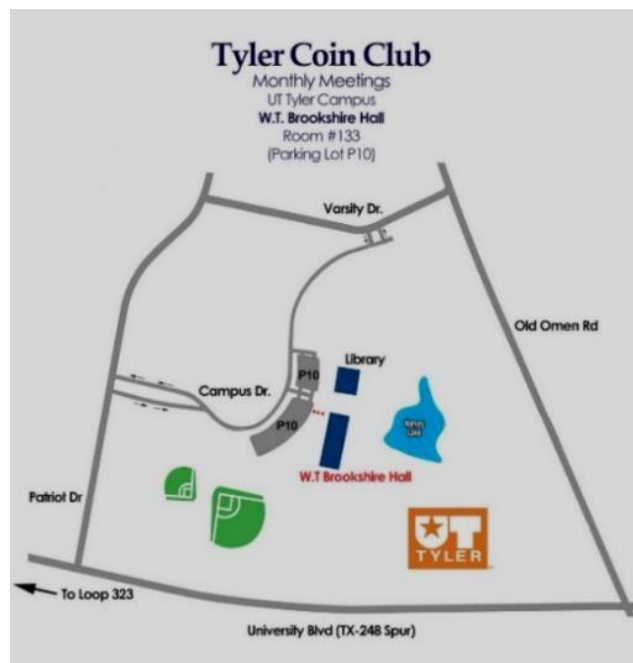


# YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH MARCH 2022



(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 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 President

Richard G.

Hello fellow numismatist:

I hope this note finds you well and doing something concerning coins. Gold and Silver are on the rise, as I sit down after a long day at the coin show in Duncan Oklahoma. (Keep buying, it's March madness).

I want to personally thank everyone who participated in our last coin club meeting. I was a little nervous because it was my first meeting as president, but familiar friends and faces pulled me through.

What a great group of people we have in our coin club. You guys are the greatest!!!! I would like to give a personal thank you to Kern for doing the coin auction (it's not as easy as it looks). I am looking forward to Allen doing a presentation on paper money at our next meeting (we are blessed to have his knowledge among us).

Something I am considering is making a coin calendar of events for our club so that we all can be aware of upcoming coins shows and events. What do you think???? I would like your opinion and ideas. Please let me know at the next meeting.

Thank you all again for making things easy on me. May God richly bless you until we meet again.

Richard

## **MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 8, 2022 MEETING**

Meeting called to order at 7pm by President Richard G. with Pledge to the Flag

**Attendance** Members: 34    New Members: 0    Guests: 0    Total: 34

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

- The club was lead in prayer by Allen B.
- Introduction/recognition of guests, visitors, and new members.

- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in month of February.
- Richard distributed a questionnaire to gather updated information from club members.
- Royce presented a brief Treasurer's report including bank balances and TNA advertising for August show.
- David H gave an update on the 2022 Tyler Coin Show. Dealer tables are sold out; a dealer waiting list has been started. Dealer setup is Thursday, August 11th. The show is open to the public Friday and Saturday, August 12-13.
- Royce, Richard, and David discussed their experiences at the recent Houston Money Show.
- Don H. recalled how carrying \$2 notes while traveling abroad help catch a career burglar.
- Royce showed a \$2 note he sent in for grading. The note had a serial number with his grandson's birthdate.
- The next regular club meeting is March 8, 2022 at W.T. Brookshire Hall (room #133) on the UT Tyler campus.
- Meeting adjourned.

#### **Club Auction (Kern L.)**

- 32 auction items sold - \$3,166.50

#### **Door Prize Winners**

- Debbie, Kern, Stephen, and Steve

## **QUESTIONS FOR DR. COYNE**

1. Is this item a token or a medal?



2. What U.S. coin was produced on the thinnest planchets?
3. What is the matter with keeping coins in PVC "flips" for long term storage?
4. What is the title of the standard reference on world coins 1801-2000?
5. If a fake silver coin is a "cast", how can I tell?

6. What is different about the process of making a proof coin, compared with circulation strikes?
7. Some Byzantine coins were struck with curved (concave and convex) surfaces. Has the U.S. ever made deliberately cupped coins?
8. Are older NGC slabs susceptible to having the hologram scratched off?

## DR. COYNE RESPONDS

1. This is a medal. Tokens differ from medals in that tokens are intended to pass as money (even if they don't always state their face value), while medals are commemoratives of persons, places, events, and are not intended to pass as money. Tokens and medals can both be issued by governments or private parties.
2. It is the three cent silver coin which was struck on the thinnest planchets. Although the Type 1 gold dollars had a smaller diameter than the trime, they were thicker and heavier.



