

May 26, 2021	Deven Kane , <i>Women Personified as the Nation or as Liberty On Coins</i>
June 23, 2021	Charlie Catlett , <i>Title TBA</i>
July 28, 2021	<i>Speaker and Topic TBA*</i>
August 25, 2021	Federico Castillo , <i>Title TBA</i>
September 22, 2021	<i>Speaker and Topic TBA*</i>

* See “Speak Up!” below

PCNS MEETINGS IN THE AGE OF COVID-19

In-person meetings of PCNS are suspended until further notice. Instead, we will meet online. This has the benefit of enabling those who are unable to be in San Francisco to join us for a meeting **and** to give a presentation!

SPEAK UP!

There are ample opportunities for **you** to make a presentation later this year. Your presentation can even be something about which you have submitted or plan to submit a *Paper*. Please email webmaster@pcns.org to sign up.

2021 PCNS BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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Meetings of the Board of Governors normally take place 30 minutes before the membership meeting in the same location. Online board meetings may begin at 7:15.

CONTACTING AND PAYING PCNS

Email messages to PCNS.....webmaster@pcns.org
PayPal address for PCNSmoney@pcns.org

PCNS WEBSITE

Visit www.pcns.org to read our *Papers* (including the not-yet-printed 2019 *Papers*), get the latest *Bulletin*, or to check our meeting schedule.

Miss a meeting? Beginning with the May, 2020 Meeting, you can also view a recording of the presentation on our [YouTube channel](#), available through links from [pcns.org](#)! Use a QR scanner/reader to open [pcns.org](#) via this code.



**1261st Monthly Meeting of the
PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY**



Women Personified as the Nation or as Liberty on Coins

Deven Kane

Wednesday, May 26, 2021, 7:30 PM
online

PCNS + PO BOX 475656 + SAN FRANCISCO CA 94147

ABSTRACT WOMEN

Since ancient times abstract concepts such as seasons, the senses, virtues, sins etc. have often been represented in human form. In early polytheistic times these representations were often in the form of a divinity. While in some cases a major deity was used to personify the city, in others the city was itself represented as a divinity. This personification was often in the form

of a woman. Similarly, Libertas was the Roman goddess who was also the personification of liberty. These personifications were often represented on coins.

With the fall of the Roman Empire and the rise of Christianity personified representations of these concepts ceased only to emerge in force during the enlightenment and the age of revolutions. However now the new Republics

themselves embodied Liberty and these concepts start to merge. As a result the feminine image of liberty started to personify the nation over the previous portrait of the monarch. This concept continues to affect coinage today.

Join us on **Wednesday, May 26**, as **Deven Kane** provides a survey of these representations in ancient times and modern. Take a photo of a coin from your collection related to the topic, or your latest acquisition, for sharing! See you online!



APRIL PRESENTATION RECAP

Harold Tuchfeld gave an engrossing presentation on the relationship between Hawaii and San Francisco during the period 1876-1916.

Background: Hawaii's location in the middle of the Pacific Ocean had made it a prime stopping-off point for many years before the westward expansion of the United States made it prime real estate for Americans. In 1876, a reciprocity treaty with the United States lifted tariffs on all goods, including sugar. The Hawaiian Monarchy was overthrown in 1893 by the descendants of white missionaries aided by the US Navy. This led to the short-lived Republic of Hawaii, which ultimately became the US Territory of Hawaii on April 30, 1900 and the State of Hawaii on August 21, 1959.

Much of the commercial relationship between Hawaii and San Francisco centers on two larger-than-life personalities, the "Merrie Monarch" King David Kalakaua (1836-1891) and Claus Spreckels (1828-1908). Kalakaua was well known for his extravagance, and enjoyed touring the world and meeting with other royals. Spreckels, an American Capitalist to the core, became friends with Kalakaua from the outset, and leveraged that friendship, along with significant loans to finance Kalakaua's gambling habit, to become a major purveyor of sugar, grown on a plantation on the island of Maui. Calling in favors from notable San Franciscans, Spreckels built a forty-mile ditch to irrigate the sugar cane as well as the world's largest sugar mill and the Kahului Railroad to transport milled sugar to port. From there, the sugar was transported to San Francisco for refining.

Kalakaua was impressed with the representation of royalty on coins during his world

tour, and Spreckels persuaded him to have some made by the US Mint. The result was the 1883 Hawaiian dime, eighth-dollar, quarter, half, and dollar.

The friendship ended in 1886 when Spreckels' arrogance got the better of him. Just a few years later, King Kalakaua died of a stroke in San Francisco's Palace Hotel in 1891, anticipating Warren G. Harding's death in the same hotel a little over forty years later.

San Francisco-Hawaii Alliance: The Next Generation, involves Claus' son John, who ran the Oceanic Steamship Company, and Claus' protégé William Matson, who started out delivering coal to the Spreckels plant in Crockett. Given seed money by Claus, Matson expanded to passenger service between San Francisco and Hawaii, and eventually purchased the Oceanic Steamship Company, completing the circle.

This summary cannot do justice to Harold's full presentation, so we invite you to watch it on the [PCNS YouTube channel](#).

APRIL MEMBER EXHIBITS

Doug: A Manx penny from 1798 featuring King George III on the obverse and a triskeles on the reverse. He also has a halfpenny, but in very worn condition. They both came from his grandmother, dating back five generations to the Isle of Man. He discussed the triskeles symbol.

Bill: Counterstamped coins (with likely Santa Cruz origin); and an early Betts medal made of white metal with a tiny copper plug called a "scavenger plug" which has prevented corrosion very nicely.

Charlie: An 1859 token from New York with a depiction of a befuddled numismatist on the obverse and advertisement for coin dealer on reverse.

Jason: 1928 Hawaii commemorative half dollar, with Captain Cook, "the discoverer" of Hawaii, on the obverse and an Hawaiian native on the reverse.

Michael: Counterstamped 1876 CC quarter, a Honolulu military token, and a Hawaii plantation token.

Erik: 1883 Hawaii dime.

Mike: Remembrance of recently deceased Joe Flores, author and expert on Mexican Revolution coins.

Herb: Hawaiian 'Bangos'. The Japanese word for 'number,' these were worker tags/tokens. Workers came from different nations, spoke different languages, perhaps had difficult names. Each one was assigned a specific token at the plantation where hired, and the token was his or her identification for pay, company store purchases, work history and even ethnicity. They were usually worn on a chain around the neck.

ZOOMING

Our May meeting will take place online using the Zoom platform. If you're already familiar with Zoom, then you're all set. A meeting code/invitation link will be emailed to you separately.

If you're new to the Zoom service, you'll need to do a few things ahead of the meeting. **Don't wait until the last minute to get set up!** For those of you reading this *Bulletin* in hard copy, a sheet with instructions is enclosed. Otherwise, please check the PCNS website for more information.