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Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 78, Issue 7, Meeting #896, July 9, 2025

Next Meeting August 13, 2025

PATRIOTIC COINS

The July RECC meeting was simple- a little news and then just coins and goodies.

The news: next month's topic: "**CENT**". Your illustrious board (Merle, Mike, Erik, and Charlie) get together prior to each month's regular meeting to go over business, and we decided to begin a series of monthly topics based on a single denomination (+/-). Since the **cent** will no longer be produced after this year, we decided that denomination would be a great beginning for a topic all on its own. Any numismatic **cent** item (even paper, good-for, elongated, encased, or other cent types) would be nice to see. OK, even a half cent is OK with this topic. Anything *larger* than a cent will be in a future month's topic. And if you just *have* to talk about something else, it will still be welcome. As usual, if you have photos of your item(s) please send them via e-mail ahead of time so they can be shown on the projector screen at the meeting- newsletter@redwoodempirecoinclub.com please. And also, as usual, give a talk and get four free raffle tickets!

PATRIOTIC COINS

- Alan S began the evening's talks with this gorgeous Franklin half dollar graded MS 65 FBL (full bell line), his favorite patriotic coin. The color toning is fantastic- the result of the mint using a special cardboard that was not used any other year. The chemicals from that imparted the toning, which reminds him of fireworks. There are more 1958 toned mint coins than any other year because of that cardboard packaging. Benjamin Franklin was a founding father, diplomat, inventor, an "all-around American".
- Ember was in Chicago just prior to our meeting and went to the Adler Planetarium. Besides lots of cool stuff about our universe, she saw two sets of medallions that were literally out of this world, at least briefly. There was a set of medallions that flew on different Gemini space flights, and a set of medallions that each flew on a different Apollo flight, from Apollo 7 through Apollo 17.



- Jeffrey S feels that U.S. Civil War numismatics are his favorite patriotic items, for continuing to mint coins during that difficult time. He described why coin collecting in general can be considered patriotic and discussed proof coinage. He is the proud owner of this 1862 Proof 62 (NGC) dollar. 11,540 regular strikes and only 550 proof strikes were minted. It took him five years to find this coin!
- David A really likes the Bicentennial silver set. He only has fourteen sets now but once owned twenty-five!
- Joel M showed us his patriotic American Eagle 1 ounce silver (once) in PCGS MS-70. He sent it to CAC, and it came back MS-68!? Merle went on to discuss the history with CAC and where grading services are at present.

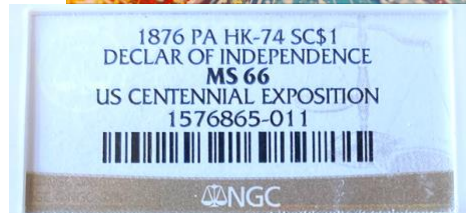


- Gary C (on Zoom in the cab of an RV in New Mexico at the time of our meeting): one of his collecting themes the last couple years has been Canada initiatives, and the U.S. imitates, where Canada is way ahead of our mint in certain themes. Today's examples are sequentially reversed: the quarter dollar depiction of Fort McHenry with fireworks was minted in 2013, and it wasn't until



2017 that Canada showed fireworks on a coin. But it was on a colorized ¼ ounce silver \$5 commemorative of the 150th anniversary of Canada.

- Merle talked about his two favorite patriotic items. First is from the U.S. Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia. His MS 66 example is the second finest known of this variety, one of 250 made of white metal. It features a reproduction of John Turnbull's famous painting now hanging in the U.S. Capitol Building rotunda. It features not the *signing* of the declaration (a common misconception), but the *presentation of a draft* of the Declaration of Independence to Congress on June 28, 1776. The medal was minted at the expo by the U.S. Mint. The expo was our first major multiple building world fair distinguished by direct federal sponsorship. \$10 stock certificates were sold to the public, guaranteeing \$1million for the fair, and Congress chipped in an additional \$4 million. A portion of Philadelphia's Fremont Park was used, totaling 236 acres. Of 167 buildings constructed, only one was permanent and is still standing-Memorial Hall, the current Museum of Art. Over 10 million people attended the show, 8 million paid. The U.S. population was 47 million. Every state and territory and 49 foreign countries were present, with 30,000 exhibitors! The mint exhibit at the expo is where the medal was produced. It sold for \$3, with bronze and gilt examples selling for \$1. The dies were destroyed after the show was over.



