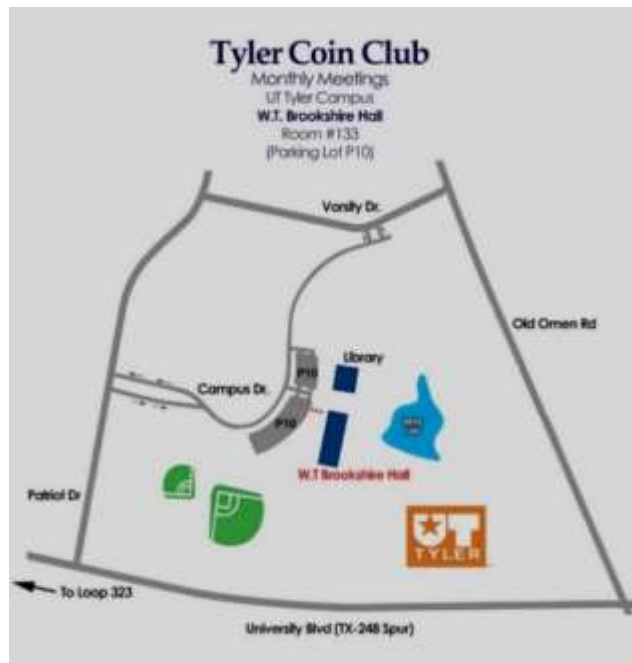


YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH MAY 2021



(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 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

Lane B.

The hobby moves on, with or without us. This obvious numismatic adage was brought home last month when, through a silly accident, I was not able to attend our Club meeting. From what I was told, the meeting went well, auction lots sold, and people had fun. And that's no surprise knowing our club members. It did highlight, however, what many of us more seasoned collectors tend to think about every now and then. Namely, who are the next collectors to populate our coin clubs, attend the shows, or become professional numismatists when we are no longer active in the hobby?

This is more than a question of who is going to buy my coins. It's more about who will be there to continue sharing the passion we have for our wonderful hobby. For many of us, numismatics has been with us for decades. We have seen collecting fads, market hype, and the emergence of stunningly high prices for coins we used to think were "cheap." At the core, however, is the love for the history held in those little round metal disks. Whether the history of our great nation or the memories of time spent with loved ones; coins were a part. And this has been and continues to be important to us. Let's do what we can to get others excited about numismatics. It matters not whether it's excitement about coins or notes, US or world, ancient or modern. What matters is sparking the same passion we have and tending to that flame until it grows strong.

MINUTES OF THE April 13, 2021 MEETING **OF THE TYLER COIN CLUB** by Carl S.

Meeting called to order by Vice President Larry Vann with Pledge to the Flag

Discussion of Agenda Items (Larry)

- The club was lead in prayer by Royce.
- Introduction/recognition of guests, visitors, and new members.
- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in month of April.
- Royce presented a brief Treasurer's report.
- David gave an update on preparations for the 2021 coin show (August 13-14). New location is Ornelas Activity Center. Dealer tables are sold out.

- Reminder: members and guests are required to fill out the sign-in sheet at each meeting in case Covid contract tracing is needed.
- Allen B. gave a presentation on Use of Ultra Violet Light in Numismatics. Presentation included demonstration on currency.
- Next regular meeting is May 11, 2021 at W.T. Brookshire Hall (room #133) on the UT Tyler campus.

Attendance: Members: 26 New Members: 1 Guests: 3 Total: 30

Club Auction (Richard G.)

- 12 items sold - \$414.00

A VISIT WITH DR. COYNE

As National Coin Week occurred this past month (April), I am substituting trivia questions from the ANA in this newsletter. Dr. Coyne will be back with us next month.

Questions:

1. What United States Mint location produced Morgan dollars in only one year, 1921?



2. The first Peace dollar (1921-28, 1934-35) was minted 100 years ago. Production ceased in 1929 due to the depletion of silver originally provided by what act of Congress?



3. The first Eisenhower dollar (1971-78) was first minted 50 years ago. It honors Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander in Europe during World War II and 34th President of the United States. The coin also celebrates a major achievement by a government agency founded by Eisenhower. Name this agency.

4. The paper money in our pockets used to be a whole lot bigger. In what year did the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing first release small-size banknotes into circulation, and begin replacing large-size notes?



Pictured: "Horse Blanket" Series 1901 \$10 Legal Tender Bison note.

Responses:

1. The Denver mint.
2. The Pittman Act. This act authorized the conversion of not exceeding 350,000,000 standard silver dollars into bullion and its sale or sue for subsidiary silver coinage.

3. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). It was established in 1958 in part to compete with the Soviet Union's space program.



The major achievement: Apollo 11 Lunar landing. Neil Armstrong: "The Eagle has landed."

4. 1929

EDUCATIONAL BLASTS FROM THE PAST

Five- and Six-Pointed Stars

The five-pointed stars in our flag and the six-pointed stars in our coinage are odd survivals of medieval heraldry. When the designs for the United States were made France was a friendly power, and the designer of the flag followed French Heraldry in the use of the five-pointed stars in the azure. The Colonies already had a coinage which was copied from that of Great Britain. In British heraldry the six-pointed star was used, and the Colonial coinage copied this peculiarity from the medals and coat of arms of English royal and noble houses. Thus the stars of our flag are emblematic of France and those of our coins of England. It should be noted, however, that the coin use of the star is not uniform, for even on the two sides of the same coin a difference is observable, the silver quarters have six-pointed stars on the obverse and stars with five points on the reverse. - The Numismatist, August, 1897

UPCOMING COLLECTOR OPPORTUNITIES

Northwest Arkansas Coin Show – May 13,14,15 ...Doubletree Suites Hotel – 301 SE Walton Blvd, Bentonville, Arkansas

TNA Annual Coin Show – June 4-6 ... Arlington Convention Center – 1200 Ballpark Way, Arlington, Texas

Tyler Coin Club Show – August 13-14 ... Ornelas Activity Center – 3401 Old Omen Rd., Tyler Texas

Texarkana Coin Club Show – November 19-20 ... Texarkana Convention Center, 4610 Cowhorn Creek Road, Texarkana, Texas

FAVORITE QUOTE of the MONTH

Condition grading is not just about getting the best deal; it is also about getting what you want. The goal is to be satisfied with each acquisition.

