YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH - SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2019



(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

Your editor chose the "coin" at the mast head for a couple of reasons. First off, it is significant for the season of the year, specifically because we are rapidly closing in on Halloween here in October and also because the piece, which is a stated .9999 silver, is a product of what many consider to be the most creative minting facility to be found; the Royal Canadian Mint. I am of the opinion that in order to get a more expanded base for collecting it is important to be creative in the way of eye appeal. Quite often the Canadians hit it "spot on" with their bullion items. No other message here than to say I saw the image, found it of interest, and am sharing it here. I look forward to seeing y'all on October 8. Our meetings can't be any earlier in the month than this!!!



The Tyler Coin Club is growing! At the beginning of last month's meeting, we surpassed 160 members! That's a lot of growth over the past few years. One reason is the vibrant atmosphere at our Club meetings and our friendly members. Each month we have new visitors who join our conversations and even participate in our auction. And speaking of our auction, Richard G. has been a marvelous auctioneer infusing his knowledge and humor as the auction lots cross the block. It's easy to see why the auction is the highlight of the Club meeting.

Sharing and education is also important. Last month Richard L. shared his experience with the new San Antonio Missions quarter and even brought souvenirs to share with the members in attendance. What a thoughtful and gracious gesture from our favorite newsletter editor! It's nice to learn about new coinage issues, especially when they are so close to home. And sometimes we can be reminded of collecting tips that improve our skills of selecting the best value for our collection. Horst shared his thoughts on the highly collectible grade of AU-58 and how coins of this grade can represent an underappreciated value for today's collector. Sometimes we are so driven to find a 'higher' graded coin that we forget how attractive a 'lesser' graded coin can be. Horst reminded us that an AU-58 coin is one with just a whisper of wear often at a significantly reduced price to a low-grade uncirculated coin.

These are among the reasons that our Club is growing. We love to share our knowledge and expertise with each other and guests who bless us with their company. Yes, the Tyler Coin Club is growing ... and it's because of you!

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 10, 2019 MEETING OF THE TYLER, TEXAS COIN CLUB OFFERED BY CARL S., TCC SECRETARY

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

Attendance: Members: 37 Guests: 5 New Members: 2 Total: 44

Discussion of Agenda Items (Lane)

- The club was led in prayer by Richard G.
- Please keep Jim, Tommy, 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.
- Carl presented a brief Treasurer's report.
- David gave an update on the 2020 coin show preparations; show is scheduled for August 7-8.
- Richard L. gave a wonderful presentation about his attendance at the U.S. Mint Release Ceremony for the San Antonio Missions National Parks quarter.
- The 1911-P \$2¹/₂ Gold Indian the club won at the TNA raffle, was auctioned.

- Lane encouraged additional member participation with educational presentations and coin clinics (aka show & tell) at monthly meetings.
- Next regular meeting is Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at W.T. Brookshire Hall (room #133) on the UT Tyler campus.

Club Auction (Richard G.)

• 35 items sold - \$2,398.00

Refreshments

• A big Thank You to Mark for providing refreshments!

NUMISMATIC EDUCATION A VISIT WITH DR. COYNE

Questions for Dr. Coyne:

1.) What is the date on this coin? (Hint: Hawaiian Ten Cent)



2.) What is the date on this coin? (Hint: Type 1 Liberty Nickel)



3.) Is the coin following a U.S. Commemorative Half Dollar? Is it a token of some kind?



4.) Among Mexican mints that struck coins during the Federal period (1821-1914), which one struck 8 Reales silver pieces for the shortest (and which for the longest) times?

- 5.) What is the difference between "Planchet" and "Flan"?
- A collector seeking to form a set of U.S. Indian Cents (1859-1909) will likely have the most trouble obtaining an example of what issue in uncirculated condition?
 [date and mintmark, if any] -- hint: mint records show a bit less than one million coined.
- 7.) When did mintmarks on the obverse of Jefferson Nickels start?

Dr. Coyne Responds:

1.) The date on this Hawaii silver dime is 1883. The entire issue, along with similar quarters, half dollars and silver dollars were all struck in 1883 at San Francisco, though no "S" mintmark appears on the coins. Most of the issue went to the islands (a U.S. territory at the time) but were mostly out of circulation there by around 1900. The dies were executed by Charles Barber at the Philadelphia Mint, and the planchet specifications are the same as for U.S. coins of the same denominations. In top condition, it is the quarter that is the most obtainable today, and the silver dollar is the most difficult to obtain.

2.) This is an 1883 "No Cents" Liberty Nickel. These were the starting material for the "racketeer nickels" in which scoundrels would gold-plate a nickel and attempt to pass it as a fivedollar gold piece. Later in 1883 the design was changed to include the word "cents" and remove the confusion. These 1883 nickels with "No Cents" seem to have been saved in large numbers, and even in nice condition today sell for modest prices.

3.) No, this is not one of the classic commemorative half dollars. This piece is a medal issued in 1906 to honor the 1806 trip of Zebulon Pike through the West on an expedition in which he viewed (but did not attempt to climb) the peak which now bears his name. These medals are available in both silver and bronze. A hoard was discovered in a Colorado Springs bank in 1955. They were struck at the Philadelphia Mint.

4.) The Mexican mint which produced 8 Reales (silver dollar sized) coins for the longest time during the Federal period would be the "mother mint" at Mexico City, which struck 8Rs in almost every year. The Mexican mint with the shortest production time would be the mint at Catorce, which made 8R pieces bearing the date 1863 only. Scholars now suspect that 1863-dated dies continued to be used there into 1865, however.