- Merle's second item is the So-Called Dollar from the 1892-1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago. It celebrated the 400th anniversary of Columbus (re)discovering America, and the worlds' progress in the ensuing four centuries. This example also features a replication of Turnbull's famous painting. The reverse features "Discovery of America" in 1492 by Columbus and Landing of the Pilgrims in 1620. This medal was minted on-



site. It was the third largest expo put on. The public subscribed \$10 million in stocks and bonds to put on the fair, there was a city bond of \$5million, and the government chipped in \$5 million more= \$20 million total to put on the fair. Almost 700 acres compromised the fair. One building was made of limestone (after a gift of \$5 million); the rest of the buildings were temporary. The expo ran from October 21, 1892 through November 21, 1893. 125,000 attended on opening day, and 27 million attended over the one-year

duration of the show, 21.5 million paid. There were 63 million people in the U.S. at that time. All states and territories were represented along with 54 foreign countries, with over 50,000 exhibits. The first Pullman Car was on display there, Westinghouse had an AC generator for all the electric lights being shown for the first time, and the first Ferris Wheel was there. 250 examples of Merle's medal were made on-site.

- Finally, Charlie C (that's me!) showed a favorite patriotic item. There is one area of numismatics that is specifically called patriotic: Patriotic Civil War Tokens. Due to a shortage of metal available for the government to mint coins during the Civil War, local merchants began producing small-cent sized tokens-starting in Cincinnati in late 1862. Two types were made, store card tokens with merchant advertising, and patriotic tokens with no advertising. The patriotic tokens featured all sorts of designs, including flags, cannon, statues, and patriotic mottoes. George and Melvin Fuld wrote a book listing the varieties in 1960, and it is still useful. The variety shown here is a favorite. The obverse features the Flag of our Union. The reverse: IF ANYONE ATTEMPTS TO TEAR IT DOWN, SHOOT HIM ON THE SPOT, with DIX in the center. There were nine reverse DIX dies, but one had an added 'O' to 'SPOT' to make it 'SPOOT'. Thanks to Merle for helping me find this. It is not rare but it is definitely popular to have a spoot shooter patriotic token.



Can't make it to the next meeting? Join us via Zoom:

Topic: RECC Zoom Meeting

Time: Aug 13, 2025 7:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83550173788?pwd=m69lxP9tATbjKKLb53puKJC13EBjMp.1>

Meeting ID: 835 5017 3788. Passcode: 082025

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PCGS/CACMS65+ \$13,000

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DRAWING WINNERS

Membership: Helmut J, Joyce B, Greyson D, Michael W, Dale C

50:50 pot of \$84 was split with Tim T

Raffle: Bill S, Bill P, Chris H, Greyson D, Joel M, Bill R (three times), Merle A, Rusty D, Tiffany S, and Celina M

July Attendance: 50+

New Members: Greyson D #1060J, Adele D # 1061, and Caden M # 1062—WELCOME!

Guests: Tim T, Jerry S, Thomas, and others

Auction: 37 exciting items.

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



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UPCOMING SHOWS AND EVENTS

July 26-27, 2025. Fremont Coin Club's Annual Coin Show. Elk's Lodge, 38991 Farwell Drive, Fremont

August 1-2, 2025. Central Valley Coin and Collectibles Show. Stanislaus County Veterans Hall, 3500 Coffee Rd., Modesto

August 3, 2025. Fairfield Coin & Collectibles Show. Elk's Lodge #2638, 302 Parker St., Vacaville

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.

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

Thanks for reading. Corrections? Additions? Questions? E-mail us at: newsletter@Redwoodempirecoinclub.com.
See you at the Vets Building "Dinner Room" **August 13, 2025**— Charlie