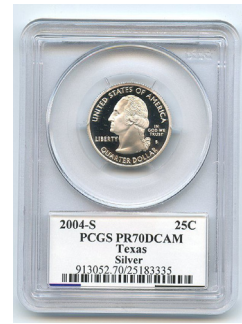
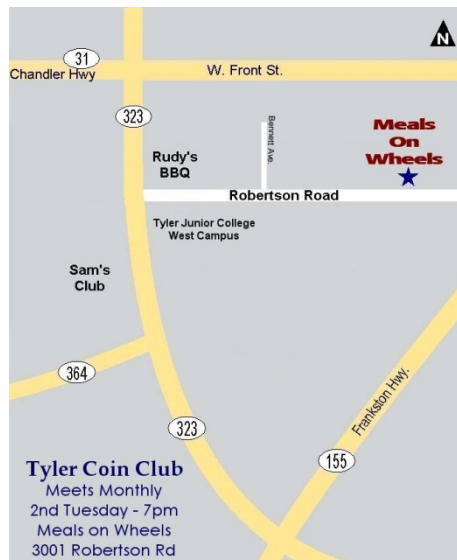


Your Two Cents Worth for September, 2014



**(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 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 also offered. A friendly welcome is to be had by all. TCC's next meeting is Tuesday, October 14th, 2014.



A Few Words from the Editor

As we move ever closer to 2015 your editor begins to note that as of the December issue of *Your Two Cents Worth* I will complete my fourth full year of putting together this monthly document. The bulk of what you receive month to month is provided by club members and friends of the club. I am honored to have the chance to put their thoughts on paper as well as to have a bit of time to gather thoughts of my own. Since the beginning, which means January of 2011, it has been my hope that some of you all will choose to submit a few paragraphs to educate the readers in an area of numismatics of which you are familiar. I continue to solicit material from any and all of you. Please give this some serious thought. I'm not looking for Ph.D. quality work. What is in order are insights that you have learned from pursuing your own particular collector passion. I can be contacted in person at most of our club meetings, or via email at pastorlaster@etex.net. As your editor I am available to assist in any way I can and am anxious to be of service. Thanks for your time and God bless.

Sowle Food: Greetings from President Dwight



Fall weather and football go together like peanut butter and jelly!! I dearly love this time of year. Fall means cooler weather, plenty of football games to watch, and then this all leads us into Thanksgiving and then Christmas. This is my favorite time of the year.

Attendance is up at our meetings now that school has started and vacations are over. Discussion of our meeting agenda items are healthy, and interest in what we as a club are all about is encouraging. On behalf of all the club officers, thank you for the manner in which you participate each month, from the beginning of our meetings by setting up tables and chairs, right down to the ending of our meetings by putting the tables and chairs back in the store room. Thank you...thank you.

It's just September, but I am already looking forward to our show in June of next year. Mark the dates, June 12th and 13th.

See you our meetings!!!!

That's it for this 'portion' of "Sowle Food." Until next time, remember: "The road to success is always under construction."---Lily Tomlin

God bless,

Dwight

Getting to Know You: **This month new club member Michael H. tells his story**

I was born in Santa Cruz, California. I learned about coin collecting from my dad who gave me my first folder for pennies when I was about 7 or 8 years old. I remember sitting around the kitchen table and helping my parents sort through bags of coins from the bank for fun. Dad also had an early metal detector and we spent lots of weekend days at various parks looking for that elusive rare find. It wasn't at all unusual back in those days to have some passerby watch us for a while and finally wandered up to ask, "What on earth are you people doing?"

My parents got involved with building an apartment complex. I got to learn how to fetch the correct sizes of nails, clean up loose construction debris, and any other odd jobs a young boy could do around a construction site.

Along with coin collecting, our other family hobby was Rock-hounding and Lapidary work. I began to learn to cut stones when I was about 12.

I attended Cabrillo College in Aptos, California where I studied Small Scale Metal (Jewelry) and Small Business Marketing. After I finished there, I attended the Gemological Institute of America (GIA) in Santa Monica, California where I got my Graduate Gemologist (Residence) diploma and a Jewelry Design certificate.