5.) The terms "planchet" and "flan" refer to the same thing and are interchangeable. The French prefer the "flan" terminology. A planchet is the unstruck or blank disk before it is prepared for striking with the coinage dies. We also sometimes see a distinction between a type 1 planchet (fresh from the blanking press) and a type 2 planchet which has gone through the next step in the coin-making process - the application of an upset rim. The upset rim helps ensure a complete strike when the coin-to-be is struck with obverse, reverse, and collar dies. Blank planchets of either type are collectibles in their own right. Cent planchets are most common, with higher denominations much scarcer.

6.) The Indian Cent series is quite popular today as collectors vie for the scarce examples of 1877. The 1877 is not the lowest mintage in the series, but comparatively few seem to have been saved in better condition. This coin has been extensively counterfeited, and many altered-date impostors are around. It pays to insist on third-party-grading on this one. Other worthwhile regular issues in this series are 1872 and 1909-S.

7.) The early decades of Jefferson Nickels, following their introduction in 1938, had "D" or "S" mint marks to the right of Monticello on the reverse (except War Nickels of 1942-45). The first obverse mint mark was the "S" on the proofs, beginning 1968. The same year, the "D" and "S" was first used on the circulation strikes. The "P" first came to the obverse in 1980.

UPCOMING COLLECTOR OPPORTUNITIES

<u>Plano Coin Show</u>- October 5 ...Comfort Inn and Suites – 700 Central Parkway East, Plano, Texas <u>Cowtown Coin Show</u> – October 26 – 27 ... White Settlement Convention Center – 405 Las Vegas Trail, White Settlement, Texas (Fort Worth) (Also December 6 – 7 and January 24 – 25)

<u>Mid Cities Stamp Club Show</u> – November 8 – 9 … Grapevine Convention Center – 1209 Main St., Grapevine, Texas

<u>**Paris Coin Show**</u> – November 9 … Lamar Avenue Church of Christ – 3535 Lamar Ave., Paris, Texas

<u>Texas Coin Show</u> – November 15 – 17 … Grapevine Convention Center – 1209 E. Main, Grapevine, Texas

Texarkana Coin Show – November 22 – 23 … Texarkana Convention Center – 4610 Cowhorn Creek Rd., Texarkana, Texas

Hot Springs Coin Show – January 11 – 13 … Hot Springs Convention Center – 134 Convention Boulevard, Hot Springs, Arkansas

<u>Greater Houston Coin Club's Money Show</u> – January 17 – 18 … Lone Star Convention Center – 9055 Airport Rd. @ FM 3083, Conroe, Texas

Texas Numismatic Association Convention and Show – May 29, 20, 31 ... Arlington Convention Center, 1200 Ballpark Way, Arlington, Texas (Largest show in the region)

OUR NEXT TIME TOGETHER

The Tyler Coin Club will meet again on Tuesday, October 8, 2019. Our meetings officially begin at 7:00, 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.

<u>A VISIT TO YOUR EDITOR'S "COIN CABINET"</u> REMEMBERING TWO DOLLARS AT LUNCH

The root of my "show and tell" this time goes back longer than I think. It was several years ago when I had lunch at a now defunct Cajun style restaurant during our years in Gilmer. Even though I am sure I enjoyed the meal, I do not recall what I had nor for, the moment, the company I kept. What does stick out in my mind, however, is a brief incident following when I went forward to pay for the experience.

It started innocently. Since the tab wasn't so much it was my choice to pay in cash. Not only that but I had in my pocket some clandestine currency. Thanks to friend Allen B., of the Tyler Coin Club, I was in possession of a small handful of crisp new two-dollar bills. These I chose to use to complete my pleasant dining experience.

As I am sure several of you will also acknowledge from like experiences, I came to realize at the moment of payment that the young lady at the cash register was having difficulty processing the details. In her defense, two-dollar bills are not familiar means of exchange to the rank and file. As I watched and waited, my currency was visually discerned, felt, bent, I'm thinking even sniffed. In the end I decided instead of causing more frustration on her part, and after assuring her that these were indeed government sanctioned Legal Tender, (It says so RIGHT THERE ON THE NOTE) it became my choice to pull out the basic debit card. I was content. She was satisfied. Your editor grasped a few moments to "educate" albeit not successfully even though I hope the message caused in depth study, even though I seriously doubt it.

After all was said and done, I departed without telling the clerk that I had left our wonderful waitress a tip in shiny half dollars.

The basic person on the street can identify the familiar faces on everyday currency; Washington, Lincoln, Hamilton, Jackson, Grant, and even Franklin. However, it is obvious that the more obscure, yet still available, portrait of Mr. Jefferson, is not so well known.

We do live in a time of comfort and familiarity with the portraits and denominations of our currency. Yet, for people in times past, such a task was far more difficult and even daunting than my exchange with the nice young woman in Gilmer back a few short years ago.

Historically speaking, we recognize that even in our own times currency in denominations larger than "a Franklin" existed. We can glance back a century and a half and embrace currency, Fractional Currency, in values of three to fifty cents. During the time of the American Civil War, and before, the student, researcher, collector, will note paper money released through a variety of businesses, municipalities, states, counties, clubs, and even individuals. These are known in fractions as well as whole dollar amounts.

The sheet of paper money following is one your editor came across a few months ago. You'll note its geography is not from one of my usual areas of study, being a product out of New Jersey. It is a remainder from a long ago collapsed, aka "broken", bank; the Peoples' Bank of Paterson. What drew my attention are the denominations: six, seven, eight and even nine dollars. Note the vignettes. A couple of these are familiar to Texas collectors as images on our Republic notes.

I can only imagine the reaction I'd get during my brief encounter at the Cajun restaurant in Gilmer if I showed up with one, or more, of these treasurers from the Peoples' Bank of Paterson, New Jersey.

Take a look at the next page for a scan of the sheet of obsolete notes about which I am writing.

