

# TNA NEWS

Serving the Numismatic Community of Texas

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

2017

VOL. 60 - NO. 5



*Now is the time to send in your entry forms  
for the drawings to attend the  
2018 ANA Seminars and  
2018 Fund Your Library  
See page 6*



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From your TNA News Editor,  
Ron Kersey



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First of all I want to let all our friends along the Texas Gulf Coast know they are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time in the aftermath of hurricane Harvey.

Last year I received an email from the ANA in July about the results of the publication contest in which we were awarded First Place. Not having heard from ANA this year I contacted their contest department and was told there would be no announcement until their show in August. I assumed we had not placed this year. Lo and behold, I received an email from member, Garry Moore, congratulating us on our Second Place finish this year. I checked the latest ANA online Numismatist and there was a notice of the winners for this year. I am very happy to report that we did receive Second Place and want to thank all who helped make this possible. Thanks again to Garry Moore, one of our regular contributors, for giving us the good news.

We have a good mix of articles this issue. New contributor, Allen Bruns (yes, that is how his name is spelled) provided us with his ANA Seminar experience - learning about digital numismatic photography. I had to edit his article because of space constraints, however, if you would like to have the full article, which is very comprehensive, I will be happy to reply to your email request with a Word document.

Lane Brunner is bringing us up-to-date with his History of Coin Grading. This issue covers the 1980's when several grading companies were making their first appearance. You will enjoy Lane's review of this time period. And there is more to come in upcoming issues. Lane is also our new Governor for District 12. Tommy Bennington is stepping down after several years of doing a great job for the TNA in east Texas.

I'm sure many of us have been to a Renaissance Festival and enjoyed going to the "Royal Mint". Rich Ewing shares his enjoyment of the medals he has obtained over the years.

Waco Coin Club has a very interesting article on the last page of the Texas Happenings section. I won't spoil it for you - go see for yourself. Our other contributors, Sam Fairchild, Mark Benvenuto and John Barber are back with excellent articles to increase your knowledge and enjoyment of our great hobby.

Enjoy the cooler weather coming up and find a local coin show to attend. We are fortunate to have several in Texas.

Time for this issue to go to the printer. Until next time...

## 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](mailto:tnanews@sbcglobal.net)



*Richard Laster*

## *FROM THE PRESIDENT*

Greetings, friends... At this writing I am sitting at the desk in my office enjoying a really remarkable day. Even though the temperature here in beautiful Northeast Texas remains slightly over 90 degrees, there is a comfortable breeze, some shadowing from clouds floating by, along with as clear a vision one can be find this time of year. I am also noticing that the “Welcome to the Yamboree” signs are now in place throughout downtown and up and down highway 271. This means that very soon Gilmer will host nearly one hundred thousand guests who come to celebrate, (you guessed it,) the sweet potato. I find it of interest that the Yamboree weekend is a time when quite a few folks come to town and a reasonable percentage of regulars leave town. I, personally, enjoy the festivities which include crowing of the Yam Queen, parades, a street fair, various educational events, yam judging, music, and other forms of amazement and amusement.

So, if you are looking for something to do on Thursday, October 20 to Saturday, October 22, come on over to Upshur County. At the least I can guarantee it'll be an interesting day in smaller town America.

Now that my brief infomercial has passed it is time to consider an important part of our Texas Numismatic Association experience. A short while back, as editor of the Tyler, Texas Coin Club's newsletter, *Your Two Cents Worth*, I provided a list of collector resources for the consideration of club members along with the challenge to provide a listing of the same, the books, electronic sites, individuals, and whatever other tools are used for discernment, authentic, grading, and value. Even though the reply was fairly slight I did have some responses, along with a number of conversations. In all of these, no matter the collector area, lists included not only published hold in the hand material, but also a strong representation of electronic media locations, these being www. addresses.

It is true that we, even people of my age and place in life, depend more and more not so much on the things we can hold in our hands, but in the documents we can control with the click of a mouse. This is why it is CRUCIAL for every organization to have a top flight web presence. I am sure that most of you recognize that the Texas Numismatic Association is well represented in cyberspace. I have found, for example, that we are shown as a “link” on quite a few other numismatic sites. This is great!! A good start for sure.

Where I am going with all of this is to share a significant insight. The Texas Numismatic Association is privileged to have a gifted webmaster. For over twenty years David B., of Corpus Christi, has maintained, at no cost to the association, a remarkable website. When you go to [www.tna.org](http://www.tna.org), you'll find sources for your association, copies of past TNA News editions, links to everything you'd want to know about “us” including coin shows being held in Texas, a Coins for A's registration form, a membership application, opportunities for individuals and clubs, a “face page” featuring TNA officers along with contact information, local club news (found in *The TNA News*), a link to our Facebook page (yes TNA has one – thanks David!!). And, I am just scratching the service. I encourage you all to take a look. Explore the information. Share your thanks with David. And, as with all officers, you'll find his information on the “contact” page.

All for now... your editor sends his appreciation and regards. Best thing to do is to check out our website, learn what you can, and then pass the information along. Of course you can always participate in local clubs, and how about signing someone up as a TNA member. The form for doing so is online at [www.tna.org](http://www.tna.org) (But you knew that already!!)

Regards and God Bless... Richard

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By Lawrence Herrera

# Secretary's Report

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2017

## WELCOME NEW TNA MEMBERS!

Welcome to new TNA members J-7626 to R-7658 and LM-275 to LM-278.

No objections were received, and the applicants became active members on September 1, 2017.

Since the last report, no one has applied for membership in the TNA.

## 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.

### 2017 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

# 61<sup>ST</sup> HOUSTON MONEY SHOW

***NEW DATE - NEW LOCATION***

**JAN 19-20, 2018**

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

**LONE STAR CONVENTION CENTER**

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**INFORMATION: JACK DOMURAT 832-610-5313**

**jackurat@sbcglobal.net**

**www.houstoncoinshow.org**

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# TREASURER'S

## 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](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](mailto:gilbej@yahoo.com), one of the committee members listed above, or your local TNA Governor.**

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

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash	
JP Morgan Chase, NA Checking Account	\$7,995.98
Origin Bk, Ft Worth-Premium Business Money Mkt.	\$28,435.44
PBOT (Mat 9/21/2017)	\$40,000.00
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	\$151,431.42
Long Term Assets	
Origin Bk CD (Mat. 2/28/19)	\$60,000.00
Origin Bk CD (Mat. 4/3/2020)	\$60,000.00
Endowment	
PBOT CD (Life-Member - Mat 9/19/2017)	\$30,000.00
Total Long Term Assets	\$150,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$301,431.42
LIABILITIES	
Total Liabilities	None.
SURPLUS	
Beginning Balance 3/1/2017	\$335,957.79
Income (Plus)	\$26,161.71
Expenses (Minus)	-\$60,688.08
Surplus	-\$34,526.37
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS	\$301,431.42

# PRESS RELEASE

## *54th Bellaire Coin and Collectible Show Draws Huge Crowd 1237 Guests August 5 and 6, 2017*



The Bellaire Coin Club in Bellaire, Texas was formed in 1963 with a charter to form friendships and networks amongst like-minded numismatist, to promote the hobby, to educate the public about coin collecting and to encourage young people to participate in the hobby. The club has had up to 3 shows per year in the Bellaire Civic Center for 54 years. The Bellaire Civic Center was able to host about 35 to 40 dealers.

Unfortunately, the City of Bellaire has decided to raze the building to construct a new civic center. The Bellaire Coin Club had to find a new home. The club decided "LET'S MAKE COIN SHOWS GREAT AGAIN", and the search was on. The Bourse Chairman, Dick Hyde, and the Co-Chair, Al Stern, started a search for a new location.

Not far from Bellaire, Texas a home was found in Houston, Texas. The Arabia Shrine Temple, 10510 Harwin Drive and Beltway 8, Houston, Texas 77036 was the perfect place. The temple is centrally located and close to Highway 10 and Highway 59. Many affordable hotels and restaurants



dot the Westchase area. The Temple has 15000 square feet of Ballroom giving the show an elegant experience, with free parking for 200 hundred autos, security cameras, and fenced grounds.

The show was rebranded from a "Coin Show" to a "Coin and Collectible Show". The show doubled in size and Seventy (70) local and national dealers brought U.S., Foreign, and Ancient coins, stamps, postcards, bullion, jewelry, paper money, historical documents, stock certificates, supplies and much more. ANAC provided grading services. The Bellaire Coin and Collectible Show is now the biggest show of its kind serving the Houston area.

The free Children's Auction was well attended by 37 kids who bid on items donated by the dealers. A free Boy



Scout collecting merit badge clinic was held for 15 boys. Educational Seminars were run throughout the show and were well received. Scouts, First Responders, Police, and Military were admitted free as thanks for their service.



The dealers exclaimed "This was my best show in Texas ever", "Most Beautiful show in a long time", and "This show was good for my business, I want to come again next year". The public was duly impressed as well; some comments were "Spacious", "I felt safe", "Beautiful", "Everything I was looking for was here" and "Great food at the Food Counter".

The Bellaire Coin Club has found a new home and we like it. Contact us at [WWW.BellaireCoinClub.Com](http://WWW.BellaireCoinClub.Com)



by Sam Fairchild

# FLYING EAGLE CENT

To finance the Civil War, the Treasury started issuing paper currency. This in turn caused hoarding of all coinage, with even silver three-cent pieces and copper-n Flying Eagle Cents

By the early 1850s, the large cent was becoming both unpopular and expensive to coin. The public disliked its rather large size (almost the size of a half dollar), and vendors refused to accept them. Moreover, copper prices had risen to the point where there was more than one cent's copper in each coin minted.

The Treasury sought alternatives. One suggestion called for the cent to be composed of billon, a mixture of copper and silver; these coins would also be holed as to keep cents at a decent size. However, trial pieces proved difficult to strike and the idea was dropped.

After examining Feuchtwanger cents that successfully circulated as hard times tokens, the Mint decided to change the new cents to a similar size.

The Mint preferred a French bronze alloy (95% copper, remainder zinc and tin), but there was significant resistance to having the intrinsic value being only a fraction of its metallic value. After experimenting with other various metal compositions, the Mint decided on an alloy of 88% copper and 12% nickel. Ironically, the Mint changed the Indian cent composition to French bronze in 1864.

James Longacre was instructed to prepare designs for pattern coins. Initially, Longacre worked with Liberty head designs such as were common at the time and a number of pattern cents were struck in 1854 and 1855. By 1856 the Mint Director asked that a flying eagle design be prepared based on the dollar pattern prepared by Christian Gobrecht 1836-39. The model was likely Peter the eagle, a tame bird fed by Mint workers in the early 1830s until it was caught up in machinery and killed. The bird was stuffed, and is still displayed at the Philadelphia Mint.

The wreath on the reverse was previously used on Longacre's gold dollars and three-dollar pieces. It is composed of leaves of wheat, corn, cotton and tobacco, thus including produce associated with both the North and the South.



To lobby Congress to enact legislation, pattern dies were completed in late 1856, several hundred cents dated 1856 were produced, and distributed to legislators, government officials and special interests. This was the origin of the highly collectable 1856 Flying Eagle cent, although it was actually a pattern piece, not an official coin, as congressional approval had not yet been granted. Additional 1856 small cents were later struck by the Mint Director for illicit sale.

Congress formally authorized the new cent in February 1857. The legislation also eliminated the half cent, and declared foreign coins no longer legal tender (causing the Mint to melt most of the 1857 large cent stock not released). When the new cent was released in May 1857, the public demand was so strong that the new design was hoard and few examples circulated.

From the start, the Mint had trouble striking the new design. This was due to the hard copper-nickel alloy and

the fact that the eagle on one side of the piece was directly opposite parts of the reverse design; efforts to bring out the design more fully led to more die breakage. It was suggested that the eagle be replaced with a head of Christopher Columbus or George

Washington but rejected due to Washington's distaste of individuals being displayed on coins.

In 1858, the Mint tried to alleviate the breakage problem using a shallower obverse relief. This led to the major variety of the series, as coins of the revised version have smaller letters in the inscriptions than those struck earlier. Efforts to conserve dies were the probable cause of another variety, the 1858/7, as 1857-dated dies were overstruck to allow them to be used in the new year.

