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Redwood Empire Coin Club

Volume 79, Issue 9, Meeting #910, September 9, 2026

Next Meeting October 14, 2026

WHAT'S YOUR TYPE?

The September RECC meeting was all about type sets, but first there was some business to attend to. First, thanks to Tiffany S for obtaining a new raffle ticket cylinder/wheel to use during our annual coin show drawings. The old one was falling apart, and we appreciate this new one!

There are a couple coin shows coming up which should be worthwhile: November 13-14, 2026, the South Bay/Sunnyvale Show; and December 18-19 a Santa Clara Coin Show (more info pending). Please see the calendar of shows on the last page of this newsletter for more info.

Next month on October 8, we will have our **8th Annual Lee Gong Memorial Club Donation Night**. Please bring a **numismatic item** to donate to the auction; bring '**lots of cash**' to bid on items; and bring a **dessert** to share with the club. VP Mike M will bring in pizza, with a piece for everyone who donates an item. There will be **NO** regular auction next month. All proceeds benefit the club, to help cover the \$3000+ yearly room rental.

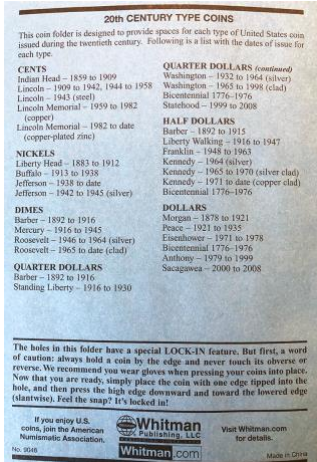
In addition, next month we will hold our **6-month GOLD membership drawing!** For every meeting you have attended the last six months, a wooden nickel with your membership number was added to the pot. So, if you attended six meetings, you would have six entries to the drawing! There is only one rule: **you MUST BE present** at the meeting, Zoom included.

TYPE SETS



- Gary C, Zooming in from beautiful British Columbia, is also a member of the Victoria (BC) Coin Club and talked about a type set of British coins with Queen Victoria being depicted over the years. A saying from the 19th century that the sun never set on the British Empire meant that coins from England, Australia, Canada, India and East Africa had the same portraits, and there were six major variants of Queen Victoria. Three were by the chief engraver of the Royal Mint, William Wyon. The first two shown here are the Young Head varieties, approved in 1838. The first gold sovereign, from 1856, has the date on the obverse and a shield reverse. The 1886 sovereign has a tiny M (Melbourn) mintmark under her bust on the obverse, with the reverse featuring Pistrucci's famous St. George and the Dragon design with the date below that. The large gold £5 coin on the right is another Young Head design from 1839, with the reverse design entitled "Una and the Lion", an image of Victoria leading a lion- referring to a famous allegorical section of Edmund Spenser's 16th-century epic poem, The Faerie Queen. It is felt by some to be one of Britain's most beautiful coins and usually auctions for

over \$100,000. No, Gary does not own one. The silver coin shows a revival of a Gothic style. In 1848 the British were moving toward decimalization, and they introduced a Florin, or 1/10 of a Pound, or 24 pence. The date was listed in Roman Numerals. In 1849 they left off the "D.G." on the obverse motto, which stood for Dei Gratia, or By the Grace of God. That year was called the 'godless' florin. Gary doesn't own one yet but hopes to someday. [This one is from my collection- Charlie]. Next in the lineup is a copper farthing with a "Bun" hairstyle, introduced for bronze and copper coins in 1860. It took multiple sittings for the queen to approve this design. The design was by William Wyon's son Charles- keeping the engraving in the family. Next is a sovereign with the Jubilee design, starting in 1887- celebrating Victoria's reign of 50 years. She was shown wearing a veil, mourning the death of her husband Prince Albert. The coin was not well received, and the "old Head" design was then produced from 1893 to 1901. It was felt to be a more dignified design, and was used on copper, silver, and gold coins.



• Mike M talked about the easiest U.S. type set to do. He showed the list of thirty-two coins in the Whitman 20th century type set. He also showed his album holding slabs of his type set collection from early cents through gold-missing only five coins. He keeps a piece of paper in a slot of a missing coin for reference.



- Rick S Jr. showed us an 1823 half dollar PCGS AU 53. He just couldn't break it out of the slab to put in his type set album, though he does that with the rest of his type set. It is a fun set to collect, as Merle suggested.
- Rich W has a Mexico coin type set, put together from large collections of world and ancient coins which he has purchased. He does not buy anything from shows for the set, only uses coins either given to him or from his collection purchases. And the only coin he is missing in the set is a tiny 1970 one centavo coin! He has been working on the set for twenty years and upgrades it when he finds something better while searching through collections. He is also interested in a type set of graded notes and recently received a MS 68PPQ grade from Legacy Currency Grading on an 1873 South Carolina Railroad \$5 note! It is the highest graded 19th century note he has ever seen.
- Dave G is working a type set of the four coins mentioned in the bible: Shekel of Tyre, Tribute Penny, Widow's mite, and tetradrachm found in a fish's mouth. He also likes Trade Dollars but wants to collect a set of *San Francisco* trade dollars that are slabbed, which is a reasonably affordable set. And he is also trying to do what Mike M showed, a U.S. type set that is slabbed.
- Rich H, in his younger years collected a lot of GSA Morgan Dollars and eventually sold most off to concentrate on collecting 1879 CC GSA Morgans. He has them in MS60 through MS65 and even in MS65+ condition! He has a written history of those coins, good for reading if you have some spare time. He is now looking for 1879 CC Morgan dollars graded lower than MS 60, in case you know of one.



