

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 parking lot just to the right of the library.



## YOUR TWO CENTS WORTHMARCH 2020

Visit the Tyler, Texas Coin Club IN PERSON AND ON THE INTERNET AT: TYLERCOINCLUB.ORG


## Numismatic Notes

## Thoughts from Our President

## Lane B.



Spring break! It's one of the best parts of March, right behind the second Tuesday, of course! And for those of us who are not heading out of town on vacation, it's a great time to do some 'spring cleaning' of our numismatic holdings. And no, I don't mean for you to break out the e-Z-est ${ }^{\circledR}$ or Brasso ${ }^{\circledR}$ and attack your 'tarnished' coins. I am thinking more along the lines of organizing your sets, pulling duplicates, and updating your want lists.

And when you have all the information on what you need and what you want to sell or trade, it's time to think about our club auction. There have been some really good deals at the auction recently and for the right coins, some pretty strong prices. It's great to see so many active bidders. Plus, it's a great bonus to watch Richard G. get animated as bidding begins to heat up!

And speaking of the auction, here are some guidelines to please remember:

- It is up to the bidder to determine (or agree with) the authenticity and grading of lots. If you have questions, please ask before you bid. One person's 'BU' treasure may be another person's 'cleaned' nightmare.
- If you would like to bid on a lot, place a colored dot on the auction slip. Only lots tagged with a colored dot will be put up for auction. And please don't be sneaky and place dots on your own lots!
- Please limit your auction offerings to no more than 12 lots per club meeting. We are limited on space and time and it's important to give everyone a chance to place lots in the auction.
- If you wish to fill out your auction slips in advance, take a few home with you or download auction slips from our club website: http://www.tylercoinclub.org/ membership.html

Be Our Guest. Want to see what Tyler Coin Club is all about? Be our guest at the next meeting. We think you'll find our members very friendly and our meetings quite in= teresting.
wwwotylercoinclub.org

- And as a friendly gesture to our young numismatists on limited budgets ... let a kid win an auction! (the last guideline was at the request of an anonymous adult club member).

TREASURERS REPORT $\mathbf{\$ \$ \$ \$}$


Balance as of beginning of February 11 Tyler Coin Club Meeting 7806.38

Check \#2682 to UT Tyler for liability Insurance (for 1 year) $104.00 \quad 7702.38$ Deposit 12 checks for Show Tab-
$2765.00 \quad 10467.38$
7 dues paid plus checks from auc-
219.5010686 .88

Ending Bank balance
10686.88

48 members have paid their dues for 2020
Thanks Royce!

## EDITOR's NOTES

First thing I would like to mention is to please get your dues In. Such a small amount for so many fine opportunities, and don't forget all the great folks you have met. Next, lets start thinking of spring! 'Time to get out of the stuffy Ole house and come to the meetings. Lets try to fill the room ! ! ! ! ! Last but not least, Grab up a friend and drag them to the next meeting and let someone else in all of our fin. Remember, you can't win all the Auctions !!!!!

## Bonus 2020-W Nickels Included In United States Mint


#### Abstract

The United States Mint has announced it is striking W-mintmark Jefferson nickels made at the West Point Mint and will be offering these pieces for free in certain coin sets to be released throughout the year. This promotion, following up on the tremendous success of the 2019-W Lincoln cents (pictured above) added as free bonuses in various United States Mint coin sets, is another chapter in a popular campaign that began in 1996 with the issuance of $\mathbf{W}$ -mintmark Roosevelt dimes in that year's uncirculated sets.


The special 2020-W Jefferson nickels will be included at no extra charge in the following combination of finishes and products: 2020-W uncirculated Jefferson nickel in 2020 uncirculated sets; 2020-W proof Jefferson nickel in 2020 proof sets; and 2020-W reverse proof Jefferson nickel in $\mathbf{2 0 2 0}$ silver proof sets. There is no limit on how many 2020-W Jefferson nickels will be struck by the United States Mint, and it's all but certain that these special five-cent coins will help bring new life to a coin series that many regard as a "sleeper."

Jefferson nickels, minted since 1938 and having seen relatively few changes until 2004, are popular coins but lack much of the pizzazz as seen in other series with rare key dates, lowmintage issues, and other exciting attributes. While the Westward Journey nickels of 2004$\mathbf{2 0 0 5}$ honoring the bicentennial of the Lewis \& Clark Expedition helped shed some momentary spotlight on the aging series, that buzz soon faded. Now, with the addition of the 2020-W nickels, we may again see some collector fervor for this iconic five-cent series.

