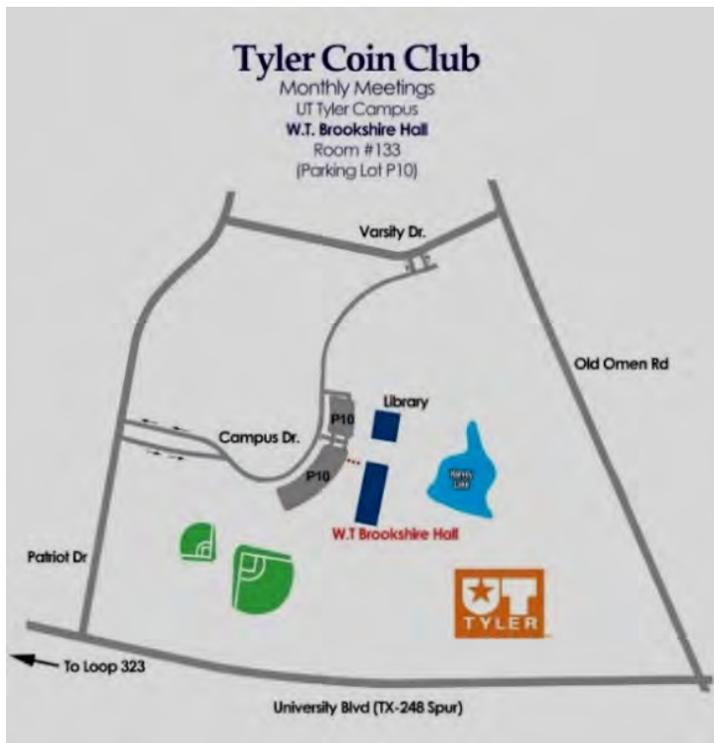


# YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH - JUNE 2025



(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. Once inside, take the stairs or the elevator down to the first floor.





## NUMISMATIC NOTES Thoughts from Our President

Hello Fellow Coin Club Members:

I hope all is well with you and yours.

About 10 days ago, Royce, David Pearson, and myself had an opportunity to talk to the Dean of Pharmacy at UT Tyler. We asked her if she would help us to come up with some solution that would allow our club to be able to continue to meet at the college. Lane Bruner was her mentor and she shared with us how he had a love for numismatics. With her having a connection with him and now having a connection with us, I am hopeful that there is a possibility that we may be able to work something out. Please pray that God would give us favor.

Royce has received the order of the new 2026 red books and will be bringing them to the next meeting to sell. We are selling them at cost, which is \$10 each (if we run out, we can order more). If anyone brings a new guest at our next meeting, we would like to give the guest a free red book. This would be a good time to bring a friend and continue to grow our club.

If you can think of new meeting place that would work for our club, please let me know (just as a plan B). I am believing for plan A, but am willing to consider other options.

Lastly, I encourage each of you to consider coming up with an exhibit for our coin show this August. Rules for Exhibiting and an Exhibit Application are included at the end of this month's newsletter.

I love and appreciate the members of our club!

May God bless you and keep you until we meet again.

Richard

# TYLER COIN CLUB TNA District 12 MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 13, 2025

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

**Attendance** Members: 57 New Members: 3 Guests: 0 Total: 60\*

*\* Club attendance record. Old record was 57*

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

- The club was lead in the Pledge of Allegiance by Richard G.
- The club was lead in prayer by Russell K.
- Introduction/recognition of guests, visitors, and new members.
- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in month of May.
- Royce presented the Treasurer's report.
- David gave an update on the Tyler Coin Show scheduled August 15-16. Approximately 100 dealer tables have been sold. Additional volunteers will be needed for the show this year. Donations for the raffle needed.
- Security for the show was discussed
- Amy gave a presentation on Confederate War Bonds and the coupons
- Kern discussed members doing a display for the show. Applications were available or we can contact Larry Vann. The display can be big or small.
- After 20 plus years as club Secretary, Carl has asked to step down from this position. The membership was made aware of his request and Richard asked all to think about taking over this club duty.
- Richard discussed the current state of our having the W. T. Brookshire Room available for our usage. Richard and Royce will be meeting with the Pharmacy School Dean on Monday, May 19 to negotiate a joint sponsorship with UT Tyler. Richard asked all members to be thinking about an alternate meeting site if UT Tyler does not renew our yearly contract.
- The next regular club meeting is June 10, 2025 at W.T. Brookshire Hall (room #133) on the UT Tyler campus.
- Meeting adjourned.

