



Founded March 26, 1949



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

# Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 78, Issue 11, Meeting #900, November 12, 2025

Next Meeting December 10, 2025

## 900 MEETINGS!

Our meeting venue was packed with at least 97 members and guests for our 900<sup>th</sup> meeting! And being a day after Veterans Day, we thanked all the veterans at the meeting as well as the memory of those who have passed- thank you all again for your service. This is a photo of those at our meeting.



Merle noted that the day of the meeting was the final day of the U.S. cent being minted for circulation.

Jason Bradford, president of Legacy Currency Grading, was at the meeting with his assistant to accept submissions for grading on site. A percentage of the fees will be donated to the club, and they will be at the meeting in December as well. Merle had his top ten local notes previously graded by them on display.

The October meeting featured the Lee Gong Memorial Benefit Auction, and the total benefit came to \$1147! Thanks again to all who donated and bid on items. That sure helps cover the \$3000 annual rent for our meeting space.

Dealer applications have been mailed out for our February 13-14, 2026 coin show. So far about 1/3 of the tables are already sold, a bit ahead of sales compared to last year. The show will once again also include the WESTS token show- so this promises to be another fabulous show!

Angelo C will be having his 94<sup>th</sup> birthday November 16, so the club sang Happy Birthday to him.

The main event of the night was celebrating our 900<sup>th</sup> meeting! There were a few special items for club members. There was a cake, with just enough for everybody. We had wooden nickels made for every member. The design was by yours truly (Charlie C), knowing there would be no more Lincoln cents made. Little did we know the day of the meeting would be the last day they were made! For Life Members, we also produced 2" medals in high relief with the same design. And an anonymous member had ball point pens made for everybody, printed "Redwood Empire C.C. Santa Rosa, CA". What are we going to do in eight years for our 1000<sup>th</sup> meeting?



## DECEMBER MEETING

The **December** meeting will be held in the *main auditorium* of the Veterans building. As usual, we will have a **FLEA MARKET** from **6PM -7:30PM**. Tables will be set up on the sides of the auditorium, available for *anyone* to bring in and set up items (Numismatic only please) to buy-sell-trade. Lighting can be a bit dim, so lamps and extension cords may be helpful if you have them. It will also be **DESSERT NIGHT!** If you can, **please bring in a dessert to share with the club**. For some (like me) this is usually one of the best and most delicious meetings of the year. **SANTA MERLE** will be there bringing presents for each and every member. You get to choose the wrapped gift- **one of them** will be a **2 Peso Mexican gold piece!** Even if you cannot attend in person, if you join on Zoom you will be able to pick your present. Dave G did so last year and picked the gold coin! We will also have a **gold coin raffle** for a **2-1/2 Peso Mexican gold piece!** Finally, we will hold elections for the RECC Board. Adult RECC members are all eligible to run for office of president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary- if you are interested in one of the positions. You will also have the choice to re-elect the current board if all board members are running for re-election.

### NUMISMATIC ANNIVERSARIES AND CELEBRATIONS

- Gary C Zoomed in from Canada to attend our meeting and talked about the three 1916-2016 centennial gold coins produced by the US Mint: The Winged Liberty (“Mercury”) dime, Standing Liberty quarter, and Walking Liberty half dollar. Gary likened their minting as a celebration of the termination of the Barber coinage, to be replaced in 1916 with the beautiful designs of Adolf Weinman (dime, half dollar designer) and Hermon MacNeil (quarter designer). He went on to discuss details of the commemorative coins.
- Robert L collects WW II items. War is not particularly something to celebrate, but the end of war is. His father flew a C-47 “Gooney Bird” in the South Pacific during WW II. He showed his complete set of bronze medals featuring major events and personalities who made history during the war, in a custom case he created to hold the thirty high-relief medals. He also has them all in a 2-ounce silver size (secure in a safe deposit box).
- David A brought in “part” of his Bicentennial collection. Lee Gong was very passionate about Bicentennial coins, and David picked up that passion. They are easy to get, there are a lot of them, and it is amazing how each one changes in color over time- some have even turned a black color. He wasn’t sure why- perhaps from moisture in his home at Camp Meeker?
- Helm J showed two wooden nickels. One was for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Vallejo Numismatic Society. The second was initially a bit puzzling: obverse showed California State Numismatic Society with the founding date 1961; the reverse had the same motto around the outside, yet NCNA Heads and Tails/tenth anniversary 1981-

