

# Tyler Coin Club

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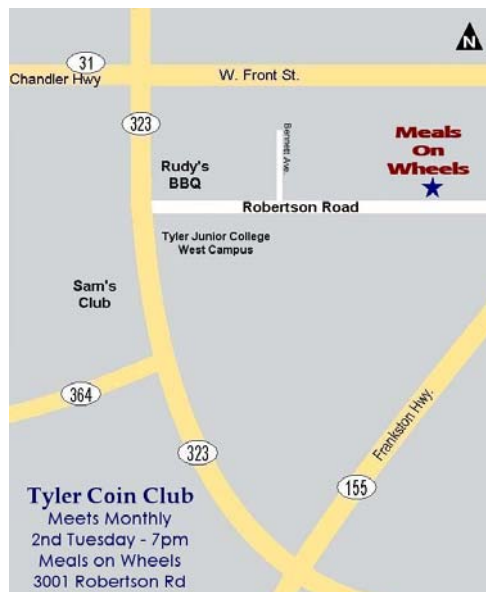
Five State Coin and Currency Super Show @ Tyler  
Member TNA, ANA

# Your 2¢ Worth



(Newsletter of the Tyler, Texas Coin Club for May, 2014)

The Tyler, Texas Coin Club meets on the Second Tuesday of each month with meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m. Location is the community room of the Meals on Wheels building located at 3001 Robertson Road. (Two blocks behind Rudy's BBQ) Club members and friends gather starting at 6:30 p.m. for fellowship. Meeting agenda will always include business and the most spirited auction in Texas. Special presentations and programs are occasionally offered. A friendly welcome is to be had by all. TCC's next meeting is Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014.



## A Few Words from the Editor

Couldn't we all sense the excitement in the room on May 13<sup>th</sup>? Members and visitors just kept coming in. Our attendance was bumper crop worthy with more tables and chairs being added even into the beginning of the meeting. Our day began a bit early with the taking of the official club photo. What a happy looking bunch of folks in that picture. Our joy was further heightened with a presentation about our upcoming show. It will be a sellout, or at least VERY CLOSE to it, when the doors open to the public on Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. Your editor can attest to the positive experience of the evening. He brought a long time friend to the meeting, a fellow who was at one time in his life part owner of a stamp shop in Houston. As he and your editor were driving homeward comments were made about the welcome and how great it was to be in the presence of so many fine people. The prayer at the beginning and the overall way in which our meeting flowed left even more positive memories. I know there will be a return visit from at least one, and your editor has a hunch our other guests will be back as well. Thanks to our leadership team for creating and nurturing the atmosphere which makes it all happen. Great!!

**“Sowle Food”**  
**Thoughts from President Dwight**



Our May monthly meeting found us tying our all-time attendance record of 44, breaking our visitor attendance record with 12, and, AND, 6 of those visitors joined the club. Amazing! Can you believe we are going to begin looking for yet another place to meet? This will be our third move. You know, you just can't out-give God. He has and is truly blessing the Tyler Coin Club. Do I hear an "Amen?" And / or how 'bout a "Hallelujah!!" Isn't it exciting to see us grow in number like this? What a blessing!! I also see us growing closer to one another as well ... just one big happy family.

By the time you read this our 6<sup>th</sup> coin and currency show in five years will be here. Barry has everything ready, everyone has their assignment, the dealers are on the way, and our visitors, buyers, and sellers are anxious and waiting. Barry says this is going to be the best one yet. You know what? I think he's right!! I'm ready!!!!

Short article this month; I'm busy, busy, busy getting ready for the show. I am really looking forward to seeing each of you there. So, that's it for this 'portion' of "Sowle Food." Until next time, remember, "[Peace and justice are two sides of the same coin.](#)" --- [Dwight D. "Ike" Eisenhower](#)

God Bless!! . . . Dwight



(2014 Tyler Coin Club Family Portrait courtesy of Carl S.)

## **Getting to Know You: This month collector Dr. Ralph Ross shares his story:**



(Photo of Dr. Ross from a Texas Numismatic Association photo)

*(Editor's Note: I had the privilege of visiting with Dr. Ross at the recent Texas Numismatic Association Convention in Arlington. He agreed to submit a few thoughts for our consideration and edification. Ralph currently serves as a member of the ANA board. He is Children and Youth Coordinator for the TNA. I originally met him as part of the GreaterHouston Coin Club of which Ralph is a former president. Currently Ralph teaches chemistry at Yates High School in Houston. He has organized a coin club in every school in which he has served through the years. The members of the Yates Lion Coin Club are evident at Houston area shows.)*

My interest in a numismatic career is due to a bubble gum machine and my Mother. It all started around the age of four in a small city in western Michigan.