It's funny how small things can change your life. While I was a student at GIA, I had a chance encounter with an acquaintance from back home. Just a "hi" and "how are you?", but it led to my being offered a job back in my hometown of Santa Cruz. The one place I had never expected to be back in when I left for school. That job turned into an opportunity for my family and to buy the store I worked at.

We ran our retail jewelry store for 10 years in the Capitola Mall and then moved it to a larger location in a nearby shopping center where we operated for another 7 years. About this time, my mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, so we closed the store and dad and I spent several years looking after her. During this time, looking for something to do, I discovered on-line selling. I developed a business dealing with Stamps, Vintage Postcards, Currency and other paper collectibles. I also still do some gem-cutting and sell some stones on-line.

After my mother passed away, my sister and brother-in-law moved out here to Texas. They encouraged dad and me to come on out, too. Just about 3 years ago, we took the plunge. As we've finished up the moving process, we've discovered the time to pick up and continue with our coin-collecting hobby. I'm looking forward to working on my US collection, and, possibly, working on my interest in ancient coins, developed during my years in the jewelry business.

It's been great to find the Tyler Coin Club. I'm looking forward to a lot of fun and interesting experiences with a great group of people.



(Collector and new club member Michael H. states he will possibly be "working on my interest in ancient coins, developed during my years in the jewelry business" in California.)

Minutes of the September 9th, 2014 Meeting of the Tyler Coin Club

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

Attendance: Members: 43 New Members: 0 Visitors: 4 Total: 47 **Wow!!**

Discussion of Agenda Items (Dwight)

- The club was led in prayer by Ronnie S.
- Please keep the familiars and friends of Howard, Dwight, and Billy in your thoughts and prayers.
- Introduction / recognition of guests, visitors, and new members
- Members that have not yet picked up your new club shirt, they are ready. Also, a few extra were ordered and are available.
- Dwight read aloud a Thank You note / letter from Meals on Wheels to members.
- Starting January 2015, club dues will increase from \$15 to \$20 per year.
- Effective immediately, the club will help offset the cost of refreshments provided by members.
- Dwight announced the club was seeking assistance with community outreach projects.
- Dwight will email members in hopes of a possible nomination at the October meeting.

- The November club auction will be dedicated to our annual Angel Tree fundraiser. Only donated items will be auctioned and all proceeds will benefit the Salvation Army Angel Tree project.
- Members discussed options for the Christmas Dinner / Meeting for December. Members agreed they would like a traditional meal catered by Traditions Restaurant at our regular meeting place (Meals on Wheels) on the regular meeting date of Tuesday, December 9th.
- Dwight reminded members about the donation box for Meals on Wheels for use of their facility.
- Dwight also extended a special thank you to all members that help setup and tear down tables and chairs at each meeting.
- Richard is seeking additional participation for the “Getting to Know You” section of the newsletter.
- Next meeting, Tuesday, October 14th.

Special Presentation “Show and Tell” (Jim A.)

- Member, Jim A., gave an outstanding presentation on *English Conder Tokens* also known as *Provincial Tokens*. Jim’s presentation was very educational and included information surround the need for these 18th century tokens as well as the various styles and collector interest. These tokens acquired their more familiar name after James Conder who started cataloging them back in 1798. Jim brought more than a dozen examples of these tokens for members to inspect. Each token in his collection is slabbed with a high grade assigned.

Club Auction (Tom)

- 36 auction items sold - \$1,002.25
- 1 donated auction item sold - \$8.00

Door Prize winners

- Andrew, Dudley, John H., Joseph, Sandra

Refreshments

- Howard H.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Carl S.



(Photos courtesy of Carl S. featuring the Tyler Coin Club’s *Day of the Conder [token]*).

Tyler Coin Club members were hosted to an educational program offered by club member and collector Jim A. on *Conder or Provincial Tokens*. Jim shared high grade slabbed examples from his personal collection. Many present were not familiar with these unusual and beautiful pieces of numismatic history. Thanks Jim for doing such a wonderful job of broadening our collector world by sharing yours!!)

