FORT WORTH COIN CLUB

Club Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2026
Held at the FW Botanical Gardens

Thanks to Ryan S. and Alex S. who served us ham, turkey, roast beef and/or salami sandwiches, chips, and a great variety of cookies. Very tasty.

President Jimmy D. called the meeting to order and we were pleased to recognized several guests including Bill L. and his wife Cozette. Bill collects silver coinage. Also joining us was Ian E. who is a recent transplant from the northeast where he was President of his local coin club. Ian has been collecting for about fifteen years and likes world crowns and old gold. Welcome to you all.

Business:

- The minutes of the previous meeting as emailed to the membership by Secretary Ed L. were accepted

- Treasurer William S. reviewed the balances of the checking, investment, and petty cash accounts and discussed all expenses incurred since his last report. He also said that money the club earned from last year's coin show is able to fund this year's expenses and no draws have been needed from our investment account. William's report was accepted by the members.

- Jimmy said the Botanic Garden had entered into an agreement with a caterer and, beginning in 2027, all food and drink at any club meeting must be provided by the caterer. No outside food or drink will be allowed.
    - Jimmy and Dalia had talked to the caterer several times about catering our club meetings. He said he received a letter from them saying they would not cater our meetings meaning no food or drink allowed next year.
    - Ed said he had talked to an officer of the Iris Society, who happened to be meeting across the hall from us. She told Ed they had reached an agreement with the caterers and had good things to say about them. Ed got the contact name of the person the Iris Society had dealt with. Both Ed and William

expressed optimism that starvation or dying of thirst at club meetings next year could be avoided and a mutually acceptable agreement with the caterers might yet be reached. Stay tuned, folks.

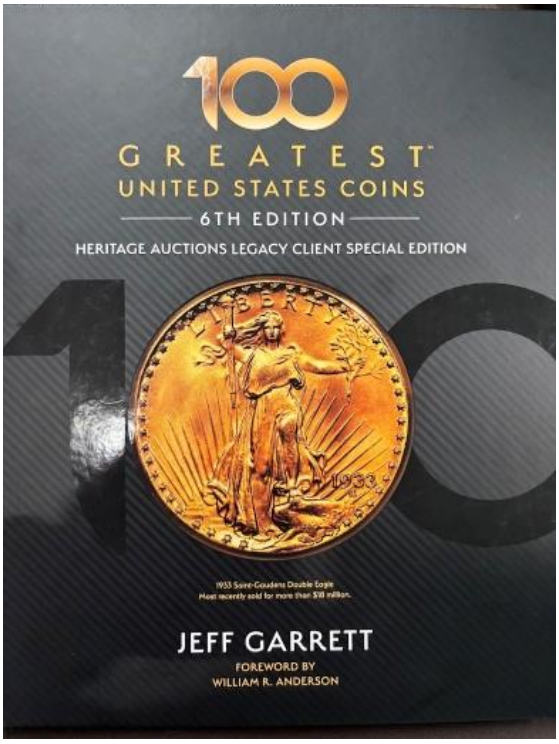
Elections:



- Jimmy announced that there will be elections at the November meeting. The offices of Vice-President and Secretary will be up for a vote as well as two of four director positions.
- If you are interested in holding any of these positions, and I hope you are, you can put your name on the ballot at the meeting. Running against an incumbent is not expressing dissatisfaction with that person. It is a sign of commitment to the club and a desire to contribute to its success.
- If there are contested elections, voting will be by secret ballot.
- Since there are two directors being elected, all candidates are voted on as a group. Everyone gets to vote twice for those positions. The two director candidates with the most votes get to serve. All board of director's meetings are held via Zoom (online) so everyone can stay at home and still attend. It doesn't get any easier than that, so throw your hat in the ring. After all, it is election season.

Educational Program:

Larry H. always gives us unique and thoughtful educational programs. At this meeting he discussed some of the 100 greatest United States coins as selected in the book of the same name by Jeff Garrett.



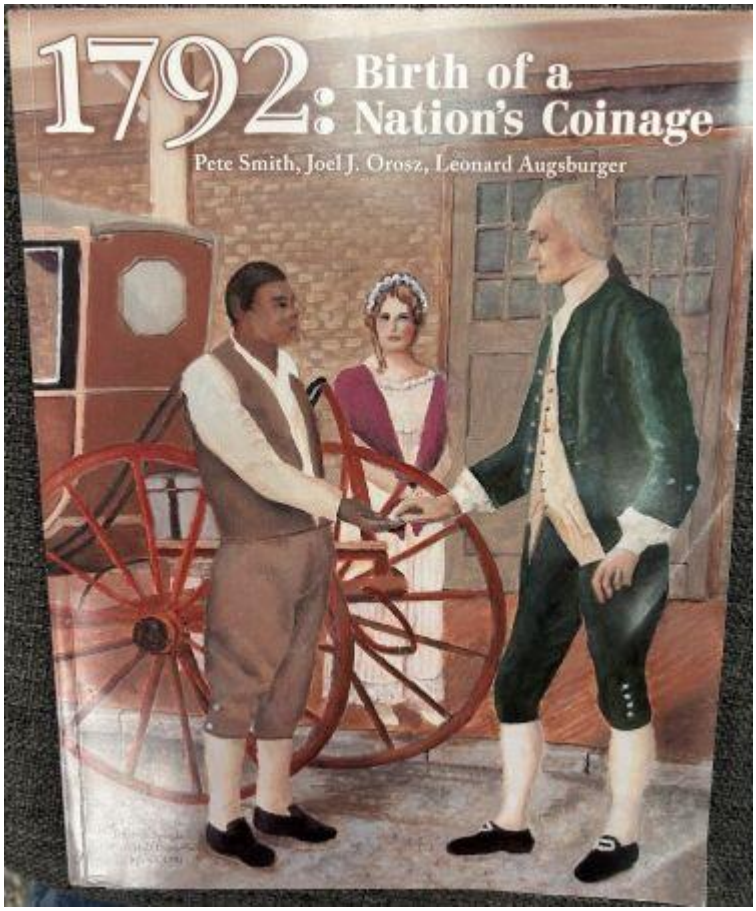
Larry focused on four of the 100 greatest, all of which were in his collection.

