

## **PCNS Minutes for March 23, 2022**

The board meeting for March 23, 2022, was called to order in person at Fort Mason at 7:03 PM by President Jason Macario. In attendance via Zoom were Treasurer Stephen Huston, Governor Ed Treuting, Governor Bob Somers, Governor Mike McDaniel as well as Bill Hyder and Jeff Shevlin. Charlie sent his regrets.

The minutes for the February meeting were approved.

The treasurer's financial report for February 23-March 22, 2022 was given to the board for review prior to the meeting.

2022 Papers Contest: submissions are due by the end of the April 27 meeting.

The board decided to suspend in-person meetings beginning with the July meeting. Stephen will speak to Fort Mason regarding the cost of any ad hoc meetings PCNS may want to hold in-person.

A location is needed if PCNS is going to hold a BBQ in June. Suggested dates are June 18 or June 25. An inquiry will go out to Federico as the most recent host. If a BBQ cannot be arranged, a regular meeting will be held in June.

A call out for speakers for April and May will go out at the general meeting.

In new business, members reported receiving their copy of the PCNS papers in the mail.

The board meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

At 7:30 PM, **general meeting #1271** was called to order. Present in person was Michael Wehner, Jeff Fung, Mark Wm. Clark and guest Jim Anderson. Present via Zoom were Doug Ward, Dean Neald, Fred Truex, Charlie Ludvik, Paul Turner and speaker Herb Miles.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Entries for the Papers Contest for 2022 are due by the end of the April 27 meeting.

The call for speakers at the general meeting was successful. Michael Wehner will speak in April and Stephen Huston will speak in May.

In-person meetings will be suspended beginning with the July meeting. Factors considered included room rental fees of around \$2500 per year for Fort Mason, attendance in-person has been only 2 to 4 members as well as technical issues with the location. The board will review the possibility of inperson meetings again at the end of the year as well as consider other locations of special meetings.

A location for the June BBQ is being explored. The last two Saturdays are possible dates. More details will be available once confirmed.

### **FEATURED SPEAKER: HERB MILES**

"U.S. Grant's Farewell Dinner at San Francisco's Palace Hotel."

Born Hiram Ulysses Grant in Point Pleasant, Ohio on April 27, 1822, he took on the name Ulysses S. Grant upon enrollment at West Point. Congressmen Thomas L. Hamer nominated him to the US Military Academy using the incorrect name and Grant accepted that error rather than go through the enrollment process again using his real name.

Grant seemed uninterested in most subjects in school however he excelled at arithmetic and enjoyed

working with horses. He was adept at topographical maps and life drawing but his prowess as a horseman allowed him to remain at the Academy. Grant graduated 21 of 39 in 1843. His military successes before and during the Civil War were in contrast to his personal business ventures, none of which came to fruition.

After two terms as US President marred by nepotism, Grant embarked on a world tour that lasted two years and seven months. He was well suited for travel due to his war experience and travels west prior to the Civil War. A journalist name John Russell Young accompanied Grant and his family on the world tour and produced a successful two volume account of the tour once it ended.

Grant returned to the US, arriving in San Francisco on September 20, 1879. The city of San Francisco prepared a farewell dinner in his honor to be held at the Palace Hotel on October 25. More than 200 guests attended the banquet in which a magnificent multicourse dinner was served. Each male guest was identified by a silver rectangular name card which was placed at his spot at the banquet. Herb was able to track five of the cards that have sold in the last few years, although more may still exist.

Mark Twain negotiated with Grant to write his memoirs and he did so while terminally ill with cancer. He spent his last six weeks in the Adirondack Mountains working on his memoirs passing away on July 23, 1885.

#### **MEMBER EXHIBITS**

Doug – 1922 Grant half dollar

Stephen – Silver spoon from the St. Francis Hotel

Michael W – Porcelain medals DDR and passes

Ed – 1879 s Morgan Dollar which may or may not have been struck on the day of the dinner

Jeff – four-piece gold set and an 1895 set of silver proofs

The general meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.