The difficulty of getting good strikes caused the Mint to change to the Indian Head design in 1859. Collectors today will find a typical weakness on the eagle's tail feathers even on Mint State specimens and regardless of the date.

A complete date and variety set is possible and consists of only five issues: 1856, 1857, 1858 Small Letters, 1858 Large Letters and 1858/7. These are often collected in conjunction with the Indian Head series. 1857-58 Proofs are extremely rare, and probably number less than 100. ick

# 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

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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](mailto:tnacoinshow@gmail.com).

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Any questions please email at: [iccoep1963@gmail.com](mailto:iccoep1963@gmail.com)  
or call (915) 241-6977 / (915) 533-6001

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





by Alan Bruns  
R-7231

# DIGITAL NUMISMA

## SOME THINGS I LEARNED AT THE

Earlier this year I was chosen for a TNA-paid trip to Colorado Springs and the ANA Summer Seminar. The course I attended was *Digital Numismatic Photography for Collectors*, most ably taught by two ANA professionals: **Robert Kelley**, professional photographer and ANA museum specialist/photographer director; and **Douglas Mudd**, Curator of the Edward C. Rochette Money Museum (at the ANA in Colorado Springs). In 4 jam-packed 6-hour days these two gentlemen delivered a lot of advice and information that have helped me to improve my coin photography skills. I decided I would share some of what I learned with the TNA membership.

You don't need to spend a huge amount of money on photo gear to take perfectly fine pictures of coins. With a bit of scrounging and a few online purchases you can set yourself up to do very well at it.

It's very important, we were told, to read the manual cover-to-cover as you unpack your new camera. And then read it all again a few months later after you have some experience with the camera. That second time will provide a lot more understanding of how to make that camera work. Then keep the manual handy.

**Camera:** For the photography discussed here, you need to have a digital Single Lens Reflex (SLR) camera. Unless you're planning to make large posters or 20-foot banners of your photos, you don't really need a high pixel count. My 6 Megapixel Canon EOS produces very nice photos for my personal coin catalog.

**Lens:** The standard lens that comes with an SLR doesn't work for close-ups. For about \$10 you can buy a set of diopter lenses that mount on the front of that lens and will produce reasonably good close-ups. After I was chosen for this trip I spent a few days investigating, reading reviews and professional recommendations online, and bought a used Canon 100mm macro lens for \$300. The quality of photographs produced with that macro lens is much better than I was getting with the diopters.

**Copy Stand:** This holds your camera steady and at the necessary focus distance from the coin, while you adjust the lights to get the coin properly lit. Since you want to nearly fill the shot with your coin, you want a stand that's easy to move up and down. The instructors recommended the Smith Victor Pro-duty CS36. I found mine on Ebay, for less than \$260.

### Miscellaneous Equipment:

- **18% grey card (or a white card, depending on the camera)** — essential for setting white balance. If the white balance is wrong, the color of everything in your photo will be wrong, too.
- **Tripod Bubble level** — the camera lens has to be exactly parallel to the copy stand stage. So check the level of the stage when you move it, and the camera every time you mount it.
- **Background** — A background color on the stage will make your coin pop. Colored felt gives a nice cushion if you drop a coin. Use black for gold, silver, and shiny copper, and light grey for other coppers. White is good for slabs you can see through; otherwise black is probably better. I bought black, grey, white, and red felt from a sewing supply guy on ebay.
- **Prop** — Put the coin or slab on top of this so the background is out of focus and there are no shadows on the side of the coin. In the class we used magic marker caps, the centers from scotch tape rolls, and even sockets from a socket wrench kit.

The first rule is, all settings are manually selected. The camera will not make any of the decisions. And turn off image stabilization, if the lens has it.

**ISO:** We were told to set ISO to 100, and leave it there. Setting it to any other value doesn't really have much relevance when you're shooting coins from a copy stand with total control of the lighting.

**F-Stop:** This controls the depth of field, which is how much of the object being photographed is in focus between the lens and the stage. The higher the number, the smaller the aperture, the thicker the focus field, and the longer the shutter must stay open. For most raw coins, F8 through F11 settings are fine. A slabbed coin may need a higher F-Stop than F11. Many ancients have thick devices and need the F-Stop set higher than F11.

**Focus:** Set your lens for manual focus, and spend as much time as necessary to bring the entire coin into focus. Find and use the Preview button on your camera (if it has one) to get a view of what parts of the coin are within the depth of field. Regardless of the coin size, nearly fill the frame with it. Because the camera sensor is rectangular, if you're shooting a slab turn it sideways. Leave just a bit of background all around the coin or slab to frame it.

**Shutter Speed:** Your camera will tell you whether you're going to over- or under-expose the shot you've set up, which depends on the shininess of the coin, your chosen F-Stop and the lighting. On my camera when you press the shutter half-way the display shows whether the shutter speed is right or not, and how much it's off. I check that every time, and adjust as necessary.

**Triggering the Shutter:** If your camera has a remote control to trip the shutter, use it. Or if it has a timer for the shutter, put it in that mode. You want that whole setup, camera, copy stand and table to be rock solid steady with as little vibration as possible, so don't touch any of it while the shutter fires.

**White Balance:** This determines how your camera senses colors, and is one of the most important settings. Once you've setup your lighting (however many lamps, what kind of bulbs, etc.) and every time you change it (if you turn the room lights on or off, open the curtains, etc.), use the grey or white card and follow the manual white balance instructions for your camera.

**Lighting:** Most of our time in class was spent exploring different lighting schemes. You want complete control over the light. That could mean turning off all room lights and closing drapes on the windows to keep the sunlight out, especially on partially cloudy days when the sunlight keeps changing. Be aware that the color of your shirt can have an effect on your lighting too.

We experimented in the class with 1, 2, 3, and 4 lamps, using tungsten, CFC, and several different kinds of LED bulbs and spots. We didn't use any halogen lights because they're too hot. The primary fixtures used were desk lamps with goosenecks that allowed us to beam light from pretty much any direction. 30-watt 5000K CFC bulbs produced excellent lighting and not a lot of heat. The light was further diffused by clipping opaque white shower caps over the bulbs. You can experiment with mirrors and sheets of white paper to reflect and change the lighting.

**Light the Face:** You should direct the primary light on a coin into the face of the person of animal depicted on it, as seen in this shot of an ASE.

# TIC PHOTOGRAPHY

## ANA SUMMER SEMINAR COURSE



I photographed this slab using 3 lights at F11. The light on the left was the only one directed at the coin; the other two were aimed off to the side, at the top and bottom. Shiny coins are pretty hard to keep from being too bright. When all 3 lights were shining directly on it, the coin had a magnificent bright cartwheel effect right across the center that I had to fight to suppress, resulting in that too-dark right side.

**Coins in 2x2s:** Don't photograph coins in 2x2 flips if you can avoid it. The mylar can reflect light into your lens and make it harder to focus, and the white cardboard can screw up the light readings, making the coin itself look darker than it actually is.

**Cropping & Rotating Photos:** Once you've taken your shots, they will need to be cropped (unimportant stuff around the edges gets chopped off) and perhaps rotated to put the "up" side up. For this I use a freeware PC app named Irfanview. This can also be done using Photoshop and Photoshop Elements.

**Axial Lighting:** The instructors highly recommended an "axial" light setup for photographing pretty much anything except slabs. Slabbed coins present special lighting problems, and the mostly-reflected light produced by this method just isn't suitable for them. The setup uses one or two lamps directed horizontally at a piece of regular glass that is by default set at a 45 degree angle above the coin. This reflects light at the coin from every direction and is quite remarkable in its effect. The camera shoots through the glass, which is not visible in the resulting photo.

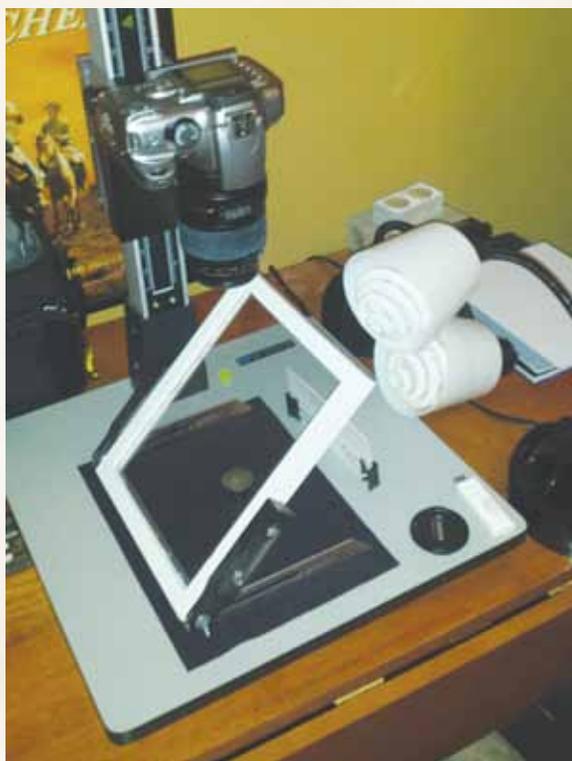
Except for the camera & copy stand, an axial lighting system can easily be built. You need these things (in addition to the "miscellaneous equipment" listed up above):

- A white 8"x10" picture frame with regular glass glued into it. We use only the frame and the glass, so discard the rest.
- 2 bevel squares (found at Lowes or Home Depot, or on-line), one screwed to each of the long sides of the picture frame
- 2 Gooseneck lamps, each with a 5000K 30w CFC bulb.
- A light barrier/curtain. (I used a cut-down 4x6 index card & a couple clips.)

Some notes about use:

- The lower lamp is usually moved right and left on the same level (towards and away from the coin). But up & down is OK too.
- The upper lamp is moved up and down (though not much above the plane of the glass) and nearer and farther away.
- The card between the lower lamp and the coin keeps direct light from the lower lamp off the coin, so the card must extend a bit higher than the coin is positioned on the prop.
- The glass is set at 45°, but the bevel squares can be adjusted to change that angle or you can hold the frame at different angles by hand.

- The glass can also be moved right and left; this changes how the light reflects on the coin and can make an amazing difference.
- You will shoot your pictures through the angled glass, so be sure to keep the glass clean.



As I write this I have just finished gathering the materials and assembling the do-it-yourself radial lighting rig (as seen above). Here is one of the first photos produced with it. You can see the setup for this shot in the previous picture. The coin is propped up on a socket from my wrench set, which is sitting on a piece of black felt.



The only drawback to attending the ANA class is that now, as I look at my existing coin photos, it's clear I need to reshoot all of them.

# QUESTIONS FOR DR. COYNE

- 1) In the age of the internet, do I need a numismatic library?
- 2) As coinage metals, what are "bath metal" and "bell metal"?
- 3) Which type of U.S. half dollar shows the smallest eagle on its reverse?
- 4) When was the first U.S. commemorative gold coin issued?

5) How many coins are needed for a type set of twenty cent pieces?

6) Are coins ever struck on cast planchets instead of planchets cut from rolled strip?

7) Is this piece a U.S. coin? \_\_\_\_\_



## DR. COYNE

1) Even in our on-line age, a physical coin library is a necessity for an aspiring or accomplished numismatist. A casual coin collector may make do with only internet access. While on-line information is expanding at a rapid rate, rich details are still found only in books, periodicals, and auction catalogs in many areas of numismatics. The admonition "Buy the book before the coin" still very much applies.

2) Bell metal is a bronze alloy containing around 22% tin and balance copper. This alloy "rings" well if cast into a bell, but is a bit brittle for ideal coinage. Bath metal is a brass alloy of around 19% zinc with the balance copper. It was used for certain Irish tokens, some of which circulated in Colonial America. It is also known as "Pinchbeck".

3) The April, 1792 Act of Congress which specified the denominations and weight of our coins provided that the half dollar show an eagle on the reverse. Many renditions have been used. The smallest eagle, appearing almost as an afterthought, comes on the Franklin Half Dollar of 1948-1963.

