



Pacific Coast Numismatic Society

Post Office Box 475656, San Francisco, CA 94147-5656

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Minutes of the PCNS Meetings of May 25, 2016

Status — Approved at the July 27th Board Meeting

Board Meeting

Vice-President Mary Lannin called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Officers present: Mary Lannin (VP), Stephen Huston (Recorder), Governors Jason Macario, Bob Somers, Herb Miles (Past President), and Dan Hipple (Curator/Archivist).

The April meeting Minutes were approved with two minor changes to the program description, and the Treasurer's Report was accepted as distributed via email.

Old Business

BBQ: Saturday, June 25th at Dan's place. (Several members paid for tickets during later breaks.)

Papers Contest: the 4 papers received are currently in judging. Dan will send Stephen the digital files to review regarding a possible 2016 papers publication.

The Newman Numismatic Portal has been sent some recent PCNS Bulletins in PDF format, and we are still waiting to see how those are handled before deciding what other materials we might submit. No change from a month ago.

We still need speakers for July and later.

The ANA has invited a PCNS representative to attend their convention banquet on August 12 in recognition of 100 years of ANA Membership. President Hyder will lead our representation at this event, with all members encouraged to attend if able to do so. We also expect a dinner event with other long-time member clubs, and Mary Lannin will followup with details, as this has not been scheduled yet.

Centennial acknowledgements: Herb will draft a letter to donors and officials and send it to Mary and Stephen for comments. Letters, packaged medals, and Papers will be brought together at the BBQ for signing and mailing prep so this can be completed with everyone in one place.

New Business

There was no New Business for action, but there was general discussion of the recent changes in German law to prohibit the sale of art and antiques (including coins) which lack a documentable provenance of long-standing.

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:32 PM.

General Membership Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 by Vice-President Lannin. In addition to those at the Board meeting, attendees included members Mark Wm Clark, Chris Donaldson, and Federico Castillo.

Program by Federico Castillo:

A Numismatic Tour of the Timber Industry in Northern California

Federico's presentation focused on lumber companies which had issued tokens in California, primarily in the logging areas of the Coastal Redwood regions, and the inland Sugar Pine regions of Northern California down to the Fresno area near Yosemite.

Henry Meiggs founded the first logging camp in Northern California at what is now Mendocino in 1851. (Some of his redwood timber was exported to Peru for use when Meiggs built railroads there.) During the early decades of the lumber industry, San Francisco served as the organizational center of the businesses, with moveable camps working throughout the region. Most of these businesses operated their own closed economies with company stores and payments made via company tokens. Cash was generally reserved for final payment to an employee leaving the company.

Examples of dozens of tokens from various lumber companies were depicted and available for examination from Federico's own collection.

The methods of moving logs via waterways, inclines, and flumes were illustrated, including a flume which ran over 50 miles in the Fresno county area. Clear-cutting was common practice for most of the companies, leaving denuded Redwood forests which take over a thousand years to grow.

Strikes and the beginning of the Paul Bunyan myth were mentioned regarding the Red River Lumber Co. In the late 1800s, 20% of California's business economy was based on the lumber industry, and it would have been even higher if not for the amount attributed to gold mining. Timber dropped to just 4% of the state's economy in the 1900s as wood substitutes replaced the shrinking timber sources.

Drawing

The winners included Mary, Chris, Dan, Jason, and Bob. Prizes were: US Mint package of a Mississippi quarter and a defaced mint die for that issue, Feather Falls lumber token, Trench Art Salt & Pepper shakers, ANA Reprint booklet on Mormon Money, and 1963 Zurich Shooting Fest medal.

The drawing brought in \$35, and Herb Miles submitted a bill for \$35 for drawing prizes, which was approved by the membership (and paid at the end of the meeting).

Member Exhibits

Chris — Currency Art incorporating US dollar bills

Bob — medal honoring Charles Carroll, signer of the Declaration of Independence, the last one still living 50 years after the signing

Stephen — new acquisition: Ptolemaic bronze struck in Phoenicia (3rd Century BCE) and later counterstamped with an "A" to circulate as a 1-chalkous denomination, probably in Syria

Herb — Century of Progress official so-called dollar in its original case of issue (H&K 463)

Dan — Buffums store \$25 gift token in sterling silver, 1929 British Royal Tournament silver award medal for "dummy thrusting" (bayoneting), and an 1897 Swiss Navy shooting medal (5 pieces struck; consider the size of the Swiss Navy!)

Mary — Roman denarius of Augustus struck at Emerita Spain with pedigree documentation (1955 Dorotheum Vienna catalog) from the 200+ year old collection of the Venetian poet Apostolo Zeno

Mark — announcement of David Lange's pending publication of a new volume on coin collecting albums.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 PM.

Submitted by Stephen Huston, PCNS Recorder