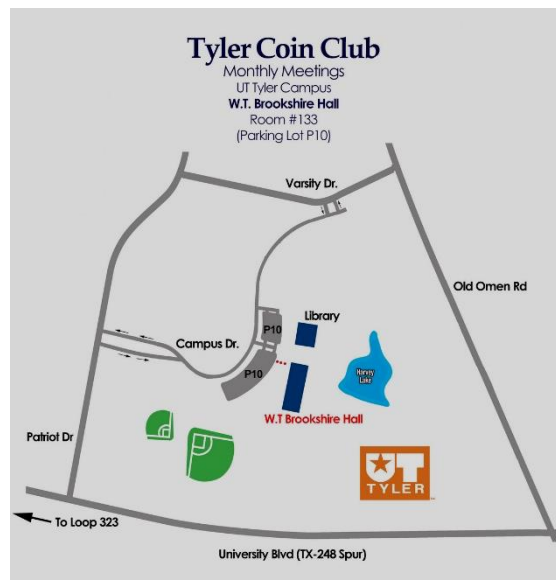


YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER, 2018



(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.



A Few Words from the Editor

A couple of days ago your editor received a communication with an address from the Texas Panhandle. Out of courtesy, or more probably out of curiosity, I explored the content. The vast majority of such publications sent unsolicited from those I do not know will wind up in the recycle operation here in beautiful Denton County. But the one which arrived the other day was so abusive of collector “values” that I have to comment. Here are a few of the “deals” which he had to offer: Uncirculated, from the roll, 2017 D cents at \$20 each coin. A bag of 500 old cents (I am thinking Wheaties) for \$1,750. And two pages of other such jewels for the collector. We know to be cautious but there are others who might just bite. So sad there are those who choose to hurt the hobby.



NUMISMATIC NOTES

Thoughts from Our President Lane B.

The weather outside is getting a bit cooler and more days are spotted with rain. It must mean that fall has arrived in East Texas. The change in seasons provides an opportunity to reflect on how our numismatic interests have changed and how our collections have evolved. Many of us started collecting about the time we learned to ride a bike. We sorted through change looking for 'old' coins, borrowed a copy of the Red Book, and looked to see the value of our treasures. I recall spending *hours* (or in my memory it seems like it was hours!) looking through the pages of that musty smelling book to find the most valuable coin. And then dreaming.

Like with many kids, Lincoln cents and Jefferson nickels were some of my favorites; mainly because I could afford them on my weekly allowance and the income from my Kool-Aid® stand. But boy did I dream of collecting coins made of *real silver* or even *gold*! Ah yes, the halcyon days of collecting as a child. Grades were qualitative, slabs had yet to be invented, and every new coin was a cause for celebration. What went wrong?

I grew up. And now some of those halcyon days have been replaced with Halcion® nights (that's a little pharmacy humor!). However, the love of coins has remained. Sure, the gleefulness for Lincoln cents and Jefferson nickels has waned, and that's not uncommon as we advance as numismatists. As a reportedly serious numismatist, my focus is on Bust halves by Overton variety, twenty-cent pieces, and Bryan money. Although you still can find me occasionally browsing through an old musty Red Book and pondering what I *should* have bought 'back in the day.' One thing, thankfully, that has not changed is the giddiness of finding just the right coin. It's just like being a kid again!

Minutes of the Meeting of the Tyler Coin Club

September 11, 2018

Respectfully Submitted by: Carl S., TCC Secretary

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

Attendance: Members: 39 Guests: 4 New Members: 1 Total: 44

Discussion of Agenda Items (Lane):

- The club was lead in prayer by Richard L.
- Please keep Tommy, Jim, Kern, and their families in your thoughts and prayers.
- Introduction/recognition of guests, visitors, and new members.
- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in month of September.
- Royce presented a brief Treasurer's report to club members. Deposit for 2019 coin show venue complete.
- Aleasha supplied catering options for the Christmas dinner. Members voted to have Fresh cater event.
- Lane encouraged additional member participation with educational presentations and coin clinics (aka show & tell) at monthly meetings.

- Next meeting is October 9th at W.T. Brookshire Hall (room #133) on the UT Tyler campus.

Club Auction (Richard G.):

- 28 auction items sold - \$1,013.00

Door prize winners:

- Al, Carl, Mark, Martin

Refreshments:

- A big Thank You to Royce for providing refreshments!

NUMISMATIC EDUCATION

A Visit with Dr. Coyne

Questions for Dr. Coyne:

- 1.) When did the U.S. Mint begin using mint marks?
- 2.) Does the U.S. Mint currently prepare any of the planchets it makes into coins?
- 3.) Where are the coins of Mexico struck?
- 4.) Who is the first real person portrayed on a circulating U.S. coin?
- 5.) When did ANACS switch from issuing certification photos to issuing slabs?
- 6.) Which denomination(s) of U.S. coins are known as “Trimes”?
- 7.) Is this piece a U.S. coin?



Dr. Coyne Responds:

- 1.) The U.S. Mint began using mintmarks when the branch mints were established at New Orleans, Dahlonega, and Charlotte. The first coins were the 1838-O half dollars from New Orleans. As other branch mints joined the system, they used a mintmark appropriate to their city. The “D” was recycled for Denver in 1906, as by then the Dahlonega mint had long since ceased production. For the coinages of 1965, 1966, and 1967 all the mints suspended use of any mintmark.
- 2.) The U.S. Mint no longer refines any metal or rolls any ingots to make planchets in its own facilities. As of early 2018, the mint was still buying some rolled strip which had been rolled to coin thickness by outside suppliers. The annealing ovens used to soften the punched blanks are nearing the end of their design lives. Most planchets intended for circulation strike issues are now made by contract suppliers and delivered to the mints in large containers. Precious metal planchets

are purchased from specialty suppliers. The choice to avoid melting and rolling operations in the mint buildings (which are in downtown areas) was an environmental one as well as an economic one.

