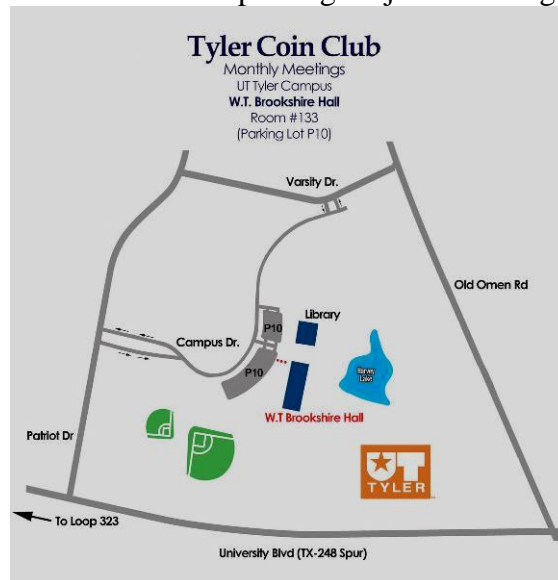


## YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH FOR MARCH / APRIL, 2018



**(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 of 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.



### **THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITOR**

Your editor has just returned from a significant every Wednesday responsibility. For several years now it has been my privilege to drive one of the church’s vans over to the local elementary school in order to pick up a load of kids who are heading our way for “Wonderful Wednesday.” Our remarkable children’s director and a couple of willing adult volunteers spend a few creative hours with a fair quantity of children from at least four different school districts. The Wonderful Wednesday afternoon is activity focused with a touch of devotional, a taste of music, and a splash of Bible. I have to say here as the pastor that this is one of the more impressive service opportunities we host. It is good to see the “little people” (and some aren’t so little anymore) involved in a creative way in our Christian Life Center.

Two of the not so little Wonderful Wednesday participants, J.T. and Sam, have become avid coin collectors. They will be coming with me to the club meeting on April 10. I thank you all for welcoming such as these. Younger ones often remind us about the joy of our hobby through their excitement when acquiring or learning about something new.



## **NUMISMATIC NOTES**

### **Thoughts from Our President Lane B.**

Spring is in the air and so is the East Texas pollen; toning our cars, our sidewalks, our windows, and even our coins (if we left them outside!). With spring comes renewal and thoughts of what tomorrow will bring, such as an end to all the sneezing. Another renewal on the minds of many of us is the renewal of your Tyler Coin Club dues (see how I snuck that in there!). Be sure to reach out to Royce at our next meeting to be sure your dues are up to date so our Club can continue to provide all of the great programming and activities we enjoy each month. Your dues also support our marvelous annual Tyler Coin Club Show which is just a few months away.

Thank you to everyone who has shared their numismatic knowledge with fellow Club members, whether through educational presentations, sharing your latest finds, and articles for our wonderful Club newsletter. I continue to be so pleased when chatting with our members and listening to their stories. We have so much knowledge in our Club and it's important we share it with each other and the greater numismatic community. Please consider sharing your stories through our monthly coin club presentations. With the technology we have available in the classroom, you don't even need to be an expert numismatic photographer or a whiz at PowerPoint. The document camera we use for the auctions will work just fine for you to share a recent find or that interesting coin you have deep in your cabinet. You can also share your thoughts through the newsletter. Richard, our tireless editor, and others can help you if you like. The important part is to share what you know with the Club and the next generation of numismatists.

See you shortly for our April 10 Club meeting. Be safe and may you find the key coins for your sets at bargain prices!



### **YOUNG NUMISMATISTS: J.T. (left) and Sam (right)**

(Editor's Note: Sam and J.T. plan to be with us at our meeting on April 10. Both are members of the church I serve in Gilmer. Both began collecting coins at about the same time and are serious about the task. J.T. and Sam have almost completed the requirements for the Boy Scout Coin Collecting Merit Badge.)

