

PCNS CALENDAR FOR 2021

- July 28, 2021 (online)**Charlie Catlett**, *Coins of the World War II Łódź/Litzmannstadt Ghetto*
- August 25, 2021 (online)**Federico Castillo**, *Title TBA*
- September 25, 2021**Summer BBQ, see inside**
- October 27, 2021 (online)*Speaker and Topic TBA**
- November 24, 2021*Speaker and Topic TBA**
- December 22, 2021**Holiday Party and Election**

* See "Speak Up!" below

PCNS MEETINGS IN THE AGE OF COVID-19

In-person meetings of PCNS are suspended through October, 2021. In the meantime, we will meet online. This has the benefit of enabling those who are unable to be in San Francisco to join us for a meeting **and** to give a presentation!

SPEAK UP!

There are several opportunities for **you** to make a presentation later this year. You don't need to be in San Francisco to present. Your presentation can even be something about which you have submitted or plan to submit a *Paper*. Please email webmaster@pcns.org to sign up.

2021 PCNS BOARD OF GOVERNORS

- President** Jason Macario
- Secretary** Charlie Catlett
- Treasurer** Stephen Huston
- Governors** Bob Somers, Ed Treuting, Paul Turner
- Past President** Daniel Hipple

Meetings of the Board of Governors normally take place 30 minutes before the membership meeting in the same location. Online board meetings may begin at 7:15.

Bulletin Editor Jason Macario *Webmaster* Stephen Huston

CONTACTING AND PAYING PCNS

- Email messages to PCNS webmaster@pcns.org
- PayPal address for PCNS money@pcns.org

PCNS WEBSITE

Visit www.pcns.org to read our *Papers* (including the not-yet-printed 2019 *Papers*), get the latest *Bulletin*, or to check our meeting schedule.

Miss a meeting? Beginning with the May, 2020 Meeting, you can also view a recording of the presentation on our [YouTube channel](#), available through links from pcns.org! Use a QR scanner/reader to open pcns.org via this code.



Bulletin of the

PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY



1263rd Monthly Meeting

**Coins of the World War II
Łódź/Litzmannstadt Ghetto**

Charlie Catlett

**Wednesday, July 28, 2021, 7:30 PM
online**

PCNS + PO BOX 475656 + SAN FRANCISCO CA 94147

HUMAN INHUMANITY

Following Germany's invasion of Poland in September, 1939, the invaders herded 160,000 Polish Jews into a portion of the city of Łódź (renamed Litzmannstadt). The ghetto was a little more than one square mile. Regular German currency did not circulate there, and thus locally-manufactured coins were the only means of commerce.

Join us on **Wednesday, July 28**, as **Charlie Catlett** presents *Coins of the World War II Łódź/Litzmannstadt Ghetto*. Take a photo of something from your collection related to the topic, or your latest acquisition, for sharing! See you online!



SAVE THE DATE!

It's back! Save the afternoon of **Saturday, September 25** for the 2021 PCNS Summer BBQ! Details will follow in the next issue of this *Bulletin*.

JUNE PRESENTATION RECAP

Dr. Kagin began his talk with a brief review of government funding prior to the War of 1812. Until then, the government had no way of raising taxes, and instead relied mostly on borrowing and some tariffs. As excessive taxes were a root cause of the Revolutionary War, the resistance to taxation was understandable.

The greater context for the War of 1812 was the long battle between Britain and France under Napoleon. British ship crews were boarding U.S. ships at sea and forcefully conscripting sailors (15,000 of them) into the British Navy. Additionally, British ships were blockading U.S. ports to prevent trade with the French.

Under threat of war, by 1812 gold and silver was being hoarded. There was no central bank to help finance the government much less a war effort. New England entrepreneurs weren't helpful with funding, as many relied on trade with the British.

After much debate, it was finally agreed to issue Treasury Notes. Three series of notes, totaling \$35 million dollars, were authorized and issued in 1812, 1813, and 1814. Very few 1812 and 1814 notes are known to exist today.

In April, 1813, American troops captured and burned York (modern day Toronto), the British capital in Canada. In retaliation, the British stormed and burned the U.S. Capitol, the White House, and other Federal buildings in Washington in July, 1814. Three weeks later the British moved on and tried to capture Baltimore Harbor and Fort McHenry but were repelled.

The war was essentially a draw and ended with the Treaty of Ghent, signed on December 24, 1814. But news of that treaty took a long time to reach parts of the US, including Washington. Just days after the treaty was signed, a \$10.5 million fourth issue was authorized, plus \$8.3 million issued to help cover prior debts.

Sometime around then a man named John Epps came up with the idea of a federal circulating currency. This idea was implemented with the \$25 million fifth issue, authorized in 1815, including non-interest-bearing \$50, \$20, \$10, \$5, and \$3 notes. These became the first National circulating currency. Examples of these still exist.

Don showed several surviving notes, including proofs (not intended to circulate); unsigned remainders; single signed and double signed remainders; and double signed remainders that were also countersigned with a third signature, but did not circulate. This summary cannot do justice to Don's full presentation, so we invite you to watch it on the [PCNS YouTube channel](#).

JUNE MEMBER EXHIBITS

Stephen: A British 50 pence Olympic coin, with a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II and the date 2020 on the obverse and sports symbols with the date 2020 on the reverse. The problem is there were no Olympics in 2020. So he showed us another coin with Elizabeth and the date 2021 on the obverse, with the same symbols and date 2020 still on the reverse; he also shared an image of a British 50 pound plastic fiber note featuring Alan Turing.

Charlie: the Civil War cent he has been looking for years to get: the obverse features the flag of our union; the reverse has a spelling error: "if anyone attempts to tear it down shoot him on the spot."

Scott: the Maryland Worlds Fair Commission medal. There were 25 made in platinum and 25,000 in bright brass. He discussed three distinct reverse dies and showed diagnostics for those.

Michael: a medal designed by Salvador Dali and minted at the Paris Mint; a 1984 medal produced by the British Art Medal Society featuring an interesting abstract face; and a Renaissance medal first issued in the 15th century; cast reproductions were made at least into the 20th century, and it is hard to distinguish them.

Paul talked about David Parish, a nearly-unknown financier of the war of 1812, and about a French architect Parish brought to the US and supported (and who is the subject of a book Paul wrote!).

Dean commented on the 50 pound British note featuring Alan Turing, and how there is a museum in England with an interactive puzzle zone to see if you are a good code breaker.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need volunteers to fill three positions beginning in the next few months:

- **Papers Contest Coordinator** to receive submissions, select judges, and tally results;
- **Archivist** to store and maintain the PCNS archives;
- **Drawing Prize Wrangler** to oversee rounding up prizes for our monthly drawings, which will resume once we meet in person again.

Contact us at webmaster@pcns.org with questions or to volunteer.

ZOOMING

Our July meeting will take place online using the Zoom platform. If you're already familiar with Zoom, then you're all set. A meeting code/invitation link will be emailed to you separately the day before the meeting.

If you're new to the Zoom service, you'll need to do a few things ahead of the meeting. **Don't wait until the last minute to get set up!** Please check the [PCNS website](#) for more information.