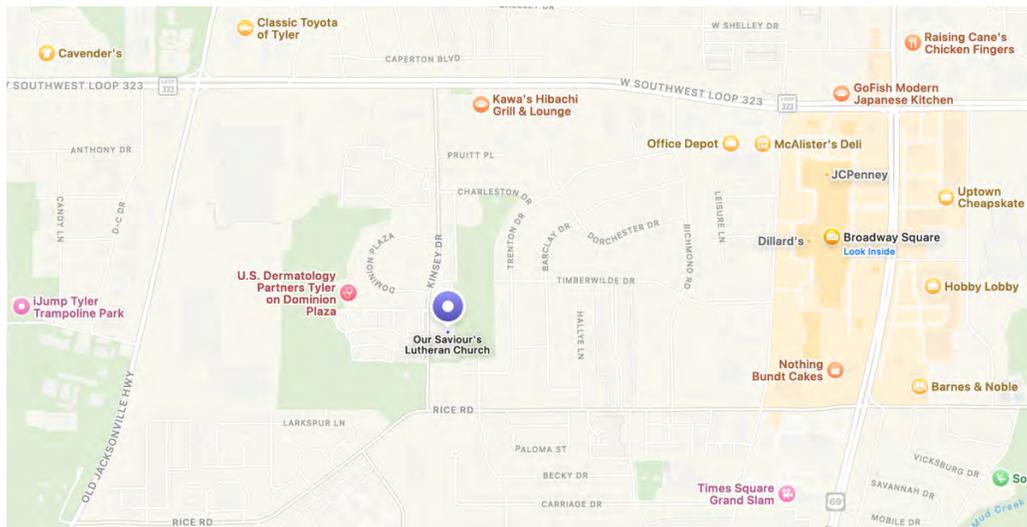


YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH – MARCH 2026



(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 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

Greetings Tyler Coin Club:

Spring is in the air; it's March already!!!! As I write this note, I am reflecting upon some beautiful flowers that I saw yesterday at a rental house that I own.

I so enjoy spring; it's my favorite time of the year. I love it because of the newness of nature and that makes me feel alive.

Speaking of newness and feeling alive, our club is expanding with new members every time we get together. It's getting hard for me to keep up with all the new people. (that's either a good thing or I'm getting old, maybe it could be both???)

If you are a newer member, please let me say that I am proud that you have come on board. Please feel free to call me about anything.

I would also like to say to our regular members, please help me to welcome our new members into the greatest coin club in Texas.

David says that our next show is coming right along quite nicely. It will be here before you know it. Be ready to give David a hand as the show dates approach; it's our volunteer club members that help to make each show a success. Mark the date: August 14th and 15th. [Hint: if you volunteer to help out on dealer set-up day on August 13th, you may get first opportunity to make some deals and add some coins to your collection!]

Whether you're collecting or investing or both, it's a great time to be a part of coins, bullion, and numismatics. I would like to wish everyone "happy collecting/investing" and that you will enjoy the wild ride!

May God Bless You and keep You until we meet again.

Richard

TYLER COIN CLUB (TNA District 12) MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 10, 2026

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

Attendance Members: 55

Discussion of Agenda Items (Richard)

- The prayer was given by Corky Henry
- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Daryl Prichard
- There were 4 new members joining the club:
 - Richard McGill (member number 276)
 - Dakota Cannon (Youth member number 277)
 - Bob Dickson (member number 278)
 - Robert Pratt (member number 279)
- Treasury Report by Royce: Balance of \$13,524.44. Several checks written –
 - All-American Tent for coin show tables – half payment of \$1600.00
- Royce presented Gift Certificates to the members with February birthdays, and also recognized members with February anniversaries.
- Don Haygood gave a presentation about silver's recent rapid rise and rapid fall in price.
- Assistant Den Leader for Cub Scout Pack 369, Erik Malmberg, gave a short talk about his den's work on one of their required adventures – Adventures in Coins, and about how our club may be able to help them out.
- Richard presided over the auction. 28 items sold.
- The next Tyler Coin Club Meeting will be March 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

LEARNING SHOULD NEVER STOP

(by F Michael Fazzari)

[reprinted from the May 20,2025 issue of Numismatic News, Vol. 74 No. 12]

