



Bulletin of the
PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
JULY 2026

1323rd Monthly Meeting
Lesher's Iconic "Pikes Peak Silver Mine" Scene Finally Explained
Scott Safe

Wednesday, July 22, 7:30 PM PDT
Online

Pikes Peak is a prominent and famous feature of the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains in Colorado. It was the namesake, if not the actual location, of a gold rush in 1858. Later, it played host to the annual Pikes Peak International Hill Climb motor race (since 1916) and the Pikes Peak Marathon (since 1956).

One of the dominant issues of the 1890s was the dispute over "Free Silver," whereby silver coinage could be made without limit. One proponent, Joseph Lesher, put his theory into practice by issuing so-called dollars ("Referendum Souvenirs") featuring an image of a silver mine at the base of Pikes Peak with the legend "In The People We Trust." These souvenir medals could be redeemed for \$1.25.

Join us online on **Wednesday, July 22** when **Scott Safe** will tell us more about recent understanding of the imagery on Lesher "Dollars". Be prepared to exhibit your own Lesher dollars, Pike's Peak memorabilia, or your latest acquisitions. So that everyone may participate, please take pictures of your exhibits to facilitate viewing on Zoom.



JUNE BBQ RECAP

A bumper crop of sixteen PCNS members and friends gathered on a sunny, if breezy, afternoon in Berkeley. We were treated to a delicious spread of grilled meat and veggies, beans, rice, and salad. And cake for dessert (Happy Birthday, Federico!) The gathering also featured a lively game of Mexican Bingo.



Sunny Afternoon in Berkeley

President Jason Macario had the pleasure of announcing the following awards and distributing the following medals:

- Second place medal for the 2026 Papers Contest to **Michael Wehner**, for *Et Tu Lorenzini?*
- First place medal for the 2026 Papers Contest to **Stephen Huston** for *Moneta Patriottica 1848: The First Paper Money of the Venetian Republic*.
- Award for the 2026 Presentation Contest to **Bill Hyder** for his December 2025 presentation *Collecting French Jettons*.
- 50-year medal to Stephen Huston, marking his transition to Golden Member status!

Congratulations to all honorees!

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PCNS MEETINGS

PCNS meetings take place at 7:30 pm Pacific Time on the fourth Wednesday of most months. Meetings are held online using the Zoom platform, thereby allowing members, presenters, and guests to attend no matter where they are located. Everyone with an interest in numismatics is welcome to attend. A meeting code/invitation link will be emailed to all members separately the day before the meeting; non-members can request a link by emailing webmaster@pcns.org.

Special occasions, such as the annual BBQ, will continue to occur in person.

PCNS CALENDAR FOR 2026

July 22, 2026 **Scott Safe:** *Leshner's Iconic "Pikes Peak Silver Mine" Scene Finally Explained*
August 26, 2026 **Charlie Catlett:** *Topic TBA*
September 23, 2026 *Speaker and Topic TBA*
October 28, 2026 *Speaker and Topic TBA*
November 25, 2026 *Speaker and Topic TBA*

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. Your topic can even be something about which you have submitted or plan to submit a *Paper*. Please email webmaster@pcns.org to sign up.

JUNE BBQ HIGHLIGHTS (CONT'D)

For the only in-person gathering in a year, we held a drawing. Winners were:

Mike McDaniel won a collection that included an 1893 Columbian Commemorative half dollar, a 1964 Mexican peso, and a 1906 Indian head cent.

Scott Safe won a Spanish copper from the 16th century

Ed Treuting won a medal from the 1976 Bicentennial celebration.

Federico Castillo won a collection of ten Latin American tokens (from the collection of Jerry Schimmel) and a set of ten so-called dollars featuring San Francisco 49ers.

Mike Turrini won a French pewter medal.

Jeff Pritchard won a proof 1986-S Statue of Liberty commemorative half dollar, and a Spokane Day so-called dollar from the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific World's Fair.

Don Hill won a set of three bronze presidential inauguration medals.

Thanks to Federico and Angela Castillo for their wonderful hospitality!



Mexican Bingo in Action

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Vice President William Hyder

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

Bulletin Editor Jason Macario

Webmaster Stephen Huston

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Email messages to PCNS webmaster@pcns.org

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PCNS WEBSITE

Visit www.pcns.org to read our *Papers*, get the latest *Bulletin*, or to check our meeting schedule.

You can also view a recording of most recent presentations on our [YouTube channel](#), available through links from pcns.org! Use a QR scanner/reader to open pcns.org via this code.