3.) The mint at Mexico City was the first mint in the Americas (1535) and has been Mexico's main mint for most of the time since then. During the Republic period, beginning 1822, the Mexico City facility has been assisted by some 13 additional federal branch mints. During times of turmoil in the early 1900s, there was also some coinage in temporary or provincial mints. After 1990, minting operations were relocated to a modern facility in San Luis Potosi, some 200 miles north of Mexico City. The historic mint structure is now the Museo Nacional de las Culturas in Mexico City.

4.) The first real person on a circulating U.S. coin would be our 16th president, Abraham Lincoln. Though there are pattern coins galore from the 19th century, including ones showing George Washington and others, and commemoratives including the "1899" Lafayette silver dollar, it would be 1909 and the appearance of the humble cent to bring the first circulating one. It has since become the most reproduced piece of artwork in mankind history. There might be debate on the 1892 Columbian commemorative, but the portrait on that issue is likely a fantasy, and the coin was originally intended as a commemorative, despite many pieces reaching circulation.

5.) The American Numismatic Association Certification Service was a pioneer in bringing Third Party Grading / Authentication to numismatics. Initially they used a Photo Certificate to accompany the coin. The Professional Coin Grading Service was the first to bring a sealed plastic slab to market in a big way in 1986. The Numismatic Guarantee Company followed with their slab a few months later in 1986. ANACS ceased issue of the Photo Certificates shortly thereafter and introduced their version of the plastic slab shortly thereafter. The old certificates are still occasionally seen in the market. One must inspect closely to verify that the coin portrayed on the certificate is the same one currently accompanying the certificate.

6.) It is the three cent silver pieces of 1851 to 1873 that are informally known as "Trimes". The name plays on the denomination of three cents and the silver composition. The nearly contemporaneous three cent nickels are a different coin and have no such nickname. The Trimes are also sometimes called "fish scales".

7.) The illustrated piece is a U.S. coin. It is a congressionally authorized commemorative half dollar sold to honor the westward movement and the role of the Oregon Trail. It features one of the best designs of the classic commemorative series. Designer was Laura Guardin Fraser (wife of Buffalo Nickel designer James Fraser). They were issued 1926-1939 from up to three different mints. The 1933-D piece shown is an example of the first commemorative half dollar from the Denver mint. The Oregon Trail commemorative comes well struck and with good luster and is available for modest cost.

Upcoming Collector Opportunities

Cowtown Coin Show – October 26 – 27 ... White Settlement Event Center – 8905 Clifford St., White Settlement, Texas (Also December 7 – 8, January 25 – 26, March 29 – 30, May 10 – 11, September 7 – 8, October 25 – 26, December 6 – 7) (Dang!!)

Mid Cities Stamp Club Expo – November 8 – 9 ... Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 Main St. Grapevine, Texas

Paris Coin Club Show – November ... Lamar Avenue Church of Christ – 3535 Lamar Avenue, Paris, Texas

Texas Coin Show – November 16 – 18 ... Grapevine Convention Center – 1209 S. Main, Grapevine, Texas (Also December 14 – 16)

Cowtown Coin Show – December 7 – 8 ... White Settlement Event Center – 8905 Clifford St., White Settlement, Texas (Also January 25 – 26, March 29 – 30, May 10 – 11, September 7 – 8, October 25 – 26, December 6 – 7) (Dang!!)

Tri – Lakes Coin Show – January 11 – 13 ... Hot Springs Convention Center – 134 Convention Blvd. Hot Springs, Arkansas

Our Next Time Together

The Tyler Coin Club will meet again on Tuesday, October 9, 2018. 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 COIN CABINET

Opps!!



One of your editor's thoughts in regard to being part of a functioning coin club, such as our own great Tyler Club, speaks to how we collectors can benefit from the insight and experience of others. The image above is one I "borrowed" from a listing on eBay which I use to reiterate the point.

Several months back, I am thinking even in late 2017, our fellow club member Allen B. composed a strong editorial / article related to his passion for, and knowledge of, Confederate

currency. Without going into much detail I trust that you'll recall there were several points to note when dealing with such paper money. Allen presented, among a number of signs of authenticity, the feel of the note, the quality paper, the overall appearance, and shared some telltale signs such as the fact that the vast majority of these CSA products have handwritten serial numbers and signatures of those who were responsible for issuing the same.

Now the lot above, made up of six Confederate "notes," hammered down about a month ago at just a touch above \$220. If these were the "real McCoy" such a price would be loosely in the neighborhood. Unfortunately there is nothing at all real or actual about what you see above. Using the Allen B. test you'll recognize that the paper is not correct, and immediately come to acknowledge that the serial numbers and signatures are printed, not hand written. Another actualizing factor is in the picture below. Please take a look and you'll discern something which is more evident than what can be gleaned from the image above. Right off the astute investor / collector will notice that there is a printed reverse on the top left and the bottom right Confederates. These as originals were issued "uniface," meaning with no design whatsoever on the back. Then on the others a simple look at any reputable resource will declare the design on the back of the other four to be inconsistent with the original.

Again, all of this is simply to say here that we collectors have a built in failsafe when we recognize that we have each other. An article written, a program offered, space created for open dialogue will go a long way to bring about strong insight and collector savvy. I thank all of you for the opportunity to share and to learn. I hope that you'll make the decisions to share that which is in your wheelhouse of knowledge, experience, and insight.

Your editor looks forward to seeing y'all on October 9th.

