



Founded March 26, 1949

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

Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 68, Issue 1, Meeting #782. January 13, 2016

Next Meeting: February 10, 2016

HAPPY NEW YEAR

We had an incredible turnout for the first meeting of the year. There were close to 80 people including members and guests. We have had a number of other club leaders join us for the last few meetings. This time it was Dan C, Vice President of the PCNS; Bill H, Vice President of Diablo Numismatic Society, and Larry C, President of Diablo Numismatic Society. And we had a new member, Junior Member #925 Matthew H join us—welcome!

We also have two new Life Members: Ken F, LM # 83, and Cal G, LM # 84. About 1/3 to 1/2 of the life members were actually at the meeting! If you want to become one, see Merle.

Merle talked about the preparations for next month's coin show. 62 of 67 tables are sold, and all the others are spoken for and awaiting payment. This looks like it will be another good show.

Bob K went around the meeting room and took names for people to help with set up Wednesday and clean up after the show. Charlie started a list of volunteers to work at the front table each show day. We need four people at a time—two for entry fee and one each for the gold and silver drawing ticket sales. Working in 2 hour shifts gives you plenty of other time to shop and trade. More names will be taken at the February to hopefully cover all the time slots. Thanks in advance to all who volunteer.

Don Rinkor generously donated 14 slabbed silver dollars again this year for the silver dollar raffle. If you see him, please remember to thank him for his generosity and support of the club.

There will be a Kids Treasure Hunt at the show both days, organized by Rich W. There will be 9 stations for the kids to go to and receive free coins— all generously donated by club members.

Please remember to sell the Gold Coin raffle tickets. Sellers all have a chance to win a gold coin just for selling the tickets (to be announced at the March meeting). Please bring the ticket stubs to Merle.

Finally, we will have a Show Dinner Friday at Fou Zhou restaurant— see Merle if interested.

SHOW & TELL

- ⊙ Gary C talked about a 1979 1 cent coin from Fiji that he found in change, like the 1997 coin pictured here. On the obverse is Queen Elizabeth II. The reverse features a stalk of grain with the motto "GROW MORE FOOD". This was a promotion for the F.A.O., The United Nations' Food and Agricultural Organization

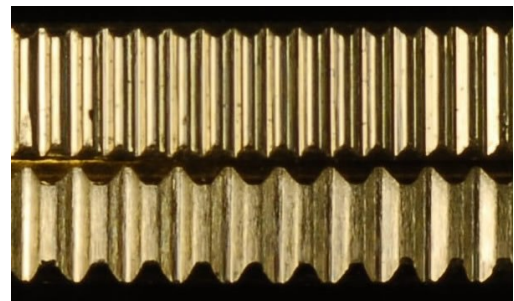


- ⊙ Matt A did not bring in a coin. Instead he brought in his Kindle Fire, and talked about a free app called Coin Collector. It allows you to list coins needed/owned. He also has the Red Book on his Kindle for easy reference wherever he goes.

⊙ Guy S is a true coin collector. He talked about getting hooked on coins, which has happened to him many times with varying collecting interests. Now he can't get enough collecting Indian Head cents, and brought in his Dansco Album.



- ⊙ Jim C was the FUN show in Florida recently. He went looking for— and found— a 2015 1/10 ounce U.S. gold Eagle with a wrong reed collar. Apparently the mint used the wrong collar for some of the coins, so they came out with narrow reeds instead of wide reeds. The error does command quite a premium over the coin's value. The photo here helps visualize the difference in the reed width



- ⊙ Curtis brought in a holder with something most of us want, and some of us have: a \$20 St Gaudens, \$5 Liberty, and a couple 2-1/2 peso Mexican gold coins. And they could be yours with winning the coin show Gold coin Drawing, as well as you can get gold coins for selling those drawing tickets. He has always been a top seller, and has plenty of gold to show for it. He challenged all of you to sell those tickets and aim as high as he does.



- ⊙ Charlie C talked about two very small coins. Very old small coins. The first, was a blank planchet from Ionia, an ancient Greek country on the western section of present day Turkey, dating around 620 BC. This planchet is made of electrum, which is a natural or alloyed gold that contains at least 20% silver in it. The standard gold coin of the period was a stater, which is about as big as a fingernail. This tiny coin is just over 1/8 of an inch, and is a 1/48th stater! There are a number of similar pieces found from the area which were just used for ancient jewelry. But this planchet has the exact weight and composition of 1/48th coins. Plus, it was purchased from the author of the book on electrum coins, which helps with the identification. Looking at it, you can tell it is ready to be hammered into a coin. An example of a slightly 'younger' (560 BC) gold 1/12 stater coin of Kroisos (probably the legendary King Midas) is pictured here, to show what kind of coin a planchet would have been minted into



- ⊙ The other coin Charlie talked about is a bit younger too, from around 340 BC. It is from ancient Judea, which was the region around Jerusalem. That whole region of the world was ruled by the Persians until the time of Alexander the Great.

