

TNA NEWS

Serving the Numismatic Community of Texas

NOVEMBER
DECEMBER
2017
VOL. 60 - NO. 6



TEXAS' FIRST



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PUBLICATION DEADLINES

CONTACT INFORMATION

We want to publish your educational articles and club news in a timely manner. Please submit your items by the 15th of the following months: January, March, May, July, September, November.

Send your information via email to:
tnanews@sbcglobal.net

Greetings!

From your TNA News Editor,
Ron Kersey



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

I hope this special season finds our TNA Members in good spirits while you look for that special piece of numismatic material, be it a U.S. type coin, foreign coinage, ancient coins or even medallions and medals.

Speaking of medallions, North Texas club member, Mike Ross, was in England a few weeks ago. The British Art Medal Society in London asked him to present his treatise on "Jacques Wiener's Greatest Edifices of Europe: The Man, the Monuments, and his Medals". Mike is recognized as an expert in this field and he has written numerous award-winning articles for ANA's *The Numismatist* and the TNA News.

Be sure to read Gary and Judy Dobbins' article on show exhibits. They have some tips on how to set up an exhibit and will be glad to help any member who is interested in bringing an exhibit to our annual convention in June.

The TNA is proud to be a co-sponsor of the ANA National Money Show coming to Irving, Texas on March 8-10, 2018. Be sure to put this show on your calendar. You will be glad you did!

Our own 60th Annual TNA Convention and Coin Show is going to be held June 1-3, 2018 at the Arlington Convention Center. This venue has been popular with collectors and dealers alike. Show producers, Doug and Mary Davis, along with John Post, 2018 Convention Chair, are planning to make this show the best that can be for our TNA members and all who attend.

As usual, we have some excellent articles for you this issue. Everything from grading to wooden nickels to currency to collecting in the internet age and more. Texas Happenings also contains some interesting numismatic information. Many thanks to our contributors who made this issue possible.

I apologize if this issue is a bit late getting to you. I was out of town for a few days and the Thanksgiving holiday can sometimes cause delays in the printing. However, I believe it will be worth the wait and I feel blessed to be a part of this publication.

Now it's time to get this off to the printer!



Richard Laster

From the President

Friends . . . I read an article the other day which highlighted the debate between the use of “Merry Christmas” and “Happy Holidays” for this time of year. Being a Christian preacher, as far as I am concerned, it is always going to be “Merry Christmas.” At the least I pray for the peace on earth that people of faith can bring about.

Yet at the same time I know from the article that there are literally dozens of other traditional celebrations and events scheduled around our world which happen at this time of year, at the point where winter makes its entrance. For this reason I am also of the opinion that “Happy Holidays” fits the purpose as well. Suffice it to say that, whatever your leaning may be, I trust that you’ll find blessings in this season of the year as we head into the common New Year, 2018, just ahead.

As for 2018, I am excited about the possibilities. Our annual show and convention dates are long set. Doug Davis is preparing a wonderful show, while John Post and a host of volunteers on the convention committee, are working toward the best opportunity for us to gather together starting on Friday, June 1st and running through Sunday June 3rd. Our 2018 show and convention will provided a bourse of 200 dealer tables, educational presentations, collector provided exhibits, an auction geared toward young numismatists, book auction, Scout merit badge seminar, plenty of quality conversations with like-minded folk and the premier of a our annual medal set. On Friday there will be a meeting of the Texas Numismatic Association Directors. On Saturday we will have the Annual Meeting of the Association which is open to all members.

Best thing I can say for now is to “mark your calendar.” Time investment will produce wonderful results. As has been the case for the last several years, OUR convention / show will be located at the Arlington Convention Center. You’ll find more information within the pages of our wonderful TNA news.

It is also important to note that the American Numismatic Associating is “coming to town.” Their annual National Money Show is being planned for March 8th to 10th at the Irving Convention Center. Volunteers are needed in order to welcome the numismatic world to Texas. In both cases, at our own TNA event and at the ANA Money Show, table space is available for local clubs to be present in order to welcome and invite. If your club is interested in either, please let me know. I can send you in the right direction.

Last thing for this writing is to share a list I put together when the ANA National Money Show came to Dallas back in 2016. Your president, at the time First Vice President, prepared a handout featuring ten “Benefits of Texas Numismatic Association Membership.” Here is what I shared on the 2016 document:

1. TNA promotes the betterment of the numismatic hobby which benefits us all.
2. TNA advocates for the collectors of the great State of Texas.
3. Members receive, six times a year, the award winning TNA News.
4. Free admission to the TNA money show / convention held in May or June of each year.
5. Provides the opportunity to apply for educational grants (individual and club).
6. Doorway to find like-minded numismatic friends and conversations.
7. Format for expanding numismatic knowledge through articles, exhibits, conversations, club affiliations, and friendships.
8. Provides collectors the avenues for sharing their collector passion with others through TNA partner clubs all over Texas.
9. Offers collectors the opportunity to exhibit at the annual show.
10. Avenue to work for the future of the hobby as members are encouraged to participate as volunteers in areas related to children and youth such as Coins for A’s, Children’s coin auction at the annual show, partnership with Scout organizations and schools, as well as others as created by TNA and local clubs.

I look forward to working with you during 2018 and beyond. Please do not hesitate to be in contact with me if I can be of assistance to you. Best address (dates from my years of coordinating Coins for A’s) is tnacfa@yahoo.com. Since I can’t pass this along I decided to keep it and use it for now.

Regards and God Bless . . . Richard Laster

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By Lawrence Herrera

Secretary's Report

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017

WELCOME NEW TNA MEMBER APPLICANTS

The following have applied for membership in the TNA. If no objections are received, they will become members on January 1, 2018.

Number	Name	Proposer	District
R-7659	Glenn Meche	Website	6
R-7660	Mychael Colyar-Long	Frank Clark	5

TNA MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership Application is on page 39

The TNA invites to membership all worthy persons who are at least nine years of age. Coin clubs, schools, libraries, museums and kindred organizations who have a sincere interest in the collecting and study of coins, paper money, tokens, medals and related items are welcome.

PURPOSES

To promote and advance interest and comprehensive knowledge of numismatics; to cultivate friendly relations among fellow collectors; to hold periodic meetings and exhibits; to provide a place and time to buy, sell and trade numismatic items; to serve its members collectively, not individually.

ADVANTAGES

To be a member is to have fraternal affiliation with numismatics of your state; to know their addresses and collecting interests; to have the honor of serving visitors with the names of collectors in their vicinity; to participate in the annual convention; to receive the official publication. TNA membership offers prestige on the state level just as ANA offers prestige on the national and international levels.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

Each Regular, Junior, Life and Chapter member receives the TNA News for no additional cost. Insofar as possible, this media will keep you informed about your association, and the individual and chapter members. It carries timely articles and features. Its pages are free to all members to express their views and to contribute articles for the advancement of numismatics. Those seeking information may ask for help through the pages of the TNA News. Those having items for sale or trade may advertise for a nominal sum. The TNA News is the voice of the TNA.

CONVENTIONS

The TNA will meet in an annual convention. Members are entitled to a voice at the conventions. The business sessions are devoted to the procedures necessary to the operation of your state association. Entertainment and time for renewal of friendships is an important part of the conventions. Educational exhibits are a vital adjunct. The opportunity to buy, sell and trade is provided through bourse activity.

MEMBERSHIP

Regular members are at least 18 years of age. Associate members are at least 18 and a member of the immediate family of a regular member. Junior members are under 18 years of age. Chapter members are those organizations as listed on the previous page.

APPLICATION

Applicants for membership must be proposed for membership by a TNA member who signs the application form together with an additional person know as a voucher. A voucher for an applicant for regular membership should be an adult of reputable character who knows the applicant. A voucher for an applicant for junior membership must be a parent or guardian of the applicant. Applicants for chapter membership should be signed by the president. Such other information as required on the application should be given.

Chapter membership applicants should furnish the additional information;

1. Names and addresses of officers
2. Name and address of TNA representative
3. Mailing address
4. Meeting date, time and place.

APPLICANTS

Names of applicants are published in the TNA News. If no objections are received within 20 days after the date of publication, the applicant is admitted to membership. A membership card is sent with notification of admission. The official publication will be mailed to eligible applicants.

DUES

Regular & Chapter	20.00
Junior	8.00
Associate	8.00
Life	300.00

Mail applications to:

Lawrence Herrera, TNA Secretary
4717 W. Lovers Lane
Dallas, TX 75209

Incorporated under the Laws of Texas - March, 1960

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please notify the Secretary's office of any changes of address.

Mailing labels for the TNA News are prepared by the Secretary's office.

2018 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues are \$20 and should be mailed to:
Lawrence Herrera
TNA Secretary
4717 W. Lovers Lane
Dallas, TX 75209

TNA COINS FOR A'S

Please contact our Coins for A's Administrator for information on this important program for young collectors:
Coins for A's
P.O. Box 131179
The Woodlands, TX 77393
Email: Coins4As@gmail.com

61ST HOUSTON MONEY SHOW

NEW DATE - NEW LOCATION

JAN 19-20, 2018

(DEALER SETUP: THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2PM-6PM)

LONE STAR CONVENTION CENTER

9055 Airport Rd. @ FM 3083, Conroe, TX 77303

SHOW HOURS:

FRIDAY, JAN 19, 10AM-6PM • SATURDAY, JAN 20, 10AM-5PM

125 TABLE BOURSE

SPECIAL DISPLAY

ON DISPLAY WILL BE THE **"MONEY CASKET"**
(courtesy National Museum of Funeral History, Houston)

EDUCATIONAL LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS

COMPETITIVE & NON-COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS

YOUTH ACTIVITIES & SCOUT MERIT BADGE

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FREE PARKING - JUST OUTSIDE THE DOOR

IN-HOUSE CONCESSIONS

NUMISMATIC LITERATURE & SUPPLIES

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BUY- SELL- TRADE- APPRAISALS GIVEN

ADMISSION: \$3, CASH ONLY, ID REQUIRED,

FREE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 17 & ACTIVE MILITARY



**INFORMATION: JACK DOMURAT: 832-610-5313 • jackurat@sbcglobal.net
www.houstoncoinshow.org**

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TNA FINANCIAL ASSIST

PROGRAM OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE: JACK GILBERT –

DRAWINGS TO ATTEND THE 2018 ANA SEMINAR AND 2018 FUND YOUR LIBRARY DRAWINGS

Now Is The Time To Send In Your Entry Forms

ONLY 9 ENTRIES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED AS OF 9/10/17.

Entry forms will be accepted August 1, 2017
through December 31, 2017.

The drawing will be held at the TNA Winter Board Meeting held on Friday at the Houston Money Show to be held on January 19, 2018.

You must send one entry for each drawing to be eligible! Entry forms may be sent by email. Please include a subject line indicating which drawing you are entering. Include all contact information.

Email: gilbej@yahoo.com

U.S. Mail: Jack E. Gilbert
1093 Sunset Ct.
Keller, TX 76248

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/ST/ZIP _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

You may copy or cut this page out and send it by U.S. Mail.

ANA SEMINAR GRANT

The TNA will award an Educational Grant to two members to attend the ANA Summer Seminar (tuition and travel).

LIBRARY GRANT

The TNA will also award a \$125 Educational Grant to five members (including club members) for the purpose of purchasing Numismatic Related books for their library.

To be eligible the person (or club) must be a member in good standing during the year of the drawing and the two years prior to the year of the drawing. Chapter/Club members are not eligible for the ANA Summer Seminar Grant. A prior Grant recipient is not eligible for this Grant until two years has passed from the receipt of the prior Grant.

ADDITIONAL GRANTS OFFERED DURING THE YEAR

GRANT TO PROMOTE NUMISMATICS

There have been no new requests for funding for any of the Programs since the last edition of the TNA News.

By the time that you read this, the NorthEast Tarrant Coin Club will have presented its educational programs at the September 23rd Texas Coin Show in Grapevine, Texas. I will report on the programs in the next issue of the TNA News.

REPORT



JACK GILBERT

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM NEWS

DAVID BURKE – KARLA GALINDO – LARRY HERRERA

COIN CLUB FINANCIAL REQUESTS

There have been no new requests for funding for any of the Programs since the last edition of the TNA News.

Earlier this year, NorthEast Tarrant Coin Club was granted funds to create a program to promote our hobby to young numismatists. The NETCC again hosted a BUNCH of kids ages 6 to 17 at its June meeting. TNA funds were used to acquire coins and collecting material for the kids.

KEEP YOUR EYE ON THIS SPACE FOR CONTINUING PROGRAM NEWS

During 2013, TNA initiated several new educational and financial assistance programs to promote our hobby. These included: Assistance in Hosting a Coin Show; Financial Assistance in Promoting Numismatics; Financial Assistance in Promoting Young Numismatists; Grant Program to Fund Your Library; and, Grant Program to Attend the ANA Seminar.

All of these Programs are open to all members and were fully detailed on pages 8-12 in the September/October 2013 issue of the TNA News (available online - http://www.tna.org/downloads/tna-news/2013/tna_news_sept-oct_2013.pdf)

Clubs interested in the TNA Programs for Assistance in Hosting a Coin Show; Financial Assistance in Promoting Numismatics; and/or Financial Assistance in Promoting Young Numismatists should contact Jack Gilbert at gilbej@yahoo.com, one of the committee members listed above, or your local TNA Governor.

TEXAS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION, INC. FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2017

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash	
JP Morgan Chase, NA Checking Account	\$17,245.65
Origin Bk, Ft Worth-Premium Business Money Mkt	\$28,444.94
PBOT (Mat 2/25/18)	\$25,000.00
Origin Bk CD (Mat. 8/30/2018)	\$50,000.00
Total Current Assets Due in <1 Year	\$120,690.59
Long Term Assets	
Origin Bk CD (Mat. 2/28/19)	\$60,000.00
Origin Bk CD (Mat. 4/3/2020)	\$60,000.00
Endowment	
Lifetime Member Fund (Intermingled other CDs)	
PBOT CD McFadden Fund (mat 10/19/18)	\$70,000.00
Total Long Term Assets	\$190,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$310,690.59
LIABILITIES	
Total Liabilities	None.
SURPLUS	
Beginning Balance 3/1/2017	\$335,957.79
Income (Plus)	\$43,027.70
Expenses (Minus)	-\$68,294.90
Surplus	-\$25,267.20
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS	\$310,690.59

TEXAS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Annual Coin Show



June 1-3, 2018

Arlington Convention Center, Arlington, Texas

(15 minutes from DFW Airport - Close to restaurants, hotels, and shopping)

Friday & Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Admission \$3.00 (children under 18 free)

- 200 tables
- 24-hour police security
- Free educational seminars
- Free exhibits
- Youth auction
- Book auction
- Dealer set-up May 31, 2018

**Scout Merit Badge
Grading services on-site for submission**

Our host hotel is the Sheraton Arlington
1500 Convention Center Dr.
Arlington, Texas 76011 • 817-261-8200

For more information, contact
Doug or Mary Davis at 817-723-7231
or tnacoinshow@gmail.com.



by Sam Fairchild

LOUISIANA PURCHASE EXPOSITION

When Napoleon came to power in 1799, he desired to reestablish a major French presence in North America. He promptly secured the return of the Louisiana territory from Spain the following year. When the Americans learned of this reacquisition, they feared that New Orleans would be closed and therefore block Mississippi River access. This led Thomas Jefferson to send James Monroe and Robert Livingston to France to negotiate a purchase of New Orleans and the lower Mississippi.

