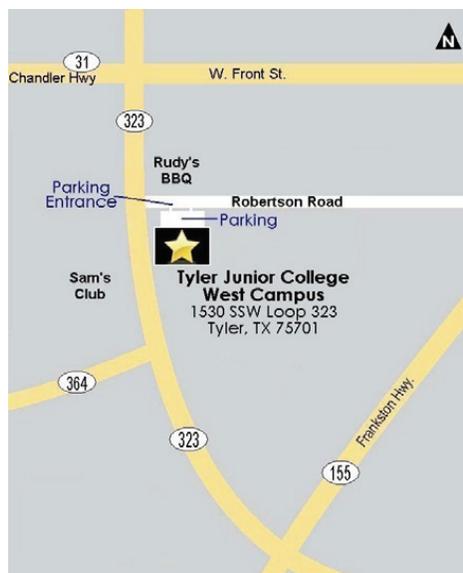




YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH
NEWSLETTER OF THE TYLER, TEXAS
COIN CLUB
OCTOBER, 2011

The Tyler, Texas Coin Club meets on the **Second Tuesday of each month** with meeting beginning at **7:00 p.m.** Location is the **west campus of Tyler Junior College** – 1530 SSW Loop 323. Club members and friends gather starting at 6:30 for fellowship and refreshments. Meeting agenda will always include business and the most spirited auction in Texas. Special presentations and programs are often offered. A friendly welcome is to be had by all. The club's next scheduled meeting is **Tuesday, November 8th**.



A Few Words from the Editor

We had a great meeting last Tuesday. One of the highlights for your editor was the time taken by President Dwight to help us grasp the place where the club is at this particular time in history. He helped us focus on being thankful and also gave a vision for the future. I know you'll want to review Dwight's comments as they are shared in his column in this month's *Two Cents Worth*. As your editor I am always willing to receive articles and other items for insertion here. I look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday, November 8th, if not before.

“Sowle Food”
Thoughts from President Dwight



Delivered to the Tyler Coin Club, Tuesday, October 11, 2011

With the Tyler Coin Club just four and a half weeks away from hosting The 3rd Largest Coin Show in the State of Texas, I want to share with you what is on my heart. I came to you almost four years ago, and one year later Tommy asked if I would be willing to serve as club president. He and his lovely wife took me and my lovely wife out to eat to discuss this opportunity. I've grown to admire and respect Tommy for who and what he is to his God, his family, his hobby and to this club. I've been in his shop when he has had to deal with some unpleasant undertakings with customers, and he always handles himself in a professional way with a Christ-like spirit. He is an example to me where ever he is, whatever he's doing, always maintaining the same soft-spoken, calm demeanor. Although I know otherwise, he never seems to tire. He is a loyal and faithful club member and TNA Board of Governor's member, and never misses a meeting to support us and conduct our auction. Tommy, I thank you.

Next, thank you...the members, every one of you, for electing me to serve as your president; for entrusting the leadership of the Club to me over the last 3 years. I am very grateful. I appreciate very much the other

officers you elected. Darrell, Carl and Barry have become more than fellow officers, we are very dear friends, and I value that friendship very much. I am grateful to each of them for taking another night out from their busy schedules each month to gather at my home for an officers meeting. But, without your kindness, support, AND your generosity, we would not have accomplished what we have so far. By doing what we are doing, we are not only contributing to one of the greatest hobbies in the world, but we are contributing to a great community.

As your officers, we want you to know it is a responsibility that we have never taken lightly and have been and always will be working hard to not just build in number the Tyler Coin Club, but to make it a respectable, enjoyable gathering for all of our members and guests. We are grateful to each member for your commitment to our cause. A lot of our organization's success is because of you.

As I was preparing this, I thought of where we have come over the last three years. There have been many changes: new officers, new people in charge, new ways of doing things; there have been records made and records broken; we've seen growth with a record number of club members on the roll, a record number in attendance, a record

number of lots in our auctions, two coin shows within a one year period, and we are on track to put on the 3rd largest coin show in the state of Texas. Hallelujah!