COIN WEEK ARTICLE

The First Coins

The first known coins were made at some time before 600 BC and are thought to be from Lydia or Ionia in Asia Minor.

Greek mercenaries serving in the area wanted to be paid in precious metal at the conclusion of their duty, and wanted to have their payments marked in a way that would authenticate them.



Lydian Lion,
third stater, or trite.



Walking Liberty Half Dollars

by Larry V.

I have taken an interest in putting together a set of circulated Walking Liberty halves. I have taken the time here to draft those pieces of information I believe most useful for such an endeavor.

The Walking Liberty half dollar were issued from 1916 to 1947. It was designed by Adolph A. Weinman, a well-known sculptor and engraver. There are 2 Whitman coin holders for holding this series. The books are dated from 1916 to 1936 and from 1937 to 1947.

According to Secretary McAdoo in his 1916 annual report: "The design of the half dollar bears a full-length figure of Liberty, the folds of the Stars and Stripes flying to the breeze as a background, progressing in full stride toward the dawn of a new day, carrying branches of laurel and oak, symbolical of civil and military glory. The hand of the figure is outstretched in bestowal of the spirit of liberty. The reverse of the half dollar shows an eagle perched high upon a mountain crag, his wings unfolded, fearless in spirit and conscious of his power. Springing from a rift in the rock is a sapling of mountain pine, symbolical of America."

The mint marks were initially placed on the obverse of the coin, the first time this had been done for a regular issue US half dollar since 1839. On February 14, 1917, it was requested that the mint mark be moved from the obverse to the reverse because it was stated that the obverse placement had the appearance of a die defect. In April the mint mark was duly moved resulting in the majority of the 1917 half dollars struck at Denver (1917-D) and San Francisco (1917-S) bearing the mint mark on the reverse.

Mint authorities knew well that the Weinman design, despite its great artistic merit, was technically unsatisfactory. Areas of highest relief opposed relief areas on the other side. The San Francisco Mint especially had difficulty with the coins; many pieces struck there are noticeably weak. It has been suggested that the difficulties in striking the piece contributed to the willingness to replace it after World War II.

No Walking Liberty half dollar is especially rare, but many dates are scarce in mint state condition, particularly the 1921 and 1921-D.

There are few varieties in the Walking Liberty series, and they are relatively minor. They principally involve the mint mark: several repunchings, one overpunching of a D over an S in 1942, and some changes in letter size. One oddity is the 1943/1942, which is not a true overdate but was formed by a working die struck once from a 1942-dated master die, and once from one dated 1943. Some 1946 half dollars show a doubled die on the reverse.

How Much Are Walking Liberty Half Dollars Worth?

The series spans the gamut on pricing. Well-circulated common-date pieces dated after 1933 are worth around spot metal prices.

Date/Issue	Fine-12	XF-40	MS-60
1916	\$100	\$250	\$450
1916-D	\$100	\$225	\$500
1916-S	\$275	\$700	\$1,550
1917	\$18	\$25	\$135
1917-D (Obverse Mintmark)	\$80	\$275	\$650
1917-D (Reverse Mintmark)	\$50	\$300	\$1,050
1917-S (Obverse Mintmark)	\$160	\$750	\$2,800
1917-S (Reverse Mintmark)	\$25	\$75	\$525
1918	\$20	\$175	\$550
1918-D	\$40	\$225	\$1,250
1918-S	\$20	\$100	\$600
1919	\$90	\$600	\$2,100
1919-D	\$160	\$900	\$4,850
1919-S	\$90	\$900	\$4,250
1920	\$20	\$75	\$410
1920-D	\$85	\$500	\$2,550
1920-S	\$50	\$300	\$960
1921	\$400	\$2,000	\$6,100
1921-D	\$550	\$2,750	\$8,050
1921-S	\$250	\$3,250	\$17,500
1923-S	\$60	\$500	\$2,450
1927-S	\$25	\$250	\$1,350
1928-S	\$30	\$225	\$1,600
1929-D	\$25	\$100	\$400
1929-S	\$25	\$130	\$450
1933-S	\$20	\$75	\$600
1938-D	\$70	\$140	\$400

**All retail prices above are for typical, problem-free specimens as of April 2021..*

As a rule of thumb, all circulated business strikes made from 1934 through 1947 are worth approximately their silver content values. The only exception is the scarce 1938-D.

Grading Circulated WL Halves



Fine 12

Obverse: Her right leg is worn slightly and the left leg is nearly flat. Her sandal is visible but worn. Her torso is worn and very few details show.

Reverse: The eagle's breast is worn smooth and about half of the details in the wing feathers are visible. The two layers of feathers in the wing are discernible.



Very Fine 20

Obverse: Liberty's breasts are discernible but weak.

Reverse: The eagle is worn but most major details are visible. High points on the design are flat.



EF-40

Obverse: Wear is evident on Liberty's breast, head, leg, and arm. Almost all lines on the skirt are visible except on the high points on her left leg.

Reverse: All of the eagle's feathers are distinct and complete. The high points of the design show evidence of wear. Traces of mint luster may be evident in the protected areas of the