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1007 W. College Ave., #216
Santa Rosa, CA. 95401

Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 70, Issue 2, Meeting #807. February 14, 2018

Next Meeting: March 14, 2018

IT'S SHOW TIME!

The February RECC meeting got off to an early start. Twenty-four members showed up at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds at 5 to prepare the Finley Building for our coin show. What used to take Merle and Lee 4-6 hours to do, we did in around an hour. And we got some pizza as a treat for the hard work.



Once we all made it to our usual meeting place, Merle filled us in on a show update and plans for March. Next month will feature **Corned Beef and Cabbage!!!** **IF** you bring a side dish/salad/dessert, the cost is just **\$5** each. If you cannot bring anything, the cost will be \$10. The corned beef is always delicious and well worth it!

The topic for the March meeting is: **What I Got At The Show, or What I am Still Looking For.** Give a short talk, get 4 free raffle tickets!

Because we missed a meeting in October because of the Santa Rosa fires, we will hold the **6 Month Membership Gold Coin Drawing** at the **March** meeting. The club voted on whether or not to require members to be present to win, and the overwhelming vote was that **you MUST be present** to win the drawing.

Finally, Merle reminded us that Don Rinkor generously donated 14 slabbed silver dollars for the Silver Dollar raffle at the show. When you see him, please remember to thank him for his generosity and club support.

WHAT I AM LOOKING FOR AT THE SHOW

- ❖ Rich W went a bit off topic for this one. He ordered 2 sets of Kennedy Half Dollars from a dealer, and received three instead. Being the honest and scrupulous person that he is, he called and discussed this with the dealer, who suggested donating the third to the club. So he was happy to give it to one of the club members who lost a home in the Santa Rosa fire, Bill S!
- ❖ Guy S is NOT looking for any 5 Kopek coins (so he says!), and just recently obtained a rare one. But he is looking for early Mexican coppers, which are fun to look for and relatively affordable.
- ❖ Helmut J is looking for Panama Pacific International Exhibition watch fobs and tokens. And he is looking for a 1916-D Mercury dime. There were quite a few of the dimes at the show, so it will be fun to see if he found what he was looking for. And being ignorant about watch fobs, it was interesting looking at images on the internet, such as this one- a beautiful example in my opinion.



- ❖ Charley B was warmly welcomed for his presence- we miss his great discussions. He is looking for nickels. He discussed the history of nickel coinage and fractional currency. Nickel coinage was introduced in 1865 with the three-cent coin, since silver was being hoarded by the public since the Civil War. He has some fractional currency notes, issued by the government with the promise to be redeemed for coinage once the economy stabilized. As an aside, three of the four U.S. Mints during the Civil War were located in the South (though they minted mostly gold).



- ❖ Bill C was mostly looking for $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ Kopek Russian coins. He showed me his successful find at the show, and hopefully will share it at the March meeting
- ❖ David A is trying to complete his Kennedy Half Dollar Set (not proofs), and once that is done will work on upgrading it.
- ❖ Mike M was looking to help fill in his Liberty Nickel set, having 11 of the 33 already graded by PCGS. He also was looking for pre-1800 American coins as well as colonials. One easy resource I discussed with him is the PCGS price-guide app for smart phone, if a reference book is not handy. Hopefully he will talk about the nice coin he did find
- ❖ Mike C is looking for more modern commemoratives
- ❖ Charlie C is looking for a U.S. Antislavery token. England produced quite a few around 1795, and they are fairly easy to obtain. Finding a nice American sample has been more difficult. The English coins have a motto "Am I Not a Man and Brother". Most American tokens (made in 1838) have

- ❖ the motto “Am I Not a Woman And Sister” (only 5 examples with the man exist). Thanks to the networking of the club, I was introduced to Herb M at our show, who is past president and current member of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Association in San Francisco (which I had recently joined). Herb happens to be a specialist in that series of coins, has given lectures about them, and gave me suggestions for obtaining them. Unfortunately, none were found at the show.



- ❖ Joe M ordered something on-line for his collection, and needed two members to hold it up to show the club. He collects Notgeld, emergency money from Europe generally after WW1 when there was a shortage of currency. There is a large variety of Notgeld types, as it was made by local industries producing the cash for local use. The specimen Joe had was made of linen from a linen-producing district in Germany. It was a large sheet of 10,000 Mark notes dated 1923, and they even had stitching around each note to prevent unraveling. Other kinds of Notgeld were made of aluminum foil, leather, ceramic, as well as paper.



