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

Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 68, Issue 6, Meeting #788. June 8, 2016

Next Meeting: July 13, 2016

JUNE NEWS

The June meeting of the RECC got off to a start by singing Happy Birthday to Lee G! Unfortunately there was no cake, but thanks to those who brought goodies.

The **July meeting** will be our annual **BBQ Dinner Night**, with fried pork steaks and chicken for just \$5 each. **Please bring either a side dish or a dessert** to go with this, and we will have a great feast! The **theme** of the night is **“What Numismatically Represents Father’s Day to You?”** Bring in an item or just talk about it, and receive 4 free raffle tickets. Finally, we will have a **Flea Market** from 6-7 for anyone wanting to set up a table for selling/trading/buying numismatic items. See ya then!

In March 2019 our club will celebrate its 70th Anniversary. It is a few years away, but it is time to start thinking about how we can celebrate it. In the past we have issued club medals, wooden nickels, and even wood ‘flats’. It takes time to come up with designs, so it is not too soon to start working on it. The choice has always been up to the entire club voting on designs and what to produce. See Lee G’s show and tell for photos from past medals.

SHOW AND TELL

⇒ Joe Mc C led off the discussions. Among his collecting interests are wooden ‘flats’. Often these are rectangular pieces of thin wood, the size of a post card, and sometimes a “good for” or commemorating an event. He brought in one from the New England Numismatic Association made of very thin wood veneer, and the size of notebook paper! Very impressive— he gave it to Merle (and has 9 more).



⇒ Guy S talked with the Junior members since Rich W was not present. He discussed collecting Roman coins, and brought in several examples. The special one was a gold solidus of Emperor Valens.



- ⇒ Julia R brought in her Mercury Dime collection, which is filling up very nicely. She likes the 1941-S and 1945 coins best, since they are in such nice condition (they are “shiny”)
- ⇒ Bill C brought in his text on Russian coins. It was written 1992, but still had some old-school politics in its description of the historical aspect of the coins. Nonetheless, it is extremely detailed and one of the best resources on Russian coins. It is written half in English and half in Russian.
- ⇒ David A brought in his 1/10 ounce silver round featuring a Walking Liberty design, only in the size of a dime!



⇒ Charlie C has been looking for a long time for a coin that he knew existed, yet had never seen. In a talk several months ago, he mentioned 1804 “dollars” and where the term dollar originated—from the German thaler. The story goes back to 1486 with the discovery of significant silver in Schwanz, Austria. Silver was now being minted in coins equivalent to the gold gulden, and were called groschen. These were dollar sized coins. In 1518, the Counts of Schick (now a ski area in the Czech Republic) began minting coins in silver mined in Joachimsthal, a regional town in Bohemia (also now the Czech Republic). A thal is a valley, and Joachimsthal was in St. Joachim’s Valley, named after the father of the Virgin Mary. Since something from a thal was called a “thaler”, these coins were called Joachimsthalers (the very first time thaler was used for a coin). Soon several surrounding towns were also minting silver and producing coins of the same size, all called thalers. And the rest, as we say, is history.

⇒ But there is more to this story. How do we know this is among the first thalers of 1518? Count Stephen and his brothers started minting coins in 1518, but did not get official approval to mint coins from King Louis of Bohemia until 1520, when dates were first used on these coins. The source of this coin at auction (Classical Numismatic Group) is very reliable, so the description was trusted. Some other clues to the earliest minting is the progression in the design from this coin pictured here, to the 1520 dated coins, to later ones with a more refined image. The legends are all the same as the later dated coins too. The obverse features St. Joachim standing, with a shield at his right side. The Latin legend reads “The Arms of the Lords of Schick, Stephen and his brothers, Counts of Basan”. There is also a small S and I on either side of the figure, standing for Saint Joachim. Those letters are more prominent on later dated coins. The legend on the reverse reads (in Latin) “Louis the First, by the grace of God, King of Bohemia”. It surrounds a rampant lion, in case you were wondering what the animal was. The coin was minted in what is now called Jachymov, Czech Republic. Not having a book with any info, this took a lot of very fun internet research to verify that this is one of the first thalers! And one interesting source of info was the American Journal of Numismatics, Vol II, No 1, dated May 1867 (yes, even that was available on the internet).



⇒ Stephen K collects 1 ounce Mexican Libertad silver rounds. They have nice designs, and seem to appreciate in value quickly. He brought in a 2015 example.



