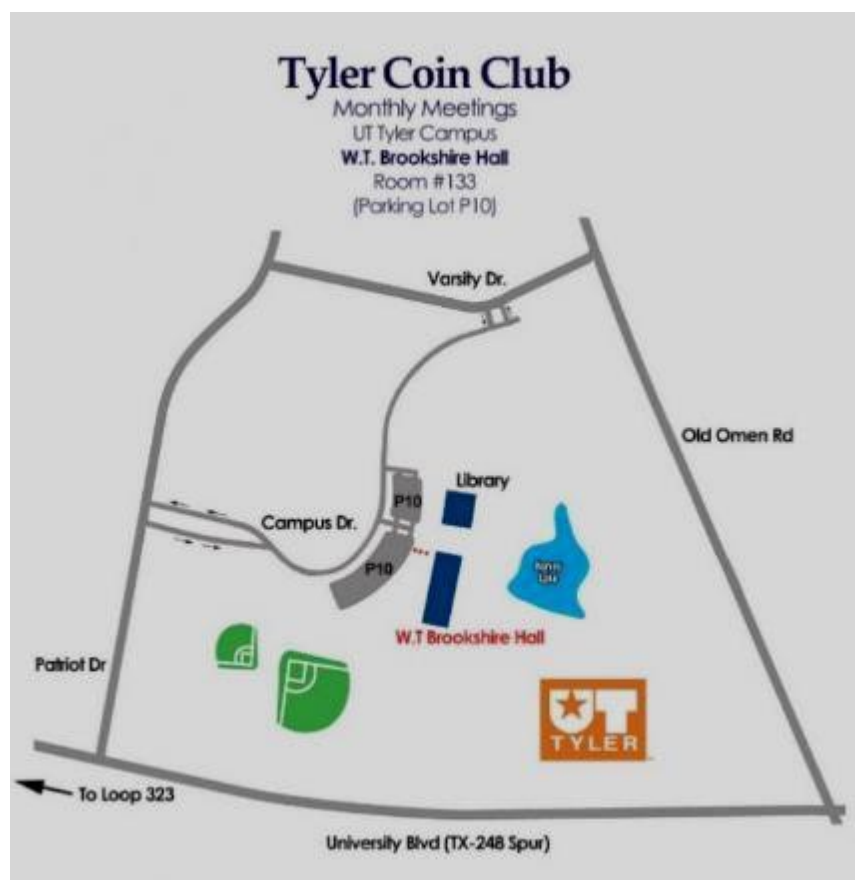




The Tyler, Texas Coin Club (TCC) meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Please consider yourself welcome. Meetings include great fellowship, numismatic education, a brief business session, and a spirited numismatic auction. The TCC meets on the campus of the University of Texas Tyler 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) The W. T. Brookshire Building is in full view from the

## YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH February 2020

VISIT THE TYLER, TEXAS COIN CLUB  
IN PERSON AND ON THE INTERNET AT:



## Numismatic Notes

Thoughts from Our President  
Lane B.



The year started off strong for the Tyler Coin Club. We had a great auction in January with Richard E. working quickly so we could finish on time. As usual, he did a great job infusing knowledge and humor along the way as he called the lots. And if it seemed a little bit more crowded in the room, it was. We had 58 people attending the meeting; 51 members and 7 guests.

With gold and silver bullion prices edging up a little over the past few weeks, we may see a resurgence 'old coins' coming out of cabinets, jars, and closets as non-collectors explore the value of their holdings. We've had a few visitors to the Club who are exploring what to do with their accumulation or heirloom collection and hopefully, we can spark their interest in numismatics.

Don't forget to share your coin stories with other members. We have time set aside each meeting for you to tell us your coin tales. We have such a wealth of knowledge and experience in our members and it's great when they are able to take the time to share what they know.

## Treasurer's Notes



Royce J.