One day I was in a small "Mom and Pop" neighborhood grocery store. The store was owned and operated by the Colemans, a really nice family. I lived diagonally across the street from their store. Coming from a family of eight children (three boys and five girls) I learned the element of survival quite early; such as reading, writing, arithmetic, and identifying different forms of "money" in order to buy candy. My older brother, Sam, six years my senior, showed me how to buy candy and use the vending machines. I learned how to get bubble gum by inserting the proper coin into the slot provided.

On one of my buying sprees at the Coleman's store, I used the bubble gum machine. It was a regular glass-jar vending machine, two feet diameter with a heavy metal base. The glass jar contained colorful, hard-shell candy gumballs which were available at the cost of only five cents each. I placed my nickel in slot and gave the little lever a whirl. I noticed something was wrong, which made it impossible for me to rotate the revolving wheel. I could not get any bubble gum out.

Mr. Coleman, being a nice, observant merchant, noticed that I was a dissatisfied customer, he came to my assistance. In his warm and tender caring voice he asked; "Are you having trouble little boy?" Even though Mr. Coleman was a tall man, he bent down to look at the gumball machine. He said; "Oh, you have a Canadian nickel." He stated that he would "gladly trade a United States nickel" for my Canadian nickel. At the age of four I translated that to mean; "give me your money," therefore I said "No," and ran rapidly home.

At that point I asked my mother what was wrong with my nickel and I explained to her that it wouldn't work in the gumball machine. She told me to calm down. She explained that I had a Canadian nickel, a coin from another country. I felt like I had money from around the world; I had no idea what Canada was or where Canada was located. My mother pointed out that the U.S. nickel was round; therefore, I decided to compare my Canadian nickle to an American nickle. As I made my comparison, I noticed the dodecagon (twelve-sided) shape of the Canadian nickel. I became excited at the discovery of something new at my age. My mother suggested that I keep the nickel and save it. I promised her I would.

From that day forward I have collected various things such as bottle caps, baseball cards, marbles, stamps, spiders, and lottery tickets. Of course I collect coins . . . all kinds and types of coins. Today, many years later, I owe my initial interest in numismatics to a Canadian five cent

piece. People are always wanting to know how I got started collecting coins. My immediate response: I started when I was “four years old. All because of a machine and my mother.”

*Editor: Ralph also indicated that a major factor in his collecting life was a true mentor, by the name of Ralph Hinkle. Ralph shares that when he was about age 20 he met Mr. Hinkle at a small local coin show in Muskegon, Michigan. He and Mr. Hinkle established a friendship. Mr. Hinkle introduced Ralph to the broader world of numismatics including “clubs, books, journals, magazines, newspapers, conventions, exhibits, and professional people.” All of these were “dedicated precisely to numismatics.” Ralph Hinkle had no idea at the time that his kindness would result in such a gift to numismatics. Our Ralph, Dr. Ross, shares the same vision with younger ones through the numismatic organizations he chooses to serve, and also through the creation of coin clubs in the various schools in which he has taught through the years.*

## **Minutes of the May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Tyler Coin Club**

(Respectfully submitted by Carl S.)

Meeting called to order by President Dwight Sowle with Pledge to the Flag

**Attendance**    Members: 32    Guests: 12    Total: **44**    **Tied attendance record!!**

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

- The club was lead in prayer by Scott B.
- Please keep club family and friends in your thoughts and prayers.
- Introduction/recognition of guests, visitors, and new members.
- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in month of May.
- Dwight presented TJC student, Josh R., with a certificate of appreciation and gift last month at TJC for his work on the club logo. Carl and Josh are finalizing the details of the images.
- The club is in the process of ordering new shirts; color choices include khaki with dark logo or navy blue with either white or orange logo.
- Group photos were taken; auction lot fees were waived for those participating.
- Dwight updated members on the ANA National Coin Week trivia challenge. Twenty-nine clubs participated with nine getting all answers correct.
- Members were encouraged to join the ANA and TNA. The club receives \$5 off its ANA membership for every active individual ANA member.
- Richard is seeking additional participation for the “Getting to Know You” section of the newsletter.
- Next meeting, June 10<sup>th</sup>

### **Treasurer/Bourse Chairman Update (Barry)**

- Barry provided an update on the 2014 coin show scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Volunteer scheduling was discussed and additional show flyers were distributed.

