

PCNS Minutes for December 28, 2022

The board meeting for December 28, 2022, was called to order via Zoom at 7:15 PM by President Jason Macario. In attendance were Secretary Charlie Catlett, Treasurer Stephen Huston, Governors Bob Somers and Ed Treuting, and Bill Hyder. Mike McDaniel sent regrets that he could not attend the meeting.

The minutes for the November meeting were approved.

Financial reports: the Financial Report for October 1-December 28, 2022, was forwarded to the board prior to the meeting, and discussed. Stephen will be working on e-mailing dues notices to club members.

No new Board of Governors nominations were obtained.

We still need for speakers for April and May 2023.

New Business: We need a chair for the January 25, 2023, meeting as Jason will not be able to attend. Stephen agreed to do so unless we find a Vice President during elections at the regular meeting.

Adjournment 7:23 PM.

At 7:34 PM, general meeting #1280 was called to order. Present, in addition to the members from the board meeting via Zoom were Paul Turner, Charlie Ludvic, Harold Tuchfeld, Doug Ward, Mark Wm. Clark, Dean Neald, new member Jeff Pritchard, and Herb Miles.

There is a promotion for ANA membership still going on, and information about it is available on our web site.

Elections: Bill graciously agreed to run for the position of Vice President. There were no additional nominations, so the proposed slate of officers for 2023 was: Jason- President; Bill- Vice President; Charlie- Secretary; Stephen- Treasurer; Mike, Ed, and Bob- Governors. The motion was called, and the slate was elected unanimously.

Speakers are needed for April and May 2023, please let Stephen know if interested.

Featured Speaker: Bill Hyder

"Joe Beeler's Native American Portrait Medals."

This is a slightly shortened version of a talk Bill gave for the Newman Numismatic Portal, which was recorded and available for viewing on the NNP website. Due to technical difficulties, the evening's talk was unable to be recorded.

Bill first learned about the medals of Joe Beeler while visiting a museum at the corporate headquarters of Bashas' Grocery Store Chain in Chandler, Arizona. [Basha's is now owned by Raleys Supermarkets]. Joe Beeler was a Native American and a cowboy, an artist who worked in multiple media. Bill presented a nice biography of Joe, who was a founding member of Cowboy Artists of America- an organization that you need to be invited into. Joe's focus was for Southwestern cowboy art to be taken legitimately, and his interest was in realism. Two of his early medals were produced as a thanks to supporters.

Eddie Basha, a cofounder of Bashas' Grocery Store chain in Arizona, began collecting Western Art in 1971. This is when he met Joe Beeler- a story Bill did not have time to go into. Because of his support, Eddie became known as the 'Patron Saint' of Western Art. When he died in 2013 his large collection was donated to the museum housed in Bashas' Corporate Headquarters.

Eddie liked to give Christmas presents away every year, and he commissioned a series of 24 annual medals (which he called 'paperweights') as Christmas gifts. These ~90mm medals were never sold- they were only given away. This is why there hadn't been information about them until recently and why they have been slow to enter the numismatic marketplace. Initially they were bronze, with a mintage of 500. But they gained in popularity and production increased to 750 annually in bronze with additional ones in pewter.

Bill has a set of medals from every year. Some of his are pewter editions. He reviewed the carefully designed portraits on each of the medals, highlighting Joe's technique in producing portraits of Native Americans. Only one year did not feature a person- it had a bison on it.

The 24th and last Native American Portrait medal in the set was produced only for Congressional Medal of Honor winners, with 110 produced. Bill was fortunate to obtain one of these and relayed the valiant history of the winner of that award.

Joe Beeler passed away in 2006, and Bill showed a nice commemorative medal made in his honor.

Member Exhibits:

Charlie L talked about work by Gregory Perillo (1927-2021). He showed a 7-1/2" diameter bronze high relief plaque. He also showed a photo of Alan Houser's image of an Apache Hunt on a medal

Doug talked about his research efforts at the Stanford Research Library on a U. S. Mint Director. He gave us an update on the newest 1922 Matte Proof Peace Dollar discovered in Europe, the 12th known. It did get graded Proof-60 Genuine by PCGS. It will be auctioned off in February 2023. Further details about the discovery are very hush-hush. Nobody is saying a thing, which raises some questions—more to be reported as Doug digs up new details.

The general meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM. The next meeting will be January 25, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie Catlett, Secretary PCNS