



Founded March 26, 1949

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Rohnert Park, Ca. 94928

Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 73, Issue 8, Meeting #840, November 11, 2020

Next Meeting: December 9, 2020

SOCIAL DISTANCING, MEETING #8

I hope this newsletter still finds you in good health, one and all. The RECC meeting was held on-line via Zoom once again and we had twenty four members attend. Several of you are veterans, and we thank you all for your service. We remembered this group photo taken at our November 2015 meeting with all the veterans lined up. Sadly, several have passed like Lee Gong, Jon Maria Marish, and Harry Davis, plus others from the past. We appreciate all that was done for our country.



We have a new member: Paul C, who collects Peace dollars (particularly those with nice toning) and Trade dollars. Welcome!

The coin show for February has officially been cancelled. Although some meetings are being allowed at the Fairgrounds, there are way too many hoops to go through and restrictions to allow us to have the quality show we strive for. Hopefully we will be back in 2022.

In December we will have election of officers. The current board of officers is willing to run for re-election. Any member of good standing is allowed to run for club office, and nominations will be opened up at the December meeting, followed by a vote.

DUES: for those of you who are not Life Members, it is time for 2021 dues. Since we cannot meet in person, please mail them in to the club address. We still have printing and mailing costs to cover for the club, so the dues help. Thanks!

Mike M donated a Proof Washington 250th Anniversary of Birth silver half dollar from 1982 as a membership drawing prize. The winner was Roman S!

WHAT NUMISMATIC ITEM ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR?

- Rich W sent in the first item: "When the October newsletter picked the November theme as "What numismatic item are you most thankful for, and why? I did not have to think very long. In 2013, RECC presented me with the Willie Quarante Memorial Award for service to the club. Coming from the club, in the spirit of Willie, exceeds the value of any numismatic item that I have or will have. Willie was a great human being. Always ready to do any job for the club big or small. I will always be honored to be recognized in his name.
- Jim D (visiting member of Diablo Numismatic Society) talked about this Lunar Landing medal from the Medalllic Art Company. It celebrates the moon landing July 20, 1969 and JFK's May 25, 1969 statement about sending a man to the moon and back.
- John B showed this token from The Senate in Santa Rosa. It was a bar owned by Jake Luppold that was in business around 1902-1906. John is thankful for this gift from his late wife.



- Mike M talked about the West Point Bicentennial commemorative from 2002. It sold initially for \$32 in proof, and for \$37 after issue by the mint. Current cost is about \$35. It has a very busy obverse design with the cadet color guard marching with flags, Academy building, chapel, and the mottoes.



- Mike C talked about a 3" U.S. Mint medal that his father gave to him featuring the bicentennial of the U.S. Coast Guard, which Mike served in. The obverse motto is "Guardians of the Sea" and "200 years of service". A very nice design.

- Robert L talked about the GSA sale of Carson City Mint Morgan Dollars. It was interesting how you could purchase them: the cost was either \$15, \$30, or \$60 depending on whether or not you wanted to specify a

date. The maximum number you could order was five sets. So, he ordered five for himself, and five for three other relatives. Years later he sold them all and was able to afford the down payment for a house! He was very thankful for that.

- Riley R started collecting coins and currency as a young kid. In his career he travelled extensively and obtained currency from each of the countries. He placed an example of currency from over sixty countries in a display frame and donated it to a bank which was established by one of his forefathers. It remains a popular viewing item at the bank. It was a way of carrying on his family ties to the bank.

- Bill R is thankful for his 1936 Bay Bridge Commemorative half dollar. His great grandmother got it in 1936 when she opened up a bank account in Oakland! It was given to him as a high school graduation present.



- Andy O showed some currency that his father picked up in Europe during World War II (he landed on Omaha Beach). They were German 2, 10, and 20 mark notes as well as Belgium notes. This was particularly memorable since his father had passed away two weeks ago. Andy also showed us a wooden nickel from the Sonoma County Radio Amateurs.

- Matt A showed us a 2018 bronze medal produced by the U.S. Mint which is a replica of the Congressional gold medal given to the OSS. The Office of Strategic Services in WWII was a predecessor of the CIA. The medal features a man, woman, and paratrooper behind the letters OSS on the obverse. The reverse features the symbol of the OSS and a number of code words. The medal was minted in 1-1/2" and 3" size.