Also, thank you for volunteering yourselves to pull off the coin shows we have had thus far, and the one coming up. In the 2001 movie remake of Pearl Harbor, Alec Baldwin made a powerful statement that has stuck with me ever since that movie came out. As he stood overlooking the flight deck, moments before the bombers took off to bomb Japan, he said, "Nothing is stronger than the heart of a volunteer." Let me give you an analogy of how important you volunteers are: Noah's ark was built by volunteers. The Titanic was built by professionals. To all of our volunteers who continue to help make sure the club and its activities run smoothly, thank you.

I don't make it a habit of prioritizing a thank you, but under the circumstances, I think it would be okay to express my undying appreciation to our bourse chairman Barry. The man is amazing. We could not have gotten a more perfect Bourse Chairman; and no doubt he is a God send. He is soft-spoken and shows respect to everyone he talks to. Just about every weekend you will find him going out of town to coin shows,

handing out flyers to our show, selling tables, collecting money, hundreds of phone calls, AND always manages to call and keep your president in the loop and up-to-date on everything that involves this club. Barry, thank you, friend!

And above all, above everything I've said this evening, I give thanks and praise to our God who has made all things possible. He is blessing me, all of us, every day, and I see His hand at work in the Tyler Coin Club. Without Him, we would be nothing.

It is my prayer on a daily basis that you will keep supporting your officers and the Tyler Coin Club. Invite your friends, bring in new members to join and get involved and volunteer right alongside of us.

Thank you again for one of the great experiences of my life, being a member of a great club, and having had the chance to help lead it. I have been blessed to make many new friends since I became a member. To quote a phrase from New York Yankees baseball great Lou Gehrig, "I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of this earth." And to God be the glory.

----Dwight Sowle, President

Getting to Know You . . . Personal Numismatic Story

Editor's Note: This month Your Two Cents Worth features a guest biography supplied by John Barber. John is a "numismatist's numismatist" who resides in Houston. He is better known to us here in the Tyler Coin Club area as "Dr. Coyne" and is responsible for the column by the same name published in this newsletter as well as several others. John and Eve will be in Tyler for our show in November. Your editor looks forward to introducing them at that time.

Since his 2004 retirement from Shell Chemical Company, where he worked for 35 years as a chemical engineer and business economist, John Barber (sometimes masquerading as the mythical Dr. Coyne) has actively pursued the various byways of numismatics. The passion was started by a gift of a cigar box full of coins on Christmas Day 1956. The box was from his grandmother (though she is not likely the one to have smoked the cigars!). The coins were a nice mixture of 19th-century U.S. issues. While learning about these, the goal was formed to assemble a complete type set of U.S. coins. The dream still lives, and is now almost within grasp.

Growing up in Cheyenne, Wyoming just naturally led to collecting a circulated set of Morgan Dollars, and later efforts on a set of Seated Liberty Dollars. Half cents also remain an

interest.

The journey has required mentors all along the way. Local coin clubs from Colorado to Texas have been important sources of inspiration and advice. A continuous subscription to *Coin World* since April 1960 has also helped. Building of a library of supporting numismatic literature has been as important as building the coin set. Acting as editor of the GHCC's monthly newsletter, the *Double Shift*, for the past six years has provided an outlet for writing and encouraged development of photography skills.

John is blessed to have a spouse, Eve, who fully supports the hobby pursuits. Eve is also a very active worker in the Greater Houston Coin Club.



