



Founded March 26, 1949

1211W. College Ave.
Santa Rosa, Ca. 95401

Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 63, Issue 9, Meeting #731. October 12, 2011

Next Meeting: November 9, 2011

AUCTION ANTICS

HELEN & ROY ROBERTS AUCTION

The October 12 meeting of the Redwood Empire Coin Club featured our annual Helen and Roy Roberts Memorial Club Benefit Night. Helen had been our trusty Treasurer for something like 40 years, and Roy was a past president and ran the auction for a number of years. We honor them with an annual benefit auction, and there were 67 items donated by club members auctioned at the end of the meeting. Proceeds benefit the club in covering the rent, mailing costs, food, etc. Many thanks to each and every person who donated something (or several things) to the auction. A total of the proceeds will be announced at the November meeting.



YOUNGEST MEMBER

We had a new member join at the meeting. Celina M was just 2 weeks old! This is the youngest club member on record! I don't think too many people will try to top that for a while. She went through the entire meeting without making a peep, listening intently to every word that was spoken, I'm sure.

2012 COIN SHOW

Merle went over upcoming plans for the 2012 coin show. It will be Friday February 17 and Saturday February 18 in Finley Hall at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds. 15 of 67 tables are already sold! The members wanted to have another show dinner like last year at Fou Zhou restaurant.

Merle handed out books of 120 tickets for our Gold Coin Drawing at the show. They still sell for \$1 each, or 6 for \$5. We have elected to spend the same on obtaining the coins as last year. Since the price of gold went up, there is a slight change. Top prize will still be a \$20 St. Gaudens coin, second prize a \$5 Indian gold, with 3rd-9th prizes 2-1/2 peso

Mexican gold coins.

All club members are encouraged to sell as many gold drawing tickets as possible, to help cover the cost of the coins— as well as to encourage people to go to the show. The top three ticket sellers will win a gold coin themselves for selling, and one name will be drawn from among the other sellers for a fourth gold coin. So get going!

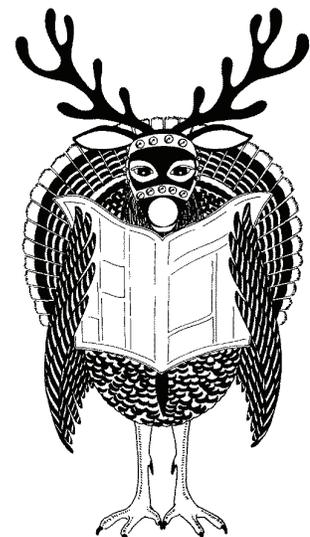
IN MEMORY

The club noted with sadness the passing of Jerry Elwood. He passed away October 1, and a celebration of his life was planned. Jerry was a loyal club member who enjoyed the friendship of fellow members and the joy of collecting, among many other things. He will be missed.

NOVEMBER MEETING

The November meeting will be our annual Thanksgiving feast! This is the biggest food event of the year. For a mere **\$5/person**, there will be lots of turkey, gravy, stuffing, mashed potatoes, and beverages.

PLEASE bring a side dish or dessert to share with the club and make it a royal feast, as it is every year.



POOR MAN'S PAN PAC

This medallion was one of the items at the Helen and Roy Roberts Auction, generously donated by Jack Beymer. It is a 38mm bronze medallion from the Panama Pacific Exposition. Since the coins minted for that expo now cost from ~\$500 for the half dollar to ~\$200,000 for the \$50 gold, this is likely as close as I will get to owning the others.

This was the official expo medal, struck by the U.S.Mint on the expo grounds. Some were made in silver, and there were four varieties in bronze, including this gold-plated variety. It was designed by medallic sculptor Robert Ingersol Aitken, and is listed as So-Called Dollar HK-399-401.



To the right of Mercury's feet, the artist signed the medal (AITKEN FECIT, or Aitken made it).

Finally, Mercury holds a Caduceus in his outstretched hand, used as a symbol of commerce for millennia. It is often confused with the Staff of Asclepias, which has a single serpent and is most recognized as a symbol of medicine.



On closer inspection, there were several interesting things to note. The legend on the reverse is "Panama-Pacific International Exhibition San Francisco California MCMXV (1915)". The two female figures with the world between them represent the two hemispheres. They hold two cornucopias, likely signifying the plentiful harvest that would now be available through the canal commerce.

If you look closely at the bottom, you will also see a bird near their feet. It is a seagull, the official bird of the Canal Zone.



The legend on the obverse reads "to commemorate the opening of the Panama Canal MCMXV". It features a winged Mercury opening the locks on the Panama Canal, through which sails the vessel Argo, the symbol of navigation.

The photos above were all taken with a microscope like the one sold both at our coin show as well as at the ANA show. It simply plugs into a USB on your computer, has a light source of its own as well as a focus. It is fun and easy to use.

And this is what the other Panama Pacific coins look like below (and are *not* in my collection).



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

WANTED: Merle Avila would like to buy your “Good For Tokens” that have the name of a town on them from anywhere in the USA. Please call: Days- 707-585-3711;
Eves- 707-824-4811.

Or e-mail Merle@avilaarchitects.com

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KIDS KORNER

Most of the October meeting was spent discussing state quarters. As most know, the series started with the first state Delaware in 1999. Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia, and Connecticut soon followed. The Delaware reverse depicts a colonial riding a horse which I falsely assumed was Paul Revere. In fact, the rider is Caesar Rodney a delegate to the Continental Congress. On July 1, 1776, he rode 80 miles on horseback in very adverse conditions to cast the deciding vote in favor of our nation's independence. Things that you can learn from coins!

Next month, some more on the states.

For Instance:

Why the tree on Connecticut?

Why the airplane on North Carolina?

Why the arch on Missouri?

Why the spike on Utah?

All this and more November 9 at 6:15 sharp!

DRAWING WINNERS:

Membership: Rich W, Edwin H, Bill Van V, Bob B, Fred C, and Zach S

50:50 pot of \$ 64 was split with Bob B

Raffle: Adriana M (twice), Kurt G, Glenn C (twice), Mike C, Mike B, Edwin H (twice), Jon Maria M, and Harry D

October Members: 56+

New Members: Celina M, 2 weeks old– the youngest member in club history

Guests: Yes, several

Auction: 67 exciting items

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

If there are any volunteers that would like to help **lick and stick** (put on labels and stamps on the Coin Show mail out cards), here is your chance to help your club out. We will need to do this at the **November** meeting, starting at 6:00 p.m. sharp. **PLEASE** come help the club get this done quickly– thanks!

NEW LECTURE SERIES

Lee Gong will be giving an **ADVANCED COLLECTING** talk at the beginning of each meeting. He will begin at 6PM. This will be very interesting and informative, geared to all adult and ad-

Volunteers for **refreshments** for November are all of you bringing side dishes of dessert for Thanksgiving. Many thanks in advance

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 6, 2011. Peninsula Coin Club 32nd Annual Coins and Collectibles Show.
Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway,
San Jose

November 11-12, 2011. Sacramento Coin Show.
Red Lion Inn (next to Sears), 1401 Arden
Way, Sacramento

November 18-20, 2011. Santa Clara Coin, Stamp, and Collectibles Expo. Santa
Clara Convention Center, 5001 Great American
Parkway

February 17-18, 2012. Redwood Empire Coin Club's 44th 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?
Questions? E-mail us at:
info@Redwoodempirecoinclub.com

Or call me— 707-573-1252
See you November 9— Charlie

