

PCNS Minutes for July 28, 2021

The board meeting for June 23, 2021, was called to order via Zoom at 7:15 PM by President Jason Macario. Remote attendance included Treasurer Stephen Huston, Past President Dan Hipple, Secretary Charlie Catlett, Governor Paul Turner, as well as Michael Wehner, and Bill Hyder. Governors Ed Treuting and Bob Somers sent their regrets in not being able to attend.

The minutes for the May meeting were approved.

There was no treasurer's report, as there was only \$0.10 added in interest to our savings account.

2019-2020 Papers printing layout PDF by Michael: 2021 papers will be added so he can get a better page count, and he will get back to us in August.

September 25, 2021 BBQ details: Cost estimate \$10 per person, payable by PayPal. Bill generously offered to subsidize any extra costs up to \$200!

Deadline- TBD

Medals presentation will likely be done for those who haven't received theirs yet

2021 Papers Contest Winners:

#3: The Little Rock Nine by Herb Miles

#2: A Snails Tail by Charlie Catlett

#1: Generals of the Mexican War by Michael Wehner- congratulations!

Vacancies coming in 2022: still looking for volunteers for

Papers Contest Coordination

Archives Storage and Maintenance

Prizes for Drawings

Return to Fort Mason: November 2021.

Zoom is available, as is WiFi. Some details need to be worked out as to how to show exhibit items and keep Zoom members involved. We will ask that members attending in person be vaccinated for Covid

Adjournment 7:36 PM

At 7:36 PM, general meeting #1263 was called to order via Zoom. In attendance along with those from the board meeting were Herb Miles, Scott Safe, Greg Burns, Robert Jesinger, Mike McDaniel, Federico Castillo and his guest Sergio Valverde Alpizar.

Our BBQ will be Saturday September 25 at 1 PM. Details to follow, with a projected cost of \$10 per person (and supplemental financial support from at least one member).

Vacancies coming in 2022: members were asked to consider volunteering for one (or more) of these positions:

Papers Contest Coordinator
Archives Storage and Maintenance
Raffle Coordinator

In-person meetings are scheduled to return to Fort Mason in November. A hybrid including Zoom will hopefully be possible at that time.

Presentations were still needed for October and November, with Michael offering to speak one of the months. Back up presentations are also needed.

Featured speaker: Charlie Catlett
WWII Token Coinage of the Lodz Ghetto

The presentation began with a brief history of Lodz, from its first mention as a town in 1332. An influx of German immigrants in the early 1880s led to the development of Poland's largest industrial city. Lodz became German territory after Poland's loss in World War I and then again in World War II. Soon after, it was renamed Litzmannstadt, and German authorities moved the Jewish population to the swampy northern section of town- surrounding the area with barbed wire and creating the Lodz/Litzmannstadt Ghetto. A brief review of ghetto history followed.

Ghetto money consisted of three parts. First were ration coupons/chits good for specific items. Ghetto currency was produced in 1940 to replace the German Reichsmark, which was withdrawn from the ghetto (to help hinder escape attempts, among other reasons). The design process was discussed, including one attempt at counterfeiting which was caught.

German coins were withdrawn from the ghetto in 1942, and the Jewish leader of the ghetto (Rumkowski) proposed minting coins. It so happened that the German in command of the ghetto (Bieber) was a coin collector, so the idea was approved. The talk then reviewed the design process, the minting and materials, and a review of all the known varieties (plus some extras likely minted after the war).

Finally, there was a presentation of token money from three POW/civilian camps, in Ireland, the Isle of Man, and Australia.

The talk was recorded and will be made available for viewing.

Member Exhibits:

-Federico showed us a 1983 proof 250 Colones coin from Costa Rica. 393 if the silver 30 g coins were minted, featuring the national flower of Costa Rica on one side and the national shield on the other. The design was a very good depiction of the flower which was also shown

-Michael W showed us some Wells Fargo notes. The first was an 1858 bill of exchange, the earliest date he had seen on that type of note. He also showed two other types of Wells Fargo notes, dated 1854 and 1871. Henry Wells and William Fargo began their business in 1852. Finally, he showed a Thomas Wells & Co note from 1851.

-Harold showed us a very nice example of a 1770 Katherine the Great 5 Kopek coin from the Ekaterinburg mint. It was 42.8mm and 50.42 g and had very nice detail for a reasonably priced coin of that era

-Scott Safe showed us his 1962 Century 21 Exposition Medal from the Seattle Worlds Fair. There were some interesting angles in the medal, but they fit design elements that medalists often use. He also showed off an Abe Kosoff ANA Convention souvenir medal from New York in 1939, the same year and location as the World's Fair.

-Mike M displayed his 1836 ¼ real from Zacatecas Mexico, also known as a Quartille. It was in nicer condition than usually found and had an unusual design. The Mexican Federal Government allowed states to mint their own copper issues from 1824-1864. The obverse featured a flying Eros, with a Phrygian cap mounted on his arrow, flying over the city

-Herb showed us some POW chits from Fort Robinson, Nebraska and Fort Jackson, South Carolina- both housing German POWs. He showed Polish 5- and 30-Zloty repayment notes; an envelope from a POW camp in Jamaica; and finally complete sets of POW/Civilian camp token money from Onchan (Isle of man), Curragh (Ireland) and Australia.

-Finally, Harold shared a letter in Polish, and the translation, about Anders Army.

The general meeting adjourned at 9:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie Catlett, Secretary PCNS