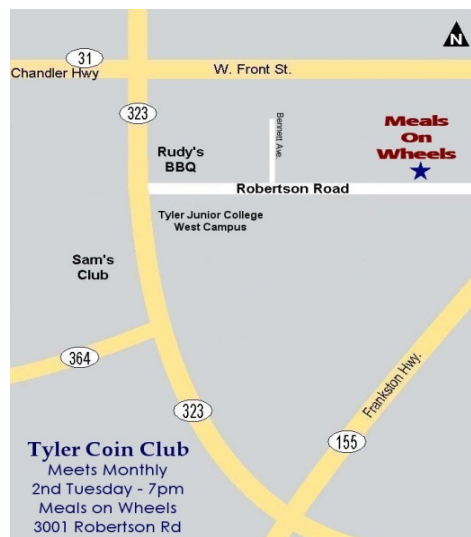


YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH FOR JULY, 2015



(Visit the Tyler, Texas Coin Club in person and on the internet at: tylercoinclub.org)

The Tyler, Texas Coin Club meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in 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 also offered. A friendly welcome is to be had by all. TCC's next meeting is Tuesday, August 11, 2015.



A Few Words from the Editor

Friends . . . your editor missed the opportunity to gather with the Coin Club family last month owing to a couple of interesting experiences. First off it was Vacation Bible School week at First United Methodist Church in Gilmer, the ministry place I am privileged to serve at this time in my life. The second reason was because my wife decided that since we were having Vacation Bible School she'd haul all of our grandkids over for the week. Both the excitement of VBS and the zoo-like atmosphere at home gave me cause to realize I'd best stay put. I did think happily of you all and regret missing the presentation of our thanks to Barry.

The area of Vacation Bible School to which I am assigned every year is the "mission" project. This year we decided to support "Buckets of Hope," a health project in East Africa. During the five days of Bible School I shared various aspects of the project. I began with an overall look at our world, and then turned to Africa. In order to help bring this project home I presented every child with something from the area, a coin each child could keep in order to help remember the project and those we assisted with "Buckets of Hope" in Northeast Africa. As you all know numismatics has many practical applications. I found one of these during our VBS.



Sowle Food: Words of Greeting and Celebration from our President

The July meeting found me absent from a club meeting for the first time since joining the Tyler Coin Club in February, 2008. This was due to my wife being first diagnosed with invasive, triple negative receptor, stage 2 aggressive breast cancer, and then to find out the power of prayer and God removed all but a 2mm trace of the cancer. Praise God! At our August meeting, I will give a testimony of my wife's miracle that stems in part from your prayers on her behalf. She and I cannot thank you enough for all those prayers, calls, emails and concern shown. Our God is an awesome God, amen?

At our September meeting, Lane will once again be our speaker. His subject of consideration for the evening is "*Collecting Slabs*." Plans are also in the making for Lane to conduct another coin seminar sometime this fall. Be watching and listening for details to follow.

Would each of you ONCE AGAIN please join me in expressing our appreciation to Richard, our newsletter editor? I do hope you are reading the newsletter from "cover to cover" because there are some very interesting articles. This time there is once again an enjoyable "Getting to Know You" section written by one of our club members, a question and answer section from Dr. Coyne, and a VERY, VERY interesting "Visit to Your Editor's Coin Cabinet" section that brings us worthwhile and educational numismatic articles from month to month. This is a newsletter that is well worthy of being the 2012 Texas Numismatic Association "Newsletter of the Year" award recipient. Thank you, Richard.

