



Founded March 26, 1949

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

Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 75, Issue 6, Meeting #859, June 8, 2022

Next Meeting: July 13, 2022

MORGAN DOLLARS

The June RECC meeting was well attended, as usual, but had a singular focus: Morgan Dollars. There was just a bit of business before coin talk started.

In **July**, we will have a summertime **WEENIE ROAST!** Mike M will be coordinating it, with Jerry St. G and Roger N helping to cook. There will be hot dogs, buns, condiments, baked beans, potato chips, and beverages. If you can, please bring a side dish to go with the weenies. Mike will also have a donation jar up at the auction table in case you want to chip in a little to help cover the costs, but there is no cost for the meal.

The **topic** for **July** will be **Patriotic Numismatic Items**. Flags, patriots, declarations, etc. are all possibilities. Even if it is Canadian, it should be good to show that too, eh. Bring it in, talk about it, and get four free raffle tickets. The Juniors will meet at 6:15 with the same topic.

And finally, as an advanced warning- the *August* meeting will be held the *third* Wednesday in August (due to the County Fair occurring during our usual week). We will meet that month only on the opposite side of the Veterans Building in the Lodge Room. A notice will be sent out next month in the newsletter and the e-mail meeting reminder.

MORGAN DOLLARS



George Thomas Morgan (November 24, 1845 – January 4, 1925) was born in Birmingham, England and worked for many years at the British Royal Mint as a die engraver. He was enticed to come to America by U.S. Mint Director H. R. Linderman but was not well received by chief engraver William Barber nor his son Charles Barber (both who worked at the mint performing public *and* private work without paying rent). The Bland-Allison act of 1876 requiring \$2-4 million in silver dollars to be minted monthly hastened Morgan's dollar design into production. Morgan persuaded Miss Anna Willess Williams, a schoolteacher, to pose for the portrait. The Morgan dollar design was a success- nearly 657 million were minted, though perhaps half were melted. Morgan eventually became the seventh Chief Engraver of the U.S. Mint (following William Barber and then his son Charles Barber).



• Bob L started off the evening talks with a nice PowerPoint presentation on the GSA (General Services Administration) sale of Morgan Dollars in 1972-1974. There were close to 3 million CC dollars that had been sent to other mints for storage due to an excess of circulating dollars in the 1880s. A government audit in 1964 discovered the uncirculated bags, and it was decided to "auction" them off. Part of the order form is shown here, with prices as low as \$15 each. With a limit of five coins per person, every family member sent in for these, and Bob ended up with thirty very nice CC dollars. He sold them when he was about 24 years old when he had the opportunity to buy a house. The sale gave him the 10% down payment needed to buy his home!

USE A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH BIDDER
 BID IN WHOLE DOLLAR AMOUNTS ONLY
 DO NOT BID LESS THAN MINIMUM BID

REFER TO BROCHURE FOR COMPLETE INSTRUCTIONS
 CONSIGN CITY SILVER DOLLARS

CATEGORY	CHECK	YEAR	MINT	MINIMUM BID	MINIMUM BID		TOTAL BID AMOUNT
					\$.00	
1		1882-CC	PHOENIX	\$15	.00	.00	
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	1882-CC	PHOENIX	\$20	.00	.00	
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	1883-CC	PHOENIX	\$20	.00	.00	
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	1883-CC	PHOENIX	\$20	.00	.00	
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	1883-CC	PHOENIX	\$20	.00	.00	
6	<input type="checkbox"/>	1884-CC	PHOENIX	\$20	.00	.00	
7	<input type="checkbox"/>	1885-CC	PHOENIX	\$20	.00	.00	

ALTERNATE BID SELECTIONS: IF ONE TO A SELECTION IN A BIDDING YEAR, I AM UNSUCCESSFUL, I AGREE TO ACCEPT ANOTHER COIN IN THE SAME BIDDING BID GROUP, IF AVAILABLE AT MY INDICATED BID AMOUNT.

DO NOT SEND CASH

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO TREASURER OF U.S.

He feels they are best collected in the original holder with the original hinged box and certificate. He showed the known mintage of all CC dollars, and the amount of each year's mintage that was in the sale. The sales had minimum bids, with those bids varying depending on the date you selected- or you could bid on random dates for the lowest bid of \$15 each. Many lucky people got proof-like CCs, and there were a number of minor varieties/errors available- all just sold by the date. The key areas to look for wear were on the cheek on the obverse, the eagle's body and wings on the reverse, in the fields, and on the rim. Early on in encapsulating these NGC removed them from their original holders and created its own holder. Around 1988-1989 NGC started grading them in their original GSA holders, as does PCGS.

Bob went on to the evolution of silver certificate notes from allowing the redemption silver *dollars*, to the redemption of silver (*granules*), to "just plain good will" notes. Next was a comparison of Morgan and Peace dollars as minted versus the 2021 modern commemoratives with the same designs- now enhanced. Grading criteria for the series was discussed in further detail. And finally, a discussion of Dan Carr and the Moonlight Mint producing a fantasy version struck over original Peace Dollars but now with the date (1921) in Roman Numerals and a few original design elements that were modified on the produced Peace Dollars.

