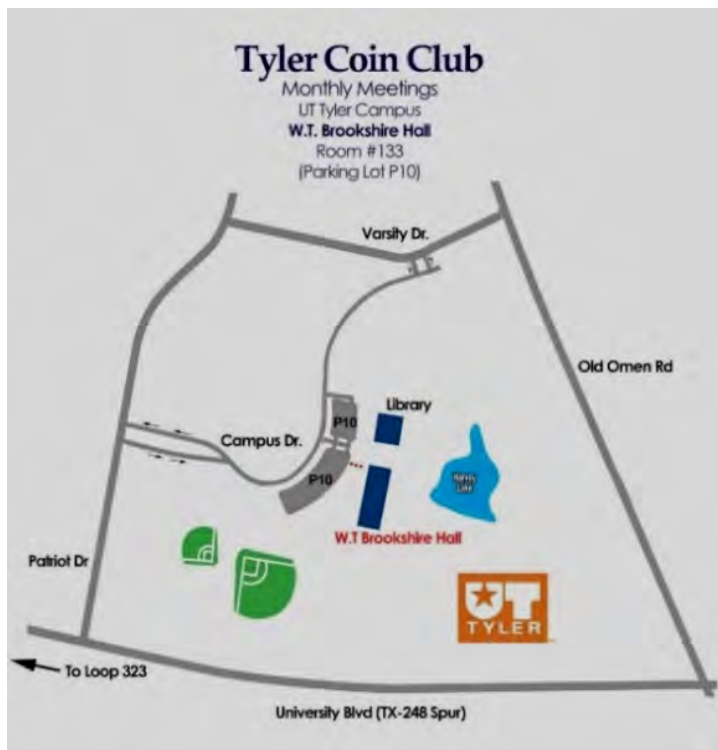


YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH DECEMBER 2024



(Visit the Tyler, Texas Coin Club in person and on the internet at: tylercoinclub.org)

The Tyler, Texas Coin Club (TCC) meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Please consider yourself welcome. Meetings include great fellowship, numismatic education, a brief business session, and a spirited numismatic auction. The TCC meets on the campus of the University of Texas Tyler in room 133 of the W. T. Brookshire Building. Enter the campus via the identified “west entrance” off University Boulevard. Turn toward campus onto Patriot Dr. Enter campus and proceed on Campus Dr. to Parking Lot P10. (See map below) The W. T. Brookshire Building is in full view from the parking lot just to the right of the library.





NUMISMATIC NOTES

Thoughts from Our President

Hello, Coin Club:

Things are looking very well for our club: We are in good financial shape, membership is growing, and numismatics is being promoted in and around Tyler, Texas.

We are positioned for another great year. I give total credit to God and you amazing club members.

Thanks to everyone who donated to the Angel Tree project this year. We are donating \$3,070.00. Once again, it's the goodness of the great people who make up our club.

Our Christmas party is going to be on December 10th. Please come out and attend if you can; it looks like we will be having a good time.

I am looking forward to 2025 already. I'm hoping it will be a very happy, healthy, and prosperous year for all of you and your families.

Happy Holidays,

May God bless you and keep you until we meet again.

Richard

FROM YOUR EDITOR

Perhaps you, as a member of our coin club, could draft a numismatic related story for our newsletter. Please consider doing so, and send your write-up to me at my email address:

kdlunde@mac.com

TYLER COIN CLUB TNA District 12 MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 12, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7pm by President Richard Graham.

Attendance Members: 51 New Members: 0 Guests: 3 Total: 54

Discussion of Agenda Items (Richard)

- The club was lead in the Pledge of Allegiance by Randy.
- The club was lead in prayer by Larry.
- Introduction/recognition of guests, visitors, and new members.
- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in month of November.
- Royce presented the Treasurer's report including banking information.
- Richard reminded members that officer elections for 2025 will be held at the December 10th meeting.
- The club Christmas meeting will be catered by Fresh and held at our regular location at 6pm on Tuesday, December 10th. There will be no auction at the Christmas meeting.
- The next regular club meeting is January 14, 2025 at W.T. Brookshire Hall (room #133) on the UT Tyler campus.
- Meeting adjourned.

Club Auction (Kern)

- 22 auction items for Salvation Army Angel Tree sold
- 43 regular auction items sold

Door Prize Winners

- Bill, Ethan, Larry, and William

TYLER COIN CLUB CHRISTMAS DINNER

The Tyler Coin Club will celebrate our annual Christmas Dinner on December 10, the second Tuesday in December. Dinner will be delivered to the Pharmacy Building – the same meeting room as usual - at 6:00 o'clock PM SHARP! If you come at 7:00PM, there is no guarantee that any food will be left (cookies for sure will be gone).

