

PCNS MINUTES FOR MARCH 27, 2024

BOARD MEETING

The board meeting for March 27, 2024, was called to order via Zoom at 7:15 PM by President Jason Macario. In attendance were Vice President Bill Hyder, Treasurer Stephen Huston, Secretary Charlie Catlett, and Governors Bob Somers, Ed Treuting, and Mike McDaniel. Past president Dan Hipple was unable to attend.

The minutes for the February meeting were approved.

Financial report: the report was sent to board members prior to the meeting and was discussed.

Summer BBQ is set for June 22 in Berkeley CA, with details to be announced in the next Bulletin.

Speakers are needed for July through December.

2024 Papers Contest submissions are due April 24.

Annual Presentation Contest: A second draft of scoring criteria was discussed and approved (copy attached). One more judge is needed. It was discussed whether if we should let presenters opt out of the contest or not. The consensus was that we should not for this initial time, but that in the future presenters would be offered that option in advance.

New Business: As the usual date of the December meeting would fall on December 25, it was voted to move the December meeting to December 18.

Adjournment 7:30 PM.

GENERAL MEETING

At 7:32 PM, general meeting #1295 was called to order. Present in addition to the members from the board meeting via Zoom were Charlie Ludvic, Scott Safe, Jeff Pritchard, Doug Ward, Herb Miles, John Duff, Federico Castillo, Henry Goodman, Paul Turner, and Greg Burns.

The summer BBQ meeting has been finalized: it will be Saturday June 22, in Berkeley CA.

Speakers are still needed for July through December.

The deadline for our annual Papers Contest is by the end of the April 24 meeting.

Presentation Contest: one more judge is needed.

The December 25 meeting date has been changed to December 18 (the third Thursday in December).

Stephen read the names of members still owing dues for 2024. A USPS letter has been sent to each of them. If not paid, their membership from the Society will be dropped.

Featured Speakers: Show & Tell

Stephen began the talks with several items. First was his main interest in collecting- ancient coins of the Ptolemies. A nice 2-ounce bronze he showed was reportedly used in the first coin-operated vending machine, which would have dispensed a small amount of ritual holy water. The trouble was the report of this ‘machine’ was from 300 years later, when that large denomination was not around anymore- but a smaller denomination would have likely worked. Stephen also talked a bit about the gold ‘Sponsianus’ coin that was much written about in the last year, as well as want lists from past customers for coins that did not exist: a non-existent Constantine die combination, and a coin “touched” by Joan of Arc!

Charlie C started his talk with a Roman Republican denarius he does not own (yet), using it to explain an obverse brockage of that coin he does have. Several other ancient brockages were also shown.

John showed us an English Old Price Riot Token, all about John Philip Kembal- manager of the Covent Garden Theater (one of two main London theaters). After that theater burned down (along with the other one), the costly rebuilt theater had proposed higher costs, causing riots in 1809 that lasted three months. One of the legends on John’s token was “This is the Jew, Which Shakespeare drew” a reference to Shylock and the mask with mule ears the token’s portrait displayed.

Bill told how he spent his March vacation in Colorado. He managed to drive with Jeff Shevlin to Colorado Springs for the show despite surrounding snow, and he showed a copper-plated lead Dickerson trial cent (a later produced version) which he could not pass up purchasing. He met with the So-Called Guys and got a VIP tour of the Denver Mint (no photos allowed). He was fortunate enough to meet the U.S. Mint director there (photo allowed for that).

Charlie L showed us three New York University Hall of Fame medals and told of their history. One was a “keystone” medal from 1960, 82mm. The other two were 44mm silver and bronze John Philip Sousa medals.

Doug went to the A.N.A. show and appreciated the gathering. He talked about three Columbus and pilgrim medals. First, the 1892 Columbian Expo half dollar in MS 66 PL bought at a very reasonable price. The others were the 1892 Landing and Return of Columbus and the 1870 Pilgrim Jubilee medals.

Ed showed us the first coin he bought, an 1800 large cent in AG condition, still in its original holder marked 30¢, from around age 14. He showed us how he figured which variety it was. He also showed an 1802 large cent his father found under the floorboard of a New Jersey house long ago and was also able to identify the variety of the cent (which was also in ~AG condition).

Federico showed us three denominations of bronze tokens from Costa Rica, two having countermarks of the token’s maker. He also had two of the three denominations in copper, with

evidence they were specimens (but not listed in the catalog by Rulau). He recently purchased all three copper denominations at auction. They were encapsulated but listing the bronze Rulau number even though they are un-numbered copper specimen examples. His dilemma: keep them in the erroneous slabs, re-submit and risk lower/incorrect labels, etc. He then showed us coins with Cuba lattice, Costa Rica, and J T Jones countermarks- explaining the journey the coins made to get the marks.

Jeff talked about two Dutch medals. He noted that most countries have depicted the Liberty Cap in the same way except for Holland, where it is depicted somewhat like a fedora. It was seen on his 1782 medal of Friesland Recognizing the United States and his 1785 Treaty of Fontainebleau medal.

Henry told us about his medal storage solutions. He began collecting with Goetz medals, then added others. Storage went from a simple wood cabinet to a large geology cabinet to the personal cabinet of Carl Goetz- purchased from his grandson and shipped to the U.S.

Mike M shared two of his recent Mexican acquisitions. They bracketed the 1910-1920 period of the Mexican Revolution. The first was a medallion commemorating the 1909 meeting of US President Taft and the Mexican President Diaz at Juarez, Mexico. Diaz was in exile in Paris within 18 months of this meeting. The second piece was a 1926 rebel medallion used in the Cristero Rebellion that tore Mexico apart for several years.

Finally, Jason told three stories related to his years from 2003-2015 at the San Francisco Historical Society and trying to turn the San Francisco mint into a museum. His 1875-S \$20 coin was from the Saddle Ridge hoard found in California. That was the first full year the SF mint was in full operation. Next was an 1870-S \$10 coin. That year the cornerstone was laid for the mint, and coins of every denomination (plus a few unique denominations) were included in a casket. Nobody knows where that was placed. Finally, he showed a 1901-S \$20 coin, from the year 1500 gold pieces were stolen and never recovered. He could claim this was one of them....

The presentations were recorded up to this point and will be available for viewing on the Society's Videos webpage.

The general meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM. The next meeting will be April 24, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlie Catlett, Secretary PCNS

Attachment: Approved document — *Presentation Contest Scoring Guide*



PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY PRESENTATION CONTEST SCORING GUIDE

Presentation contest entries should be scored based on the following five factors.

Descriptions of each factor are intended as guidelines.

Scores should be entered on the accompanying Excel spreadsheet, which will facilitate tabulation and computation of the final results.

Factor
1. Content: Background (0-15 points) Did the presentation include sufficient background information to introduce and understand the topic?
2. Content: Originality (0-20 points) Was there new information presented, or was existing information represented in a new light?
3. Presentation: Organization (0-20 points) Was the presentation logically organized and easy to follow? Other than follow-up questions, did the presenter repeatedly have to loop back to earlier parts of the talk?
4. Presentation: Visual Quality (0-20 points) Did screen images enhance the quality of the information rather than just quoting the script?
5. Presentation: Engagement (0-25 points) Was the presentation pleasant to watch? Would you encourage others to watch it? Would you like to see more from the presenter?

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