When the Americans met with Napoleon, they found his desire to sell the entire territory, much of which was unmapped and unexplored by white men. Napoleon feared that the British would capture New Orleans, meaning he would lose Louisiana with no compensation. After some haggling, they agreed on a price of \$15 million.



The Louisiana Purchase doubled the size of the United States, and today forms much of the center of the country. Desirous of honoring the centennial of the

purchase, Congress passed authorizing legislation for an exposition; the bill was signed by President William McKinley shortly before his assassination. Congress also authorized issue of five commemorative stamps, with the 10-cent example depicted on the right.

The fair at St. Louis opened on April 30, 1904, a year later than originally planned. It was one of the largest World's Fairs in area, set over 1,272 acres in today's Forest Park. There were 15 major buildings and a host of smaller exhibits, and it is doubtful if many attendees saw more than a fraction of the attractions—seeing everything in the Agricultural Building alone required a walk of 9 miles.

The Exposition was well received, with exhibits of inventions such as a wireless telephone, x-ray machine and fax machine, as well as airplanes and "personal" automobiles. 20 million people attended the exposition, inspiring the popular song, "Meet Me in St. Louis".



Promoters of this Louisiana Purchase Exposition also sought a commemorative coin for fundraising purposes. Congress authorized a \$1 gold issue in 1902, with two designs to aid sales. The price for each variety was \$3, the same cost whether sold as a coin, or mounted in jewelry or on a spoon. Although not the first American commemorative coins, they were the first in gold.



Because Congress did not specify the design, Mint Chief Engraver Charles Barber chose portraits of Jefferson and McKinley to grace the obverse of the two designs; the designs would have a common reverse. The design for the Jefferson obverse was copied from the former president's Indian Peace Medal, which Lewis & Clark gave out during their epic voyage. The McKinley obverse was copied from Barber's own design for the fallen president's medal issued by the Mint. The reverse, for both coins, contains the denomination, a commemorative inscription, and an olive branch above the anniversary dates.



Because of the relatively high issue price, the coins did not sell well, and most were later melted (an estimated 90% of the McKinley obverses). The coin prices then recovered, regaining their issue prices by 1915; examples are now worth \$500 - \$2,200, depending on condition.





Gary & Judy Dobbins
Exhibit Co-Chairs

TNA EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS 2018 **LEARN, SHARE, INSPIRE**

Do you have a favorite coin? Are you interested in learning more about a certain coin or numismatic area? Have you wondered about money as it relates to history? Whether you are an experienced numismatist or a novice at a new hobby, creating an educational exhibit is a wonderful way to learn more about your coins or paper money.

The first step to making an exhibit is deciding on a topic. After choosing your topic, do the research. Learn all that you can about the numismatic item or series. You will need basic numismatic information (mint, mintage, composition, designer, etc.) along with historic, geographic, biographic and economic information.

When you have done the research, decide how you are going to share your findings with others. The exhibit should be neat, well-designed and eye catching. For your convenience and peace of mind, TNA provides lockable exhibit cases which are uniform in appearance.

Many think of Numismatics as a hobby for "old folks". We have seen a recent surge toward getting the next generation interested and involved in Numismatics. This will help answer that age related question: "Who will continue with my collection?" When you create an educational exhibit, not only are you sharing your research and love for the hobby, you are inspiring the next generation of Numismatists to learn and get involved.

So if you want to learn more about a numismatic area, share a favorite coin or money topic by revealing its history, and inspire others in numismatics, the TNA Educational Exhibits are for you.

Co-Chairs Gary and Judy Dobbins will be happy to answer questions or help you get started in the Exhibit Process. Exhibits can be entered in Competitive or Non- Competitive categories. Exhibit applications, rules and judging guidelines can be found on the TNA website.

CALL FOR EXHIBITS

To Be Placed At The

61ST ANNUAL HOUSTON MONEY SHOW



Friday JANUARY 19, 2018
10 am - 6 pm

Saturday JANUARY 20, 2018
10 am - 5 pm

LONE STAR CONVENTION CENTER

9055 Airport Rd @ FM 3083
Conroe, Texas

Exhibits may be placed in Competitive (ANA Rules) or Noncompetitive Divisions.

Worthwhile cash prizes, traditional merit recognition, and participation awards will be given.

To enter, print an entry form at www.houstoncoinshow.org

OR

Email John Barber, exhibits chairman at Numis32@AOL.com

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**2018 Medals available honoring the
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Friday February 16th 1 pm - 6 pm

Saturday February 17th 9 am - 6 pm

Sunday February 18th 9 am - 4 pm

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Located at:

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Dealer Table Fees: \$175 per table

Corner Setup (2 tables) \$300

Any questions please email at: iccoep1963@gmail.com

or call (915) 241-6977 / (915) 533-6001

Like us on Facebook at: International Coin Club of El Paso



NATIONAL MONEY SHOW

IRVING CONVENTION CENTER

Irving, TX — March 8-10, 2018

Thursday - Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

(FREE admission on Saturday!)

Last admission is 30 minutes prior to closing.

Come see \$millions\$ of rare coins and colorful currency and find out what your old coins and paper money may be worth! It's all at the National Money Show®, the biggest, most educational coin show in the country.

Build your collection from the best numismatic inventory anywhere, participate in a live auction by Kagin's Inc., attend lectures and seminars, and view rare historical treasures from private collections.

Admission is \$8 for the public; free for ANA members and children under 12. Admission is free on Saturday, March 10. Registration open soon!





Frank Galindo
District 7 Governor

THE KING OF THE

Kings and numismatics are two interesting topics. When you think of kings and numismatics, names like Egypt's King Farouk and Britain's King Richard I come to mind. King Farouk amassed a fortune in rare coins which included an extremely rare American Gold 1933 Double Eagle, and King Richard I is featured on the Austrian Mint's 2009 silver commemorative coin series. Many more kings may come to mind, but there was another king who was an astute salesman, magician and manufacturer of wooden nickels. He became appropriately known as the "King of the Wooden Nickels."



It was the 1970s, an exciting time in numismatics for me. My wife Karla and I were attending local coin shows, regional shows, the Texas Numismatic Association Annual Conventions and the American Numismatic Association Conventions (ANA), which were held in different cities throughout the country.

We had noticed that when we attended coin shows, whether they were small or large shows, friends were always giving us wooden nickels. Even strangers would walk up to us, introduce themselves and give us a wooden nickel. The ANA was scheduled to hold its convention in Houston, Texas on August 21-26, 1978. We were members of the ANA and the Society of Ration Token Collectors (SRTC) and we wanted to promote the SRTC, but hadn't decided how best to promote our hobby. We decided to have some wooden nickels made using a design similar to the actual World War II ration tokens, which the members of SRTC collect. These would be given out at the ANA Convention and would be our way to help promote and publicize SRTC. At this time, I was serving as the president of SRTC.

The Elbee Company was a leading producer of wooden nickels and was located downtown, not far from where we live. Karla went to the Elbee Co. to inquire about

prices, artwork, ink colors and other details. After returning home, she was excited about her visit to the Elbee Co. and meeting Louis Berkie, the owner of the business. I remember her saying "you have to meet Berkie. He is witty, funny and very friendly." She said his shop was overflowing with many novelties, games, postcards, gags and magic items. As a youngster, I was always fascinated by magic and magicians, so I was anxious to go meet Louis Berkie and tour his unique magic and wooden nickel shop.

About two days later, we went to the Elbee Co. and that's the day when I met the "King of the Wooden Nickels," Louis Berkie, or Berkie



VERY RARE VINTAGE ELBEE
NOVELTY MAGIC CATALOG

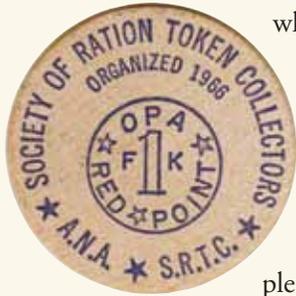
as he preferred to be called. Of course, at the time, I didn't know he was known as the "King of the Wooden Nickels." He was exactly as Karla described him, friendly and amusing. I was astonished at his vast inventory. All the shelves were well stocked with a variety of novelty items and gags. On one wall were old black and white photos of magicians and pictures of his World War II buddies who served with him during his time

in the Army. He proudly showed us his two vintage printing presses that were used to print wooden nickels, playing cards and the catalogs that he sold and mailed to customers.

The following week we picked up our wooden nickel order and prepared for our trip to the ANA Convention in Houston. At the convention, we swapped wooden nickels with friends and also gave many away to anyone who wanted one. As the President of SRTC, I conducted the annual meeting and also attended several other meetings, including our first meeting to the fourth annual Dedicated – Wooden Money Collectors meeting, of which we were members. Among those



WOODEN NICKELS



who were at the Wooden Money Collectors meeting that I remember were friends Ruby Threlkeld, Gary Littrell, Ken Hallenbeck and Louis Berkie. Everyone who attended the meeting received one of our SRTC woods and was pleased with the wooden souvenir and complimented us on the design.

After that first order of woods, we continued for several years to order wooden nickels from the Elbee Company. Ever the consummate salesman, he would send us letters with wooden nickel order forms. He would insert freebies such as Christmas seals, decals and copies of Confederate States of America notes of

5, 10 and 20-dollar notes. He would also send advertising forms for ordering catalogs and novelties. He advertised in many publications and belonged to many clubs. During the time we dealt with various denominations: 5, 10 and 20-dollar notes.



I would design some wooden nickels for him. He had always been so kind to us that I was eager to help him by providing the artwork and designs at no expense to him. I still have several of the woods I designed for him, which are reminders of our friendship.

Because he knew I enjoyed magic tricks, when we visited his shop he would always show me a magic trick. Before we left his shop, he would show me how the trick was preformed and would then give me the trick.

I think he really enjoyed mystifying me, but Berkie seemed to get more pleasure by giving me the trick. He always treated us kindly and sometimes would give me some type of souvenir.

During a visit to his store I noticed some cans that were



labeled Texas Air. I asked him a question about the cans with Texas Air. He said, one day a local business gave him a large box of empty aluminum containers. Ever the creative entrepreneur he found a way to make money with the empty cans by placing a label that read

“Texas Air.” This gag gift was a big hit, especially with tourists visiting Texas.

When he retired from his business, he requested from the new owner that a special commemorative wooden nickel be issued and given to wooden money collectors. The nickels were printed and distributed as per Berkie’s request. Only 500 of these commemorative woods were printed by the Communicate It Ink, Company. I am very fortunate to have one of these woods in my collection. There are many



unusual and humorous stories of this great entrepreneur. Berkie was a remarkable businessman, magician and wooden nickel manufacturer. Louis Berkie died April 16th 1997 at age 84. It was estimated that his company produced 206-million wooden nickels during his lifetime.

His obituary stated, “His passing was observed by the magicians not with a minute of silence but as is their custom with a one-minute standing ovation.”

Any time I hear someone speaking of magic or wooden nickels I fondly remember Berkie, the “King of the Wooden Nickels.” As Berkie would say, “Don’t take any wooden nickels.”

QUESTIONS FOR DR. COYNE

- 1) Do I need an accurate scale?
- 2) When did Canada use steel in its circulating coins?
- 3) Does a beaver ever appear on a U.S. coin?
- 4) What U.S. commemorative coin was produced for the longest period?

1) A collector's toolkit should absolutely include a digital scale for accurately measuring the weight of coins. Models are available that advertise 0.1 gram sensitivity, but these, though under \$20 in the market, are barely adequate for the task. A better choice is the 0.01 gram model (sometimes rounded off to nearest .05 gm for display). These are a useful tool for detecting counterfeits. With additional apparatus, a 0.01 scale can be used to do adequate specific gravity determinations.

2) Canada first used steel in its "Victory Reverse" five cent coins of 1944-45. It was a way to save nickel and copper for the war effort. In 2000, Canada became a world leader in large-volume production of multi-ply plated steel five cent coins. One cent coins followed in 2002. Today, Canada's coins use steel as the main constituent of dimes, quarters, and half dollars.

3) A badger (not a beaver) is the main device on the Wisconsin commemorative half dollar of 1936. A good depiction of a beaver at work is the main device on the Albany (New York) commemorative half dollar of 1936. There is also an obscure privately issued gold coin for Oregon Territory in 1849 which features the animal. Dr. Coyne is unsure if there are any beavers on state quarters.

4) The classic commemorative with the longest issue period is the Oregon Trail design of Laura Gardin Fraser and James Earle Fraser, made sporadically in up to three U.S. mints from 1926-1939. Total mintage of this attractive type was around 180,000.



5) When did fully dated hubs begin to be used on U.S. coins?

6) When did the United Kingdom remove silver from her coins?

7) Is this piece a U.S. coin? _____



DR. COYNE

5) The production innovation of master dies for the year containing all design elements began with the Indian Cent of 1909. For decades before that, the whole obverse had been hubbed with the exception of the date. The date was then added to each working die, generally using a four-digit logotype. This means that since 1909, the date position is exactly the same on all issues for a given year. Mintmarks, if any, continued to be punched into each working die until the 1990's, accounting for many positional variations and double punching, etc.

6) The UK found it necessary to reduce the silver in its circulating coins from the traditional standard of .925 fine (sterling) to .500 in 1920 as the impact of WWI hit her treasury. This affected all denominations from 3d through the 5s crown. Similarly, following WWII, the silver was further reduced to zero (copper nickel as substitute) in 1947. Since then, only coins made for collectors and for the Maundy ceremony have had silver in the alloy.

7) The illustrated piece is not a U.S. coin. It is 25 cent coin struck for Hawaii in 1883 before the islands became a U.S. protectorate. Dies for the series of ten, twenty five, fifty and dollar coins were prepared by Charles Barber at Philadelphia, but the coins were struck at the San Francisco mint without mintmark. They are on 90% silver planchets corresponding in weight and size to their U.S. counterparts. The quarter is the most available of the denominations today in top conditions. After 1898, most of the issue was gathered up and melted and the islands began using regular U.S. coins.



- 8) Is a "wire edge" the same thing as a "knife edge"?
- 9) When did Mexico most recently revalue its Peso by 1000 times?
- 10) Is palladium a U.S. coinage metal?
- 11) What U.S. coin denomination has mintage in the most years?

- 12) What is a coin : "brockage"?
- 13) Was there any U.S. Federal paper money issued between the Revolution and 1862?
- 14) Is this piece a U.S. coin? _____



RESPONDS

8) A "wire edge" on a coin or medal is the same as a "knife edge" or "fin". This undesirable result of striking in a coin press comes about whenever the planchet has too much metal, striking pressure is too high, and there is too large a gap between the collar and the edge of the die which moves down within the collar at the moment of striking. In medal production, such an irregularly shaped flange of excess metal can be trimmed off post-striking. But on production coinage, that additional step would involve too much work to be practical. Popular coins which often come with a wire edge include the 1907 High Relief \$20 pieces.