That's it for this 'portion' of "Sowle Food." Until next time, remember: "If it's a penny for your thoughts, and you put in your two cents worth, someone somewhere is making a penny."- Steven Wright

Dwight

Minutes of the Meeting of the Tyler, Texas Coin Club

July 14, 2015

Meeting called to order by Vice President Howard W. with pledge to the flag

Attendance: Members: 36 New Members: 2 Guests: 2 Total: **40**

Discussion of Agenda Items (Howard)

- The club was led in prayer by Dutch S.
- Please keep families / friends of Dwight, Billie Sue, John, Sandra, Paula, and Howard in your thoughts and prayers
- Introduction / recognition of guests, visitors, and new members
- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in the month of July
- The club continues its search for someone interested in assisting as program director; duties range from securing member and external speakers for club meetings to gathering prayer list requests and volunteers for refreshments
- The Tyler Coin Club is celebrating the 100 member milestone. Details later
- Meals on Wheels (MOW) donations for July: \$25
- Next meeting is August 11

Post Coin Show Update (Barry)

- Barry presented members with a review of the June 2015 coin show. By all accounts the show was a success. It was well received by those attending as well as the dealers. Barry thanked all the volunteers for their hard work and efforts. Our volunteers definitely make the difference!

Special Thank You

- Prior to the meeting, club members secretly donated to a special love offering. Howard presented the love offering to Barry who was obviously very surprised, and of course very appreciative. It takes an enormous amount of determination and effort to organize one of the largest coin shows in Texas. No one knows exactly how many hours Barry dedicates to this labor of love. The time involved is certainly substantial. From the members of the Tyler Coin Club; thank you so much Barry for everything you do!!

Club Auction (Tom)

- 30 auction items sold - \$797.25

Door Prize Winners

- Ben, Billy, Howard, Royce, Tracy

Refreshments

- Surplus from show

Minutes respectfully submitted by Carl S., TCC Secretary

Getting to Know You

This Month Club Member Mark F. Tells His Numismatic Story

As a young boy, I became interested in coin collecting when I found several silver coins one day while looking through my dad's change. After looking at a 1961 red book, I learned the significance of the year and mint marks on coin values. The red book helped me find locations of mint marks on the different types of coins including a 1938 Walking Liberty half dollar. When I searched for the mint mark and found a "D", I caught the numismatic bug for life. Through my childhood, I mowed yards to earn money so I could go to the Union State Bank in East Bernard, Texas to buy coin rolls to find the rare dates to fill my Whitman blue books. I usually could afford penny rolls but eventually "splurged" to nickels and dimes. Soon after, I started buying

proof sets from the mint. I didn't realize it at the time, but I was beginning my college fund. When I graduated from high school I submitted my collection on consignment to my dad's friend, Mr. A. J. Matula, who owned a coin store in downtown Houston. I was not entirely delighted by the amount I received from its sale, but it did help me finance at least one year of my education at Rice University.

Over the years I dabbled in coins buying larger quantities including silver rolls and bags during the height of the 80s (Hunt brothers) silver rush and acquired a few pieces of US gold during that time. Luckily I sold all the silver and gold when prices were up. Unfortunately my interest waned later when twice in my life my collections were stolen. I started back about 10 years ago and started to buy gold buffalo one-ounce proof coins. Unfortunately the mint never delivered the 2008 buffalo coins I ordered, so I canceled the orders. That was not a smart move as those coins are definitely worth more now than the \$800 price at the time.

Tyler Coin Club was introduced to me by a life-long acquaintance and recently, my pastor Richard L. I was excited to join with my 87-year old father Verlon, who is a life-long stamp collector. Spending time with him for any reason is one of the significant privileges of being his son. My current interests are high grade type coins. Luckily I DID attend Lane Brunner's grading seminar a few weeks ago.



(Collector Mark discovered he had the numismatic “bug” when he learned, from a 1961 Red Book that a 1938 half dollar was of enhanced scarcity and value because of the “D” mintmark on the reverse. Information such as that expanded his interest and inspired him to fill the holes in his Whitman folders.)