## A VISIT TO "THE COIN CABINET"

by Larry V.

## The PURCELL COIN SHOP

I try to use vacation times to explore coin shows and shops far from home. I am happily surprised to say there are a scattering of small coin shops still out there run by individuals. This article is being written to concentrate on just one I came upon this last year. As I was driving South down interstate 35 from Oklahoma City, I couldn't help but notice a really nice big billboard indicating the "Purcell Coin Shop" located in downtown Purcell Oklahoma. I don't mind telling you it was the first billboard advertisement for a coin shop that I can ever recall seeing on an interstate highway. The shop is run by a middle-aged guy named James O. Pentecost. He works 5 days a week from 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM. His shop is half of a building shared with a muffler shop.


Ill estimate the space at around than $\mathbf{4 0 0}$ sq. ft. with a couple class cases, a safe, storage shelves and walls covered with coin supplies and Indian Territory maps (a second passion of James'). James shared the shop pays the bills only by his paying close attention to business - which he does with enthusiasm.

James is a good example of what it takes to be a successful independent coin dealer today. His inventory is primarily U.S. coins in his glass cabinets. I noted that he concentrates a large part of his time and enthusiasm on modern issues, such as error coins, the new polymer bank and fantasy notes, WestPoint mint marked quarters and such. While he has a significant part of his business walk in, he shared the fact that he also buys and sells regularly on eBay. He prices his coins and paper money based on internet searches - and is very adept at it. I asked his help in getting me started in the correct direction in identifying three medieval coins I had. It took him only a few minutes to help on 2 of the three, via google searches, and gave me his quick opinion of the third and the value of all of them. He shared how he googled the coins so that I might do better on my own the next time I run into such a problem.
In closing, I observed that James is an Army veteran left with some lung related issues. He is a Christian. He has his opinions and is direct in presenting them. He is detail oriented and structured in his accounting. His success is in no little way dependent on every business decision he makes and he is proud of his accomplishments. He is easy to work with and believes that being unquestionably honest is the best policy and it will help keep you out of trouble.

## Questions for Dr. Coyne:

1. In the field of paper money, what is another name for the front of a bill?
2. How does one remove PVC "slime" from a coin?
3. What is this coin? Is it a U.S. pattern?

4. In an advertisement of medals for sale, what does "size 14 " mean?
5. Which U.S. mints were private mints before they were purchased by the U.S. gov't?
6. What $20^{\text {th }}$ century year had U.S. cents issued for circulation in two different al loys?
7. Is this a piece of U.S. currency?


## Counterfeit Detection: 1884-O Morgan Dollar

Posted on 3/1/2020

An off-center error features a phony composition and weak strike.

## By Numismatic Guaranty Corporation ${ }^{\circledR}$

In 1884 the New Orleans Mint produced more than 9.7 million silver dollars. Of course, when striking so many coins, $a$ few mistakes are $b$ cur. Sometimes, blanks do not enter the coining chamber completely before the dies impact the surface, thus creating a valuable error kn off-center strike. However, thanks to the coins' large size, most mistakes were filtered out at the mint by both mechanical and manual me

Recently, Numismatic Guaranty Corporation (NGC) received what appeared to be a 15-percent off-center 1884-O Morgan dollar for gradi specimen like this would be worth thousands of dollars. However, a cursory inspection of the coin's elements revealed that it is not a gen


A genuine 1884-O Morgan dollar Click images to enlarge.


This counterfeit Morgan dollar error features rounded high points, dark areas and an eye that differes from a genuine specimen.

For starters, the piece has very weak details, especially on the high points of the motif. As is evident from the photos presented here, a genuine Morgan dollar displays much stronger design elements. One area that differs greatly is Liberty's eye and eyelid, which are the incorrect shape and size. Furthermore, the high points are soft and rounded. They appear to be partially struck because of insufficient die pressure, which left dark, flat areas, such as around the nose.


Note the eye shape of a genuine Morgan dollar (left) versus the counterfeit (right). Click images to enlarge.

At $\mathbf{2 6 . 4 g}$, the spurious coin is very close to the proper weight of $\mathbf{2 6 . 7 3 \mathrm { g }}$. However, the fake appears thicker than it should. Additionally, its composition is 67-percent copper, 25-percent zinc, 6-percent nickel, 1-percent silver, and 1-percent iron and other metals. This is a far cry from the standard 90-percent silver/10-percent copper of a genuine example.