9) The Bank of Mexico introduced a new currency on January 1, 1993. The nuevo peso ("new peso", or MXN), written "NS" before the numerical amount. One new peso, or NS\$1.00, was equal to 1000 of the obsolete MXP peso. The government printed new currency with the smallest note having a value of 10 pesos and the largest with a value of 1000 pesos. At first, they carried a prefix N for Nuevo but after 1996 they stopped printing the N. most people now just call it the peso. Devaluations of a currency aimed at changing exchange rates versus an outside currency are a different matter. Mexico has endured a series of devaluations: 1976, 1982, and 1994 were the largest.

10) Palladium was used for the first time as a U.S. coinage metal for the 2017 \$25 denominated bullion coin. These hit the market in the last month and are selling on internet auctions at prices over the issue price. The obverse design is based on A.A. Weinman's classic liberty head from the 1916 dime, and the reverse has a bold eagle.

11) The one-cent coin has been issued in the most years. Cents are available bearing the date of every year from 1793 to 2017, except 1815. Other denominations have gaps in their minting history, usually dictated by the size of supplies on hand versus demand. The fifty cent coin is runner-up.

12) A brockage is a coin with an error in striking which results in a normal obverse paired with an incuse and reversed obverse on the other side of the coin, or alternately and seemingly about as likely, a normal reverse paired with a reversed and incuse reverse on the other side. Both types result when a normally struck coin fails to eject from the coining chamber, a fresh planchet is introduced to the coinage chamber, and the stack of two is struck in the press, followed by ejection of the 2-coin stack. These are most often seen on Large Cents, but also come on other series.

13) The era of private bank notes was in its heyday from about 1830 to 1861. The old Continental Currency notes had been heavily depreciated (but some redeemed), and large scale federal issues began in 1861 to finance the Civil War. Some would say the Treasury Notes of 1815, issued to help finance the War of 1812, would qualify as federal notes, but they seem not intended to circulate hand-to-hand as did the later regular issues.

14) The illustrated piece is a U.S. coin. It is Shield Nickel of 1876, showing a nicely repunched date. The whole coin is shown below. The 2-cent coin has a similar design, but it was not being coined as late as 1876. If you are a sharp-eye collector, you may detect artificial toning and whizzing on this coin. It is in a "details" holder.





Lane Brunner

GRADING FOR A BRIEF HISTORY PARTS 10

Part 10 - Following

The numismatic hobby entered the 1990s on the heels of a remarkable spike in rare coin prices in the late 1980s. The softening of prices would continue well into the 1990s making investing in numismatic material less appealing to those outside the hobby. This market reduction did not, however, lessen the enthusiasm for capturing a share of the third-party grading business. While the Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS) and the Numismatic Guaranty Corporation of America (NGC) were strengthening their positions as the leaders in professional coin grading, others would soon enter the fray and try to take a share of the market or find a niche all of their own.

One of the novel approaches made in the early 1990s was to use the remarkable advances in computer software and hardware and apply this technology to grading coins. This approach was excellent in theory, but less so in practice. Three companies were at this digital forefront. The first of these, Amos Press (which would subsequently purchase the American Numismatic Association Certification Service, ANACS), did a lot of research, but never created a product for the marketplace. The second of these companies was Compugrade, which was the only company to establish a coin grading service available to the hobby. Limited to Morgan and Peace silver dollars, but with rumors of expanding to other coins, the graded coins were encapsulated into excellent holders with an innovative edge label. The challenge for Compugrade was that while the computer could grade a coin, the grading was not reproducible enough for market acceptability. As such, this approach to grading was not embraced as anything more than a novelty. The third company to investigate computer grading was PCGS with The Expert System, but the system never graded coins for the marketplace and faded away quickly after it was announced publicly.

One of the companies made a significant change in how they encapsulated coins into graded holders. Although a subsidiary of the Bowers and Merena Rare Coin Galleries, Hallmark grading company (Hallmark) never was very popular and ceased operations after four years, but the company still had a significant amount of materials remaining and a distinctive style of holder. The Photo-Certified Coin Institute (PCI), wishing to no longer include photographs in its holders, purchased the shells and materials from Hallmark and introduced a new holder.



(A holder from the short-lived Hallmark grading company. Upon its closure, PCI would purchase Hallmark's surplus and adopt the distinctively-shaped holder.)

This new holder carried the company's revised name which no longer alluded to its "photo" heritage and the PCI Coin Grading Service emerged. An innovation that the new PCI brought to the coin market was the use of different color borders. A green border was a graded coin without problems, such as cleaning or damage. A red border was a coin with problems which were indicated on the label. And a label with a blue border was for tokens, medals, and world coins. The blue borders are reasonably scarce as relatively few non-United States coins were graded in the early 1990s.

For much of the mid to late 1990s, there was little change in coin grading, other than the guidelines were becoming stricter than what was seen in the late 1980s and early 1990s. The booming market of the late 1980s resulted in coins trading at grades that would be considered by many folks later that decade as "over-graded." While such fluidity in grading guidelines can be confusing and frustrating, it's important to recognize that coins graded by third-party grading companies reflect market grading which is influenced by the value of the coin in the marketplace and not just the technical merits of the coin.



(Compugrade was the only third-party grading company to deliver a computer-graded coin to the marketplace)

THE REST OF US OF COIN GRADING AND 11

the Market Boom



(The holder shell from PCI was the same as Hallmark except that HALLMARK was removed from the top front of the shell (see the Hallmark holder image above). This PCI holder has the scarce label with a blue border indicating a token, medal, or world coin.)

In the late 1990s, two new companies would emerge that positioned themselves as being independent in their approach to grading. There was a suspicion by some in the hobby that certain submitters were receiving favorable grades because of who there were. Although sentiments of this type of favoritism has always been held by some, no evidence has emerged to validate the concern. The Independent Grading Company (ICG) addressed this issue in an unusual way. Rather than submitting coins directly to the grading company, the coins were submitted to a third party who would log receipt, repackage the coins, and submit to ICG for grading.



(The first holder from ICG. Its holder has changed little, other than label and hologram updates, since the company first started grading coins.)

The Sovereign Entities Grading Service (SEGS) emerged as a collector-focused grading company whose particular strength was die varieties. The graders would also commonly add information to the holder label that they believed was relevant to the coin. This "customized" approach was met with mixed reviews as some felt the information was relevant and others believed it was distracting. Regardless, SEGS quickly developed the reputation for having a well-constructed holder that was very difficult to open.



(The holder from SEGS is known for being sturdy and challenging to open. Note the additional commentary on the label of this Jefferson nickel.)

PCI, ICG, and SEGS would attempt to mount a challenge to the market dominance of PCGS, NGC, and ANACS. While ICG would gain some marketplace traction in the late 1990s and early 2000s, its acceptance would not be strong and eventually would fade following multiple sales of the company. When PCI switched from its photo-based holders to the rebranded Hallmark holders, its use by collectors and dealers would soften significantly. Numerous sales of the company and a reputation for liberal grading would not help the company maintain a significant share of the third-party grading market. SEGS would maintain its collector focus for certifying coins, but remains with a minor presence amongst the grading companies.

The start of the new millennium was the end of a fertile time for new third-party grading companies. This change, however, corresponded with a new kind of holders whose presence would dominate online auctions; the self-slabbbers.

(continued on next page)

GRADING FOR THE REST OF A BRIEF HISTORY OF COIN GRADING PARTS 10 AND 11

Part 11 - Send in the Clones

In the early 1980s personal computers were making their way into homes and businesses across the country. The leading computing platform was developed by IBM. In order for companies to enter into this growing market, a number of innovative minds developed computers that mimicked the function of the IBM machines. These computers, known as "clones," soon dominated the marketplace as they offered virtually the same computing experience at a modest fraction of the cost.

In the early 2000s, a similar philosophy seemed to be pervasive in numismatics. Entrepreneurial individuals saw the growing reliance on third-party grading services for certifying less-expensive coins and the greater ease of selling coins that have been slabbed (i.e., encapsulated). The challenge to starting a grading company had always been twofold. First, a company needs skilled graders. However, since grading is just an opinion, and all collectors have an opinion, that challenge was relatively easy to overcome. Second, acquiring the equipment necessary to create the encapsulation shells and the sonic sealer used to weld the shell halves together. This was a bit more difficult to overcome due to the large start-up costs of the equipment.

Around the same time, companies like Amos Media Co., began to offer shells to the public as a way for collectors to encapsulate their own coins. Other companies were also providing similar products and soon collectors had a choice of slabs that they could use for their own coins. And those who wanted to start their own commercial grading company had the same options. So began the emergence of numerous "first-party grading companies," commonly referred to as "self-slabbers."



Note the Coin World logo on the shell encapsulating the Franklin half dollar.

The influx of these "first-party grading companies" is reminiscent of a movement in the mid-1980s with established numismatic and precious metals investment companies. As the decade progressed, a number of companies offered graded coins directly to investors. While many of these companies were grading and encapsulating their own coins, the target market was investors and not the general collecting population. These companies were not accepting coins from collectors to authenticate and grade and thus did not really function as a third-party grading company. By the mid to late 1980s, the Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS) and the Numismatic Guaranty Corporation of America (NGC) were established, but investors were still purchasing coins from companies that encapsulated their own inventory.



Above and at the top of the next column are three examples of shells offered directly to collectors to protect and label their coins. Coins encapsulated in these shells (and others) would soon appear on Internet auction sites as products of "new" grading companies.



Here is an example of an authenticated and graded coin offered to clients of Manfra, Tordella & Brookes, Inc. through the MTB Banking Corporation. The inserts are known to come in white and blue.

F Us GRADING

Many more companies offered coins to investors using a similar approach. However, as coins from PCGS and NGC became more popular, the private offering of in-house encapsulated coins became less attractive to investors. By the early to mid-1990s, numismatic investment companies all but eliminated their in-house encapsulating of their inventory. Investors and collectors became more sophisticated and recognized the value of purchasing coin from legitimate third-party grading companies.



A-Mark Precious Metals, Inc. was another company known to encapsulate authenticated and graded coins from their inventory. The above example is a Double Eagle placed in a cardboard holder and then sealed in plastic. These holders are rarely seen on the bourse floor, but when they are, the holders usually contain a gold coin or silver dollar.

Today, take a quick browse through online auction venues, such as eBay, and you will be flooded with coins from all sorts of "grading companies" whose names may be unfamiliar to you. With the commercial availability of shells to store and label coins, the unsuspecting buyer may naively purchase an improperly graded coin from a "self-slabber" and be disappointed upon delivery. It would even be worse if the buyer did not recognize the error until it is time to reap the reward of their investment. The era of "self-slabbers" is upon us and it's in the best interest of collectors and investors to learn the fundamentals of grading and the marketplace. In that way, the "slabbed" MS-68 1881-S Morgan dollar being offered for only \$200 (worth about \$5,000) won't turn out to be a polished circulated example barely worth \$20.

JFITZ SHOWS



AUSTIN COIN & CURRENCY SHOW DECEMBER 1-3, 2017



LUBBOCK COIN & CURRENCY SHOW March 30-31, 2018



AMARILLO COIN & CURRENCY SHOW July 13-15, 2018



ALL SHOW HOURS & INFO

FRIDAY, 2PM-6PM

SATURDAY, 10AM-5PM

SUNDAY, 10AM-3PM

HOURLY DOOR PRIZES

\$3 ADULT ADMISSION

GOOD ALL WEEKEND



FOR MORE SHOW INFORMATION:

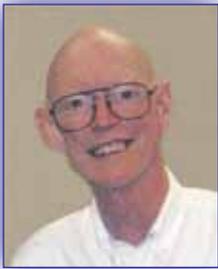
Jim Fitzgerald

P.O. Box 210845, Bedford, TX 76095

817-688-6994

JFitzshows@Gmail.com

Website: jfitzshows.com

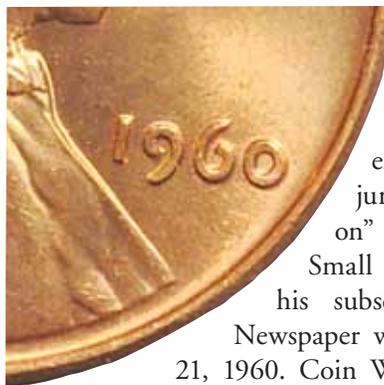


by John Barber

NUMISMATIC INFORMATI

There have been some juicy quotes on the value of study before purchase which still ring true: We have Aaron Feldman's "Buy the book before the coin" and some internet wag's: "Judge a numismatist by his library and not his cabinet".

Your editor has been kicking around this hobby long enough to see perspectives change on how numismatic information is acquired and maintained for personal reference. It seems like only yesterday that the 10th edition Red Book (A Guide to U.S. Coins) was a sufficient one-volume library. That would be 1957. A leading numismatic periodical came out once a month, The Numismatist.



The year 1960 was a watershed year for your editor as a budding numismatist. He was elected to head his local junior coin club. He was "in on" the first run of the 1960 Small Date Cents. He began his subscription to Coin World Newspaper with its first edition, April 21, 1960. Coin World took off like a shot, driven by reporting on the small date cent craze and other roll-and-bag opportunities. It shortly reached 150,000 circulation and some issues contained 200 tabloid-sized pages.



Alas, with a twinge of sadness, we now see Coin World withering before our eyes. The pages shrank, the content by staff writers declined, and advertisers ran away. But after 57 years, I still have not abandoned my subscription. The weekly issues are tiny, but the monthly larger issue still contains worthwhile original content. But I only subscribe one year at a time, fearing that the paper might close up at any time.

Your editor certainly has not abandoned his own physical-book library. It is used almost every day and remains a source of wonderment and new discovery all the time. But collectors today need not have every book in their own physical library; the ANA's Manley Library stands ready to loan (for free, and with modest postage), volumes from their immense library in Colorado Springs. Service by the friendly staff is great. This is a fine path to access seldom-needed information perhaps outside your main expertise. It is also a viable service (and ANA membership benefit) to use for sampling or screening a newly-published book before deciding whether to buy for your permanent library.

Here is an example of using the ANA library to look up obscure information outside your usual expertise: This seems to be a Swiss Shooting Medal, and your scribe knows that the standard reference in the field is Jurg Richter's "Die Schutzhenthaler der Schweiz". Purchase of this rather expensive set of books could hardly be justified for my permanent library. But it is available for several-weeks loan from Colorado Springs. Now I know what this 1925 medal is....

