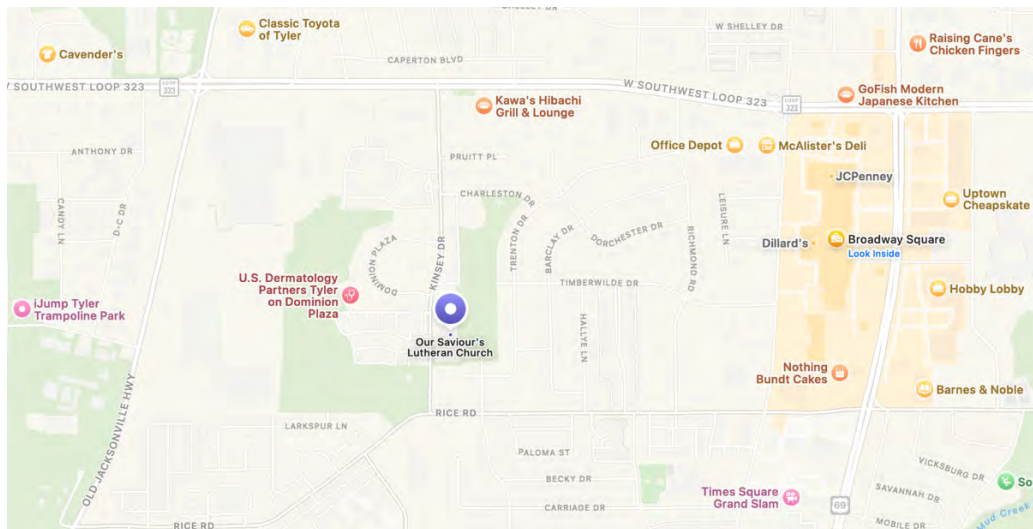


# YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH – FEBRUARY 2026



(Visit the Tyler, Texas Coin Club in person and on the internet at: [tylercoinclub.org](http://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 in the fellowship hall of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church at 4900 Kinsey Drive, Tyler, TX 75703. Enter the south parking lot from Kinsey Drive. From the parking lot, walk toward the south entrance doors and follow the sounds of fellow coin collectors to the Fellowship Hall!





## NUMISMATIC NOTES Thoughts from Our President

Hello Fellow Coin Club Members:

I hope this presidential note finds you all well and enjoying the greatest hobby in the world.

As I write these notes, I have just finished a coin show in Hot Springs Arkansas. I got snowed in for a couple of days, and it's just been me and the coins. I have so enjoyed getting caught up on trying to sell off some of my inventory. And trying to stay on top of my pricing. Every time I price something, in two or three days, I have to raise the price in order not to give it away.

Well enough about me, (I've been in my own head too long!).

I'm not sure who remembers from last month, but National Coin Week is coming up in April (see article later in this newsletter). The theme is Striking Independence: 250 Years of American Numismatics. This is what has inspired me to do something for our club and community.

I would like to do some type of project for our community that involves coins. I'm not sure exactly what that would look like, so I'm asking members of the club to give me some ideas on what we could do to be of service to our community and to promote our club and Numismatics in general. Please help me come up with something.

I love and appreciate all the great members that make up the Tyler Coin Club. **YOU ARE SIMPLY THE BEST IN TEXAS.** We are so blessed to be a part of the club that is so active.

We as a club are stronger than ever and are continuing to grow.

May God Bless You and Keep You Until We meet again.

Richard

# **TYLER COIN CLUB (TNA District 12) MEETING MINUTES**

Date: January 13, 2026

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by President Richard Graham.

**Attendance** Members: 58

## **Discussion of Agenda Items (Richard)**

- The prayer was given by Larry Vann
- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ethan Callahan
- No guests or new members were present
- Treasury Report by Royce: Balance of \$11,025.44. No large deposits or expenditures.
- Royce discussed the article in the TNA magazine about our coin show. TNA also provided our club \$250 for our new membership drive held at the coin show, recognizing the club giving new Red Books to people who joined our club during the show. In addition, the TNA Magazine also had an extensive write up on Gunner Cannon about his participation in the ANA summer seminar in Colorado. Way to go, Gunner!
- Amy presented Gift Certificates to the members with January birthdays and also recognized members with January anniversaries.
- Upcoming Shows:
  - Houston Money Show January 16-17
  - Texarkana Show January 30-31
  - Grapevine Show February 6 – 8
- Coin Show Update:
  - Holiday Inn will offer rooms for \$104 per night for coin show participants
- Door Prizes went to Tom Riggle, Kern Lunde, Corky Henry, and Steve White
- Don Haygood gave trivia about the unbelievable price for the Omega Pennies
- Amy Norris gave a presentation on Notgeld from post WW1 Germany
- Kern presided over the auction. 32 items sold
- The next Tyler Coin Club Meeting will be February 10, 2026
- The meeting was adjourned

## **TYLER COIN CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2026**

President – Richard Graham

Vice President – Kern Lunde

Secretary – Amy Norris

Treasurer – Royce Jackson

## **TYLER COIN CLUB UPDATES FOR 2026**

Greetings to all from the Officers of the Tyler Coin Club! We provided this update last month, but wanted to reiterate these changes, including one that was left out last month.