I never intended to be doing this for so long. Teaching a seminar with live bodies is fun, but writing is often a chore, lasting quite a while with several drafts over a few days to get it right. Unfortunately, organizing my previous columns was not one of my priorities, but I'm starting to realize how important it should have been. That's because when something I read or see while examining a coin gives me an idea for one of these columns, the thought crosses my mind that the subject may be something I've written about before. There is hardly anything new under the sun. To get me through this "block," I tell myself that just as a sunny day, or a super "Cherry-pick," repetition can be nice, so here is a long list in no particular order of some things I've written about or learned over the years:

Buy the book. These days of ongoing research open up discovery and more enjoyment in several coin series with each new reference book. In the late 1960s, when I got serious about coins, the books were few, and there was no Internet. I read a complete collection of Numismatic Scrapbook and every edition of the Numismatist to get an idea of all that I had missed.

All coins in the same grade are not equal. The various auction prices and the existence of "Stickers" on slabs containing high-end coins for their grade confirm this. These stickers and the chase for the top Registry Sets have inflated prices.

Market manipulation exists. This occurs with precious metals, hot/cold coin series, and even specific dates for events (e.g., the 1912 Titanic sunk) commemorated by telemarketers.

Grading is very subjective. Coins with problems are often ignored in graded slabs. This is especially true for older Type coins over a hundred years old that are expected to have problems. One man's scratch is another man's damage, and the destruction of originality from cleaning happens in degrees, with chemical cleaning being harder for most to detect. Unfortunately, you can have one of the finest examples of a coin in your collection, but unless it is professionally graded in a slab, it will be downplayed by most.

Learn from others, but don't be quick to believe everything you hear or read. Today, information is within easy reach, especially on the Internet, but some of it is incorrect. Join a coin club and several coin forums on the Internet. It will give you access to good information through debate from well-respected "experts."

Buy what you like and not the fads. Don't get fixated on the completion of a set. Be patient and wait for the "right" coin so you don't waste money on transactions to upgrade. Buy the highest grade coins you can afford. You'll get more bang for your buck if you buy the highest grade before the big jump in the price guides. Much of the fun is in the hunt. Buy the expensive key coins in your set first. Truthfully, I don't know anyone, including me, who has ever followed this advice.

Most coins are not an investment. You should be collecting because you enjoy it. You'll probably live longer with a hobby. The chance of striking it rich looking at pocket change is a million to

one; however, it provides cheap thrills, passes time, and you will find interesting "keeper" coins of very low value.

Collecting "non-numismatic" gold coins allows for a greater chance of financial gain if that is your chief desire. Many attractive and low-mintage coins from around the world can be bought for just a little over melt.

A magnified black-and-white image taken using fluorescent light is a better way to determine whether coins are in full Mint State condition or counterfeit. That's because the camera reveals things in detail that are often missed with the eye alone.

Don't become complacent. Your learning should never stop. I personally don't care who you are, what you collect, or what you know. Certainly, there are many numismatists who are better than most, but they cannot know everything. You will increase your knowledge through interaction with them and others. Be open to opinions, but confirm everything by debate and personal research.

Top-grade, original coins may not exist in some series, except for changing grading standards over time, so that coins that were once graded Extremely Fine are now considered to be Mint State. This occurrence, called "Gradeflation," has affected all grades, but mostly coins in Extremely Fine and above.

Common coins will never become uncommon without external measures, such as melting, while rare coins have a chance of becoming less rare if more turn up.

Today, a coin's eye-appeal is more important than its actual condition of preservation. Learn the characteristics that the "market" considers to be popular at this time, such as rainbow-colored toning. Train your eye to see quality by examining high grade coins in slabs.

Finally, I'll leave you with a conundrum. A diversity of objects in a collection will usually make it more interesting, with its value spread across a lot of baskets. For that reason, a museum curator of our National Collection told me that he wished he had assembled a Type Set of United States coins rather than working on his one special series. However, it should be obvious to readers that when a collector specializes in one coin Type, they should know more about it than most, will be able to buy unappreciated or underpriced examples, and they will have a chance of making new discoveries. What collection path would you pick?

NUMISMATIC INFORMATICS

(by Jim Mohon)

This might set your mind to percolating:
What's the thickest coin CIRCULATING?