Googling Medals

Just today I was faced with deciphering an obscure silver medal. It seemed to be a commemorative for a battle, but the lettering was entirely in German. I could see a date, but was not sure if that was the date of the medal or the date of the battle. So I entered several words from the German inscription into the general search box on Google. In a microsecond, I had a whole page of "hits". I picked the first one, the German Wikipedia. Another whole page came up, this with maps and



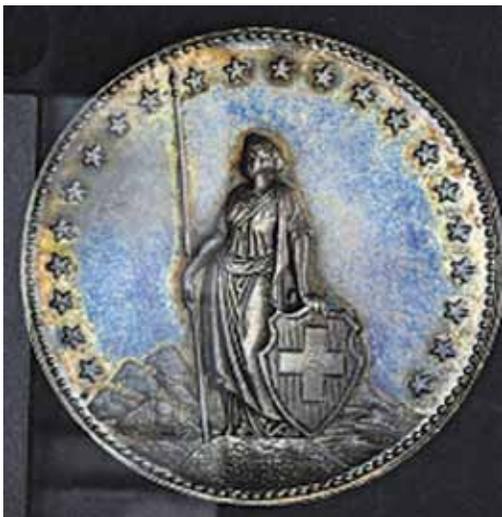
ON IN THE INTERNET AGE



photos as well as lots of German text. I used the “translate page” button at the upper corner, and English sprang forth! In a second, I had all I needed for the context of my medal. Turns out it is for the Battle of Calven in May 1499. The medal was issued in 1899 with very nice die work and has lovely toned surfaces today.

NNP Goes Live

Just in the last couple of years there has been an important development in online availability. The Newman Numismatic Portal has reached the milestone of over a million pages archived and indexed from a wide selection of periodicals, references, and catalogs. The software provides for free searches by keyword or phrase from any internet connection. See <https://nnp.wustl.edu> to try it out.



Price Discovery

Turning to the commercial side of coin collecting, the emergence of eBay “sold listings” and the websites of the main auction companies, the collector has a wealth of pricing information at his fingertips. Heritage Auctions has a particularly strong database, and their website tools make it easy to discover the transaction price on recent auction results (and some stretching back many years). The eBay selection panel on the left side following any search includes a radio button for “sold listings” which returns sales that have taken place on eBay for about the last year. You get final auction prices, and you get Buy It Now results, though if an offer to a BIN was accepted, you do not see the final negotiated price (only the listing price). It is useful for mainstream U.S. items as well as medals and world coins.



Continuing with online data, the American Numismatic Association at www.money.org has recently begun displaying updated online “retail” prices for popular mainstream coins. This effort, in partnership with the Coin Dealer Newsletter, adds to the information in annual traditional references such as the Red Book. The values shown are allegedly driven “by formula” from the current Graysheet (though they do not tell us the formula).

We are living in the golden age of numismatic information availability. Important new tools are appearing all the time. Learn a new skill, and begin using some of them!





by Mark Benvenuto

WILL MODERN, COMMEMOR

It's hard to find a collector who doesn't like gold. This yellow element is the king of the coinage metals, makes coins that look beautiful in high grades and low, and it's one of the few metals in history that has been the cause for waves of people to leave their homes to hunt it down. Yet it's also hard to find a collector who thinks he or she has enough money to collect gold. One series that has a significant number of gold coins in it is the United States modern commemorative series. Let's chop this now-thirtyish-year-old series apart, and see what possibilities it might contain, and see if there are any that might increase in value over time.

THE HIGH MINTAGE ISSUES



the \$10 gold pieces of the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. U.S. athletes piled up gold of their own at those Olympics, largely because the Soviet Union chose to boycott them (it was tit for tat – we had boycotted the



1980 games in Moscow). As for collectors, the possibility existed of piling up four different \$10 gold pieces, based on the four different Mints from which they were issued. Not many of us chose to do so, because with 0.4837 ounces of gold in each, they were expensive then (and remain rather expensive now). The pieces issued with the quite new 'W' mint mark, for West Point, New York, are the most common of this foursome, by a factor of ten. There are 381,085 'W' proofs on the official tally, and 75,886 uncirculated pieces.

The opening salvo in what would grow into an impressive series of commemorative gold pieces is

the possibility existed of piling up four different \$10 gold pieces, based on the

These numbers became something of the norm for our just about any issue of the modern commemorative series. What we mean is the proofs are more common than the uncirculated pieces because the Mint allowed folks to order directly, and most people chose what they perceived to be the more beautiful of the two options. That makes the uncirculated pieces less common today. Does it make them more valuable, though? Well, that's a question each collector must answer for themselves.

The next commemorative issue, the Statue of Liberty set of 1986, saw a \$5 gold piece produced as part of that set. We can muse a bout whether smaller gold meant larger



sales, since the price was much more attractive, or we can simply look at the major price lists

today. Since the totals for this \$5 half eagle were somewhat higher than for the Olympic \$10, prices remain pretty good today, a bit higher than the value of the gold in the coin, but not too much.

WHERE HIGH BECOMES LOW – OR AT LEAST LESS COMMON

As the years progressed and the commemorative issues grew and evolved into a series, the pattern that emerged was one of an arc, at least in terms of mintage totals. The Olympic and Statue of Liberty pieces were followed by even more when it came to the Constitution Bicentennial in 1987. But then the numbers start to decrease. Perhaps the collector market was saturated. Perhaps those of us who had been collecting for quite a while felt that Congress and the Mint might be viewing us as cash cows. Whatever the reason or reasons, the numbers go into a pretty steady decline, with the uncirculated pieces dropping down to below 25K per commem.

ACTIVE GOLD EVER GO UP IN VALUE?



Now curiously, the price tags don't immediately start climbing as the Mint totals

decline. Choosing just one piece, the 1994 World Cup Tournament, there were only 89,614 made of the proof, and a rather tiny 22,447 of the uncirculated version. Yet the proofs don't really show much by way of a price increase. They are fairly close to the much more common Statue of Liberty and Constitution half eagles we just mentioned.

THOSE UNCOMMON ISSUES



The 22,447 uncirculated half eagles of the 1994 World Cup might seem to be a downright

rare specimen. After all, this is more than ten times less common than the ever-coveted 1916-D Mercury dime, much less common than the 1909-S VDB Lincoln cent, and even less common than the 1916 Standing Liberty quarter. Yet there is a difference here. Those three key coins are just that, keys in series that have been collector favorites for decades. The modern commemorative series is still relatively new. And there have been plenty of half eagles produced within it that have even lower mintages.

With that knowledge, it's worth asking: are there any sleepers in this series? Let's keep in mind that a true sleeper has to be low in



mintage, and at least as low in price as a more common date. Using those two criteria, it might be worth

looking at the half eagles of : the 1996 Smithsonian, the 2011 Medal of Honor, the 2012 Star-Spangled Banner, and the 2013 Five-Star Generals issues, at least as a cluster of starting points. They are all small mintage commems. Whether or not their prices make them sleepers is a matter of some comparison shopping.

OVERALL?



There has certainly been a lot of gold commems since the 1984 Olympic Games opened the door

for any sort of commemorative gold coin over 30 years ago. There have been more half eagles than eagles, yet there are a couple of those bigger guns as well. We've seen some highs and lows in this still-growing series. It's noteworthy that the lows are low enough that they just might qualify as a group of sleepers nestled within the ever-growing crowd.



But despite all this, we haven't really seen evidence that any of these coins is going to jump up in price

anytime soon. Perhaps the best way to collect modern, commemorative United States gold is to: first, stay within your means; and second, collect what you enjoy. The best of luck to us all as we build this sort of collection.



by Richard Laster

CONFEDERATE CURRE

Your editor enjoys the experiences that come from being impulsive and more than a little bit flexible. I have never been one who has the gift of any sort of a continuing narrative so when I sit to write I am often inspired by something which has just passed through my mind, or motivated by an image which I have recently seen, or an experience encountered not long before.

With all that in mind I come to this visit to my "coin cabinet." The source of motivation goes back just a couple of days, at the point of this writing, when I was wandering the floor at the

upon the call of their home region and state. So when the State of Louisiana made the decision to wander from the fold of the United States and link itself with the states surrounding to form the Confederate States of America, Judah Benjamin naturally made the choice to follow.

For those who are not familiar with Benjamin you may be interested to know a bit about him. In many ways he was an "international man." He was born in the Dutch (now American) Virgin Islands, spent time in North and South Carolina, attended Yale University entering at the tender age of 14, there upon leaving or being expelled

from Yale, (nobody knows for sure which,) he settled, at the age of 16, on his own in New Orleans. He was from 1861 to 1865 a cabinet member of the Confederacy, then moved to England, and finally into Paris, where he is buried.



CIVIL WAR ERA PHOTO OF CONFEDERATE CABINET MEMBER JUDAH BENJAMIN AND THE COMMON CONFEDERATE TWO DOLLAR BILL FEATURING ENGRAVING OF BENJAMIN

Shreveport Coin Club's annual show over in the Bossier City Civic Center. It was there, on a prominent table, I noted a series of Confederate bonds which were nicely laid out, structured and uniform. As luck would have it the bond right on the top, in the line of sight at the right, featured the image of one of the more interesting members of the Confederate cabinet, a true Southern gentleman by the name of Judah Benjamin.

In our time, when political correctness does its best to do some Confederate shaming, we are want to forget that the people who were in place during those days were in their own rite patriotic. Their hearts and minds were focused

In a studied work concerning the history of the Jewish community in

New Orleans, contemporary author and historian Rabbi Bernard Korn wrote of Benjamin that he "arrived in New Orleans in 1828 with no visible assets other than the wit, charm, and omnivorous mind and boundless energy with which he would find his place in the sun." (The Early Jews of New Orleans, Brandeis University Press, 1969) Rabbi Korn was well aware of Benjamin's place of note in the community in the years preceding the Civil War. Benjamin was involved first in the politics and structure of his adopted hometown of New Orleans, following he served in both houses of Louisiana state government, moving on to the United States Senate as a representation

NCY - JUDAH BENJAMIN

of Louisiana in 1851. All of this while practicing law, a skill he perfected and taught himself. Rumor has it that one of the first cases he won was staged at the U. S. Supreme Court.

As for the Confederate years he held three positions of leadership, one following immediately after the other, with the longest running being the third. He began as States Attorney General, then moving into the role of Secretary of War, finishing his run in a three year relationship as Secretary of State. At the conclusion of Confederate life he escaped the capital city of Richmond with Jefferson Davis. Davis and several others, including Texans Francis Lubbock and John H. Reagan, headed south toward Florida where they were ultimately captured and for a short time, imprisoned. Judah Benjamin made the decision instead to travel toward England, his parent's ancestral home. Upon safely arriving across the pond he established himself as a successful barrister practicing law in English courts for the last two decades of his life.

Now . . . back to talking numismatics . . . Judah Benjamin's image does grace a series of Confederate bonds. He is also the mainstay on every two dollar bill printed by the Confederacy, those issued from 1862 until the end of the war in 1865. And his smiling face is central to one of the more famous and accessible "error" notes of the Confederacy. You will observe that your editor shared that ole' Judah Benjamin's image was present on every Confederate issued two dollar bill from 1862 to 1865. Yet when the researcher or collector looks into the matter he or she will find listing for a two dollar Confederate note carrying an 1861 date. Truth is, there was no such note authorized, and no two dollar bill printed or distributed in 1861. So how come such a note can be found?

Well . . . the answer is simple . . . in creating the plates to be used in printing the 1862 two dollar bill, someone involved in the process, inadvertently placed the date of September 2, 1861 on a plate or plates instead of the correct date of June 2, 1862, thus creating an interesting piece of Confederate fiscal history. Your editor is fortunate enough to have a couple of these, both purchased in years past from well-known Tyler pioneer coin dealer and friend Bill Corbin.

According to Pierre Fricke, author of the significant book *Collecting Confederate Paper Money* (Smythe, 2005), it is estimated that 36,000 notes carrying the 1861 date were printed compared to the 1862 date on nearly 1,700,000 notes. Pierre also estimates that there are between 200 and 500 of the 1861 "erroneously dated" pieces which have survived. Collectors discern today that these are scarce enough to be interesting but at the same time to be a relatively affordable rarity when compared to Confederate notes which survive in quantity of a handful or less.



SHOWN ABOVE IS AN EXAMPLE OF THE "ERRONEOUSLY DATED" 1861 CONFEDERATE TWO DOLLAR BILL. INSIGHT INTO SUCH A RARITY MIGHT GIVE Y'ALL SOMETHING TO LOOK FOR IN STACKS OF OLD CONFEDERATE "SHIN PLASTER.". YOU'LL NOTE ON THE PICTURE BELOW THAT THE "1861" DATE IS JUST TO THE RIGHT OF THE WORD "RICHMOND."





In addition to club meeting reports we receive several club newsletters. We are going to include portions of these newsletters that we hope will be of interest to our readers. We encourage our member clubs to send us news to share with the TNA membership. We need more photos of your meetings and events so we can include them in your section. Please set your digital cameras for medium to high resolution for use in printed material.

Meeting reports from the clubs include special events and program presentations.

Please send your stories and reports by the 15th of January, March, May, July, September or November to: tnanews@sbcglobal.net

A special section at the end of Texas Happenings will contain longer newsletter articles of member experiences, opinions and numismatic information.



DISTRICT ONE

FWCC SEPTEMBER MEETING - President Ed Lasko called the meeting to order with approximately 34 club members present. New Members: Please welcome new FWCC members Jerry Hunnicutt and Michael Walczyk.

Ellen Wathoe, a past member of the FWCC, made an earlier visit and donated several bags of coins and coin supplies to the Club. This donation will be sent to the TNA Youth auction.

Education: "Capped Bust Half Dollars" (presented by Gary Andrews) Partway through 1807, the Draped Bust series was replaced by U.S. Mint Engraver John Reich's Capped Bust design. This series shows Liberty donning a cloth cap on her head. The reverse once again displays a smaller eagle, with a shield. Until 1836, the edge featured the denomination, once again inscribed as FIFTY CENTS OR HALF A DOLLAR. Partway through 1836, the coin's edge was changed to a simpler reeded style. This style remained until the end of the Capped Bust series in 1839.

Notes from Littleton Coin Company
OCTOBER MEETING - President Ed Lasko called the meeting to order with approximately 34 club members present. Guest: Please welcome Tony Procaccino of Granbury, TX. Tony says he is a novice collector and is planning on joining FWCC.

Education: "Notgeld Currency" (presented by Joyce Martin) "Notgeld currency" (or so-called emergency money) was issued in a number of countries between 1914 and 1924 in many towns/municipalities and other locations due to coin shortages and later hyperinflation. More than 100,000 distinct paper notes were printed by thousands of public and private entities during, and briefly after, WWI. Great presentation, Joyce!!

Show and Tell: Four club members participated in the Show and Tell portion of the night's program and President Ed Lasko, presenting the 1833 Mexican gold 1/2 escudo, conducted a lively, following, auction of the coin.

NOVEMBER MEETING - President Ed Lasko called the meeting to order with approximately 33 club members present.

Dalia Smith made a recommendation that the FWCC donate \$100.00 to Cooks Children's Hospital in Fort Worth with an additional member-furnished quantity of unwrapped toys to be brought to the December meeting. Motion carried.

VP Frank Hezmall brought the upcoming ANA Conference

(March of 2018 in Irving, TX) to the attention of the membership and made a request for volunteers. Frank will bring signup sheets to the December meeting.

Education: "Scrip" (presented by Jim Fitzgerald) Scrip (such as company scrip) was a credit against the accrued wages of employees. In the United States, where everything in a mining or logging camp was owned and operated by a single company, scrip provided the workers with credit when their wages had been depleted. Jim presented various copies of boarding house and hotel scrip from the mid-1800s. Presentation well received by the members. Our thanks to Mr. Fitzgerald.

