

Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 70, Issue 7, Meeting #812. June 13, 2018

Next Meeting: August 15, 2018

JULY MEETING MINUTES

First off, THANK YOU to all the club members who brought side dishes to go with the barbeque at the July meeting of the Redwood Empire Cooking Club! The pork steaks and chicken that our chef prepared were delicious. And there was plenty to go around for seconds or even thirds with all the side dishes and desserts. It was all so good. Oh, and yes, we did talk about coins too ☺

The August meeting will be on the **THIRD** Wednesday of the month, **August 15**, due to the Sonoma County Fair taking over during our usual date. We get to use the main auditorium, so there is plenty of room and tables to have a **FLEA MARKET** starting at 6 PM. Numismatic-related items only please- buy, sell, trade, barter, etc. Have fun! The regular meeting will start at 7.

The topic for the August meeting is: "WHAT NUMISMATIC ITEM(S) I HAVE ADDED TO MY COLLECTION THIS YEAR". Bring it in, talk about it, and get 4 free raffle tickets!

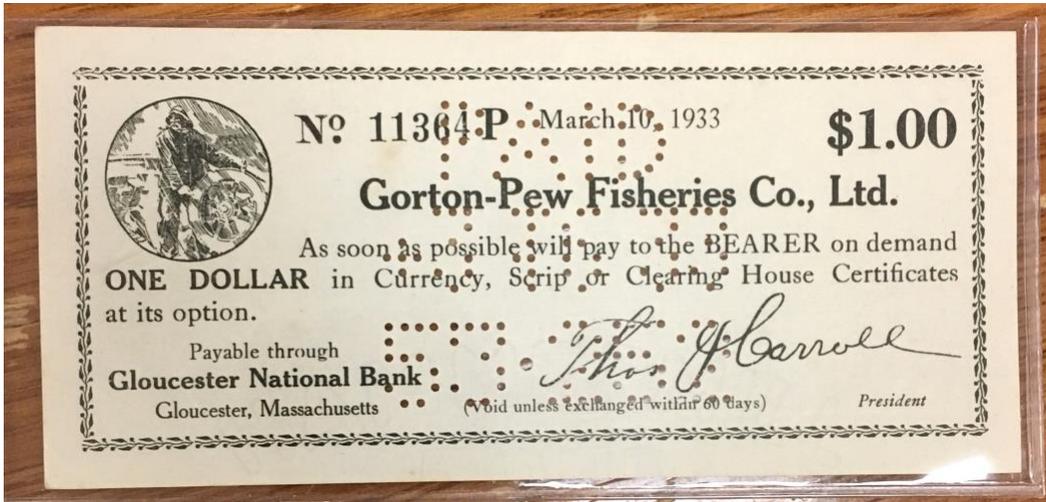
SHOW & TELL:

- Guy S started off the Show & Tell with an 1899 Morgan Dollar in a blank holder (possibly Capital Plastics). He asked for club members to look at it and guess what it would be graded: MS 63, 64, 65? For some of us, it is hard to tell the subtle differences, which make it helpful to see a grading service slab with a professional grade—if you like that for your coins.
- Phil A recently got back from New York, where he sold some of his Morgan dollars. He brought in a 1939 New York World's Fair medal to show, graded MS-62 by NGC. It is a "So-Called Dollar", # HK-491. It was the official dollar of the 1939 New York World's Fair, which was one of the largest expositions of all time with 44 million attendees in two years. The reverse identifies this issue as the official token of the event, but it is technically a medal. It has become known as the World's Fair dollar, not due to its size, but rather because it was sold at the cost of \$1 each. The oval shape and visually pleasing design of this issue combine to make this one of the most popular so-called



dollars in the series.

- Joe M brought in interesting samples of scrip from the Gorton-Pew Fisheries Company of Gloucester, Massachusetts, 1933. You will possibly recall the illustration below, synonymous with their product. The company has been based in Gloucester since 1849. Due to the nature of the business during the Depression, there were times when the company was waiting for the fish catch to come in and sell so it could get the cash for its workers. So, it produced scrip to cover that need, payable through the Gloucester National Bank.