1. Happy Birthday! It has been the policy of the club to recognize each of you during the month on record of your birthday. The club gave each attending member a ½ ounce silver round. This tradition is being changed as the price of silver makes it impossible to continue. The club is now going to give each dues paying club member in attendance a \$10 voucher for the auction – either as a buyer or a seller. The Secretary will keep up with this.
2. There will now be a sign-in sheet at the name badge table. The sheet is numbered from 1 to 80. You may select any number you wish and sign or print your name. This will be used for the door prize winner selection. A random number generator will produce a grouping of numbers and the corresponding name to the first number drawn will be the winner. There will no longer be slips of paper with your name. This will also help in keeping a more accurate attendance record, so be sure to sign up each month!
3. The old, long form auction sheet will be phased out and a new short form, as is done with the Longview Coin Club, will be adopted. Feel free to use any of the older forms you may have already printed.
4. The collection of annual dues for 2026 will continue at the next meeting. The amount due is still \$20.
5. To be fair to all club members, we encourage everyone to limit your auction items to no more than 10 lots per evening. This will ensure that all members who wish to put items up for auction have space on the tables. And along with this, a reminder that in order to put items up for auction, you need to be a paid club member.

We are looking forward to another successful year collecting coins.

### **NUMISMATIC INFORMATICS**

(by Jim Mohon)

The dime's the thinnest coin we've devised;  
But what's the thickest? You might be surprised!  
(answer on page 10)

## 2026 NATIONAL COIN WEEK: APRIL 19-25, 2026

[We are running this article again (with some updates from the American Numismatic Association's website: [money.org](https://www.money.org)) from January's issue since we are still soliciting ideas from the membership for this year's National Coin Week.]

The theme for this year's National Coin Week is Striking Independence: 250 Years of American Numismatics. In 2026, America will celebrate 250 years of independence. This milestone invites us to reflect on the many ways money and freedom are connected.

The ANA will soon be offering educational and promotional materials for the week-long celebration. These materials will include activities for members and Young Numismatists, the annual Club Trivia Challenge, daily online trivia questions, articles from *The Numismatist* and objects from the ANA collection. Updates will be posted at <https://www.money.org/national-coin-week/>. Those updates now include several articles and a link to the ANA Reading List, as well as links to some Webinars and Virtual Exhibits. More resources will be added in the weeks ahead. We encourage each of you to check this site out and learn about an area of American numismatics you may not have explored before. There is some rich history here!

Combined with the excitement of new coin designs celebrating our country's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary, this could be an excellent springboard to help promote numismatics in Tyler as Richards stated in his Numismatic Notes earlier. This year's National Coin Week is a little over two months away, so we welcome any ideas you may have how we, as individual coin collectors, and as a club, can take an active part in this year's activities. This can be a great lead-up to our coin show in August. Let's put our heads together and come up with a way to encourage a new generation of coin, token, and currency collectors to join our ranks!

Has anyone received any of this year's semiquintennial (say that three times quickly!) coins in change yet?



## FROM MY CABINET

(by Kern Lunde)

I've been collecting coins, with some breaks, since 1972 when my grandmother got me interested. We would get rolls of coins from the bank and enjoy looking for treasures. Those are days that I miss, but I've always retained the sense of being in touch with history when I come into contact with older coins.

One of my goals as I got older (and had more disposable income!) was to at some point get a nice U.S. coin from the 1700's, not one that is worn to the point of being barely recognizable, but one that has enough detail to really showcase the design of the coin without breaking the bank!

Almost eight years ago, I finally found the right coin at the right price, a 1798 silver dollar graded by NGC as VF-25. I wanted something without detractors, so I had determined to find something in the Very Fine grade range, but not cleaned, damaged, or with a 'details' label. I certainly would have preferred a higher graded piece, but certain financial limitations kept that from being a reality! The photos below are the coin I purchased back in 2018 and, given the date that it was minted, I couldn't help but wonder who may have handled this coin during the early years of our country. And, as I'm sure many Morgan Dollar collectors would agree, there's just something about the size and heft of a silver dollar sized coin that feels good in the hand!



As you can see, the coin obviously has wear, consistent with a VF grade, but it retains all the design elements to really showcase the design as a whole.