## **Club Auction (Kern)**

- 67 auction items sold

## **Door Prize Winners**

- Greg, Warren, Allen and Horst

# UNITED STATES HALF DOLLARS

(by Larry Vann)

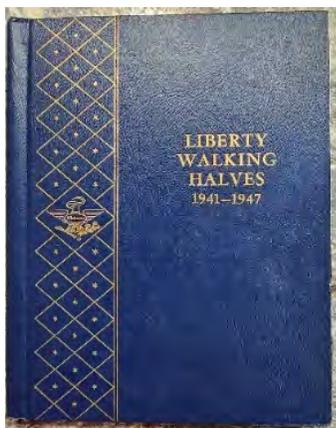
This presentation will be about half dollars based on what I have in my collection. First off, I am not an expert in the subject of half dollars. As regards coins, I am a type coin collector. I began my coin collection with U.S. 20<sup>th</sup> century type coins then added foreign coins and then “story coins” (coins that I can use for show-n-tells and making displays).

As I look through my coin collection, a loose assemblage of U.S. halves can be put together. The following paragraphs and pictures represent what I have come up with.



The half dollar is one of only a few denominations that have been produced continuously from the 1790's to now. The use of halves in transactions has varied, but I don't believe they have ever been popular for people carrying around in their pockets. Like the old silver dollars, they are just too big and heavy. Today they are pretty much minted only to providing for the collector market.

I like half dollars. While most of my halves are what I would call “stand alone”, I have acquired a few books. I have Kennedy and Franklin half books but my favorite is that of the Walking Liberty. I find them pleasingly artistic. As a type collector I also have a book that was made specific half dollar varieties.



Here are the coins in my Half Dollar Type Collection book.



The small type collection shown includes examples from the Bust half to the clad Kennedy, and then a few commemoratives – both Classic and Modern.

In my earlier years of collecting coins, I often wondered why Bust Halves in nice condition were so available and affordable. It turns out the availability and relatively low price of the Bust half is an interesting story.

A great many of the early Bust halves spent long time periods in bank vaults. It just so happens that in 1821 the mint stopped producing gold coins (the production of silver dollars had ceased in 1804). This meant the half dollar was the largest coin denomination made available from the mint, so banks were forced to keep halves as their monetary reserves in their vaults. These halves were eventually released after the larger value coin denominations became available again (around 1834).

Moving on, I happen to like the fact that there are numerous versions of the Kennedy half. They have been available in business strike silver contents of 90%, 40%, and 0% purity. Proofs today are available at 99.9% purity. They are available as proof, reverse proof, and enhanced versions. Kennedy halves are available in packaged sets to show off some of these versions.



As with all coins, eye appeal is of the utmost importance. I have included an example of a Walking Liberty half dollar graded MS-65 (gem uncirculated). Gem uncirculated coins should have great eye appeal. The certified grade was given by ANACS – the American Numismatic Association Certification Service (which was the only certification service available in 1981).



