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Redwood Empire Coin Club

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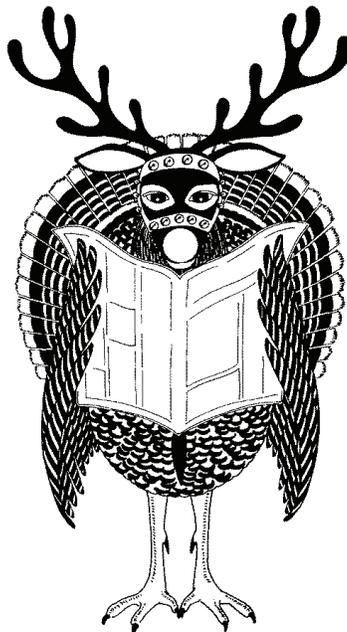
October 13, 2010

THE BEST WURST IN TOWN!

Like Superman without a cape, it just wouldn't be the same if October didn't have a fest. And we sure did. Thanks to the gang at G&G market, we had the best wurst in town again this year. Lee didn't bring as much fixin's (a miscommunication on our part, sorry about that), but club members brought plenty of desserts to go with the wieners. Nobody went hungry. The award for best dessert to go with the Oktoberfest theme goes to Jon Marie, who baked a German Chocolate cake by scratch! Thanks to everyone else who brought in great goodies.

THANKSGIVING

And if you thought *that* was good, wait until November! It will be our annual Thanksgiving Pot Luck Dinner. For a mere \$5 the club will provide plenty of hot roast turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes and stuffing. **PLEASE bring a side dish** to go with the turkey so that there is plenty to go around. Desserts are also welcome. This is often the best attended meeting of the year, a good time to get together with fellow club members and enjoy good food and conversation!



DUES

Yes, it is that time again, to renew your annual dues. For a mere \$7.50 you sure get a lot! Many of you receive this newsletter by e-mail, and to save mailing we would appreciate if you could see Treasurer Kurt G up at the front table at the next meetings to pay those dues. Even those receiving this by mail can see him. This helps save costs and extra effort by Kurt, who is doing an excellent job keeping track of our funds. Thanks!

OCTOBER AUCTION

The feature of the October meeting was the 10th Annual Helen and Roy Roberts benefit Auction. With 69 items very generously donated by club members (hey- we'll do almost *anything* for a good wiener....) we brought in \$521.50! Way to go! In November we go back to the regular auction.

COIN SHOW NEWS!

We have a date. The **43rd Annual RECC Coin Show** will be **February 18-19, 2011**. This will be a Friday-Saturday format again. Write it down, engrave it in your memory, and be prepared to help and have fun!

(SHOW, cont.). The show will be at Finley Hall of the Sonoma County Fairgrounds again, with dealer set-up on Thursday the 17th, and room set-up Wednesday. We'll be giving more info about it each month. There will be 66 tables of dealers, and several are already sold!

There will be a Coin Show Dinner again on Friday, and the club voted to keep it at Fou Zhou buffet Restaurant. We will also have our 6 month Membership Gold Coin Drawing at that dinner.

The biggest income from the show each year is the sale of Gold Coin Drawing tickets. We sell them for \$1 each, or 6/\$5. Plus each ticket has a coupon for a discount for Round Table Pizza! Merle handed out booklets of 120 serially numbered tickets for us to try to sell. This really helps cover our cost, particularly with the cost of gold going up. With a \$20 St Gaudens, Liberty \$10 and \$5 gold, as well as Mexican gold pesos, this is always a great drawing. Please do your best to support the club in helping sell those tickets.

As an incentive, there will be gold coin prizes for the three people who sell the most tickets. And out of everybody else who sells one, a name will be drawn for another gold coin! So get started!

ANA MUSEUM

If you are ever in the Denver area, an easy side trip to Colorado Springs is well worth the time. I had just that opportunity earlier this month. Besides going up over 14,000 feet to the top of Pike's Peak (you can see all the way to Kansas, Toto!) and visiting the Garden of the Gods Park (beautiful rock formations), the ANA Headquarters is there. They have a very nice Money Museum worth visiting.

The current first floor exhibit is all about Money of the Civil War. It was an extensive and well displayed collection of everything imaginable— patriotic and store card tokens, confederate coins (all restrikes were on display), currency, fractional currency, encased postage stamps, military scrip, commemoratives, and more. There was also the Harry Bass collection of gold and patterns— a huge collection likely not duplicated anywhere else. And a few little other coins were on display- the 1804 dollar and the 1913 Liberty nickel.