Numismatic Education: A Visit with Dr. Coyne

Questions for Dr. Coyne

- 1) Considering the regular issue one cent coins of the U.S., how many different letters have appeared as mint marks from 1793 – 2014?
- 2) Considering regular issue one cent pieces of the U.S. 1793 – 2014, how many times have cents of two different compositions been issued in one year?
- 3) How many different types complete a set of Standing Liberty Quarters?
- 4) Which regular issue Indian Cent from the Philadelphia mint has the smallest mintage?
- 5) In middle collector grades (say VF), which Large Size \$1 bill is available for purchase at the lowest market price?
- 6) The Mexico City mint has responsibility for both circulation strike coins, coins for collectors, and bullion coins. When did the Mexico City mint begin striking the current series of Libertad one-ounce silver coins?
- 7) Is this piece a coin, a token, or a medal?



Dr. Coyne Responds

- 1) For United States cents across two centuries, the only mintmark letters to appear have been “D” for Denver and “S” for San Francisco. Philadelphia has not used a “P” on cents, and Carson City, New Orleans, Manila, Dahlonega, and Charlotte never struck cents.
- 2) The only years in which circulation cents were struck with two different compositions were 1857, 1864, and 1982. In 1857 a transition took place between the all-copper large cent and the copper/nickel Flying Eagle small cent. The 1864 Indian Cent exists in two distinct metal compositions: copper/nickel and bronze. In 1982, cents were in transition between the bronze cent and cents made of copper plated zinc. The reason for this most recent transition, as you know, is that the price of copper in the cent eclipsed the coin’s face value.
- 3) Collectors identify three subtypes of Standing Liberty Quarters. The first, 1916-1917 has the partially nude Miss Liberty and no stars under the eagle on the reverse. The second has a chain-mail clad Liberty and rearranged reverse. The third, 1925-1930 has the date recessed on the obverse to better stand up to wear.



4) According to the Red Book, the Indian Cent minted in Philadelphia with the smallest mintage is that of 1877 with a recorded mintage of 852,500 pieces. It is a scarce and high-priced piece, but recent scholarship suggests that it is even scarcer than previously supposed: Coiner's delivery records indicate that much of the recorded mintage could actually carry the date 1876. Additionally, some newly issued 1877 cents could have been received and re-coined in 1879-1881. The Indian Head Cent with the smallest mintage is the 1909 – S with a stated presentation of 309,000 passing through the coin presses.

5) The most-available and least expensive large size U.S. currency is the \$1 Silver Certificate of Series 1923. The runner up is Series of 1917 \$1 United States Note (Legal Tender.) Both of these classics carry the familiar image of George Washington which was inspired by Gilbert Stuart's portrait of our first president.



(Pictured are images of the most common, and affordable, of the large sized notes. On the left is a One Dollar 1923 Silver Certificate. On the right is a 1917 United States Note. George Washington couldn't decide which way he was heading!!)

6) The Mexico City mint began issuing the current Libertad one ounce bullion coin in 1982. Today, it is a competitor for the American Silver Eagle, the Canadian Maple Leaf, the British Britannia, and others.

7) The piece illustrated above (and again just below) is a token. It was not issued by a governmental authority, but it has a face value and was intended to circulate as money. A medal would not have a face value and would have been commemorative in nature.

This particular token might have remained a "maverick" (a token whose issuer is unknown to modern collectors) but for a lucky observation by Dr. Coyne. Both this token and the brass one shown below were acquired at a small antique store in Cheyenne, Wyoming, though at different times. Dr. Coyne became convinced that the aluminum token and the brass token were made from the same reverse die. The declaration about the issuer on the obverse of the brass one then gave a clue about who could have issued the aluminum piece. Take a look at the details of how the lettering lines up with the dentils and look at the prominent center dot. Then a little research with city directories shows that Boyd's store was only a few blocks from the Garrett store, though separated in time by some years. It seems likely that Garrett sold out to Boyd, or at least passed his token dies to the new Boyd business. Working just from the Boyd aluminum token, we would never have known its place of issue.



