



Founded March 26, 1949

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

Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 68, Issue 10, Meeting #791. September 14, 2016

Next Meeting: November 9, 2016

OKTOBERFEST

The theme for the October meeting was Oktoberfest, and we had four different kinds of wieners with buns courtesy of G&G Market. There were goodies provided by several members, with enough to go around for all (many thanks).

Merle gave an update on the RECC Coin Show coming up on February 24-25, 2016. Tables are already selling and we expect to have another excellent variety of coin dealers present. Merle handed out books of tickets for the gold coin raffle. Once again the drawing will be for seven 2-1/2 peso Mexican gold pieces, a \$5 Liberty Head gold piece, and a \$20 St. Gaudens gold piece.

Proceeds from the ticket sales help defray the cost of running the show as well as help the club with covering the cost of renting the Vets Building, mailing newsletters, etc.

And once again this year there will be prizes for those selling the tickets. These will go to the top three sellers. And there will be a fourth gold coin, with a drawing among all others who sell gold drawing tickets. Thanks for your efforts— the club appreciates it!

CHARITY AUCTION

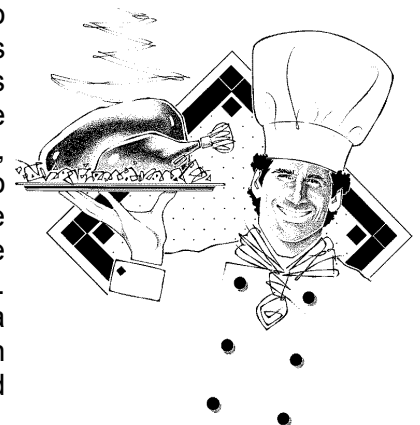
We held the 17th annual Helen and Roy Roberts Benefit auction at the October meeting. Members donated 43 items, and they were auctioned for a total of \$430! Thanks so much to all who donated, as well as to those who had winning bids on the items.

For those of you who do not remember them, Roy was past president of the club a few times, and ran the auction for years after that. Helen was our trusty Treasurer, and she pinched every penny possible while carefully watching the budget. This is back in the times we met at Coddington. Both have since passed away, but are still fondly remembered by the club for their many years of loyal service.



THANKSGIVING

The November meeting will be our annual Thanksgiving meeting. For a mere \$5, you can have all the turkey, gravy, stuffing, and mashed potatoes you want, expertly prepared as usual by the chefs at G&G Market. PLEASE bring a side dish or dessert to share for this meeting. It is always one of the best attended, since the food is so good. Oh yeah, we may talk a little about coins too. There will also be a regular coin auction at the end of the meeting.



STANDING LIBERTY

A number of you have come to the meetings to show off your Mercury Dime 2016 Centennial gold coin. The U.S. Mint did a very nice job reproducing the details of that dime. Now I just gotta go get one for myself. Though the mint has sold out, they are available on the secondary market.

Now the mint has the Standing Liberty Quarter 2016 Centennial gold coin, which was (and still is) available from the mint. I did get one, and it is also a beautifully minted coin. So it seems like a good time to review the original.

The Act of Sept. 26, 1890 stated that any coin design could be changed only after 25 years' tenure. The Barber quarter's 25 years was to end in 1917. So in December 1915 the U.S. Treasury held a competition for new designs of the dime, quarter, and half dollar (apparently forgetting the dreary results of the 1891 contest with all 3 coins having the same Barber design).

The winning design was by Hermon Atkins MacNeil. He was to visit the engraving department of the mint to confer with the chief mint engraver about mechanical requirements for the coin. The chief, Charles Barber (who designed the Barber quarters), was completely uncooperative as he tended to be. So an almost forgotten Assistant engraver helped: George Morgan (of Morgan Dollar fame). Prototypes were made, only missing the original plan for two dolphins at Liberty's feet and a religious motto on the drapery across her arm.

Jumping the gun by several weeks, 52,000 quarters with the new design were minted in the last 2 weeks of December with the 1916 date. The public was not notified, and they were released with 1917 dated coins at the beginning of the year.

There were a couple design flaws with the original coin: the date until 1925 was on an exposed plaque unprotected by a raised rim, so it tended to wear out quickly; and the head was prone to show less than half the normal detail. Full head specimens carry a premium price.

Ornithologists claimed that the eagle had "the head of a hawk, the wings of an eagle, the body of a dove".

And one cherished final feature of MacNeil's 1916 obverse necessitated a modification by Charles Barber. Ms. Liberty's right breast was exposed, showing a nipple (and on the sharpest strikes a realistic areola). Political pressure from followers of Anthony Comstock and his Society for the Suppression of Vice succeeded in a change to a Type II obverse with Ms. Liberty's bust covered in chain mail (though her right leg was still bare to mid-thigh).



On the obverse design, Liberty's left arm is raised uncovering a shield in the attitude of protection. Her right hand holds an olive branch of peace. She is standing in the opening of a wall containing thirteen stars.

There is one major rarity in the series, the 1918/7 S. During the fall of 1917 there was a rush to fill coinage quotas, and the Engraving Department was making 1917 and 1918 dies at the same time. One working die received a blow from a 1917 hub, then went to an annealing furnace to be prepared for a normal second blow. It was mistakenly sent to the wrong press and received a blow from a 1918 hub. Inspection failed to spot the error, and the die (mint marked for San Francisco) was used briefly.



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.

South Bay Sunnyvale Coin Show

There will be an exclusive and free coin club member only drawing at the November 11-12 show. A 1974-S Silver Ike Dollar graded PCGS P66 will be given away to one lucky member of a coin club. There will also be registration prizes of : a 20th century U.S. Coin type set with 21 coins (21 silver) in wood/glass case; 1942 Mercury Dime graded by PCGS MS64 full bands; and a 2008 U.S. Silver Eagle



This is a Type 2 Standing Liberty Quarter, with several modifications from the original MacNeil design of Type 1. You can compare it with the prior photo, and see the changes: The base is recessed so the date won't wear out so fast; her bust is covered with chain mail; the olive branch and drapery on her right arm are more crude and ill defined; the details on the wall are less distinct; even the hairstyle is less flowing. It still is a beautiful coin.

DRAWING WINNERS:

Membership: Darren C, Bob K, Bob A, Philip S, and Jeff B

50:50 pot of \$104 was split with Keanu!

Raffle: Mike B, Esther, David A, Jack H, Edwin H (twice), Bill R (twice), Jon Maria (twice), Georgia, Rick S

October Members Present: 60+

New Members: no

Guests: Esther, Pat, Delores, Ramona, and others

Auction: 43 exciting items

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

KIDS KORNER

There will be a junior meeting in November. We will distribute more donated material to adults as well as the juniors. Advance thanks to Jack Beymer via Joe Mc C for the items. I will also be talking about grading Barber coins using the Photograde books from Jack. We will also compare these standards to ANA and the red book. See you at 6:15 sharp. Welcome back to Zack from Finland! Rich

Volunteers for **refreshments** for November are all of you who can bring a side dish or a dessert for the Thanksgiving dinner. 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.
1211 W. College Ave.
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UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS

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

November 11-12, 2016. South Bay/Sunnyvale Coin Show. Domain Hotel, 1085 East El Camino Real, Sunnyvale.

FEBRUARY 24-25, 2017. Redwood Coin Club 49th Annual Coin Show. Sonoma County Fairgrounds' Finley Hall, Santa Rosa

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

Or call me— 707-573-1252
See you November 9— Charlie