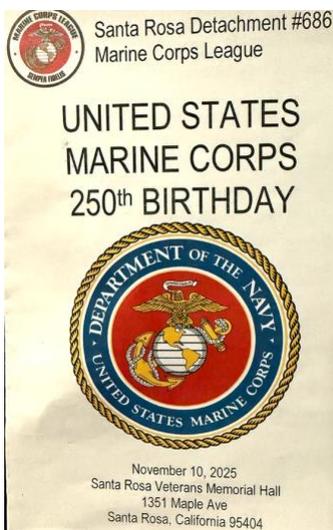


Anniversary of major events and military personalities of World War II. These medals were issued by Presidential Art Medals of Englewood, Ohio and were dramatically sculpted by Edward R. Grove. A serial numbered .999 fine silver series limited to 1,500 sets was also minted.



1961; the reverse had the same motto around the outside, yet NCNA Heads and Tails/tenth anniversary 1981-

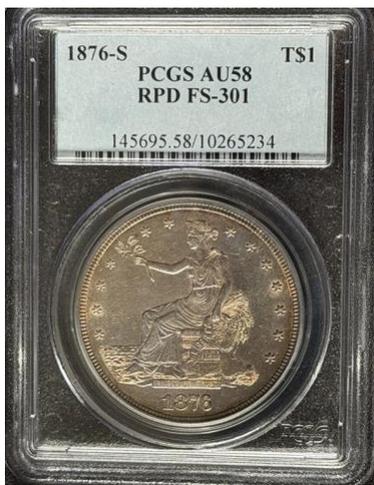
1991 on the reverse. It is probably celebrating the tenth anniversary of the NCNA newsletter- called Heads and Tails.



- Rich W has a friend Randy who received two Purple Heart Medals while serving in Viet Nam. He showed a 2005

Marines Commemorative (230 years). Rich bought two of these, one for himself and one for Randy. Two days before our meeting was the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Marines. Randy invited Rich to the celebration at our Veterans Building that day- filled with proud marines. Rich also had a step-aunt who lived in San Francisco next to Joe Rosenthal. Joe gave Rich a signed copy of his famous picture of raising the flag at Iwo Jima.

- Larry C showed three Bicentennial sets in their original styrofoam packaging. He also likes the Bicentennial sets. The first ones off the press have deep mirror cameo appearance, which is strongly sought.



- Jeffrey S is the proud owner of a slabbed silver eagle with a label signed by Gary Adkins, past ANA President. He is also a proud owner of this 1876-S Trade Dollar, which will celebrate its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year.



- David S showed us a medal celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Boy Scouts and described the design details. Then he talked about the 1986 centennial set featuring the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. His great grandfather arrived in the U.S. via Ellis Island.
- Ember showed a WW II Victory Medal reproduction only available on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. With it was the WW II 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorative half. Her father

served in the Asiatic Pacific area during that war. Next was a pair of medals for the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Christopher Columbus arriving in the Western Hemisphere.



- Joe M showed us an uncut sheet of *linen* with printed Notgeld obverses and reverses- which normally would have been cut and sewn together. After WWI Germany was in dire financial straits, and almost anything could be used to produce notes for use in commerce.

- Bill R showed us his 1999 Yellowstone Park 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary silver dollar. It was America's first national park, dedicated by President Ulysses S. Grant in 1872.



- Merle brought in a complete set of 26 slabbed 1915 Panama Pacific International Exhibition medals- sorry I did not get photos of them laid out on the table. They were produced by the U.S. Mint at the Pan Pacific Expo- all in San Francisco except three from the San Diego venue. They celebrated the building of the Panama Canal and the rebuilding of San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake. 18 million people attended, but the medals were only sold in certain fair locations and hard to get. The dominant building at the SF Expo was the 430' tall Tower of Jewels, and Merle also brought in one of the jewels from that temporary structure.
- Charlie C (that's me!) talked about celebrating things on ancient coins. The Romans issued lots of coins celebrating or commemorating events- it was a major form of propaganda, as there was no internet or newspaper in the day. One thing they particularly liked to celebrate was victory in war and capture of new territories. Of all the lands the Romans conquered, one small territory had far more coins celebrating the capture than all others- the tiny region called Judea, centered around Jerusalem. Why? Small as it was, it was a center of trade from Egypt, Syria, and the spice route from Arabia among other reasons. Typical of celebrating capture, the coins often featured a 'trophy', captured arms mounted on a pole, and captured locals. Vespasian was the general sent to put down a Jewish Revolt starting in 66 AD. He was called back to Rome to become emperor, and his son Titus was left to finish the job (and later become emperor). Titus reigned a couple years, then brother Domitian took over. All three issued coins featuring the goddess Victory, palm trees symbolic of the region, seated mourning Jewish women and standing bound men, and the inscription "Judea Capta"- Judea captured. Of course, the emperor was always featured on the obverse.