3. Clear, flexible coin envelopes have been in use for nearly 60 years, but experience has shown that the flips made from polyvinyl chloride (PVC) can damage coins as the plasticizer which makes the flip flexible leaches out onto the surface of the coin. The oily plasticizer then reacts with the surface metal of the coin. This Jefferson Nickel was placed into this flip in 1963, and it is now a goner.



See the "green slime"?

4. While William D. Craig had published three editions (first 1966) of his "Coins of the World 1750-1850, most numismatists would say the standard reference for these pieces now is Krause's "Standard Catalog of World Coins" – now broken into multiple volumes each serving one century's worth of coins and each over 1000 pages. The DVD version of these references is making headway in the market.
5. A cast coin of any metal will have surfaces that show a different texture than the surfaces of a struck coin. Fine porosity or bubbles are often visible. Most cast coins also do not have the crisp detail that is possible in a struck coin. Additionally, most casts are lighter

than the genuine coin they mimic. A seam may be visible around the edge where the mold halves were separated.



6. Proof coins are struck multiple times (usually twice in modern production) on specially prepared planchets from polished dies on presses which run slower and apply a higher striking pressure than those used to make circulation strikes. This makes possible the extra detail, mirror surfaces, and high square rims which we associate with modern proofs.



7. Those willing to wait in a long line at a 2014 Baltimore coin show could buy directly from the Mint the then-new “Baseball” commemoratives in clad, silver, or gold versions. These “new technology” pieces have developed a following in the market. Dr. Coyne feels the U.S. Mint still lags the Canadian Mint in offering innovative pieces for the modern collector market.



8. Dr. Coyne has seen all too many coins encapsulated by both PCGS and NGC with damaged holders. Both firms came through a time when they placed the hologram on the outside of the slab and careless handling (or ham-handed removal of a dealer price sticker) would rip the hologram. But in 2014 we have Max Spiegel of NGC stating on an internet blog that NGC had revised their holders, including better protection for the hologram. In practice, we still see damaged holders. All four major TPG services offer economical “reholder” options (but these require payment of postage and other fees).

## **UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS**

**Northwest Louisiana Money Show**, March 4th-5th, Hilton Garden Inn, 2015 Old Minden Road, Bossier City, LA

**South Central Regional Coin & Currency Show**, March 25th-27th, Stoney Creek Hotel and Conference Center, 200 West Albany Drive, Broken Arrow, OK

**TNA Annual Coin Show**, June 3rd-5th, Arlington Convention Center, 1200 Ballpark Way, Arlington, TX

**Ark-La-Tex Coin, Stamp & Card Expo**, July 23rd-24th, Bossier Civic Center, 620 Benton Rd., Bossier City, LA

**Tyler Coin Show**, August 12th-13th, Ornelas Activity Center, 3402 Old Omen Rd., Tyler, TX

## **COLLECTING WISDOM**

While buying collectable coins and related items is enjoyable, staying happy requires we keep in mind the financial return of what is basically an investment – and consistent successful investment requires wisdom.

Wisdom comes from the experience of putting knowledge into action. To know how you are doing regarding the financial investment in your hobby, be periodically involved in selling as well as buying.

# A TRIP TO THE COIN CABINET

by Richard L.



(Obverse the design of a Texas Centennial Half Dollar from the series minted starting in 1934 and ending in 1938. Designed by renowned Italian born / "who got here as soon as I could" Texan sculptor Pompeo Coppini)

Of all the coins, coin types, international and domestic, gold, silver, or lesser metals, my all-time favorite remains the Texas Commemorative Half Dollar. Maybe it is that patriotic "Texan" experience which has been part of my family history for at least four generations prior to my time in Texas history. Or it could be the Texas Half has unique eye appeal and is able to answer the question, "**Just how much can you get on the field of a half dollar?**" Whatever the case, the image shared above is for me a significant presence.

It was therefore with a bit of restrained giddiness that I placed a bid on a less intense derivative of the familiar design. I was scrolling through eBay and there it was, a bronze medal from 1978. After a few days of tracking the piece, I found myself the winner with a more than satisfying bid. The only thing I needed to figure out was the reason why my treasure existed. After a bit of virtual "diving" I discerned that the purpose was to honor the members of the Old Timers Assay Commission Society (OTACS) on the occasion of their 14th reunion and social gathering held in conjunction with the American Numismatic Association's annual meeting and convention in my hometown of Houston.

