



Founded March 26, 1949

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

# Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 74, Issue 10, Meeting #851, October 13, 2021

Next Meeting: November 10, 2021

## REMEMBERING LEE



It is hard to believe that it has been three years since Lee Gong passed. Lee was a great family man, friend, coin club member (Vice President for many years), educator, businessman, and supporter of our community. Many of us probably remember his adage “before you buy the coin, buy the book”. That and other bits of numismatic wisdom of his are likely still benefitting many people.

It was with Lee in mind that we held our annual Lee Gong Memorial Club Benefit Auction at the October meeting. About forty members were present, and there were over seventy numismatic items donated to benefit the club. Gary C even attended via Zoom from his home in New Mexico, and he bid on and won one of the items! Thank you to all the members who donated to the auction, it is greatly appreciated. When it was all finished, the auction tally was \$958! Thank you to all the members who participated in the auction,

the generosity is appreciated.

In addition, there were two cash donations to the club, \$200 from Art M and \$50 from George C! A big thank you to both. That brings the night’s total to \$1158!

Where do the proceeds go? Besides annual dues and Life Memberships, these funds help cover the costs of renting the meeting room, insurance, and beverages. It also helps pay for printing and mailing costs. For instance, I try to buy several rolls of stamps at a time, since each month there are over seventy newsletters that still go out in the mail. I like the stamps with the American flag- but the post office has been out of rolls of stamps. There are lots of other stamp designs, but the one that the Coddington post office had the best supply of was of otters. Yes, otters. So I bought 400 Otters. A few of you will get the newsletter mailed with a flag stamp this month, but the rest (who don’t get the digital version of the newsletter) will get it with an otter stamp.

Merle had a significant number birthday several days before the meeting. We celebrated by all singing “Happy Birthday” and enjoying a special cake.

There was a Junior meeting this month, with Junior Member Roman gathering foreign coins to start a collection. Thanks to Jack Beymer for donating three boxes of donations. There will be a Junior meeting in November starting at 6:15PM.





At the August ANA convention in Chicago, our club was honored with a plaque celebrating seventy years of membership in the ANA. Merle found the plaque we got for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary 20 years ago

and a certificate from the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, showing them before revealing the new 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary plaque.

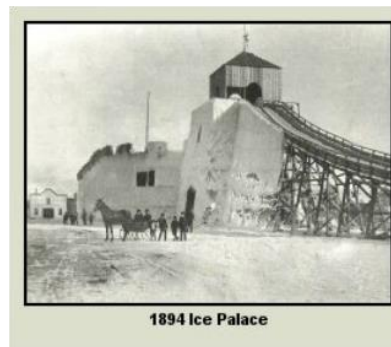
Mike C has decided to step down from his position as club treasurer due to family and medical reasons. Thanks for many years of dedicated work as our treasurer! He is still a Life Member, and we look forward to seeing him back at our meetings. Merle has appointed Erik S to the treasurer position.

In November, we will have nominations for officers of the board: president, vice-president, treasurer, and secretary. Any adult member is welcome to run for a position, and elections will be held in December.

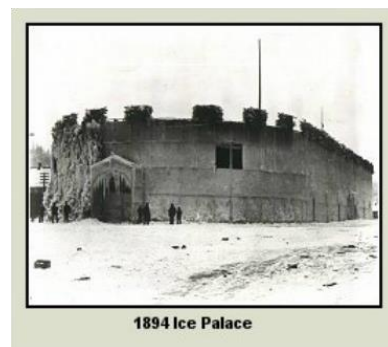


## NOVEMBER TOPIC

The topic for November will be **“What Numismatic Item You Are Thankful to Have”**. You can also talk about anything else you are thankful for with the hobby. Give a talk and receive four free raffle tickets! We will be meeting in person, with **masks still required inside**. We will also have Zoom set up for those unable to be there in person (info below). We cannot have a Thanksgiving feast due to Covid rules- sorry.



1894 Ice Palace



1894 Ice Palace

Merle gave a presentation about this interesting token, So-Called Dollar HK-729. It features the Truckee Ice Carnival. The yearly winter carnival was in the center of town, covering half of the main street. Merle went to a dedication for it two years ago. In the winter of 1893-4 the first Ice Palace was built, according to the Truckee-Donner Historical Society. It was made of chicken wire and sprayed with water, which would freeze to create a solid wall 50' tall. There was a skating rink inside, and one end featured a tower above a 75' tall toboggan run.

There are 12-20 known examples of this token (including both varieties), and Merle has both varieties. Nine were graded by NGC, none by PCGS. Merle's is tied for highest grade at MS-63. It shows the ice palace and toboggan run. It would be nice to clarify the actual minting date of the token. The H & K book lists the carnival origin at around 1872 without substantiation, and the token to the early 1890s. The Ice Palace featured on the token was supposedly not built until 1893-4. Several other dates are listed on the internet- so hopefully some day we will get it straightened out.

It is with sadness to report that Charley Betschart recently passed away. He was a long-time member and loved to tell us wonderfully detailed stories about coins.



We **will be** on-line via Zoom in November, in case you cannot attend the meeting in person.

Join the RECC Zoom Meeting November 10, 7PM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82539074897?pwd=dk9TbjRoRklnV2JYSEhEZEN5SnVkdz09>

Meeting ID: 825 3907 4897

Passcode: 112021

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,82539074897#,,,,\*112021# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 825 3907 4897

Passcode: 112021

## DRAWING WINNERS

**Membership:** Bill C, Bob K, Guy S, Riley R, Mike M

**50:50** pot of \$50 was split with Steve C


**Raffle:** David Y (twice), Glenn M (three times), Guy S, Gary C, Bill H, Bill R, and Art M

**September Attendance:**40+

**Guests:** yes!

**Auction:** no regular auction due to the benefit auction being held.

**Adjournment** was at 9:08 p.m. sharp!



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#### UPCOMING SHOWS AND EVENTS

**October 23-24, 2021. Fresno Numismatic Society Coin Show.** American Legion Post 509,  
3509 N First St., Fresno, CA 93703

**November 6, 2021: CSNA and NCNA NUMISMATIC EDUCATIONAL FORUM.** Theme: "Let's  
Collect". Speakers: Matthew L. Malvini: 'Roaming Wild: Buffalo Nickels': Lawrence  
Casagrande: 'Story Coins'; 'Xan' Chamberlain: 'What's Wrong? Errors'. Vallejo Naval and  
Historical Museum Heritage Theater, 734 Marin Street *at Capital*, Vallejo. FREE!  
Registration starts at 8:30, Program starts at 9:30. Lunch service on site and nearby; Door  
Prizes.

**November 12-13, 2021: South Bay/Sunnyvale Coin Show.** Domain Hotel, 1085 East El Camino  
Real, Sunnyvale

Check out our newsletter at: **[Redwoodempirecoinclub.com](http://Redwoodempirecoinclub.com)**

Thanks for reading. Corrections? Additions? Questions? E-mail us at:  
newsletter@Redwoodempirecoinclub.com. See you **in person at the Vets Building** November 10, 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.