

Tampa Coin Club Newsletter

www.tampabaycoinclub.org

March 2010

President's Message

It appears we are making some progress in reviving both interest and participation in the Tampa Bay Coin Club. We have had over twenty five people in attendance at our first two meetings of 2010 and we fully expect that to continue provided we can meet at a good location (which I believe we are), provide a brief well organized business meeting, a diverse listing of items for the auction, and finally a program which is interesting to the members presents.

As most know the election of officers for 2010 was delayed late last year due to the low meeting attendance and general lack of interest at our old location. In our January and February meetings we sought nominations for officers and directors for the year 2010. A full slate of officers was nominated and elected. The elected officers are listed on the cover page of this newsletter. Plans call for the officers to be installed at the March meeting. We look forward to having active participation from all officers and directors in 2010.

It is also noted that after halting printing of a TBCC newsletter for the past year, we regrouped and decided a revised newsletter would be beneficial for

communication in addition to having the TBCC web site – www.tampabaycoinclub.org. It should be further noted that the planned monthly publication will be posted to the web site for all to read during the first week of the month. For those not having access to the internet or for those who just prefer a hard copy we will be mailing copies during that first week of the month. If there are any members or non-members who would like to receive a copy of the newsletter, please advise me at our meeting.

I believe what we have to offer for the next several meetings should be of interest to all our members both novice and experienced alike. It is expected the March 11th meeting will feature a representative from NGC speaking about their process for grading coins and addressing a questions raised by a TBCC member regarding toning/artificial toning and how to recognize it. I would hope that we could also offer a couple of other questions to make the night interesting. Tentatively our program for April will include a presentation by Charles Cave titled "Did you see?" This is the second in a series of coin grading programs presented by Charles.

As we head into the

2010 Club Officers:

President - John Fetzko
Vice President - Mark Palermo
Vice President - Art Pinto
Treasurer - Roger McMurrey
Secretary - Cheryl Albury
Bourse Chairman - Mark Palermo

Directors: - Jan Emrich
- Phil Gazi
- Gary Ohrmund

Next Meeting will be held March 11th at Perkins Restaurant, located at 12650 North Dale Mabry Highway, just south of Stall Road, in the Carrollwood section of Tampa.

Program for March meeting:
We will have a guest speaker from NGC coming to visit the club.

In addition we will discuss old and new business and as always we'll be holding a coin auction.

Our April meeting will be held on April 8th at the above location.

remainder of 2010, I would really appreciate someone stepping up, offering to head up our meeting programs – in other words organizing meeting programs that would be of interest to our members and

(Continued on page 4)



Coin Show Etiquette:

By Buddy Hirsh & Tony Swicer

Everyone has their own approach to buying and selling coins. Some people are very good at transactions, some are lousy. The following are some thoughts on the subject.

SELLING- As a dealer behind the table, I always like to greet everyone who comes to my table, it breaks the ice. Asking what you are looking for saves both of us time and needless looking. I always try to sell at a fair price. Some dealers look to make a killing on every coin. It's up to you to know current pricing, if not you will get buried in a coin.

BUYING- When you are buying from a dealer at a show, you should be professional. Don't sprawl your briefcase and papers all over the dealers cases so that no one can see anything. Do not bring a drink to a dealers table. I have had drinks knocked over on my case before. When you are looking at a dealers coins, do not take the coins out of the dealers sight. Do not put them below the table or behind your back, and do not go into your pockets while at the table. Dealers likewise should not put the customers coins out of the sight of the customer. Never take coins away from the table without the dealers permission. If you take a set of coins away from the table and a coin wines up missing, guess who is a suspect. Any purchases made at another dealers table should be put away before you look at coins at the next dealers table. Don't give the dealer the idea that you are trying to switch coins or stealing coins. Never go behind a dealers table without asking permission to do so. Never cut between dealers tables to get to the next isle. Go around like everyone else.

Don't dicker on the price of a coin just

for the sake of dickering. Once the dealer learns your MO, he will up the starting price on every coin and get what he wants anyway. Don't wine and tell the dealer what is wrong with every coin. Either buy the coin, counter offer, or go on to the next item. If you give the dealer a hard time, I guarantee you that when he gets nice coins for sale, you will be the last to see them, if at all. Don't linger at a dealers table when he is buying or selling a big deal. If a dealer is busy with a customer, don't butt in, walk away. Never try to steal a deal away from a dealer in front of his table. If you do not have a table, you must go outside to transact business with others that do not have a table. No transacting in the isles. Don't let a dealer try to bully you into buying a coin and visa versa.

A line that won't work at a coin show might work at a gun or antique show. Here's an example. A dealer has a coin set that catalogs \$300. He might want \$150-200. At a coin show, the melt value is irrelevant, but at a gun show you could ask, "what's the melt value on that set?" and get it for melt, \$50.

If you want to look at something in a dealers case, always ask permission. It always seems that an open case draws flies, if you know what I mean. In time you will learn who the higher priced dealers are, and avoid them. If you feel that the dealer has over graded a coin give it back and walk away. Save yourself time and aggravation. Never take a coin out of it's holder without asking permission.

When you are buying at a show you should ask the dealer if he will take your check. Most dealers will take a check if you can give them a coin dealer reference. Virtually no dealer will take a

credit card at a show. The easiest form of payment is always cash. Any way that you purchase a coin, always get a receipt on a hundred dollars or more purchase. That way, it is easily returnable if it is counterfeit. Do not remove the coin from the dealers holder until you have bought it and you are absolutely satisfied with the coin.