Numismatic Education

A Visit with Dr. Coyne

Questions for Dr. Coyne

1. What is a “remainder” note in currency collecting?
2. Did the United States Mint ever do any work for Peru?
3. When did the United Kingdom transition to a non-silver circulating coinage?
4. What is a “Registry Set”
5. What is the most recent issue of blue seal Silver Certificates for our currency?
6. What is special about a 1959 “Black Beauty” Jefferson Nickel?

7. Is this piece a United States commemorative half dollar?



Dr. Coyne Responds

1. A “remainder” note is an unissued, incomplete piece of currency. They are often lacking signatures and may come as complete or partially uncut sheets. The piece of Continental Currency pictured just below has its full complement of signatures along with a series number and is not traditionally considered a “remainder,” even though chances are good it did not see any circulation owing the fact that this piece of currency was from the tail end of the days of Continental paper money, when the series was being rapidly retired.



2. The first United States Mint work for Peru came in 1855 and was an obscure set of pattern coins, according to William Bischoff in the 1988 *Coinage of the Americas Conference Proceedings* published by the American Numismatic Society. James B. Longacre did the engraving. This was likely the first official foreign coinage struck at the United States Mint. Our mint went on to do contract coinage for dozens of foreign powers, but this work largely ended by 1965.

3. The United Kingdom transitioned to a non-silver circulating coinage in two major steps . . . their pre – 1920 3 pence, 6 pence, shilling, florin, half crowns and crowns were all .925 or “sterling” silver. In response to adopting the gold standard and recognizing the financial cost of World War I, the lower denominations were reduced to .500 fine silver from 1921 – 1946. World War II brought copper – nickel coinage to the formerly reduced – silver denominations. All post 1970 coinage (except issues for collectors) is base metal.

4. A “Registry Set” is a set of related coins composed of the dates / mints as dictated by PCGS or NGC to fit their prescribed definition of the set, for example; Mercury Dimes or CC

Morgan Dollars. The collector acquires coins which fit his registry set and lists their certification numbers and optional photos on the PCGS or NGC website, and the Third Party Grader's (TPG) computer "ranks" the listed sets according to grade and completion percentage. The program has been a marketing success for the TPG services, and some collectors enjoy the fame that accompanies a high ranking. There are hundreds of "set definitions" available.

5. The most recent issues of a blue seal Silver Certificate came with the Series 1957 one dollar bills. During this same period of history the government also printed and released five dollar and ten dollar Silver Certificates, both of which carry the series date of 1953.



(Note above is a 1957B One Dollar Silver Certificate from not only the last of the 1957 series but also the last of the Silver Certificates. Even though the date listed is 1957 the "B" letter notes were printed and distributed as late as 1964.)

6. The "Black Beauty" Jefferson Nickel of 1958 – 59 are an unusual issue of the Philadelphia Mint in which the blanks were improperly annealed before striking, causing them to take on a dark toning before they were released for circulation. By far the majority of the 1958 – 59 issue had ordinary bright surfaces at the time of issue.



7. The illustrated piece is not a United States commemorative half dollar. It is a privately issued medal from 1935 honoring the seventy fifth anniversary of the Pony Express. The die work, especially on the "changing ponies" side is not up to United States Mint standards. See, for example, the horse's legs. The piece was issued by Whitehead and Hoag of New York City.

Upcoming Collector Opportunities

28th Annual Plano Coin Show – August 14 – 16 . . . Richardson Civic Center – 411 W. Arapaho, Richardson, Texas

Lee Street Coin Show – August 22 . . . Exchange Building – 2608 Lee St., Greenville, Texas

Cowtown August Coin Show – August 28 – 30 . . . Forest Hill Convention Center – 6901 Wichita St., Forest Hill, Texas (Fort Worth area) (Also December 11 – 13)

Greater Houston Stamp Show – September 18 – 20 . . . Humble Convention Center – 8233 Will Clayton Parkway, Humble, Texas

Texas Coin Shows – October 2 – 4 . . . Grapevine Convention Center – 1209 S. Main, Grapevine, Texas (Also November 20 – 22)