- Bob K went to a token show in Sacramento with Merle one year, even though he was not particularly interested in tokens at the time. But he did find a token from a paint store in Sunnyvale that his dad used to go to quite often and is grateful for Merle encouraging and helping his collecting.

- Helmut J has worked at the same place for 36 years, and some fellow employees have worked there almost as long. A coworker's mother ran a roller skating rink in Monte Rio in the 1950s. The mom had a coffee can of ~70 silver dollars, and Helm asked her for 20+ years about those dollars. The mom finally had to sell them; Helm bought them for the current price at the time. They were all relatively common date Morgan and Peace dollars, but seven of the Peace dollars were these "sticker dollars". They originated when people used to be paid in cash, and the silver dollars being paid started to have advertising stickers placed on them. It was convenient that the business on the sticker was called Bucks. Yellow stickers were first issued (according to John B), and the more common green stickers came after.

- Deanna has two items she is thankful for. One is the California Diamond Jubilee commemorative, the first commemorative she got (at one of our club shows long before they joined the club). The other is a cob or "piece of eight" on a key chain, from Disneyland. It has an engraving punched "Helmut loves Deanna" from 1987, their first year together when he took her to Disneyland when she was 18. She is still thankful for that.



- Guy S sent an e-mail to the club that he is thankful for the variety of ancient, medieval, and modern historical coins that he has been able to collect over the years, and he included these three photos: an ancient Greek coin, one from the Byzantine period, and an English two pence



- Eric S is thankful for this coin he shared on his screen: a wonderfully toned MS65 Seated Liberty 1857 quarter, a registry coin. Seeing it in person would be sooooo much better.



- Roman S is thankful for his commemorative 1925 California Diamond Jubilee dollar, shown below (similar to Deanna's).



- Ben W is thankful for all the Indian Head cents he has, because they are what got him interested in coin collecting. He showed us an album he is working on.
- Paul C, our newest member, showed the first Peace Dollar he obtained that had nice toning "color". It is a 1924 NGC MS63. Unfortunately, the Zoom image could not do it

justice in showing the color well.

- Ron C honored his father, who was in the Air Force after WW II. He is very thankful for the coin shown here. It was handed down by his father, with a history of being dug up in the back yard of his Proberta, CA home (near Red Bluff). His family still owns the property there. This is something he held and probably played with as a kid. He brought it to our coin show last year to see if it was real and of any value. The first dealer it was shown to weighed it, and due to it being under the typical weight said it was probably a counterfeit. So, Ron talked with Joe Lange at Stephen Album's table. Joe thought it might be a very valuable 'Royal'



issue cob but couldn't be sure—and suggested submitting it for authentication. Sure enough it is an authentic cob from the Potosi mint in Bolivia. They currently go for \$3500-8000 at auction. Many have holes, which tended to be plugged in more modern times. There are several varieties available in the November 17, 2020 Daniel Frank Sedwick Auction. Lots of information on cobs is available on the website www.sedwickcoins.com, or from The Practical Book of Cobs by D. and S. Sedwick.

- Frank V was wearing a hat with a B-17 image on it. That was one of the most used bombers of WWII, and Frank actually got to ride one of the last three planes that still existed seven years ago. It was very loud and bumpy. Frank doesn't usually use eBay, but he found a Ulysses S. Grant medal authorized by

a joint resolution of Congress on December 17, 1863 in honor of some of his victories. The 4" medallion was designed by Anthony Pacquet. They have sold at auctions recently for \$900-\$3400, but Frank paid only \$69 on eBay (for an authentic item)! Frank also had a couple of 1868 campaign buttons, one with a picture of Grant, and one with a picture of him and his running mate Schuyler Colfax (nobody could remember that name at the meeting!).



- Larry C gave us a nice history of encapsulation with the items he shared. The very first 'slab' was his NGC Black slab. It was only used for two months from September through November 1978. Only thirty six are known to exist, so he is very thankful to have one of them. For the very first slab, the NGC logo was embossed onto the obverse side of the coin, and the coin information and grade ended up on the reverse. After a few short months, NGC changed to the 'NGC White' slab. It was the same thick slab, with the coin information corrected to the obverse side and the NGC logo now embossed on the white *internal shell* on the reverse. That style didn't last very long either, because when the slabs were sealed, a number of them would crack because of the slightly raised embossing inside. NGC changed that embossing to the outside of the slab in the next version, which lasted for several years. Larry is grateful to have examples of those very first two types of slabs.