<b>Bank balance on Tuesday, January 7</b>	<b>6716.38</b>
<b>Deposit (23 dues paid)</b>	<b>460.00</b>
<b>Check #2682 to UT Tyler (meeting Insurance)</b>	<b>104.00</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>7242.38</b>

So far, we have had 41 members pay their dues.

Royce Jackson, Treasurer

**NEWS ALERT !!!!! REMEMBER CLUB DUES ARE DUE !!!!!**

## EDITOR'S NOTES

I want to thank all who attended the last meeting and participated in our great auction. Lets try to outdo our last months attendance this month. Bring lots of friends !!! Remember ,if anyone wants to see anything special brought up in the newsletter please send me and email and we will try to make it happen.

### FATHER OF VALENTINE'S DAY COIN

Ancient Roman Bronze Coin of Roman Emperor Claudius II Gothicus

**Many are the tales of St. Valentine, the third-century priest martyred on February 14-what we now know as Valentine's Day. Records from that period of Roman history, the so-called Age of Chaos are spotty but this is what has been handed down to us:**

**In the year 268 CE, Caesar Marcus Aurelius Claudius Augustus, known as Claudius Gothicus, assumed the Roman throne. Desperate for fresh army recruits, he decreed that young men remain unmarried; hoping that without the frivolous distraction of courtship, more of them would become soldiers. Enter that incarnation of romantic love, St. Valentine. Defying the new Emperor's orders, Valentine performed secret marriages in the underground Christian community. He was soon discovered, arrested, & sentenced to death. Legend has it that just before his execution he sent a letter to the jailer's daughter whom he had befriended, which he signed "from your Valentine"-the origin of the modern custom. On February 14, he was beheaded outside the Flaminian Gate but his heart beat on; his Feast Day was established by Pope Gelasius I in 496.**

**This rare coin was struck during the brief reign of Claudius Gothicus, who died of smallpox in 270.**

**Although he won an historic victory over the Goths at the Battle of Naissus, Claudius Gothicus is known to history as the man who killed St. Valentine. The obverse of the coin depicts a bust of the Emperor, with his Latinized name & abbreviated titles.**

**The reverse inscriptions & iconography are varied.**

**Metal: bronze; weight: 1.5-4.3 g; diameter: 14.2-21.5 mm**

# Will We See These in 2021 ???

## 2021 Morgan and Peace Dollar Commemorative Coins

An initiative to back the legislation is being led by Tom Uram, chairman of the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC), president of the Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists and current American Numismatic Association board member; and Mike Moran, noted author and researcher and CCAC member since 2011. The CCAC was established by Congress in 2003 to advise the Secretary of the Treasury on the themes and designs of all US coins and medals.

"It's critical that hobbyists reach out to their congressional representatives immediately to press them to co-sponsor the bill," Uram said. "We need the required number of co-sponsors in order for this to become reality."

To help make 2021 Morgan and Peace Dollars a reality, call, email or write to your congressional representative and tell them to support US Congressional Bill H.R. 3757. To find your US representative and their contact information, click [here](#).

The two silver dollar series marked significant developments in the history of the United States and are among the most popular US coins ever issued.

The Morgan Dollar, named for its designer, George T. Morgan, was minted from 1878 to 1904 and again in 1921. Showing a profile portrait of Lady Liberty on its obverse and a heraldic eagle on its reverse, the coin recognized the country's westward expansion and its industrial development of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The Peace Dollar was designed by Anthony de Francisci with the Goddess of Liberty on the obverse and a bald eagle clutching an olive branch, a symbol of peace, on the reverse. The Peace Dollar was first issued in 1921, the year the US-German peace treaty was ratified by the US Senate, to replace the Morgan Dollar. The coin, which marked not only the end of World War I but America's emergence as an international power, was issued until 1935.

The "1921 Silver Dollar Commemorative Coin Act," co-sponsored by US Reps. Andy Barr, Republican of Kentucky, and Emanuel Cleaver, Democrat of Missouri, would have the Secretary of the Treasury mint up to 500,000 new Morgan and Peace Dollars in 2021. The bill was introduced July 16.