Show and Tell: Three club members participated in the Show and Tell portion of the night's program.



MID-CITIES COIN CLUB



MID-CITIES SEPTEMBER MEETING - After collecting coins for 54 years, John Neinast spoke on "Experimental Alloys Made by The Franklin Mint in 1965". John shared some of Gardiners Island's history & his interesting sequence in acquiring the below trial coins.



The Franklin Mint produced these pattern proof trial coins in 4 types of metals: Nicol (Cupro-Nickel) 3000 pieces, Sterling Plus (Nickel-Silver core sandwiched between 2 layers of Sterling-Silver) 3000 pieces, Frankinium (Pure Nickel) 3000 pieces, and Platinum 2 pieces.

OCTOBER MEETING - After recently returning from ANA's 2017 World's Fair of Money & attending their incredible course on ANA's Authentication Grading Training (where the lecturer (an NGC grader) had an ANA trove of hundreds of coins/counterfeits to perform "hands-on" grading/inspecting, including gold coins & many rarities, Bill Proenza shared the knowledge & wisdom he



learned. For example on coin inspecting: clean hands a must! Hold coins by edge otherwise, use residue & lint free gloves. No smoking ever ... residue gets on coins & causes staining! 1. View coin, all 3 sides! 2. Rotate it with best lighting – 10 inches for eye appeal then down to 5-7X triplet loupe focus for grading of features (10-20X for authentication). 3. If an item lacks appeal, move on. And, when purchasing a major coin, research & inspect first ... know the seller! Relax, you will know the coin when you see it. Read the book on the series & inspect every specimen of the coin you can find. Study its grading standard and latest prices. Don't decide too early .. feel certain first. Review auction catalogs and results. Best to buy certified coins with hologram sealed holders especially if it's a rarity.



NORTHEAST TARRANT COIN CLUB

NETCC OCTOBER MEETING - President Jesse Owens opened the meeting with 67 members and visitors present. Visitors recognized: Gerald Hanson, Kim Mandarakas, Carl Nance. New members: Marylee Richard, Bob Sobel and Ken Horn. We currently have 107 members for 2017.

Merle Owens spoke about the passing of David Oster. David was a happy, generous man. Merle told the story when David had brought BBQ for all the Club members he had only known a few months. Asked why he did it, Davis replied, "Where else can an old man in overalls have 100 new friends?" David will be missed.

Mike Ross was not at the meeting for a good reason – The British Art Medal Society in London asked him to present his treatise on "Jacques Wiener's Greatest Edifices of Europe: The Man, the Monuments, and his Medals". Mike is recognized as an expert in this field and he has written numerous award-winning articles for ANA's The Numismatist and the TNA News. The Club is blessed because Mike has given several talks at our Club as well as the Grapevine Seminar Series.

Jack Gilbert also reminded all TNA members to register for the drawing for the annual ANA Summer Seminar and the Library allowance.

Jesse Owens reminded the Club that we are a sponsoring club to the ANA show to be held March 8-10 at the Irving Convention Center. We will need a group of volunteers to help with this show.

Frank Hezmall found a collection of 28 Canadian silver coins minted for the 1976 Olympics. Silver content is worth \$500, and value of the set is around \$1,200; he would entertain a sale for \$550.

The regular order was suspended long enough to recognize the 90th birthday of one of our long-time members, Russell Johnson. Russell attends regularly with his grandson, and is a dedicated Board Director.



Our program was given by John Neinst on a set of experimental alloy coins produced by the Franklin Mint during its 1964 inception. Their theme centered around Gardiner Island which has been in that family's hands since the mid-1600's. The obverse displays an osprey and the reverse the Gardiner family shield. The four coins contained Nicon (silver/copper clad), Sterling Plus (nickel/silver clad), Frankinium 1 (unknown), and Frankinium 2 (platinum). The platinum coin is one of only two minted.

Each youth in attendance won a 1979 proof set. The adult door prizes were won by Vernon Runyan, Tyler Kell and Larry Dibler. The progressive door prize was not won and will be added to November's prize.

The usual auction of approximately 40 items was conducted...

NOVEMBER MEETING - President Jesse Owens opened the meeting with 73 members and visitors present. Visitors recognized: Cole and Daniel Park, A.C. Massey, Kirk DeSoto, Dennis Gossett, Brian McCormick.

New members: Alan Bruns, Joe Rhodes.



The November program began with a Boy Scout color guard who brought in the flag, followed by the scouts leading members in the pledge of allegiance.

Veterans were recognized by branch of service.

Merle Owens Stuart presented the slate of nominees for the election of officers and directors with election results as follows: President: Jesse Owens; Vice President: Kenny Smith; Secretary: Sam Fairchild; Treasurer: Jim Jeska; Directors (3): Barbara Gallagher, Kevin Kell and Cheryl Rybka.

Russell Prinzing announced that the silent auction would be conducted for the first time at this meeting.

Dennis Gossett, a 1968 graduate of L.D. Bell, was attending college in Oklahoma when he learned of the abuse a friend disabled in Vietnam had taken. His friend was called a "baby killer" and spat upon, prompting Dennis to enlist in the Marines. He served in Vietnam in a firebase near the DMZ, witnessing 17 comrades being killed. After Vietnam, Dennis stayed in the Marines, rising to Master Gunnery Sergeant. He later served in Desert Storm, overseeing 975 enlisted men in his unit. Dennis is the current commander of the American Legion, Post 379 in Bedford.

Brian McCormick was like so many during that time – he was drafted into the Army. He was assigned to a mechanized infantry unit which trained at Ft. Riley, Kansas. The unit commander assigned him as well as others with college to a mortar squad. During his tour in Vietnam in the Mekong Delta, Brian participated in numerous search-and-destroy missions, including over 35 helicopter jumps.

After their talks, each of these distinguished veterans was given a bronze service medallion as a token of the Club's appreciation for their sacrifice.



DISTRIC FOUR



CAPITOL CITY OCTOBER MEETING - Meeting called to order with the Introduction of officers. Alan Russell, VP, ran the meeting, filling in for both the president & secretary, who were unable to make the meeting.

Welcome to member and guests, We had 1 guest (Zack Edick)

Christmas Party: Dec. 7th @ Pok-E-Joe's, arrive 6 or 6:30pm, eat @ 7pm (same location as last year) . Still looking into commemorative coins for our 50th Anniversary.

November presentation will be a coin swap & auction. To participate in the coin swap, bring a coin worth \$5. We will put them in sacks and draw for them. For the auction, your item can be any value w/ any minimum bid.

Program: Kurt Baty discussed "Mint Mark Sets". What are they, how do you make one, what is in one?

The powerpoint presentation talked about there being 8 mints and when they were started and what was the first coin minted at each location. Examples of low mintage coins at different mint: West Point produced some very special runs. There were graphs of years and mints for different denomination to show what your set could be.

NOVEMBER MEETING - The November meeting of the club held the ever popular elections. Our President, Gary was stepping down as he would be leaving the Austin area in 2018. Alan stepped up from V.P. to fill that position which then left the V.P. position open. That has not yet been filled.

The officers have found a meeting place that is better located to serve our members.

There was a small auction of items brought by the members. Next month's meeting will be the Christmas Dinner. Happy Holidays!

DISTRICT FIVE



DALLAS SEPTEMBER MEETING - The meeting was called to order by President Mike. In attendance were 32 members and 3 guests. Linda, Gary A, and Chris O. Jim attended a seminar presentation on Medieval coins at the last Grapevine show. He found it very informative.

Show and Tell went well with many interesting items shown.

Door prizes and raffle prizes were given out.

PROGRAM: Early American Bust Halves By: Gary Andrews

Gary Andrews is a well-respected coin dealer who also runs the Ft. Worth Coin Show. He started collecting in 1957 with half cents, later pennies and eventually Bust Halves. Then common halves could be found for \$18 and XF for \$35.00. Many years ago \$20 Double Eagle gold pieces could be found for \$35.00! His 1807-1836 Bust Half collection is almost complete. Ron K. introduced him to varieties. They are not errors but a variety in the die.

There are 6 types of bust half dollars. The coin was originally hand impressed through a cascade machine. Two flat bars rolled the coin between them to make the impression. Up until 1836 the coins were hand minted thus accounting for the inconsistency in the impressions.

After 1836 a steam press was used. This resulted in a small reduction in size due to the increase in silver in the 1837 reeded edge coins. Reeding was added to prevent people filing off the edge of the silver coins for the silver.

The first 1839 New Orleans half with old mint mark is quite elusive and costly. Generally going for \$1,100 in AU-50 and \$9,900 in MS 63. Gary's main focus is on 1807-1836 lettered edge bust halves. Since the dies did not last very long the use of new dies created numerous die marriages. The 50¢ piece was the choice of commerce at that time. Because of that there exists an abundance of halves in mid-grade. The coins were often used to pay foreign debt and sat in bags overseas. By comparison to the Barber Halves which were more often circulated.

In the 1960's Al Overton noticed subtle differences after reviewing over 6000 coins. In 1967 there were 437 varieties and today there are 454. 1969 saw the formation of the Bust Half Club, an informal gathering of 145 collectors. To join the club, you need a current member to sponsor you and own at least 100 different die marriages. The members of the club own 30,000 Bust halves!

Overton numbers are assigned on the Bust Halves. The Overton count in 1967 was 437. Fifty years later only 17 more have been found. The last variety was 10 years ago. The rarity numbers are reviewed every five years. They can be collected by date of which there are 30, Red book varieties of which there are 80 and Overton varieties of which there are 454. "United States Early Half Dollar Die Varieties 1794-1836" 5th ed. by Donald Parsley. was recommended as a valuable collecting resource..

OCTOBER MEETING - The meeting was called to order by President Mike who began the meeting with an announcement of the most recent prices for gold and silver. In attendance were 25 members and 2 guests. Linda C, Alex K. (who announced her engagement to Rex)

Mike noted the passing of long time Dallas Coin club member, David Kaiser. He first joined in early 1995. He was known to be a very kind soul who passed away surrounded by his family.

PROGRAM: "El Diablo Tio" by Richard L.

Richard doesn't collect Latin American coinage but on a mission trip the opportunity arose to visit the Potosi mint in Bolivia. Sucre, Bolivia is the functioning capital and the airport is located there. There's only one plane and due to a delay he had some extra time. Potosi exists because of deposits in the Sierra Rico (rich mountain). Since 1550 they have been mining silver.

The first coins made there were the hammered variety. A planchet was placed in the middle of the dies and was struck

with a hammer. Coins minted this way are extremely variable in quality. Richard brought a few of these hammered coins for the members to observe. In the 1760's the screw press was used until replaced by a steam operated press with belts and geared wheels starting in 1869. All of which can be seen in the museum.

Richard shared many colorful and insightful photos of the town, mine and mint. One showed a large Mayan mask in the courtyard of the mint. No one knows why but it was placed there in the mid 18th century. Some have hypothesized that it covers the crest of the Spanish crown. Today Evo Morales an indigenous native is on his 2nd term as president.

DISTRICT SIX



BELLAIRE SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

-September 18 - There were 28 people at the meeting. Members discussed stories of the hurricane Harvey. The temporary adjusting Bellaire club donations to hurricane repair. Gayland S presented a 2017 show report. The attendance was about 520 visitors. Twenty percent were special discount for military and other protectors. Alvin S then presented a preview for the 2018 show. The Bellaire show would be August at Shriner's ballroom. These 2018 dates won't interfere with all other clubs. The next show would cost about \$400 less than 2017. The club had additional discussions about the show. The club motioned, when the Bellaire civic center opens in 2019. The Bellaire civic center 40-45 tables, Shriner's ballroom 70-75 tables. The club unanimous voted to stay at the Shriner's ballroom. Alvin's wife had left over ice, the Shriner's ballroom, noted just leave the ice there. The club still needs to get a new chairperson for the 2018 show. Garth C noted that two of the Bellaire area coin dealers had flooding damage. Collector's Coins, not sure what was damaged other than water. Royal Coins, near the brays bayou flooding. The following members presented a show and tell, member. Tim Conway, Israel Lacmovsky, Gene McPherson, and John Trout. Israel Lacmovsky won the show and tell prize.

OCTOBER MEETINGS - October 2 - There were 20 people at the meeting. Garth C started to discuss the Christmas party. Alvin S reported on the Bellaire August 2018 show. Alvin would meet with the Shriners to read the official contract. Alvin would have club checks to confirm the Bellaire August 2018 show room use.

Alvin S stated new information about the SS Republic. It was noted that the Republic was a New York ship that sent gold to New Orleans. Karl B presented the last show and tell discussing the SS Republic. Tim C noted that the next meeting would a numismatic quiz from Gayland S. The following members presented a show and tell; Karl B, Garth C, Ricardo D, Richard H, Gene Mc, and Gary W. Gary W won the show and tell prize.

October 16 - There were 33 people at the meeting. The business meeting went quickly for Gayland S's Numismatic Quiz. Tim C was in charge of the meeting. Garth C was running late because of local traffic. Garth arrived and continued the meeting. Tim C and Richard H provided reports from Ed Stephen's October 7 show. Garth C started to discuss the Christmas party. The current plan was the Jax Grille-Shepherd Drive. Another group has requested every Monday for their get together. Still need to find another place and date. Plans are to normally cancel the 3rd Monday meeting in December. It would be possible to have the party between Christmas and New Years. Alvin S gave more reports about the Bellaire August 2018 show. Alvin provided club checks for room rental and other needs or donations. The Shriners constantly are happily surprised the Bellaire club. They never asked to help set up and tear down. They enjoyed having a full parking lot all the time. The club discussed how hurricane Harvey would have effect the Bellaire civic center rebuild. Tim C continued to discuss what to do as an "all area coin club" get together. Some of his ideas are visiting the Museum Of Natural Science or the Federal Reserve Bank. Garth C confirmed that all thank you gift cards would be presented at the Christmas dinner. There was no show and tell drawing. We had a program on Gayland S's Numismatic Quiz





GHCC SEPTEMBER MEETING - Jack D. opened the meeting with the Pledge of allegiance was led by YN Andrew C.

Call for Visitors present: Roger B., Mike D., John K. and Son Grant. Show and Tell (Tom S., Chair) with several interesting items.

Monthly Club Coin Quiz: (Chuck B., Chair) Assisted by Andrew C. and other YN's present. Quiz passed out to all. Only club members may win.

Alvin S and Garth C tied with 4 right, Garth winning because Alvin ineligible by virtue of having won previously this calendar year.

Monthly Program - Bill W. introduced the discussion panel. Panel Discussion and comments. Sebastian F., Garth C., Alvin S., Mike D. head up the panel, Answered questions -

First question asked was 'Why silver eagles tone the way they do?'

Asked about Longacre doubling.. Another was asked by YN, about wording on English pound coins.

Ricardo asked about the mintmarks and dates on coins, and varieties.

Other questions were also asked.

Money Show report: we have 75% tables sold..

Christmas Meeting is a week earlier (December 14th) than traditional schedule

TNA Members were reminded to send in their names for the TNA Drawing for grants to be used for book purchases and summer seminar tuition supplements.

OCTOBER MEETING - Pledge of allegiance was led by YN Donnie F.

