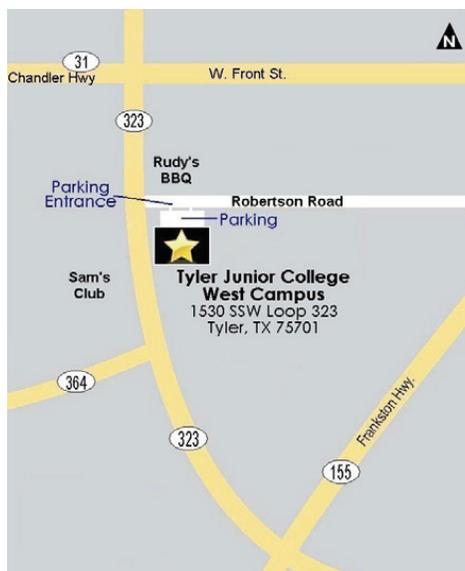




**YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH
NEWSLETTER OF THE TYLER, TEXAS
COIN CLUB
DECEMBER, 2011**

The Tyler, Texas Coin Club takes place 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, January 10th, 2012.**



A Few Words from the Editor

Friends . . . Your editor just took a casual look at the calendar and once again said “yikes!!” Isn’t it surreal realizing we are more than ten percent through another new century? It seems just like yesterday many “in the know” were worried about the “Y2K Virus” which was by no means a problem. How times flies, but I’m not sharing anything you all don’t already know. Please accept my greeting to you not only for a Merry Christmas but also for a great, wonderful, and blessed 2012. I look forward to seeing you all on the 10th of January. Remember our pre-meeting dinner opportunity at Ruby’s BBQ Restaurant at or around 5:30 p.m. The restaurant is located across the street from the coin club’s meeting location.

“Sowle Food”
Thoughts from President Dwight



As we bring another year to a close, I look back to when I first served you as your president and it has already been three years. There is truth in the old saying, “Time flies when you are having fun...*and the older you get.*” (Emphasis mine.) Here is the year 2011 in review:

- The year began with good news that Richard would relieve Carl as club Newsletter Editor going from a quarterly newsletter to monthly
- The four coins we won for winning the ANA Club Challenge the previous year were auctioned off and went for over \$800
- We had picture night: club members group picture, and a picture of the 2011 officers
- We voted on a name for our newsletter: *Your Two Cents Worth* submitted by John H. became the official title
- We entered the ANA Club Challenge contest for the 2nd year
- We entered the ANA Scavenger hunt for the first time
- We hosted our 2nd and 3rd coin show. FANTASTIC!!
- Our Newsletter editor Richard wrote an article that was featured on the front page of the *TNA News*
- Club member Ronnie gave a talk and presentation on Chinese coins
- We ended the year with our 3rd annual dinner/meeting with our families
- The club gained six new members

On behalf of Darrel, Carl, Barry and myself, I want to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year. It's great to be a Tyler Coin Club member. See you next year!! God bless.

Getting to Know You . . . Personal Numismatic Story

This month “Your Editor” shares a “bit” about getting started in numismatic

I can’t say exactly when the “numismatic bug” bit. I’m quite sure it was present in some form very early in my life. It actually started with stamps; at least the basic collecting interest did. Someone gave me a small envelope full of “old” postage stamps from the era of the Second World War. These were definitely of interest and I recall sitting and sorting through them admiring the pictures and studying the history there in my hand.

The real shift in the direction of collecting coins I remember quite clearly and without hesitation. This second step in my personal numismatic journey was on my ninth birthday. On that occasion my grandfather presented to me a rather heavy envelope. Inside were nine genuine United States silver dollar coins. All these years later I can still identify these specific nine coins and I hold them in high esteem. This was my first adventure with “coins” per se. It was exactly then I started my experience with numismatics. I was “bit” big time and have been ever since.

The third step in the process wasn’t until I was in graduate school in Dallas some twenty plus years later. One Saturday my wife and I spent a few hours at the very first antique mall we’d ever seen. I don’t recall the name and it has long since passed on. I found on that day three pieces of original, genuine Republic of Texas paper money for which I paid (are you ready for this?) less than twenty dollars for all three. Once again I was “bit” and since that time I’ve devoted my collecting interest to being a “rag picker.” (aka a paper money collector.)

Minutes from Tyler Coin Club Meeting held on Friday December 16th, 2011



The annual Christmas meeting was held at Spring Creek Barbeque. It was called to order by President Dwight with pledge to the flag

Attendance

- Members present: 22
- Guests present: 20
- Total Present 42
- New Members 2

Discussion of Agenda Items (Dwight)

- Introduction / recognition of guests, visitors, and new members
- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in month of December
- 501 (c) 3 application is tabled until next year
- Election of officers for 2012; floor opened for nominations. Receiving no further nominations a vote was called. Bruce made a motion to re-elect current officers for the 2012 term. Tracy seconded the motion which passed with all members present voting in favor.
 - 2012 Tyler Coin Club Offers are:
 - President: Dwight Sowle
 - Vice President: Darrel Deitenbeck
 - Treasurer: Barry Carter
 - Secretary: Carl Shotts
- Barry presented a brief summary of November's coin show pointing out that dealers continue to be impressed with the hospitality of the club



- Richard is seeking member input for the “Getting to Know You” section of the club newsletter
- Dwight emceed Christmas Trivia extravaganza again this year which included for the first time a “Name that Song” section (our club President sings quite impressively!)
- No club auction this month

Door Prize Winners

- Guests: Nelda, Harley, and Karson
- Members: Barry, Billie, James, John, and Howard

Respectfully submitted by: Carl Shotts, Club Secretary



(A great time had by all)

Numismatic Education – From Dr. Coyne

Questions for Dr. Coyne:

- 1) On paper currency, where is the filigree? What is a filigree anyway?
- 2) How do those "pens" that retail clerks use on currency work to unmask fakes?
- 3) Did the U.S. mint ever strike coins for The Philippines?
- 4) Was it Q. David Bowers or was it John Kraljevich who had his first ANA show table at the youngest age?
- 5) What countries show prominent two-headed eagles on their coins?
- 6) Are there any silver Sacagawea or Presidential Dollars?