As with many coins in my cabinet, I had to be patient with this one. It is not actually that difficult to find early dollars, especially of the large eagle reverse design, but what is difficult is finding a coin that is fairly graded with no damage or cleaning, has good eye appeal, and (of course) priced to fit my budget.

Do you have a favorite coin that has a good story about how and why you acquired it? If so, let me know and we can feature your favorite coin in a future issue of our newsletter!

# TIPS FOR BUYING GOLD AND SILVER BULLION

*[reprinted from American Numismatic Association's website money.org]*

Gold and silver prices have been at or near record levels recently, heightening interest in buying and selling gold and silver coins. Consumers, however, should resist the temptation to make impulse buys or to sell an item before researching its potential value.

The ANA urges everyone to be wary of cold-call solicitations or mobile offices, set up in temporary locations such as motels, offering instant cash for gold and silver coins. Be patient, be informed and don't let anyone pressure you into making impulsive decisions.

Following the checklist below is encouraged when buying or selling gold or silver bullion coins:

1. The reputation and expertise of your bullion dealer is important.  
Your dealer needs to be a respected name in the industry with experience buying and selling bullion in fluctuating markets. ANA dealers must adhere to a strict code of ethics. To locate an ANA bullion dealer, use our [Dealer Directory](#).
2. Know the actual cost per ounce of precious metals.  
Gold, silver, and platinum prices fluctuate daily, so check that day's spot price prior to making a transaction. Expect to pay a higher percentage over melt value for fractional gold pieces (1/10th, 1/4th, and 1/2 ounce) than for one-ounce pieces. Also, American Eagle and Canadian Maple Leaf bullion coins typically have a higher retail price than South African Kruggerrand bullion coins.
3. Understand the fees and/or commissions involved.  
According to the Professional Numismatists Guild, the average retail commission for one-ounce American Eagle or Maple Leaf gold coins is about five or six percent.
4. Arrange for timely delivery.  
If immediate delivery is not possible, obtain from the seller in writing specific confirmation about the delivery date. Only then should you execute your order.
5. Know that all investments come with risks.  
If you intend to buy bullion coins for investment purposes, your best protection is to spend time learning about the coins before you buy them. Uninformed buyers who make hasty purchases often overpay. Like any investment, there are no guarantees – and no one can predict with certainty that gold and silver prices will remain at the current levels or continue to appreciate.
6. Protect against identity theft.  
Do not give out credit card numbers or bank account numbers or other private information such as Social Security numbers over the phone to anyone not known to you.

## FUTURE COIN SHOW EVENTS

January 30 - 31: Texarkana Show, Holiday Inn Arkansas Convention Center, 5200 Convention Plaza Dr, Texarkana, AR 71854. Hours: Friday 11am – 5pm, Saturday 9am – 5pm. Admission \$3; free parking, raffles every hour. For more information, contact Bill Patterson, phone 405-549-8888, or visit [www.coinzip.com/Texarkana-Coin-Show](http://www.coinzip.com/Texarkana-Coin-Show).

February 6 – 8: Texas Coin Show, Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S Main St, Grapevine, TX 76051. Hours: Friday 2pm – 6pm, Saturday 9am – 6pm, Sunday 9am – 3pm. Free parking; admission \$5 (Friday and Saturday) or \$2 (Sunday). For more information, email [texascoinshows@aol.com](mailto:texascoinshows@aol.com).

March 20 – 22: Texas Coin Show, Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S Main St, Grapevine, TX 76051. Hours: Friday 2pm – 6pm, Saturday 9am – 6pm, Sunday 9am – 3pm. Free parking; admission \$5 (Friday and Saturday) or \$2 (Sunday). For more information, email [texascoinshows@aol.com](mailto:texascoinshows@aol.com).

April 24 – 25: The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Longview Coin Show, Holiday Inn North, 300 Tuttle Circle, Longview, TX 75605. Hours: Friday 12pm – 5 pm, Saturday 9am – 5pm. For more information, please email [info@longviewcoinclub.com](mailto:info@longviewcoinclub.com).

May 15 - 17: TNA Annual Coin & Currency Show, Will Rogers Memorial Center, 3401 West Lancaster Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76107. Hours: Friday 9am – 6pm, Saturday 9am – 6pm, Sunday 9am – 3pm. Early bird tickets available for Thursday. Free parking; admission is \$3 or free with pre-registration (form available at [www.tna.org](http://www.tna.org)). For more information, please contact Gary and Judy Dobbins, [g.dobbins@sbcglobal.net](mailto:g.dobbins@sbcglobal.net), phone/text 214-498-9923.

June 5 - 7: Texas Coin Show, Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S Main St, Grapevine, TX 76051. Hours: Friday 2pm – 6pm, Saturday 9am – 6pm, Sunday 9am – 3pm. Free parking; admission \$5 (Friday and Saturday) or \$2 (Sunday). For more information, email [texascoinshows@aol.com](mailto:texascoinshows@aol.com).