On the lower level was an extensive display of "Coins, Crown, and Conflict"- relating to England in the time of Oliver Cromwell. They even had his death mask! Finally was "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly— The Faces of Money". You could even vote for who was the best, worst, and ugliest person depicted. This is a museum worth visiting for all ages.

Steven H gave a talk about a few interesting subjects. Besides 20 cent pieces, he collects car license plates, including the 1956 one he brought in. He also collects fountain pens, including Waterman pens. Founded in 1838 by Lewis Edson Waterman, the Waterman Pen Company was the gold standard for fountain pens until World War II, when its popularity waned. Apparently they were very reliable and of high quality.

Steven had read about some rare tokens from the company (among other ephemera that is collectible from it), but had never actually held one— until recently. He has actually obtained one! It is made of hard rubber. The pictures below are the only ones I could find— one an aluminum token from France, and 4 colorful tokens.



CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads may be placed by any club member, up to 2 per month. They run for two months. Buy—Sell—Trade—Want Lists OK. Notify Charlie at each meeting (or mail to club P.O. Box, or even call) to get your ad in

BUYING COIN COLLECTIONS large or small. Will travel. Frank Villalon 707-467-0250

COINS I WOULD LOVE TO OWN (BUT CAN NOT AFFORD)

#8

Ever since Balboa first gazed on the Pacific Ocean in 1513, Europeans longed for an easy way to get there. 400 years later, after ten years of dangerous work the Panama Canal was completed. Congress felt it was so important that it authorized \$50million for an exposition celebrating its completion, held in San Francisco. It also authorized a series of commemorative coins to mark the occasion: a silver half dollar, gold dollar and quarter eagle, and an extraordinary pair of \$50 gold pieces, modeled after the gold octagonal 'slugs' struck in gold rush California.

New York artist Robert Aitken was chosen to create the design, though he was a sculptor with no experience with coins. His designs were an attempt to blend classical Greek motifs with modern design. The obverse featured the Roman goddess Minerva (after the Greek goddess Athena). Minerva was the goddess of wisdom, skill, agriculture, horticulture.... And war (though of the more 'reflective and civilized side of conflict'). The reverse depicts an owl perched on a Ponderosa Pine.

Because of its large size, the \$50 coins required a special 14-ton hydraulic press for minting. There were 1509 octagonal and 1510 round specimens minted. The first 100 struck were given to various dignitaries, the rest sold at \$100 each for a single coin. There were various combinations of all the commemoratives sold. But a total of only 645 octagonals and 483 rounds were sold, and the remaining coins were melted. :(An MS 62 round specimen sold at auction in January this year for \$52,000.



DRAWING WINNERS:

Membership: Edwin H, Chris N (the guy wins even without his lucky lederhosen), Jim V, Mike M, Curtis S, and Casey McL.

50:50 pot of \$90 was split with Bob K

Raffle: Jim V, Gary C(twice), Curtis S (thrice), Edwin H (twice), Bob B, Jon Maria, Randy B, and Irene— the Vallejo contingent really cleaned up this time!

October Members: 71

New Members: Randy B (# 809), and Bob W, (# 810). **WELCOME!**

Guests: Yes, several

Auction: 69 exciting items— see page 1

Adjournment was at 9:10 p.m. sharp!



There **will** be a **Junior Member** meeting in November.

Volunteers for **refreshments** for November are all of you. Side dishes especially (to go with turkey mashed potatoes stuffing and gravy). Desserts welcome too!

The Redwood Empire Coin Club meets on the second Wednesday of every 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 PM sharp.

R.E.C.C.

1211 W. College Ave.

Santa Rosa, Ca. 95401



UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS

**November 14, 2010. Peninsula Coin Clubs
31st annual Coins and Collectibles
Show.** Napredak Hall, 770 Montague
Expressway, San Jose

**November 19-21, 2010. Santa Clara Coin,
Stamp, and Collectibles Expo.** Santa
Clara Convention Center, 5001 Great
American Parkway, Santa Clara

**January 28-30, 2011. San Jose Coin Club
42nd Annual Coin, Stamp, and Col
lectibles Expo.** Pavilion Hall, Santa
Clara County Fairgrounds, 344 Tully
Road, San Jose.

**February 18-19, 2011. Redwood
Empire Coin Club's 43rd
Annual Coin Show.** Sonoma
County Fairgrounds' Finley Hall,
1350 Bennett Valley Road, Santa
Rosa

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

Thanks for reading. Corrections? Additions?
Let me know—573-1252.

See you November 10— Charlie