4) The first U.S. gold commemorative is generally held to be the 1848 CAL. counterstamped quarter eagles. The first regular gold commemorative is the 1903-dated Louisiana Purchase Exposition gold dollars showing Jefferson and McKinley. Gold dollars commemorating the Lewis and Clark expedition were issued in (and dated) 1904 and 1905.



5) Just one coin is needed for a type set of Twenty Cent Pieces. These were coined for circulation in 1875 and 1876 and in proof-only issues in 1877 and 1878. They are all the same design, composition, and edge treatment.

6) The U.S. Mint has never used cast planchets for a circulation issue. But other mints, including some provisional mints in Mexico at times of political unrest have used cast planchets (struck with regular dies) as an expedient in times of duress. Whole-coin casts are much more common, including centuries of Chinese issues.

7) The illustrated piece is not a U.S. coin. It is a commemorative medal issued for the Norse Tercentenary in 1925. They are sometimes collected along with the classic commemorative half dollars of 1892-1954. They were struck by the U.S. Mint on presses usually used for the regular half dollars.



8) A binocular microscope enables the viewer to use both eyes at the same time. The image seems three-dimensional. Most such 'scopes also have an adjustment for magnification level. Some have built-in ring lighting. In

8) Do I need a binocular microscope?

9) When has manganese been used in a coinage alloy in the U.S.?

10) Does an eagle ever appear on a U.S. dime?

11) How many coins are needed for a type set of Franklin Half Dollars?



12) What U.S. commemorative type has the lowest mintage?

13) Does the U.S. Mint do any strip rolling or planchet cutting now?

14) Is this piece a U.S. coin? \_\_\_\_\_  
Pay attention to the sword.



## RESPONDS

general, they are better than any loupe. Too bad they are not very portable. Their use is more important to "variety and error" collecting, where tiny details tell the story of the numismatic item than in "mainstream" date and mintmark collecting. A used Bausch & Lomb model would be a good investment and yield years of pleasure.

9) The metal manganese was first used as a part of U.S. coinage for the war nickels of 1942-45 (at 9% of the whole coin). It was next used in the Sacagawea Dollar ("golden dollars") of 2000 to 2017. There it makes up 7% of the alloy. The same composition has been extended to the Native American and Presidential Dollar series.



10) The original Mint Act of 1792 provided that an eagle would appear on the quarter, half, and dollar coins, but made no such specification for copper coins, half dimes, or dimes. Among these, we find eagles on 1856-1858 cents and on the half dime of 1792. Though not required by the Mint Act, an eagle does appear on the early half dimes and dimes of 1796 to 1837.

11) Just one coin is needed for a type set of Franklin Half Dollars. These were coined for circulation from 1948 through 1963. They all have the same design, composition, and edge treatment.

12) According to figures in the Red Book, the lowest net mintage belongs to the round version of the 1915 Pan Pacific \$50 piece, at 483 pieces. Among silver commemoratives, it is the 1928 Hawaii half dollar at 10,000 pieces.

13) For regular production coins of dime through dollar, the mint buys large coils of explosion-bonded strip and punches blanks, upsets and anneals the blanks, and strikes the coins. For cents and nickels, the mint buys ready-to-strike planchets from private-company suppliers. There is no active metals melting, ingot casting, or ingot rolling at Philadelphia or any of the branch mints. Such activities would no longer be environmentally acceptable in the downtown or urban areas where the mints are located.

14) The illustrated piece is not a U.S. coin. It is a Peace Dollar-sized fantasy pattern showing what Daniel Carr (of the Moonlight Mint) thinks the original proposal for the Peace Dollar would look like in coin form. He produced dies from de Francisci drawings showing a broken sword under the eagle, meant to signify the end of war. But criticism of the original design, saying a broken sword would signify defeat, led to Mint Engraver Morgan's reworking the design to what we see on the regular issue dollars of 1921-1935. Daniel Carr produced these by overstriking genuine 1922 and 1923 Peace Dollars.





Lane Brunner

# GRADING FOR A BRIEF HISTORY

## Part 8 - Modern Third-Party Grading Services Gain Momentum

The mid to late 1980s were an exciting time in numismatics. Following a slowing market for collector and investor coins in the early part of the decade, interest was gaining in the marketplace for coins as an investment. This upsurge was fueled by two newly formed third-party grading companies; the Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS) and the Numismatic Guaranty Corporation of America (NGC). Providing a sense of accuracy and consistency in coin grading, PCGS and NGC bolstered confidence in non-numismatic investors and coins were poised to enter realm of trading as a commodity.

In order for coins to be successfully traded as commodities, all items in the commodity must be considered equivalent. For example, an ounce of pure silver is an ounce of pure silver on the commodities market. The price is based on the spot price for the metal. While as collectors we may prefer different brands of silver bullion, the spot price is set by the market and that is the true value of the ounce of silver you hold in your hand; hence, silver bullion is a commodity. The challenge with numismatic coins being treated as a commodity is that not all coins which are graded the same are valued the same. We know this to be true even if the coins are certified and encapsulated by a respected third-party grading company.

Despite what many knowledgeable numismatists predicted would occur with the commodity approach to numismatic coins, the idea gained traction in the market. Coins graded by PCGS and NGC began being traded sight unseen. Many of us purchase coins today by placing an order and then upon receipt we examine our purchase carefully and choose to keep it or return it. With sight unseen trading, however, the coin is purchase based on the certified grade without the ability to return the coin. As efficient as this may sound, it was not practical. Many understood coins of the same grade have different values in the market. What was also becoming apparent was that there was disagreement between third-party grading companies with respect to grading and consistency in grading within the same company. In other words, the commodity trading of coins had an inherent problem with both grading precision and accuracy.

Regardless of the lukewarm success of commodity trading of coins, the numismatic community was quite accepting of the new approaches to third-party grading and the introduction of "slabs" by PCGS and NGC. The market responded and coin prices started to rise.

In 1989, the International Numismatic Society Authentication Bureau (INS) and the American Numismatic Association Certification Service (ANACS) became the last of the major third-party grading companies to encapsulate coins into slabs. It would be just a few months later that ANACS would be sold by the American Numismatic Association to Amos Press.



The first coins encapsulated by INS were in holders with images on the front of the slab and grading information on the back.



The first coins ANACS encapsulated used alpha-numeric serial number. These holders are known for imparting a lovely toning around the periphery of the coins. This is especially common with Morgan dollars.

As numismatics began heating up in the late 1980s, a number of new third-party grading companies would enter the fray offering collectors and investors a myriad of choices. Even though many of these companies would measure their lifespan in months, their products offer today's collectors a wonderful array of interesting certificates and slabs to collect and trade.

# THE REST OF US OF COIN GRADING

## Part 9 - First-Party Grading Companies Emerge

As the Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS) and the Numismatic Guaranty Corporation of America (NGC) were establishing themselves as the market leaders in third-party coin grading, a number of smaller firms joined the fraternity of professional coin graders. These companies would embrace the route of the American Numismatic Association Certification Service (ANACS) and use photographs along with certificates. While this more traditional approach had its elegance, the new technology of sonic encapsulation used by PCGS and NGC was quickly establishing itself as the standard for the future.

An approach often seen by these smaller grading companies was to use the very popular certificate and coin holders from Capital Plastics. Originally designed as a prestige aftermarket product for coins graded by ANACS, the holders were bulky and generally used for highly-valued coins or those coins deserving a special presentation. These new grading companies leveraged this mystique and placed graded coins in the holders directly.



This Morgan Dollar was graded by Independent Grading Associates, Inc. of Atlanta, GA in September 1985. The coin is housed in heat-sealed plastic. These holders are cumbersome to store and if manipulated too much, the plastic tends to tear. Many of these coins were "upgraded" to small leatherette wallets, displaying the coin and certificate in a compact form.



A Morgan Dollar certified and graded from United States Rare Coin Services, Inc. in August 1986 housed in a Capital Plastics holder. Similar to ANACS certificates, the company graded the obverse and reverse separately which was quickly falling out of favor.



(continued on next page)

# GRADING FOR THE REST OF US

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF COIN GRADING

### Part 9 - First-Party Grading Companies Emerge

Another approach used by other smaller companies was to maintain the photographic certificates, but enclose the coins in a sealed holder. In many cases, this was as simple as using heat to seal the coin and certificate between sheets of plastic. In some cases, the plastic was thick and durable, and in other cases the plastic was thin and tore easily. Unfortunately, in many cases the plastic does not appear to be archival safe, but rather a soft, pliable plastic that may break down with time and result in chemical damage to the coin (from plastics using polyvinyl chloride).



*An uncirculated Carson City Morgan Dollar sold to the public by the United States General Services Administration. The coins were encapsulated in large plastic holders that were sonically sealed for protection.*

A challenge with the new encapsulation technology was the expense of designing the plastic shells to hold the coin and having a die made for the “sonicator” used to seal the shells to hold the coin. While providing a durable, tamper-evident holder was the result, the financial investment kept many companies away from using this technology. The two approaches above for enclosing coins with grading certificates was an economical solution. Some companies, however, saw an opportunity to use holders already proven in the marketplace.

The United States government had encapsulated coins in sonically-sealed holders well before PCGS or NGC were conceived. In 1971, the United States mint sold the new Eisenhower dollar to collectors as a special striking onto silver-clad planchets. When offered in proof, these silver Eisenhower dollars were sold in elegant, large sonically-sealed holders. The United States General Services Administration used these same holders when selling its accumulation of silver dollars to the public starting in 1972.

A few new grading companies encapsulated coins in the same size holders as the silver proof Eisenhower dollars and the Carson City dollars sold by the United States government. It’s unclear as to how the technology was made available to these grading companies or if surplus materials were readily available. Regardless, it provided an opportunity to offer encapsulated coins without having to create a new holder.

One common feature of many of the smaller grading companies that emerged in the mid to late 1980s is that they were targeted towards investors and not collectors. Many of these companies have been referred to as “first-party” grading companies, in that the companies graded and encapsulated their own inventory and did not provide a grading service to the public.

In the 1980’s it was a great time to be a grading company. The coin market was strong and investor interest was growing. At that time the entrance of PCGS and NGC into the numismatic market helped establish professionally-graded coins as commonplace amongst collectors and investors.

Many of the holders from these smaller companies are difficult to find yet can be found if you keep your eyes open at your local coin shop and on the bourse floor at your favorite coin show. You may be surprised what comes across your path



*A Morgan Dollar graded and encapsulated by the National Numismatic Certification Service. Graded coins were sealed into holders that were of the same dimensions of those used by the United States Mint and General Services Administration in the early 1970s.*

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by Rick Ewing

# THE TEXAS R



As a coin collector, I became re-interested in the Texas Renaissance Festival in 1991 and its "Royal Mint." I had attended the festival for its entertainment value since the early 1970's and as a regular part of my routine for October every year.

The concept was that the patrons of the festival could strike their own medals with blanks that could be purchased. The planchets were also produced within the mint booth in a large covered area designated as the Royal Mint.

The building was emblazoned with the date "Established in 1591" conforming to the theme of the festival and King Henry VIII. I was invited to go within the confines of the mint apparatus while Joe Rust placed the large copper planchet into the dies at the bottom of the hammer-striking device. I then turned what I describe as a windlass that powered through a system of spoked caged wheels and spools with attached ropes to raise the hammer-striking device to a height of three plus meters (10 feet).

The ceremony thus began. Ron Landis rang a bell attached the post next to the large release lever. "Striking! Striking!" was yelled quite loudly while the bell rang to attract attention and no doubt striving for new customers. I was then ceremoniously asked to 'strike' my coin. The large lever adorned with an ornate wooden knob had a rope threaded through some pulleys that went up to the top of the hammer releasing mechanism. When I pulled the lever, the hammer released and dropped, striking the dies at the base. The strike noise was quite loud and could be heard for some distance beyond the booth. Ron then removed the medal from the die pair for inspection and inserted it into a protective bag.



In subsequent years I acquired the other issues of the medals that the mint produced. As a side note, I



had my youngest daughter Alexis, age 7, with me as we struck a coin. She was asked if she wanted to strike the coin, and she did the whole process with a bit of help. When the coin was handed to her, a coin I fully intended to place into my collection, she looked at the coin in the package, removed it, and proceeded to taste it with one tongue swipe across the coin.

