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5850 Commerce Blvd, Suite 100
Rohnert Park, Ca. 94928

Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 73, Issue 12, Meeting #841, December 9, 2020

Next Meeting: January 13, 2021

SOCIAL DISTANCING, MEETING #9

I hope this newsletter still finds you in good health, one and all. Once again we met via Zoom, and we had twenty two members plus a guest. Our newest member Paul C included his dad Ray in the meeting- it is always nice to have another interested collector join us! There was no real business to discuss, but we did discuss the Covid pandemic a bit.

Before our Show and Tell, Eric S gave a presentation on the benefits of joining the PCGS Collectors Club. If you join the Gold level at \$149, they send you four grading vouchers to submit your coins with; the \$249 Platinum level includes vouchers for submitting eight coins. They have to be valued at under \$2500 each coin. The nice thing about the vouchers is that all the supplies needed for shipping the coins are included. But *you* need to pay for shipping and insurance costs both to and from PCGS.

Along with the vouchers, you also would be entitled to access to PCGS members-only shows, a subscription to Rare Coin Market Report, a 10% discount on all PCGS supplies, and other discounted specials that may periodically come up. This is a potential money saving option if you plan to slab enough coins each year- at the Platinum level it runs ~\$30 per item (excluding shipping). It wasn't clear from the club members if you need to submit all similar coins (which doesn't make sense to some of us with varied collections).

There is always the option to take your coins to dealers like Don Rinkor or Jack Beymer. This is particularly so if you have questions if it is worth the cost of submitting an item or only have one or two to submit.

WHAT NUMISMATIC ITEM IS ON YOUR HOLIDAY WISH LIST?

- Riley R did not have a specific numismatic item on his holiday wish list. He did wish for the vaccine to become available and for us to be able to meet in person again. Riley also discussed a past episode on Fox Business Network's "Strange Inheritance" about a 1974-D aluminum cent. The man who found it had a bag of coins left to him by his father, a Denver mint employee decades ago. In 1974 the mint was looking at alternatives to copper for the cent, and a trial in aluminum was made. Somehow a few managed escaped being destroyed, and there is wrangling about if it is legal to own. I have been unable to locate the episode on YouTube or any other source. If anyone has a link, please share it with the club.



- Andy O would like Santa to bring him a 1906 Mexico gold 5 or 10 peso piece- which were minted at the Philadelphia Mint. He would also like a 1909-S VDB cent.



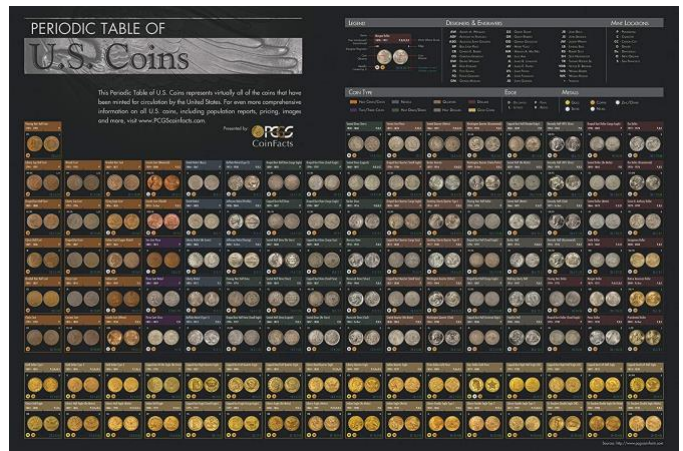
- Bob A has two holes in his coin albums that he would like to get filled: a 1909-S VDB cent and a 1916-D Mercury dime.



- Paul C would love to have a proof Trade dollar, and already has one in mind. This would go well with the other nicely toned Trade and Peace dollars he collects.
- Paul's dad Ray really likes the Mexican ½ ounce 20 peso gold coin with the Aztec Calendar on it
- Joel M really likes Standing Liberty quarters and is hoping to get a 1923-S example.



- Matt A is hoping Santa can help him find a poster called the Periodic Table of U.S. Coins, made by PCGS. It features virtually every circulating coin minted in the U.S. and would be handy for Matt to look at and check off what is still needed for his collection. It just so happened that two different members on-line had leads on where to get one for him!



- Joe McC is really hoping for a \$5 Educational note in ~ XF. It is a very beautiful and popular bill. Merle had a suggestion where Santa could look to find one for sale/auction.
- Rick W just wished for good health for everyone for the holidays and beyond
- Bob K would like a nice proof coin. Nothing specific beyond that
- Ron S had two coins on his Christmas wish list, and he already got one: a 1955 doubled die Lincoln cent! The other still on his wish list is a 1922 plain cent (no D).



- Mike M likes early US coins minted before 1800. A 1797 half dime in VG would be nice, though it runs about \$1800. A 1798 dime in VG would also be nice, and runs about \$1200. The 1796 quarter would be great to own but is prohibitive at ~\$17,000 in VG. HO HO HO!



- Deanna J is hoping Santa brings her the gold 1916 Walking Liberty half dollar centennial commemorative, to go with the gold quarter and dime examples she has. It looks so nice in gold!

- Helm J is looking for a 1921-S buffalo. This led to a discussion about acid etching to bring out the date on very worn coins. Apparently acid can be used, because it tends to dissolve the slightly softer metal around where the date had been stamped on a coin (and hardened in the process). It is usually possible to see that a coin has been acid etched by the dark area around the date leftover from the process.

