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5850 Commerce Blvd, Suite 100  
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# Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 75, Issue 2, Meeting #855, February 9, 2022

Next Meeting: March 9, 2022

## WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

The February meeting was quieter than initially planned, due to our show being cancelled. No show set-up, no pizza dinner, no buzz about what to anticipate. But we still had good attendance and the coin hobby keeps on going. Hopefully with the end of the county health restrictions we can take off our masks for the March meeting (those who are vaccinated, at least).

Merle clarified a couple of things, especially for new members. For the auction at the end of each meeting, each member can bring up to five (5) items to auction. An item can be one coin/token or a whole bunch of them. The sale price goes directly to the member- the club does not take any cut of auction proceeds. Also, Jack Beymer has continued to give club members a discount at his shop, usually 5% on coins and 10% on currency/supplies (but not for bullion)- just ask when you are there.

### MARCH MEETING TOPIC

The topic for the March meeting will be: **YOUR LUCKY COIN**. This could be taken several ways. Some of you are known to carry a special coin in your pocket. Or maybe there is a special coin you use for coin flips (maybe two-headed?). How about one you were really lucky to find metal detecting, or to get at auction? Bring it in, talk about it, and get four free raffle tickets. Other show and tell items are always welcome too.

Since the March meeting will be close to **St Patrick's Day**, we will have a **Dessert Night**- so please bring in a 'green' dessert to share with the club if you can- thanks!

### WHAT YOU WERE GOING TO LOOK FOR AT THE COIN SHOW

- Erik started off the night with a review of his current collecting interest: gold dollars. He is working on a complete set of the dates and mint marks in AU condition. Even with some relatively low mintages, some are quite affordable. He has finished his New Orleans gold dollar set and brought them in to talk about. Out of a total of 19.5 million of *all* the one dollar coins that were minted, only about 1% now exist. Many of the Type 1 gold dollars were melted to make Type 2 or Type 3 gold coins. The first New Orleans issue was in 1849 with an influx of gold from California, and 215,000 were minted. The 1850-O had the lowest mintage- 15,000. The 1855-O had a mintage of 55,000 but is the most expensive of the New Orleans dollars due to demand for that single year that the mint made a type 2 dollar. Merle went on to mention that Erik had a fabulous type set, which he has consigned to Heritage Auctions to help pay for this new collection. Part of that set will be in the next Signature Auction in Long Beach.
- Speaking of type sets, Guy S talked about how he worked on U.S. type sets, then a Canadian type set, then a high-grade modern Mexican set. Now he is working on a type set of Mexican Republic coins. A hard one to find is the silver ¼ real coin from 1842-1863. They aren't too rare, but they are just very hard to find. He was going to be looking for one at the show. *Do you* have one? He would be interested in it.
- Matt A collects Jefferson nickels and has all the proof issues. He really likes the early 1938-1940 varieties as the reverse die was being modified. One variety he is looking for is the 1939 with a reverse of 1940. The image from PCGS on the next page illustrates the difference. This came about when the mint modified the





REVERSE OF 1938      REVERSE OF 1940  
 Note enhanced definition of steps on Reverse of 1940

reverse of the Jefferson nickel in early 1939 to strengthen the steps of Monticello. There were more 1939 nickels minted with the new reverse, and it was the only reverse used in 1940. The 1939-D is considered a key date for the series. It has the second-lowest mintage of Jefferson nickels, next to 1950-D. But so many of the 1950-D nickels were hoarded in rolls that they are easy to find in high grade. The same is not true for the 1939 nickels. Good luck Matt in finding one!

- David A was hoping to look for something to add to his gold coin type set at our show. Fortunately, he talked with Paul C at our meeting and was able to buy a 1909 \$2-1/2 gold piece!
- Ember S talked about a coin she likes and one she didn't want. The one she likes is a 'challenge coin' she received as a civilian working with the 60<sup>th</sup> Medical Group at Travis Air Force Base. The other she really did not want, because it meant that her father had passed away. As the oldest surviving child, she was presented with his Oregon Band of Brothers challenge coin. Two different Oregon groups were present for support after her father passed away, which was comforting to her family. For those viewing this as a PDF, you can enlarge the image to see the details better- it is a very nice item. A **challenge coin** is a small medallion bearing an organization's insignia or emblem and carried by the organization's members. Traditionally, they might be given to prove membership when challenged and to enhance morale. They are also collected by service members and law enforcement personnel. At a bar, if someone shows his/her challenge coin and challenged others to show theirs, if someone did not have theirs they would have to pay for a round of drinks. However, if everyone else did have their challenge coin, then the challenger would have to buy everyone a round.