Call for Visitors present: Dale B., Regina J., David M, Tom B.

Mike Greenspan has announced his resignation from the Executive Committee due to reasons of health.

Rick E. has a new grandson, Emmett, at 10 lbs, 1 oz.

Show and Tell (Tom S., Chair) with many items shown .

S-N-T drawing winner was Jack D.

Monthly Coin Quiz: (Chuck B. - Chair) Wendy R. declared the winner by virtue of the tie breaker question after several getting 4 questions right.

Bill W. Introduced the program and made extensive other comments about the GHCC, including highlights in the TNA News.

Monthly Program: "An Overview of Historic Islamic and Persian Coins". - Gail B.

General Business Meeting: Coins for A's (Eve B., Chair) the reportage is rather slow at the start of this year; report cards delayed by flood closures.

Money Show - (Melvin N. Gen. Chair.) -100 Tables sold. Still need volunteers and transportation for items.

Townsend Nominations - now open for the year 2017. Explanation can be obtained from Gail B.

Special Presentation - Israel L. - showing a counter-stamp designed by him on a coin. Attendance drawing was won by Bill W.

Auction was called by Sebastian F..

DISTRICT SEVEN



THE GATEPOST

GATEWAY COIN CLUB

GATEWAY SEPTEMBER MEETINGS - Sept. 7 - The meeting was opened with one visitor and twenty-six members in attendance, including all officers. Our visitor was Esther G.J. (Robert J.'s wife).

Under Old Business. The election of the 2017-2018 GCC officers was held. The club unanimously reelected the 2016-2017 slate of officers. Frank G. will again serve as president, David A. as vice-president, Steve M. as treasurer, and Nancy M. as secretary. The 2017-2018 officers will be installed on September 21st.

Karla G. said that thirty-three people made reservations for the banquet.

The meeting will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. so arrive a few minutes early. Remember to bring items for the Numismatic Roundtable and for the Auction. Under New Business. David A., Karla G. and Frank G. reported that our club has been offered an opportunity to participate in a "Coins, Collectible, and Antiques Show" that will take place on January 6, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Wonderland of the Americas Mall. Robert Jenkins is also part of the organizing group. David A. moved that GCC participate in the "Coins, Collectibles, and Antiques Show." Stan M. seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The Numismatic Roundtable was led by LeRoy M with many interesting items offered.

The GCC Registry Set For the September 21st meeting, members were reminded to bring their best Standing Liberty quarters to compete. As always, members can bring coins in the previously-judged categories to try to displace the reigning champions.

Ask the Expert Session: James W. said that Paper Money Guaranty (PMG) is now certifying bonds. James is not certain if the holder in which PMG encases the bond is a rigid plastic holder or flexible plastic holder. The PMG graded bonds are showing up on eBay.

The Auction was conducted by David A. and Steve M., who were assisted by Frank G. A donation lot consisting of the latest Coin World magazine and two other weekly numismatic magazines was donated by Andy G. Stan M. won the auction lot and then re-donated the lot to be sold again. Paul F. won the second auction of the donated lot. A total of \$9 was raised for GCC. We thank the donors and the buyers for their contributions to the club.

Attendance Prize, a 1956 Mexican five-pesos coin, went to Steve M.

Sept. 21 - The meeting was called to order by President Frank G. with twenty-nine members and two guests in attendance for the 55th Club Anniversary Banquet and Installation of Officers. Our two guests for the evening were Esther G.J. (wife of Robert J.) and Teresa G. (wife of Mike G.).

The evening began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America led by Stan McM. and the invocation by Andy C. Dinner was served, followed by a delicious Italian Cream Cake with strawberries. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Treasurer Steve M. gave the financial report.

The Numismatic Roundtable was led by LeRoy M. .

The "Ask the Expert" session was led by James W. James opened by commenting that Bitcoin now has a new customer; North Korea has opened a Bitcoin account. James then discussed the Pitman Act of 1918. In 1918, Great Britain was experiencing an extreme shortage of silver, which it needed to pay India. Under the Pitman Act passed by the United States Congress, the United States melted over 270,000,000 Morgan dollars and sold the silver bullion from over 259,000,000 of the coins to Great Britain for one dollar an ounce plus mint charges. The United States then minted new silver dollars from silver purchased from American mines.

The GCC Registry Set: At this meeting, no one brought a Standing Liberty quarter to enter in the GCC Registry Set competition. For the October 5th meeting, members can bring their best Walking Liberty half dollars to compete. As always, members can bring coins in the previously-judged categories to try to displace the reigning champions.

As part of the evening's festivities, Frank G. presented certificates of appreciation to club members for their service to the club during the past year. Members who had presented numismatic educational programs received two certificates, one from GCC and one from ANA. Members LeRoy M. and Stan McM. were presented special plaques in appreciation for their many years of continued support to GCC.

Frank G. conducted the installation of the 2017-2018 officers. Andy C. stood-in for the president, Frank G. Also installed were vice-president David A., treasurer Steve M., and secretary Nancy M.

OCTOBER MEETINGS - Oct. 5 - The meeting opened with four visitors and thirty members in attendance, including all officers. One visitor, Jill H., wife of DD H., became our newest member. Our other visitors were Ralph C. and Delia C. (both friends of Robert J.) and John K. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Under Old Business: President Frank G. presented certificates of appreciation to



members who were unable to attend the GCC 55th Anniversary Banquet on September 21st. Also under old business, more details were provided for the upcoming "Coins, Collectibles, and Antiques" event.

The Numismatic Roundtable was led by LeRoy M.

The "Ask the Expert" session was led by James W., who demonstrated methods collectors could use to avoid counterfeit coins. James provided calipers and a digital scale. He also provided two coins: an 1842 Seated Liberty dollar and a 1981 trade dollar. Members participated in measuring and weighing the coins and some that were not familiar with the tools learned and benefited greatly from the program. Thanks, James.

The auction was conducted by David A. and Matt B., with the assistance of Frank G. and Luke B. Several items were donated by Mike G., Larry F., and Frank G. These donated lots were purchased by Paul R., Luke B., Matt B., and Frank G. A total of \$14.25 was added to the club's treasury from the sale of these lots. GCC thanks the donors and the purchasers for their generosity.

The Attendance Prize, a 1957 Franklin Half Dollar, was given to Paul R.

Oct 19 - The meeting was opened with one visitor and thirty-two members in attendance, including all officers. Our visitor was Esther G-J., wife of Robert J. In addition, David F., a former GCC member, renewed his membership after an absence of several years. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Treasurer Steve M. gave the financial report. Under Old Business: President Frank G. presented certificates of appreciation to Bill D., who was unable to attend the GCC 55th Anniversary Banquet on September 21st. Also under old business, more details were provided for the upcoming "Coins, Collectibles, and Antiques" event. Karla G. has emailed the flyer and registration form to GCC members and David A. handed out the flyers and dealer applications.

Under New Business: Karla G. spoke about the annual GCC Christmas Party that will take place on 21 December, the third Thursday of December. Possible locations for the party were discussed. David A. announced that a coin show would be held in Round Rock on Saturday, October 21st.

The Numismatic Roundtable was led by LeRoy M.

The "Ask the Expert" session was led by LeRoy M., who gave a mini-program on the history of the Eisenhower dollar. Following World War II, the price of silver began creeping up in value. When silver coins became more valuable as bullion, rather than for the coins' face values, people started hoarding the silver coins. The Coinage Act of 1965 forbade the minting of silver dollars for five years. In the late 1960s, the US Treasury wanted to release a one-dollar coin to replace the paper dollar. Congress began campaigning for a dollar coin bearing Eisenhower's likeness. The Eisenhower dollars were first minted in 1971. It was a most informative program that was followed with a question and answer period.

The Numismatic Educational Program was presented by Bill D., who spoke about "The Royal Mint and the Bank of England." The United Kingdom has been minting coins for nearly a thousand years. The Tower of London previously was a mint and now contains a full display of coins and old mint equipment. The Royal Mint is in Wales, north of Cardiff. It has been in its present location for fifty years. Bill, thank you for a fine program.

DISTRICT ELEVEN



Golden Spread Coin Club, Inc.



GOLDEN SPREAD OCTOBER MEETING - The meeting was attended by Paul Otts, Tommy Tompkins, Norman Goodfellow, Michael Eklund, Rick Morie, Jeff Webb, Steve Urben, Doug Herhey, Chuck Freas, Karl Nash, Mike Nowak, Kurt Gehring, and Phil Witt. We were thrilled to have four guests, Charles Roberts, Joann Urben, Anthony Maldonado, and Jaden Maldonado. Charles and Joann are repeat guests and we are very pleased they came once again.

Mike Nowak made an arrangement with Dyer's for our Christmas Party. This has been a venue before and we are all looking forward to our annual association with members and guests alike. The party will take place at the Dyer's at I40 and Georgia beginning 6:30.

Chuck Freas presented a PowerPoint show about "Selection

of US Commemorative Coins 1892-1921 Including the 1925 Norse American Medal." For Show and Tell, Chuck presented a U.S. Type set housed in an Intercept Shield museum quality housing. Michael had a "Book of World Coins, 1983 edition. And Mike showed a Gus's Good Food token with a pig on it (engraved... not a real pig).

This month's drawing was for a "Goodwill of all Nations" Presidential Medal, a 2014 TNA medal, and a Calvin Coolidge Presidential copper. Michael Eklund was the winner.

NOVEMBER - The meeting was attended by Paul Otts, Rick Morie, Chuck Michael, Norman Goodfellow, Karl Nash, Kurt Gehring, Kelly Archer, Chuck Freas, and Mike Nowak.

Mike Nowak made an arrangement with Dyer's for our Christmas Party.

Chuck Freas' program this month was about the World Columbian Exposition of 1892 and 1893 along with a brief history of Amarillo, Texas. Thank you, Chuck for the time and effort you put into these programs.

For Show and Tell, Chuck presented a PF69 ultra cameo, 2010 "Year of the Tiger" Australian silver bullion coin. Kelly showed a "Union Forever" token with rotated reverse. Mike showed a 2017 Voyager Series gold piece. Paul brought a 1904 Indian head cent "find", a collection of the 1972 Ike Dollar varieties, and a 1988 cent with one 8 higher than the other. This month's drawing was for a 2008 TA bronze medal, an Abraham Lincoln Presidential bronze medal, and a 1966 American Methodist Bicentennial token. Paul Otts was the winner.

DISTRICT TWELVE



TYLER SEPTEMBER MEETING - Meeting called to order by TCC President Dwight S. with pledge to the flag. Attendance: Members: 30, Guests: 6, Total: 36

- The club was lead in prayer by John D.
- Please keep Charles, Milee, and survivors of the recent hurricanes in your thoughts and prayers.
- Introduction/recognition of guests, visitors, and new members.
- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in the month of September.
- Richard presented Dwight with a Certificate of Appreciation from the American Numismatic Association for his 9 years of service as President of the Tyler Coin Club. (see picture on second page)

• Allen gave a brief summary of his recent trip to the ANA World's Fair of Money in Denver, CO. He also brought show flyers for the ANA National Money Show scheduled March 8 - 10, 2018 in Irving, TX.

• Members enjoyed cookie cake, punch, and delightful treats in celebration of Dwight's service to the club.

• Meals on Wheels (MOW) donations for September - \$30.

Door prize winners: Bruce, Don, Dudley, Kenny, and Sherry

Refreshments: A big Thank You to David and Sherry, Howard, and Richard for the wonderful refreshments provided for the "retirement" reception for President Dwight S.

OCTOBER MEETING - Meeting called to order by TCC President Emeritus Dwight S. with pledge to the flag

Attendance: Members: 36 Total: 36

- The club was lead in prayer by Richard G.
- Please keep Tommy, John, Sandra, and their families in your thoughts and prayers.



President Dwight and club officers - where he led - they followed!! Thanks Dwight for nine great years.



- Introduction/recognition of guests, visitors, and new members.
- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in month of October.
- Dwight announced that Barry is stepping down as Bourse Chairman (effective immediately) and as Club Treasurer in January 2018. Thank you Barry for 9 years of incredible service to the club!
- Lane Brunner was inaugurated as President of the Tyler Coin Club. Dwight swore Lane in as President using the Red Book no less. Lane expressed his thanks and gratitude to club members for the opportunity.

• Lane presented Dwight with a crystal plaque inscribed:
 "With Our Deepest Appreciation, We Hereby Honor Dwight Sowle, In Recognition For Your Passion, Unconditional Commitment And Enduring Dedicated Service As President Of The Tyler Coin Club."



*Left: President Emeritus Dwight swearing in President Lane on the holiest book of numismatics: a copy of the Red Book
 Center: President Lane presenting a plaque of thanks to outgoing President Dwight
 Right: With great power comes great responsibility – and a few boxes of stuff*

- Meals on Wheels (MOW) donations for October - \$44.
- Club Auction (Tom) 21 auction items sold - \$537.25
- Door prize winners: Horst, John, Kay, Larry, and Martin

DISTRICT THIRTEEN

GREENBELT COIN CLUB

GREENBELT SEPTEMBER MEETING - The meeting was called to order by President Bryan Sweitzer. Nine members were in attendance.

New Business. Connolly O'Brien announced that the Duncan OK coin show would be held this coming weekend. Tony Zupkas announced that Jackie Davidson, long time collector and owner of the Wichita Falls Coin Shop, had passed away at the age of 75. His son, Jason, will continue to operate the shop with help from Jeff Bowling.

Program. Tony Zupkas gave an interesting program on US currency error notes. Tony had an exhibit of various types of errors on currency for all to see. The collection of error notes had been assembled by Tony's friend, John Blair, of Lawton OK who passed away recently.

Drawings were held and DonVanadore was the winner of the membership drawing – a 1971-S Ike Dollar. Raffle prize winners were Tony Zupkas - a 2017 Silver Eagle; Rob Robinson - a 1973 Proof Set; Bryan Sweitzer - a 2000 Mint Set; and Del Shumate - a 2005 Proof Set.

Rob Robinson conducted the 67-lot auction of which 35 items sold.

OCTOBER MEETING - The meeting was called to order by President Bryan Sweitzer. Twelve members were in attendance along with one visitor, Mr. Tom Robinson.

Old Business. Connolly O'Brien reminded everyone of the Wichita Falls Coin Show to be held at the MPAC on Oct 13 and 14. Thus far, 15 tables have been sold to 11 dealers.

Program. Tony Zupkas provided a little show and tell. He passed around two wooden nickels that advertised the Wichita Falls Coin Club and Red River Coin Club. They were produced sometime during the early 1980's. Tony also passed around a complete set of V nickels in a Whitman Bookshelf Album that he had completed.

Drawings were held and Jean Sweitzer was the winner of the membership drawing – a 1982-S George Washington Commemorative Half. Raffle prize winners were Jean Sweitzer - a 2017 Silver Eagle; Donna Provence - a 2004 Proof Set; Randy Boyd - a 1996 Proof Set; and Tony Zupkas - a 1998 Mint Set.

Rob Robinson conducted the 67-lot auction of which 38 items sold.