- For Bill R there are two coins that have always appealed to him and been on his wish list: an 1856 Flying Eagle cent and a 1916 Standing Liberty quarter.
- Guy S remembers having a box of coins when he was twelve, and he is now trying to replicate everything he remembers was in the box. He is looking for an 1836 large cent. He also likes foreign coins that were circulating in the American colonies.
- Roman S is wishing to fill the *very last hole* in his U.S type set: an 1837 reeded edge half dollar (see the image below).



- Erik S is wishing for a 1798 Draped Bust Small Eagle dollar. Or even a Flowing Hair Small Eagle dollar would be nice! The following images were from Erik



- Gary C already got useful info at the meeting today, about submitting items to PCGS.
- John B would like Santa to give him the key to a slot machine he recently purchased. It has not been opened in over forty years, and he would like to see what is inside of it!
- Mike C likes the year 1886, when the McNear project was built in Petaluma, as well as the town hall. He claims no major want for the holiday though an 1886-S Morgan dollar would be nice!
- Merle had three specific tokens on his Christmas want list, and they just arrived today in time for our meeting! The first is his At the Palace Saloon Santa Rosa token from around 1897. It is unlisted in the Kappen book and came from the Ron Lurch collection. This token is one of only four known. Merle's second saloon token is from the Bridge Saloon in Sonoma- there are only two of those known and Merle now has one of them. Sonoma tokens are very hard to get (except for the common Sonoma Mission Inn tokens). Finally is the 1895 token from the Brick Saloon in Valley Ford, which has always been a small town with 60-200 residents over the years. There are also only two of these tokens known, so Merle is happy to have one of them from this tiny town. There was only one other *saloon* token from Valley Ford, from the Patterson Saloon. A single example is known, and Merle also has it- so now he has tokens from both Valley Ford saloons! Joel went on to say that the Sonoma County Fair was held at the turn of the century (=/- 1900) in Valley Ford, right near Joel's restaurant Dinucci's. The Tomales Museum has photos of that.



➤ Charlie C (that's me!) showed the Chain Cent pictured here. It really isn't on the holiday wish list but is something I have always liked and would be happy to own. Like others in this club, there is an allure to pre-1800 U.S coins. This was the very first cent minted. About 36,000 of them were minted in early 1793. Many people were unhappy with the chain on the reverse, as the country had fairly recently broken away from the rule of England, and critics did not like seeing any suggestion of bondage to any government. Anti-slavery sentiment did not become prevalent for several more decades in the U.S. After a few months of minting, the reverse was changed. Only about 1000 examples remain to date, many in quite worn condition. But even those command a premium. The example here, from the archives of Heritage, is one of the finest graded.

➤ The other item was the only image with a numismatic holiday theme I could find. It comes from a book I was able to purchase earlier this year. *De Numis Habreo Samaritanis* by Francisco Perez Bayer was printed in 1781. That is before any of the early American coins were even minted! In nice condition it only cost \$300 (although a copy in Tel Aviv was selling for \$1900 and one in Paris was for sale at \$5000). It is the first authoritative book on early Holy Land coins, which is really nice to include in my numismatic book collection. The book plate on the inside cover shows it was owned

by the Monsignor of the Church of Lisbon, who was also the Lisbon Public Librarian and member of the Lisbon Royal Academy of Sciences in the late 1700s. What was remarkable (besides the numismatic content, which seemed surprisingly thorough for 240 years ago) were two 'vignettes' or engravings inside. First was a rather ugly portrait of Spain's King Charles III (the book was dedicated to him). The other image in the back of the book was the image below of cherubs involved in various stages of minting coins, from smelting to the final product. It looks like a late 1700's version of a holiday workshop (before someone came up with the idea of Santa and his elves). May all your holiday wishes come true!



JANUARY TOPIC

The topic of the January meeting is: **WHAT NUMISMATIC GOAL DO YOU HAVE FOR 2021?**
Can the club help?

Are you going to start a new collection? Try to finish or upgrade one? Maybe sell some duplicates? How about photographing and cataloging your coins? There must be a lot of possibilities - tell us what your plan is. You could call these New Years Numismatic Resolutions and have fun with it!

Topic: RECC Zoom Meeting

Time: Jan 13, 2021 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88973228846?pwd=WWRHMDBTSEY4WXhpbXlaMmR2UjFqUT09>

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Oops: we didn't get around to electing the club officers at the December meeting. So technically that meeting is not over. We will take care of that at the beginning in January, adjourn the December meeting, and then start the January meeting. Or something like that.....



Membership drawing: thanks to the generous donation by Erik S, we gave away an 1882-S Morgan Dollar in a MS-63 PCGS 'rattler' holder. The lucky winner was Rick W!

In January, we will have a membership drawing and give away this 1883-O Morgan Dollar in PCGS MS-64. We hope you all have a happy and healthy holiday season and look forward to seeing you at the January Zoom meeting.

Edgar D. Fulwider, *retired Senior Die Setter, San Francisco Mint, ('S Mint' on his license plates), Marine, and personal friend to 'Joe' Rosenthal*, passed away on December 12th.

'Ed' did the honors of minting the **first** Proof 1971S 'Ike' Dollar and loved the 'S-Mint'.

His last significant talk was at the Vallejo Museum some years back. Thanks to Michael S. Turrini for forwarding this information.



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Check out our newsletter at:

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Thanks for reading. Corrections? Additions? Questions?

E-mail us at: newsletter@Redwoodempirecoinclub.com.

See you (hopefully!) January 13, 2021— Charlie

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The Redwood Empire Coin Club meets on the second Wednesday of each month. The Club's normal 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.