

PCNS Minutes for August 24, 2022

The board meeting for August 24, 2022, was called to order via Zoom at 7:16 PM by President Jason Macario. In attendance were Secretary Charlie Catlett, Treasurer Stephen Huston, past president Dan Hipple, Governors Bob Somers, Ed Treuting, and Mike McDaniel, and Michael Wehner.

The minutes for the July meeting were approved.

Financial reports for July and August were discussed.

New member application: Robert Archer, San Francisco- he will become a member as of the September meeting

Brief presentation in December: Jason is looking for a shorter presentation for the December virtual meeting, to be given after the brief business section including elections.

New Business: recording the minutes. There was a discussion about how minutes should be forwarded to board members to look for corrections, as well as how they could be placed on our website. It was agreed that the minutes approved at each meeting would be converted to a PDF format and forwarded to Stephen for putting on our website.

Adjournment 7:25 PM.

At 7:38 PM, general meeting #1276 was called to order. Present, in addition to the members from the board meeting via Zoom were Doug Ward, Herb Miles, Robert Jesinger, Mark Clark, Charlie Ludvik, and Jeff Fung.

We have a new member application from Robert Archer of San Francisco, who will become a member as of the next meeting.

Michael went to the ANA and TAMS show and brought back a literary award for Charlie C, who was awarded best article of the year on Jewish Numismatics for an article on the coins of the WW2 Lodz Ghetto.

Our speaker was late in arriving and getting started, in part after attending his mother's funeral earlier in the day. Most of the Member Exhibits were presented before his talk, but those will all be reported after the featured topic.

Featured speaker: Jeff Shevlin
So-Called Dollars in the Mega Red Book,
By Jeff Shevlin, Dennis Tucker, and Bill Hyder

Jeff was offered space to write a section on So-Called Dollars when the Mega Red Book first came out. For each of the last eight years he has written 20-30 pages of listings, each with different areas of So-Called Dollars.

He has been working on a two-volume update of the original Hibler and Kappen book on So-Called dollars. There are now about 800 different ones. Jeff's first volume, with publication imminent, will be Expositions that struck So-Called dollars. Over sixty will be listed, greatly expanding the H&K book. The second volume featuring all other So-Called dollars will be published in the future.

Jeff talked about selected 'dollars' from those books:

- First was the official 1876 Centennial medal, engraved by Charles Barber. Liberty was depicted with a sword in her *right* hand, meaning "don't mess with us!"
- The World's Columbian Expo official medal was engraved by George Morgan, with a tiny "M" engraver's mark. The initial brassy finish tarnished too easily, and it was changed to being gold plated
- An 1893 Columbian official struck on a large cent! Owned by Bill Hyder
- 1920 Manila Mint Wilson Dollar, struck in gold (six were known). The mint was bombed by Japanese in WW2, the dies were found in the rubble and Jeff was able to purchase them. He produced a restrike centennial commemorative with them (modified for 2020)
- Jeff discussed the Golden Gate Expo Charbneau So-Called Dollars Book and told a story about him. There were sixteen varieties struck, and several were shown
- A rare poster from the 1894 California Mid-Winter Expo was shown, along with some photos. The official medal engraved by George Morgan (gold plated from the first day) was shown, along with die trials. He discussed the California State Seal pictured on the medal. He later showed a medal featuring a bear looking down from a hill onto the expo.
- A 1954 Cradle of the Union medal in gold
- 1860 Dickeson Continental dollar restrike, originally thought to be struck in 1876. Later produced restrikes were shown, including one by Thomas Elder in 1917 with Dickeson dies, as well as by Q. David Bowers in 1960 and Bashlow. Jeff has the *hubs* for the original dies, and new dies are being made.
- 1950 Washington DC Sesquicentennial medal with an unusual, oxidized silver surface
- Thomas Elder 1908 satirical medal of William Jennings Bryan, "the great commoner", thrice defeated for president
- Other Bryan medals- eight to ten of the satirical medals were made
- Panama Pacific Expo ads and photos, medals struck (for the centennial) in 2015. The official medal was struck at the fair, while silver and gold-plated medals were struck in Philadelphia. See further discussion in Member Exhibits.
- 1876 Centennial the Battle of Trenton medal, one of eight medals Lovett produced featuring eight 1776 Revolutionary War battles.
- Lewis & Clark 1905 Centennial medal
- 1893 World's Columbian Expo medal, obverse engraved by Augustus St. Gaudens and reverse engraved by Charles Barber
- 1878 Washington Valley Forge centennial
- 1909 Alaska Yukon Pacific Expo, engraved by George Morgan
- 1902 Wells Fargo Centennial. We do not know who engraved the medal, which has wonderful detail. There are supposedly a lot of them still in the vaults of Wells Fargo Bank.
- 1959 Oregon Statehood with Buchanan and Eisenhower featured (the president when it was admitted and the president at the time of the centennial)
- 1869 Transcontinental Railway Completion featuring U. S. Grant

The talk was recorded for future viewing on the internet.

Member Exhibits:

- Herb talked about a 130-piece lot of Coal Company tokens he recently purchased and is looking for more info on them. One was “good for one stick of permissible explosive” and another “50 ft. fuse only”. In the early 1900s miners were paid 90 cents an hour for a dangerous job. The worst mining accident Herb mentioned cost 290 miner’s lives.
- Michael showed three medals he picked up at the ANA: Pikes Peak; a conservatory of music featuring a clarinet player; and he talked about medals of Erik Lindberg (who produced the Nobel Medal- a future speaking topic), showing a Lindberg musical medal he got
- Charlie showed his new acquisition of a 400 BC silver obol from Mallos, Cilicia. It featured a Janiform head on the obverse and a swan on the reverse- all with nice detail for a 7mm coin
- Doug talked about a recent find at the ANA show with a new die mark that looks like a scratch- at the top of the sail and rigging of the Argo. It is seen on all three metal types- silver, bronze, and gilt, and is also *absent* on all three metal types. There was discussion about where the medals were all actually produced.
- Stephen added to Jeff’s talk on the Columbian Expo medal. He showed a medal produced by Toyvo Johnson with a *very* similar (but cruder) obverse design. Six years ago, Dan gave a talk on Johnson, who produced a series of six medals from 1961-1968 commemorating famous engravers. The reverse of the Columbian medal, to honor St. Gaudens, featured a home with a small \$20 St. Gaudens coin above it. Johnson was visited by the Feds and told to cease making that medal because of that image.

The general meeting adjourned at 9:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie Catlett, Secretary PCNS