- Mike C finally completed his type set of 1938-1940 Jefferson nickels with the two different reverse designs. And he was able to obtain them at a very good price below grey Sheet! With the photo in last week's Newsletter, it should now be much easier for you to tell the difference when taking a close look.
- Charlie C brought in three 'pieces' of coins, with a story. Prior to the invention of money (around 650 BC), a common form of trade was to use pieces of silver, cut to a certain weight. These were called hacksilber, and standard scale weights were used to weigh out the proper silver payment for a transaction. Even after coins were starting to be used, they occasionally were cut into pieces to make change (somewhat similar to the Spanish Milled Dollar being cut into 'pieces of eight'). The three 'pieces' brought in were from the 5th-2nd centuries BC. And the challenge was to find a whole coin as an example to see what they looked like originally. The first one pictured here is from the region of Macedonia and the Islands off of Thrace, from 525-480 BC. It is a very rare variety that I had only seen once before. Surprisingly another example came up for auction, so you can now see it here. It depicts a satyr (half man, half beast) trying to carry off a nymph; the reverse is just a square punch mark with a cross in it. The next coin was featured in last month's newsletter, and both Guy S and Frank V guessed right. It is a cut tetradrachm from Athens, 454-404 BC. On the cut coin, you can clearly see the reverse owl (or half owl, I suppose) with the "AOE" inscription, alpha theta epsilon in Greek meaning "of the Athenians". I also brought in a very worn example of that coin, which shows a partial cut in the same location where the cut coin was halved. It was a common practice in ancient times to make a test cut on coins, to make sure they were really silver and not just a silver-plated fake!



Finally, the third coin was a wedge from a shekel of Tyre, a coastal Phoenician city. Tyre made these from 134 BC to ~ 65 AD, all looking the same except for the date. And because of the consistent purity of the coins, they were used all over the Middle East region as the best trusted money. These shekels were probably what the thirty pieces of silver were, paid to Judas for betraying Jesus in the bible. You can make out the section of face from the obverse, and the bird leg from the reverse.



A preview of coins for the August topic (more old coins)



DRAWING WINNERS

Membership: David A, Angelo C, Mike M, Bill S, Matt A, Georgia Mck

50:50 pot of \$82 was split with Bill S

Raffle: Erica G, Bill s (twice), George C, Joe, Bill R, Glen M (twice), Art M, Andy O, Matt A, and Mike C

Gold Coin raffle: Joe!

July Attendance: 51 +

New Members: Wendel B (#958 J), and Myles S (#959 J)- WELCOME!!!!

Guests: yes

Auction: 15 exciting items

Adjournment was at 9:00 p.m. sharp!

KIDS CORNER

Rich W will be back from Canada and will set up a table at 6PM. He will have some personal items and of course things for the Juniors! Thank you, Rich!

Volunteers for **refreshments** for August are Guy S, Tiffany S, Deanna J, and Glen M

The Redwood Empire Coin Club meets on the second Wednesday of each month. The Club's meeting location is the **Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa** (opposite the County Fairgrounds across from Highway 12), in the **"Dinner Room"** on the east side of the building, at 7:00 p.m. sharp.

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UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS

July 28-29, 2018. Fremont Coin Club's 45th Annual Show. Elk's Hall, 38991 Farwell Drive, Fremont

August 12, 2018. Fairfield Coin Club Show. Willow Hall at the Fairfield Community Center,
1000 Kentucky Street, Fairfield. Admission \$1

September 9, 2018. Livermore Coin Club's 7th Annual Fall Coin Show. Elk's Lodge, 940 Larkspur,
Livermore

September 15, 2018. 5th Annual Northern California Numismatic Seminar, sponsored by NCNA.
Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum, 73 Marin Street at Capital, Vallejo. The theme is "Why
Collect These", with speakers Scott E. Douglas from Acton, Canada; Dr. David S. Goya, San
Mateo; Scott D. Griffin, Fairfield; and one more speaker TBA. Free parking and admission, plus
door prizes!

September 21-23, 2018. Coin Expo Santa Clara. Santa Clara Convention Center, 5001 Great
American Parkway, Santa Clara

**October 12-14, 2018. Diablo Numismatic Society's 22nd Annual Contra Costa Coin and
Collectibles Show.** Elk's Lodge, 1475 Creekside Dr., Walnut Creek

October 20, 2018. Delta Coin Club's 53rd Annual Coin Show. Eagles Hall, 1492 Bourbon Street,
Stockton

Check out our newsletter at: **Redwoodempirecoinclub.com**

Thanks for reading. Corrections? Additions? Questions? E-mail us at:

newsletter@Redwoodempirecoinclub.com. See you August 15, the ***THIRD*** Wednesday— Charlie