



## Collectors Forum

A group of collectors meeting on the fourth Monday of each month at the North Richland Hills Library. 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. The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 24th.

This meeting is open to anyone interested, and is not associated with NETCC. There are no dues, no membership rolls, just fun. If you or someone you know is interested, contact Kevin Kell: [kevinkell@1scom.net](mailto:kevinkell@1scom.net).

## Daniel Boone Commemorative

Daniel Boone was an American pioneer, woodsman, and frontiersman, whose exploits made him one of the first American folk heroes. Boone is most famous for his exploration and settlement of what is now western Kentucky, blazing his Wilderness Road through the Cumberland Gap in the Appalachian Mountains.

Boone remains an iconic figure in American history due to publication of an account of his adventures in 1784. After his death, he was frequently the subject of heroic tall tales and works of fiction, with the mythology often overshadowing the historical details of his life.

With this in mind, it shouldn't be too surprising that some type of coin would be proposed to commemorate the 200th anniversary of his birth. Money raised from this coin was meant for the Daniel Boone Bicentennial Commission, as well as the American Order of Pioneers, in order to restore several sites important in Daniel Boone history. Congress acted quickly by authorizing the issuance of 600,000 half dollars.

The coin was designed by Augustus Lukeman, an American sculptor known mainly for American historical monuments. The obverse features a bust of Daniel Boone, bareheaded facing left. While the bust remains a fantasy, it appears to be a more lifelike image of Boone than that which appeared on the 1921 Missouri Commemorative, where he is seen wearing a coonskin cap, a type of hat that Boone apparently detested in person but has become the primary image remembered by the American public of Daniel Boone.



The reverse shows a more elaborate design somewhat reminiscent of the reverse design of the 1921 Missouri Half Dollar. It shows Daniel Boone standing and in discussion with Chief Black Fish, of the Shawnee Indian Nation, with Boone holding a musket in his left hand and Chief Black Fish holding a tomahawk (breaking a 1778 siege of Boonesborough, Kentucky).

In the background a small blockhouse building and a rising sun are depicted.

The Philadelphia Mint struck the 10,000 coins dated 1934 which promptly sold out. Frank Dunn, secretary of the Boone Bicentennial Commission managed to have Congress authorize additional half dollars, albeit with a double date and the words "PIONEER YEAR" on the reverse. This second issue had the same mintage at the Philadelphia Mint, 10,000 coins, while the Denver and San Francisco issues had a total mintage of only 2,000 coins each. Dunn heavily marketed the pieces, especially the low-mintage issues. Dunn allegedly purchase the coins at issue price and resold them to the public at inflated prices.

A total of sixteen different year/mint combinations were ultimately produced with small mintages dated through 1938. With plenty of issues to choose from, most collectors assembling a Classic Commemorative type set should have no trouble finding a nice example.

## Special Meeting Activity Calendar

- April** – Donation auction
- May** – Quiz Night
- June** – Youth Night
- July** – Weenie Roast
- September** – Show and Tell Night
- November** – Veteran's night, Officer/Director elections
- December** – Christmas party

We need volunteers to give programs in 2017. Contact Kevin Kell if you have an interest.

## Upcoming Local Coin Shows

- April 7-8** – Waco Coin Club Coin Show, Bellmead Civic Center, Bellmead. \$2.
- April 21-23** – Texas Coin Show, Grapevine Convention Center. \$3 or free with NETCC membership.
- May 13** – Collin County Coin Club Coin Show, Exit 40B, McKinney. Free.
- May 19-21** – Cowtown Coin Show, Forest Hill Civic/Convention Center. \$3.
- June 2-4** – TNA Coin and Currency Show, Arlington Convention Center. \$3 or free with TNA membership.
- June 9-10** – Five State Coin & Currency Show, 3310 Troup Hwy., Tyler. Free.

**March New Members:** Rob Anderson.

**March First Time Visitors:** Randall Carman.