"These iconic silver dollars, with vastly different representations of Lady Liberty and the American Eagle, reflect a changing of the guard in 1921 in the United States and therefore on the 100th anniversary must be minted again to commemorate this significant evolution of American freedom," according to the bill.

The coins, according to bill HR 3757, would be representative of either the Morgan Dollar or the Peace Dollar, both in their design and inscriptions. The coins will, just like the originals, weigh 26.73 grams, have a diameter of 1.5 inches and be made of at least 90 percent silver.

The Mint will sell the coins for a sum covering their design, manufacture and shipping and a surcharge of \$10 per coin. The legislation specifies that the project should not cost the federal government anything. The proceeds of the \$10 surcharge will be divided as follows: 40% to the American Numismatic Association, 40 percent to the National World War I Museum and Memorial in Kansas City, Missouri; and 20% to the Nevada State Museum in Carson City. If possible and cost-effective, some of the new dollars will be struck at the Nevada State Museum, which includes the Carson City Mint building. These coins would feature the famous "CC" mintmark.

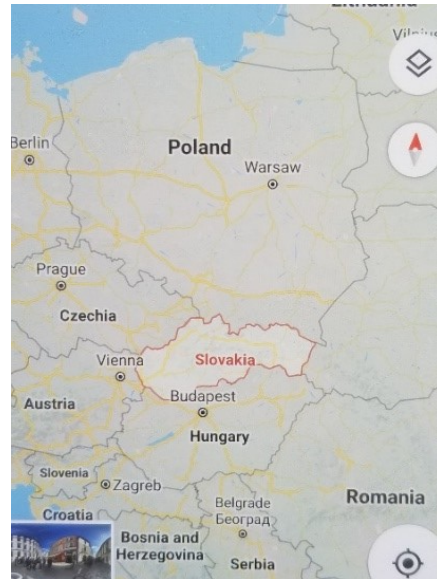
The money would support the coin and coin collecting educational work of the Colorado Springs, Colorado-based American Numismatic Association; the education and commemoration activities of the National World War I Museum; and the preservation of the Nevada State Museum's displays relating to the US Mint, the Comstock Lode of Nevada (which was the first major silver ore discovery in the United States) and the American West.

# **A VISIT TO "THE COIN CABINET"**

by Larry V.

## **SLOVAKIA 20 HALIEROV COIN**

**If looking for artistic designs on coin, and you run across the 20 Halierov coin of Slovakia, it's hard not to notice it's subtle beauty.**



**The coin is made of aluminum. While the denomination is printed on the lower half, a mountain, Krivan, rises gradually from the virtually blank smooth surface to a pointed peak on the upper half of the coin.**

**Krivan is a mountain in the High Tetras that dominates the upper part of the former county of Liptov in Slovakia. It has been a major symbol of Slovakia for hundreds of years and was selected by popular vote, in 2005, to be continued as an image on Slovakia's euro coins.**

**It is always fun to look into the background of coins we don't know a lot about. It so happens that Krivan mountain has an interesting story behind it – explaining how it got its shape. Daniel Georg Speer recorded in his travel book of 1693 a legend, likely by people's outside Liptov county, that Lucifer flew over the Tatras carrying some people to hell. His foot tripped on the tip of Krivan which got bent, and losing his balance he dropped the sinners who thus populated Liptov county.**



## Questions for Dr. Coyne:

- 1) What was the first U.S. coin to have a designer's initial?
- 2) How did the "shift" arise on the 1955/55 Cent?
- 3) What is this coin? Is it a U.S. pattern?



**Hint: it is bronze and about the size of a current U.S. cent.**

- 4) What is an "Adjustment Mark" on a coin?
- 5) What genuine U.S. coin had the most dramatic drop in value in successive annual Red Books?
- 6) Before 1970, how many pennies were there in a British Pound?
- 7) Is this piece a U.S. coin?