Make your plans for this annual event which is the Club Officers' way of thanking everyone for all the work they did for the Coin Show and monthly attendance.

NUMISMATIC TRIVIA

Thanks to Jim Mohon

(answers on page xx)

QUESTION 1

Besides “new” coins made silver and clad,
Which coins the same year two metals had?

QUESTION 2

Which designer’s initials caused an uproar,
Which took almost a whole decade to restore?

QUESTION 3

In the long Lincoln Cent series, which year
Is the sole one Philly failed to appear?

QUESTION 4

This I state as a fact, and don’t allege:
When did coins first have a reeded edge?

QUESTION 5

“IN GOD WE TRUST” did first accentuate
Which of our coin series on which date?

QUESTION 6

On which coin was the first resident
Who was not e’er a U.S. president?

QUESTION 7

Which non-President besides Franklin, Ben,
Has appeared on currency now and then?

QUESTION 8

What's the only denomination
Without Liberty's face adaptation?

QUESTION 9

What denomination has been fickle,
Struck in gold, silver, copper, and nickel?

QUESTION 10

This is easy—what is the most change
Of any coin in just one year's range?

QUESTION 11

What and when was the last CIRCULATING
Coin still with silver percolating?

QUESTION 12

Where and in what year was the first mint born
For the U. S. with coins to adorn?

QUESTION 13

Besides its proofs, what denomination
Has never had a commemoration?

QUESTION 14

'Midst the state quarters, the last state was which?
But be careful! There may have been a switch!

1895 CHILEAN 1 PESO

by Larry Vann

In going through my small pile of foreign junk silver coins, I ran across a Chilean peso. It was instantaneously recognized as a Chilean coin by the familiar Andean condor found on the obverse. I have had other coins, in the past, with this same design of copper centavos.

The peso is a crown sized coin having a composition of 0.8350 parts silver and an ASW of 0.5369 troy ounces. This particular coin is of a design minted from 1895 to 1897. Since I like designating the side of the coin with the date as the obverse, that is how we'll proceed.



The obverse depicts the denomination of UN PESO within a wreath. An S mintmark for Santiago is positioned above the denomination and the date of 1895 just below. Santiago was founded by the Spanish in 1541 and the Chilean mint, in Santiago, was founded in 1743. While the Santiago mint first produced coins when Chile was still a Spanish colony, it has since that time produced coins and currency for the Republic of Chile, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Venezuela, Paraguay, Argentina, Bolivia, Uruguay, and others.

One of the more interesting aspects of the coin is the use of the “Hammer and Sickle” motif interwoven in the base of the wreath. It is utilized here over 20 years before being adopted as the communist symbol of the Soviet Union.



The reverse of the peso consists of a defiant condor, sitting on a mountain outcrop, facing left (his/her right). The condor is surrounded by the inscription REPUBLICA DE CHILE. The Andean condor is a South American bird and is the largest fly bird in the world by combined measurement of weight and wingspan (just under 11 ft).



(article on the following four pages reprinted from the November 19, 2024 issue of Numismatic News)

The Ten Most Beautifully Designed U.S. Coins

BY PHILIP M. LO PRESTI

In this world we live in, art, sculpture and design are important parts of our lives. We love to look at interesting, unique and beautiful things. It could be a fantastic building, a beautiful painting, or an amazing newly designed automobile. I believe the same goes for coins, in that we look for great coin designs, at least among us numismatists or causal coin collectors. I am an artist, photographer and numismatist, and I want to give you a review and a little history of what I consider the most beautiful U.S. coin designs. With a great deal of thought, I came up with my choice of the top ten. Here they are in no particular order; I like them all the same. Have fun, take out your magnifying glass if you have any of these coins, and enjoy.

1 Draped Bust, Small Eagle Reverse Silver Dollar (1795-1798)

Designed by Robert Scot

This beautifully designed silver dollar shows the artistry of the old days of U.S. coinage. The highly detailed depiction of Miss Liberty on the obverse of the coin, in my opinion, is one of the best. Looking at the detailed flowing hair, you can see the engraver really wanted something special for our nation's first silver dollar. The reverse shows an exquisitely detailed eagle perched on a wreath. If you ever have the opportunity to see one of these coins up close, take the time to enjoy this piece of art.

2 Flying Eagle Cent (1857-1858)

Designed by James B. Longacre

This coin, the nation's first small one-cent piece, came into existence because the larger copper cents became much more expensive to produce. Looking at this coin's clean and simple design, while at the same time, the eagle on the obverse is quite detailed, showing the designer's desire to create something new that the public will use every day. The reverse shows a nicely designed wreath, simple but elegant, which was also on the gold dollar and three-dollar gold by the same designer. The first time I saw and held one of these, I admired the beauty of this small coin.



