

Kevin Kell, President
Allen Scott, Vice President
Jim Jeska, Treasurer
Sam Fairchild, Secretary

Directors 2020-21 – Barbara Gallagher, Mike Ross, Kenny Smith
Directors 2019-20 – Carl Stang, Jesse Owens & Frank Hezmall
Founding Directors -Merle Owens & Russell Prinzing
www.netcoinclub.org

**The coin club meeting is at 7PM the second Thursday of each month at:
Martin United Methodist Church, 2621 Bedford Rd., Bedford, Texas 76021**

[illegible]

April Meeting

Quiz Night



ZOOM WITH US!!

Be patient as you have to be “invited in” by the session administrator (to keep unwanted hackers out). If your device has a camera and microphone (e.g., Laptop, iPhone, iPad) others can see and hear you. Otherwise, you can only watch and listen.

Due to the pandemic, if you paid dues in 2020, you owe nothing for 2021. Otherwise, you will need to pay 2021 dues at our first physical meeting.

We're still preparing for our annual donation auction to be conducted at the meeting following our first physical meeting back. However, the auction will require a physical meeting, timing of which is still uncertain.



The auction is currently scheduled for June 2021, but depends on when we can meet again. We expect plans for reopening will be announced soon.

TNA Coin Show & Convention

Admission to the bourse floor again is \$3, but free Sunday, for TNA members, and collectors under 18 years of age. It is also expected that parking will cost \$5. Log on to www.tna.org for more information.

The TNA will again need our help in staffing the registration desk, raffle and youth auction.

TNA Exhibits

Exhibit Rules, Guidelines and Applications can be found on the TNA website.

TNA Raffle Tickets

While we aren't meeting in person, we still have a chance to buy raffle tickets for the seven gold coins in this year's drawing. Tickets are \$1 each and payment should be directed to:

TNA Treasurer Jack Gilbert
1093 Sunset Ct.
Keller, TX 76248

Alternatively, Zelle to TNApayments@yahoo.com.

Collectors Forum

This group of collectors has restarted meetings on the fourth Tuesday each month at the North Richland Hills Library. This is a casual meeting with no specific format, but with a topic for each meeting. This meeting is open to anyone interested, and is not associated with NETCC. No dues, no membership rolls, just fun. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 28th. Note meetings start at 5 pm.

Fort Vancouver Half Dollars

During the early 19th century, the Hudson Bay Company developed a lucrative fur trading business in the Pacific Northwest. In the winter of 1824-25, Fort Vancouver was established on the Columbia River, across from modern-day Portland, Oregon, and named for George Vancouver who had been the first Englishman to extensively explore the Oregon territory.

The effort was led by Dr. John McLoughlin, who served as both manager and post physician for 22 years. Because of the strategic location of the fort, he also became the de facto governor of the Oregon territory for the British and founded Oregon City in the Willamette Valley.

However, as time passed, more and more American pioneers made the trek west and settled in the Willamette Valley. This culminated in the 1849 cessation of the Oregon territory below the 49th parallel to the U.S., thereby making the fort obsolete. McLoughlin chose to stay and later became an American citizen.

To commemorate the centennial celebration of the fort's founding, Congress authorized minting of 300,000 half dollars in 1925. These were to be sold for \$1, with proceeds used to fund the celebration. However, demand was tepid, and only 14,994 pieces were eventually issued.

Designed by Laura G. Fraser, the obverse depicts the bust of John McLoughlin. The reverse has a buckskin-suited trapper with rifle against a background of



Mt. Hood, the Fort Vancouver stockade and the Columbia River.

An interesting tale surrounds the 1,000 pieces purchased in 1926 by the Hudson Bay Company. In 1982, a caretaker stole them and spent 432 of them at face value.

Needing a new car, he took the remaining 568 pieces to a Winnipeg bank and exchanged at face value. A savvy teller brought them at face value, later selling them to a Canadian dealer for \$37,500.

Although Vancouver halves are not difficult to locate in grades through MS-64, MS-65 or better specimens are quite elusive due to the lack of packaging when issued.



Future 2021 Physical Meetings

The Club's board has put together a tentative schedule, fully aware that conditions surrounding the pandemic will ultimately drive the schedule:

- June** – Donation auction
- July** – Weenie Roast
- September** – Youth Night
- October** – Show and Tell Night
- November** – Veteran's night, Officer/Director elections
- December** – Christmas party

We need volunteers to give programs in 2021. Contact Allen Scott if you have an interest.

Upcoming Local Coin Shows

At press time, several local coin shows have restarted or have been rescheduled. Please confirm with show organizers that the show has not been subsequently cancelled.

- April 9-10** – Houston Spring Coin Show, 14440 Richmond Ave., Houston. \$3.
- April 24** – Central Texas Coin Show, 500 VFW Ave., Austin. \$3.
- May 14-15** – Cowtown Coin Show, 8905 Clifford, White Settlement. \$3.
- June 4-6** – TNA Coin Show & Convention, Arlington Convention Center, Arlington. \$3.
- July 3** – San Antonio Coin & Collectible Show, Schertz Civic Center, Schertz. \$2.
- July 16-18** – Texas Coin Show, Grapevine Convention Ctr. \$3 or free with NETCC membership.
- August 13-14** – Tyler Coin Show, 3402 Old Omen Rd., Tyler. Free.