

PCNS CALENDAR FOR 2020

December 23**Stephen Huston** *Coinage of the Plague Years*
December 23Election of Officers and Governors for 2021
January 27, 2021*Speaker and Topic TBA**
February 24, 2021*Speaker and Topic TBA**
* 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!

As can be seen above, there are ample opportunities for **you** to make a presentation in coming months. 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.

2020 PCNS BOARD OF GOVERNORS

PresidentJason Macario
SecretaryBob Somers
TreasurerStephen Huston
GovernorEd Treuting
GovernorPaul Turner
Past PresidentDaniel Hipple

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 PCNSwebmaster@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.

New! 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.



1256th Monthly Meeting of the PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY



Coinage of the Plague Years *Stephen Huston*

Wednesday, December 23, 2020, 7:30 PM
online

PCNS + PO BOX 475656 + SAN FRANCISCO CA 94147

2020 — COVID MEETS “CANCEL CULTURE”

In a normal year—which 2020 clearly is not—the December *Bulletin* would focus on our annual holiday gathering. As with our annual summer BBQ picnic, our holiday party is **canceled** this year. Hopefully, both will return in 2021.

Back in March, at the beginning of pandemic-related modifications, Stephen Huston offered to give a short in-person presentation entitled “Numismatics and the Black Death.” Like the BBQ and holiday party, that meeting and presentation were **canceled**.



Join us on **Wednesday, December 23**, as **Stephen Huston** tells us about the impact of plagues, epidemics, and pandemics on economies and coinage over the past 2,500 years. He'll start with ancient Athens and run through about a dozen historic plagues including The Black Death, right on through the 20th Century to 2020 (but skipping Coin Plague itself; people don't catch that ailment). In lieu of a holiday potluck, feel free to bring a libation to toast the end of this year none of us will soon forget as much as we might like to.



*The Year of the Rat,
the Animal Most Associated
With Plague*

P.S. Last month's feature article title was a snippet of lyric of the Pink Floyd song “Have A Cigar” from the 1975 album Wish You Were Here, thus tying it to the topic of cigar store tokens.

Zooming

Our December 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.

CONGRATULATIONS KEN!

Join us in congratulating **Ken Takahashi** on achieving the status of Silver Member of PCNS, having been a member for 25 years!

NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

We have received a membership application from our October presenter, **Scott Safe**, of Redwood City, CA. Per PCNS bylaws, Scott will become an Active Member of PCNS at the December 23 meeting.

NOVEMBER MEETING RECAP

Bill Hyder gave another excellent presentation to the membership, this time on cigar store tokens and the cultural significance of cigar stores the late 1800s, when men of all classes enjoyed a good cigar and cigars were an important part of social life.

The story begins in 1881 when Aron Cohen and A. Fibush established a cigar manufacturing company at Pacific Avenue and Front Street, then the center of Santa Cruz. The location was important, as the freshest cigars needed to be made locally from tobacco imported through San Francisco.

Bill weaved in history of various trade, saloon, slot machine and “good for” tokens related to the manufacture or sale of cigars in Santa Cruz. Check it out on the [PCNS YouTube channel](#).

NOVEMBER MEMBER EXHIBITS

Paul: “Liberty and No Slavery” token with a digit of the year scratched out.

Chris: 1896 Barber dime graded “MS-64 proof-like” by PCGS and a 1855 liberty head half cent counter stamped “Use GGG.”

Stephen: William Till & William Webster coin dealer token from about 1854, dealers in ancient and modern coins, medals and antiques in London.

Charlie: A proof-like Woodgate and Co. New York cigar store token from a current auction.

Scott: 1976-D Colorado Centennial gold medal.

Michael: M Thornton grocer token, M.A. Gunst & Co. cigar token.

STEP UP!

As the year (thankfully) comes to an end, it's time to elect officers for 2021. We're always looking for fresh faces to get involved in the leadership of PCNS. Note that “fresh faces” can include well-rested veterans as well as relative newcomers.

The nominating committee has proposed the following slate for the coming year. Nominations remain open and will be accepted at the meeting prior to the vote.

PresidentJason Macario
Vice President<vacant>
SecretaryCharlie Catlett
TreasurerStephen Huston
GovernorBob Somers
GovernorEd Treuting
GovernorPaul Turner

Dan Hipple continues as a member of the Board of Governors in his position of Past President.