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

- 24 auction items sold - \$687.25
- 1 donated auction items sold - \$7.00

### **Door prize winners**

- Bill, Dutch, Eric, Ron, Seth

### **Refreshments**

- David and Sherry

## Numismatic Education – A Visit With Dr. Coyne

### Questions for Dr. Coyne

1. What is a planchet lamination, and how can I tell it from a die break?
2. What United States coin was produced on the thickest planchets? Hint: recent.
3. What is the standard reference on Swiss Shooting Medals?
4. What silver dollar shows a lower value in brilliant uncirculated condition in the 2015 Red Book than it did in the Red Book's 15<sup>th</sup> edition back in 1965? What nickel is lower in value now than then?
5. Certain older coins are made from "bath metal." What is "bath metal"?
6. How does the mint avoid scraping off the edge lettering as the coin is ejected from the collar on Presidential Dollars (incuse lettering)? How was it done on St. Gaudens Double Eagles (raised lettering)?
7. Some Canadian coins carry an "H" mintmark. Where is the "H" mint located?



(A somewhat worn [an understatement for sure] 1902 Canadian Quarter. Note the letter "H" just below the ribbon at the bottom of the reverse pictured at the left.)

### Dr. Coyne Responds

1. This is an example of a Lincoln Cent with a planchet lamination.



A lamination is a type of error usually resulting from improper mixing of the alloy or contaminants in the alloy before it is rolled into a coinage strip. After the coin is struck, a thin layer near the surface separates from the body of the coin. It can remain attached (even folded over), or it can be lost from the body of the coin, leaving a fissure. Jefferson Nickels of the war years seem particularly prone to this fault. It is less common on 90% silver coins. Planchet laminations can occur anywhere on the coin, and no two are identical. Die breaks, on the other hand, affect all coins struck from the damaged die, and the breaks are always in the same place on all coins from that die. Die breaks show on the coin as raised lines, often with a jagged course.

2. It is the 2009 Ultra High Relief \$20 coin which was struck on the thickest planchets. These pieces are smaller in diameter than the 1907 – 1933 \$20 pieces, but about twice as thick. They are slightly thicker even than the 1915 \$50 commemorative Pan Pacific piece.



3. The standard reference for Swiss Shooting Medals in Jürg Richter's book from 1985. Nothing else comes close. It is not printed in English, but the excellent pictures and valuations in Swiss Francs are easy to use.



4. Releases of long-held silver dollars from the United States Treasury in 1962 – 1963 brought to light thousands of Morgan Dollars from the New Orleans Mint bearing dates from 1898 through 1904. Of these, 1903-0 was formerly the scarcest, meriting a listing of \$1,500 in the 15<sup>th</sup> Red Book. After the release, these were selling around \$50, but have since tracked the rise in interest in collecting Morgan Dollars and a nice BU example might now be around \$450. Some have called this issue “the once and future king.” Separately, it is the Jefferson Nickel of 1950-D which today are worth less than they were in 1963. Dr. Coyne is still “under water” on some pieces purchased at the ANA summer convention in Denver in 1963.
5. It remains unclear how the alloy got the name “bath metal”, but it is chiefly copper blend containing zinc and a small amount of silver. The issues most prominently associated with its use are the Rosa Americana pieces, some of which circulated in Colonial America. They were made in Europe in 1722 and 1723 and imported to the Colonies. Some have been dug up near Williamsburg, Virginia.

The alloy is not fully satisfactory for coinage. It is said that they had to be hot-struck, and many show surface blemishes and discoloration. The small silver content was a nod toward making them more acceptable in commerce where coins of the time were expected to have an intrinsic (metal) value closer to face value than prevails today.



6. The mint strikes Presidential Dollars today in high speed presses with a smooth collar surrounding the coin at the moment of striking. The lettering is added as a second operation before shipping the finished coins (except on a few error coins). The situation on the 1907 – 1933 St. Gaudens Double Eagles is entirely different. On these, a complicated segmented collar was used. The inside of the collar was engraved with the lettering so that an impression on the edge was made at the same instant the obverse and reverse designs were imparted. Then, before the reverse die rose up to eject the finished coin, the collar sprung apart into three segments, moving away from the coin’s edge so the edge inscription would not be flattened as the coin was pushed up and ejected from the coinage chamber. Close inspection of the edge of one of these Double Eagles can reveal the three vertical lines where the edges of the segments met.
7. Canadian and British coins carrying an “H” mintmark were struck at the Heaton Mint in Birmingham, England under contract with the British Royal Mint. The BRM did not always have sufficient capacity (particularly for bronze coins) and arranged to have certain mintages privately struck. The Heaton facility eventually became the Birmingham Mint, and that enterprise remained in business until just a few years ago.

### Upcoming Collector Events

**Five State Coin & Currency Super Show @ Tyler** – June 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> . . . Lone Star Event Center . . . 4036 Kilgore Hwy, Tyler, Texas (Our signature show!! Thanks Barry!!!)