Minutes from Tyler Coin Club Meeting held on Tuesday October 11th, 2011

Meeting called to order by President Dwight with pledge to the flag

Attendance

- Members present: 25
- Guests present: 1
- Total Present 26
- New Members 1

Discussion of Agenda Items (Dwight)

- Introduction / recognition of guests, visitors, and new members
- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in month of October
- 501 (c) 3 application – tabled until after show
- Colored circular labels for auction lots
 - Ten minutes between meeting and auction to view auction items
 - Lots without a colored circular label to be auctioned last if time permits
- Richard visited the *Texas Exhibit* sponsored by Dallas Historical Society
 - Richard gave a brief overview of his visit
 - Dwight will email a couple of dates he is available for members interested in this as a field trip. Last day of exhibit is December 4th.
- Mentors needed for new members; sign-up next month; everyone please donate their areas of expertise and / or interest
- Election of Officers for 2012 – nominations at the November meeting
- Bruce B. lead the club in a short prayer
- Barry discussed new form for tracking auction lots bought / sold

Club Show Update (Barry)

- Discussed progress on coin show, asked for additional volunteers for various activities
- Show will fall on Veteran's Day, club will have various activities to honor veterans; "Vets are our VIPs"

Special Guest Speaker (Dwight) – who offered words of thanks, vision, and encouragement to the club (see Dwight's column above)

Club Auction (Tom)

- 25 auction lots sold (includes donated items) - \$972.50
- 2 donated auction items sold - \$33.00
- 1 auction lot passed

Door Prize Winners

- Ray L., David Y., John S., Carl S.

Refreshments

- Ray S.

Respectfully submitted by: Carl Shotts, Club Secretary

Numismatic Education – From Dr. Coyne

Questions for Dr. Coyne:

- 1) In the field of numismatic literature, what is a plated and annotated catalog? Hint-- think 19th century.
- 2) How does one distinguish a genuine 1943 copper cent from a fake?



- 3) Did the U.S. mint ever strike aluminum coins?
- 4) Who was John J. Pittman and what did he collect?
- 5) Are there any United Kingdom coins showing King Edward VIII from 1936?
- 6) A collector seeking to buy an example of the first 90% silver coin of the U.S. made after 1965 will be seeking what coin?

Dr. Coyne responds:

1) The "plated" part of the catalog description refers to a page of printed photographs of the coins being sold. These typically were grouped at the back of the catalog rather than having photos of the individual coins next to their lot descriptions in the main part of the catalog. Sometimes the "plates" were actual photographic prints on glossy photo paper while the text of the catalog was conventionally printed. The "annotated" part of the descriptions means that this copy was marked up at the sale to show the prices realized and some indication of who purchased the lot. The plates and the annotations are useful now to researchers in establishing ownership chains of important coins.

2) The quickest and easiest test to unmask "1943" imposters is the magnet test. A real steel cent sticks strongly to a magnet, and so do the millions of copper-plated ones (done outside the mint). The second most common "1943 copper" cent fakes are real cents of other years (commonly 1948) that have had the date area tooled to move metal until it resembles 1943. The real 1943 has a 3 with a long tail, and many metal chasers fail to get the shape right. A third class (less commonly seen) of 1943 fakes is those actually struck from home-made dies. Often the dies are explosion-transfers from a real 1943 cent, so all devices and lettering is in the right position, but often the details are mushy. The best fakes are certain Chinese ones made by a photographic/laser engraving process to make new dies, which then are used on real blank planchets (errors escaping the U.S. mint before 1982).

3) The U.S. mint struck many pattern coins in aluminum in the mid to late 19th century. Examples are noted in the current Judd reference at around \$200 (or more). There are also off-metal strikes from circulation-coin dies done in aluminum in the same period. In our time, there were Lincoln Cents struck in aluminum in 1974 as patterns to show Congressional committees. A few of these have made it into the numismatic market, but they are on the Secret Service's seizure list. Many third world countries have issued circulation coinage in aluminum.

4) John J. Pittman of Rochester, NY was an important collector and ANA leader in the second half of the twentieth century. His "day job" as an engineer with Kodak meant that he was not wealthy, but he collected relentlessly and had an eye for quality. Some of his best purchases came at the 1954 "Palace Collections" sale of the King Farouk material. Sale of his collection after his death in 1996 brought more than \$30 million. Many of the coins he had acquired during a 50 year collecting career were sold at 200 to 500 times his original cost.