Upcoming Collector Events

Colin County Coin Club Show – October 8th . . . Quality Inn – 1300 North Central Expressway, McKinney, Texas

Fort Worth Coin Club Fall Show – November 1st – 2nd . . . Bryant Irvin Recreation Center – 3300 South Bryant Irvin Rd., Fort Worth, Texas

Texas Coin Show – November 14th – 16th . . . Grapevine Convention Center . . . 1209 S. Main, Grapevine, Texas

Houston Money Show – December 4th – 6th . . . George R. Brown Convention Center, Hall A – 1001 Avenida de las Americas, Houston, Texas (Sponsored by Greater Houston Coin Club)

Cowtown Coin Show – December 12th – 14th . . . Bryant Irvin Recreation Center – 3300 South Bryant Irvin Rd., Fort Worth, Texas

Tyler Coin Club's Five State Coin and Currency Super Show – June 12th – 13th . . . Lone Star Event Center – 4036 FM, Tyler, Texas (Mark your calendar now for a great show then!!)

Next Time Together

The Greater Tyler Coin Club will meet again on Tuesday, October 14th. See you at 7:00 p.m.

Come enjoy a positive numismatic experience, good fellowship, and the most spirited numismatic auction in Texas. Members and friends are encouraged to plan on gathering at around 5:00 p.m. for dinner at Rudy's BBQ on the club meeting nights.

Numismatic Education: A Visit to Your Editor's Coin Cabinet



(Block of four conjoined pieces of obsolete paper money from your editor's "Coin Cabinet." These were hand cut from an original sheet of unknown number. Notice the different denominations. These notes are private scrip printed for the Haverhill Association of Haverhill, Massachusetts in 1862.)

Those of us who live in this area of the world are blessed because we have the opportunity to take a day trip to Fort Worth for the purpose of touring the Bureau of Printing and Engraving (BEP) facility present there. Not long ago I made the trek over that way myself. A few years back it was also my privilege to take the official tour through the facility in Washington D.C. In both places I picked up some tidbits of information which assist me, as a collector, in understanding the process which brings our United States currency to life. For example, I learned one piece of information that goes against what may be considered the normal pattern of numbering. As you know United States paper money is printed in large sheets of notes. Each individual note exits the process with a unique serial number. Casual thinking might imagine these sheets coming forth with the individual subjects set out in sequential order. If this was the case the individual pieces of currency would be logically sequential from left to

right, and line by line. So the first note, for example would be number 1, followed by 2, then 3, etc.

Truth is the BEP's paper cutting machines are so stout that they can handle a large depth of paper. So for several generations now our notes are printed with sequential numbers going down to the sheets below. This means sheets carry serial numbers in patterns, but not in sequence. This is easy to see, especially when uncut sheets of original Federal Reserve Notes are released from the Bureau of Printing and Engraving to be sold to anyone with the funds and the desire to acquire such a souvenir.

Yet, as you all know, or at least can logically ascertain, such exotic and thorough paper cutting instruments, such as the ones used at the BEP, have not always been available. Until not so long ago sheets of paper money were literally hand cut using whatever means available.

For a few years a couple of decades ago your editor lived in a relatively small town in Central Texas. One of the people I knew there, who also happened to be a member of the church I was serving as pastor at the time, recognized my interest in collecting numismatic treasures made of paper. She came to me one day with a unique present, the item pictured just below. My gift, as you can see, is a pair of really old scissors with incredibly long "blades."



(It is hard to tell but the blades on this critter are nearly a foot long.)

The presenter of the gift shared an anecdotal story concerning the history of my new collectible. She said that these were destined for the trash at the bank at which she worked. She chose to salvage them because they were at one time an important tool for the bank's tellers. It was in the 1930's when the National Bank Note series was in full swing. That bank in small town Central Texas acquired uncut sheets of paper money bearing the name of the bank. Each local bank was given the responsibility of making sure that these notes on the sheets were separated and then placed into circulation. The scissors I now possess she claimed to be those used specifically to cut the sheets of currency. I can't verify the story, but I do trust it, after all would someone choose to lie to their pastor? (Who also happens to be your editor.)

