

# NORTHEAST TARRANT COIN CLUB

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 Prinzinger 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

Our next NETCC monthly meeting will be held via ZOOM! on April 8th at 7:00PM. Please join us for some of the exciting opportunities below.

#### **April Meeting**

At the end of March, 70% of Tarrant Texans over 65 have had at least one vaccine shot. Hospitalizations and deaths are quickly falling. It's conceivable we can began meeting in person in May. However, Martin Methodist has not yet reopened; therefore, we will Zoom once more for the April meeting.

#### **Quiz Night**

We will conduct our annual Quiz Night at this meeting. The format will be similar to last year's contest. Instead of competing by teams, each member will answer individually. The quiz will be online with multiple choices –



either 3 or 4 possible answers. Each member will be instructed to open a browser window and go to a selected website. Once there the member will enter a code and go to the NETCC quiz.

The object will be to answer as quick as possible, as bonus points awarded for timely answers. If you miss the question, the quiz will indicate the correct answer.

# **ZOOM WITH US!!**

We will again conduct our monthly meeting via Zoom! Just click on the hyperlink listed in the email accompanying this newsletter to go directly to the meeting at 7:00 on Thursday.

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.

#### 2021 Member Dues

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.

#### **Donation Auction**

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.



While you are locked in, search through your coins and/or currency to find donations – maybe your duplicates or coins you really want. Bring them to first physical meeting where we can begin to catalog them.

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**

The 2021 TNA Coin Show & Convention is still on for June 4-6 at the Arlington Convention Center. Since this may be one of the first major coin shows in the country to reopen, it is expected that most of the national dealers will attend. However, the location may be in flux since the Arlington Convention Center is still being used as a major vaccine hub. Look for more updates next month.

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**

If you have given an educational club presentation or have a special interest in a particular area of numismatics, consider an exhibit for the TNA show in June. The Exhibit committee will be happy to provide anyone, especially first-time exhibitors, with the necessary information and recommended steps for creating a successful exhibit. Exhibits of all sizes are welcome, from multi-case exhibits all the way down to those requiring just one case. Exhibits can be entered in both Competitive and Non-Competitive categories.

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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 Williamette Valley.

However, as time passed, more and more American pioneers made the trek west and settled in the Williamette Valley. This culminated in the 1849 cessation of the Oregon territory below the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel to the U.S., thereby making the fort obsolete. McLoughlin choose 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.