WICHITA FALLS AUGUST MEETING - The meeting was Called to Order with 21 members present. Newest members, Max and Pam Mustico, were welcomed. Program: Tony Zupkas gave an interesting program on US currency error notes. Tony had an exhibit of various types of errors on currency for all to see. The collection of error notes had been assembled by Tony's friend, John Blair, of Lawton OK who passed away recently.

Membership Prize: 1971-S Ike Dollar in the blue envelope was won by Don Vanadore.

Auctioneers: Rob Robinson, 53 lots with 30 sold

SEPTEMBER MEETING - The meeting was Called to Order with 20 members present. Visitors: Kathy Mindeman who joined.

New Business: Jeff Hogue asked about the Christmas Party in December.

Program: Tony Zupkas presented a one dollar poster board with novelty notes with combinations of different types of notes. Tony said that there were numerous combinations of numbers that could be used in liar's poker; some notes were referred to as radar notes and fancy notes.

Membership Prize: 1971 Eisenhower Silver Dollar: Jeff Hogue

Auctioneers: Rob Robinson, # of Consigners 5, # of lots 42

DISTRICT FOURTEEN



HIDALGO OCTOBER MEETING - The meeting was called to order by President Raul H Gonzalez with 37 members present plus 2 visitors. The new members that applied the month before were accepted at this meeting. The HCC has 104 members as of this meeting. We start brand new every year with previous members renewing their memberships. 6 door prizes were given out.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance as always. At this meeting, over 100 coin lots were auctioned off after the business part with Michael Hecht and Sam Rodio serving as the auctioneers and Rene de la Garza and Brent Garza as the money runners.

This meeting was held on Columbus Day and was the last meeting before the big Fall Coin & Collectibles Show. Plans were finalized for the show and volunteers signed up to help out as the Set Up Crew and Greeters. The show was held on Nov. 4 & 5, 2017 at the Nomad Shrine Hall. Show Chairman Sam Rodio announced that we are having more dealers/vendors at this show than last year.

Next month the club membership will be voting for Officers for the year 2018. Every year in the month of November, elections are held for the 5 Officer positions. These are one year terms. President Raul H. Gonzalez announced to the membership that after 8 years of serving, he'll be stepping down to take care of some health issues. Also, member Dennis Heidick announced that he would like to run for the Treasurer office against the current one, Gordon Taylor.

We held a moment of silence for one of the club's member. Mr. Lee Shotwell suddenly passed away a couple of weeks ago Lee was an active member and was always ready to help out at our bigger shows. We will miss him.

NOVEMBER MEETING - The meeting was called to order by President Raul H. Gonzalez. This eleventh meeting of 2017 was attended by 38 members and one visitor. The new members that applied have been accepted. The Hidalgo Coin Club is finishing the year of 2017 with 104 members. Every year, we start from scratch as members renew their memberships and new ones apply. 7 Door Prizes were given out. All of them were donated by ANACS coin grading company. These were special discounts on submitting coins to be graded. Our thanks to Christian Merlot and his wife for the donations.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance as usual. The first order of business was to give the membership the Show



Report from our Fall Coin & Collectibles Show that was held on Nov. 4th and 5th. The show turned out to be a good one even though a bit fewer people attended. The club made a healthy profit of \$880. All volunteers were 'thanked' for giving up some of their time to help out and make sure the show ran well.

The contracts have been signed for the upcoming 2018 season of large shows to be held at the Nomad Shrine Hall. The club will sponsor a Winter Show, a Spring Show and a Fall Show.

As of the Fall Show just held, our club has begun accepting Membership Renewals for 2018. We have raised the yearly dues from \$20 to \$25 to help offset our Friday Night Show rentals at the McAllen Chamber of Commerce. All of our meetings and Friday Night Shows will be held at the McAllen Chamber of Commerce.

Plans are now being made for our Annual Awards Banquet. It is shaping out to be one of our best ever. This year it will be held on Friday, Dec. 15th at the Old Church Winery Banquet Hall on Main Street in McAllen. It was constructed in the 1940's and has recently been renovated by the Chamber to be a beautiful place for events and gatherings. Many of the HCC members will be recognized and awarded that evening for their contributions to the club. Three members will be awarded the Lifetime Membership Award - Sam Rodio, Gordon Taylor and Winter Texan, Raymond Pike.

Other awards will be presented that night. 15 members will be recognized for their Outstanding Service, 9 members for Perfect Attendance at our monthly meetings, one student from the Youth Coin Club will be awarded the Young Numismatist of the Year and finally one member will be selected by the membership as the HCC Coin Club Member of the Year.

Elections for 2018 Officers were held this evening as well. Council member Mike Alaniz ran unopposed for President and was voted by acclamation. Raul H. Gonzalez had been serving as President for 8 years and is now stepping down. A new Treasurer has been elected. Mr. Dennis Heidick will be replacing Gordon Taylor. The other officers will remain the same. Doug Jenkins as Vice-President, Rene de la Garza as Secretary and Leo Ris as Historian.

The Nov. meeting ended with a lively auction of about 100 coins with Auctioneers Sam Rodio and Michael Hecht and 2 Money Runners - Rene de la Garza and Brent Garza.

DISTRICT FIFTEEN



BEAUMONT SEPTEMBER MEETING - The meeting was called to order by President John W. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Barbara W. 12 members were in attendance.

The Show committee reported on the Coin Show outcome. Although Hurricane Harvey severely impacted the area, the decision to continue with the Show as planned was made and it was fairly successful, although attendance was lower.

We finished viewing the DVD "History of the Americas".

Door prizes were distributed, and the auction was led by Tim B.

OCTOBER MEETING - The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Colby B. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Barbara W.

18 members and 3 guests were in attendance. We welcomed one new member.

The Show committee discussed locking in the date for the 2018 to be able to avoid conflict with other local show dates. Plans for our Annual Auction in November were finalized.

After distributing a few door prizes, Bill S gave a great presentation on Redfield Dollars.

SILSBEE COIN CLUB

SILSBEE OCTOBER MEETING - The meeting was called to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Visitors/New Members: We were happy that Jerry and Gary were able to join us again.

Jerry posed another selection of trivia questions for the group. They were as follows:

What is an "eagle" in a US coin? \$10 gold coin

What is a "gold slug?" The nickname for a \$50 gold coin

What was minting the purpose of the \$3 gold coin? To buy a sheet of stamps from the post office.

Are there gold coins in the US Treasury? No, only bullion.

What was the first commemorative US coin? The 1848 \$2.50 gold coin with "CAL" punched in on the back. 230 ounces of gold was used in making these coins.

What was the first US coin with a mintmark? 1838 gold coins minted in Charlotte, Dahlonego, and New Orleans (Mint marks C, D, and O, respectively)

What is the smallest denomination of a US coin? 1/2 cent

Why was there only one large coin minted in 1816? Only the large 1 cent piece was minted due to a fire at the mint in January 1816.

What was the purpose of stamping lettering on the edge of coins? To keep people from scrapping off gold or silver from the edges.

Why did the mint start producing the Shield nickel in 1866? Many of the silver coins were hoarded during the Civil War so the new nickel was composed of 75% copper and 25% nickel (as was the new 1865 3 cent piece).

Program: Leon gave a program on the buffalo nickel. The Buffalo Nickels were produced from 1913 through 1938. They really should be named Indian Head nickels after the portrait on the obverse. They were produced because of the Coinage Act of 1880 which stated that coin should be minted a minimum of 25 years. (This was not the case with the Standing Liberty Quarter (1916-1930) or the Franklin Half Dollar (1948-1960). The Liberty head or "V" nickel had been produced for thirty (30) years. James E. Fraser designed the new nickel claiming in 1938 that he had used three (3) different Indians as models, Iron Tail - a Sioux, Big Tree - a Kiowa, and Two Moons - a Cheyenne. His story about his models had changed from the beginning. The reverse is reported to be modeled after Black Diamond, a bison at the New York Central Park Zoo. Mr. Fraser's initial "F" is beneath the date on every coin. Mr. Fraser was born in Winona, Minnesota on November 4, 1876. He attended classes at The School of The Art Institute of Chicago in 1890 and studied at the Ecole des Beaux Arts and the Academie Julian in Paris, France in the late 19th century. Early in his career, Fraser served as an assistant to Richard Bock and Augustus Saint-Gaudens. The coin weighed five (5) grams and was composed of 75% copper and 25% nickel with a diameter of 21.2 mm. The coin was minted in Philadelphia, Denver, and San Francisco with the mint mark found on the reverse side under "FIVE CENTS" which is located below the bison. In 1913, there are two (2) distinct varieties, the first showing the bison on a mound and the second with the base redesigned to a thinner straight line. The straight line model base was used for the rest of the time. The coin was struck with 55 tons of force but there were production problems because if the planchette was slightly overweight, it produced a wire rim or fin and if slightly underweight would not produce a sharp image. The coins also seemed to wear down faster than was desired so when the 25 years was up, it was quickly replaced. Special matte proof coins were made for collectors from 1913 to 1917. The production had been delayed for a few years due to one of the major manufacturers of vending machines concerned that they would not be able to detect counterfeit coins being used. At that time, a nickel was a widely used coin as in the 1940's it would buy a root beer, coke, magazine, cigars, start a coin operated player piano, slot machines, and most vending machines. Black buffalo nickels were the result of the planchets being heated up in the process of making them.



The 1921 S, 1926 S, and 1931 S coins are key dates. In 1936 (Denver), the three and a half (3 ½) leg buffalo nickel was accidentally produced and in 1937 (Denver), the three (3) leg buffalo was struck. Other desirable coins are the 1914, 4 over 3 and the 1918 D, 8 over 7. A 1916 coin is also found with a "doubled die" on the obverse. No Buffalo nickels were minted in 1922, 1932, or 1933 and only the San Francisco mint produced the coin in 1931.

DISTRICT SEVENTEEN



WACO COIN CLUB

WACO SEPTEMBER MEETING - Tom called to order. There were in attendance 17 members and 3 visitors: Noryce Caraway, Royce Walston

and Eugene Freeman, who joined as a new member. He has been very active in Chicago area in shows and clubs.

Raffle prizes: Alton Hassell, Ed Terry, Eugene Freeman. Door Prize: Randy Daily.

Cash prize: John Merkle dove was present. \$25 next month

Our fall show was a good show. Two dealers have already paid for the spring show. Our spring show will be March 30 and 31.. That is Good Friday.

Show and Tell: Members brought interesting items to show and tell.

OCTOBER MEETING - Tom called to order. There were in attendance 17 members and 2 visitors: Noryce Caraway, and Luane Freeman.

Raffle prizes: Wayne Callaway, Joyce McCall, Ed Terry and Alan wood.

Door Prize: Steve Uselton. Cash prize: Walt Winters was not present. \$35 next month.

Our spring show will be March 30 and 31.. That is Good Friday.

It is time to send ANA summer scholarship applications.

Program: Steve Uselman gave a very nice presentation on the Philadelphia mint. The coinage acts on April 2, 1792 established US dollar as silver dollar standard and established the decimal system. The dollar was to be about the size of the real do ocho. This is the 225th anniversary of the mint. Some of the congress men were against the Philly mine, they wanted to use other mints. The mint was founded to establish our own identity. Used image of liberty.

The first mint was in Philly when it was the capital. Any person could bring in gold to have it minted in coin. The mint made copper cents and half cents, silver coins and gold \$10, \$5, and \$2.50 coins. The coins had Liberty and year on one side and eagle and value on obverse. The first coins without Liberty was the Lincoln cent in 1909.

The mint was built on two lots bought by the first director named Rittenhouse. He smelted his own metal. The second floor of today's mint has some of the original presses. The metals were assayed in the house tower.

In 1816 the mill and smelt house burned. They were rebuilt to include a steam engine. In 1833, the first building was sold and torn down and a second building constructed. 1901 was the year that the second building was demolished. The was a cookie jar in the corner stone. Between 1901 and 1969, the third building minted 5/7 of US coins, 501 million US and 90 million foreign.

In 1969 the fourth building was established. It could mint a million coins in 30 minutes, before took 3 days. The new mint also does several other things such as bronze stars and purple hearts. Until 1980 there was not mark for Philly but now a P is used. The mint also did the war nickels and in 1979 started the Susan B Anthony series.

The production of coins is a series of steps: Art, Die making in a multistep procedure, Blanking (roll 13ft and 600 lbs), Annealing (in furnace to soften), Striking, Bagging.

Although the security is high. There have been cases of theft. 1858 two thieves opened case took \$265 in gold but were caught in store. In 1893 Henry Copper was found to have taken \$134000 in gold bars over an 18 year time period. \$107000 were found in air shafts or at home.

There were 445000 double eagles minted. One was released to a king. It was inherited by Fenton who tried to sell it at auction. The auction refused, they did not believe it was a real coin. It was taken to Fort Knox and later sold for 7.9 million. In 2003 a Philly woman found it in a safety deposit box. It had been stolen by her father. In 2011 Gray stole error coins worth \$2.4 million. Normally when coins hit the floor, they go to a waffling machine.

HISTORICAL FACTS

This information comes from Heritage Auctions.

The finest certified 1785 Silver Immune Columbia

The silver Immune Columbia patterns rank among the most interesting post-Colonial, pre-federal issues. Not only are they rare, but they played an important role in a high-stakes attempt to gain a coinage contract from the Continental Congress prior to the establishment of a federal Mint and coinage system.

The Immune Columbia pieces owe their existence to the combined efforts of Gouverneur Morris, Robert Morris (no relation), and Benjamin Dudley, who wanted to establish a mint in Philadelphia and implement a decimal coinage system based on the dollar and the cent. The trio believed they had an inside track to gain the potentially lucrative contract, since the decimal system was favored by Thomas Jefferson, and Gouverneur Morris was a strong advocate and supporter of George Washington.

Other powerful forces were at work, and ultimately the Morris-Dudley proposal was not accepted by Congress. Gouverneur Morris (still in partnership with Robert Morris) then took one of their early copper patterns to Wyons' mint in England, and contracted for the design and mintage of Nova Constellatio coppers. It is likely that the silver Immune Columbia patterns were struck in 1785 as well, since the obverse die is common to the 1785 Nova Constellatio copper Crosby 3-B, in an earlier die state. Whether the silver patterns were actually struck in England or in the United States is open for debate.



Three edge varieties are known for the silver pieces. Both diagonal and vertical reeded edges exist, and at least one Plain Edge silver pattern is known as well. Our November 2-4 Dallas Signature Auction features the Ex:Lauder specimen, a Vertical Reeded Edge example, although it historically has been classified as a Plain Edge coin. Walter Breen's Encyclopedia may be in part responsible for the misunderstanding, where he describes

the Lauder specimen as having a plain edge, "plugged, withdrawn." He is incorrect on two counts -- the edges show lightly impressed vertical reeds (it is not a Plain Edge pattern), and most importantly, there is no evidence of a plugged hole anywhere on the coin. Perhaps the edge reeding prompted its withdrawal from the Loyal Lauder Collection (William Doyle Galleries, 12/1983) as lot 191, or, it may have been a question of the coin's authenticity. Both of those factors are put to rest with the present coin's PCGS encapsulation.