Over the next few years a few more medals were acquired, but the mint was not in continuous operation. It was closed a few seasons and reduced operations at other times that produced ornaments for necklaces and



bracelets rather than coins or medallions. The mint was then idle for a number of years and was in disrepair until 2010.

Roger Russo took possession of the mint operation at that time and produced a medallion of similar size to the previous issues but more conforming to a silver dollar in scope. Unlike previous issues, the medals were also much lower in relief. The first design of the mint's

# ENFEST MEDAL

new operation under Russo was taken from a Leonard Di Vinci depiction of man's proportions illustrating the relationship of hands outstretched to illustrate man's height. At this point I became interested, involved, and more than just a purchaser of medals struck. I inquired of Roger Russo about the designs of the medals, and he said he was open to any ideas and would consider any suggestions. By the following April I resurrected an idea and submitted a design to him via email.

I had almost forgotten about it when I received an email requesting changes to the design a few months later. I accomplished and resubmitted the design, and the next thing I knew my design was chosen for striking. I went up to the festival on an early weekend to see the resulting production. A fellow numismatist accompanied me to the festival to visit and have a good time. I was shown the actual strikes and was given one of the first medals struck. Roger and I started a series of talks that has us collaborating on future issues of the festival medals.

On the next festival trip my friend and I asked if we could experimentally strike some coins of our own. We had an idea that was taken from Daniel Carr's fantasy overstrikes he made using a surplus Denver mint press. Since I was concerned that what I had in mind might damage the dies, I asked if we could come on the last weekend of the festival after he had struck the last patrons request so we could 'play.' We each brought a 1921 Morgan Dollar we intended to overstrike to see what would result. We also took it a step further first by putting the dollar into the planchet's position then striking it like a blank. The result was inspected and deemed interesting but not very satisfactory. The second dollar was taken to an

annealing pit, and the coin was heated to slightly over 1000°F then cooled before striking. The resultant was examined and compared to the first. Underlying designs were more than just evident on both coins, but the heated coin illustrated less traces of the original design.

Also within the mint was a smaller



production that was marketed as a less costly coin, about the size of a cent or dime, that also had the Texas Renaissance Festival crest along with the date. We had the standard production specimens struck during the first visit that now reside in our collections. On this second visit to the mint we brought coins to overstrike. We tried some Mercury Dimes and silver Roosevelt Dimes along with some Lincoln Cent planchets we had obtained from the Houston Money Show the previous year. We used three coins with no pretreatment. We followed up with the annealed coins and struck those. The results were compared. The designs from the coins held their own against the overstrike, producing some rather bizarre results likened to Aztec headdresses by one describer. Every adventure into numismatics does not always have to venture into the realm of dates, rarity, TPG encapsulation, nor mintmarks. It could just be entertaining and above all fun.



*Screw press medals engraved and issued by Ron Landis circa 1982 and 1987. Total issue estimated at 300-400 "We weren't interested*

*in mintage figures... just making money..." Ron Landis at the ANA Summer Seminar 2015.*

*First Drop Press issue that was not generally released. Both copper and silver most specimens are from the personal collection of Ron Landis and seldom seen in dealer offerings. Estimates of a total issue of "under 200..." Ron Landis*





by Mark Benvenuto

# MERCURY DIMES - HOW MUCH

Everyone enjoys getting the best coin they can for as little expense as they can. It's hard to imagine a collector who wants to spend more than he or she has to when it comes to acquiring a new coin for their collection. Yet when we come to the upper flukes of the upper crust of some series, a person simply has to wonder just how much is enough. One series where this comes right to the fore is the Mercury dimes, and the price differences between mint state specimens, and what are often abbreviated "FSB" specimens, meaning full, split bands.

First, we should probably make ourselves familiar with the details of the coin – and no, that's not a joke for all of us who have collected for decades. This design is the artistry of Mr. Adolph A. Weinman, one of two that have made him famous among collectors (the other being the



Walking Liberty half dollar). The obverse is dominated by the bust of a capped, winged Lady Liberty. Incidentally, the "Mercury" designation is a mild bit of confusion over the Roman messenger of the gods, who had wings either on his ankles or his sandals, depending on what version of the legend you read, or what an artist chose to depict. The reverse of the dime prominently features a fasces in front of a vine or branch. The Roman fasces were a bundle of sticks surrounding an axe. They symbolized authority for both corporal and capital punishment. Where our interest



in all this centers is, well, it is on the center. What we mean is that the horizontal bands shown at the center of the fasces are a high point on the reverse, and are almost exactly opposed to the highest point on the obverse. All this means that as each dime was struck, metal had to move the most at these opposing spots to bring up the design completely.

Since some folks find this a bit hard to believe, or feel it's hard to prove, a simple exercise works as follows: Get a piece of graph paper with lines going up and down, and a common Mercury dime. Lay the dime on the paper, and make sure one horizontal and one vertical line on the paper are aligned with the widest points of the coin (some would say 12 and 6 o'clock, and 9 and 3 o'clock). Take something like a fine point felt tip marker, the washable ink kind, and put a dot in the center of the dime you have laid on the paper. Now, flip the coin over and repeat the process. After doing so, hold the coin so you can spin or turn it between thumb and forefinger. Look carefully at the two fine dots you have drawn. They are rather precisely opposed to each other – and are high points of the design.

So, knowing that the high point of the reverse is where the more noticeable lack of detail might be seen – the bands being less than fully split – how much is the FSB version worth as opposed to one that isn't fully split?

Perhaps the easiest way to answer this kind of question is to divide the entire Mercury dime series into three parts. We're not going by date, but by rarity. First, there are the

# IS THAT FULL, SPLIT BAND WORTH?

common dates, of which there are plenty. Then there are the scarce pieces, what we might call the semi-key dates to the series. Then there are the rarities. Here we mean the very famous 1916-D, and the less famous 1921-D, the 1926-S, the 1931-D and the 1931-S. With that in mind, here we go.

The tail end of the Mercury dime series has a run of common dates and mint marks with price tags of about \$25 - \$40 in MS-65 (prices may have changed a bit between the time this was written and published, but probably not too much). As MS-65FSB specimens, the prices have some wild swings. Some rise from \$25 up to \$40. That's certainly not bad, and



thus an FSB specimen might be very worth the purchase. Others rise from \$40 to about \$100. But in a couple of the major price lists, a coin like the 1945 rise from \$30 into the thousands of dollars. Apparently this is a

coin that just never struck up particularly well. The same happens for a coin like the 1939-S, which rises from \$50 to \$800. To be fair, it is noted in Walter Breen's catalog as a coin that never struck up well, and since that reference was published thirty years ago, the price difference may go back that far as well.

Curiously, the same price swings appear for several of the dimes that are not rarities, but that we might not call common. It appears to be a matter of price swings that we might want to call a case-by-case situation.

What about the just-mentioned quartet of scarce dates and mint marks within the series, though – the 1921-D,

the 1926-S, the 1931-D and the 1931-S? Here the results become very interesting. Both the 1921-D and the 1926-S cost about \$3K in MS-65, without the FSB designation. With it, they jump to more than twice the already high price. The 1931-S starts out much more affordable, at about \$300, but also jumps into the thousands of dollars for that FSB label. It's fair to say those prices will put off most of us. But the 1931-D appears to buck the trend. This one Denver issue costs about \$250 as an MS-65 example, yet only about \$500 for the MS-65FSB version. That's not a "chump change" price for either coin. But it's a very affordable price for both, at least when we consider the scarcity of this coin in the series.

Okay, you've read this far; you'd like to know about the 1916-D. The numbers are high, but also quite interesting. It's \$25K for an MS-65, but only \$40K for the MS-65FSB. Yes, both prices are more than some automobiles, but it's noteworthy to see that the FSB price isn't even twice as high.

After that, if these price comparisons seem like an exercise in what a friend of this author's calls "microscope collecting," don't worry at all. Every single MS-65 example we have looked at is going to be a gorgeous coin – and can often be coupled to a good price. FSB or not, a person can have a great deal of fun collecting some sharp-looking Mercury dimes.



*Photos courtesy of Heritage Galleries.*



by John Barber

# FINAL

*Even if you are a collector having the philosophy “I intend to continue to collect until my last day”, you would do your heirs a favor by at least thinking about the eventual disposition of your holdings. -- John*

The situation is easier if you have already identified intended heir(s) or recipients. Only a favored few of us have heir(s) who are collectors and have said they have goals to build on a starting collection which could be provided by you. But the usual situation is that their interest is more along the lines of “What is it worth, and how can I sell it?”. If each of us collectors has the ultimate best interest of the heir(s) in mind, we can and should take action now, while we are still able, to bring about that best outcome.

It is easy for me to say “keep good records”, but sadly, realistically, that platitude is not possible for many collections. Many of us got started at a young age, did not obtain or keep purchase records, or misplaced them over the years. Somewhat better off are those that at least now have a written record showing what is now in the collection. A line item listing on a spreadsheet, with some attempt at current valuation at least shows heirs which are the important items and which items are less important. Plain Excel is an easy tool to use for this.

I would never want to put in print advice to readers to potentially break the law or to willfully seek to avoid taxes due. But the truth is that many collectors (and recipients of gifts of coins from collectors) simply do not have adequate records of the “cost basis” of long-held coins on which a capital gains tax could be accurately figured. The IRS principle is that coins (or other assets) that pass to recipients by gift (while the donor is alive) carry over the “cost basis” that the donor had. This gives rise, theoretically at least, to a future capital gains tax when the recipient ultimately sells the coins. VERY importantly, if the same coins were to pass to the recipient by will (through probate) after the death of the donor, there would be no tax due on the “gain in value” from whatever the donor paid to the market value



at the date of death. Also importantly, if the coins pass by will, there is no need for any historic cost records; there only needs to be a finding of their value at the date of death. That sort of current value is the same one that needs to be part of the “total estate value” when grouped with the decedent’s house, car, vintage Hummels, and other assorted assets. The current provision is that the estate is exempt from federal estate tax if that total is less than \$5.5 million.

Before your eyes glaze over, let me say that I think there is nothing wrong with giving coins (or related bullion, etc.) to folks who might later become your heirs by will, and doing it while you are alive. Especially if your annual gifts (to each of an unlimited number of recipients) is under \$14,000, you will owe no gift tax. Importantly, you may get enjoyment out of the delight shown by the recipient(s).

Another argument for gifts during life instead of collection liquidation after death is that YOU get to manage the disposition. As a knowledgeable collector, it seems reasonable that your realization for the items should be better than a rushed, unknowledgeable person (the heir?) would be able to achieve. If you are, for example a fan of Morgan Dollars or varieties of Large Cents, you already know who are the most active dealers, shops, or auction firms in these areas.

But what if the collection is too large to manage \$14,000 at a time? What if you want to remain an active collector until your last day? The safety deposit box (or big home safe!) is bulging with both long-ago and recent acquisitions after the final nice words are spoken by your friends at an “appreciation of life” ceremony. What SHOULD happen next? A “numismatic executor” should take over to manage the selection of which coins should go which route for disposition. A qualified numismatic executor needs to be selected in advance of need. His fee, whether based on an hourly charge or based on a percentage of disposition value should have been negotiated and agreed in advance. It is easy to envision a fee structure of, say 5% of realization being a

# EXIT



good deal for the heirs, as a “fire sale” or non-optimum selection of paths for selling the assets could easily result in a total much more than 5% under the optimum.

A knowledgeable collector while still alive, or his qualified numismatic executor would know that no one path is right for all kinds of collectibles. It would be wrong to put simple bullion or 90% silver or American Silver Eagles through Heritage Auctions. Their commission structure properly reflects the extensive advertising, cost of listing on digital media, and running of an efficient auction platform for traditional collectibles that need expertise in description, photography, and promotion to the right audience. Such arrangements are overkill for simple bullion-related sales. The collector or numismatic executor should know to take such items to a bullion house (APMEX for example) or a large coin show.