In the years since one of my pursuits involves finding currency not only in uncut sheets, but also in cut form. In my creative mind I imagine a scene where people in period attire are sitting around tables cutting sheets of paper money into individual notes and then stacking them neatly in small bundles. I even picture a clerk at a table in a specific bank in Central Texas, attacking National Bank notes with my very scissors.

Truth is some of the currency in older times, which began in sheets, survived the work of the cutter. And there are other examples which survive even today, in pairs, blocks, strips, and the like. So, what are some of the reasons why these relics continue to exist? How come collectors can still find National Bank Notes, obsolete currency, Confederate items, and even earlier American currency, such as Continental and Colonial paper, in sheets and also in partials?

Right off I figure quite a number of sheets were saved as souvenirs. The same can be assumed of the partials available on the collector market today in pairs, blocks, strips, etc. As we collectors are aware the Bureau of Printing and Engraving graciously makes available, at a "modest" markup over face, sheets and sets of uncut Federal Reserve Notes.

It is also true that sheets and partials are survivors because of financial issues affecting their ability to circulate. For example many uncut sheets are "remainders" dating from the years

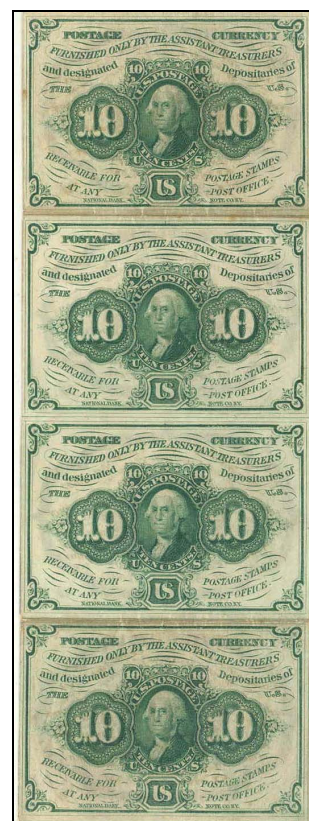
before the American Civil War. These come from local, independent banks and businesses which simply “went bust.” Collectors refer to examples of such as “Broken Bank Notes.”

Finally, it also stands to reason that individual pieces originally stayed together in order to travel in specific cent or dollar amounts. For example the fractional currency below right might have started its life to cover the cost of a forty cent purchase, so the scissor’s work was less troublesome if only two cuts were made from the original sheet of twenty notes. There was no need to separate them any further.

Your editor’s appreciation for one less commonly embraced section of the numismatic art is owed to the insight, at least to a story told, by an individual in his past. Whether the scissors in my possession were in fact used to cut National Bank Notes, or if they just happen to be a gnarly pair dating from the era of National Bank Note, in the same place, at the same time, ultimately won’t matter over the long haul. What is important to my collecting world is that those neat old scissors opened up for me something new to explore.

Isn’t it interesting how some little something, an unexpected experience, even a curious gift from a friend, can open the mind to a new venture, which leads to new insights, and heightens the collector passion?

All for now . . . see you on October 14th. Regards and God Bless!



(Left: Image above shares picture of a remainder uncut partial sheet of six notes from an originally eight note sheet of Continental Currency from your editor’s “Coin Cabinet.” These were printed in 1779 and come therefore from the last series of Continental Notes. Your editor speculates artifacts such as this one exist as such because they appeared at the end of the Continental Currency era and perhaps because by this time the individual notes were, as a saying of the time declared: “not worth a Continental.”

Right: Forty Cents worth of First Series Fractional Currency from an original sheet of twenty notes. Perhaps this strip exists today because a bank teller somewhere a century and a half ago, using a pair of scissors, counted off and then cut by hand forty cents to be used for a purchase requiring such an amount.)