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

# Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 74, Issue 9, Meeting #850, September 8, 2021

Next Meeting: October 13, 2021

## **GETTING BACK TO NORMAL**

Things are getting back to normal for our club. Or at least we are getting used to the new normal. Forty-eight members showed up and we had lots of business to discuss for a change.

Thanks again to Paul C for the generous donation of the 1942-S Mercury Dime MS 64 FB and slabbed Olympic Park Washington guarter PR69DCAM donation. They will be in a special drawing later in the meeting.

We got a sizeable donation from a Kathleen W from Petaluma. She went to Jack Beymer with a large group of foreign coins. He bought all the silver ones and offered little for the rest- suggesting to perhaps donate them to our club. Sure enough, over 100 pounds of foreign coins are now ours, which will be a lot of fun for Junior Members to sort through, as well as for searching at a future coin show. A letter thanking her for her generosity and for tax purposes was sent to her.

Speaking of coin shows..... the club board of directors met prior to the meeting for two hours and discussed the possibility of having a show next year. There are lots of hurdles, particularly cost increases. But we all agreed to move forward and try to get a date set for having a show in 2022. It will hopefully be in February, but a bit of calendar maneuvering is needed to get the date we want. Once we get that set, we will begin to set up the show- and will keep you in the loop. A coin show is a big undertaking, and it takes a lot of preparation to produce one as great as ours have been in the past. It takes an entire club to run the show- and we have a great group of members who can do it! Stay tuned.

#### **OCTOBER MEETING**

The October meeting will feature the return of the <u>Lee Gong Memorial Club Benefit Auction</u>. We have been holding this for the last 15 years or so (except for last year, of course), and it is a way to help support the club- and get some coins for your collection, hopefully. *Please bring a numismatic item to donate* to the club auction. For *each* item worth \$5 or more you will get four free raffle tickets as well! We will not hold our usual auction in October. We will also not have an Oktoberfest feast this year, due to strict covid regulations we have to now follow- sorry. There will be bottled beverages, and perhaps some desserts. There is no coin topic, but feel free to give a short talk about a coin. Even better, give a quick talk about the item you donated- what makes it interesting or important and worth bidding for in the donation auction!

### WHAT NUMISMATIC ITEM YOU BOUGHT, SOLD, OR STILL WANT DURING THE PANDEMIC

Guy S developed an interest in the Buffalo nickel series to learn about the designs and various features, particularly how to grade them. He bought a roll of Buffalo nickels with full horns (mid-grade VF-XF). The dates were in the 1920s and 1930s, with the common ones becoming gifts and the remainder for sale. It is a fun series to collect.

• Matt A announced that on September 13 the US Mint was going to offer the American Eagle 2021 One Ounce Silver Reverse Proof Two Coin Set- Designer Edition. It features each of the American Eagle designs, in reverse proof. This appears to be the lowest mintage of the various Eagle coins this year with just 125,000 minted, and household limit of just one. They expect to sell out in 20-30 minutes.





- Phil A talked about the Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Dollar. He was in Maryland when the Challenger blew up. He went to the Air and Space Museum in Washington DC. Senator Jake Garn was there. He had just flown the prior Space Shuttle mission, and he held a commemorative service for the lost shuttle astronauts. Phil was teaching at that time and applied for the "teacher in space" program but got turned down. This proof coin has a special meaning to him. Christa's husband was involved in the design of the coin and chose this image of her to be used.
- Joel M has been trying to do some buying and selling. He got a 1923-S Standing Liberty quarter that he got at a very good price (\$700 less than one offered to him a week later). He was also grateful to be at the meeting in person with the rest of us including his family (including one daughter who is old enough to drive! Those Junior Members sure grow up quickly).
- Rich W talked about a friend of his wife who gave her a bag of Indian cents. They ended up going to him, and
  it is a denomination he had not collected before. Then he went to a coin show in Sacramento and got some
  more- a new Covid craving. Also, after shopping in Novato, he got home and looked at his change. In it was a
  1916 Mercury dime! He waited a long time before turning it over to see what the mint mark was- not a D, but
  still a nice coin to get in change.
- Andy O talked about his father, who passed away early this year. He was a WWII veteran of Omaha Beach on D-Day. Among the coins he passed on to Andy was this 1814 Half Dollar (sorry for the fuzzy image, taken quickly by my iPhone).
- Mike M completed his 77-coin Mercury Dime set during the Covid time. Many have full bands.
- Larry C talked about the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the last Morgan Dollars and the first Peace Dollars. The US Mint has been offering them on various sale dates, since a number are being made. The 2021 Morgans will be made with CC and O privy marks and with S, D and plain (Philly) mint marks. There will only be one Peace Dollar variety since it was only minted in Philadelphia in 1921. But Larry discussed the difficulty in ordering the coins. There was a limit of 175,000 of each mint mark variety of Morgan dollars, and only 200,000 of the Peace Dollars. They tended to sell out fast, and sometimes there were difficulties with the US Mint website payment ordering. He did not get any, but his wife was able to

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order three Peace Dollars (delivery scheduled for October). A friend of his was able to order three of the Philadelphia Morgans, so he hopes to get one of those. The Mint cost was \$85, and they are reselling on-line at \$250 already.

Merle talked about medals of the Seattle World's Fair in 1962. Three of us at the meeting were at the fair (Merle, Bob, Charlie). They made several medals there, but it is a series of nine high relief medals from the fair that have been one of Merle's Covid collecting projects. Each of the medals features a different aspect of the fair. One in particular highlights how 1 million silver dollars were transported from the Philadelphia mint, in an eleven day road trip by four semi-trucks, to be dumped in a pile at the fair. They could be purchased for mail delivery later, but they would not be sold directly at the fair. Many were 1922 Peace dollars, but there were older dollars, including CC's that had probably been stored in Philadelphia. Between 100 and 2000 of each medal were minted in silver and bronze; exact numbers are not known. A complete set of the high relief silver medals sold for \$112; a set of the bronze versions sold for \$28.50. Merle has at least one of each variety, some silver, some bronze. He is looking for high grade slabbed examples, and they are a bit hard to find- but he will keep trying. The reverse is the same on all the medals, shown here.