5) There are circulation coins in the name of Edward VIII from 1936, but they are issues for British Commonwealth countries and not the homeland. They have legends mentioning Edward VIII, but are not issues that regularly carried a portrait. There are a very few sets of pattern British coins with an Edward VIII portrait, but none of this design was ever issued for circulation.



(Editor's Note: In preparation for the coronation of Edward VIII, which never happened, a few coin sets were in preparation when Edward decided to go in another direction. The coin, pictured above, is a rare survivor from one of those sets. In the case of the 1937 "Brass" Three Pence there is an obvious difference between a pattern and a piece from one of the sets; namely the reverse design. Both are more than rare. For example the Spinks price guide of British Coins puts the value at around 40,000 British Pounds, or approximately 56,000 U.S. Dollars)

6) The first 90% silver coin made by the US mint after 1965 would be the commemorative half dollars of 1982 showing George Washington on his horse on the obverse and Mt. Vernon on the reverse. These came in proof and in circulation-quality issues, both in special packaging and selling for issue prices well above face value.



Upcoming Collector Events

Fort Worth Fall Coin Show – November 5th – 6th – Lockheed Martin Recreation Center – 3400 S. Bryant Irvin Rd.

Tyler Coin Club Show – November 11th – 12th – Lone Star Event Center – 4036 FM 2767, Tyler, Texas - Our "Signature" Show – new location, more dealers, more space, and a great and productive time to be had by all. Our show coordinator is working on 90 tables!! What a great job and thanks Barry!!!!

Greater Houston Coin Club's Money Show of the Southwest – December 1st – 3rd – George R. Brown Convention Center – 1001 Avenida de Las Americas – Houston

Tyler Coin Club Trip to the Texas Exhibit at Fair Park in Dallas – Saturday, December 3rd – information to follow.

Next Time Together

The Tyler Coin Club will meet again on **Tuesday November 8th**. See you at **7:00 p.m.** Bring a friend. Come enjoy a positive experience, good fellowship, and the most spirited coin auction in Texas. Mark your calendar now. See you then. Also remember dinner at Rudy's prior to the meeting at or around 5:30. Rudy's is located just across the street from TJC West Campus.

Until Then . . . a Piece of History for your Consideration
And Edification



Your editor has just finished reading an article in the Longview newspaper concerning the petition signed by some 22,000 Texans calling upon the State of Texas to drop the possibility of providing license plates featuring an image of the Confederate battle flag. Your editor has no particular thought on the subject except to say the Confederate States is definitely part of our Texas historical experience and for that reason maintains a significant attachment to some. Whether it is appropriate to carry such an emotional image on the back of one's automobile is yet to be decided by the "powers that be" in Austin. At the least we know there are other ways to keep the memory.

One of the ways in which an enthusiast can recall the Confederate era is through paper money which is, even one hundred and fifty years later, still readily available in the market place. Chances are good at our upcoming TCC show there will dealers with Confederate notes for sale starting in a moderate price range. One of the favorite pieces of your editor, and of many collectors of Confederate currency, is the one pictured above. It contains much symbolism and was designed late in the war not only as a

functional tool of finance but also to inspire patriotism.

The student of this piece of paper will see the image of Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson, a savvy military leader, and a legend in his own time. There is also the great seal of the Confederate States which features an equestrian statue of George Washington along with a legend containing the words "Deo Vindice," Latin for "God will Vindicate." Another interesting feature is the addition of the "Second National" flag of the Confederacy which was in use from May 26, 1863 to March 4, 1865.

In your editor's opinion this piece of paper is a marvelous representation of the engraver's art, what must have been a quality tribute to the times and to the Southern effort, as well a sign of the emotional attachment then and now to things Confederate. It is interesting to say that this piece is one of the few pieces of Confederate currency available for under "face value." A very fine original copy, such as the one pictured on the previous page, can still be acquired for under \$500 dollars. (U.S. money of course.)

YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH is a publication of the Tyler Coin Club. Please submit all items of interest, including articles, to the editor either at any club meeting or through email at pastorlaster@etex.net