#### **1. Share a brief statement about yourself:**

*J.T.: My name is J. T., I am 11 years old and in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. I have been collecting coins since I was 8 years old.*

Sam: *Hi, my name is Sam. I am 10 years old and a Boy Scout with Troop 314.*

**2. How did you start your collection?**

J.T.: *My pastor got me interested in coins when he gave me coins during a children's sermon at church. My dad also helped me to get started with my world coin collection as he travels all over the world.*

Sam: *My pastor told me about it, and I got really interested in it.*

**3. What do you like to collect?**

J.T.: *I really like to collect world coins, and right now I'm really interested in Japanese coins. I'm also enjoying collecting the state quarters.*

Sam: *I like collecting American and foreign money. (In other words: everything!!)*

**4. Anything particular that you have learned you would like to share?**

J.T.: *I recently worked on earning the Boy Scout coin collecting merit badge and it helped me to learn a lot about coin collecting.*

Sam: *It is really cool to collect coins.*

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Tyler Coin Club**  
**March 13, 2018**

**Respectfully Submitted by: Carl S., TCC Secretary**

Meeting called to order by TCC President Lane B. with pledge to the flag

**Attendance:** Members: 30 Guests: 0 New Members: 2 **Total: 32**

**Discussion of Agenda Items (Lane)**

- The club was lead in prayer by Tommy L.
- Introduction/recognition of guests, visitors, and new members.
- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in month of March.
- Royce presented a brief Treasurer's report and reminder that 2018 membership dues are due.
- David H. updated members on coin show preparations (see details below).
- Lane continued discussion of a member buyer's page on the club website.
- Lane addressed educational presentations and coin clinics (aka show & tell) encouraging member participation at monthly meetings.
- Several members spoke briefly about their visit to the ANA National Money Show in Irving, TX. Martin recounted seeing coins he had only seen in books. Horst did find a 1905-O Barber Half in XF at the show. However, it was part of a complete set the dealer would not break apart. The quest continues.
- Next meeting is April 10<sup>th</sup> at W.T. Brookshire Hall (room #133) on the UT Tyler campus.

**Tyler Coin Show Update (June 22-23, 2018)**

- David H. updated members on coin show progress including sales and major expenses, venue, security, and advertising. Scheduling show volunteers will begin at the April meeting. In addition to door prizes, a raffle will be held. Members were encouraged to bring donations for raffle at their earliest convenience.

- There will also be a gold/silver drawing based on 500 member/guest invitations. Members invite a guest to the show using a specially marked, club-supplied printed invitation. All guests bringing the special invitation to the show will be entered into a drawing to win a 1/10<sup>th</sup> oz Gold Eagle (member will win 1oz Silver Eagle).

### **Club Auction (Tom)**

- 25 auction items sold - \$747.00

### **Door prize winners**

- Ed, Horst, Jeff, and John

### **Refreshments**

- A big Thank You to Dutch for providing refreshments!

## **NUMISMATIC EDUCATION** **A Visit With Dr. Coyne**

### **Questions for Dr. Coyne:**

- 1) What is a “cartouche” on a coin or medal?
- 2) Has there been a year since 1793 in which the Philadelphia Mint coined no one cent pieces?
- 3) Which of the 1883 Hawaii coins is the most common in uncirculated condition?
- 4) Are U.S. \$2 bills still being printed?
- 5) Can you tell how long a coin has been in a Third Party Grading Company slab?
- 6) What does the expression “Buried in a coin” mean?
- 7) Is this piece a U.S. coin?



### **Dr. Coyne Responds:**

1) This somewhat obscure vocabulary word is neatly explained in a note in the E-Sylum. (the free weekly journal of the National Bibliomania Society; Wayne Homren, editor): *“It is a panel intended for lettering. In a medalllic design where an area purposely left open, the area is called a ‘reserve.’ But it’s a ‘cartouche’ when it has a border surrounding the open area. Lettering can be in the die, or if left open it can be inscribed later within the cartouche after the piece is struck. A cartouche is particularly useful for an award medal as it aids in customizing a recipient’s name, date, and often, details of the award.”*

A cartouche can be any shape, usually rectangular or square, or even contained in a ribbon. Originally it came from a scroll, with rolled edges, but evolved into a tablet-like shape

and later in simpler forms.

Collectors encounter medals both inscribed or “un-inscribed cartouche” – without any lettering therein. Really cheap organizations bestow un-inscribed medals with the instructions for the recipient to have his jeweler engrave the appropriate inscription (but this seldom occurs).



2) Cents made in Philadelphia are available from all other years, except 1922 when cents were only made in Denver. There are no U.S. cents dated 1815. The supply of ready-made planchets purchased from Boulton’s Soho Mint in England had run out as the War of 1812 raged. They were not available again until late 1815. The first new cents made from them seem to have been dated 1816.

3) It is the 25 cent piece which is the most available in uncirculated condition to today’s collectors. A fairly close second place is held by the dime. All the 1883 coins were made in San Francisco, though without any “S” mintmark. Designs and engraving were by Charles Barber at the Philadelphia mint. These circulated in the islands only briefly before being largely replaced by regular U.S. coins.

