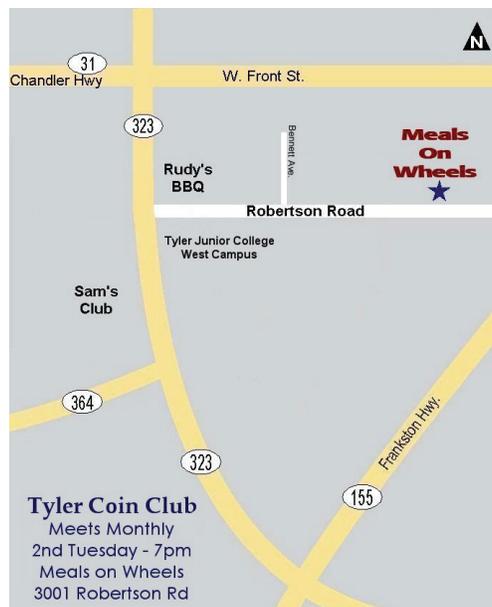




YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH NEWSLETTER OF THE TYLER, TEXAS COIN CLUB

OCTOBER, 2012

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 and refreshments. Meeting agenda will always include business and the most spirited auction in Texas. Special presentations and programs are occasionally offered. A friendly welcome is to be had by all. The club's next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, November 13th. "Dutch treat" dinner proceeds at Rudy's starting at 5:00 p.m.



A Few Words from the Editor

Friends . . . your editor joins many others in applauding the club leadership in their decision to adopt the Meals on Wheels building's offer to share their space. The discovery of the location by Randy and his family was a moment of inspiration. The space is abundant, we have access to a place to display snacks, seating is comfortable, and there is plenty of unencumbered territory for Barry to wander as he shares words of wisdom concerning our wonderful coin shows. And once our 501 (c) 3 has been secured we'll be in at home without a monthly fee. Of course there are already thoughts being passed around concerning how we, as club members, can volunteer in order to show our thanks. Your editor knows from personal experience how much good Meals on Wheels does for a community, and "volunteers are always needed and welcome."

“Sowle Food”
Thoughts from President Dwight



Tyler Coin Club's (TCC) latest coin show continues to bring in comments and questions like "when will you have another show?" The Tyler Coin Club is on the map in the numismatic community, and I for one am very proud of each and every one of you. Praise God for whom all blessings flow!

TCC's new meeting place continues to receive thumbs up signals. Again, I speak for all the officers in saluting every one of you for your support and participation in making our club what it is today.

At the October meeting we had four new members to join. Would you please join me in welcoming James A., Scott B., Kanda C., and Don H.! WELCOME!!! We are happy to have you!!

In our next officers meeting, we will be voting by secret ballot on how we can give back to the community - and in particular to Meals on Wheels organization - for offering us our new meeting location. Also, we will be taking up donations for the Christmas Angel Tree program that David and Sherry are heading up for us. Thank you TCC for your generous contributions of love and caring for children this upcoming holiday season.

As I write this, I am packing to leave tomorrow (Thursday) for the ANA Money Show in Dallas. I will be working registration on Friday and Saturday, and our granddaughter will be working both days as a Page on the bourse floor. Please come by the registration table and say hello!! I hope to see you there.

That's it for this portion of 'Sowle Food.' Until next time remember: "The flower that blooms in adversity is the rarest and most beautiful of all." . . . [Walt Disney Company](#)

Getting to Know You . . . Personal Numismatic Story

This month club member and collector Todd K. tells his story

I initially became interested in coins when I was a young boy. My grandfather owned what we called a “trading post”. It was basically a place for him to piddle and make a few sales or trades. He would often find interesting coins and show them to me. He kept several in a trunk he kept from his army days. My father used to tell me stories of his dad having a 1909s VDB Penny that was a rare coin, so every chance I got, I would look at my change hoping to find a 1909s VDB. It became my Holy Grail. My father recently confided in me that a close personal friend of the family “borrowed” my grandfathers’ collection and his widow still has them in her possession.

I got out of coin collecting as my family grew. There just wasn’t time or money.

My wife and I moved several times chasing an education – hers, not mine. One of the last places we lived before finally settling in Longview was Clearwater, Florida. I found there was a coin club there, and started attending and the collecting bug started to grow again.

After we moved to Longview, I found that there was a club in Tyler, so I started attending here. I have enjoyed meeting new friends and a renewed interest in coins.

