

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society July 2019 Minutes

The board meeting for July 24, 2019 was called to order at 6:45pm at the Ortega branch of the San Francisco Public Library by President Dan Hipple. Vice President Jason Macario, Treasurer Stephen Huston, Governor Ed Treuting, Secretary Bob Somers were in attendance. Also attending were Charlie Catlett, Michael Wehner, Federico Castillo, Jerry Schimmel, Ken Takahashi, Mark Wm. Clark and Paul Turner.

The minutes from the May meeting were approved.

The Treasurer's Report for April through June was reviewed and accepted.

A new member application was received from Paul Turner of San Francisco.

The papers contest results were announced with the 1st place paper receiving exceptional comments from the judges. Congratulations to everyone! The results were:

1st place: Stephen Huston - COIN AGES

2nd place: Jerry Schimmel - Frisco's Old East Street: Sailor Saloons and Little Brass Checks with Side Trips to Jackson Street, The Cliff House

3rd place: William Hyder - San Francisco Remembers the Franco-Prussian War

Additional 3 submittals titles:

4th place: Mark Benvenuto - What We Owe Rome. Modern Coinage Features Ancient Ideas

5th place: Michael Weiner - Roma Pacifica: The Phoebe Hearst Medal

6th place: Jerry Schimmel - Kashu Hotel

7th place: Jerry Schimmel - The Monarch Card Machine Company

The board approved moving \$10,000 from the checking account into a nine-month CD for a better interest rate. After the meeting, Stephen reported back that the CD would require multiple signers, the best rate was 1.88% and moving that amount from the checking account would result in fees on the account which are now waived due to the balance. Via email, the board agreed to not purchase the CD at this time.

The Sutro Library has requested that PCNS remove the PCNS Library from their branch as soon as possible. Stephen provided Sutro with a copy of a 1995 letter from PCNS explaining our placement of books there, which Dan located in the PCNS archives. Dan also supplied the list of publications involved. After July meeting, Stephen sent that list to the Sutro Library and they responded that they will begin collecting those books for return to PCNS. Federico is looking into the Cal Berkeley Library as an option and will report back.

Jerry handed out a preliminary table of contents and list of possible titles for the monograph. Work continues the monograph with Jerry, Michael and Federico.

The August meeting will be held at the Ortega branch of the San Francisco Public Library and the speaker will be Federico. The September speaker will be Michael with the meeting location returning to Fort Mason.

The board decided to continue printing hard copies of the papers with Michael and Federico taking over the publication efforts.

The board meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

The general meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.

Dan reviewed the current financials and announced upcoming coin shows including Fremont and the ANA show in Chicago. Dan announced Scott Griffin is offering a San Francisco Numismatic Walking Tour on August 6th.

The speaker for this meeting, Charlie Catlett, gave a fascinating presentation entitled Hand Made: Ancient, Error and Oddities. He began by reviewing how ancient planchets were made and struck into coins. The primitive process often resulted in errors and Charlie brought many examples with him. First up were examples of brockages on ancients. A brockage occurs when a coin sticks to the die and then strikes another coin leaving a mirror image on one side of the coin and a normal strike on the other. Charlie then moved on to show double strikes and flipped over double strikes and how they could occur. Examples included widow's mite and a double struck coin from the first revolt between Rome and Jerusalem. Examples of die breaks on ancients were next to be shown. Charlie went on to discuss overstruck ancient coins. Overstriking a current design overtop an old coin was a common method of recycling ancient coinage. Charlie also showed examples of countermarks and counter stamps which are not limited to ancients. The practice was used for many purposes including attesting to the value of the coin or as a way to celebrate a victory or an emperor. Finally, Charlie showed example of hacksilver and gold. These were fragments of silver and gold which passed as currency based on their weight before coinage or when coinage was not available. Thank you Charlie for sharing your hand made errors and oddities on ancient coinage.

Member exhibits included:

Mark – Two San Francisco tokens/medals and a Great Britain half penny (of 1784?)

Paul – 1877-s trade dollar and a 1936-s San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge Commemorative half

Federico – Two Nicaraguan medals, one Texas token and possible contemporary fake 1789 Guatemalan medal

Michael – San Francisco Mechanics Institute medals (in new plastic holders)

Ken – The 2019 American Legion coin and medal set and two West Point cents, proof and reverse proof

There was no drawing due to time constraints with the room.

The general meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.