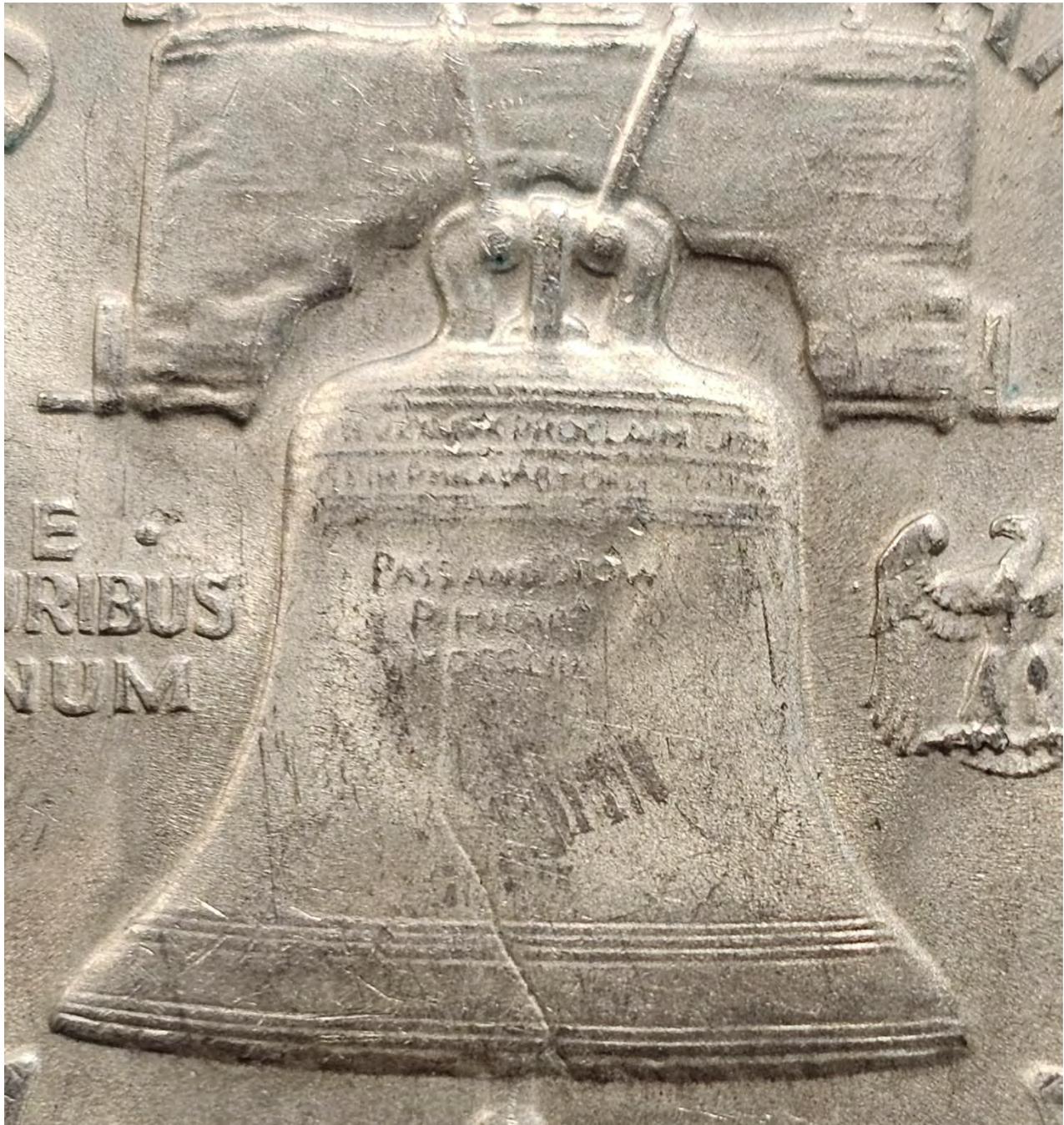
While I have looked at a lot of halves in my lifetime, I am not a grading expert. But like all of you, I have strong opinions about what translates into good eye appeal. Good eye appeal for me typically requires a strong strike, sometimes referred to as being FS (Fully Struck). This is the factor that causes us to sometimes like the looks of an AU coin more than that of an uncirculated one.

There are two types of halves where I believe the reverse gives the best (simplest) insight to the coin being FS. They are the Walking Liberty and Franklin halves.

