

Founded March 26, 1949

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

Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 70, Issue 11, Meeting #816. November 14, 2018

Next Meeting: December 12, 2018

THANKSGIVING

The Redwood Empire Meeting and Eating Club (a.k.a. the RECC) had a great Thanksgiving Dinner meeting in November. Thanks to all the people who brought side dishes and desserts to share. There was plenty of food for everybody, with leftovers (for a change!). Many thanks also to Mike M for arranging the roast turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, etc.—it was really delicious. The cost was a bit high, and we will be looking into ways to make future dinner meetings more affordable.

NEXT MONTH: The December meeting will be in the main auditorium of the Veteran’s Building. We will have a **FLEA MARKET** from 6-7 pm, where anyone can use a table on the sides of the auditorium for **numismatic items**: buy, sell, trade as much as you want. It will also be **DESSERT NIGHT!** *Please* bring an item to share with the club—it is always fun to see what holiday goodies you all come with. We will have nomination and election of club officers, and..... **SANTA** will be here with something for each and every club member!

Last month’s meeting featured our first Lee Gong Memorial Benefit Auction. Thanks to all who donated items. And thanks to those of you who generously bid on the items. The benefit proceeds total was \$433.50, which will greatly help the club with rising costs of rent, food, etc. Thanks also to Mike M who donated the hot dogs and buns for the dinner.

Donald H, # 913, has become our 92nd Life Member with a \$100 donation to the club! He wanted to make this change in memory of Lee Gong. Thanks, Lee, and welcome to the Lifers!

Our 51st Annual Coin Show will be February 15-16, 2019. So far 21 of the 60 tables are sold, and many more should be sold soon. What benefits the club the most from the show (financially speaking) is the Gold Coin Drawing. Once again this year we will have drawing prizes of a \$20 St. Gaudens gold piece, a \$5 Liberty gold piece, and seven 2-1/2 peso Mexican gold pieces!

Merle handed out gold drawing tickets to club members to sell. Please make an effort to sell as many as possible. The top three ticket sellers will each get a very nice prize (usually a gold piece!). And there will be a fourth prize, with the winner to be drawn from all other ticket sellers.



DUES...

Yes, it is that time of year again. Your dues for next year (2019) are due. For those getting this newsletter in the mail, please fill out the enclosed form and return it either through the mail or at the next meeting. For those getting this newsletter on-line, a separate e-mail will have the dues form which you can print and return to us. It would be nice in the future if they could be paid on-line, but we are a long way from that. And if you are a life member- your dues are already taken care of, thanks!

VETERANS DAY

With all that was going on during the meeting, we forgot to mention Veteran's Day, which was 2 days prior to the meeting. Many of you have served in the Military, and we are all grateful. Thanks for your service! The following is an item forwarded to me by Joe M (from the Cincinnati Numismatic Association):

The meaning of coins left on soldiers' graves: Coins left on tombstones have meaning beyond remembrance. It can be a sign of respect to those who lost their life serving in the military. It shows that their life had value and is something worthy of commemoration.

During the Viet Nam War era it became common to leave coins for fallen friends for beer and poker games in the next life. There is no standard tradition though, so it varies over the years as to what different denominations symbolized.

Roughly, this curious custom at military graves is as follows:

- A penny means you knew the deceased or just visited to pay respects
- A nickel means you went to boot camp together
- A dime means you served together
- A quarter at the grave lets the family know you were with the fallen soldier when he/she died.
- Challenge coins that identify with specific units or accomplishments are also sometimes left on the headstones of fellow comrades.

What happens to the coins left on the top of gravestones? At Arlington National Cemetery, coins left at President John F. Kennedy's Memorial and others are collected as donations for cemetery upkeep.

THANKSGIVING

When you say the word "Thanksgiving", what comes to mind? Turkey dinner? Pumpkin pie? Sports on TV? Getting together with others?

It is nice to reflect on that last item and consider what Thanksgiving is all about. It went unsaid at the last meeting, but it was there: we were all together in friendship, sharing great food and memories. And talking about coins, of course. We *should* be thankful for the abundance of food we had. And we should be thankful for being able to get together like this, month after month (some of us for *decades* with the club!). And we should be thankful to have known the people who are now gone, like Lee Gong, Ramona Smith, and others.

Merle does a tremendous amount of work for this club, much of it behind the scenes. He works year round to get coins for membership draws and raffles, dealers for the coin show, keeping our room available for meetings, and lots of other 'stuff' that is time consuming. Merle- thanks for ALL that you do.

Lee also did a lot of work, especially helping prepare for the coin show and with food for meetings. We sure miss him. Mike M has stepped in to help in that capacity, and we sure appreciate that. And thanks to each and every one of you who attend meetings, work the coin show, bring in goodies, and make this the best coin club west of the Mississippi!



Have you ever tried taking photographs of your coins? It can be a challenge to get the image nice and clear, as well as dealing with glare, shadows, etc. This is one of mine I recently photographed, a sixpence of Elizabeth I of England. Nice detail for a coin minted in 1561!

IN MEMORIUM

It is with sadness to report the passing of Ramona Smith, the loving wife of Curtis. They were married before most of us were born (74 years ago, I believe), and Ramona often joined us for meetings.

After surviving the fire in Santa Rosa last year, the Smiths moved north, to be near their family. Please send your thoughts and prayers to Curtis and his family.

A celebration of her life will be held Saturday January 12 at 1 pm at Santa Rosa Bible Church.

WESTS TOKEN SHOW

For the first time, the Western States Token Society ("WESTS") will have its annual Token Jamboree here in Santa Rosa! Save the dates: March 22-24, 2019. If you have any interest in tokens, or if you want to find out about tokens—you will want to attend this show. It is the biggest tokens show this side of the Mississippi. Some of the biggest collectors/dealers are already lined up, in what should be a really great show.

DRAWING WINNERS

Membership: Mike C, Georgia M, Charlie C, James A, and Ken Rawles

50:50 pot of \$110 was split with the winner

Raffle: Glen M (twice), Helmut J, Roger N, Jonathan S, James V, Matt A, Joe D, Tiffany S (twice), Lee C, and Bill S

Gold Coin raffle: Bill S!

November Attendance: 60+

New Members: none

Guests: there were several

Auction: 19 exciting items

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

KIDS CORNER

December will be a Flea Market for all. There will be tables for adults and juniors. The big difference for the juniors is that their items will be **free!**

See you December 12 at 6! Rich

Volunteers for **refreshments** for December are **all of us** bringing desserts to share—**THANKS!!!!**

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.

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

November 30-December 1, 2018. San Francisco International Coin Show. Holiday Inn Golden Gateway, 1500 Van Ness, San Francisco

February 15-16, 2019. Redwood Empire Coin Club's 51st Annual Coin Show.
E. L. Finley Hall, Sonoma County Fairgrounds, Santa Rosa

February 17, 2019. Cupertino Coin Club's 47th Annual Coin Show. St. Joseph's Church Hall, 10110 N. De Anza Blvd, Cupertino

March 22-24, 2019. WESTS (Western States Token Society) Annual Token Jamboree. "Lodge Room", Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa

April 28, 2019. Vallejo Numismatic Society 47th Annual Show. Florence Douglas Senior Center, 333 Amador, Vallejo

July 27-28, 2019. Fremont Coin Club 46th Annual Show. Elk's Hall, 38991 Farwell Drive, Fremont

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

Thanks for reading. Corrections? Additions? Questions? E-mail us at:
newsletter@Redwoodempirecoinclub.com. See you December 12— Charlie