Clearly, this counterfeit is not meant to fool serious numismatists, but it might trick a new collector who doesn't realize that even errors can be faked. This is a good example of why it is important to always remain vigilant when making purchases. If you are unsure of your authentication abilities, it is best to buy coins already encapsulated and graded by NGC.

## Dr. Coyne's Answers

1. In the field of paper money, what is another name for the front of a bill?In the field of paper money, the front of a bill is called the "front" or "face". The term "obverse" is for coins, tokens, and medals.

2. The oily and sometimes green residue found on the surfaces of coins stored for a long time in soft plastic "flips" can be effectively removed using non-reactive solvents. This PVC residue (actually the plasticizer from the polyvinyl chloride film the flip was made from) can be removed using acetone or MEK (lacquer thinner). Some also use isopropyl alcohol, but that is slower and less reliable. Acid type coin cleaners such as JewelLuster or EZ-est are not preferred for PVC residue removal.

3. This is a pattern "goloid" dollar. It is part of a largely failed experiment to align American coin denominations more closely with the European "metric" system. The goloid alloy, as recited on the reverse of the coin contains gold, silver, and copper. But the gold content is necessarily small, given he modest face value of the coin. The mint had con= cerns that since the alloy looks practically indistinguishable from a silver/copper alloy, the door would be open for counterfeiters to make look-alikes from a cheap alloy. This is Judd-1626, a William Barber design, and listed as a rarity 4 piece "U.S. Pattern Coins" $10^{\text {th }}$ ed.

## Dr. Coyne's Answers Continued

4. In America, specifications for medals often includes their diameter, stated in six= teenths of an inch. Thus, "size $14^{\text {" }}$ denotes $14 / 16$ (or 7/8) of an inch. In Europe, medal sizes (and sizes of coins, too) are often given directly in millimeters. Thus, 20mm would be about 20/25.4 inches, or a bit over $3 / 4$ inch.
5. Mints at Denver and San Francisco were built as private operations to serve those then-remote areas. But after just a few years, they were acquired by the Federal gove ernment and became official branch mints of the main mint at Philadelphia. The Denver operation was started by Clark-Gruber and Co. in 1860 to coin the recently discouered gold from the Pike's Pealk region. The operation was purchased in $\mathbf{1 8 6 2}$ and ran for many years as the Denver Assay Office, but with no Federal coins produced there. Coinage had to await construction of the new (and present) Denver Mint in 1906. In San Francisco, Moffat \& Co. opened a mint in 1849 to coin the newly mined gold from the sierras. That operation (then in the name of Curns, Perry, and Ward) was acquired by the U.S. in 1854, and Federal coins began being struck in the same facility right away. The "new" San Francisco Mint (the Granite Lady) did not open until 1870. A variety of Moffat pieces are available in the collector market today.
6. It is the cents of 1982 which are found in both the traditional $95 \%$ copper/5\% zinc and the now-familiar copper plated zinc ( $99 \%$ zinc overall). The weight was reduced from 3.11 grams to $\mathbf{2 . 5}$ grams. The next prior "crossover year" in which circulation cents were made in two alloys would be 1864.
7. Despite the nice line engraving of Ben Franklin, this is not currency at all. It is a public admission ticket to the 1893 Columbian World's Fair at Chicago. Variations for timing and type of admission are available and are interesting collectibles.

## I would like to Thank

John Barber for giving us Dr. Coyne each month !!!
Hope you all enjoy it !!

# "KIDS CORNER" 5 Reasons To Start Collecting Coins Now 

## \#1 - Some Coins Are Dirt Cheap!

Many people think of coin collecting as a rich person's hobby. Yes, some rich people do collect coins, including:

Penny Marshall
Nicole Kidman
Wayne Gretzky
James Earl Jones
But there are lots of folks who aren't movie stars, sports legends, or celebrities who collect coins, too. Including me!

I started off collecting coins for as little as a couple dollars per week. It's not hard to get started as a coin collector.

All you need to get started pocket, purse, or coin jar know what to look for.