4) The U.S. \$2 bill is still a current denomination and is still being printed. When U.S. currency was changed to its current size, the \$2 bill was issued only as a red seal United States Note. Production went on until 1966, when the series was discontinued. Ten years passed before the \$2 bill was reissued as a Federal Reserve Note with a new reverse design. After its initial release, supplies of the Series 1976 two-dollar bill were again allowed to dwindle until August 1996 when a new series dated 1995 began to be printed. This series was only printed for the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. Later series have been printed for other Federal Reserve Bank districts. \$2 production represents approximated 1% of total number of notes printed for the last decade.



(The first series of Federal Reserve Two Dollar Bills with green seal came about in 1976 more than a decade after its One Dollar cousin. The Two pictured here is a star note. It is interesting to know that there are more than a few people who are not aware that Two Dollar Bills are still being printed and are hesitant to take them in the commercial world. Your editor had one turned down at a Longview restaurant few weeks ago. The waitress also hesitated when I took out a handful of Presidential Dollars.)

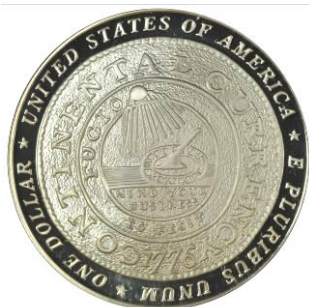
5) The Third Party Grading companies have gradually improved their holders. The style, color, typeface, gasket, or “prongs” has periodically changed, with each TPG introducing a new



“generation” with sometimes subtle changes from their earlier product. Collectors who follow the timing of these changes can make an informed guess as to how long a given coin has been in the holder. For example, PCGS only used the thin “rattler” holder with a plain white label printed on a dot matrix printer for their first few months of operation in 1986. The “Old Green Holder” lasted longer, but any coin found now in them has been there for 25+ years. There are now collectors for specific vintage holders by type of holder, without respect to the coin inside. Other collectors favor the 25 year old holders as a sign the coin has not been recently tampered with, while others believe that “grade deflation” has made such coins candidates for resubmission in hopes of getting a higher current grade.

6) The usual usage of “buried in a coin” means that there is no hope that you’ll ever be able to recoup your investment in a coin. Perhaps you paid too much, or perhaps the market has moved against you since acquisition.

7) The illustrated piece is a U.S. coin. It is a commemorative silver dollar of 2006, honoring Benjamin Franklin. The reverse is styled after the “1776” Continental Dollar which has the sundial motif and legends suggested by Franklin and used on the Fugio copper and the Continental Currency paper money. These commemoratives contain the same silver as a traditional U.S. silver dollar and trade in the market at a modest premium above bullion value.



## **Grading for the Rest of Us – Offered by Lane B.** **Originality, Part 2**

In the prior installment of this series, the term *originality* was introduced with respect to a coin’s surface and what may be some ways to determine if a coin is considered original or had its surface altered in order to improve its appearance. In part 2 of the series, we will explore coins considered original, yet may not have a great deal of eye appeal or may have minor “flaws” that intrude on the coin’s desirability.

Circulated coins are charming. These are the coins placed into the money system with a job to do. They are used to buy groceries, pay for a movie, and facilitate all sorts of other financial transactions. And, of course, to be found by us and placed into our collections. Coins are hearty. They are designed to be used for decades and to be passed thousands of times. As they are out in our community doing their job, many show the signs of their journey. In addition to having their designs worn down, coins get scratched, dinged, holed, cleaned, bent, and just about anything else you can imagine. While their stories may be charming, the weary road they have traveled may leave them in a state that is not very charming for collectors.

Below is a key Buffalo nickel in a very nice, mid-level circulated grade. The coin has a nice strike and surfaces that look appropriate for the VF-35 grade assigned by the Profession Coin Grading Service (PCGS). Upon closer inspection, it’s becomes clear that the coin has a few cuts on the reverse and what appears to be a significant scratch across the Native American’s nose,

cheekbone, and hair. These marks were not enough for PCGS to reject the coin as genuine, but ungradable, and CAC even verified the coin for its grade and originality. The result is a coin that is *market acceptable* but may not be one which collectors wish to add to their set.



(1923-S Buffalo nickel graded VF-35 by PCGS and verified by CAC. Note the prominent scratch on the obverse and cuts on the Buffalo. Also seen are somewhat rough surfaces on both obverse and reverse. This roughness is the result of the coin being struck with worn dies and is common for the Buffalo nickel series.)

