

2014 Annual Papers Contest:

Our Papers chair has been side-lined with medical issues for the last few months. For that reason, we have extended the papers deadline to June 30, 2014. If you have something almost done, be sure to submit it even if you thought it was too late.

See http://www.pcns.org/pdf_docs/papersRules.pdf for more information.

June Banquet:

The board voted to again hold a Saturday afternoon barbeque in June. The banquet will be held at the home of our president, Herb Miles, on the afternoon of June 28 starting at 1 pm. Banquet costs are \$25 per person. Please send your checks to Bill Hyder, 128 S. Navarra Dr., Scotts Valley, CA 95066. Directions will be sent to those who send their reservation requests by June 21. Special food requirements should be included with your reservation.

September 2014 White Elephant Auction:

Plans for the Numismatics and Expositions auction are changing. Watch this space for more information.



**1177th meeting of the
Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
7:30PM Wednesday May 28, 2014
Building C, Fort Mason
San Francisco, California**

“SELFIES”

**SHARE 2 OR 3 OF
YOUR FAVORITE PIECES.**

1176th meeting, April 23, 2014

Bill Hyder presented his review of the book, ***John J. Ford, Jr. and the “Franklin Hoard”*** written by Karl V. Moulton.

An intriguing look inside the coin business through the archives of John J. Ford, Jr. Ford had been accused of selling improperly described and counterfeit early California U.S.A.O.G. proof \$20 gold bars slug in a 1966 Professional Numismatists Guild (PNG) arbitration hearing. Eric P. Newman questioned the authenticity of the pieces from what Ford had dubbed, “The Franklin Hoard,” after Gerow Paul Franklin who purportedly discovered the pieces. The arbitration ended with a particular piece being declared not a proof, but no determination as to whether the pieces were actually genuine. The surviving pieces have since been determined to be counterfeit and the others have disappeared from the public eye.

In time, a great many territorial and early California gold bars and slugs found by Franklin and authenticated and sold by Ford have been found to be counterfeits or fantasies if you prefer. Many of the pieces were sold to the Bank of California for their collection and some of these are still displayed here in San Francisco. Was Ford a knowing participant? Was he duped by Franklin and others? Or, did Ford scam our entire hobby and contribute to the publication of many falsehoods as fact? Moulton allows Ford’s archives to speak for themselves and leaves conclusions to the reader. One of the most interesting parts of the book are the images of genuine pieces documented in literature and sales prior to 1952 and the many pieces that appeared after 1952. Further comparisons can be made with genuine items recovered from the S.S. Central America.

Moulton’s book is an important contribution to the history of American numismatics and a behind the curtain look at our hobby.

Members shared the following items:

Chris shared a 1990 five piece Spanish proof set, sterling silver in a wood presentation box.

Bill shared a genuine 1915 PPIE Alabama state fund dollar. Most pieces are restrikes from the early 1960s.

Stephen shared examples of fakes and fantasies. Fakes were really meant to deceive based on real examples, counterfeits. Fantasies were made-up with no authenticate counterpart—meant to deceive, but no real counterpart.

Mark exhibited another unlisted Mexican token that he had tracked down on a blog from the ancestors of the person issuing the token in Chiapas. He also shared a Cuban 100 Peso note with Braille, an X or Z on the serial number indicating a replacement note.

Federico exhibited a Costa Rican 1850 ¼ Peso, ANACS AU 55. The denomination is difficult to find this nice.

Dan brought two uniface 4 inch “test strikes” of the ANS Hudson Fulton medal with NGC photo certificates.

David brought coins with Braille legends and assorted coins related to collecting and coin shows.

Jerry brought assort lots for the upcoming white elephant auction.

Herb displayed a French medal struck to commemorate the 1906 San Francisco earthquake at the PPIE.

Raffle:

Dan won Columbus 4 piece Bronze set celebrating 400 years of discovery.

Federico won a Greek short-snorter.

Jerry won a Silver Polish commemorative honoring Solidarity patriot priest.

Dan won Propaganda banknotes.

Chris won Singapore modern coins sets (courtesy of Jerry), a Mint bag, and miscellaneous other items.

2014 meeting Schedule:

June 28, 2014: Banquet TBA

July 23, 2014: Building C, Fort Mason

August 27, 2014: Building C, Fort Mason

September 24, 2014: Building C, Fort Mason

October 22, 2014: Building C, Fort Mason

November 26, 2014: Building C, Fort Mason

December 17, 2014: Building C, Fort Mason

Note the change to the third Wednesday in December to avoid a conflict with the holidays.