Around 350 BC he conquered the entire region, all the way down to Egypt. Coins of his Greek rule were fairly common and usually were imitations of the Greek coin featuring Athena and an owl of Athens. The Persians and later Greeks worshiped many gods. But the Jews of ancient Judea worshiped the one god still worshipped today by Christians, Jews, and Muslims around the world. And the Judeans minted 4 coins of religious significance probably to maintain their beliefs. One featured an oil or incense lamp; one featured the lily of Jerusalem; one featured a shofar, or ram's horn which was used to call an alarm as well as call people to worship; and this coin, which featured the "ear of God". There is an ancient Hebrew prayer called the Shema, still said today, that essentially says "Listen—there is only one god". This coin was probably a reminder to people to remember that prayer. It was also thought that the part of God closest to us was the ear, so prayers could be heard. There are probably less than 25 of these coins known. It is only about 3/16", so this enlargement is as clear as it gets.



- ⊙ Cal G had a possibly stranger coin. It was a 1 ounce silver coin from Mongolia featuring an ammonite fossil, and he had a matching 1/2 ounce coin as well. There were only 999 of the red gold-plated high relief 1 ounce coins made. It is part of the "Evolution of Life" series produced by Coin Invest Trust for Mongolia. There was also a gold edition minted



- ⊙ Joe M brought in the book on Canadian Tire coupons
- ⊙ Glenn C brought in his collection of Cyprus coins, and did not bother to teach the Junior Members as he had promised

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

MORE SHOW AND TELL

- ⊙ Larry M (and Merle) talked about changes with the Grey Sheet. They have been re-formatting it, and some valuations have not been included (yet), like some half grades. And certain sections are now found in a different monthly/quarterly paper.
- ⊙ Mike talked about a woman being featured on the U.S. \$10 bill in 2020. (George Washington will *always* be on the \$1 by law, apparently). Pocahontas was on a bill in 1865, and the last woman featured on currency was Martha Washington in the late 1800s. Leading candidates are Sacagawea and Susan B Anthony. Stay tuned.....
- ⊙ Merle mentioned that someone had a 1877 Indian cent graded PCGS AU 50 at the last meeting, which he purchased. There are so many AU grades to coins from 50-59, but most are not listed in price guides. So it was nice to have one with the AU 50 designation.

BRAGGING RIGHTS

The Baseball Hall of Fame cupped clad half dollar has been named Coin of the Year by an international panel of judges in a vote that concluded Dec. 6. An award trophy will be presented Feb. 6, 2016 at the World Money Fair in Berlin, Germany. This is a prestigious award with some tough competition from beautiful coins of other countries. Mary Lannin, the Chair of the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC) which advises the U.S. Mint on design choices, is also the President of the San Francisco Ancient Numismatic Association, and she will be in Germany for the honors.



DRAWING WINNERS:

Membership: Wendell B, Steve C (but he was gone and missed out), Rodney M Jr., Angelo C, and Mike C

50:50 pot of \$122 was split with Mike C

Raffle: Edwin H (4 times), Michael S, Glen M (twice), Bill R, Jack H, and Jon Maria (twice)

January Members Present: 68+

New Members: Matthew H, # 925J— WELCOME!

Guests: Dan C, Vice President of the PCNS; Bill H, Vice President of Diablo Numismatic Society, and Larry C, President of Diablo Numismatic Society, plus others

Auction: 43 exciting items

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

KIDS KORNER

For the December meeting, Glenn did not talk about coins from Cyprus. The kids helped the adults put stamps and mailing labels on postcards for our upcoming show— thanks to ALL of you for helping.

In February, Guy S will be talking to the kids about early dated coins. This should be a really interesting talk for kids as well as adults.

Volunteers for **refreshments** for February are Kurt G, Jack H, Christine S, and Bob A— 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.

R.E.C.C.
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UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS

FEBRUARY 12-13, 2016. Redwood Coin Club 48th Annual Coin Show. Sonoma County Fair-grounds' Finley Hall, Santa Rosa

FEB 20-21, 2016. New San Francisco Area Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Show, S. San Francisco Conference Center, 255 South Airport Blvd, South San Francisco

FEB 28, 2016. Cupertino Coin Club 44th Annual Coin Show, Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose

MAR 6, 2016. Livermore Valley Coin Club 54th Annual Coin Show, Elks Lodge, 940 Lark spur, Livermore

March 18-19, 2016. South Bay/Sunnyvale Coin Show. Domain Hotel, 1085 East El Camino Real, Sunnyvale

APR 22-24, 2016. Santa Clara County Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Show, Santa Clara Convention Center, San Jose

MAY 1, 2016. Vallejo Numismatic Society 44th Annual Show, Florence Douglas Senior Center, 333 Amador (Between Georgia and Florida) Vallejo

JULY 30-31, 2016. Fremont Coin Club Annual Show, Elk's Hall, 38991 Farwell Drive, Fremont

August 7, 2016. Fairfield Coin Club 27th Annual Coin Show, Willow Room, Fairfield Community Center (downtown) 1000 East Kentucky off Pennsylvania

Check out our newsletter at:

Redwoodempirecoinclub.com

Thanks for reading. Corrections? Additions? Questions? E-mail us at:
newsletter@Redwoodempirecoinclub.com

Or call me— 707-573-1252

See you February 10— Charlie