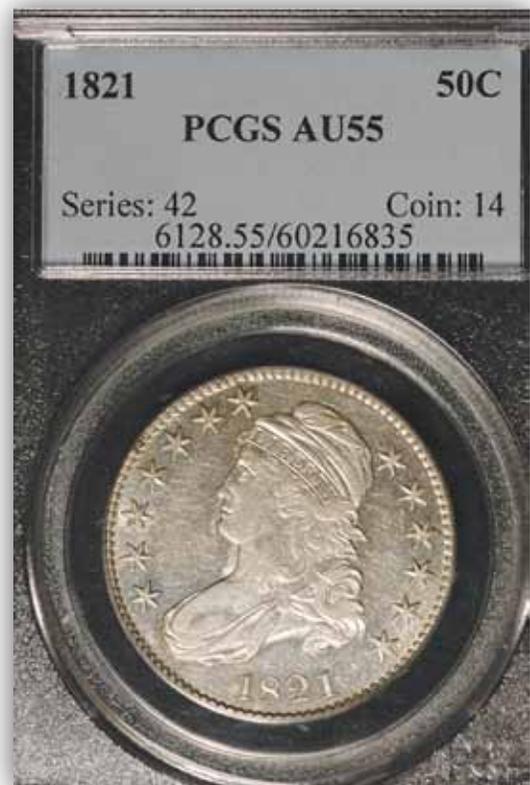
The mainstream (or even esoteric) collectibles form the basis of negotiation with Heritage or a competitor over consignment fees and other provisions.

The Excel spreadsheet previously mentioned greatly facilitates the initial contact with potential auction houses. Your editor does not know from personal experience in any recent consignment, but conversations at Summer Seminar would lead to a conclusion that in an environment of 20% buyer's fees for auction winners, a consignor with a total \$100,000 consignment ought to expect to get around 105% of hammer. That leaves a net of around 15% for the auction house. Bigger consignments, or ones with high

values per lot, can get 107.5% or more. Only a misguided or unknowledgeable consignor (or his heirs) would settle a big consignment for the “rack rate” of zero seller's fee (i.e. 100% of hammer).

This negotiation may be the most important bit of business that your numismatic executor does. His performance will be worth his fee, if he does it well!

Your local coin club, especially if it is GHCC, is a resource to be used as a sounding board for planning the eventual disposition of your holdings. Members there will share their experiences in putting arrangements in place. They may even be able to help in preparing collection listings, making suitable photos, or naming individuals as candidate “numismatic executors”.





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: [tnews@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tnews@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 AUGUST MEETING** - President Ed Lasko called the meeting to order with approximately 37 club members present.

Guests: We were pleased to have had guests, Mr. Harrington and Victor and Jerry Hunnicut attend the meeting.

Awards: Awards were presented to Kent Lyles and to Alan Scott for past educational programs.

The annual Awards Banquet (similar format to the Picnic meeting) will be held in January 2018. No regular club meeting will be conducted.

Education: "Flying Eagle Cents" (presented by Kevin Kell)

The Flying Eagle cent is a one-cent piece struck by the Mint of the United States as a pattern coin in 1856, and for circulation in 1857 and 1858. The coin was designed by Mint Chief Engraver James B. Longacre, with the eagle in flight based on the work of Longacre's predecessor, Christian Gobrecht.

By the early 1850s, the large cent (about the size of a half dollar) being issued by the Mint was becoming both unpopular in commerce and expensive to coin. After experimenting with various sizes and compositions, the Mint decided on an alloy of 88% copper and 12% nickel for a new, smaller cent. After the Mint produced patterns with an 1856 date and gave them to legislators and officials, Congress formally authorized the new piece in February 1857.

The new cent was issued in exchange for the worn Spanish colonial silver coin that had circulated in the U.S. until then, as well as for its larger predecessor. So many cents were issued that they choked commercial channels, especially as they were not legal tender and no one had to take them. The eagle design did not strike well, and was replaced in 1859 by Longacre's Indian Head cent. ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flying\\_Eagle\\_cent](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flying_Eagle_cent) pars. 1-3).

8 club members participated in the Show and Tell portion of the night's program. Raffle: 3 of 5 raffle items were won by guests (does anyone remember when Frank H. was made head of the Membership committee? Good job, Franklin).

Refreshments: Joyce Martin was thanked for providing her usual tasty fare. She has been able to provide delicious fare from the money members place in the tip jar.

Auction: Frank Provasek conducted a lively auction of 39 lots assisted by runners Paul Schoch and Walter Fabisiak.



## MID-CITIES COIN CLUB



**MID-CITIES JULY MEETING** - John Post spoke about American Art Medals (1909-1995) James Earl Fraser, Laura Gardin Fraser, John Flanagan, Anthony Di Francisci, Chester Beach, Don Everhart II, Donald De Lue, Robert Aitken, & Adolf Weinman. (The Circle of Friends of the Medallion & the Society of Medalists). Below is a most interesting piece of the various ones he shared.



**AUGUST MEETING** - Educational Bingo Night: Everyone had an enjoyable evening playing bingo, eating snacks & winning various numismatic-related items. President Frank Hezmall presented Jimmy Day with the Grand Prize for his blackout.



## NORTHEAST TARRANT COIN CLUB

**NETCC AUGUST MEETING** - President Jesse Owens opened the meeting with 66 members and visitors present. Visitors recognized: Eric Luckie. New members: Annie Scott.

Henry Brasco has an article in the latest Bank Note Reporter on \$2 US Currency. Henry has previously written numerous award-winning articles for the TNA News.

Special thanks again goes out to Kenny Smith who arrived early at the last meeting to cook the dogs, as well as the ladies who helped serve and the volunteers who brought all their special dishes.

Russell Prinzinger was back at the meeting in August. He missed July's meeting due to being admitted to the hospital CCU.

Jesse also asked members to contribute to the refreshments jar and urged those who had not yet paid 2017 dues to do so. We now have 103 members.

It was again announced that the Grapevine seminar for this year will be held September 23, 11:2-3:30. Presenters will be: Mike Ross (Collecting Medieval Coinage); Land Brunner (Collecting Slabs - Buy the Plastic, Not the Coin); and Carl Stang (The Engraving World of George T. Morgan).

He Designed More Than Just a Silver Dollar!)

The program was given by Sam Fairchild on Standing Liberty Quarters 1916-30. He explained the artist selection, minting issues and final demise of the series. He also delved into specifics of collecting and what to look for when shopping for examples. Sam also displayed a selection of each major type as well as full-head examples.

The door prizes were won by Mitch Miller, Merle Owens and Lance Parkes. The progressive door prize was won by Jack Gilbert which included the May, June and July prizes..

**SEPTEMBER MEETING** - President Jesse Owens opened the meeting with 64 members and 5 visitors present. Visitors recognized: Marylee Richard, Herb Reynolds, Bob Sobel, Lee Bassinger, Joe Rhodes.

New members: None. We currently have 104 members in 2017.

Ron Kersey announced that TNA News placed second for the ANA special award for best regional publication. This follows a long string of top three finishes, including first place last year. Several of our members contribute articles to this well-received publication issued six times per year by the TNA.

Jesse Owens gave a special shout-out to the Osters who supplied sandwiches for the members to enjoy at the meeting. Displaying his usual dry humor, David remarked he had found them on a park bench and didn't want the squirrels to get them.

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Our annual "Show and Tell" was then conducted. Members displayed and discussed items ranging from Medallion Medals to Not geld Notes to Philippine Peso silver



coins to 1918 Fed Notes to various collections of coins. One young man from the Richland High School Coin Club displayed many of his numismatic items including error and cherry-picked cents (he also has asked for help with speakers for his club). The fact that it took

40 minutes to conduct the program is testament to the interest members showed in the items displayed.

The door prizes were won by Sam Fairchild, Roy Harston and Lucky Michniewski. The progressive door prize was won by Andy Mesaros.

## DISTRICT FOUR



**CAPITOL CITY AUGUST MEETING** - In August, the members of the Capital City Coin Club were treated to a special guest from the Austin Metal Detecting Club, President Jim Lawhon who came to give a presentation on his hobby for the past couple of years on turning coins into rings. He said that coins of most sizes can be turned into rings, but that the larger the coin the easier it is. His presentation had a slideshow of his process whereby he takes a coin such as a peace dollar, punches a hole in it rolls an edge on top of itself and smooths the cut edges so they are not sharp. He generously donated on of these rings that he made to the club that was then given out as a door prize.

The club also did a little business as they discussed the turn out at the latest coin show as well as plans for the clubs 50th anniversary in a couple years. The members also discussed moving the club meeting location to hopefully attract new members.

**SEPTEMBER MEETING** - September's club meeting gave the members a chance to try their hand at ranking a set of coins by their value. They were given five sets of three coins and they had to guess the condition of the coin and then place a value on that coin as would be given by the Red Book, and then ranking those three coins in value from lowest to highest. John E. got the most correct guess and won a 1979 mint set.



The club members decided on a location for their holiday party in December. Club President Gary F. went to the old meeting location to see if their construction was progressing, as it turns out, they had not started yet, so the next year's meeting location is still up in their air.

## DISTRICT FIVE



**DALLAS JULY MEETING** - The meeting was called to order by President Mike. There were in attendance 31 members and 4 guests. Linda C., David R., Josh R. and David P.

Two new members were added by unanimous vote, Josh R. who owns Texas Gold & Silver: Coin store in Garland, and David: R. a new collector.

Mike noted that the volume of coins at local estate sales has picked up! You can check out the opportunities at [www.estatesales.net](http://www.estatesales.net).

Show and Tell had many interesting items. There were happy winners of door and raffle prizes. The auction had 49 lots sold.

PROGRAM: Lyman H. Low B. Westermann & Co. Cover. Presented by: Mike T. Mike presented a Lyman H. Low B. Westermann & Co cover circa 1880s purchased from Heritage Auctions. A cover with a coin vignette from this numismatist occurred when the ANA membership number was 87. He talked about the noted Numismatist Lyman Haynes Low's family history and also William Carlos Stone.

Lyman settled in NYC in 1870 and devoted his life to the business of selling coins. He was a member of the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society and acted as librarian beginning in 1885.

William Carlos Stone was also a very important member of American Philatelic Association. He too worked as an assistant librarian only in the Springfield Public Library.



Further information about these two can be found at these web sites: <https://currency.ha.com/itm/miscellaneous/other/lyman-h-low-b-westermann-and-co-cover-circa-1880s/a/141726-84050.s> and <http://www.numismaticmall.com/numismaticmall-com/low-lyman-haynes>

**AUGUST MEETING** - The meeting was called to order by President Mike. In attendance were 39 members and 5 guests: Guests: Craig, Linda C. Modesta G, Richard and Rex N.

Rex and Craig were both voted in as new club members.

Show and Tell participants show several interesting items.. There were happy winners of door and raffle prizes. The auction had 40 lots sold.

PROGRAM: Judy brought an ANA quiz as a possible replacement for today's program if needed. The club broke into small groups to answer a Numismatic 20 Questions prepared by the ANA.

## DISTRICT SIX



Since 1963

**BELLAIRE JULY MEETINGS** - July 3 - There were 19 people at the meeting. Garth C did the business meeting. Richard H discussed the August show. Richard has plans to offer the remaining tables to the area clubs. Gary O distributed more flyers to the fire departments and

military recruiters. He also noted the minting is complete for the golden presidential dollars.

Richard H made a report about going to the American Numismatic Association's Summer Seminar. The following members presented a show and tell, Garth C, Tim C, Richard H, Gene McP, and Gary O. Richard H won the show and tell prize.

July 17 - There were 23 people at the meeting. Richard H confirmed the show is sold out, 72 dealers. The Houston Chronicle called Richard to set up an interview. Gary O has distributed more flyers to local fire stations and military recruiters. Alvin S stated an estimate of 1000 to 1500 visitors. Gary O knows somebody that could do a counterfeiting presentation at the show. Wendy R wondered about the library donations. The club discussed also making donations to the Shriner's ballroom, and the city of Bellaire to help with the civic center. The following members presented a show and tell, Tim C, Gary O and Barbara T. Gary O won the Show and tell prize.

**AUGUST MEETINGS** - August 7 - There were 25 people at the meeting. Richard H and the club discussed the August show. The two-day show had approximate 500 paid visitors. There were 100 children and 200 military and police. Saturday had 36 children's auction bibbers. Sunday about 300 returned for a second day. The two-day show had 7 member applications, new members and update information. The club fed the volunteers, lunch. The club recognized these volunteers: Karl Blomquist, Tim Conway, Donnie Fondon, Sebastian Frommhold, Paul Krail, Jack Pavlovic, and Gayland Stehle. Michael Wolford was back up for the real volunteers.

