

PCNS CALENDAR FOR 2022-23

November 30, 2022.....Paul Turner, *Suez Canal Medals*

December 28, 2022.....*Annual Business Meeting and Holiday Celebration*

Bill Hyder, *Joe Beeler's Native American Portrait Medals*

January 25, 2023Harold Tuchfeld, *The Rise of Rome in Judaea*

February 22, 2023*Speaker and Topic TBA**

March 22, 2023.....Charlie Catlett, *The Conder Tokens of Thomas Spence*

* See "Speak Up!" below

SPEAK UP!

There are always opportunities for **you** to make a presentation. Thanks to Zoom, you don't even need to be in San Francisco to present. 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.

PCNS MEETINGS

Due to technical difficulties at Fort Mason, we resumed online-only meetings in July, 2022. We will continue using the Zoom platform, and a meeting code/invitation link will be emailed to all members separately the day before the meeting. Special occasions, such as the annual BBQ, will continue to occur in person.

2022 PCNS BOARD OF GOVERNORS

PresidentJason Macario

Secretary.....Charlie Catlett

Treasurer.....Stephen Huston

Governors.....Mike McDaniel, Bob Somers, Ed Treuting

Past PresidentDaniel Hipple

Meetings of the Board of Governors normally take place 15 minutes before the membership meeting.

Bulletin EditorJason Macario *Webmaster*Stephen Huston

CONTACTING AND PAYING PCNS

Email messages to PCNS.....webmaster@pcns.org

PayPal address for PCNS.....money@pcns.org

PCNS WEBSITE

Visit www.pcns.org to read our *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.



Bulletin of the

PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY



1279th Monthly Meeting

Suez Canal Medals

Paul Turner

Wednesday, November 30, 2022, 7:30 PM
Online

PCNS + PO BOX 475656 + SAN FRANCISCO CA 94147

THE BIG DIG, NINETEENTH CENTURY STYLE

The Isthmus of Suez marks the dividing line between the continents of Asia and Africa, separating the Mediterranean and Red Seas by 120 miles. Over the centuries, efforts to connect the Nile and the Red Sea met with varying levels of success. Finally, an effort in the 1850s was successful, shortening the voyage between Europe and South Asia.

Join us online on **Wednesday, November 30** when Paul Turner will tell us about commemorative medals issued for the canal's opening in 1869. Bring your own canal-related memorabilia or your recent acquisitions to share. So that everyone may participate, please take pictures of your exhibits to facilitate viewing on Zoom.



Opening Day for the Suez Canal, 1869

OCTOBER MEETING RECAP

Alfred Nobel invented blasting caps, and then dynamite; and it made him very rich. His brother's death and an erroneous accusatory obituary made him rethink his legacy inventing destructive devices, so he set up the Nobel Prize in his will..

The Nobel Peace Prize medal was designed by Gustav Vigeland, with an assist by Erik Lindberg- he cut the dies. All the other Nobel prize medals were designed by Lindberg (1873-1966), along with many others. He was a prolific medalist, trained by his father. He designed the 1912 Stockholm Olympic medals, and he received a gold medal at PPIE for his work!

Each Nobel prize is awarded by a different committee. Michael's talk reviewed the different prizes, the committees which awarded them, the design of the award medals, and some of the winners. Over the years some of the individual award medals have been sold at auction, often for impressive sums. The 2021 Nobel Peace Prize was won by Dmitry Muratov, a critic of Russia. It was sold at auction to benefit a UNICEF fund. (no commission fees charged by Heritage Auctions) for \$103.5 million, to benefit a UNICEF fund.

The Peace prize medal features a bust of Nobel on the obverse. The reverse features three men in a group hug ("forming a fraternal bond").

The Literature prize medal features a bust of Nobel designed by Lindberg. The reverse shows a seated man writing something, with his muse standing nearby.

The Physics and Chemistry prizes go to different people but use the same medal. Obverse- Nobel. Reverse- Nature (Isis) having her veil lifted by the Genius of Science.

The Medicine/Physiology (one prize) medal features a reverse with the Genius of

STEP UP!

As another year comes to an end, it's time to elect officers for 2023. 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 well as relative newcomers.

Nominations are now open, so feel free to talk about your potential candidacy with a current or former officer (see the back page for a list of current officers). The election will take place at the December 28th meeting.

Medicine helping a sick girl.

A prize for economics was not set up in Nobel's will but was set up by a bankAs mentioned, there was lively discussion about several of the designs, and Federico will continue his research into the dates and origins of many of these pieces.

Panelists in the nominating committees received 27mm medals, and they are known in silver, gilt silver, gold, and one in bronze. These are collectible and occasionally show up at auction. Also collectible are a very few 1902 "collector" issues

Other medals by Lindberg include those commemorating Nobel's death; 1939 Nitroglycerine Company; 1928 Fire Insurance Company; a Swedish soprano; and the Neptune Organization (a maritime charity).

We invite you to watch Michael's full presentation on the [PCNS YouTube channel](#).

OCTOBER MEMBER EXHIBITS

Bill shared two medals: 1853 Cathedrals of Europe, very highly detailed; and a Siege of the Bastille medal.

Doug showed us the Zerbe ANA protest tokens that he designed and had struck. They are for sale.

Stephen talked about correspondence he received via the PCNS website from a Dutch person who purchased an American collection in an album. One of the coins in the album appears to be a 1922 Peace Dollar high relief proof! It is being certified and evaluated by an American auction house for sale.

Charlie L. showed us a Nobel Medicine Prize nominating committee medal from 1952 with initials engraved on the edge. He was able to find an image of the corresponding Medicine Prize medal for 1952. Unfortunately, there is no complete list of who was on the nominating committee that year, for comparing the engraved initials on the coin edge

Federico shared a medal commemorating Nobel Literature Prize winner Miguel Angel Asturias of Guatemala, minted in Paris; and a Costa Rica gold coin commemorating Nobel Peace Prize winner Dr. Oscar Arias.

Michael showed us a Conder halfpenny token from Anglesey featuring a druid on the obverse. The first Conder Tokens made were like this, from the Anglesey Mine Company in Wales. Michael then showed photos from his visit to the area in Wales where the mines used to be.