## **Dr. Coyne's Answers**

1) The earliest U.S. coin to openly carry the designer's name was the Gobrecht Dollar of 1836 (on the rock upon which Miss Liberty sits -- the "name in field variety is now believed to have been struck later). Some recent speculation has it that John Reich concealed a stylized version of his monogram JMG in the clasp of Miss Liberty's gown on the Draped Bust coins beginning 1808, but the photos Dr. Coyne have seen are less than convincing. Our current coins (except state quarter reverses) all have an initial identifying the engraver or designer on them.

2) The doubled portrait, date, and lettering feature is a result of the die manufacturing process. Before about 1990, all U.S. working dies were prepared using multiple blows from master hubs (with annealing between blows) in order to bring up the full design. In the case of this issue, the partially finished 1955 die was placed in the die-making press imperfectly aligned with the hub, and the second blow was made a couple of degrees turned from the earlier blow. The result shows the greatest "spread" at the periphery of the coins made from this working die. All coins made from this working die (est 50,000) are identical. Since only one working die reverse happened to be used with this blundered obverse, the die markers of that reverse can also be used to help authenticate this famous "shift" cent. The best known die marker for that reverse is a shallow, tall "X" die polish mark left of the "T" of "cent".

3) This is a Civil War Token. After the disappearance of silver and gold coins from circulation during the War Between the States, the copper and copper/nickel regular issue coins were the next to go into hiding. The want of small change gave opportunity to private issuers to circulate (for profit) both "patriotic" and "store card" tokens of bronze or copper which were about the size of US cents. The subject piece is one of this series. The obverse features the well-known "French Liberty" head of the Lovett family of private engravers. This one is similar to the one on the Confederate States Cent. The "For Public Accommodation wording refers to providing a substitute money piece for the convenience of the people in making commercial transactions.

## **Dr. Coyne's Answers Continued**

- 4) Adjustment marks occur on U.S. silver and gold coins of 1794 to about 1803, and on the precious metal coins of several other countries on issues up to about 1820. In those days, intrinsic metal value was very important, and the mint sought to issue coins which closely conformed to the legal weight. Individual planchets were weighed before striking with the obverse/reverse dies. Planchets which were a bit overweight were filed to reduce the weight. In subsequent striking, the file marks were not always completely obliterated, and may be seen today on collectible examples as parallel lines running across the coin, often most visible near the high points of the design on the coin (the low points for striking pressure). Planchets which were underweight were returned to the melting pot. Planchets which were just right were struck without adjustment (and thus show no file marks). Grading on coins with adjustment marks should take into account how the marks impair eye appeal, but since they are mint-caused and do not constitute post-minting circulation damage, their presence does not impair the grade as much as normal circulation marks would. By about 1803, the minting process had become more advanced, and the number of "adjusted" planchets was greatly reduced at the US Mint. Adjustment marks did not come to a complete end until the advent of 'close collar' striking in 1828.**



- 5) The record holder for drop in value in successive issues of the Guide Book of U.S. Coins (Red Book) has to be the 1903-O silver dollar. In the 16th edition (1963), this coin was listed at \$1500 in Uncirculated condition. The release of bags of this date (along with even more 1898 to 1904 New Orleans issues) made a once-rare coin into a commodity. Dr. Coyne was able to buy some of these in 1964 for \$20 per coin. The 17th edition of the Red Book (1964) has them at \$30. Since the Treasury release in 1963, this "Once and Future King" has rebounded to list at \$450 in the 2019 edition.**



## **Dr. Coyne's Answers Continued**

**6) Before decimalisation in Great Britain, there were 240 pennies in the Pound. It took 12 pennies to make a shilling and 20 shillings to make a Pound Sterling. Other odd names then in use included: Florin (2 shillings), Half Crown (2 shillings and six pence), and Crown (5 shillings). These are all gone now, and there are 100 pence in a pound.**