- Rich W mentioned a Numismatist article about the U. S. Mint having difficulty obtaining silver planchets for the Morgan/Peace dollar commemorative series, so further production will be on hold until the supply chain issue is resolved. He mentioned how the Red Book lists five varieties of 1878 Philadelphia Morgan Dollar, with 7 or 8 (or both) tail feathers. Leroy Van Allen and A. George Mallis wrote the book on Morgan and Peace Dollar varieties- VAMs. They came up with 230 varieties for that mint and year alone. The book is very thorough, but even in used condition will run you \$60 if you can find it on Amazon. There is a Top 100 VAM book which is more affordable and simpler to navigate. Rich discussed other reference books on Morgan Dollars.
- Guy S has not been a Morgan Dollar collector, and just had a few. But at a recent garage sale he found and purchased twelve Morgans along with some other old U.S. coins. Now he has a collection!



- Larry C showed two ends of the grading spectrum with his Morgan Dollars. On the low end is the 1893-CC in AG03 condition, just two points from the very worst. His example nicely shows the motto wearing in towards the edges, but the word Liberty clearly visible on her crown. On the opposite end of the grading spectrum, the MS67+ example is stunning. At a hair under the MS68 grade, it is definitely more affordable.
- Helm has an 1884-CC dollar in MS65, then purchased another one in MS64 in a green PCGS "rattler" holder-that doesn't rattle! He also just purchased (tonight from Gary S) two Redfield Hoard Morgans, 1879-S and 1882-



S. A friend of his who recently passed away had wanted one, so Helm bought these in his memory.

- David A likes wooden plaque wall hangings that have money. I did not get a photo of the one he talked about, but have seen a few, like this one showing a silver dollar, silver certificate, silver granules, etc. I forgot to ask him if there is an album for the plaques.....



- Frank talked about one coin he owns and two he would like to get at auction in the next couple months. All three of these are pattern coins, with very low mintages. The numbering system for patterns is named after Dr. J. Hewitt Judd. Judd's thorough book is now in its 10th edition. The first coin Frank talked about is a copper half dollar pattern which had the same obverse portrait that went on the Morgan Dollar. Numbered Judd-1521, there are likely four known. PCGS lists three graded, NGC lists two graded- but many are sent back to grading services hoping to get higher grades. It is coming up for auction in July and will likely go in

the range of \$35K and up. The next pattern, Judd1611, features the accepted obverse portrait of Liberty, with a new eagle design on the reverse. There are perhaps twelve examples known. It is also up for auction in August, also expected to fetch \$35K or more. Finally, Frank talked about the pattern he does own, Judd-1617. It features an obverse Liberty design of William Barber. The reverse states the composition of the coin, in an alloy called "goloid". It was comprised of 1 part gold, 24 parts silver, and 2.5 parts copper. The amount of gold had the same value of the amount of silver in each dollar coin: fifty cents each. There are 158 known examples of this variety. Hopefully Frank will get the other two at auction.



- Merle brought in an 1882 CC dollar in MS 65, an 1884 CC dollar MS63 DMPL, and this 1885 CC dollar graded by PCGS in the original holder. He also brought his Dansco album collection of Morgan dollars, which was amazing as expected.



- Erik doesn't collect the Morgan Dollar series, but he does have some toned dollars and overdates. He showed these two beautifully toned dollars. He also showed an 1882 O/S dollar in MS65- rare to find that nice. The New Orleans Mint was sent dies that year with a San Francisco mint mark, so the mint tried to remove the mark and stamped an O in its place. The close-up clearly shows part of the S within the O.

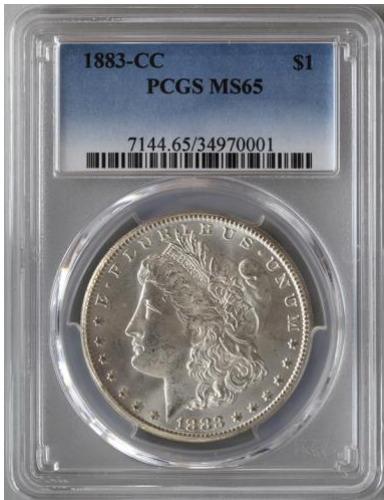


Erik also had an 1882 O/O dollar, where an O was stamped over a prior O mint mark but was off a bit- the close-up shows this too.

- Charlie C: For those of you who remember Lee Gong, you may recall hearing him talk about clashed dies with Morgan and Peace dollars. A clashed die occurs when the dies used are struck together without a



planchet in between them; some detail of a die may transfer onto the other die in that process, and subsequent striking with planchets will show that detail. Lee felt that they are relatively common, with minor clashes supposedly seen in up to 10% or more of the dollars. To test that number, I looked at the ten Morgans I own, and sure enough one of them did have a clashed die. It also happened to be one very nice 1883-CC Morgan. It was originally in a GSA holder (my mom bought two when offered by the government for sale). The holder melted in the 2017 Tubbs fire and the coin survived to be re-slabbbed by PCGS. The red arrow in the detail photo shows where clashing had occurred on the reverse die, leaving a bit of an impression from the obverse die of the back of Liberty's cap. Clashes may leave impression of numbers, letters, or various lines and blobs in in them, and they can be very subtle- but fun to look for. And that wasn't all to discover with this coin. There was a bar below the second "8" (where a tool slipped and gouged the die, causing a raised mark). There was a line below the "N" in "In God We Trust", a clash from Liberty's neck. There is an early die crack above the "of" on the reverse. And the CC mint mark letters are aligned at a slanted angle. So, take a real close look at your Morgans- there may be more than initially meets the eye. And to illustrate the point, a closer look at Merle's 1884 CC dollar shows a die clash at Liberty's neck (like an Adam's apple). He didn't even know!