Presently, I collect a little bit of everything. One of my obsessions is trying to build a full set of PCGS PR70 Silver American Eagles. Otherwise, if it’s shiny, I’ll probably like it.

Perhaps a funny side note is that my wife absolutely will not share this hobby with me. You see, as a young girl her father would drag her to the coin shop several times a week and to coin club meetings once a month, and several coin shows a year, and she HATED it. Still does. We joke all that time that if her father were still alive I would probably spend more time with him than with her.

Oh, and as for the Holy Grail, I was lucky enough to recently purchase not one but two of the beautiful coins.



(Todd’s favorite: PCGS certified Proof 70 Silver American Eagles . . .
Quality contemporary classic)

Minutes of Tyler Coin Club Meeting held on Tuesday, October 9th, 2012

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

Attendance

Members present: 32
Guests Present 4

Total Present: 36
(New members) 4

Discussion of Agenda Items (Dwight)

- The club was lead in prayer by John D.
- Introduction/recognition of guests, visitors, and new members
 - Welcome new members: Don, Canda, Jim and Scott
- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in month of October
- Follow up: Motion made last month for the officers to explore ideas on types of donations the club could make to Meals on Wheels. Current ideas from officers include lighting, proceeds from semi-annual or quarterly donated-item auction, flat monthly donation. Members also suggested volunteer drivers, canned food drive, raising membership dues a couple of dollars, everyone donating \$1 per meeting. Members will submit additional ideas to Dwight and club will take a vote at the November meeting.
- New club logo competition; two design already submitted
- David H. discussed information about the Salvation Army Angel Tree (giving back to the community). Angel trees are usually displayed just before Thanksgiving with purchased items due back a few weeks later. It takes about \$250 to secure everything on a child's wish/needs list. Cash donations will be accepted at the November meeting. Of course, all members are encouraged to participate. Proceeds from donated items sold at the November auction will also go towards funding the Salvation Army Angel Tree project.
- Newsletters (Articles/Stories needed for Getting to Know you section), Magazines, Handouts available
- Tommy reminded club members about the upcoming National Money Show in Dallas, October 18-20. The show will have something for just about everyone including very rare items like a 1913 Liberty Head nickel.
- Next meeting – November 13, 2012

Presentation (Bert)

- Club member, Bert D., gave an outstanding presentation on Large Cents and Indian Peace medals. Bert brought an impressive collection for the viewing pleasure of club members, and his question/answer format challenged even the most seasoned collectors.

Club Auction (Tom)

- 32 auction lots sold (includes donated items) - \$1,211.00
- 4 donated auction item(s) sold - \$58.00

Door prize winners

- Billy, Brandon, Don & Scott

Refreshments

- Ray S.

Numismatic Education – From Dr. Coyne

Questions for Dr. Coyne:

- 1) How can I tell if my Franklin Half Dollar has “Full Bell Lines”? *(Editor’s Note: This question comes to Dr. Coyne from a member of our own Tyler Coin Club.)*
- 2) What was the first bimetallic coin made by the United States? Hint: it was a pattern.
- 3) Citizens have become used to having the same persons on our U.S. currency starting with the small size notes of the 1928 Series; Washington on the \$1; Jefferson on the \$2, Lincoln on the \$5, Hamilton on the \$10, Jackson on the \$20, Grant on the \$50, Franklin on the \$100, McKinley on the long discontinued \$500. When was the most recent time this “rule” has been broken?
- 4) When was Anthony Swiatek active in commemorative half dollars?
- 5) When was the first issue of the 5-coin “flat pack” proof set by the U.S?
- 6) What are “die finishing marks”?

Dr. Coyne Responds

1) Full Bell Lines refers to the design feature on the reverse showing the grooves that are part of the real Liberty Bell. There are two sets; one at the very bottom of the bell, and a set about 12 inches above the bottom (on the real bell). These design elements are not cut very deeply into the master die, and are thus among the last parts of the design to “fill” on the struck coins. Additionally, the mint used the original master die from 1948 through 1959 (reworking it only in 1960 after it had become quite worn), so an increasing fraction of the struck coins through the earlier years came with indistinct bell lines. The grading services look for continuous grooves all the way across -- not interrupted by weakly struck areas. They look for coins that do not show bag marks or scrapes in any of the four quadrants from upper left to lower right. Small areas near the crack that never show complete lines (not even present on the real Liberty Bell) get a pass and do not disqualify a given coin.