SHOW NEWS

We had a beautiful sunny two-day Coin Show. People drove from as far as Bakersfield and Fort Bragg just to attend the show, and all seemed to have a good time. Many thanks to all club members who helped at the show and to clean up after. We will get a complete wrap-up of the show at the March meeting.

Besides looking for coins at the show, the other highlight was the Gold Coin Drawing at 4PM on Saturday. As usual, people started gathering at the front of the building about an hour ahead. When the time came for the drawing, Lee made sure the tickets were mixed up well. The first prize was drawn first, followed by the second prize. Those tickets were announced last, to keep up the suspense. And the winners are:

2-1/2 Peso Mexican Gold: Mike B (ticket # 4234), Art M (#4988), Rachel S (#5253), Dan C (#11962), Lee G (#11271), Michael T (#7841), and Annie P (#6354).

\$5 Liberty Head Gold: Zach K (#5223)

\$20 St. Gaudens Gold: Jim C (#8409)

Thanks to Merle and Lee for all the hard work to get this show organized and running smoothly. They put in a tremendous effort, and it is reflected in us having one of the top shows in Northern California each year.



Another Country, Another Mint

Many of you know that I like to travel and have visited most of the U.S. Mints (except West Point and Dahlonega). Travel outside the U.S. has brought me to mints in London (at the Tower of London), Bermuda, Colombia, and just recently Paris. The Monnaie de Paris was established in 864 (by Charles the Bald), and is the world's oldest institution for striking coinage. In 1972, France moved the mint to the city of Pessac to modernize minting. So, the building in the center of Paris used as a mint for the prior 200 years was converted to a wonderful museum.

It really helps visiting a foreign museum when there is signage in English, which was the case here. The museum detailed the process of producing coins and medals, from obtaining and smelting ore all the way to the actual coining. Every conceivable type of metal was described, with samples of ore, refined metal, and samples of coins/medals. This display pictured below was all about copper.



There was an entire section of the museum dedicated to both die engraving as well as the evolution of the coin press. On the day I visited, a mint die engraver was giving a demonstration on how a design was transferred from paper and engraved on a brass plate. And of course there were lots of displays of coins, from the earliest ones to current editions. For me, the most enjoyable display was some of the Metal Archives- which contains several tens of thousands of unique engraved steel blocks from the Middle Ages to present. There were hundreds on display, clearly displaying masterful engravings. If you are ever in Paris, this museum is highly recommended.



DRAWING THE GOLD TICKETS



DRAWING WINNERS

Membership: Harold R, Lee D, John B, Tiffany S, and Connie P

50:50 pot of \$86 was split with Andy O

Raffle: Lee D (twice), Bob K, Helmut J, Bill S (twice), Bill R, Jack H (twice), Dan C, and Andy O

Gold Coin raffle: 1/10 ounce American Eagle gold was won by Art M

February Attendance: 50+

New Members: none

Guests: Merle's wife (and very busy helper at work) Dena

Auction: 23 exciting items

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

KIDS CORNER

The February meeting was devoted to preparing for our coin show. At the show many donated items went to junior collectors as well as others affected by the recent fires. Our club members can be proud of the help that we have given others. In March we will talk about what we got at the coin show as well as the use of the Red book and the Greysheet to research before spending money for coins. See you at 6:15. Rich W

\$20 St. GAUDENS WINNER JIM C



Volunteers for **refreshments** for March are all of us. IF you can bring a side dish, salad, or dessert, thank you! (And dinner will only cost \$5). If you cannot bring anything, dinner will be \$10- and the corned beef is worth it!

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.

R.E.C.C.
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UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS

April 20-22, 2018. Coin Expo: Santa Clara Coin, Currency, Stamp, and Sports Collectibles Show. Santa Clara Convention Center, 5001 Great America Parkway, Santa Clara

May 6, 2018. Vallejo Numismatic Society 46th Annual Show. Florence Douglas Senior Center, 333 Amador (between Georgia and Florida), Vallejo

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

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. CoinExpo Santa Clara. Santa Clara Convention Center, 5001 Great American Parkway, Santa Clara

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 Or call me— 707-303-6032. See you March 14— Charlie