Brandon Clark volunteered to help with a club member's son. The scout workshop needs to be renamed, "Introduction to Coin Collecting". Create a club table to present DVDs, answer questions. Alvin noted that the club is in need of a program projector. Tim C stated the club needs to create an all area clubs get together, having a day trip. The last trip was Galveston to see Jim B's Texas numismatic exhibit.

August 21 - There were 23 people at the meeting. The business meeting went quickly for Sebastian F's program about Liberty Nickels. The club received an additional report about the August show.

Alvin has planned to make a \$500 donation to the Shriners burn hospital benefit. John T wondered about the snack bar profit. There was no show and tell drawing. We had a program on Liberty Nickels.



**GHCC JULY MEETING** - Jack D. opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Special notice given to Rupert, present this month after being absent for quite some time. Guests and visitors were asked to stand. Gil A. and Gary W. were present. (Both have filled out applications for membership)

Show and Tell (Tom S., Chair) was well attended with many interesting items shared by members. Show and Tell Drawing Winner: Bill S.

Monthly Quiz passed out by Chuck B. - Gary K., winner was determined by getting 3 questions right and tiebreaker was used. No previous winner from 2017 is eligible to win until 2018.

Monthly Program presented by Paul R. (YN) "The New Round Pound"

Paul was presented with a current Redbook for his presentation.

A special lot was donated for the auction and proceeds to be donated to Coins for A's.

Sebastian F. presented a 1733 Pillar Dollar. 8 Reales struck starting in 1732 in Mexico City; model for the US Dollar. Also gave a historical view of the coin.

In the business portion of the meeting: Frank C., Rudy F., Maria F., and Donnie F. (YN) and were voted into membership in the club. All were present to receive their membership certificates and the YN was presented with a current Redbook.

Money Show Report - Melvin N. reported on the progress of the Money Show - Also a first call for volunteers to set aside the time to help put on the show.

Attendance of 53. A random drawing gave the attendance prize.

The auction lot was capably called by Sebastian F. and supporting members.

**AUGUST MEETING** - Jack D. opened the meeting. Pledge of allegiance was led by Donnie F. a Member YN. Call for visitors to stand and be recognized: George B., Chad R., Bill C. and William C.

Presidential Announcements: The Year End banquet is moved to December 14th instead of the 21st to reduce conflict with the Christmas travel plans of members.

Chairman Tom S. conducted Show-and-Tell session.

Show-n-Tell drawing winner - Jack D.

Monthly Coin knowledge quiz - Questions passed out by Chuck B. and John B. Two persons aced the 4 questions - tiebreaker invoked Bill S. was declared the winner, after a random draw.

Monthly Program - introduced by Bill W.

Andrew C. - Summer seminar scholarship receiver - participated in the YN fundraiser auction, also took advanced grading course, highlighted the actual grading technique.

Roxanne P. - ANA and GHCC scholarship receiver - Type coins class and Modern Minting processes - also headed the YN Auction for week 2 and raised over \$17,000. She gave a very detailed outline of her experiences of the two weeks in Colorado Springs.

John B. - Attended SS unsponsored but talked about Denver ANA World's Fair of money. Also attended the annual banquet that in part led to the presentation for the 70th Anniversary of Gail's membership.

Gail B. - joined the ANA in 1947, showed plaque for his 70th year - said he best liked the support of friends at the dinner.

Rick E. - Gave a report on his adventures at the summer seminar and related activities.

Chuck B. - Taught a course for one week. Took a class on Roman Imperial coins, 18th consecutive year to attend.

Jack announced Alex Siegel passed away and was a long time club member.

Also there is a new pamphlet for the club.

New members offered for election: Gary W. and Gil A. were elected to membership without dissent Albert S. has been elevated to a life member.

Coins for A's report by Eve - update- a former YN is graduating from A&M. Attendance door prize drawing award was won by Michael W.

Meeting was adjourned and followed by an auction of items brought by club members.

## DISTRICT SEVEN



## THE GATEPOST GATEWAY COIN CLUB

**GATEWAY JULY MEETINGS** - July 6 - The meeting was opened with twenty-nine in attendance, including all officers and four visitors. The visitors were Debbie W., Steve W., Michael G., and Sophia M. Seven-year-old Sophia, who lives in Oxford, Georgia, is the granddaughter of Steve and Nancy M.

Under Old Business, Karla G. reported that she had many items printed including flyers advertising the 2018 GCC coin shows, postcards for the 2018 coin shows, business cards with the dates of the 2018 and 2019 coin shows, and auction and roundtable forms. Karla G. also reported

that she had reserved the party room for our September 21 banquet and installation of officers.

Under New Business. Karla G. announced that TNA sent the club a check for \$33.90 that was deposited into the GCC account. This money was for the hours Karla and Frank G. volunteered at the TNA Convention in Arlington. They worked all day Friday and Saturday and a half day on Sunday. We thank them for their efforts on behalf of our club as well as the TNA.

Under Announcements, Karla G. reported that Matt B. and Luke B. were attending Boy Scout events in preparation for the Boy Scout Jamboree.

The Numismatic Roundtable was led by LeRoy M.

Raffle Winners were Ray T., Steve M., Bob K., David A., Leon W. (2), and Larry F.

The Auction was conducted by David A. and Steve M. who were assisted by Frank G.

July 20 - The meeting opened with five visitors and twenty-seven members in attendance, including all officers. Visitor Mike G. became our newest GCC member. The other visitors were Dave T. (a friend of Andy C.), Esther J. (Bob J.'s wife); Debbie W. (Leon W.'s daughter), and seven-year-old John T. (Stan M.'s grandson).

Under Announcements, Cal B. announced that the U. S. Mint will release the 225th Anniversary Enhanced Uncirculated Coin Set on August 1. The set celebrates the 225th anniversary of the U. S. Mint. Dues for the next fiscal year are now being accepted. Dues should be given to secretary Nancy M. by September 7th.

The Numismatic Roundtable was led by LeRoy M.

The Ask the Expert session was conducted by James W. He mentioned the movie "Lucy" where the title character had been injected with a drug that increased exponentially her brain power. When she was told that the main point of life was to pass on knowledge. James asked the members if they had something in their collections to "pass on" to others. Stan M. said he has a 1909 VDB cent to pass on to his family. LeRoy M. said he is trying to pass his knowledge of coins on to his daughter. Leon W. said he is trying to pass his knowledge on to his daughter, Debbie.

Raffle Winners were David A., Robert J., Stan M., Ray T. (2), Debbie W., and Ed B.

Numismatic educational program. Bill S. gave a presentation on "Current Bargains in American Collectible Coins." First, he believes now is the time to purchase the ninety percent silver coins because currently the market for them is at or below melt. Second, he thinks wheat cents are a good investment. Third, he recommends that people should start investing in the U. S. five cent nickels. Bill said the hobby is transitioning from an older generation to a much younger generation. His program was followed by a brief question and answer session.

The Auction was conducted by David A., Cal B., and Frank G.

The Attendance Prize, a bronze 2017 TNA Convention medal, was given to LeRoy M.

**AUGUST MEETINGS** - Aug. 3 - The meeting opened with four visitors and twenty-seven members in attendance, including all officers. Visitors included Esther G-J. (Bob J.'s wife) and the family of Matt B. and Luke B.: their mother Carolyn B., sister Emma B., and brother Samuel B. Seven-year-old John T. (Stan M.'s grandson) became our newest Junior Member.

Under New Business, James W. suggested that GCC consider assembling a "Grading Set" for Morgan dollars. No discussion followed the suggestion. Larry F. and Andy C. were appointed to a committee to nominate the GCC officers for 2017-18. Cal B. announced that the U. S. Mint will release the 225th Anniversary Enhanced Uncirculated Coin Set on August 1. The set celebrates the 225th anniversary of the U. S. Mint. GCC dues for 2017-18 are now due so, please pay secretary Nancy M. not later than September 7th.

The Numismatic Roundtable was led by LeRoy

The GCC Registry Set: This meeting was the Buffalo Nickel competition. Mike G.'s 1937D three-legged Buffalo Nickel graded AU-58 was declared the most valuable nickel. James W.'s 1938D Buffalo Nickel graded MS-66 was declared the coin in the best condition. In the Lincoln wheat cent category, Matt B. became the new champion when his 1909S VDB Lincoln cent was declared more valuable than Andy G.'s 1972 Lincoln

cent. At the August 17th meeting, members should bring their best Liberty Head (or V) nickels to compete

Raffle Winners were David A., Gene F., Mike G., Leon W., Andy C., Esther G-J., and Paul R.

The Auction was conducted by David A. and Matt B., with assistance from Luke B., and Frank G. The Attendance Prize, a bronze 2017 TNA Convention medal, was given to Ed B.

Aug. 17 - The meeting opened with four visitors and twenty-eight members in attendance, including all officers. Leon W.'s daughter Debbie W. joined GCC before the meeting. Visitor William (Pat) W. also became a new GCC member. Other visitors were A-R C., as well as Steve A. and Lois H.

Under Old Business. Neither member of the nominating committee was present, but Karla G. reported that they recommend all current officers for reelection. Karla G. circulated the sign-up sheet for the September Banquet. Your dues for 2016-17 and 2017-18 must have been paid before you attend the banquet.

Nancy M. reminded members that she is still collecting the 2017-18 membership dues. Under New Business. Ed B. suggested that the attendance prize be something higher in value than those currently given. Frank G. asked that members consider presenting brief mini-programs of four to five minutes on a numismatic subject. They can easily be presented during part of the "Numismatic Roundtable" session, as Luke B. has done at several meetings, or as part of the "Ask the Expert" session, as several members have done.

Under Announcements, Karla G. announced that Chuck N.'s father had passed away on August 1st. We extend our sincere condolences to Chuck and his family for their loss. Chuck N. announced that the San Antonio Museum of Art has an exhibit of ancient coins on display. Cal B. announced that although the original mintage of the 2017 225th Anniversary Enhanced Uncirculated Set had sold out within minutes of being offered for sale, the mint now has additional sets available for purchase.

The Numismatic Roundtable was led by LeRoy M.

The GCC Registry Set: Members could submit their five-cent V nickels for the competition LeRoy M.'s 1883 "no cent" nickel graded AU-55 was declared the coin in the best condition.

James W.'s .1885 V nickel was the most valuable coin. For the September 7th meeting, members were requested bring their best Barber quarters to compete.

The Ask the Expert session: LeRoy M. talked about an article by Express-News columnist Michael Taylor that appeared in the July 29th edition. The article was entitled "Is Cash for Criminals, Mostly?" and discussed the "War on Cash." In his article, Mr. Taylor mentioned reasons that a business would prefer "cash only" transactions including (1) to avoid credit card transaction fees, (2) to under-report income thus evading taxes and (3) to launder money.

Numismatic educational program. Cal B. gave an informative presentation on "The Charlotte NC and Dahlonega GA Mints." These often-overlooked U. S. Mints only produced gold coins and were only in operation for about thirty years. The Mints were authorized during Andrew Jackson's presidency by the Mint Act of 1835. The gold coins from the Charlotte Mint have a "C" mint mark, while the Dahlonega coins have a "D" mint mark. The first coins were struck at these mints in 1838. Both mints were overrun by the Confederate troops in 1861. The Confederacy tried to keep them operating, but their efforts were futile and the mints ceased operations in 1868. Because of their limited mintages, the coins from these two mints are valued by collectors.

Today the Charlotte Mint houses the Mint Museum of Art; the structure having been moved to another location. North Georgia College is located on the site where the Dahlonega Mint once stood.

The Auction was conducted by David A. and Matt B., who were assisted by Luke B. and Frank G. Members Mike G., Frank G. and Andy G. generously donated lots with the proceeds going to the club. Luke B., Matt B., Paul R, Ed B., Robert J., Bob K., and Steve M. were winners of these lots and \$36.25 was raised from the sales. GCC thanks the donors and the buyers for their contributions to the club.