1795 Draped Bust dollar.
(All images courtesy Heritage Auctions)



1857 Flying Eagle cent.





1938-S Oregon Trail
half dollar.



3 Oregon Trail Commemorative Half Dollar (1926-1939)

Designed by James Earle Fraser and Laura Gardin Fraser

It's one of my favorite coins of all time, you know I had to include a commemorative half dollar on this list. This magnificently designed half dollar, on both the obverse and reverse, shows the craftsmanship of its creators. The reverse shows a pioneer family in a Conestoga wagon heading west into the sunset, with beautiful rays coming from that sun. Everything is highly detailed and arranged in a perfect balance. The obverse is just as interesting and detailed as the back, depicting a sole Indian with a bow in front of a United States map. All the elements on this coin make it a must-have for any collector who loves beautiful coins.



1916 Walking Liberty
half dollar.



4 Walking Liberty Half Dollar (1916-1947)

Designed by Adolph A. Weinman

The elegance of this coin is incredible; it's beautifully designed highly detailed, and fine artistry is outstanding. One of the best designs for a circulated coin, in my opinion. The obverse of this coin shows Lady Liberty walking towards the rising sun of a new day with an American Flag draped over her shoulders. In her right arm, she holds an olive branch while her left hand clutches a bundle of oak and laurel branches. The reverse shows a strong, proud American Eagle with an amazing amount of detail. Now, this is Americana! Everything about this fifty-cent piece is appealing.



An 1864 two-cent coin.



5 Two-Cent Piece (1864-1874)

Designed by James B. Longacre

This coin, which appeared in 1864, was made in bronze and was the very first circulating coin to bear the motto, "IN GOD WE TRUST." That motto continues even today, and I personally believe it should stay, but that's another matter. It was also the introduction of a brand-new denomination. The obverse of the design features "The Great Seal of

the United States,” with the banner above flowing with those words, in God we trust. Crossed arrows and laurel branches finish off the impressive front of this unique coin. The reverse has the denomination “2 cents” surrounded by an ornate wheat wreath. In my opinion, I love the intricacies of this coin’s design, the detail in its shield and the uniqueness of it all. It’s a beautiful and interesting coin, indeed.

6 Indian Head Gold Quarter and Half Eagles (1908-1929)

Designed by Bela Lyon Pratt

These very unusual but delightful coins have what is called an “incuse” design. This was the first for U.S. coinage to achieve this method of minting, meaning that all the lettering and motifs are sunken in the relief rather than raised on the surface of the coin. When I first saw this coin, I was quite impressed, as I had never seen anything like it before. I guess that was the artist in me. The obverse using this new method is an Indian Chief surrounded by thirteen stars. The reverse was a standing American eagle, also done with this new incuse design. Nicely done, eye-appealing, interesting, and totally unique makes this one of my favorites.

7 California Pacific International Exposition Half Dollar (1935-1936)

Designed by Robert Aitken

I have to include another commemorative half dollar of my ten best designs, as I love this series and the amazing artwork some of them display. On a side note, I am still trying to put together a type set of this series. This grand coin is a souvenir half dollar minted for the California Pacific International Expo. The obverse shows a seated Minerva, holding a spear and a shield, with a grizzly bear on her right. The reverse is equally as impressive, depicting the Chapel of St. Francis and the California Tower at that exposition in San Diego. With beautiful balance and symmetry, perfect engraving and classic minting, this coin is a winner.

8 Standing Liberty Quarter: (1916-1930)

Designed by Hermon A. MacNeil

When I first received one of these coins in my first years of collecting (That was many years ago), I fell in love with this “different” quarter.” That was an old, worn, beat-up version of this coin that you can hardly read the date. But there was something about it that caught my attention.



1908 Indian Head
gold half eagle.



1935 California Pacific
International Exposition
half dollar.



1916 Standing
Liberty quarter.





1907 Double Eagle.



Panama-Pacific Exposition fifty-dollar gold piece.



designed coin. A true piece of art, designed by perhaps the best, if not the most famous designer of them all, Augustus Saint-Gaudens. There are two versions of this 1907 coin: high relief, and ultra high relief twenty-dollar gold pieces. Both have exceptional beauty and artistry, but the one I am referring to is the ultra high relief. Lady Liberty walks towards us as if walking out of the coin. The dawn of a new day has rays of sunshine behind her. She holds a torch in her right hand and an olive branch in her left. The date is done in Roman numerals, adding just a bit more to its pizzazz. On the reverse is a beautiful eagle, but not just another eagle, as it is crafted in such high relief that you can see details like none other. This coin, with many collectors, is considered to be one of the most exquisite ever created, and I, for one, agree. There is so much to talk about on this coin, but that will have to go into another article.