One more fun event at the meeting was a grading contest. Merle brought in four PCGS slabbed Morgan dollars, all the same date. He blocked off the grade so nobody could see it and had a sheet of paper by each coin for members to write down their guess for the grade. The member with the most correct answers would win a \$100 value slabbed Morgan dollar. If there was a tie, the first member to write his/her guess would be the winner. There were about 15 or so members who got one of the four grades correct, and three guessed two right. Nobody guessed three or all four grades. The first to write down the two correct guesses was Roman S, who won the \$100 coin! Dad Eric S and Mike M also guessed two correctly.

JULY ZOOM Meeting: Sorry you won't be able to enjoy the weenie roast in person, but do tune in on Zoom:

Time: Jul 13, 2022 06:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87642054812?pwd=TDRUOUJPMzJxaUxyQVNxNmFTTTB6Zz09>

Meeting ID: 876 4205 4812

Passcode: 072022

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DRAWING WINNERS

Membership: Paul C, Gary C, Bill H, Bill R, Frank B, and Mike M

50:50 pot of \$124 was split with Steven C

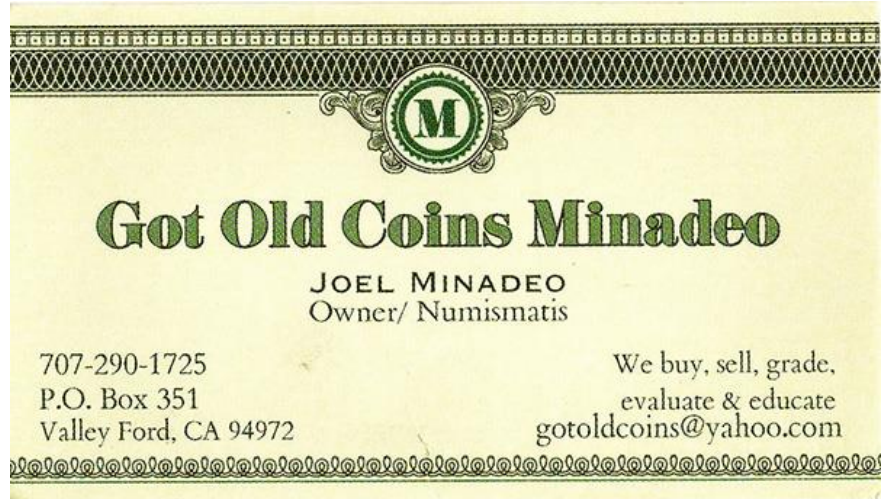
Raffle: (Glenn donated a 1885 MS-62 Morgan, and Eric also donated a coin to the raffle): Guy S (a new Morgan to add to his collection!), Andy O (twice), David, Aaron B, Roger N, Bill H, Kim S (thrice), Bob K, Mike M, Joel M, and David F

April Attendance: 49+

Guests: Brett, a collector of world coins

Auction: 70 exciting items.

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



Business card for Got Old Coins Minadeo. The card features a green and gold color scheme with a decorative border. At the top center is a circular logo with a green background and a white 'M'. Below the logo, the text reads 'Got Old Coins Minadeo' in a large, bold, green serif font. Underneath, 'JOEL MINADEO' is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font, followed by 'Owner/ Numismatis' in an even smaller font. On the left side, the contact information is listed: '707-290-1725', 'P.O. Box 351', and 'Valley Ford, CA 94972'. On the right side, the text reads 'We buy, sell, grade, evaluate & educate' followed by the email address 'gotoldcoins@yahoo.com'. The card is framed by a decorative border of small, repeating patterns.



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UPCOMING SHOWS AND EVENTS

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

July 15-16, 2022. Reno Coin Show. Reno Ramada Hotel & Casino, 1000 E. 6th St., Reno. The Ramada has special rate for coin show guests at \$90/day

August 13, 2022. Fairfield Coin Show. Vacaville Moose Lodge, 6585 Gibson Canyon Rd, Vacaville

August 21, 2022. Sacramento Coin Show. Lions Gate Hotel, 3410 Westover Street, McClellan/Sacramento

September 9-10, 2022. CoinExpo San Jose. DoubleTree Hotel, 2050 Gateway Blvd., San Jose

February 17-18, 2023. REDWOOD EMPIRE COIN CLUB's 53rd Annual Coin Show. E.L. Finley Building, Sonoma County Fairgrounds, 1350 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa

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.

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** July 13, 2022—
Charlie