⇒ Bill G talked about the upcoming Concord coin show. Dealer John Christianson will be there with 6 and 9 ounce “Gold Rush era” gold ingots. The reason for the quotes is this: when brought into the U.S. from England, licenses were needed for import here at the time because gold was otherwise not legal to own. Even though they had been authenticated as genuine, it turns out that they were counterfeit fantasy pieces made in the 1940s and 1950s here. There were only ~15 made (or known), they are still valued for what they are.

⇒ Gary C found an English sixpence this month in a Coinstar machine. It features Queen Elizabeth II on the obverse, and four emblems of countries in the U.K.: the thistle of Scotland, leek of Wales, Rose of England, and shamrock of Ireland.



⇒ Joel M brought in a slabbed Morgan dollar that must have been at the end of a roll. The obverse is colorfully toned, and the reverse is bright white.



- ⇒ Dan C brought in his recently upgraded Walking Liberty half dollar collection.
- ⇒ Merle brought in a gold (foil-wrapped chocolate) coin, and his 14 P-64 Cameo Barber dimes, quarters, and halves— trying to get the entire sets all in that grade.
- ⇒ Riley talked about being stationed in Germany, and meeting his father there and traveling to Amsterdam for some R&R. They went to a flea market, bought ~\$20 in face value U.S. gold coins. Turns out 60% of them were counterfeit, made of partial gold. He is interested in counterfeit currency and all the ways it can be made.
- ⇒ Lee G collects club medals, and has fun putting together sets. He also has gold club medals overstruck on foreign gold coins— 2 are unique. Below are some of the medals we have had over the years



DRAWING WINNERS:

Membership: Celina M, Jerry St. G, Jasmine M, Bob K, Dan C, Jon Maria M, Kathryn E, and Randon S

50:50 pot of \$92 was split with Claude F (who rightfully donated it to Rose)

Raffle: Joel M (twice), Lucky Larry, Bill S, Andy O, Matt A (twice), Harold R, Andy S (twice), Bill C, Guy S

June Members Present: 45+

Guests: Yes

Auction: 27 exciting items

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

3rd Annual

CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC SEMINAR

Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum
734 Marin Street, at Capital, Vallejo

The theme for this seminar will be “THE FUTURE OF OUR HOBBY”, and feature an impressive line-up of speakers: Scott English, Executive Director, American Philatelic Society; Serge Pelletier and Steve Woodland, Royal Canadian Numismatic Association and Ontario Numismatic Association; Charmy Harper, ‘The Penny Lady’; Steven Price, Stacks-Bowers; and Jeff Shevlin, ‘The So-Called Dollar Guy’. Each will present their insights and observations as to what the future holds for our hobby.

And of course there will be door prizes, an on-site luncheon service, free admission to the museum, and the CSNA Library for your perusal.

KIDS KORNER

There is no Kids meeting planned for the July meeting since there will be a Flea Market.

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

JULY 30-31, 2016. Fremont Coin Club Annual Show, Elk's Hall, 38991 Farwell Drive, Fremont

August 7, 2016. Fairfield Coin Club 27th Annual Coin Show, Willow Room, Fairfield Community Center (downtown) 1000 East Kentucky off Pennsylvania

September 17, 2016: 3rd Annual CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC SEMINAR. Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum, 734 Marin (at Capital in downtown Vallejo)

September 18, 2016. Livermore Valley Coin Club 5th Annual Fall Coin Show. Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur, Livermore

September 30-Oct 1, 2016. Sacramento Valley Coin Club Annual Fall Coin Show. Four Points by Sheraton, 4900 Duckhorn Drive, Sacramento

October 7-9, 2016. Diablo Numismatic Society 20th Annual Contra Costa Coin Show. Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Dr., Walnut Creek

October 15-16, 2016. Delta Coin Club 52nd Annual Coin Show. Eagles Hall, 1492 Bourbon Street, Stockton

October 22-23, 2016. Fresno Coin Club annual Coin Show. Las Palmas Masonic Center, 2992 E. Clinton Avenue, Fresno

November 6, 2016. Peninsula Coin Club 37th Annual Coins and Collectibles Show. Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose

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Redwoodempirecoinclub.com**

Thanks for reading. Corrections? Additions?
Questions? E-mail us at:
newsletter@Redwoodempirecoinclub.com

Or call me— 707-573-1252
See you July 13— Charlie

