



Founded March 26, 1949

1211W. College Ave.  
Santa Rosa, Ca. 95401

# Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 64, Issue 10, Meeting #743. October 10, 2012

Next Meeting: November 14, 2012

## OKTOBERFEST!

What a generous club! We had our annual Helen and Roy Roberts Benefit Auction in October in lieu of the regular auction. 62 exciting items were donated by club members, generating over \$500 to the club. Many thanks for those who donated as well as purchased lots.

We also had our annual Oktoberfest feast, which was delicious. There was plenty to go around.

And if you thought *that* was good, in **November** we are having **THANKSGIVING!** *All the turkey and trimmings you want for only \$5, plus beverages. Please bring a warm side dish and dessert to share with the club. This has always been the biggest food fest each year, so don't let us down!*



### COIN SHOW NEWS

Merle is working hard to sell tables for our February Coin Show. 20 tables are already sold. Both Merle and Lee do a lot of work behind the scenes to prepare for this show, so let them know how much you appreciate it.

Don Rinkor has donated 16 slabbed Silver Dollars to the club for the Silver Dollar Hourly Drawing at the show on Friday and Saturday. We greatly appreciate the

generosity, and they always have great appeal for selling drawing tickets.

For the Gold Coin Drawing, we will have the same prizes as last year: a \$20 St. Gaudens, a \$5 Liberty, and seven 2-1/2 peso Mexican gold pieces. You should have all received Gold Coin Drawing tickets to sell—please do your best to help sell those. Who knows how high gold will go, and the ticket sales help cover that cost. Plus there are prizes to the top 3 ticket sellers as well as a 4th randomly picked for the other sellers.

Finally, there will be a coin show dinner once again at Fou Zhou Chinese Buffet. That is where we will hold our 6 month Membership Gold Coin Drawing as well.

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### The United States Mint Philadelphia

It had been over 40 years since my last visit. Memories of the then-new U.S Mint building are still vague, but the tour was not even complete at the time. There was no way I would miss seeing the mint while in Philadelphia recently, and the visit was well worth it.

Philadelphia is a great place for kids to grow up. The Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, and a number of historical places all are located within one section of the city. It was good seeing school trips with lots of excited kids visiting the mint and other sites.





One of the first things you notice after passing through security and entering the spacious building, are seven murals designed by Louis Tiffany. Two rectangular mosaics are 14' wide, and five circular ones are 5' wide. They illustrate the ancient Roman minting process. They use figures of children as workers, and the design is patterned after similar murals unearthed in Pompey featuring plump winged cupids doing the work.

An long escalator ride up takes you to a small museum with some historic coin, medal, and equipment displays. Then you walk down a hallway the length of the entire building and back. There are nice displays describing the entire process from designing coins and medals, transferring them to hubs and dies, producing and finishing the planchets, and the entire coining, counting, and distribution process. You view the minting process through large windows, looking down from 40' above the factory floor.

Photographs are not allowed, but you may see a virtual tour via the mint website at: [http://www.usmint.gov/mint\\_tours/?action=VTShell](http://www.usmint.gov/mint_tours/?action=VTShell). The pictures here are all available on the web— I did not dare sneak a photo while in the building. The process of making the models, hubs and dies was clearly described with good examples to look at. The shops where that was done could be viewed, though there was little activity on the day of my tour.

Minting was quite active though, starting with the rolls to make the planchets. Everything but cent planchets are made on site, and huge racks of 6000 pound metal coils could be seen, pictured here.



Planchets ended up in huge bins, and there were conveyor belts taking everything to different stages of the minting process.



Planchets went through annealing to heat them up and soften them for easier pressing, seen in this photo. Then they were washed, dried, and an edge rolled onto them.



Finally, they were transferred to rows of minting machines like the one in the photo above. Afterward they go into huge bins, where they are taken to be put in bags for distribution. The bags are about 2' cubes, and the coins are counted by weight, not by the exact number.

There was a separate section where we even watched special medals being produced and packaged individually, with workers wearing white gloves. If you ever get to Philadelphia, this is a tour you should not miss. And it is free!

### NEW LECTURE SERIES

Lee Gong will be giving an **ADVANCED COLLECTING** talk at the beginning of each meeting. He will begin at 6PM. This will be very interesting and informative, geared to all adult and advanced Junior members.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads may be placed by any club member, up to 2 per month. They run for two months. Buy—Sell—Trade—Want Lists OK. Notify Charlie at each meeting (or mail to club P.O. Box, or even call) to get your ad in

**WANTED:** California “Good For” tokens. See or call Merle

### KIDS KORNER

The October meeting was really two meetings that were well attended by youth members. Joel M did one meeting with our regular members discussing “the Red Book” and distributing foreign coin freebies. Rich met with visiting cub scouts and discussed various ways of starting coin collections. The cubs picked up many free albums and some free coins as well. The cubs were welcomed back to join us at future meetings.

In November, the subject will be: Obtaining, handling, and proper storage of high grade coins. We will look at the coin club commandments that deal with proper handling and storage of uncirculated and/or proof coins. Never can tell, there could even be some high grade coins given away to junior members who attend the Nov. meeting at 6:15.

## DRAWING WINNERS:

**Membership:** Mike M, Gary C, Bob B, Joe McC, Frank C, and Adrianna M

**50:50** pot of \$ \$78 was split with Joel M

**Raffle:** Harry D, Bob B, Lucky Larry M, Joel M, Irene C, Bob K (three times!), Jim C, Edwin H, Jon Maria M, and Mike M

**October Members:** 82+

**New Members:** none this meeting

**Guests:** Yes, several

**Auction:** 62 donated items!

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

**Congratulations to Mike G for becoming Life Member # 64!**



These plaques were on each side wall of the entrance to the mint. Do you recognize them? Check the back of the \$1 Bill. The RECC newsletter had an article about them a few months ago.

Volunteers for **refreshments** for November are all of you who can bring a hot side dish and dessert to share for Thanksgiving. Thanks!

The Redwood Empire Coin Club meets on the second Wednesday of every 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 PM sharp.

R.E.C.C.

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## UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS

**November 4, 2012. Peninsula Coin Club's 33rd Annual Coins and Collectibles Show.**  
Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway,  
San Jose

**January 25-27, 2013. San Jose Coin Club 45th Coin, Stamp, and Collectibles Show.**  
Doubletree Hotel Bayshore Ballroom, 2050  
Gateway Place, San Jose.

**February 15-16, 2013. Redwood Empire Coin Club's 45th Annual Coin Show.** Sonoma County Fairgrounds' Finley Hall, 1350 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa

**February 17, 2013 Cupertino Coin Club 41st Annual Show.** Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose

**May 5, 2013. 41st Annual Vallejo Coin and Collectibles Show.** Vallejo Veterans Memorial Building, 420 Admiral Callaghan Lane (off Redwood Parkway and turn south on Admiral Callaghan)

**July 27-28, 2013. Fremont Coin Club 34th Annual Show.** Elk's Hall, 38991 Farwell Drive, Fremont

**November 3, 2013. Peninsula Coin Club 34th Annual Coins and Collectibles Show.**  
Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway,  
San Jose

**Check out the newsletter at:**  
**[Redwoodempirecoinclub.com](http://Redwoodempirecoinclub.com)**

Thanks for reading. Corrections? Additions?  
Questions? E-mail us at:  
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Or call me— 707-573-1252  
See you November 14— Charlie

