



Founded March 26, 1949



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Rohnert Park, Ca. 94928

Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 79, Issue 1, Meeting #902, January 14, 2026

Next Meeting February 11, 2026

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

President Merle started out the business part of the January meeting with good news and bad news about our upcoming coin show. The bad: three dealers who had signed up for our show have now backed out. Two needed open-heart surgery- a good enough excuse, for sure. The good news: we have 51/60 paid tables as of the meeting. One dealer is coming from as far away as Pennsylvania.

Bob K went around signing up volunteers to help set up and later tear down the show. Before the next meeting on Wednesday February 11, we will be meeting at the Fairgrounds' Finley Building a little before 5PM to set things up. It isn't hard, but the more helping hands- the quicker it goes. Any help is appreciated that day prior to our meeting, AND there will be **pizza for all who help**. #3711 is the code for Gate #4 to get into the fairgrounds. On Thursday dealers start coming in at 4PM- no need for RECC members to be there. Please do not show up Thursday unless requested by Merle.

We renegotiated parking fees for the days of the show, and we got a reduced rate of \$5 per day, through Gate 4 for closer parking access.

Don Rinkor has donated silver dollars and gold pieces for the show drawings again this year- please thank him when you get a chance! And keep selling those gold coin drawing tickets! Give your ticket stubs and proceeds to Merle (only!) preferably by noon Friday Feb.13, or Saturday morning at the latest- thanks!

Brock, from Legacy Currency Grading, spoke a bit about his company and where it does business. He was just at the FUN show in Florida, will soon be going to Dubai, and the company also does a lot of business in Canada. They want to maintain a close contact with our club since they are here in Santa Rosa, and they plan on being at our meetings monthly.

James A, #572, has become our newest Life Member: LM-133. Congratulations!

The theme for the February meeting will be: **What I Am Looking For At The Coin Show!** We have had the same topic prior to our show for years, because our own club members may have something that you are looking for, or expertise in helping you find it. That is what a good club is supposed to do- and we are a great club at doing that. A nice discussion ensued about counterfeits and coin certification services and reputable dealers. If you have a coin to show at the meeting, send a photo ahead of time to the club at newsletter@redwoodempirecoinclub.com and it will be shown up on the projector screen. Zoom will also be available for the February meeting in case you cannot be there in person.

WHAT I BOUGHT IN 2025 THAT IS SO COOL I HAVE TO TALK ABOUT IT!

- Mike M had all the Morgan Dollar varieties from 1878 in an album- they are all beautiful. He took them out of the album and sent them in for grading- and one of those was in the auction for later in the evening.
- Dave G started collecting at around age ten, starting with cents. He called them pennies at the time. He is trying to finish his collection in a Dansco album, and last year was able to get a 1909-S VDB in PCGS XF45. At age ten he never even considered how much he would one day have to pay for that special coin. There is a cent coin he is looking for to put in his Indian Cent collection- an 1869/9 variety. He is also contemplating starting on a slabbed type collection.

- As a kid Bill W always wanted a real piece of pirate money, but gold was really out of reach at that age. He recently bought an 8-escudo gold piece. He liked it so much that when other 4- and 8-escudo coins became available he bought them too! That was early last year, and with the price of gold going up those coins are now worth more as bullion than what he paid for them! He is going to keep them intact, not melt them. This is an example found on the internet.



- Jeffrey S bought something he has wanted for a long time: an 1857 \$3 gold piece, graded AU58! He also bought it before gold prices skyrocketed. Unusual story why it was made, for only 35 years. With postage stamps for selling for 3 cents at the time of his coin's minting, a 3-dollar sized coin to facilitate larger purchases was designed. His coin's mintage was only 20,000. This is a photo of a proof example from the internet.



- Tom M collects bronze coins of the Seleucid Empire. Seleukos was one of the generals under Alexander the Great. When Alexander died Seleukos took over a large part of that empire. Tom is proud of his 2025 purchase of a large bronze from the great-grandson of Seleukos, known as Seleukos II. This coin is rare- not even published in reference books in this size of 26mm (just over an inch) and about 1/2 ounce. The obverse shows Seleukos II wearing a horned crown, and the reverse shows a war elephant. Tom sent the photo for including here- thanks.



- David B decided to get birth year sets for his family in the past, and this year went for anniversary sets: 1909, 1916, and 1946. He has everything but the half dollars for those sets and will look for them at our upcoming show.

- Rick C collects 'strange' things. Star Wars action figures (5000-6000 of them) and comic books, anything related to Star Wars. When he saw the topic for tonight, he thought of three numismatic items: Superman, Batman, and Wonder Woman. He was able to purchase one 2-1/2" silver Superman medal on the first day available, and they soon sold out. He also ordered Batman and Wonder Woman medals, but those are not being shipped because of rising costs of silver- we don't know when they will be available or how much they will be. His 2-1/2" medal came with a special display case, not available with other sizes. This photo is a screenshot from the US Mint website video advertising the medal, showing how the display case opens up and finally looks.



- Bill R feels his favorite purchase in 2025 was a 1916 Standing Liberty quarter, which he has been wanting for many years. With the help of one of our club members, he was contacted by a dealer who had one to offer- and he bought it. Thanks to the RECC and our networking he is glad to finally have this coin!

