

Manhattan Coin Club Minutes

July 13, 2021

In the absence of President Randy and with 1st VP Doyle sick Matthew O. called the meeting to order

There was one visitor, Bob, who was there with his son.

Old Business:

Matt reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. The club members commented that the annual picnic was fun and well attended.

Members who were dealers commented on how well the Wichita Coin show went and Allan said he had his best show ever with good sales.

Treasurer Report:

Dave gave a Treasurer's report and the treasury balance is \$3,197.70. If you have not paid your dues they are \$5 a year for youths, \$10 a year for regular members, and a lifetime.

Auctions:

Matt said there are two up-coming auctions on July 31st; one in Hutchinson and one in Manhattan. The Hutchinson auction has several Kansas National bills. On August 7th Carr Auction in Larned, KS Will be auctioning off 365 lots of coins.

You may find information on auctions at: <https://kansasauctions.net>.

New Business:

1. In honor of the 100th anniversary of the last year of the 'Morgan Dollar' the United States Mint is proud to present the 2021 Morgan Dollar, created through the use of modern technology and historical U.S. Mint assets. It has a beautiful uncirculated finish. The obverse features Liberty in profile. More information may be found here: <https://catalog.usmint.gov/morgan-2021-silver-dollar-21XE.html>. Members discussed their success, or more lack of success, in trying to purchase using the U.S. Mint's website.
2. Dave updated us on his future plans and location. Currently he has no location but does have a possible one but nothing is set yet. Dave will let us know when he plans to move and we will try and recruit club members to help him relocate.



Coin Show Update:

Matthew O. told the membership that he has already started the process of contacting dealers and has created a flyer to send to dealers for our coin show which will now be in the National Guard Armory. There will be food trucks.

Future Programs: (Subject to correction)

June: Club Picnic

July: Phil on toning errors.

August: Allan on coins in 1921.

September: Nick on liberty nickels

October: Tom on post mint damage.

November:

December: Christmas Party

Door Prizes:

Door prize of Jay H. won the door prize which was a 2021 Silver Eagle Type II. (The newsletter editor is jealous.)

Program:

Allan T. did an excellent program on 'U.S. Coins of 1921'. His handout is below but does not include some of the additional information he provided.

Following the program and with no further business the meeting concluded and the bid board reopened.

Program:

United States Coins of 1921

The year 1921 is quite significant in numismatic history for many reasons. All three U.S. Mints were active that year, yet the only coin produced by all of them was the Morgan silver dollar. The Denver Mint made no cents, nickels, or quarters that year, while the San Francisco Mint produced no dimes or quarters. High numbers of U.S. coins minted during and shortly after World War I resulted in a decreased demand for circulating coinage during 1921-1922. Several 1921 key and semi-key coins--sought by future collectors to complete their sets--were soon identified as good candidates for investment.

World War I officially ended at 11:00 AM on November 11, 1918, yet the tragedy of 40+ million people killed or wounded would continue to negatively impact millions more for decades. Four empires that had existed at the 1914 outbreak of war were gone forever just four years later. The world was hungry for peace and that theme would appear on many coins, medals, and other collectibles of that era. One example of that fact is the United States silver "Peace Dollar" (1921-1935), which replaced the "Morgan Dollar" (1878-1921).



A total of 86.7 million Morgan Dollars were minted during 1921 among the Philadelphia, Denver, and San Francisco mints. The new Peace Dollar began production later that year with a final mintage of slightly over 1,000,000 coins.

The high relief of the new design resulted in most coins being poorly struck and lacking hair details. That deficiency was corrected the following year using lower relief dies.

Mercury dimes of 1921 were minted in small quantities at Philadelphia (1.2 million) and Denver (1.1 million), making those coins the second and third lowest mintages of that series. San Francisco minted no dimes that year. Dimes coined in 1921 tend to be poorly struck, resulting in many such coins having their rims worn into the date and/or reverse lettering.

Few Standing Liberty quarter dollars (1.9 million) were coined in 1921 and only at the Philadelphia Mint. San Francisco minted only 1.6 million Buffalo Nickels during 1921 with the "S" mintmark. Because dates on both these denominations would wear off quickly has increase

All three U.S. mints produced 1921 dated half dollar coins in less than average quantities. Half dollars circulated well at that time, so they received much wear and few survived in higher grades. Walking Liberty Half Dollars were minted at the Philadelphia (246,000), Denver (208,000), and San Francisco (548,000) mints in 1921 and all three are difficult to find in grades VF-20 and above. The 1921-S half dollar may be called a "condition rarity," since it has the highest mintage of the three coins and yet is much rarer (and more costly) in higher grades than those produced that year at either Philadelphia or Denver.

Three different commemorative silver half dollars were minted in 1921. They celebrate the Pilgrim Tercentenary (1620-1920), Missouri's Statehood Centennial, and Alabama's Statehood Centennial. None of these are rare and are usually available at prices similar to other classic commemorative halves.

The only gold coin minted that year was the Saint-Gaudens Double Eagle (Twenty Dollar) coin, with an official total of 528,500 pieces. Only 71 examples (including one proof coin) have been certified by the major grading services, indicating a large percentage of those coins were likely surrendered and melted in 1933 during Franklin D. Roosevelt's presidency.

United States coins minted during the decade following World War I are wonderful examples of sculptors' artistic talents, best revealed when viewing higher grade examples. No doubt, many a numismatist has imagined time travel to an earlier era with the goal of obtaining a few examples of future rarities. If that was indeed possible, my preferred destination would likely be the United States in the year 1921.