Almost 1900 years later, Israel became an independent country in 1948. For its tenth anniversary in 1958, it minted gold and silver commemoratives featuring the ancient image of Judea Capta on one side, and a modern image of Israel Liberta (Israel liberated) on the reverse.



**DUES:** It is time again for annual dues. If you are a Life Member, you are good, nothing is needed from you. Otherwise, a renewal application is included with each mailed newsletter, and one will be sent to e-mail recipients. Applications with payment can either be mailed to the club address or brought into the next meeting. Dues are still the same as the last several years, and we appreciate you being a member and your support- thanks!

### REMEMBERING RILEY

The club was notified of the passing of Riley Rankin, #753, LM-78, on November 4. In the words of Don Rinkor "He was a great guy ... a great family man and an obsessed collector ...he will be missed". When he wasn't travelling around the world for business and occasionally pleasure, he would regularly attend our meetings and told stories of some of his coin purchasing adventures. His wife stated that "he looked forward to the meetings and always returned very impressed with the knowledge of many members. It was a happy time for him". The club sends its condolences to his family.



Can't make it to the December meeting? Join us on Zoom. There will not be a show and tell, but the camera will show what is happening in the auditorium. And you will still be able to pick your present from Santa Merle! Will the gold coin be picked again by a Zoomer?

### Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89439385988?pwd=wK4XvIRj8uFBdEarCONYUCgUIS2csd.1>

Meeting ID: 894 3938 5988

Passcode: 122025

One tap mobile

+16694449171,,89439385988#,,, \*122025# US

# Witter Coin makes selling your coin collection easy.

Redwood Empire Coin Club Discount- 25% OFF\*

\*Not on Gold or Bullion purchases

\*Maximum discount value of \$100

We buy collections large and small.

- Call the team today! (415) 391-COIN



1884 \$1 Morgan Dollar  
CACG MS67 \$6,800



1917 25¢ Standing Liberty Quarter  
Type I CACG/CAC MS66FH \$2,950



1911-S \$20 St. Gaudens Double Eagle  
PCGS/CACMS65+ \$13,000

2299 Lombard St., San Francisco, CA 94123  
Wittercoin.com    sales@wittercoin.com

## DRAWING WINNERS

**Membership:** Rick S, Kim S, Joel M, Glenn M, and Tiffany S

**50:50** pot of \$112 was split with Bill S Jr.

**Raffle:** Bill S Jr., David B, Martin F, Tiffany S (twice), Glenn M, Bill S, and three others

**November Attendance:** 97+

**New Life Members:** Alan B LM-127, Joyce B LM-128, and Jeffrey S LM-129- congratulations, no more dues!

**Guests:** yes, we had some!

**Auction:** 51 exciting items.

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



**GRADED GOLD**  
COINS.COM



**Got Old Coins Minadeo**

JOEL MINADEO  
Owner/ Numismatis

707-290-1725  
P.O. Box 351  
Valley Ford, CA 94972

We buy, sell, grade,  
evaluate & educate  
gotoldcoins@yahoo.com



RARE COINS

2600 Mendocino Avenue, Suite C  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
(707) 546-2575  
www.rinkorrarecoins.com

Buying & Selling

Rare Coins  
Gold & Silver Bullion  
Scrap Gold & Silver In Any Form  
Foreign  
Currency  
Watches

R.E.C.C.  
5850 Commerce Blvd, Suite 100  
Rohnert Park, Ca. 94928

### UPCOMING SHOWS AND EVENTS

**January 16-17, 2026. NorCal - East Bay / Concord Coin Show.** The Concord Plaza Hotel, 45 John Glenn Dr., Concord

**February 13-14, 2026. Redwood Empire Coin Club's 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Coin Show.**  
E.L. Finley Building, Sonoma County Fairgrounds, 1350 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa.

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). We will be in the **main auditorium** for December- at 7:00 p.m. sharp.

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

Thanks for reading. Corrections? Additions? Questions? E-mail us at: [newsletter@Redwoodempirecoinclub.com](mailto:newsletter@Redwoodempirecoinclub.com).  
See you at the Vets Building main auditorium **December 10, 2025**— Charlie