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Santa Rosa, Ca. 95401

# Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 64, Issue 1, Meeting #734. January 11, 2012

Next Meeting: February 8, 2012

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

The RECC got off to a great start of 2012 with a lot of interesting Show and Tell items. There was a bit of business too, of course.

Preparations for the Coin Show are going well. There was only one unsold table out of 67, and that will likely be taken soon. Bob K has a list of people who will help set up and take down afterwards. We will need four club members at a time working at the front tables throughout the show. A few of you have volunteered already—thanks. We will try to get more names so that it is covered and everyone still has plenty of time for shopping. The Coin Show Dinner will be at **Fou Zhou Chinese Buffet** again. For \$20, it is all you can eat with a beverage (alcohol is extra). We will likely have some great items to give away with a raffle, and we will also have our 6 month Membership Gold Drawing. Since not all members can make the dinner, you do *NOT* need to be present to win the gold.

Finally, please keep selling those Gold Coin Drawing tickets. It really helps make up for the costs of running the show. And there are gold coin prizes for top sellers.

The topic for the **February** meeting is: **WHAT I AM LOOKING FOR AT THE COIN SHOW**. Give us a 2-3 minute talk, and win 4 free raffle tickets at the meeting.

### SHOW AND TELL

- Cal G has had an interest in foreign coins. A recent purchase of some old British coins from a photo on-line resulted in some of them being 'contemporary counterfeits', made at the time of the old coins ( versus modern counterfeits, what the Chinese are doing now with our old coins). This has led to his interest in contemporary counterfeits. Many were made with a wheel die, and plated with silver or gilt (like a 2 farthing sample he owns) to be passed off as silver or gold coins. (Remember the 1883 V 'racketeer' nickels? Same idea).

- Jerry St. G has an 1861-O Seated Liberty Half Dollar, given to him by his father. In January 1861, the Union ran the New Orleans Mint. From later January to March that year, it was run by the State of Louisiana. After that it was run by the Confederate states.



- Joseph M is hoping the 2013 ANA Spring Show may be in Portland, perhaps co-hosted by the Willamette Coin Club. He talked about 'local currency', in particular a \$3 Fairfax, California "good for" coin. Items like that were used to stimulate the local economy.
- Philip A is collecting denominations of Confederate Currency. He was going to try for one of each denomination, but the \$500 is too expensive. They featured various Confederate politicians. At the end of the Civil War a Confederate \$1 was worth 1-1/3 cents! Philip discussed some of the features of the currency. Some were printed on only one side (the \$1), they had different dates by the month, and there were hand-written serial numbers. There are lots of counterfeits, and there is even a list on-line of known counterfeit serial numbers.



- Jon Maria brought in her latest purchase from the Royal Hawaiian Mint, a 70th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor. This image is from their web-site, which has some interesting info.
- Lucky Larry likes error coins, and talked about Buffalo nickels in particular. He was able to examine a 1918/17 D sample in XF condition while in LA, but has never seen the 1916/1916.
- Gary C went to an ATM, got some \$20 bills. One of them had his brother's cell phone # as the serial number! The next day, at the Dry Creek Deli, he received a bill in change with the serial # 030303! I wonder if he bought a Lotto ticket next.....
- Bob K is a coinaholic (like many of us). Merle got him enthusiastic in more than pennies, so he started collecting \$10 Indian gold coins. He brought in a nice example. Many did not know that it was designed by St. Gaudens, and had stars on the edge.



- Willie brought in a dime holder with a question: how do you open the \*@&\$#!% thing? It just so happened that Stephen H had one as well, and he explained. The container has to be full. Then you back the thingamajig out of the whatchamacallit and it opens up. Got it?
- Rich talked about an easily affordable and fun set to put together: Kennedy Halves. The toughest coin in the series is the 1999 Silver Proof.



- Mike C discussed the 1965-1967 Special Mint Sets, made because there were no proof sets as the mint was getting rid of mint marks. In 1964, there were a few Special Mint Sets made as well, with perhaps 20-30 known sets!