## DISTRICT TEN



# ICCEP

## INTERNATIONAL COIN CLUB OF EL PASO, INC.

(FOUNDED 1963)

**EL PASO AUGUST MEETING** - President John Grost opened the meeting with 32 members and 1 guest present.

It was announced that Bob, Don, Adrian and John attended the ANA meeting in Denver. Also, it was announced that our 2018 club medal, designed by Chuck, is an El Paso trolley car.

John gave a talk on coin collecting. He talked about storing coins in plastic holders – some of the plastic is detrimental to coins. He emphasized researching coins before purchase, and always trying to buy the highest grade one can afford. He talked about collecting sets of coins, medals, or tokens, such as one coin, medal or token from each country. Also one can collect paper money, again one bill from each country. The fun of collecting is in the hunt.

The meeting was concluded with a lively auction conducted by Steve, Bob and Willie. Winners of the numismatic prizes were Bob, Frances, Helen and Luciano.

## DISTRICT ELEVEN



## Golden Spread Coin Club, Inc.



**GOLDEN SPREAD AUGUST MEETING** - The meeting was called to order and was attended by A. Paul Otts, Tommy Tompkins, Michael Eklund, Jeff Web, Rick Morie, Phil Witt, Karl Nash, and Mike Nowak.

We started the meeting with a discussion about our display cases. We have too many and we could better use the funds from their sale.

We missed Chuck's usual programs due to his absence. We all hope he makes it back next month.

For Show and Tell, Paul Otts presented an "error coin", a 1964 Lincoln Cent with the mint mark touching the 9. In the ensuing discussion, Michael Eklund pointed out that this coin is listed in a book of "variety and Oddity" coins by Frank G. Spadone. Michael Eklund produced a 1909 VDB Lincoln cent, and Mike Nowak showed a Charles III Spanish coin. Charles III is called the Pretender. The coin, dated 1711 is off-center. Mike also showed a "wooden" nickel from Dalhart, TX.

**SEPTEMBER MEETING** - The meeting was called to order and was attended by A. Paul Otts, Tommy Tompkins, Michael Eklund, Norman Goodfellow, Rick Morie, Phil Witt, Kurt Gehring, and Mike Nowak

Precious metals prices: Gold \$1328.20, Silver \$17.79, Platinum \$989, and Palladium \$928.

Mike Nowak presented documents showing the recent movement of metals prices. It was noted that the only steady gain was that of palladium.

Bill Hughes, a member whose wife passed away not long ago, joined his wife last month. He was a well-loved member of Golden Spread Coin Club and will be missed.

The 2017 Christmas dinner was discussed. Since we were bumped from the private room last year, we discussed other possible venues. Mike Nowak said he would research possible locations and bring his suggestions to our October meeting.

We missed Chuck's usual programs due to his absence. We all hope he makes it back next month.

For Show and Tell, Mike Nowak showed a 1901 Indian Head Penny, a token "good for" ¼ lb. of tea at the Joe Shiner & Co. in New York, A Chattanooga National Note, and a hard times token marked Patterson Bros. of New York. Paul Otts presented a MS63 Type 2 Eisenhower Dollar, a penny with a cut out of the cross from "Cross Ministries" in Texarkana, and a penny from circulation with very unusual wear on both sides.

## DISTRICT TWELVE



**TYLER JULY MEETING** - Meeting called to order by TCC President Dwight S. with pledge to the flag

Attendance: Members: 32 New Members: 1 Guests: 5 Total: 38.  
Discussion of Agenda Items (Dwight)

- The club was lead in prayer by Dwight S.
- Introduction/recognition of guests, visitors, and new members.
- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in month of July.

- Special guests Dalia Smith and her father Jimmy Davis, coordinators of the TNA Children's Auction, gave a brief report about this TNA effort.

- Dwight presented members with the 2nd quarter club financial statement.

- Davis led a discussion on the benefits of implementing a "Wants List".
- Royce led a discussion on high-dollar auction lots.
- Tommy announced that he had stepped down as TNA District Governor for District Twelve.

- Lane will now represent Texas Numismatic Association's District Twelve as District Governor.

- The club's Your Two Cents Worth newsletter was awarded 1st place in the TNA Newsletter of the Year Competition. A big congratulations and Thank You to our newsletter editor and 1st Vice President, Richard.

- Next club workshop will be this fall; date to be announced soon. The workshop will focus on originality and accurate grading with third-party grading companies.

- Barry presented a brief report on the June coin show.
- Dwight announced his resignation as club president effective at the September 12th meeting. Nominations for this position were opened to the floor. Members will vote at the August 8th meeting.

- Meals on Wheels (MOW) donations for July - \$27.

Club Auction (Tom)

- 21 auction items sold - \$521.00

Door prize winners

Bruce, Harvey, Jim, John, Tony

Refreshments

- A big Thank You to Randy for providing refreshments!

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

Attendance: Members: 34 New Members: 0 Guests: 5 Total: 39

Discussion of Agenda Items (Dwight)

- The club was led in prayer by Tommy L.
- Please keep families of John, Howard, Ed, Carl, and Boy Scout Troop 620 in your thoughts and prayers.

- Introduction/recognition of guests, visitors, and new members.
- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in month of August.

- Richard distributed a Member Spotlight form and encouraged members to complete and return for inclusion in an upcoming edition of the newsletter.

- David H. led an interesting discussion on collecting coins from people. The idea is that each member would bring a coin which they consider a favorite to collect. The club would archive each coin and display the member's collection at the annual coin show. The set would effectively become part of the Tyler Coin Club history.

- At the July meeting nominations for this position of president were opened. The floor received one nomination for Lane B.

- o Alicia made a motion to close nominations for the position of president.

- The motion was seconded by Dudley.

- All members were in favor.

o John H. made a motion to elect Lane B. as president of Tyler Coin Club.

- The motion was seconded by Michael.
- All members were in favor.
- Meals on Wheels (MOW) donations for August - \$49.
- Next meeting is September 12th.

Club Auction (Tom)

- 22 auction items sold - \$1,600.00

Door prize winners

- Aleasha, Curtis, Kay, Paul, and Todd
- Dudley, Ernest, and Mike each won an ANA One-Year Gold membership!

Refreshments

- A big Thank You to John and Sandra for providing refreshments!

## DISTRICT THIRTEEN

# GREENBELT COIN CLUB

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

New Business. George Woodburn announced that he will be in Oregon and Washington during next month's meeting. Bryan Sweitzer volunteered to take over the Treasurer duties for the meeting.

Program. Tony Zupkas reported on a hoard of 31 gold pieces found buried in an orchard in the Netherlands. The coins were found among bones dating to 1800 BC. Tony also reported that a fake 1974 aluminum cent was sold on ebay for \$5.00. The seller called it a "souvenir copy." Tony discussed an article in Coin World about the discovery of a unique 1982-D small date Lincoln cent made of 95% copper - a coin that the mint says it did not make. The coin will be featured in an upcoming Stacks auction in August.

Drawings were held and Danny Walker was the winner of the membership drawing - a 1971-S Ike Dollar; Raffle prize winners were George Woodburn - a 2017 Silver Eagle; Bryan Sweitzer - 1987 Proof Set; Connolly O'Brien - a 1992 Mint Set; Jean Sweitzer - 2005 Proof Set; Connolly O'Brien - 1986 Mint Set; and Del Shumate - 1983 Proof Set..

Connolly O'Brien conducted the 87-lot auction of which 38 items sold

**AUGUST MEETING** - The meeting was called to order by President Bryan Sweitzer. Eleven members were in attendance including newest member, Donna Providence.

Announcements. Jean Sweitzer announced that member and former club president, Ollie Garrett, had recently broken his ankle and hip. Rob Robinson announced that the Wichita Falls Coin Show will be held at the MPAC October 13 and 14. Tony Zupkas told the members about a recent article in Coin World telling of the discovery of a ship wreck off the coast of Columbia. The ship, called the San Jose, was a Spanish ship that was sunk in 1708. It was part of a fleet of 17 ships that were attacked and which 15 of the ships were able to get away. The ship was loaded with silver, gold, and emeralds, and the salvage company is estimating a treasure worth approximately one billion dollars. Tony also told of a recent theft of a 100KG Canadian gold coin stolen from a museum in France. The coin, dated 2007, is about the size of a large pizza and is one and one-half inches thick. The robbers somehow entered an upper story window of the museum and made off with the gold coin using a wheel barrow.

Program. Tony brought a display of error coins that were put together by his friend, John Blair of Lawton, who passed away recently. Tony discussed each of the different types of errors and how they were produced.

Drawings were held and Jon Montroll was the winner of the membership drawing - a 1982-D Washington commemorative half. Raffle prize winners were Danny Walker - a 2017 Silver Eagle; George Providence - 2001 Proof Set; Rob Robinson - 2003 Proof Set; Bryan Sweitzer - a 2003 Mint Set; and Jean Sweitzer - a 1988 Mint Set.

Rob Robinson conducted the 60-lot auction of which 31 items sold



**WICHITA FALLS JULY MEETING** - The meeting was Called to Order with 16 members present.

Old Business: Rob Robinson said that the Coin Show is scheduled for 13-14 October 2017. Connolly O'Brien negotiated a discount for hosting the coin show, reducing the MPEC's price to \$200.00 more than the Coin Club paid last year. Additionally, the MPEC will charge \$300 for insurance for the event. The MPEC charged the Coin Club an additional \$200 for not having a Tax ID code. Rob said that the club needs to get going on advertising the event.

Program: Rob Robinson said that there was a reprint of an article in the Wichita Falls Times Record News from 1963 about a stone with an inscription about buried gold under the stone on Lookout Mountain in Archer County near Holliday, Texas. Rob said that the article told of a band of Comanches that were pursuing a group of cowboys coming home from a cattle drive. The cowboys reportedly had about \$50,000 in gold and buried the gold under a stone on top of the mountain for safe-keeping. The stone was inscribed describing that gold was buried on the mountain. After several years, the stone broke off and rolled down the side so that the exact location of the gold is unknown.

Membership Prize: 1982 Proof Washington Commemorative Silver Half Dollar: Bill Kauffhold

Raffle Prizes: 2017 Silver Eagle - Mike Isbell; 2005 Proof Set - Duane Palmer; 1972 Proof Set - Jean Sweitzer; 1992 Mint Set - George Woodburn

Auctioneers: Tony Zupkas, # of Consigners 4, # of lots 41

## DISTRICT FOURTEEN



**HIDALGO AUGUST MEETING** - The meeting was called to order by President Raul H. Gonzalez with 45 members present plus 7 visitors. The new members that applied the month before were accepted at this meeting. The HCC has 101 members as of this meeting. We start brand new every year with previous members renewing their memberships. 7 door prizes were given out of which 2 were the 2017 T.N.A. copper medals from this year's State Convention and Show.

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

This was our first meeting at the Conference Room of the McAllen Chamber of Commerce. We met there to give our membership a feeling of what the room felt like so that they may choose whether or not have our monthly meetings there or remain at the church for 2018. We held a Ribbon Cutting ceremony and the grand opening was featured on Channel 5's segment called 'Con Mi Gente' for our first Friday Night Coin Show held on Aug 18th.



This was a special meeting. We had the judging and scoring of the coin design contest that the members of the Hidalgo 'Youth' Club had been working on. 10 designs were submitted with the subject matter being 'Space'.

6 commemorative designs were viewed that were created by the students and 4 designs by the adults attending the youth club classes. 54 votes were cast after the HCC Membership viewed them on a screen via a projector.

The winning design for the students was from 9 year old, Allan Navejar of Mission, Tx. His design featured Neil A. Armstrong on the obverse and his first step on the moon. Flanking Armstrong's footprint is the famous phrase, 'One small step for man, One giant leap for mankind'.



Shown is Allan with his prize of a silver commemorative coin of the Apollo/Soyuz historic connection. In the adult category, President Raul H. Gonzalez's original commemorative was chosen as the membership's

favorite coin design. It was titled, 'One Nation'. The obverse depicts an Apollo capsule pulling and draping a huge American flag around the moon with the date of 2019 for the 50th Anniversary of the first Apollo 11 mission. The reverse lists the 6 Apollo Missions that successfully landed on the moon on the top section. The bottom of half of the coin shows the moon with an astronaut and the words, '12 Americans Have Landed On The Moon'. The title of 'One Nation' refers to the United States being the only country to accomplish this.