Originality does not always equal attractiveness. Some coins never make it into commerce and some are removed from circulation very quickly after issue. How the coins are stored afterwards can greatly affect the appearance and resulting desirability. Sometimes toning adds so much to an already beautiful coin and sometimes toning is just plain awful. The toning may be original and natural and acquired over decades in storage, yet the result is a coin with little eye appeal.

Below are two high-grade half-dollars graded by PCGS and verified by CAC. Both coins are graded as 'gems' and the CAC sticker assures the coins have an original appearance and are graded accurately. Neither coin has attractive toning, however, the toning is original. The coins have not been cleaned or enhanced in any other way. The coins were just removed from their storage and sent into PCGS for grading. The coins are accurately graded, but their appearance is such that it will take a special collector (or a special price) for the coins to be appreciated



(1947-D Walking Liberty half-dollar graded MS-66 by PCGS and CAC verified. Note the uneven, mottled toning on both sides of the coin. While original, the coin does not have the look most collectors seek.)



(1957-P Franklin half-dollar graded MS-66+ and verified by CAC. The deep toning on the reverse is afflicted with a small amount of mottling is mildly, but not significantly, distracting. It's the odd, uneven toning on the obverse that negatively affects the eye appeal of this gem Franklin.)

Proof coins are special. Not only is their production limited and intended for collectors, but the method in which the coin blanks are prepared and the planchets are struck embodies the great care that is used to produce these remarkable coins. The surfaces of the coins are quite delicate as well. The smallest bump, the faintest scratch, and the lightest handling show on the coin. Some proof coins are stored in a manner to maintain their freshly-struck appearance and others reveal that storage has been less than perfect and the surfaces have toned with a hazy film that mutes the proof fields and devices from their full glory. While remaining original, these hazy-toned coins do not have the same eye appeal as brilliant proofs or proofs with other types of toning. The inaugural year Jefferson proof nickel below is such an example of a high-grade, original proof nickel that has acquired a noticeable hazing toning on both the obverse and reverse.



(1938-P Jefferson proof nickel graded PF-67 by PCGS and CAC verified. The coin is a remarkably well-preserved proof nickel with a hazy toning that has likely developed over several decades. Although original, and likely appealing to some collectors, the hazing toning impedes realizing the coin's true beautiful proof appearance.)

Toning and originality often go together. Although one does not directly guarantee the other, the originality of the toning is one of the factors to consider when grading coins. In the next installment, we will examine toned coins that may or may not be original.

## **Upcoming Collector Opportunities**

**Paris Coin Club** – April 7 . . . Lamar Avenue Church of Christ – 3535 Lamar Avenue, Paris, Texas

**Texas Coin Show** – April 20 – 22 . . . Grapevine Convention Center – 1209 S. Main, Grapevine, Texas (Also July 20 – 22, September 28 – 30, November 16 – 18 and December 14 – 16)

**Texas Numismatic Association Convention and Show** – June 1 – 3 . . . Arlington Convention Center – 1500 Convention Center Drive, Arlington, Texas

**Tyler Coin Club Show** – June 22 – 23 . . . Harvey Convention Center – 2000 West Front Street, Tyler, Texas (Yes our show – thanks to Barry for many great shows – welcome David as new director)

**Fort Worth Coin Club Show** – August 17 – 18 . . . White Settlement Event Center – 8905 Clifford St., White Settlement, Texas

## **Our Next Time Together**

The Tyler Coin Club will meet again on Tuesday, April 10. Our meetings officially begin at 7:00p.m., however the doors are open by 6:30 for those who choose to come early for a time to visit and smile. See you then. Check out basic information on the first page for a map to the meeting location on the University of Texas at Tyler campus.



# A VISIT TO YOUR EDITOR'S COLLECTOR CABINET

## Remembering Anson Jones



The medal set just above is an example of the creative work of Frank Galindo of San Antonio. Each year Frank designs and sees to the production of a unique commemorative set, such as the one above, for the annual convention and show of the Texas Numismatic Association. Frank chooses themes related to historic figures and events from our remarkable Texas history. The medal above dates from 2003 and features a likeness of Anson Jones, which has brought your editor to his thoughts for this issue of *Your Two Cents Worth*.

Ole' Anson Jones started his life in Yankee land. He was born in 1799 in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. His early life was relative uneventful and not so successful in his first ventures to establish a carrier. He followed the path of becoming a doctor but found few who were interested in his service. In his late twenties he negotiated a move to New Orleans and chose to be what in older time was called a "mercantile," the purveyor of a retail business. Again, the result being, disappointing results.