For the Walking liberty half, check the feathers on the breast of the eagle. If the individual feathers are distinct across the entire breast (to the same extent as the example below), it is FS and above average.



My determination of FS Franklin halves goes beyond checking the bell lines. To be considered FS must include an examination of the writing on the bell. Some of the words on the bell should be readable, and all the letters should look separate from each other. See the reverse of a FS Franklin in the example below.



Pressing on, if you are familiar with foreign coins, you will note a similarity of designs between some of the U.S. halves and coins of Europe and Mexico. Here are a few examples that look somewhat similar to me. It is very likely that older designs influenced, to some extent, the newer ones.



The designs on halves have been copied and applied on other items – such as 1 ounce silver rounds.



Next are some examples of modified half dollars. We have a half that has been artistically divided into 3 parts, another which has been etched on (similar to a hobo nickel), and a half with the reverses of Walking Liberty halves on both sides. Just for fun, the reverse of one side bears a San Francisco mint mark and the other side bears a Denver mint mark.



Now we come to what I consider “The King” of modifications. Here we have an example of an original Barber half that has been restruck with the dies of a 1916 Barber half. The result is a perfectly beautiful example of a Barber half - except that there were no Barber halves minted in 1916! Because of the date, the coin can be considered a “Fantasy Coin” or, in this case, a token.



That pretty much covers the knowledge I can pass on with my collection. I hope this leaves you with ideas to enhance your collection.

## NUMISMATIC INFORMATICS

(by Jim Mohon)

Eagles on most our coins have appeared;  
Toward which coin has the eagle not veered?

(answer on page 14)

## TEASER from MAY 2025 NEWSLETTER

(by Kern Lunde)



This is a silver 1 pound coin from the short-lived Republic of Biafra. On May 30, 1967, the Eastern Region of the Republic of Nigeria, an area occupied principally by the proud and resourceful Ibo tribe, seceded from Nigeria and proclaimed itself the independent Republic of Biafra with Odumegwu Ojukwu as Chief of State. Civil war erupted and raged for 31 months. Casualties, including civilian, were about two million, the majority succumbing to malnutrition and disease. Biafra surrendered to the federal government on January 15, 1970. During this short period, aluminum coins in the denominations of 3 pence, 6 pence, 1 shilling, and 2 ½ shillings were minted, as well as the silver 1 pound coin above, as well as a silver 1 crown coin (very rare). Gold coins in the denominations of 1, 2, 5, 10, and 25 pounds were also minted; a total of 3,000 sets of gold coins were minted.

### 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. I welcome any inputs to our monthly newsletter. Please consider doing so and send your write-up to me at my email address: [kdlunde@mac.com](mailto:kdlunde@mac.com). 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!

## HISTORY CORNER

(One Hundred Years Ago – June 1925)

After centuries of rule by Poland and Russia, Lithuania gained its independence on February 16, 1918. The first litas was introduced on 2 October 1922. Initially, only banknotes were issued. The litas was established at a value of 10 litų = 1 US dollar and was subdivided into 100-centų. In the face of worldwide economic depression, the litas appeared to be quite a strong and stable currency, reflecting the negligible influence of the depression on the Lithuanian economy.

Coins were finally introduced in 1925 in denominations of 1 centas, 2 centai, 5 centai, 10, 20, 50-centų, and 1 litas, 2, 5-litai, with the litas coins in silver. All these coins were designed by the sculptor Juozas Zikaras (1881–1944). The litas coins displayed Jonas Basanavičius and Vytautas the Great. These coins replaced the banknotes of the same denominations.



The litas was replaced by the Soviet ruble in April 1941 after Lithuania was annexed by the Soviet Union. It was not until after the fall of the Soviet Union that the litas became Lithuania's currency once more on 25 June 1993.

## **FUTURE COIN SHOW EVENTS**

July 11 – 13: 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, please email [texascoinshows@aol.com](mailto:texascoinshows@aol.com).