10 Panama-Pacific Exposition Fifty-Dollar Gold Piece (1915). Octagon

Designed by Robert Aitken

First, there are two versions of the fantastic coin, one round and the other octagon. I am going to talk about the latter of the two, as I like it just a little bit more. It was created to commemorate the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in 1915. I believe it's one of the heaviest U.S. coins, weighing in at 2.4186 oz of pure gold and 44.9 mm from point to point. That's a pretty hefty coin and so unusual.

The obverse of the coin features a helmeted profile of Minerva, with a shield of armor surrounded by dolphins. This coin's date is also done in Roman Numerals. The reverse has an owl standing on a pine branch with pinecones, also surrounded by dolphins. Now, what can I say about this massive hunk of pure gold? This commemorative is bar none to any coin out there. It is truly magnificent. Large, unusually shaped, extraordinary design and detailed, perfect balance and extraordinary execution, it's a must-see. I only wish I had the chance to see one in person. Let alone own one, which is a bit out of my price range, going for 50K plus in AU-50 condition. One can only dream. It is a truly stunning and unique coin.

Well, there you have it. My pick for the ten most beautiful coins in America. It wasn't easy; there are so many to choose from. I did this using the process of elimination, starting with about 37 designs I liked and chiseled them down one by one to procure my favorites. Perhaps you agree with me, or possibly you don't. It would be interesting to hear which ones are your favorites. ♦

The obverse of this quarter depicts Liberty as much of our coin-age does, standing holding a shield and an olive branch. In the middle of a gate, the words "In God We Trust" are engraved, with stars in a vertical position. She is wearing a jacket of chainmail armor with her right breast exposed. There were two variations of this coin, with the second version having that right breast covered up. On the obverse is the American eagle soaring majestically to the right, with version one having no stars below the eagle and the second with three stars below it.

Considering this was a coin minted for general circulation, the composition and detail on this coin are impeccable. If you ever have a chance to see one in mint condition, take out your magnifying glass or loop and study its details. There has never been another quarter dollar like it.

9 Saint-Gaudens, Ultra High Relief Double Eagle (1907)

Designed by Augustus Saint-Gaudens

Extraordinary, exceptional and remarkable are just some of the words I would use to comment on this perfectly crafted and

NUMISMATIC TRIVIA ANSWERS

(from pages 4-5)

ANSWER 1

Jefferson Nickels of Nineteen Forty-Two

Were struck in nickel first, then silver, too.

&

Indian cents of Eighteen Sixty-Four

Were last bronze, but copper-nickel before.

ANSWER 2

Victor D. Brenner on the reverse of

Nineteen O Nine Lincoln cents got no love!

In Nineteen Eighteen they did reappear—

Under Lincoln's shoulder they brought more cheer.

ANSWER 3

Though there are some “plain” Nineteen Twenty-Twos,

The mint claims there were no Philly issues.

ANSWER 4

With reeded edge and its hair flowing free,

Came the Cent of Seventeen Ninety-Three

ANSWER 5

The Two-Cent Piece of Eighteen Sixty-Four

The "IN GOD WE TRUST" words did first explore.

ANSWER 6

Benjamin Franklin, who once flew a kite,

On the Franklin Half Dollar we did sight.

ANSWER 7

For many years Hamilton has tarried

On the ten-spot which his face has carried.

ANSWER 8

This is a trick question because the small

Cent's the sole one not to have her at all.

ANSWER 9

The U. S. hard dollar has been in bed

With, and by many metals has been bred.

ANSWER 10

Starting with all the Nineteen Ninety-Nines,

The Washington Quarter had five designs.

ANSWER 11

The Kennedy Half Dollar, Sixty-Nine,
Was forty percent silver from the mine.

ANSWER 12

In Seventeen Ninety-Two, well, see ya'
Should know that it was Philadelphia!

ANSWER 13

Oh, the poor old dime, alack and alas,
To commemorate, it's received a pass.

ANSWER 14

Though Hawaii was State Number Fifty,
Alaska was the last quarter—shifty!

FUTURE COIN SHOW EVENTS

January 16 – 18: Houston Money Show, Lone Star Convention Center, 9055 Airport Road
@ FM 3083, Conroe, TX 77303 (Thursday 2pm – 6pm [dealer set-up and early birds], Friday
9am – 6pm, Saturday 9am – 5pm)

THE END