The surfaces of this exceptional near-Mint example are glossy and lightly iridescent. Attractive gunmetal-gray and blue shades prevail over the sharply defined surfaces. All of the Immune Columbia silver patterns are slightly incomplete in strike on the highest points of the obverse -- knee, arm, and hand -- yet this piece is sharper than (for example) the AU55 NGC Garrett/Ford/Partrick coin and other well-known pieces.

We believe between 13 and 15 silver patterns exist (all edge varieties combined). They have been eagerly collected from the hobby's early days by Colonial specialists and advanced collectors including Virgil Brand, Garrett, Roper, Picker, Robison, Oechsner, Norweb, and Lauder. Most specimens lay claim to lengthy and distinguished pedigrees. This is the finest-certified example at either major service.



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2012 Donald H. Kagin, Tiburon, CA
2013 Steve Ivy, Dallas, TX
2014 Diane Piret, Belle Chase, LA
2015 Lloyd Gabbert, Sacramento, CA
2016 Don H. Ketterling, Reno, NV

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Fort Worth, TX 76147-1408
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2000 University Dr., Ft. Worth 76107
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For Club Information

Call 817-444-5500

www.fortworthcoinclub.org

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817-656-2540

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La Calle Doce Mexican Restaurante
1925 Skillman St., Dallas, TX 75206

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For information contact:

Mike Thomas, President

club5141@msn.com

(please include DCC in subject line)

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www.dallascoinclub.org

TYLER COIN CLUB

Meets 2nd Tuesday of Each Month
at 7:00pm

Meals on Wheels Building

3100 Robertson Rd, Tyler, Texas

Everyone is invited to attend.

Speakers and Coin Auction Each Month

For more details:

903-561-6618

Email:

texican@suddenlinkmail.com

GATEWAY COIN CLUB, INC. of San Antonio, Texas

Meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday
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Denny's Restaurant.

9550 IH 10 W. (near Wurzbach exit)

Dinner at 6:00PM. Optional

Visitors Welcome!

www.gatewaycoinclub.com

Email: retate@msn.com

2018 Show Dates:

February 24th & May 26th

GREATER HOUSTON COIN CLUB, Inc.

PO Box 79686, Houston, Texas 77279-9686

832-717-0578

email: jackurat@sbcglobal.net

Meets 3rd Thursday of each month
at 6:30pm

Houston Community College, Eagle Room,
1010 West Sam Houston Parkway (BW-8 & I-10).

*If you are interested in coins, tokens, medals or
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HIDALGO COIN CLUB

Meets 2nd Monday of the month
at 7:30 pm

St. Mark United Methodist Church
4th St. & Pecan (Rd. 495), McAllen, Tx.

for more information contact:

Raul H. Gonzalez - President

P.O. Box 2364 McAllen, Tx. 78502

956-566-3112

Website: hidalgocoinclub.com

Email: raul@hidalgocoinclub.com

INTERNATIONAL COIN CLUB of EL PASO, TEXAS

ANA, TNA

PO Box 963517, El Paso, TX 79996

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7000 Edgemere Blvd., El Paso

Information: iccoep1963@gmail.com

Facebook: International Coin Club of El Paso

(915) 533-6001

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GREENBELT COIN CLUB of Vernon, Texas

Meets 1st Monday of each Month
at 7:00 pm

(no meeting in January)

at the Vernon College Library

Visitors are welcome - bring a friend!

For more information call:

940-839-1399

Email: collector1944_2000@yahoo.com

COLLIN COUNTY COIN CLUB

Meets 3rd Thursday of each month
7:00 pm

at San Miguel Grill

506 W. University McKinney, Texas

Educational Programs - Door Prizes

Raffle - Auction

For more information contact:

Collin County Coin Club

PO Box 744 McKinney, TX 75070

972-978-1611

www.collincountycoinclub.org

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MID CITIES COIN CLUB

Meets 1st Tuesday of Each Month
at 7:00 pm

The Waterford at Pantego

2650 W Park Row, Pantego, TX 76013

Educational Programs,

Door Prizes, Raffles, Auctions

Visitors Welcome!

Contact John Post

Box 15554, Ft Worth 76119

old-post@sbcglobal.net

WICHITA FALLS COIN & STAMP CLUB

PO Box 3751, Wichita Falls, TX 76301-0451

Meets 4th Thursday of each month
at 7:30 pm

in the TV room of Merrill Gardens

5100 Kell West, Wichita Falls.

Visitors are welcome-bring a friend.

ANNUAL WICHITA FALLS

COIN AND STAMP SHOW

at the MPEC in Wichita Falls each spring.

For info call: (940)592-4480 after 5PM.

WACO COIN CLUB

Meets the
2nd Thursday of each month
at 7:00pm

Harrison Senior Center,
1718 N. 42nd St., Waco, TX

(254) 224-7761

ALAMO COIN CLUB

Meets the 2nd & 4th Thursdays
Each Month
(2nd Thursday only Nov. & Dec.)
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San Antonio, Texas

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NORTHWEST ARKANSAS COIN CLUB

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month
7:00 pm

Embassy Suites Hotel
3303 S. Pinnacle Hills Pkwy., Rogers, AR
Educational Programs - Raffle - Auction
For more information contact:

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TEXAS ELIMINATES SALES TAX ON PRECIOUS METALS AND COINS

As of October 1, 2013, the sales tax levied on purchases of gold, silver and platinum bullion and numismatic coins in Texas is now eliminated.

These directory spaces are available for your club or business. Let others in the hobby know who and where you are!

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TNA MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

This association is a non-profit, educational and scientific organization founded in January 1960. It is purely a mutual association founded for the benefit of its members.

The TNA invites to membership all worthy persons who are at least nine years of age. Coin clubs, schools, libraries, museums and kindred organizations who have a sincere interest in the collecting and study of coins, paper money, tokens, medals and related items are welcome.

PURPOSES

To promote and advance interest and comprehensive knowledge of numismatics; to cultivate friendly relations among fellow collectors; to hold periodic meetings and exhibits; to provide a place and time to buy, sell and trade numismatic items; to serve its members collectively, not individually.

ADVANTAGES

To be a member is to have fraternal affiliation with numismatics of your state; to know their addresses and collecting interests; to have the honor of serving visitors with the names of collectors in their vicinity; to participate in the annual convention; to receive the official publication. TNA membership offers prestige on the state level just as ANA offers prestige on the national and international levels.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

Each Regular, Junior, Life and Chapter member receives the TNA News for no additional cost. Insofar as possible, this media will keep you informed about your association, and the individual and chapter members. It carries timely articles and features. Its pages are free to all members to express their views and to contribute articles for the advancement of numismatics. Those seeking information may ask for help through the pages of the TNA News. Those having items for sale or trade may advertise for a nominal sum. The TNA News is the voice of the TNA.

CONVENTIONS

The TNA will meet in an annual convention. Members are entitled to a voice at the conventions. The business sessions are devoted to the procedures necessary to the operation of your state association. Entertainment and time for renewal of friendships is an important part of the conventions. Educational exhibits are a vital adjunct. The opportunity to buy, sell and trade is provided through bourse activity.

MEMBERSHIP

Regular members are at least 18 years of age. Associate members are at least 18 and a member of the immediate family of a regular member. Junior members are under 18 years of age. Chapter members are those organizations as listed on the previous page.

APPLICATION

Applicants for membership must be proposed for membership by a TNA member who signs the application form together with an additional person know as a voucher. A voucher for an applicant for regular membership should be an adult of reputable character who knows the applicant. A voucher for an applicant for junior membership must be a parent or guardian of the applicant. Applicants for chapter membership should be signed by the president. Such other information as required on the application should be given.

Chapter membership applicants should furnish the additional information;

1. Names and addresses of officers
2. Name and address of TNA representative
3. Mailing address
4. Meeting date, time and place.

APPLICANTS

Names of applicants are published in the TNA News. If no objections are received within 20 days after the date of publication, the applicant is admitted to membership. A membership card is sent with notification of admission. The official publication will be mailed to eligible applicants.

DUES

Regular & Chapter	20.00
Junior	8.00
Associate	8.00
Life	300.00

Mail applications to:

Lawrence Herrera, TNA Secretary
4717 W. Lovers Lane
Dallas, TX 75209

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I herewith apply for membership in the Texas Numismatic Association, subject to the association's Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, and other rules and regulations, and tender \$ _____ for dues.

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Collecting Interest _____

Individual Applicant Signature _____ Proposer Signature _____ TNA# _____

Associate Applicant Signature _____ Family Member Signature _____ TNA# _____

Parent or Guardian Signature (Junior Applicant) _____ President Signature for Chapter Applicant _____

For use by TNA Secretary

TNA Action _____ TNA # _____ Dues Received \$ _____ Date _____

Mail applications to: Lawrence Herrera, TNA Secretary, 4717 W. Lovers Lane, Dallas, TX 75209

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2017/18

TEXAS COIN SHOWS 70 TABLES • GRAPEVINE 2018

FEBRUARY 2-4 • APRIL 20-22

MAY 25-27 • JULY 20-22

SEPTEMBER 28-30 • NOVEMBER 16-18

TEXAS COIN SHOW at the Convention Center, 1209 S. Main St., Grapevine TX 76051 (4 miles NW of DFW Airport off Hwy 114, exit Main, right on Vine). Fri. 2pm-6pm, Sat. 9am-6pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. Free parking, police security, \$3 admission, GOLD PRIZES! Contact: Ginger Pike, P.O. Box 126, Tom Bean TX 75489-0126. Email: TexasCoinShows@aol.com

DECEMBER 8-9 64 TABLES FORT WORTH

COWTOWN CHRISTMAS COIN SHOW at Forest Hill Civic and Convention Center, 6901 Wichita St., Forest Hill, TX 76140. 2 miles east of I-35W & 1.5 block south of I-20. Hours: Fri 2-6, Sat 9-5. Free parking, Six \$20 Gift Certificates Drawn after show with valid email address on registration card. Adult admission \$3., Food Station. Dealer set-up: Fri. June 19, 10am-2pm; 8' tables \$245. Early bird \$35 during dealer set-up. Contact: Gary Andrews; 817-444-4813; email: apctexas@aol.com

2018

JANUARY 19-20 124 TABLES CONROE, Tx.

The 61st Houston Money Show hosted by The Greater Houston Coin Club. Lone Star Convention Center, 9055 Airport Road @ FM 3083, Conroe, Tx. 77303. Hours: Friday, Jan. 19: 10am-6pm & Saturday, Jan. 20: 10am-5pm. (Dealer set up Thursday, Jan. 18: 2-6pm). Plenty of up-close, free parking, professional security, on site concessions, family events, free coin to first 1000 children, competitive exhibits, educational programs, and free appraisals of coins. On Saturday: free youth "Treasure Chest Grab", "Put a Penny in a Slot", and Boy Scout Merit Badge Clinic. Over 100 popular dealers both local and national. Buying, selling, and trading of gold, silver, and numismatic coins. Admission is \$3 for adults, children under 17 and active military are free. See our website: www.houstoncoinshow.org for more details. Contact: Jack Domurat, PO Box 8038, Huntsville, Tx. 77340, jackurat@sbcglobal.net, 832-610-5313.

JANUARY 26-27 64 TABLES FORT WORTH

COWTOWN JANUARY COIN SHOW at Forest Hill Civic and Convention Center, 6901 Wichita St., Forest Hill, TX 76140. 2 miles east of I-35W & 1.5 block south of I-20. Hours: Fri 2-6, Sat 9-5. Free parking, Six \$20 Gift Certificates Drawn after show with valid email address on registration card. Adult admission \$3., Food Station. Dealer set-up: Fri. June 19, 10am-2pm; 8' tables \$245. Early bird \$35 during dealer set-up. Contact: Gary Andrews; 817-444-4813; email: apctexas@aol.com

JANUARY 27 & 28 48 TABLES McALLEN/PHARR

HIDALGO COIN CLUB WINTER COIN & COLLECTIBLES SHOW. Sat./Sun. Nov. 4/5- 2 Day Show - 9:00am to 4:00pm Nomad Shrine Hall, 1044 W. Nolana Loop, Pharr, Tx. 48 dealer tables at \$50 ea. \$3.00 Admission, Students 17 & under free. ANACS Coin Grading Co. will take coin submissions. Free Parking-Hourly Door Prizes-Gold Coin Raffle. Contact: Raul H. Gonzalez:956-566-3112, email rgonz95684@aol.com. Web site: www.hidalgocoinclub.com 'Largest Coin Show South of San Antonio'

FEBRUARY 16-18 50+ TABLES EL PASO

55TH ANNUAL COIN SHOW - INTERNATIONAL COIN CLUB OF EL PASO, INC.. February 16-18, 2018. Fri. 1-6pm; Sat. 9am-6pm; Sun. 9am-4pm. Kid's Auction - Saturday 2 pm. El Maida Shrine, 6331 Alabama Avenue, El Paso, Texas. 50+ tables. Free admission. For more info contact: iccoep1963@gmail.com or call (915) 241-6977 or (915) 533-6001.

FEBRUARY 24 50 TABLES SAN ANTONIO

SAN ANTONIO COIN SHOW sponsored by The Gateway Coin Club, Inc., Schertz Civic Center, 1400 Schertz Parkway, Schertz, TX 78154 (approx. one mile east of IH 35 North at Schertz Parkway exit. Show Hours 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., \$2 admission - 18 & older. Free Parking Map at www.gatewaycoinclub.com. For Bourse info contact Ray Tate at P.O. Box 12964, San Antonio, TX 78212-0964, (210) 271-3429, or e-Mail at retate@msn.com or www.gatewaycoinclub.com.



MARCH 30-31 32 TABLES WACO

THE 38TH ANNUAL WACO COIN SHOW will be Mar. 30,31, 2018 at the Bellmead Civic Center, 3900 Parrish St. Bellmead, TX 76705(just outside of Waco). Friday hours are 12 p.m.until 6 p.m. (dealer set-up at 10 a.m.) and Saturday 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. 32 tables @ \$120. Admission \$2 Free parking, 24 hour police security. Buy and sell U.S. and foreign coins, currency, gold and silver. Tom Campbell 254-224-7761 ortream_51@hotmail.com

JUNE 1-3 200 TABLES ARLINGTON

TNA 60TH ANNUAL CONVENTION, COIN & CURRENCY SHOW. Arlington Convention Center, Arlington, Texas. Show Hours: Fri. & Sat. 9-6; Sun. 9-3. Dealer set-up and early birds May 31st. Convention Center is 15 minutes from DFW Airport. Close to Six Flags Over Texas, Hurrican Harbor, Rangers Ballpark, Cowboy Stadium, hotels and shopping. 24-hour police security, Educational Seminars, Exhibits, Youth Coin Auction, Book Auction, Scout Merit Badge. Grading Service on-site for submission. Admission \$3, Kids under 18 Free - Everyone Free on Sunday! Contact Doug or Mary Davis, 817-723-7231 or email: tnacoinshow@gmail.com.



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COWTOWN JANUARY COIN SHOW

FRIDAY JAN 26 2018 12NOON-6PM

SATURDAY JAN 27 9AM-5PM

Contact: Gary Andrews • 817-444-4813

COWTOWN JANUARY COIN SHOW

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