If you aren't up to looking sands of coins just to find than a buck or two, why dealer? Believe it or not, cialize in budget coin col-

are the coins in your and the knowledge to
through potentially thouthe first one worth more not buy them from a coin many coin dealers spelecting, selling cheap coins like the following:

Lincoln wheat pennies
Common-date 90\% silver coins
Modern copper-nickel clad coins
Mint sets and proof sets
As you'll find, collecting coins really doesn't have to be expensive, and many coins are priced reasonably enough for just about anybody to buy even old, classic coins without breaking the bank
\#2 - There Are Some Really Cool U.S. Coins To Collect
Yes, there are! In fact, there are tons of neat coins out there.

## "KIDSCORNER"

If you're totally new to coin collecting, here are a few U.S. coins that l'll bet you never heard of before:

Half cents
Large cents (they're pennies the size of a half dollar!)
2-cent coins
3-cent coins
20-cent coins
$\$ 50$ gold coins
These are odd types of coins to collect - the kinds you're not likely to find in your pocket change. But they're real American coins, and you can add them to your coin collection if you've got a few bucks on hand.

There are many other types of interesting coins you can find as a coin collector coins you'll probably never find if you're looking through spare change. They include: Olympic commemorative coins

Star Wars coins
Coins with gems in them
And much more
Pretty awesome, huh? Many of these interesting modern coins listed just above weren't even available just a few years ago, and now they're around for coin collectors anywhere to enjoy.

See? There never was a better time to get involved with coin collecting than now!
\#3 - Historic Rare Coins Are For Sale... Now
Whether or not you're a coin collector, there are a few rare coins you've probably heard of, including:

1943 bronze pennies
1944 steel pennies
1913 Liberty nickels
1804 silver dollars

## "KIDS CORNER"

These are all very rare coins that have been offered for sale in recent times, and others like them are available for you to buy if you can shell out the dough!


What's it cost to buy rare coins?
It depends on the type of coins you want.
Here are some of the most expensive rare coins to cross the auction block:
1794 Flowing Hair Dollar - \$10,016,875
1933 Saint Gaudens \$20 Double Eagle — \$7,590,020
1804 Draped Bust Dollar — \$4,140,000
1913 Liberty Nickel - \$3,737,500
1907 Ultra-High Relief Saint-Gaudens $\mathbf{\$ 2 0}$ Double Eagle - \$2,990,000
It may cost a pretty penny to buy some of the rare coins you have your eye on, but imagine the feeling of raising your hand in an auction and getting the winning bid... It's a feeling like no other!
\#4 - Gold \& Silver Coins Are More Affordable Than Before
Gold and silver bullion prices fluctuate. Some days, gold and silver prices are up, and on other days they are down.


Some people not familiar with the bullion market may think that gold and silver prices always and only go up, but that just isn't true.

In fact, since 1980, silver and gold prices have spiked upward to record or nearrecord highs twice only to collapse twice. And as of this writing in late 2016, bullion is on a relative, longterm downswing.

That means many gold coins and silver coins are also cheaper now than when bullion prices were hitting their zeniths.

What does this mean for you?
If you want to collect gold coins and silver coins, now may be the time to buy them.
\#5 - The Coin Collecting Hobby Is Becoming More Diverse.


All types of people collect coins: men, women, young, old, rich, poor... you name it.

It seems the types of people entering the hobby today is more diverse than it was when I started collecting coins in 1992.

## "KIDSCORNER"

Really, it's true. There are more women and kids collecting coins these days, and more individuals from all walks of life are calling themselves coin collectors more than ever.

What's behind this trend of diversity in coin collecting?
It could be that the types of coins available to collectors today is more vast than ever - attracting people with all different kinds of tastes to the hobby.

The United States Mint is drawing in entirely new coin collecting crowds with issues such as these:

## 50 States quarters

America The Beautiful quarters
Presidential \$1 coins
Native American dollars
Jackie Robinson coins
Bald Eagle Recovery coins
Boy Scouts of America silver dollar
Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. silver dollar
National Baseball Hall of Fame coins
Civil Rights Act of 1964 silver dollar
Mark Twain coins
Breast Cancer Awareness coins

There's so much out there for coin collectors today, and the list of topics covered on U.S. coins grows virtually every year.

So, if you're considering coin collecting but just don't think there's anything in it for you, then think again. There's a spot for you in the hobby, and there are plenty of coins that are certain to speak to your soul.

## UPCOMING COLLECTOR OPPORTUNUTIES

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 - May29-31 ... 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 Conference 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