Following this discovery I was able to find an interesting article on the subject which was penned by David Ganz, a famous "numismatic" attorney and former president (1993 to 1995) of the ANA. The article which drew my attention appeared in the *Numismatic News* back on July 24, 2012. In this Ganz shared some interesting history along with a note of sadness regarding the Old Timers Assay Commission Society.

Here are the basic details worth noting. Back when the first mint in Philadelphia was founded, one of the items of business was the establishment of an "Assay Commission" created to review weight, maintain standards, double check the products of the mint, along with the general order of quality, of testing and visually sampling our government's coinage output. To ensure the highest quality both possible and true. The original Assay Commission was created by law on April 2, 1792. Ganz shared that a reaffirmation occurred eighty years later as part of the famous Coinage Act of 1873.

Members of the original Assay Commission were generally political or politically attached. There were twenty five members who served without pay for a one year stay. A new group was appointed by the President of the United States each year. Over time the focus of the

Commission shifted with a number of high profile numismatists taking on the role of assayers. Ganz was a member, appointed by President Nixon, in 1974. Others of note are Eric Newman (1967), John J. Pittman (1947), and Adna Wilde (1975). I could not find an exhaustive list of former members and imagine there will be a few from our own great state involved.

All of this shared before brings me to 1964 when the OTACS was founded. The call was for a fellowship of former members, veterans of the assay task. Considering the number of people appointed each year I am sure, at that point forward, the potential for a large number of followers at the annual celebration was staggering. This was a time to remember, to brag a bit, to share stories, essentially a single focused social fellowship.

When David Ganz's article was published, back eight years ago in 2012, he shared a few sad details. After nearly two centuries of existence, the need for an official Assay Commission was no longer pressing. There were no more silver nor gold coins to assess. Modern technology could perform the task more quickly and with greater efficiency. So, in 1977, when the time came to make appointments to the Assay Commission, then President Jimmy Carter said "no." And chose not to continue the practice. This was followed in 1980 by an official Act to end the Commission. Also under consideration was the cost of maintaining a part of the government practice which was not efficient nor necessary. (An almost unheard of concept, right?)

So, let's move forward into 2012. According to Ganz this was to be the last meeting of the Old Timers Assay Commissioners Society. Ganz shares the challenge that the group's demise was inevitable because "death and infirmity claimed" the members. I'm sure it was a good and fun run with lots of fellowship, blessings and memories.

Putting all of this together ... my newly found treasure is testimony to one of the gatherings of the OTACS. It is a medal, with ribbon, from their 14th annual meeting held at the same time and same place as the ANA convention in Houston in 1978. I thank the organizers for creating a souvenir featuring my favorite commemorative half design. It fits my Texas based collection nicely, and aided me in learning something new about our "hobby of kings." (And we common folk, too.)

Y'all stay healthy and safe ... Regards and God Bless ...Richard





# CREATING A NUMISMATIC EXHIBIT

Notes by Larry V.

## Why do people exhibit?

To share knowledge, show off their collection, the thrill of competition, they find enjoyment in collection via research, they want recognition, they believe it can be fun, or they simply want an excuse to go to a coin show (thinking “Vacation”).

Plan to create a fun exhibit and transfer your excitement to your audience. Brainstorm ideas for your exhibit with crazy ideas to kick around.

## What do you do after thinking of a topic?

1. Check your numismatic material to see if you have what you think you need. Make sure what you need is available.
2. Pick a title. Limit the topic. The title should be brief with maybe a subtitle (a sentence is too long). Look for a “hook” word to include in your title that will draw people’s attention. If the title is a question, be sure the display answers that question.
3. Decide who your audience will be. Are you looking to appeal to other collectors, local interests, children, ??? Use terms your audience will understand.
4. Use an essay style of writing/exhibiting: 1) Introduction (tell us what you’re going to tell us), 2) Development (tell us), 3) a conclusion (tell us what you told us).

## Assembling Your Exhibit

Make your original layout by sketching it out on a piece of paper, providing a concept of where everything will be laid out in the exhibit case. Make your story from the top to bottom and left to right. Felt is good for backgrounds as it is easy on the eye. Use quality material for your display (see scrapbooking supplies). Inexpensive material will likely look cheap in an exhibit display.

## Preparation for the Show

Set your exhibit up at home before packing it for taking to the show. Make sure the arrangement and balance of the display is easy on the eye. Photographically record your set-up to help you make sure you reproduce it correctly at the show.

Pack up the exhibit for the show, making a checklist as you do so. Pack it up in waterproof containers as you may get rain at the show (use plastic containers or garbage bags).

## The Show

Be conscious of security. Avoid interruptions when setting up. Do not walk away from your exhibit while a case is open. Take your time and don’t rush. Clean the display case inside and out.