Collin County Coin Show – October 10 . . . Quality Inn – 1300 North Central Expressway, McKinney, Texas

Fort Worth Coin Club Show – November 6 – 8 . . . Forest Hill Convention Center – 6901 Wichita St., Forest Hill, Texas (Fort Worth area)

59th Annual Houston Money Show – December 3 – 5 . . . George R. Brown Convention Center – 1001 Avenida de Las Americas, Houston, Texas (Sponsored by the Greater Houston Coin Club)

Hot Springs Coin Show – January 15 – 17 . . . Hot Springs Convention Center – 134 Convention Blvd., Hot Springs, Arkansas

National Money Show – March 3 – 5 . . . Dallas Convention Center – 150 South Griffin St., Dallas, Texas (Sponsored by the American Numismatic Association)

Our Next Time Together

The Tyler Coin Club will meet again on Tuesday, August 11, 2015. See you at 7:00 p.m. Come enjoy a positive numismatic experience, along with great fellowship and the most spirited numismatic auction in Texas. Members and friends of the club are encouraged to gather at 5:00 p.m. on the evenings of the meeting to enjoy a dinner together at Rudy's BBQ.

A Visit to Your Editor's Coin Cabinet

Numismatics introduces the collector to so many interesting new folks!!



(A Gobierno Provisional de Mexico One Peso note of the early Twentieth Century revolution period in Mexico purchased in a “junk box” by your editor a few weeks ago at a flea market just “across the border” in Greenwood, Louisiana. This note is attributed as #S709 in the Colin Bruce / Neil Shafer edited *Standard Catalog of World Paper Money, Specialized Edition*.)

Your editor's thought for the day, stated above, is inspired by this old piece of early Twentieth Century Mexican revolutionary era paper money. It was among a few dozen items of world currency gleaned out of a dealers “cheap” box at the flea market just over the state line in

Greenwood, Louisiana. The reader will recognize that the above peso note is an obsolete, which means there is no value put upon it other than what a collector chooses to pay, which wasn't much in this case. My primary purpose in acquiring this overall interesting and historic piece of paper is not because of what is on the front, which is pictured on the previous page, but because of an addition to the note's original text, one which the reader will see below.

This particular note introduced me to a couple of brothers named McDavitt. According to *The Handbook of Texas*, the McDavitts, William Early, and Karl H., were born in Kentucky in the 1870's. William was the first to come to Texas after hearing of the "fruitfulness" to be found in South Texas. When he took a tour of the Rio Grande Valley he, according to the article in *The Handbook of Texas*, "visualized the possibilities of growing vegetables and fruits to be shipped to big markets in the East, Midwest, and elsewhere." In short order William and his brother Karl, created an extended packing and shipping empire. The McDavitts were among the very first to realize the potential in "The Valley." Because of William and Karl, and others with their spirit of adventure, we can enjoy an abundance of regionally grown produce.

The image just below is the other side of the Revolution era Peso which introduced me to some new friends who happened to be significant to Texas' agricultural industry.

As you can see the back of this historic piece of paper carries a red overprint, added for the sake of advertisement. The overprint reads: "McDavitt Bros. Brownsville, Texas."



The addition of the McDavitt Brothers merchant overprint on this Mexican revolutionary period One Peso bill is a good example of a relatively common practice. Through the years many business, political candidates, service institutions, recreational facilities, and even individuals have repurposed obsolete paper money. Your editor's collection has a handful of original pieces of Confederate currency with added printed adjustments from the 1870's forward. I've also seen such a practice on various forms of world paper. For example the availability of low cost quantities of post World War I German inflationary scrip made such notes viable targets for use in more recent times as tools for advertisement.

Your Two Cents Worth is a publication of the Tyler, Texas Coin Club.

The editor may be contacted at:

pastorlaster@etex.net or at most Tyler Coin Club meetings, shows and other special events.