1962 WA BRONZE 39mm































- Gary C (on Zoom from New Mexico) talked about the Albuquerque Coin Show coming up. One of his Covid purchases was an 1867 business strike dime. The other- his brother got a pair of common date \$5 gold pieces, Gary has one of them, and they both were purchased for under the spot price for gold.
- Ember S called in late on Zoom as well, while traveling in Bend, Oregon. She showed us a couple pieces that her sister (also a coin collector) got in the pandemic. First is an 1857 Type 3 gold dollar that she luckily got in a one day "fire sale" with an on-line dealer for a very good price. The other was a 1859-O half dollar from the S.S.Republic. It was in amazing condition considering it had been under water for about a century. Her sister really wanted this because their dad, who passed away recently, had been in the Navy.







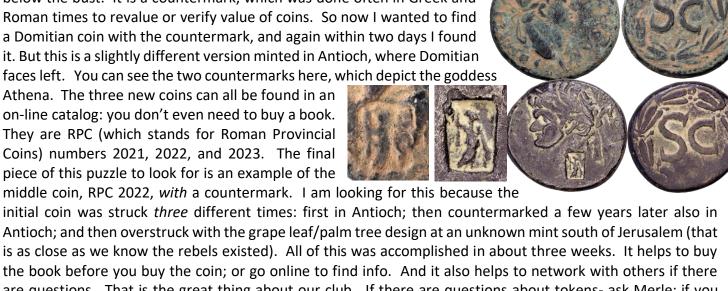




Finally, Charlie C (that's me) tried to convince the club why it is so fun to collect ancient coins, with some recent Covid purchases. It started with a coin showed to the club in the past. It is a 23mm (about 1 inch) coin struck in 132 AD during the Bar Kochba rebellion against Roman rule in the Holy Land. The rebels did not have the resources to produce their own bullion for coins, so they took almost anything they could get their hands on and struck new designs over them. The initial silver coins were hammered to obliterate the images first, and

the bronze coins were often filed down some. Most of the strikes were complete, but some, like this coin, show good detail of what was underneath. The coin to the far right is what a fully struck coin should look like. So I started looking for a coin with an image like the profile seen in the overstruck coin. A few weeks before this meeting I found the perfect image: Emperor Domitian, on a coin minted around 81-83 AD in

Antioch, north of modern-day Israel and Lebanon on the southern edge of Turkey. I even e-mailed David Hendin, the author of the best book on my original coin, in New York. Within an hour he replied that it was the correct ruler (how's that for networking!). The trouble is, the coin is too big. I learned there were two denominations of "SC" coins minted. So within two days I found the correct one! Both coins were at a London dealer and arrived here within a week. But wait- there's more. Look carefully at the original coin and you can see there is a rectangular section below the bust. It is a countermark, which was done often in Greek and Roman times to revalue or verify value of coins. So now I wanted to find a Domitian coin with the countermark, and again within two days I found it. But this is a slightly different version minted in Antioch, where Domitian



are questions. That is the great thing about our club. If there are questions about tokens- ask Merle; if you want to know about Russian coins, Bill C and Guy S know a lot; etc. Most of you have knowledge in areas that others don't, so don't be afraid to ask someone who can help if you don't know the answers yourself!

#### **DRAWING WINNERS**

Membership: James A, Helmut J, Bill R, Joel M, Angelo C.

50:50 pot of \$90 was split with George C

Raffle: Eric S (twice), Joe D (twice), Matt A, Joel M, Larry C, Guy S, Bill R, David A, Kim S (twice)

Special Coin raffle- MS 64 Mercury dime to Bill R; P69 quarter to Art M

September Attendance: 48+.

New Members: Bill H, #990- WELCOME!

Auction: 27 exciting items.

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



**Still Zooming!** We are still having the meeting open to Zoom for those of you who cannot make it in person. The sound and images were good at the September meeting, and it was nice having members join from New Mexico and Oregon. Here is the info:

Time: Oct 13, 2021 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada). Join Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85872944322?pwd=WFI6RTVWazErQUNQcDNhM2NieWIPZz09

Meeting ID: 858 7294 4322

Passcode: 102021

One tap mobile +16699009128,,85872944322#,,,,\*102021# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location. +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose) Meeting ID: 858 7294 4322 Passcode: 102021

Find your local number: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/u/ktqwmsyPM">https://us02web.zoom.us/u/ktqwmsyPM</a>





R.E.C.C. 5850 Commerce Blvd, Suite 100 Rohnert Park, Ca. 94928

#### **UPCOMING SHOWS AND EVENTS**

- October 8,9,10, 2021: Contra Costa Coin and Collectibles Show (Diablo Numismatic Society). Elk's Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. Friday 12-6, Saturday 10-6, Sunday 10-4. \$4 admission (\$1 off with flyer), FREE PARKING
- October 17, 2021. Cupertino Coin Club Show, St. Joseph of Cupertino, 10110 N. De Anza Blvd, Cupertino, CA 95014
- 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 Cassagrande: '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.

Check out our newsletter at: **Redwoodempirecoinclub.com**Thanks for reading. Corrections? Additions? Questions? E-mail us at:
newsletter@Redwoodempirecoinclub.com. See you <u>in person at the Vets Building</u> October 13, 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.