

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
October 28, 2015

Board Meeting

President Herb Miles convened a short board meeting shortly after 7:00pm since few members were present.

Board members present: Herb Miles, Stephen Huston, Ed Treuting, and Jerry Schimmel.

Remaining brass 100th anniversary medals were discussed. General consensus was to send one to the ANA, the ANS, one to each of our donors, to Representative Pelosi, and to Mint Director Jepsen. The final decision was tabled to a later meeting.

The double struck copper medals were tabled, but the consensus was to not disperse them.

Herb announced that he failed to announce three membership changes at the banquet.

Stephen Huston was named a "Distinguished Member of the Society."
Dan Hipple was named a "Sponsor of the Society."
Bill Hyder was named a "Fellow of the Society."

The appropriate entries have been made in the membership database.

Jerry Schimmel moved that each should receive a silver medal designating their new titles with a suitable engraving. Mary Lanin seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Herb appointed a Nominating Committee to approach members about serving as officers for the upcoming year. Jason Macario, Bob Somers, and Michael Wehner were appointed.

The business meeting was adjourned.

General Meeting

President Herb Miles called the meeting to order after a brief recess.

Members present included: Herb Miles, Stephen Huston, Ed Treuting, Jerry Schimmel, Mary Lannin, Mark Wm Clark, Chris Donaldson, Jason Macario, Bob Somers, Federico Castillo, and Michael Wehner.

Guests: Three guests were present.

Mary Lannin presented her program: Re-use of Seleucid Obverse Dies.

Ancient sources provide little or no information about the administrative workings of the mints of the Seleucid kingdom. Mary examined several Seleucid tetradrachm pairings that provide interesting insights into use of transitional dies at some regional mints during the third and second centuries.

At the start of the Seleucid dynasty, only two mints were in operation: Babylon in Mesopotamia and the ancient city of Susa on the Iranian plateau. This lack of mints was addressed when additional locations were opened by Seleucus I in Antioch, Seleucia on the Tigris, and Ekbatana, in addition to over 20 regional or military mints. These regional mints were founded to address the needs for coinage in the rapidly growing empire.

Mary concluded:

1. Both time and distance appear to have strongly influenced the practices of die reuse.
2. The length of reign was also a factor because of the time required for the court to supply an official image and then for the likeness to be transmitted throughout the kingdom.
3. The size of a mint mattered. Smaller mints were involved in reuse of dies. Larger mints had permanent staff to engrave new dies as required after a change in rulers.
4. Dies were produced "out of order" in the sense that obverses were completed last, as reverses noted the name and title of the new ruler.
5. Convenience played a role as well in the minting of new coins following the change of ruler.

The news of a new king made the use of previous die pairs obsolete. Mint officials acted on new information and engraved reverse dies first to indicate the change in regime. After receiving an accurate portrait of the newest ruler, the new obverse die was engraved, and thus began the first new "official" issue from that regional mint, although coins using the hybrid previous obverse/new reverse actually began the series issued under the new ruler.

Exhibits:

Michael Wehner displayed gold and silver medals from the California State Agricultural Society.

Stephen Huston shared an over-graded and overpriced corroded 1868 2 cent piece.

Ed Treuting exhibited two San Diego Point Loma lighthouse tokens and an Edward VII coronation medal.

Federico Castillo displayed a Guatemalan Masonic medal and a medal by Spanish sculptor Ismael Schmitz.

Chris Donaldson shared six Franklin D. Roosevelt items from his new collecting theme.

Mary Lannin shared a bronze copy of the Congressional gold medal for the Monuments Men presented in Washington, D.C. on October 22, 2015.

Mark Wm Clark shared a Mexico 2 peso note from 1823 and a U.S. Marshall commemorative half dollar.

Bob Somers exhibited a 1956 U.S. Mint struck medal for Texas Independence presented to the Tejas Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

Raffle:

Ed Treuting won a First Federal Trust Company Saving Envelope with a Barber dime.

Chris Donaldson won a George Haas & Son trade token and business card advertising "fine candies" and a 1971 silver clad Eisenhower dollar.

Jason Macario won a Tyler & Spotswood billhead, \$100 check with ship vignette, and envelope with Panama Pacific cancellation and return unused stamped envelope. And, a Flower Manager Ribbon of the Native Sons of the GoldenWest for the California Midwinter International Exposition.

The meeting was adjourned.

The meeting adjourned approximately 9:30.