Joe McC also collects weird things. About five years ago he bought a series of German Notgeld in aluminum. He showed the 'ratty' 50 Mark piece he got back then. Ya take what you can get, especially if it is something that rarely shows up. The piece was somewhat chewed-up looking, but at least he had an example in that denomination; three other denominations were in nice condition. In December there was another 50-Mark aluminum note which became available, and Joe jumped at the opportunity and bought it. It has taken him four years to complete the four-denomination set of these pieces. These are photos of his two 50-Mark notes. The color is enhanced for better viewing, and they were likely quite impressive to see in person. Congratulations Joe.



- Helm collects Redfield Dollars from the Redfield Hoard. LaVere Redfield was a big gambler, he “owned half of Reno” and had his *own* roulette chips made. Helm showed us a chip Redfield used at his casinos with the initials LR on them.
- Merle has been collecting Carson City silver dollars for a while, and last year decided to build a grading set of slabbed PCGS CC dollars in MS 60 and better. He brought in his 1884 CC grading set in MS 61, 62, 63, 63+, 63 DMPL, 64, 64+, 64 DMPL, 65, 65+, 66+. It is meant both as a cool set to have and as a teaching/comparative set for study. This photo is a MS66+ pictured on the PCGS website.



Nik vonA and his son Joshua could not attend the January meeting, but Nik sent this story of his collecting: “I’ve been enjoying coin collecting since the mid-1970s, although at the time I didn’t realize I was starting a lifelong hobby. My collection began with the coins my dad brought home from the gas station he owned. My grandparents further fueled the hobby. One grandmother gave me a silver, uncirculated three-coin Bicentennial set. One grandfather gave me a Silver Peace dollar—and even a 50-cent planchet he found in a roll. Another grandmother took me metal detecting and let me keep part of the “loot” whenever we found old tokens or coins.

I later spent many years in the grocery business, where I developed a knack for spotting silver and oddities in rolls and change. Over the years, my collecting went through cycles: sometimes boxed up for years, other times growing more actively. My rule was simple—if it was silver, foreign, old, damaged, or clearly not supposed to look that way, it went into the box. This past year, I finally pulled everything out, put coins into holders, and began inventorying my collection. What emerged is an eclectic mix of mostly circulated coins, along with a few mint sets. I’ve always been drawn to silver dollars, tokens, and error coins—interests rooted in childhood memories and time spent with my grandparents.

This is my first year as a member of the coin club, and I’ve been thinking more deliberately about what I collect. I still love Morgan and Peace dollars and old tokens, and I’m always on the lookout for a Moise token from A. Sayers Place in Bolinas—a piece my grandmother and I once found metal detecting and that I’ve only seen a few others of since.

This past year, I decided to focus on off-center error pennies and Two Cent pieces. I’ve learned that error coins aren’t everyone’s favorite—perhaps because they run counter to the idea of perfection—but they appeal to me. My goal is to find an off-center penny from each year, and maybe each mint someday. I picked up about 16 this year, so the want list remains long.

The Two Cent series seemed manageable at first, though it’s proving more challenging than expected. I’m still searching for an 1872, an 1864 Small Motto, and an 1867 Doubled Die Motto. I’ll probably pass on the 1873. I also couldn’t resist a 20-cent piece—one of those “saw it, liked it, bought it” moments. From what I’ve read, it wasn’t popular when issued because it looked too much like a quarter. Fair enough.

Looking ahead to 2026, I have plenty of collecting ideas, but I’m trying not to go broke. A gold coin would be nice—possibly via raffle—and I like the idea of eventually owning one coin of each type, even if it takes a lifetime. That, after all, is part of the fun”.

- Do you have a good story to tell? Send it to newsletter@redwoodempirecoinclub.com.



Not able to make it to the February meeting? No worries, Zoom is back!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82498361732?pwd=xG1UiQlxgdNwomYozCua4KMz9C8sbx.1>

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DRAWING WINNERS

Membership: Bill Von V, Bill W, Roger N, Richard W, Rusty D, Liz L

50:50 pot of \$76 was split with Torri B!

Raffle: Bill S Jr., ?, Kim S, Bill S Sr.(twice?), Bill W, Bill R, Faith L (new member!), Deanna J, ?, David B. Sorry, it was hard to hear all the winner names on the recording of this meeting.....

January Attendance: 86+

New Members: Gil M, #1074 and Faith L, # 1075-J. WELCOME!

Guests: Yes there were some

Auction: many exciting items.

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



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UPCOMING SHOWS AND EVENTS

February 13-14, 2026. Redwood Empire Coin Club's 56th Annual Coin Show.

E.L. Finley Building, Sonoma County Fairgrounds, 1350 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa.

March 20-21, 2026. South Bay Sunnyvale Coin Show. The Domain Hotel, 1085 East El Camino Real, Sunnyvale.

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.

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

Thanks for reading. Corrections? Additions? Questions? E-mail us at: newsletter@Redwoodempirecoinclub.com.
See you **February 11, 2026**— Charlie