Life changed in a strongly positive direction for Anson Jones when he made the decisions, at age 33, to turn toward Texas. In 1832, the same year as the "battles" of Velasco and Anahuac, which foreshadowed the Texas revolution, he crossed from Louisiana into Mexican Texas and settled in Brazoria.

With physicians in short supply in the region Jones became an instant success. In a few short years Dr. Jones had become a popular presence; so much so that when it came time, in 1835, for a "consultation" to consider the future of Texas, Jones was elected to go as delegate. It was he who made the official motion to call a "convention" for early in the next year. The before mentioned convention, which met in February and March of 1836, visioned and then saw to the signing of our Texas Declaration of Independence from Mexico associated with the March 2<sup>nd</sup> date we recognize as Texas Independence Day one hundred and seventy two years later.

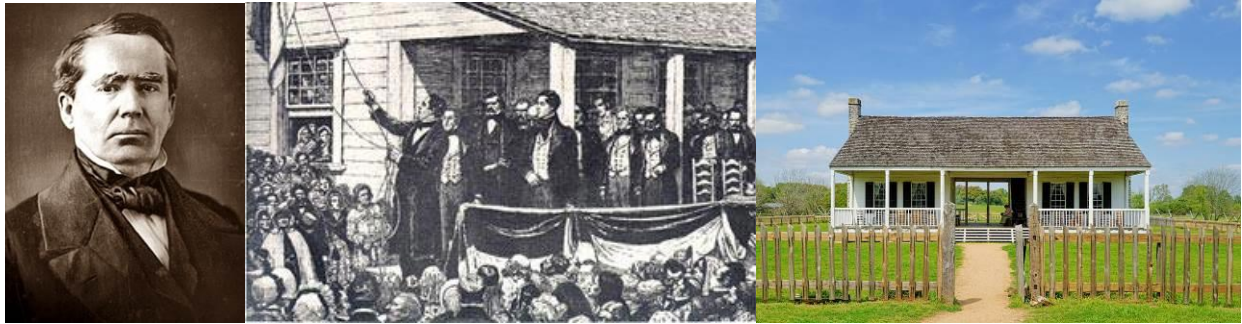
During the Texas revolution Jones held two titles of note; He was appointed Judge Advocate and, at the same time, he was given the honor of being the official surgeon to the Texas Army.

In the years following Texas battle for independence, Jones served the Republic faithfully as a member of the Second Texas Congress and as such was an early advocate for public education. Sam Houston secured Jones talent as a special agent responsible for promoting the Republic of Texas in Europe. Houston was of the opinion that if there were foreign nations which recognized "us" then the same would follow from the United States government, which obviously had not been the case. Following Anson Jones served as "minister" to the United States. In 1841 he received his final Republic of Texas appointment; the office of Secretary of State in the second Sam Houston administration.

At the end of Houston's term as president Dr. Jones ran for, and earned the title of, President. During his time the primary push was to be annexed into the United States. It was Jones who, on February 14, 1846, drew down the flag of the Republic over the then capital building in Austin, and raised the flag of the United States. His words at that moment were simple but have become legendary: "The Republic of Texas is no more."

Evidence of Jones can be found in a variety of ways today. His significant work *Memoranda and Official Correspondence Related to the Republic of Texas*, a first edition of which sits in your editor's bookcase, shares a vast quantity of important details related to the Republic. The most lasting and important biography of Jones' life is by the famous Texas author and bookman Herbert Gambrell. Even though published in the late 1940's it is still in print titled; *Anson Jones, the Last President of Texas*. Also Jones County, with its county seat of Anson, offers lasting tribute to our fourth and final president.

The medal above recently acquired at a local coin show, started your editor in the direction of remembering Anson Jones. It was also my intent to share an image of a document in my "cabinet" signed by Jones during his days as Republic of Texas president. After investing a reasonable amount of time I have come to the conclusion that it has already been packed or is perhaps in a safe deposit box. Maybe I'll show it some other time.



(Left: Public domain photograph of Dr. Anson Jones taken in the 1850's  
Middle: Famous Bernard Wahl print of the passing of the Republic issued at the time of the Texas Centennial in 1936 featuring Jones drawing down the Texas flag to be replaced by that of the U.S.  
Right: Picture of "Barrington" Anson Jones' final home still standing and located today at Washington on the Brazos State Park at Independence, Texas)