Dr. Coyne responds:

- 1) The filigree is that part of the design just inside the border on a note. It is often ornamental. Sometimes it is lacy. The word also has meaning in jewelry manufacture where it means the piece is made of wire or has perforated open spaces near the edge.
- 2) The "counterfeit detection pens" used by retail clerks are an invention of our time. They provide a color change indication when applied to paper having the wrong starch content. Since US paper money has changed over the years, the pens often give a "wrong" indication on older currency, especially the series 1953 and older.
- 3) The U.S. mint struck many coins for the Philippines during the time that they were a U.S. possession. Coins were struck in large quantities during the 1940's at both Denver and San Francisco. There was even a Branch U.S. Mint operated at Manila from 1920 until World War II.



- 4) Mr. Q. David Bowers had his first table at an ANA summer convention when he was 15 years old. His father had to agree to stand behind his transactions. QDB later became the most productive numismatic writer and a major dealer during the second half of the twentieth century. John Kraljevich was only slightly older when he took his first ANA table. JK, today in his 30's,

is already one of the most important researchers and authors in the field of early American material. He has an active sole-proprietor dealership in New York.

5) Coming first to mind among coins showing two-headed eagles on their coins are Austria, Russia, several German states, Finland, Yugoslavia.



(Silver Ruble from 1899)

6) There are no silver Sacagawea or Presidential Dollars. They are all manganese-brass composition. The proofs have the same composition as the business strikes. Dr. Coyne has it on good authority that approximately 12 to 20 Sacagawea Dollar coins were minted in gold. Obviously these are quite scarce. They were not minted for public consumption but were created to be flown in space on specific NASA missions.

Upcoming Collector Events

Cowtown Winter Coin Show – January 28th – 29th - Lockheed Martin Recreation Center – 3400 S. Bryant Irvin Rd., Fort Worth, Texas

Fort Worth Coin Club Winter Coin Show – March 3rd and 4th - Lockheed Martin Recreation Center – 3400 S. Bryant Irvin Rd., Fort Worth, Texas

Texas Coin Show – April 13th – 15th – Grapevine Convention Center – 1209 Main St., Grapevine, Texas

Texas Numismatic Association's 54th Annual Convention and Show – May 18th – 20th – Will Rogers Memorial Center, Amon G. Carter, Jr. Exhibits Hall – 401 W. Lancaster – Fort Worth

Our Next Time Together

The Tyler Coin Club will meet again on **Tuesday, January 10th, 2012**. Club members and friends gather at 6:30 p.m. at the west campus of Tyler Junior College. The club meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. Come for great fellowship, some numismatic education and exchange of ideas, and always for the most spirited coin auction to be found. Also remember the pre-meeting dinner time available at 5:30 p.m. just across the street at Rudy's Barbeque on the night our great Tyler Coin Club gathers.

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



As we approach the time of Christmas, at least when we come to Christmas at the date we now celebrate the event, we are reminded of not only the spiritual gift of Jesus but also of the historical presence of Jesus. In simple words, people of faith recognize the person of Jesus, who

according to religious understanding, came into human history as God's presence among us. Speaking for myself, as a Christian person, I am thankful for God's vision and for the gift.

The Bible records history and gives us insight into the way the people lived as well as the trails of daily life which were faced. One of the challenges, at least in the era in and around Jesus' birth, was a fellow by the name of Herod. Herod came to power in approximately 37 BCE (BC) and reigned until 4 CE (AD). Herod's "greatness," remember he was referred to as Herod the Great, is debatable. As a Roman appointee he had to make sure there was peace in the region of his service, namely Judea. Herod was an effective, though ruthless, ruler. To his credit he saw to the construction and renovation of major structures in the community, including the temple in Jerusalem. On the other hand Herod was jealous for power and when his authority was challenged he would often respond with violence. According to Gospel of Matthew it was Herod who ordered the killing of infants in Bethlehem in order to destroy Jesus whom he saw as a threat to the throne and to his power. From what we know of Herod such actions were definitely part of his character.



(A photograph of what may be the tomb of King Herod the Great which was discovered (identified) by a team of archaeologists from Hebrew University in 2007. The site is located approximately nine miles south of Jerusalem.)

It is interesting to note it was during the time of Herod the King of Judea God chose to send Jesus into human history. Even though there are no commemorative metals or coins featuring the likeness of Jesus, at least not until many centuries later, there are numismatic signs of the time which remain for collectors to enjoy to our day. These affirm the actuality of the person and the time.

The coin pictured at the bottom of the previous page is a fine example from the era of Herod. It is dated "year 3," which would translate to about 34 or 35 BCE. The picture supplied is the obverse of the coin. Starting at the top and running clockwise are the words "Basileos Erodou" meaning "Herod the King." There is also a "thymiaterium" or incense burner between two palm branches. The incense burner may be representative of those used for worship in the temple.

Please accept this brief history from your editor as an affirmation of the way God chose to enter the world. This was done not through some supernatural phenomenon, but in the very midst of human history.

(Editor's Final Note of the Year: Merry Christmas to you all and God Bless.)

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