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Rohnert Park, Ca. 94928

Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 74, Issue 4, Meeting #845, April 14, 2021

Next Meeting: May 12, 2021

SOCIAL DISTANCING, MEETING #13

I hope this newsletter still finds you in good health, one and all. It is hard to believe that it has been a full year of us meeting virtually. Don't you miss in-person meetings? Some clubs are just starting to meet again in person. Because we meet at a county building, they are stricter about when we will be able to open up again- hopefully this summer sometime! As you can see from the flyer later in this newsletter, there are also some coin shows starting to open up again- good news for dealers and collectors alike. There being no club business, we went directly into the topic:

COVID CRAVINGS: What I Bought In the Last Year During The Covid Outbreak, or What Got Away

- ✓ Guy S actually started out with an e-mail to the club (since he was away and unable to attend). He finally found his 1876 CC half dollar in VF! And he found a choice proof 1951 English Crown in Don Rinkor's 'junk box' for \$1.50. It featured George VI, who would die in early 1952 – leading to Queen Elizabeth's current reign. His photos were hard to see, so these are examples I found on the internet.



- ✓ Frank V collects German thalers and multiple thaler coins. He showed these two. One is from the city of Hamburg, dated 1623. Frank is proud to have six different dates of that city thaler. The other is from Brunswick-Luneburg-Celle, essentially a county.



Frank has been collecting these for about forty years and has added eight new ones to his collection.

- ✓ Larry C bought forty five coins and six obscure slabs in 2020. In 2021 he has purchased six coins so far. He is working on a set of early proof set coins. But he decided not to get them in all the same year, but rather than to get an example of each in as nice a grade (Proof 67) as he can find. He only needs the 1938 Lincoln cent and the 1941 Jefferson nickel to complete the full



'set'. Here he has his 1942 P Jefferson nickel in Proof 67+. It was the only proof War nickel and came out late in the year. The 1942 proof set came out earlier in the year before the alloy change to partial silver, so this proof War nickel was sold separately, not as part of a set. His Buffalo nickel was the first year of the early proofs and came out in a satin finish initially. It wasn't well received, so midway through the



year the mint changed to a brilliant proof finish. Larry's satin finish is Proof 67 and has a brilliant quality to the surfaces. The final coin he shared was his 1890-S Morgan Dollar from the Redfield Hoard. A number of the hoard coins were encapsulated by Paramount International Coin Corp. Those considered MS 60 went into black holders; those considered MS 65 went into red holders. And those few considered MS 65+ went into green holders like this example of Larry's. It is undipped and original, something hard to find at all these days in slabbed Morgans.



- ✓ LaVeré Redfield was born into poverty in 1897 and moved to L.A. after the depression. He used his small life savings to invest in the stock market and was very good. He relocated to Reno, purchased a large stone house, and started purchasing bags of mostly uncirculated Morgan Dollars and hiding them. He had some IRS troubles at one point but after a couple years in prison continued purchasing bags of silver dollars. And he continued hiding them. When he died in 1977, 400 bags (about 400,000 silver dollars, 90% being uncirculated!) were found and eventually auctioned in 1976 all as one lot, for \$7.3 million. They all made it onto the market but are hard to trace to the hoard unless still in the Paramount holders (or identified on new PCGS/NGC slabs with confirmation).
- ✓ Bill R was happy to go to a coin show a week ago and bought some Barber coins to fill some holes in his coin albums.
- ✓ Paul C recently bought a silver/gold 1987 Constitution Commemorative set with a very low premium, ~\$20 over the spot price of silver/gold. He also purchased a 1900 Barber Dime in P-62. Only 912 proof dimes were minted that year, and he got a good deal on it.

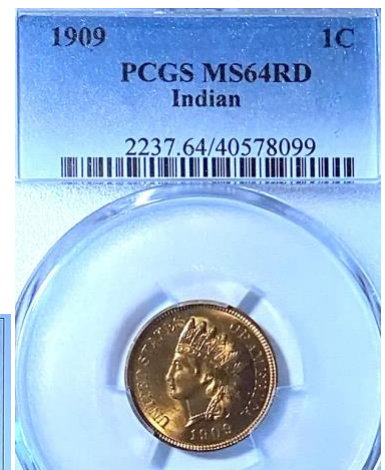
✓ Matt A bought this 1874 \$3 gold piece six months ago. There is a big price jump from AU 58 like his coin and MS 60-62. Plus, the AU 58 coins are often nicer examples- his is very nice.



✓ Andy O recently purchased the Christa McAuliff commemorative dollar. She was the first teacher with NASA to go up in space, and unfortunately perished along with six astronauts in the 1986 Challenger disaster. A recent lecture from a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee on Coins discussed how the design was approved (Congressional Legislation authorized the coin). Her widower was able to choose the portrait on the obverse.



- ✓ Gary C is working on filling the holes in his Liberty Seated Dime Dansco album. He recently got the 1867 dime, which has the lowest mintage of business strikes among Liberty Seated Dimes – only 6000.
- ✓ Roman S had a Covid purchase of this 1909 Indian Cent in MS 64 red- nice!
- ✓ Eric S has entered some coins in the PCGS Toned Showcase Awards competition (in part supported by Stephen Album Rare Coins.) At least ten coins need to be in the showcase. He showed this awesome 1876 proof 20 cent coin and the proof 1873 No Arrows half dollar.