August 13 – 15: 18th Annual Tyler Coin Show, W.T. Brookshire Convention Center, 2000 W Front Street, Tyler, TX 75702. Hours: Thursday (dealer setup only), Friday 9am – 5pm, Saturday 9am – 5pm. For more information, contact David Holcomb ([davidholcomb213@gmail.com](mailto:davidholcomb213@gmail.com) or 903-570-3136).

August 21 – 23: Texas Coin Show, Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S Main St, Grapevine, TX 76051. Hours: Friday 2pm – 6pm, Saturday 9am – 6pm, Sunday 9am – 3pm. Free parking; admission \$5 (Friday and Saturday) or \$2 (Sunday). For more information, email [texascoinshows@aol.com](mailto:texascoinshows@aol.com).

# PRECIOUS METALS: SAFE HAVEN OR INVESTING TRAP?

*[By Ross Koenig, January 18, 2026*

*From: The Reading Room – ANA's Online Magazine at money.org]*

As silver and gold have climbed past their historical highs in recent months, the frenzy around them has also grown. After browsing Reddit posts about silver's "climb to the moon" or seeing television commercials about the unmatched benefits of switching to a gold IRA, you may begin to wonder whether precious metals are really a foolproof investment.

## The Numbers Game

Times like this, in which both silver and gold have boasted recent returns far above that of the overall stock and bond markets, can make those bullish on metals seem very smart. In the past five years, gold has risen over 120 percent, with the S&P 500 index rising "only" around 80 percent. Zooming out, however, the data flips. In the past 35 years, gold has only risen around 1,000 percent compared to the S&P 500 rising around 4,000 percent. The window of time used for these stats matters, and oftentimes these windows are cherrypicked to start at unusually low prices and end near record highs.

## Volatility

If precious metals don't provide better returns than the overall stock market, then they must be much less volatile, right? An analysis of the volatility data from the Federal Reserve shows that this does not appear to be the case. Over the past 15 years, gold ETFs (exchange-traded funds) have only shown to be negligibly less volatile than the S&P 500 on average. If gold provides lower returns and is about as volatile as the stock market, then does it serve any purpose?

Proponents of gold oftentimes point to its status as a chosen hedge against inflation and doomsday scenarios as merits of the metal. Comparing the U.S. inflation rate to the price of gold, the first of those claims also doesn't appear to be correct. During each comparatively high inflation year of 1970, 1975, 1980, 1990, and 2022, gold prices sagged as inflation rose.

## Value

Fortunately for gold enthusiasts, the claim of gold as a hedge against doomsday scenarios holds more merit. In Weimar Germany (1918-33), and in more modern examples of economic system collapse in Zimbabwe and Venezuela, gold has often been turned to as an accepted form of payment when a country's own currency is no longer usable. Many point to gold's industrial uses as evidence of society's need for the metal, which gives it inherent value. These arguments are not without flaws, though, as industrial use makes up a fairly small percentage of what gold is used for—the largest category of use is in jewelry. Additionally, those that claim gold will always be valuable may forget that aluminum used to be more valuable than gold. Today, due to mining technology advancements, aluminum is one of the cheapest metals available. No mining breakthroughs are likely to unlock significant amounts of gold on our surface, but space exploration could certainly increase gold supply in the coming decades, driving down the metal's value.

## Conclusion

Gold may be far from the perfect investment it's often portrayed as online, but it's also far from being a terrible one. Done correctly, gold can be a reasonable part of a diversified portfolio. With that said, it's also important to understand that historical data suggests holding a disproportionate amount of gold essentially means that you're trading higher returns for a potential shield against a potential doomsday. Also consider how you'll store it—physical gold needs to be safely kept to avoid theft or loss. Other options exist, like gold-based ETFs and keeping gold in safe-deposit boxes, but these remove some of the benefits that having physical gold brings (like immediate access to stored value). While there's no perfect solution for how to invest, taking the time to understand every option is a great first step toward making the best decision for yourself.

## FROM YOUR EDITOR

Do you have a favorite coin story or special memory related to coins? I welcome you to put your thoughts on paper and submit your story to share with the rest of the Tyler Coin Club. Please consider doing so and send your write-up to me at [tylercoinclub-vp@outlook.com](mailto:tylercoinclub-vp@outlook.com) (please note new email address). Even if you don't want to write an article, I also welcome ideas. Is there a niche topic within numismatics about which you would like to know more? I can do some research and possibly write the article myself. I much prefer to include content that our membership wants to read. Thank you!

## NUMISMATIC INFORMATICS Riddle Answer:

The Buffalo Fifty Dollar golds take  
The prize for thickest\* we ever did make.  
\*2.95 mm



How many of you have one of these in your collection?