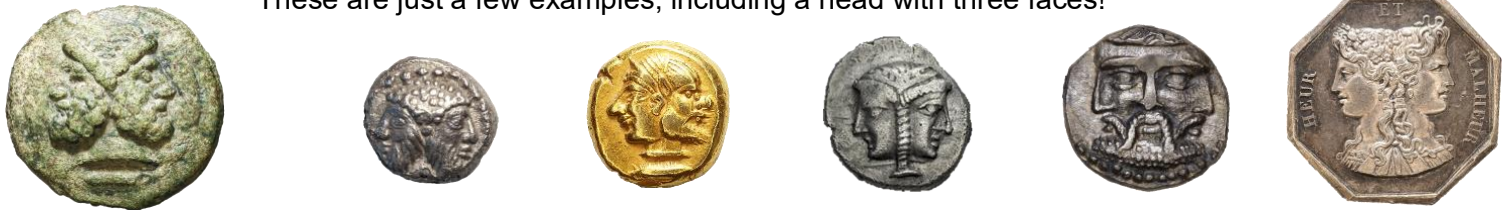
• Merle has the nicest U.S. Type Coin Set (including gold) that most of us will ever see. He has been upgrading it yearly for a long time and there is very little room for improvement. He also has a type set of Love Tokens, including one of perhaps four known \$20 gold love tokens. These became popular in the 1870s and later, when people would go to a fair and give two dimes to an engraver- who would keep one (for the work) and engrave the other with special designs. Hoboes also tended to engrave nickels. Merle prefers to have coins with the reverse inscribed, so the date is still visible on the



obverse. There is a Seated Liberty quarter with the dates of three children born in one family, and a Seated Liberty half with the same dates. Those were purchased together on the condition that they are always kept together. It was not possible to photograph his entire set, so these are just a few examples.



- Finally, Charlie C (that's me!) showed two sets. First was a set of scale weights from over 3000 years ago. The weights were put in one scale pan while precious metal- usually silver- was weighed in the other, all before the invention of coins. The set featured an Egyptian head; a sphynx- Egyptian head on a lion body; a hybrid with a human head, lion forepart, and body of a bee with wings; and a unique four-part hybrid with a human head, forepart of lion, body of a bee, and tail of a scorpion! If you want to learn more about scale weights, be sure to attend the N.C.N.A. Numismatic Seminar at the Vallejo Naval Museum on November 14, where I will give a presentation on the subject- along with five other presentations. See below. The other type set is coins with janiform heads. The term janiform derives from Janus, the Roman two headed god of past and future, and refers to two heads joined in the back. And although Janus did not exist on coins until ~ 290 BC, the two-faced head design was featured all over the Greek world hundreds of years earlier and continued into modern times. These are just a few examples, including a head with three faces!



Saturday November 14, 2026 will feature the Northern California Numismatic Association's (NCNA) NUMISMATIC EDUCATIONAL FORUM held at the Vallejo Museum, 734 Marin (at Capital), downtown Vallejo. It opens at 9:00 AM with free admission, and the theme "**Numismatics: Diversity!**" It features six speakers in two sessions (morning and afternoon):

Charlie Catlett: "From Stones to Shekels"
 Charmy Harker: "Something Cents"
 Jennifer A. Ingram: "Where Culture and Currency Collide"
 Herbert Miles: "Susan B. Anthony: Revolutionary"
 Bill Hyder and Jeff Shevlin "Exonumia of San Francisco"
 Cassidy Stroud: "Diversity on Canadian Banknotes"

The order of speakers has not been determined yet. There will be a simple on-site lunch, and eateries are within walking distance. One block south on Marin Street is Saturday's Farmers Market. Included with the forum will be free hobby information, door prizes, and a sample slab. Speakers will have displays and will be available to meet and mingle with Forum attendees. Parking is convenient, and the entire Forum will be 'videoed and recorded'.

Can't make the October meeting? Join us via Zoom and still be eligible for the **gold Membership Drawing!** Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81350376104?pwd=91j2k2ufVqrtFirU5bJ39WskmrHJa0.1>

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DRAWING WINNERS

Membership: Jim H, Frank B, Helm J, Andy O, Gary C

50:50 pot of \$100 was split with Bill R

Raffle: Glenn M (twice), Nik V, Jonathan H (twice), Chris S, Martin F, Faith L (twice), Richard P, and Bill S Jr.

September Attendance: 59+

New Members: John B, # 1089— WELCOME!

Guests: Yes, we had several.

Auction: 51 exciting items.

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



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UPCOMING SHOWS AND EVENTS

October 2-3, 2026. 59th Annual Fresno Coin Show. 3509 N. First St., Fresno October 9-10, 2026.

October 9-10, 2026. Diablo Numismatic Society Contra Costa Coin & Collectables Show. Elk's Lodge, 1475 Creekside Dr., Walnut Creek

November 13-14, 2026. South Bay/Sunnyvale Coin Show. The Domain Hotel, 1085 E El Camino Real, Sunnyvale

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February 12-13, 2027. Redwood Empire Coin Club's 57th Annual Coin Show! Sonoma County Fairgrounds, E.L. Finley Building, 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), 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 **October 14, 2026**— Charlie