- ✓ Mike M bought thirty coins this year, including the 1925 Mercury Dime shown here in MS 64 FB. Because of a delay in sending it to him, the dealer also sent a freebie- an NGC slabbed Mercury dime (see membership drawing- Mike gave it away).



- ✓ Helmut J talked about the token he did *not* get. He talked about the Summit Hotel at the top of Donner Pass in Tahoe. Built in 1870, it burned down in 1887 and again in 1925. You can walk through the ruins of the site now, part of a national park (no metal detecting or collecting objects allowed). There was a train tunnel that stopped across the street from the hotel, seen in the photograph here. There are two known tokens from the hotel still in existence. Merle owns one, and Helmut just missed out winning the other at an auction.



- ✓ Neil R discussed the German proof type minor coins he collects. Most of these have very low mintages and are also somewhat obscure. It is something he has studied for years and knows what to look for and what prices to expect. He has acquired some of the rarest types.



- ✓ Bill H went to a coin show in October (!) and bought a 1908-S Indian Cent with a CAC sticker, his first.

- ✓ Merle talked about tokens, of course. This black plastic token from El Verano is the only one known- and Merle owns it! It took over ten years to find it, and a "crazy price for a stupid piece of plastic" to buy it. But he is really happy it is his. There were also some Panama Pacific Expo items, all shown on the next page. The first token is much less common and rarely seen compared to the one to the right of it. The last piece is a fob. Merle did show an image of a souvenir jar with decorative lid from the expo.





✓ Finally, Charlie C went back in time before coins were invented. In the Middle East, chunks of silver (and very rarely gold) were weighed out with balance scales and functioned as money centuries before Greeks invented coins. Scale weights of standard weight amounts would be used on the balance scale, and they came in various sizes and shapes. Most were made of stone or bronze, and they came in all sorts of forms- from animals to rounded or flattened shapes. The three Canaanite scorpions here date from the 12th-8th centuries BC. The chunks of silver were called 'hacksilber', a German term for cut pieces of metal. Some were formed into shapes or even used as jewelry. This is one of my areas of collecting and is a reason for two Covid purchases- coins featuring balance scales. The first from Emperor Claudius in 42 AD commemorates a rebalancing of the weights and measures system. The one below it is from Aristobulus of Chalcis (Lesser Armenia- over 1000 miles east of Rome). It was minted in 66 AD and is an imitation of the Roman coin- not sure why. The obverse features the zodiac symbol Capricorn. Aristobulus was the great grandson of Herod the

Great. His wife Salome was notorious for asking for the head of John the Baptist.



Membership Drawing: the winner of the 1945 dime in NGC MS65 was Roman S!

MAY TOPIC

The topic for the May 12 meeting will be:

YOUR FAVORITE TONED COIN, AND WHY

We will be meeting on-line via Zoom in May. We welcome all to share a coin or two or three from the topic, or even another numismatic item if you don't have a toned coin to share. You will be able to share your screen. Alternatively, feel free to e-mail images to the club at newsletter@redwoodempirecoinclub.com, and we will show it while you talk about it. Here are the meeting details:

Topic: RECC Zoom Meeting

Time: May 12, 2021 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84111493447?pwd=MUFQbmlvcE5wNUp5QzRVdVdra015dz09>

Meeting ID: 841 1149 3447

Passcode: 052021

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,84111493447#,,, *052021# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 841 1149 3447

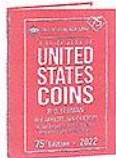
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RED BOOKS!

Mike M is ready to take orders on 2022 Red Books. The four regular sizes are available, and the Mega Red will be ready by May. If he gets ten (10) or more orders, the mailing cost is just \$10 total so it adds just \$1 to your cost. **CALL Mike at (707) 431-1447** and leave a message about which one(s) you want, and they will be ordered in May. PLUS, he will deliver them! The costs will be:

- Spiral bound- \$8.78 (+\$1 for shipping the order)
- Hardcover- \$9.58 (+\$1 for shipping the order)
- Hidden Spiral- \$10.98(+\$1 for shipping the order)
- Large Print- \$16.48(+\$1 for shipping the order)
- MEGA RED- \$27.49(+\$1 for shipping the order)



EXCLUSIVE FOR COIN CLUB MEMBERS ONLY

FREE DRAWING

1945-D MERCURY DIME GRADED MS 63FB BY PCGS

SOUTH BAY / SUNNYVALE COIN SHOW

DOMAIN HOTEL

1085 EAST EL CAMINO REAL

FRIDAY & SATURDAY – JUNE 25 & 26

- ✓ IDENTIFY YOURSELF AS A CLUB MEMBER
- ✓ FILL OUT REGISTRATION FORM
- ✓ NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

R.E.C.C.
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UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS

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

Thanks for reading. Corrections? Additions? Questions? E-mail us at:
newsletter@Redwoodempirecoinclub.com. See you (hopefully!) May 12, 2021— Charlie

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.