**7) The illustrated piece is a pattern for a U.S. cent. It is also called a "Seated Liberty Cent", and is part of the story of the transition between the old Large Cent and the Small Cents which reached substantial production (as Flying Eagle Cents) in 1857. This one is an example listed as Judd 159a, where similar specimens in copper, bronze, and copper-nickel can be seen. There were crudely prepared by using a reduction lathe on a regular 1854 Seated Liberty Dollar. The target-shaped tracing lines can still be seen on this piece, and the date did not transfer well, showing here as 1851.**

## **"KIDS CORNER"**

### **5 Tips On Coin Collecting For Kids**

Check out these 5 tips and methods that will make coin collecting easy, cheap, and fun for young coin collectors:

**Tip #1:** Perhaps one of the best ways to the make coin collecting easy, cheap, and fun is to collect coins directly from circulation.

You'll be able to collect coins strictly for their face value and acquire coins without having to go to a coin dealer or order the coins from an online retailer.

Collecting coins from circulation requires a keen eye because many of the coins you may need for your coin collection may be hard to find. But diligence does pay off! Many old and even scarce coins have been found in circulation during recent years — but it'll take patience!

## **“KIDS CORNER”**

**Tip #2:** Buy coin folders to safely store the coins and to keep them organized. Most coin folders cost less than \$5 each and can be bought at nearly any major bookstore, as well as online. Coin folders are particularly good for young coin collectors because they are durable, allow for easy insertion and removal of coins, and bring a sense of order to the coin collection.

**Tip #3:** Make sure the young coin collector has a decent magnifying glass. While a 10X magnifying glass is usually best for most coin collectors, it may be wise to start a child off with a 3X to 5X magnifying glass; after all, the details most children will be interested in seeing (mintmarks, designers' initials, and minor design details) can be well seen with a 3X to 5X.

Graduating to the use of a 10X magnifying glass is a good idea as the child becomes more interested in grading coins, checking for minor errors and varieties, and other aspects of coin collecting that require a higher-powered magnifying glass.

**Tip #4:** Provide the young coin collector good resources! Coin collecting for kids is made all the more educational when children have well-respected (and interesting) resources to use. The internet is full of safe and entertaining venues for children interested in coin collecting. One of the best is the United States Mint's H.I.P. Pocket Change web site.

A Guide Book Of United States Coins is one of the best book resources for coin collectors of all ages because it provides a wide breadth of information ranging from coin values to the history of each coin; hundreds of color photos are also included.

**Tip #5:** Get involved with your young coin collector! Nothing means more to a kid than to have a loving family member along for the ride. Sharing the hobby of and love for coin collecting with a child is one of the best ways to make the pastime fun and entertaining for the child — and to forge a stronger relationship with that child, too!

## **UPCOMING COLLECTOR OPPORTUNITIES**

**Texoma Coin Show** – February 15 ... Sherman Municipal Building Ballroom,  
405 N. Rusk Street, Sherman, Texas

**Northwest Louisiana Coin Show** – March 6-7 ... Hilton Garden Inn – 2015 Old  
Minden Rd., Bossier City, Louisiana

**Collin County Coin Club Show** – March 28 ... Quality Inn, 1300 North Central  
Expressway, McKinney, Texas

**Northwest Arkansas Coin Club Show** – May 8-9 ... John Q. Hammons Center  
– 3303 S. Pinnacle Hills Parkway, Rogers, Arkansas

**Texas Numismatic Association Convention and Show** – May 29-31 ... Arlington  
Convention Center, 1200 Ballpark Way, Arlington, Texas (Largest show in  
the region)

**El Dorado Arkansas Coin and Currency Show** – Jun 19-20 ... El Dorado Con-  
ference Center, 311 South West Ave., El Dorado, Arkansas

**Tyler Coin Club Show** – August 7-8 ... Harvey Hall Convention Center – 2000  
West Front Street, Tyler Texas

**Texarkana Coin Club Show** – November 20-21 ... Texarkana Convention  
Center, 4610 Cowhorn Creek Road, Texarkana, Texas

Compliments of Larry Vann