- Rich W talked about "20 piece collecting", from an article in the recent Numismatist. He has a PCGS box for holding slabs and thought about getting 20 Morgan dollars in PCGS MS-64 to go into the box. That would be easy since a number of them are quite affordable in that condition. The NGC and PCGS boxes hold 20 slabs, so that would be a full type set. If you find one that is nicer, sell one of the other 20 slabs to make room. You could do this with any 20 coins and likely have a really nice set!
- Mike M wants an example of each of the three types of \$1 gold coins for his gold type set. Erik mentioned that he had a few he would be willing to sell Mike (since there was no show to look for them this year). Mike bought a very nice 1857 Type 3 example in AU-58 to add to his type set! He also likes to get a Morgan dollar at our coin show. Don Rinkor does eBay sales and had an 1881-S Morgan dollar in MS-62 for a very good price, which he also bought. Joel suggested contacting Rinkor's shop directly if you see something you want in an on-line sale, you may get a better deal.
- Riley R talked about being in Copenhagen with his father (also an avid collector). At the local markets there were a number of coin dealers, some with American gold coins. His father ended up buying quite a few of them. Back in the U.S. about five years later it turns out that about 40% of them were counterfeit. His word of advice is to be very cautious overseas if you are looking to purchase coins.
- Joel M was planning on buying a Standing Liberty quarter with full head in MS 65 at the show. Oh well. He talked about counterfeit PCGS *slabs* that you should be on the lookout for (not just the coins). Slightly irregular edges to the insert were one clue.
- Merle really wanted to get a 2021 Commemorative Morgan dollar with the CC privy mark on it at the show. But he settled for going on-line, and he got his the day of the meeting. It is a MS-70, first strike.





- Finally, Charlie C talked about ancient coins obtained in January. First was this drachma (to the right) from Philistia 450-333 BC. The reverse features lion parts from one view; rotate it 90 degrees and you see the face of a Persian king. The next coin from ~350 BC Samaria features a winged god, an imitation improved on from an older coin of Cilicia ~440 BC. Finally, a



bronze coin of Hadrian from 128-138 AD. The Legionary eagles on the reverse let everyone know who was in charge. COL BER stands for Colony of Berytus (Beirut)- now modern-day Lebanon.



### KIDS CORNER

Aaron and Roman each shared in the free coins made possible by Beymer via Joe Mc C. We also discussed coin grading and dealer pricing.

Since these regular boys have an interest in Kennedy halves, that will next months' topic. We will also search bank rolls to "fill some holes"

### DRAWING WINNERS

**Membership:** Bob, Riley R, Glenn M, Bill P, Charlie C

**50:50** pot of \$110 was split with Joel M

**Raffle:** Glenn M (twice), Joel M, Tim F (thrice), Bill R (twice), Frank B, Harold R, and Ember S

**February Attendance:** 44+

**Guests:** yes!

**Auction:** 44 exciting items.

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

### THANKS Bob!

Bob A has very generously donated \$100 to the club. Thank you for your generosity! We greatly appreciate it.



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#### UPCOMING SHOWS AND EVENTS

**March 6, 2022. Livermore Valley Coin Club's 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Coin Show.** Livermore Elks Lodge,  
940 Larkspur Drive, Larkspur

**March 10-12, 2022. National Money Show,** Colorado Springs, CO

**March 18-19, 2022. Sunnyvale Coin Show,** Domain Hotel, 1085 East El Camino Real

**April 8-10, 2022. Albuquerque Coin Club Spring Show.** Marriott Pyramid Hotel, Albuquerque NM

**June 24-25, 2022. Concord Coin Show,** Clarion Hotel, 1050 Burnett Avenue, Concord

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

Thanks for reading. Corrections? Additions? Questions? E-mail us at:

newsletter@Redwoodempirecoinclub.com. See you **in person at the Vets Building** March 9, 2022—  
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.