

# NORTHEAST TARRANT COIN CLUB

Kevin Kell, President Kenny Smith, Vice President Jim Jeska, Treasurer Sam Fairchild, Secretary Directors 2018-19 – Cheryl Rybka, Barbara Gallagher, Glenn Roberts 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: The Mission Church, 3224 Cheek Sparger Rd., Bedford, Texas 76021

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

## **August Program**

The August program will focus on collecting 20th century type coins. The program will be led by Alan Scott who specializes in type collecting (his pre-1900 collecting is awe-inspiring). If you are looking for a budget-conscious method of breaking into type collecting, or just want to display coins you and your family grew up with, this program is for you.

## July Weenie Roast

President Kevin Kell delayed opening the meeting with 66 members and visitors present until 7:15. The opening was delayed due to members lining up to feast on hot



dogs and fixin's. So many members arrived early, so serving began at 6:35. While hot dogs and all the fixings were provided by the Club, members brought tasty side dishes and salads, as well as a cornucopia of varied and scrumptious desserts. By the time the meeting started, members had put a sizeable dent in all the food available. With stomachs filed, members were ready for the night's festivities.



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

## **Collectors Forum**

A group of collectors normally meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the North Richland Hills Library at 7:00 pm. This is a casual meeting with no specific format, but with a topic for each meeting (suggestions are welcome) and the conversation is allowed to flow freely.

This meeting is open to anyone interested, and is not associated with NETCC. There are no dues, no membership rolls, just fun. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, August 27th.

## **Grading Seminar**

Carl Stang and Richard Wallace will again be conducting a grading seminar on September 14. Class is limited to the first 25 to sign up, so don't tarry! Cost will be \$15, which will cover of breakfast items, lunch and refreshments.

# **Russell Prinzinger Award**

Frank Hezmall, who succeeded Russell Prinzinger as District 1 TNA Governor,

presented Russell an award for TNA Governor of the Year, on behalf of the TNA. Russell served as Governor for 27 years, and is one of the founders of our Club.



# Summer Seminars

NETCC will again be hosting an educational program in conjunction with the September Texas Coin Show. The program will be held on Saturday, September 28th at the Grapevine Convention Center.



Lineup for the three seminars are:

- 11:00 Alan Scott, "US Half Dollar Type"
- 12:30 Sam Fairchild, "James Longacre His Legacy and Works"
- 1:30 Mike Ross, "Cathedral Medals by Jacques Weiner"

Make your plans to attend one or more of these interesting and informative sessions.

#### **Airport Security & Coins**

Russell Prinzinger relayed his experiences when he attempted to go through airport security with a roll of Silver Eagles. Evidently, TSA agents were very wary of this "metal" tube and delayed Russell for quite some time. Other members have had similar experiences, and made the excellent suggestion that members carrying coins or bullion ask for a special private TSA screening to avoid conflict or possible seizure of your numismatic items.

#### 2019 Membership Dues

2019 Membership dues are \$15.00 for Adults and \$5.00 for Juniors, and are a major support for club activities. Membership not only qualifies you for the monthly progressive door prize, but should also give you a discounted meal at the 2019 Christmas party.

Jim Jeska will be taking 2019 dues at this meeting.

#### **Christmas Party**

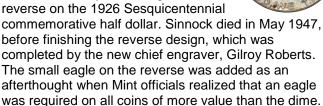
Talking about Christmas this early? Yes! Because of the success of the April donation auction, we will again be able to offer the meal FREE to all members and youth, with a \$5 fee for adult non-members. We will again have catered barbeque and fixin's, with volunteer members bringing desserts and additional side dishes.

### Franklin Halves

Mint director Nellie Ross had long admired Benjamin Franklin, and wanted him to be depicted on a coin. She suggested the dime in 1941, but the decision was deferred due to the start of WWII. When nickel was declared a strategic metal in 1942, a silver half dime with a Franklin portrait was proposed to temporarily replace the nickel coin, but the Mint decided instead to change the Jefferson Nickel alloy to copper, silver and manganese.

After the war ended, Ross revived plans to place Franklin on the dime in 1946. However, Congress intervened and mandated that a Roosevelt portrait be used. This left the half dollar as the only coin without a famous American portrait, so Ross directed Chief Engraver Sinnock to design a Franklin half dollar to be minted initially in 1948.

Sinnock adapted his earlier work for the obverse. He had designed a Franklin medal in 1933 from a bust Jean-Antoine Houdon and Sinnock's work on the unrealized half dime. He based his Liberty Bell design for the reverse on the 1926 Sesquicentennia



The Mint submitted designs to the Commission of Fine Arts for its advisory opinion. The Commission disliked

the small eagle and felt that depicting the crack in the Liberty Bell would expose the coinage to jokes and ridicule. Despite the Commission's disapproval, the Mint proceeded with Sinnock's designs.

After the coins were released in April 1948, the Mint received accusations that Sinnock's initials "JRS" on the cutoff at Franklin's shoulder were a tribute to Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin, similar to complaints made earlier about the Roosevelt dime in 1946.

The coin was struck regularly until 1963. Beginning in 1964 it was replaced by the Kennedy half dollar, issued in honor of the assassinated President Kennedy. It's interesting to note that 1964 Franklin half dies were prepared, but no Franklins dated 1964 have surfaced.

Franklin had opposed putting portraits on coins; he advocated proverbs about which the holder could profit through reflection. Franklin might have been more upset at the having his coin associated with an eagle; Franklin proposed the wild turkey as our national bird.

A widely known variety is the 1955 "Bugs Bunny" half. This variety was caused by a die clash between an obverse die and a reverse die. The impact of the eagle's wings on the other die caused a marking outside of Franklin's mouth which, according to some, resembles buck teeth.



In this era of Registry sets, a designation of "Full Bell Lines" (FBL) is highly prized. To qualify, the seven parallel lines making up the bottom of the bell must be fully visible, and the three wisps of hair to the right of Franklin's ear on the obverse must also fully show, and not blend together. Some dates such as 1953-S are virtually unknown with an FBL designation; such FBL examples run 160 times the cost of non-FBL examples.

#### **Special Meeting Activity Calendar**

September – Show and Tell Night

**November** – Veteran's night,

Officer/Director elections

**December** – Christmas party

We need a volunteer to give the October program. Contact Kenny Smith if you have an interest.

#### **Upcoming Local Coin Shows**

**August 9-10** – Ft. Worth Coin Club Coin Show, White Settlement Convention Center. \$3.

**August 24** – Texhoma Coin Show, Hwy. 75, Exit 59, Sherman. Free.

**September 9-10** – Cowtown Coin Show, 8905 Clifford, White Settlement. \$3.

**September 27-29** – Texas Coin Show, Grapevine Convention Ctr \$3 or free with NETCC membership.

<u>July New Members:</u> Jim Taylor, Hugh Hillaker, Mark Gisclair.

July First Time Visitors: Jim Taylor.