**Memphis International Paper Money Show** – June 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> . . . Cook Convention Center . . . 255 North Main, Memphis, Tennessee

**Texas Coin Show** – July 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> . . . Grapevine Convention Center . . . 1209 S. Main, Grapevine, Texas (Also September 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, November 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>)

**Ark-La-Tex Coin, Card, and Stamp Show** – July 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> . . . Bossier City Civic Center – 620 Benton Rd., Bossier City, Louisiana

### **Next Time Together**

The Greater Tyler Coin Club will meet again on **Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>**. See you at 7:00 p.m. Come enjoy a positive numismatic experience, good fellowship, and the most spirited coin auction in Texas. Mark your calendar now. Members and friends are encouraged to plan on gathering at around 5:00 p.m. for dinner at Rudy's BBQ just prior to the meeting. See you then. Bring a friend!!

### **Numismatic History: From Your Editor's "Coin Cabinet"**



(Reverse of 1894 Three Pence coin from a Maundy set of the same year. Note the crowned denomination. The Maundy design has remained essentially unchanged for nearly 200 years.)

Just last month, on April 17<sup>th</sup> to be exact, Christian folk celebrated what is traditionally called “Maundy Thursday.” This is a high and holy day particularly in churches such as Roman Catholic, Orthodox, and in the Church of England. The term “Maundy” comes from an early Latin translation of a quote from John 13: 34. Jesus is recorded as saying to his disciples: “*Mandatum novum do vobis ut diligatis invicem sicut dilexi vos.*” Whether Jesus actually said those specific words in Latin is not known. The translation, however, stands as Jesus offered the thought. In English the words interpreted read: “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, as I have loved you.”

The name for “Maundy Thursday” comes from the Latin “*mandatum,*” which means “commandment.” Maundy Thursday is the day during the Christian season of Lent when the faithful recall the challenge offered by Jesus to “love one another.” Incidentally, Maundy Thursday is celebrated in the traditional order of the church year on the day before Good Friday. It remembers the day when Jesus met in the Upper Room with his disciples for the Passover, aka Last Supper meal.

One of the ways in which the commandment of loving as Jesus loved is traditionally lived out is through the practice in the Church of England’s “Royal Maundy.” Starting back in the Middle Ages the sovereign came down among the people on this holy day and shared basic acts of loving kindness with a few of the nation’s subjects. Originally the structure involved foot washing, a practice Jesus exemplified and is found in the Gospel of John at the Last Supper. In following centuries the monarch presented clothing and food to a number of poor equal to the king or queens current age. This practice, along with that of foot washing, ended before relatively modern times.

A “Queen’s Maundy” or “Royal Maundy” practice which continues to exist today is the presentation of money to specifically chosen individuals. Recipients today do not come from the rank of the poor but are instead those who serve the church and community in notable ways. The number of individuals receiving what are now called “Maundy Coins” remains small; elderly men and women equal to the current sovereign’s age. This means when Queen Elizabeth II



made the presentation of Maundy Coins on April 17<sup>th</sup> they were given to 87 men and 87 women. The queen was still 87 at the time. Her 88<sup>th</sup> birthday was April 21<sup>st</sup>, the day after Easter Sunday.

Maundy Coins have remained essentially the same in design since 1822. The face features an image of the reigning monarch. The reverse shows that of the individual coin's denomination; One, Two, Three or Four Pence. Above the respective Pence number is a crown.

In more recent times the sovereign presents each selected individual with two small leather "purses." There is a red purse which contains a quantity of ordinary, circulating coins. These represent the kindness given in older times when food and clothing were presented to the needy. The other purse, which is white, contains the Maundy Coins. The number of Sterling Silver, proof surface Maundy coins, in the white purse, equals that of the age of the monarch at that moment in her or his life. Your editor didn't find an exact distribution quantity specific to denomination but is thinking the coins are in as equal a number as possible. The white purses given by Queen Elizabeth therefore contained 87 coins representative of her 87 years.



(U. K. state image of Queen Elizabeth honoring church and community servants through the presentation of Maundy Coins during an annual "Queen's Maundy" service of worship. Maundy Thursday is the day prior to Good Friday, the time Christians remember the "Last Supper" shared by Jesus and the disciples. Maundy is a derivative of the Latin word "*mandatum*" which translated means "*commandment*." The ceremony is rooted in Luke 13:34 and the commandment of Jesus to "love one another.")

The set pictured below, from your editor's "coins cabinet," is in its original presentation box. The pictures are quite deceiving because the coins, especially the One and Two Pence pieces, are very small, even tiny.



(1907 Maundy set in original box. Coins clockwise from the top: Four, Three, Two and one Pence)