He started with the 1907 high relief $20 St. Gaudin's double eagle gold coin with the Roman numeral date. It took between three and nine strikes to obtain a high relief. I didn't realize it, but there are two varieties of this coin, the wire rim and the flat rim. It is estimated that five to six thousand wire rim coins survive while the flat rim estimate is only two thousand survivors. The flat rim sells for a five to ten percent premium. Larry showed us his coin which had a flat rim.

The second coin shown was the 1916 Standing Liberty quarter. This is a one-year variety where liberty has a bare breast. The following year she is wearing chainmail armor. Larry said it is estimated that of the 52,000 minted, only 10,000 survive.

His third selection was the 1856 flying eagle cent. I have read that this year was a pattern issue rather than a general circulation mintage. Only 1,000 to 1,500 are estimated to have survived, which makes it rare. The coin was also minted in 1857 and 1858 by the millions.

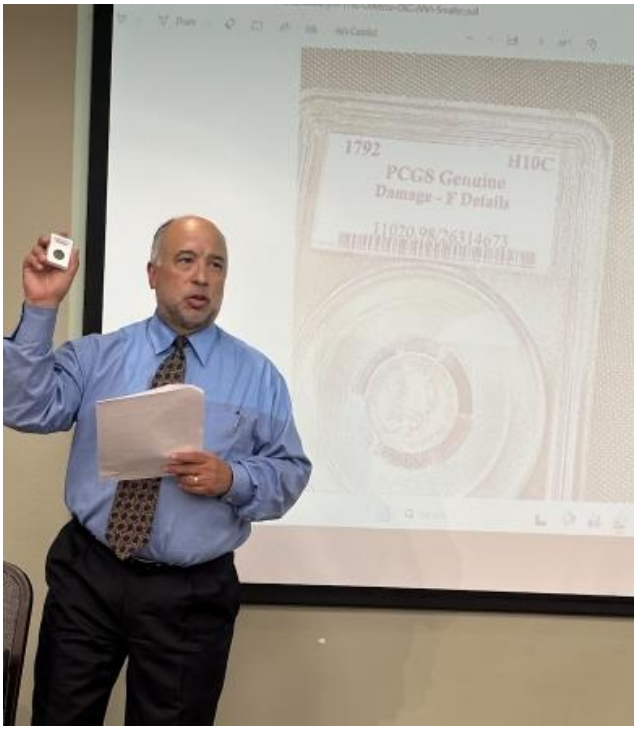
But the bulk of the program was spent on the "Holy Grail" of U.S. coinage, as Larry described it, the 1792 half-disme. Larry said it is correctly pronounced "deem" using the French version. The half-disme was the first coin minted by the new U.S. mint and has a strong association with Thomas Jefferson.



Jefferson was Secretary of State under President George Washington in 1792. He successfully lobbied to have the new U.S. mint placed within the State Department. Jefferson kept meticulous records and his ledger (which Larry distributed copies of to members) showed he deposited 75 dollars (Spanish) to the mint who then coined 1,500 half-dismes. All 1,500 were given to Jefferson.

There are six die states of the 1792 coin. The first four relate to Jefferson's original 1,500 coins. There was a second mintage of 500 to 600 later in the year. These have die states five and six and can be identified because they exhibit corrosion (die rust).

All of these coins have a medal orientation and only about 200-250 are estimated to survive.





Larry was able to acquire his holy grail specimen early this year. It is die state 1, which means it was part of Jefferson's original 1,500 coins. If you like history as I do, it was exciting to hold a coin previously held by Thomas Jefferson. Thanks, Larry.

Auction:

- Frank P. was our auctioneer of 49 lots
- Kevin G. kept track of the money
- Earl C. was the auction runner

Upcoming coin shows:

- Grapevine Coin Show – Nov. 6-8
- Grapevine Coin Show – Dec. 11-13
- Cowtown Coin Show – Jan. 1-2, White Settlement
- Houston Money Show – Jan. 15 – 16, Conroe

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Lasko

Club Secretary