- Merle started a U.S. type set over fifty years ago. It is essentially complete, but he takes it out periodically and chooses a couple coins to upgrade at a time. Over the years it has become a fabulous set, and he is thankful to have it and keep working on it.
- Rick W shared this Beatles token and its story. It was minted in 1964 in Washington State by Robert Perry and a local doctor who helped finance it. But it was not distributed initially because of legal uncertainty with the Beatles. Thousands had been minted, ads placed in papers and orders taken; those were all refunded though. They all ended up in the basement of the local Washington state doctor, who was Rick's doctor. Another Washington state salesman named Gene Nelson was enlisted to help dispose of the tokens, which went to a local scrap dealer. Nelson was given a box of the tokens that was left over in partial payment for his help. And Rick's token is reportedly from that box of left overs. It is reported the scrap dealer also ended up selling tokens, which apparently are readily available for \$8-20.



- Dan C sent us an article he clipped from a newspaper. It talked about the Roman virtue: Pietas. The image on the Roman dupondus of 22-23 AD is Livia, portrayed as Pietas (she was the wife of Emperor Augustus and mother of Emperor Tiberius). From the Latin word "pietas" we get the word piety, which we associate with a religious faith. For the Romans, pietas held an even deeper meaning, including a reverence for the gods, for country, customs, and importantly for family. It involved doing one's duty in all things. Pietas was so important to the Romans that

they made it a goddess, a divine personification of duty, loyalty, and honor. Many of our own ancestors practiced an American version of pietas: caring for loved ones, honoring the flag, celebrating their liberties on Independence Day, and treating those around them with the dignity they deserve. And if we pause



and look carefully, even today we can see others following the path of pietas. They are the pillars of our culture.

- Charlie C (that's me!) is thankful for this Amsec (American Security Co) safe. I bought this safe from Don Rinkor sometime in 2017, partly for theft prevention, but also because it had a two hour fire rating. The Tubbs fire devastated the region October 2017, and I was in San Francisco and unable to get anything from the house before it burned to the ground. The black cube below the burned washing machine to

the right is what the safe looked like after falling from the second floor and landing on its side, the sides slightly bulging out from the fire. Fortunately, everything in the safe survived intact, though all the slabs had warped and needed to be re-encapsulated. These coins were the *only* things inside the house that survived the fire. If I had lost that collection, I would not have continued with this hobby, it would have been too hard. I am so thankful that the safe did its job. Unfortunately, most of the people who had that brand safe did not fare well—I was really lucky. And Don Rinkor essentially sells only Fort Knox brand safes now, since they are even more durable and mostly did survive the fire. I have one of those in my newly rebuilt home. Please consider this for your own collection if you haven't already.

- I am also thankful to all of you club members. Merle and the two Mikes keep the business part running well. But it is nice, even with the virtual meetings, to be able to share this hobby and learn from all of you. I hope you all have a happy and healthy Thanksgiving!
- Finally, Bob A was unable to attend the meeting but sent the following: "I am very thankful for many things relating to family and friends. I am also very thankful for being a member of our club and getting helpful advice (as well as coins) from many of our members. I am thankful for several coins in my collection, but the one coin that really stands out is the 1914-S Saint Gaudens Double Eagle that I was fortunate enough to win at our 2017 Show. That is the most beautiful coin I have, and I am most grateful to our club for having the show and to Lady Luck for smiling on me that day".



DECEMBER TOPIC:

WHAT NUMISMATIC ITEM IS ON YOUR CHRISTMAS WISH LIST?

That is right- what do you want from Santa? Unfortunately, we cannot meet in person, so the holiday presents will just have to wait for another time. But we will have a nice PCGS MS-63 1882-S Morgan Dollar as a Membership Drawing prize, generously donated by Erik S- many thanks! Here is the info for the Zoom meeting:

Time: Dec 9, 2020 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join RECC Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84491143362?pwd=V3JpOVpXK3hsQzJ1OWxNMUxud3dCZz09>

Meeting ID: 844 9114 3362

Passcode: 122020

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,84491143362#,,,,,0#,,122020# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 844 9114 3362

Passcode: 122020

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kc7QqWBy8z>

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

Thanks for reading. Corrections? Additions? Questions? E-mail us at:
newsletter@Redwoodempirecoinclub.com. See you (hopefully!) December 9, 2020— Charlie



This will be the membership prize for attending the December Zoom meeting!

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.