(answer on page 9)

MY SMALLEST COIN

(by Kern Lunde)

When considering a coin to feature from my collection that has a story, my recent cruise through the Panama Canal last month brought to mind a favorite in my collection: a Panama 1904 2 ½ centesimos, the smallest coin minted by the United States Mint, thus earning the nickname “Panama Pill”. And the nickname is justly earned: mine is barely larger in diameter when compared to an 81mg chewable aspirin!

With the backing of the United States, Panama seceded from Colombia in 1903, allowing the construction of the Panama Canal to be completed between 1904 and 1914. The Panamanian balboa replaced the Colombian peso in 1904 following the country's independence. The United States produced coins for the new country, initially minting coins denominated as 2 ½, 5, 10, 25, and 50 centesimos, all minted in .900 fine silver. The reason for the 2 ½ centesimos coin was that it was needed to make the 12.5 cents = 1 real of the former Hispanic-American monetary system when added to a 10-cent coin. The balboa has been tied to the United States dollar (which is also legal tender in Panama) at an exchange rate of 1:1 since its introduction and has always circulated alongside United States dollars.

The “Panama Pill” has only 1.25 grams of silver and has a diameter of only 10 mm (the chewable aspirin mentioned above has a diameter of 8.5 mm). Although dated 1904, these coins were actually minted in February 1905.



The obverse features a portrait of Vasco Núñez de Balboa facing left. Balboa was a Spaniard, the first European to cross the Isthmus, to reach the Pacific by land and discover the Perlas Archipelago (1513). The seven stars represent the country's seven provinces at that time (there are now ten).

I will bring this coin with me to the March meeting if anyone wants to get a closer look. But be sure to bring a magnifying glass!

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!

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION'S NUMISMATIC DIPLOMA PROGRAM

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

Did you know that the ANA's Numismatic Diploma Program provides American Numismatic Association members the opportunity to obtain a "Numismatic Scholar" certificate by completing a series of correspondence courses, hands-on seminars or a combination of the two?

Students embark on an exciting and rewarding journey while acquiring knowledge and skills necessary to appreciate and enjoy the hobby with interactive activities, articles from *The Numismatist*, and exploration of museum resources.

There are currently three courses available online:

Course 1, ***Introduction to Numismatics***, provides an exploration of coins and collecting to all lovers of things numismatic. This course focuses on the history of money, what gives coins value, ways to collect, how to purchase coins, storing your collection, estate planning, numismatic literature, and exhibiting.

Course 2, ***Grading U.S. Coins***, provides collectors of all levels with the skills needed to evaluate coins in their collections and assess potential purchases. A deeper understanding of the factors and current standards that determine a coin's condition and grade enables independent study and appraisal of pieces, without relying solely on grades assigned by third-party services and others.

Course 3, ***Detecting Counterfeit & Altered Coins***, is for those who are new to the hobby or a more experienced numismatist. You will learn skills that will help you evaluate coins in your collection as well as potential purchases. If you better understand the factors and characteristics that determine a coin's authenticity, you will be able to add to your collection with more confidence.

[*Disclaimer: This course is designed to give students a glimpse into the world of counterfeit and altered coins. It DOES NOT certify anyone in their ability to detect counterfeits. For more experience with detecting counterfeits and altered coins, consider taking a live Summer Seminar course or attending a Technical Seminar at one of our shows.]

You may sign up by visiting money.org/diploma-program and completing the online form. The cost for the first course is only \$75. The charge includes a \$25 one-time registration fee and a \$50 course fee. For members who have completed the previous diploma program courses and passed the final exam, there will be a discounted rate. For more information, contact Christian Strayhorn at cstrayhorn@money.org.

****Please note that the ANA Numismatic Diploma Program is not accredited and does not make someone a professional numismatist, dealer, coin grader, appraiser, or anything similar.***

If you are not already a member of the ANA, here is a great reason to join! Simply visit info.money.org/join to see the benefits and join!

FUTURE COIN SHOW EVENTS

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.

April 24 – 25: The 3rd 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.

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). For more information, please contact Gary and Judy Dobbins, 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.

June 20: Paris Coin Show, Lamar Avenue Church of Christ, 3535 Lamar Ave, Paris, TX 75460. Hours: Saturday 9am – 4pm. Free admission; free parking. For more information, contact Joe Vincent (P.O. Box 707, Paris, TX 75461 or 903-669-7942).

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 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.

November 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.

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 (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 half dollar “edges” all others out,
And is our thickest* coin about.

*2.15mm

