

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
April 27, 2011

Board Meeting:

President Michael Whalen called a rolling meeting to order at 7:05.

Board Members Present: Michael Whalen, Sandra Whalen, Ed Treuting, Bill Hyder, Dan Hipple, Mark William Clark, and Stephen Huston. Members included Herb Miles and Jerry Schimmel

Treasurer's Report: March 23, 2011 through April 27, 2011.

Income (dues, raffle, books, and medals): \$531

Expenses (Fort Mason rental, dinner deposit, and misc.): \$420.79

Checking Balance: \$1,447.50

Savings Balance: \$8,710.82

There was some discussion of a possible delinquent tax filing. The matter was resolved after the meeting. The Franchise Tax Board payment was completed, the State Board of Equalization was not. Both accounts are current as of May 1.

Old Business: Bill Hyder delivered a membership report and the list of members being dropped for not paying dues. A number of responses were received after the meeting and the number of members as of May 1, 2011 now stands at 42 (34 active, 2 distinguished, 3 fellows, and 3 family members).

New Business:

Stephen Huston asked for a report on the sale of silver medals. The sale yielded \$2,515 (\$425 already accounted for in the treasurer's report). Of the 200 silver medals struck, 64 were melted.

The board reviewed plans for the June banquet.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:20 PM.

President Michael Whalen called the 1140th General Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM.

Members in attendance include Michael Whalen, Sandra Whalen, Mark William Clark, Dan Hipple, Ken Takahashi, Michael Wehner, Stephen Huston, Lewis Robinson, Herbert Miles, Jerry Schimmel, Ed Treuting, Federico Castillo, and Bill Hyder.

Dan Hipple presented his talk:

The USS Constellation: The Ship and the Medal.

The USS Constellation was the first commissioned warship in the U.S. Navy, one of six built under the Naval Act of 1794 to combat Barbary pirates. Built as a 36-gun frigate, she was broken up in 1853 and a new USS Constellation was built in the same port and launched in 1854. Whether she was broken up or simply rebuilt became a controversy that was not resolved until 1999 when construction dates were found in the surviving USS Constellation.

The original frigate was built to an unusual design created by Joshua Humphreys, a Quaker. She had a long keel and narrow beam allowing superior speed and the ability to out run the faster ships of the line. In addition, she was built with heavy oak planking that allowed her to overpower her opponents at sea.

By the end of the 1800s, many believed there was only one USS Constellation that had simply been revised and rebuilt in 1854. Later research proved that to not be the case. One needs only to have looked to numismatics and historic medals to discover that a medal was struck from the original ship's copper to commemorate its destruction. Dan shared his example of the medal at the end of his talk.

The evening raffle winners included:

Charles and Diana gold-plated wedding commemorative – Ed Treuting
Silver Charles and Diana wedding commemorative – Federico Castillo
Judge Magazine – Ed Treuting
1902 Edward coronation medal – Dan Hipple
1964 San Francisco Republican National Convention Ticket – Whalen
Trillion Zimbabwe note – Jerry Schimmel
Big Buffalo Nickel Key Ring – Bill Hyder

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to member exhibits.

Member Exhibits included:

Federico Castillo – 1871 Costa Rican gold 1 Peso and a Honduras token that was produced from a contemporary button.
Ed Treuting – Shared a selection of lighthouse pieces.
Ken Takahashi – Shared the newly released US Medal of Honor gold and silver commemorative coins. He also shared an unusual book of coins of the world from the World of Money Expo and a book featuring the currency of North Korea.
Mark William Clark – In keeping with the theme of the evening, he shared two medals featuring 3 ships and a book on Mexico Large Centavos by Greg Myer.
Bill Hyder – Passed around an 1891 Native Sons of the Golden West Admission Day token made of redwood burl. He also brought a copy of the new ANS book, Silver Coins of Massachusetts.

Herb Miles – Shared a selection of San Francisco exnumia including an unusual paper “Good For.”

Jerry Schimmel – Shared a selection of early San Francisco tokens including a brothel token, a good for from a business owned by a brothel owner, and a pictorial military token.

Whalen – Shared 1956 Franklin proof half-dollars and 1893 Christopher Columbus commemorative half-dollars.

Michael Wehner finished the evening with three rare Gold Rush bills of exchange recently purchased at a Holabird-Kagin auction and two choice Civil War tokens.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Compiled by Bill Hyder