**SEPTEMBER MEETING** - The meeting was called to order by President Raul H. Gonzalez. This ninth meeting of 2017 was attended by 35 members. The new members that applied have been accepted. The Hidalgo Coin Club is off to a tremendous start to the new year. We have reached 104 members already for the year 2017. Every year, we start from scratch as members renew their memberships and new ones apply. 7 Door Prizes were given out.

Some of our Council Members participated at the Business Expo held at the McAllen Convention Center on Sept. 14th. We were invited by the Chamber of Commerce.



Our booth was manned by four members and we were able to promote our coin club as well as our coin shows.

The Youth Coin Club is getting ready to start new classes

and is inviting any 10 to 18 students to join in the fun of learning about coin collecting. The meetings will be held at the Lark Community Center Library starting on Sat. Sept. 23rd.

The Sept. 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 JULY MEETING** - There were 16 members and one guest in attendance. The meeting was called to order by President John W. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Barbara W.

The Show committee updated on table confirmations for the show. In lieu of a speaker, we shared our Favorite Coins

Door prizes were distributed, and the auction was led by John W.

**AUGUST MEETING** - 20 members and one guest were in attendance. The meeting was called to order by President John W. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Barbara W.

The Show committee reported on the final updates in preparation for the show

John W presented on an interesting topic about Great Scientists Featured on Coins.

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

## DISTRICT SEVENTEEN



### WACO COIN CLUB

**WACO JULY MEETING** - Tom called to order.

There were in attendance 17 members and a visitor Noryce Caraway. Two members were new Jason Malinak and Thomas Daily.

Cash prize: John Merkledove was present in July \$25 next month. We received a thank you letter from TSTC for our scholarship donation. The donation came at just the right time. A donor had pledged to match any donation so our \$600 became \$1200.

Our fall show is Sept 9. There will be a sign up sheet for the show. We need a lot of workers. Our spring show will be last weekend in March.

ANA esylum has a lot of really interesting articles. Money.org also has several good articles. ANA has paired with a retail guide in Numismatist. Several member repeated be careful shopping online.

Show and Tell : James Haney showed an Ike dollar with a clip out of it. He also spoke of clad coins having a split line.

**AUGUST MEETING** - Tom called to order. There were in attendance 14 members and a visitor Noryce Caraway.

Raffle prizes: James Haney (2), Randy Daily, Johnny Caraway

Cash prize: Jason Malinak was present. \$25 next month

We received a thank you letter from MCC for our scholarship donation. We received two letters from Baylor administrators for our scholarship donation.

Our spring show will be last weekend in March. That is Good Friday. Show and Tell: The half dime was first minted in 1792 with silver donated by Thomas Jefferson.

There were 200-300 coins minted in 1794 and were first listed in the red book in that year. Alton showed a 2 reales that was part of the shipment to Louisiana on the El Casador which sank. The loss of the coinage caused Spain to lose Louisiana to the French which sold it to the US as The Louisiana Purchase. The two reales looks just like the 8 reales that was used by the US as its first silver dollar except smaller.

# HUBBING DIES IN THE EARLIEST DAYS OF THE UNITED STATES MINT

By manipulating photographs of a 1792 disme pattern and a 1793 half cent, a collector makes an exciting discovery.



▲ **FIGURE 1:** The resemblance between the portraits of Liberty on the copper 1792 disme (left) and 1793 half cent (right) is remarkable. Chief Coiner Henry Voigt quite possibly engraved the hub used to produce the obverse dies for both issues. Not Actual Size

Hubbing is the process of creating multiple dies that bear the same elements. A hub is a raised punch used to impress a design into a die. Though the terms “punch” and “hub” often are used interchangeably, for the purpose of this article the difference between them is a matter of size. A punch is small and features a single letter, numeral, leaf or other ornament; a hub carries a larger device, such as a head, wreath or eagle, or even all the images that appear on one side of a coin.

Hubbing is thought to have begun in the United States with the creation of obverse and reverse dies for some Connecticut state coppers. The first time the U.S. Mint used a hub for the main device was believed to have been in 1793 for the Liberty Cap cents.

Since at least the late 19th century, numismatists have remarked on the artistic similarities between the 1792 disme pattern and the 1793 half cent, suggesting that they were executed by the same hand, namely Voigt's. Recently, I delved into this mystery. Could the resemblance be more than coincidental?

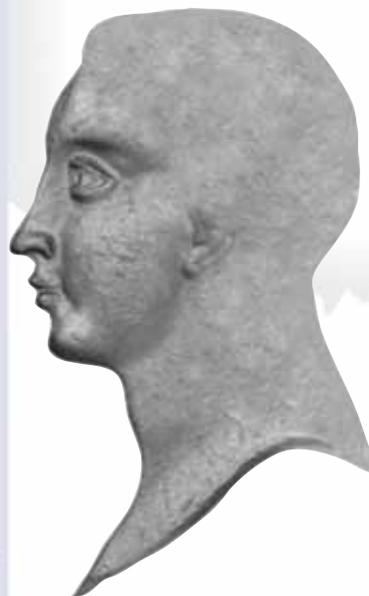
By overlaying the designs in Adobe Photoshop®, I determined that the disme and halfcent obverses were, in fact, created from the same hub.



▲ **FIGURE 2:** Overlaid photographs of the 1792 disme pattern (yellow) and 1793 half cent (blue) match up perfectly, showing that the two coins were produced from the same hub. The hair differs substantially, indicating it was engraved in the working die.

Figure 1 shows the obverses side-by-side. The similarities between the faces are obvious, but the treatment of the hair differs greatly. Figure 2 shows an overlay of the two coins. (The disme is rendered in yellow, and the half cent is reproduced in blue.) It is obvious that the two faces match perfectly, including the eyes, noses, lips, cheeks, foreheads, chins, necks and shapes of the bust lines.

The main variance between the dies (and probably the reason nobody has noticed their exact match) is the hair. My findings show conclusively that a single hub was used for both the 1792 disme pattern and 1793 half cent obverses. Figure 3 shows how that hub probably looked. Although the hair was not defined, the approximate shape of Liberty's head can be determined.



▲ **FIGURE 3:** Shown is a facsimile of the hub used to produce the dies for the 1792 disme and 1793 half cent. The image is raised and faces the same direction as the portraits on the coins. However, the hub did not portray the hair, which was hand-engraved later in the die. The hub was used to impress at least three incuse, mirror-image working dies—one for the disme and two for the half cent. The shape of the back of Liberty's head is uncertain, but it can be inferred from the hair rendered on the coins.

My findings show conclusively that a single hub was used for both the 1792 disme pattern and 1793 half cent obverses. Figure 3 shows how that hub probably looked. Although the hair was not defined, the approximate shape of Liberty's head can be determined.

The question remains: Why would Voigt have prepared a hub for the disme pattern in 1792? We can't know for sure, but the simplest explanation is that he was experimenting. Voigt must have known that the hubbing process could produce a number of nearly identical dies and simply gave it a try. Since he had successfully made and used a hub, I wonder why he reverted to hand-engraving the Chain cent obverses. Of course, I can only speculate, but perhaps he was concerned that a larger hub might not be effectual. However, Voigt obviously didn't hesitate for long, as he developed a hub for the Wreath cent obverse within days of the Chain cent minting and re-used the leftover hub from the previous year's disme pattern for the half cents.

In retrospect, Henry Voigt deserves immense credit. Accepting a temporary position as the U.S. Mint's chief coiner, he experimented with hubbing as early as 1792. He truly was a remarkable and talented man, without whom the mint might not have succeeded.

Great detective work! Sometimes the simplest facts only seem obvious in retrospect. Photo-manipulation software was unavailable to our predecessors in the 19th and early 20th centuries; it's a great tool for revealing facts and confirming suspicions. Thanks, Bill. -Editor

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**832-717-0578**

*email:* [jackurat@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jackurat@sbcglobal.net)

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*For more information contact:*

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**VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:**  
**www.tna.org**

**AND FOLLOW THE TNA ON FACEBOOK AT**  
**facebook.com/TexasCoins**

# 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

*Incorporated under the Laws of Texas - March, 1960*

## Application for Membership

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.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type or print name as you want it on the roster) (Business Name or d.b.a.)

Street or P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

under 18 years of age  18 or over ANA # \_\_\_\_\_  Regular  Associate  Junior  Chapter  Life

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 2017

NOVEMBER 17-19  
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

## OCTOBER 20-21 64 TABLES FORT WORTH

COWTOWN OCTOBER 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

## OCTOBER 21 40 TABLES ROUND ROCK

Central Texas Coin Show. Saturday, October 15, 2017 from 9-4. Wyndham by Wingate, 1209 North I-35, Round Rock, TX. On ground floor of Conference Center directly behind the hotel. Admission: \$3 (free for kids 12 and under). Door prizes. Armed security. Free parking. Free wi-fi. ANACS coin grading service will be on-site accepting submissions. Kelly Merlo 512.796.8659. Webmaster@iLikeCoins.com.

## OCTOBER 13-14 25 TABLES WICHITA FALLS

WICHITA FALLS COIN AND STAMP SHOW. October 13 and 14, Friday, Oct 13, 1-6PM; Saturday, Oct 14, 9AM-5PM. Multi-purpose Event Center, 1005 5th St, Wichita Falls TX Admission \$2.00 (children under 12 with adult free), 24-hour security, free parking. For more information call or write Connolly O'Brien, PO Box 3751, Wichita Falls, TX 76301, 940-631-0817.

## NOVEMBER 4 & 5 48 TABLES McALLEN/PHARR

HIDALGO COIN CLUB FALL 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'

## NOVEMBER 11

## PORT ARTHUR

THE GREATER PORT ARTHUR COIN CLUB ANNUAL WINTER SHOW. Saturday November 11, 2017. From 9-5. Masonic Lodge at 5901 39th St Groves Texas. \$2.00 admission for adults. Free for kids under 12. Door prizes. refreshments, snacks and free parking. Free appraisals.Contact Tracie Updike 713-503-5993. tdup@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

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- After Show with Valid Email Address
- Required on Registration Card

★ NEW DAYS & SHOW HOURS ★

**COWTOWN OCTOBER COIN SHOW**  
 FRIDAY OCT 20 12NOON-6PM  
 SATURDAY OCT 21 9AM-5PM  
 Contact: Gary Andrews • 817-444-4813

**COWTOWN CHRISTMAS COIN SHOW**  
 FRIDAY DEC 8 12NOON-6PM  
 SATURDAY DEC 9 9AM-5PM  
 PROPRIETOR  
 GARY ANDREWS  
 817-444-4813  
 APCTEXAS@AOL.COM

**COWTOWN JANUARY COIN SHOW**  
 FRIDAY JAN 26 2018 12NOON-6PM  
 SATURDAY JAN 27 9AM-5PM  
 Contact: Gary Andrews • 817-444-4813

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1793-1857



Large Cents  
(1793-1796)



Large Cents  
(1796-1814)



Matron Head Large  
Cents (1816-1839)



Coronet Head Large  
Cents (1840-1857)

**P.O. Box 6400**  
**AUSTIN, TX 78762**  
**512-297-2116**  
**Cell: 405-226-5072**  
**CMCCAWLEY@AOL.COM**



Chris McCawley & Lucas Baldrige

Member  
*Early American Coppers*  
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1792 George Washington, President Cent Small Eagle, Plain Edge, B-25a VG Details NGC



1794 Head of '93 Cent S-19a, VF Details NGC Ex: Sheldon



1794 Cent, AU53 NGC S-25, Ex: Dupont



1794 Cent, AU58 NGC S-26, Ex: Dupont



1794 Cent, AU55+ NGC S-32, Ex: Bonard



1794 Cent, AU Details NGC S-51, Ex: Hays



1794 Head of '94 Cent S-57, AU Details NGC



1794 Head of '94 Cent, XF40 NGC S-61, Ex: Downing



1794 Head of '94 Cent, MS62 Brown NGC S-64, No Fraction Bar

**Consignment Deadline: November 20**

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