August 14 – 16: 17<sup>th</sup> 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 19 – 23: ANA World's Fair of Money, Oklahoma City Convention Center, 100 Mick Cornett Dr, Oklahoma City, OK 73109. Hours: Tuesday 1pm – 530pm, Wednesday-Friday: 10am – 530pm, Saturday: 10am – 330pm. Admission: \$10 daily or \$25 weekly pass, Free for ANA members and children under 12, Free for everyone on August 23. For more details, see <https://www.money.org/worldsfairofmoney>.

September 19 - 21: 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, please email [texascoinshows@aol.com](mailto:texascoinshows@aol.com).

October 31 – November 2: 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, please email [texascoinshows@aol.com](mailto:texascoinshows@aol.com).

December 12 - 14: 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, please email [texascoinshows@aol.com](mailto:texascoinshows@aol.com).

## **AN ANECDOTE OF COIN & NOTE**

(by Jim Mohon)

### **AS FAKE AS A...**

We've had a three dollar gold piece, but still  
Never have we had a three dollar bill;  
We've two dollar bills we yet contribute,  
But two dollar coins we don't distribute.

## TEASER for JULY 2025 Newsletter



Does anyone recognize this coin?

Which country is it from?

Watch for next month's newsletter to find out!

## NUMISMATIC INFORMATICS Riddle Answer:

To every nickel  
Eagles have been fickle!



# **Tyler Coin Club**

## **GENERAL RULES FOR EXHIBITING**

### **EXHIBITS**

Exhibits are Non-Competitive and open to members of the Tyler Coin Club. Non-club members may be invited to place an exhibit by the chairperson.

### **APPLICATION**

Each exhibitor must complete a separate application for each exhibit. Applications may be submitted to the TCC Exhibit Chairperson up to the day of the TCC Coin Show.

Agent or Assistant. If needed, exhibits may be set up or taken down by an agent of the exhibit. The exhibitor **MUST** provide information as to who this agent is via the exhibitor application.

### **EXHIBIT CASE INFORMATION**

**Exhibit Case Dimensions.** The exhibit case outside measurements are not to exceed 34" by 24". For security reasons, the length of the shortest side of the display must exceed 12". The depth of the case shall not exceed 4". Case thicknesses the dimension of a picture frame are acceptable, but should be inflexible.

**Case Placement.** All display cases/frames are to lie flat on the tables provided, viewed horizontally (preferred) or vertically. All numismatic materials which are part of the display must be within the case.

**Exhibit set-up and removal.** All exhibitors are encouraged to have their exhibit in place before the show opens. All exhibits should remain in place as long as possible, but must be removed by the end of the show.

**Record Keeping.** The exhibit chairperson keeps a copy of the exhibit applications showing the names of the exhibitor and his/her agent, if applicable.

**Lock Down.** Each exhibitor will be responsible for locking/securing the exhibit case when it is placed in the exhibit area. Exhibits may not be opened after they are locked/secured without the permission and presence of the Exhibit Chairperson.

### **JUDGING AND AWARDS**

**Judges** – The public will judge the exhibits. The most interesting exhibit will be determined by a vote of those who view the exhibits at the show. Voting will begin when the Coin Show opens and will continue until the end of the show.

**Awards** – Ribbons will be awarded based on number of votes received.

# Tyler Coin Club EXHIBIT APPLICATION

I request to place an exhibit titled \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ at the 2025 Tyler Coin

Club (TCC) Coin Show.

initials

I have read and agree to abide by the exhibit rules of the TCC.

I understand and agree that I will be responsible for securing the exhibit cases I place in the exhibit area.

I understand and agree that I am solely responsible for the exhibit and all items and that I will not hold the TCC responsible for any loss, theft or damage.

(Optional) I appoint the following person as my agent, and he/she may set up or take down my exhibit in my absence:

Agent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please print all information below

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ TCC Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell or Contact number during show)

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Return completed form to:

Kern Lunde  
14404 Willscott Dr  
Tyler, TX 77503  
903-952-7834  
kdlunde@mac.com