- Charlie C brought in the coin described in last month's newsletter. Another recent purchase of an Antiochus IV coin was ironic: the inscription was for "Antiochus the Victorious", but it was minted at a time when his army was being defeated by the Maccabees.
- Merle brought in his Sebastopol 'Goof For' tokens. They were usually made in bunches of 100, and most were thrown out or lost over the years. So some of his tokens are the only known example. Merle also discussed the history of the California token book. RECC member Stephen Album wrote the very first one in 1976, but only included 40 of the State's counties. The next book out by Kaplan did include all the counties. Album did finish the series, but he lists the tokens by the county. Kaplan lists tokens by the city name, which is a bit easier for Merle to look things up. The tokens are most often made of brass, white metal and aluminum, but are occasionally made of copper.

#### KIDS KORNER

First, answers from the last newsletter: The unit of British currency is called the pound because in the old money system 240 pennies were a pound. The word penny has not appeared on any US coin to date. (answer I., none of the above).

Juniors (Jasmine and Zack) joined the discussion of British money and selected several British coins from our donations for their collections.

At the February meeting, we will discuss preparing to go to a coin show (ours of course!). We will discuss setting priorities, establishing a budget, and resisting other temptations. All of which I have yet to learn. We will also put together "freebies" to be given to all juniors who attend the show.

See you in Feb. at 6:15 sharp. **The first five juniors attending the Feb meeting will receive a gold coin raffle ticket from my pack.**

Rich W

## 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](mailto:Merle@avilaarchitects.com)

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### **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 advanced Junior members.

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## DRAWING WINNERS:

**Membership:** Zach S and Stephen A both left before their names were called, so did not get their membership prize. But both are still counted for the 6 month gold membership draw. Present were: Carman B, Celina M, Willie Q, Irene C, Michael W, Andy S, and Jerry St. G

**50:50** pot of \$ 98 was split with Mike B

**Raffle:** Irene C, Jack H (twice?), Jerry St. G, Phil A, Willie Q, Charlie C, Edwin H, Adriana M, Harry D, Glenn C, plus a few I missed (sorry)

**January Members:** 82+

**New Members:** Randon S, # 834- WELCOME!  
And we have a new LIFE MEMBER– Bill Van V is Life Member #63!

**Guests:** Yes, several

**Auction:** 14 exciting items

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

Thanks to all the members who helped put stamps and labels on post cards for our upcoming show. We expect a good turnout with the help of the mailers.

Volunteers for **refreshments** for February are Cal G, Willie Q, Bob K, and Glenn C– thanks!

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.

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## UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS

**January 27-29, 2012. San Jose Coin Club's 44th Annual Coin, Stamp, & Collectibles Show.**  
Doubletree Hotel, 2050 Gateway Place, San Jose

**February 17-18, 2012. Redwood Empire Coin Club's 44th Annual Coin Show.** Sonoma County Fairgrounds' Finley Hall, 1350 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa

**February 19, 2012. Cupertino Coin Club's 40th Annual Coin and Collectibles Show.**  
Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose

**March 11, 2012. Livermore Valley Coin Club's 49th Annual Coin Show.** Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur, Livermore

**May 6, 2012. Vallejo Numismatic Society's 40th Annual Vallejo Coin Show.** Vallejo Veterans Memorial Building, 420 Admiral Callaghan Lane, Vallejo

**August 12, 2012. 22nd Annual Coin Show,** 1000 East Kentucky Street, Fairfield

**November 4, 2012. Peninsula Coin Club's 33rd Annual Coins and Collectibles Show.**  
Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose

**Check out the newsletter at:  
[Redwoodempirecoinclub.com](http://Redwoodempirecoinclub.com)**

Thanks for reading. Corrections? Additions? Questions? E-mail us at:  
**[info@Redwoodempirecoinclub.com](mailto:info@Redwoodempirecoinclub.com)**

Or call me— 707-573-1252  
See you February 8, 2012— Charlie