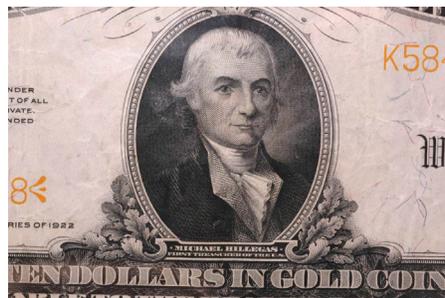
(LucyBop’s image of continuous FBL)

2) The first bimetallic U.S. coin has to be the “Birch” pattern cent of 1792 which was of nearly pure copper containing a plug of silver near its center. Only a handful were made.



(Not Dr. Coyne’s coin)

3) We have had the same faces on our federal currency since 1924. The images of Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, Hamilton, Grant, Franklin, McKinley and Cleveland have varied in size and color a bit but the same portraits adorn the same denominations consistently. The newest rule-breaker that Dr. Coyne could find came on a Series 1923 United States Note \$10, showing Andrew Jackson’s portrait. Before locating this obscure note, Dr. Coyne thought that the \$10 Gold Note of Series 1922 showing Michael Hillegas might be the one.



(Editor’s Note: The paper money we have in our “pocket” now has a uniform series of portraits consistent with denomination. This has been the practice since the advent of the 1928 Series in all forms of U.S. Currency. It is interesting to note, as Dr. Coyne did above, that prior to the Series of 1928 the portraits with which we are familiar today were not necessarily and always on the denomination of note we have in our wallets, purses, etc. For example just prior to that time, 1928, on the large size Federal Reserve \$10 note of 1914, President Jackson was present while President Cleveland was on the \$20 note. As you know; starting with Series of 1928 Andrew Jackson graces the \$20 while our friend Grover Cleveland’s presidential image found a home on the now long out of production \$1,000. And a somewhat related subject; who was Michael Hillegas and why do we collectors suppose his likeness appears on the last few series of large \$10 Gold Notes? Incidentally, there is a familiar face, from another denomination, on the large \$20 Gold Note of the same era. The 1928 issue of the same, albeit small sized, features Mr. Jackson’s likeness)

4) Mr. Anthony Swiatek is still very much with us and remains a foremost authority on the “classic” commemoratives of 1892-1954. In fact, he has a new book out: *“Encyclopedia of the Commemorative Coins of the U.S.”* (KWS Publishers (2012) 712 pages, nicely hard-bound.)

5) The first “flat pack” U.S. proof set came midway through 1955. Early 1955 sets came in the small cardboard box with the coins in individual cellophane sleeves stapled at the top (as had 1950-1954 sets). The new design came in one double-sized pliofilm holder inside a medium

Kraft envelope. Today, collectors seem to prefer the 1955 flat pack sets to the boxed sets. The flat pack continued in use through 1964.

6) Die finishing marks are remnants of the process of creating a new coinage die. The most common marks show up on early-strike coins from a new die as fine raised lines on the fields of the coin. At first they often look like fine scratches, but they are raised instead of carved into the surface of the coin. They are on the fields of the coin instead of the devices, as the fields of the coin are the highest part of the die. One of the final steps in creating a die is polishing it. A rotary tool with a fine abrasive is used. The die finishing marks are left only on the fields because the face of the tool is not flexible enough to reach down into the recesses of the die (which are the devices or lettering on the coin). Here is an example of a medal (so-called dollar HK-870) which has prominent die finishing lines. Practically the whole issue of these shows the same prominent lines. We also know they are not scratches because they occur in the identical place on every example.



Upcoming Collector Events

Fort Worth Coin Club Show – November 3 – 4 . . . Lockheed Martin Recreation Center – 3400 South Bryant Irvin Rd., Fort Worth

Paris Coin Club Show – November 10. . . Red River Valley Fair Grounds – 570 E. Center, Paris

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

Pasadena Coin Show – November 23 – 25 . . . Houston Marriott South at Hobby Airport – 9100 Gulf Freeway, Houston

Money Show of the Southwest (Houston Coin Club) – November 29 – December 1 . . . George R. Brown Convention Center, Hall E – 1001 Avenida de las Americas, Houston

Cowtown Coin Show – December 8 - 9 . . . Lockheed Martin Recreation Center – 3400 South Bryant Irvin Rd., Fort Worth