If you are not sure of the grade on a coin, ask the dealer if you can show the coin to someone else for an opinion. Try not to use the other dealers name that you are showing the coin too. If I am shown a coin, I hate to ruin a deal for another dealer, then I'm the bad guy. If another dealer tells you not to buy the coin, don't go back to the dealer who owns the coin and say, "Tony said it was a piece of junk". Just give the coin back and say, "No thank you", and leave.

The bottom line is, if you act professional in your coin transactions, you will get a better deal, you will get first look at new coins, and everyone will be happy.

Newsletter Submissions:

Our newsletter is not only a communication tool for our club, but an educational resource as well. In order to continue to provide educational material we need submissions from member dealers and educators.

To submit an article or other material please email your submission in a word document to tbcoinclub@yahoo.com. While we cannot guarantee which articles will show up in the newsletter, we will do our best to get everything published as quickly as possible.

The newsletter is a resource for all of us, so let's make the best of it!

Upcoming Numismatic Events:

March 6, 2010

Tampa Bay Coin Club Show
American Legion Hall Post 5
3810 West Kennedy Boulevard, Tampa, FL

March 13, 2010

St. Petersburg Coin Club Show
Disabled Americans Club
4901 37th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL

March 27, 2010

Brandon Coin Club Show
Brandon Elks Lodge
800 Centennial Lodge Drive, Brandon, FL

April 10, 2010

St. Petersburg Coin Club Show
Disabled Americans Club
4901 37th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL

April 17-18, 2010

Tampa Coin & Stamp Expo
Holdiaiy Inn Express, Lakeside Ballroom
4732 North Dale Mabry Highway, Tampa, FL

May 8, 2010

St. Petersburg Coin Club Show
Disabled Americans Club
4901 37th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL

July 1-4, 2010

Clearwater Coin Club Show
St. Petersburg Hilton Carillon Park
950 Lake Carillon Drive, St. Petersburg, FL 33716

July 8-10, 2010

Summer F.U.N. Show
Orange County Convention Center
9800 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819

Presidents Message continued:

arranging for speakers who can make presentations.

I would also appreciate one member coming forward willing to organize, and lead our monthly club auction. The club auction can be both interesting and entertaining. In the interim members wanting to have items entered into the monthly auction can email their listings to: john@tampabaycoinclub.org. If you want your items in the March 11th auction, you need to have them sent in by March 3rd.

Finally, we have our Tampa Bay Coin Club Coin Show with approximately 20 dealers running on March 6th at the American Legion, Post 5, located at 3810 West Kennedy Boulevard, Tampa.

Volunteers are needed for set up on Friday afternoon, March 5th. We need you at approximately 5:00 pm for the set-up. With five to six volunteers, we can be finished in approximately one hour. Help cleaning up after the show on Saturday afternoon is also needed and appreciated. Normally everyone is tired, but with adequate manpower we can finish up in about an hour.

We have a lot of fun and exciting things happening this year and I think this will be one of the strongest years in the clubs recent history. With everything going on I expect a great 2010 and we should be well poised for next year when the FUN show comes to Tampa.

Fun Facts:

How many denominations of American coins are no longer produced? In addition to our current six coin denominations (one cent; five, ten, twenty-five, and fifty cents; and one dollar), there are another five denominations that we no longer make or use by law: one half cent, two cents, three cents (in a silver and a nickel version), one half dime, and twenty cents.

The United States Mint released the first circulating coins made on federal property in March of 1793. That first batch consisted of 11,178 copper cents, or \$111.78. Soon after, the Mint began issuing gold and silver coins as well.

What is the Tampa Bay Coin Club?

The Tampa Bay Coin Club was chartered in 1955. It has a long history of bringing people together to enjoy the hobby of numismatics. The coin club continues to evolve, but it continues to bring both the young and the old together to study the history of coins and currency and examine the dynamics of precious metals in the 21st century.

Coin clubs are a great way to help expand your numismatic education and collection. It provides a safe format to learn from more experienced collectors, keep abreast of changes in the hobby, and make new friends.

Our meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at Perkins Restaurant located at 12650 North Dale Mabry Highway, just south of Stall Road, in the Carrollwood section of Tampa. Meetings start at 7:00pm and usually last until 8:30-9:00pm however you

are free to leave earlier if need be.

A typical meeting starts off with a president's update discussing club issues and a bourse chairman's update which gives information about past and upcoming coin shows in the area. Then there is usually some sort of an educational session that gives members a chance to learn more about various numismatic topics. The meeting is then wrapped up with an auction where guests and members can bid on various numismatic materials. Past auctions have included coins, tokens, medals, paper currency, proof sets and even reference materials. This is a great opportunity to snap up great bargains and have fun in the process!

In addition to our monthly meetings, the Tampa Bay Coin Club sponsors several local coin shows throughout the year. Typically these shows showcase 20-25 local coin dealers. In addition to coins you

are likely to find paper currency and even stamps available for sale. There are lots of bargains to be had at coin shows and even if you don't buy anything you are bound to learn some new things. It is also a nice way to network with local dealers and forge new relationships that can be important in building your collection in the future.

Due to a healthy budget and our desire to build up a stronger membership base, the Tampa Bay Coin Club has suspended it's annual dues for all members! This gives you a chance to try the club with no cost to you so come check us out.