Next Time Together

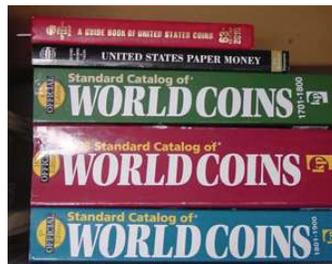
The Greater Tyler Coin Club will meet again on **Tuesday, November 13th**. See you at **7:00 p.m.** Bring a friend. Come enjoy a positive numismatic experience, good fellowship, and the most spirited coin auction in Texas. Mark your calendar now. Club members and friends are also encouraged to gather for a pre-meeting “Dutch treat” dinner at Rudy’s BBQ starting at approximately 5:00 p.m. Rudy’s is located at the corner of Robertson and Loop 323, just to the west of our current meeting location. You’ll want to be present in order to learn about this formative piece of our numismatic history. See you then.

Numismatic History: From Your Editor’s “Coin Cabinet”

You all may have noticed your editor occasionally speaks of his “operating procedures;” the basic practices which he uses to focus the things of life. Back in August of 2010 your editor spent a few moments during program time at the Greater Houston Coin Club coordinating a discussion on basic “numismatic” operating procedures and soliciting thoughts from club members concerning theirs. Operating procedures are basically the details in the collector’s mind when decisions are made in regard to what to acquire and what to pass by. In the program’s official introduction way back now over two years ago your editor defined numismatic operating procedures as “the rules, practices, traditions, studied opinions, insights, and experiences which we, as collectors, call upon when pursuing and acquiring items for our various collections.” Vague enough, your editor knows, and can say was one of his basic goals in the presentation. “Numismatic operating procedures” represent the specifics in helping to identify an item for a person’s collection, and are tools in the “thrill of the hunt” which was part of the discussion in last month’s *Your Two Cents Worth*.

Here are the results of the discussion at Great Houston Coin Club in August of 2010. Your editor welcomes the reader’s “operating procedures” and will add them to this ongoing list.

- Buy the book before buying the item (even in an internet era the meaning is the same: research / come with knowledge and understanding before investing in any item)

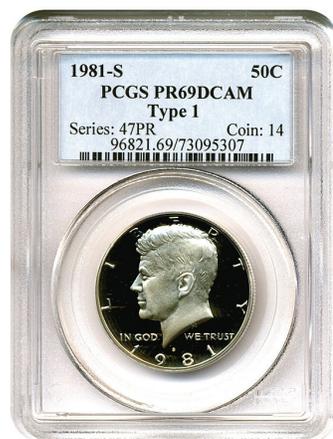


(Buy the book before buying the item – a good “operating procedure”)

- If considering making a purchase for “investment” remember – sometimes the person who cares is scarcer than the item
- Never trade “old” for “new”
- Buy what you like - don’t focus upon the potential for financial “return” as your primary objective.

- If you see something you have never seen before and it is cheap buy it
- When opportunity provides itself and the price is right buy in quantity
- Acquire friends who know “stuff”
- Frequent and support “ethical” dealers
- Go with your educated instincts
- Buy the best you can afford
- Become part of a collector club (and we’ve got a great one!!)
- Make a decisions to “slab” or “not to slab”
- The right time to purchase is “now” – later may be too late
- Buy the best coin you can “understand” – be an educated consumer
- Invite “new” folks to club meetings – not only folks who are new to the hobby but also those who are experienced collectors who can add insight, inspiration and ideas
- Learn to tell a “fake” from a “genuine” item (a growing challenge in all areas)
- Resist the urge to buy “junk” (even though your editor enjoys his 1804 half cent)
- There is no free lunch
- Never buy off TV, radio, or from glossy magazine or credit card company ads
- Time is on your side
- Share your knowledge with family and friends
- Be security conscious – learn how to store and protect your collection
- Share what is happening in the numismatic organizations of which you are a member – also volunteer in order to make the club / group its best
- Don’t skimp on quality of storage supplies
- Learn the basic details of preservation

What else do you have to offer? What are your “operating procedures?” Your editor will be pleased to hear from you and add your thoughts to the list which is, as said before, “ongoing.”



(To slab or not to slab – is that the question?!?!)

Your Two Cents Worth is a monthly publication of the Tyler, Texas Coin Club. Any communication regarding the newsletter should be sent to the editor at: pastorlaster@etex.net Submissions of all types, including articles, are always welcome