

SVCC Meeting Minutes of May 24, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM

Gold: \$1,966.13

Silver: \$ 23.20

Club Officers in attendance:

President – Bruce Williams

Vice President – Troy Dinin

Treasurer – Marlain Minardi

Corresponding Secretary, Mike Grieneisen

Recording Secretary, Patrick Carpenter

Assistant Treasurer – Nick Shel

Guests: Four guests attended the meeting. A boy and his mother, Elias and Amy Durham, attended the meeting. The young man is the coin enthusiast. Two other guests attended, Karen Rueland and Richard Christensen.

Attendance – 42 members and four guests.

New Member – One new member joined the club, Marvin Stroud. Welcome to Marvin!

Past Meeting Minutes: Minutes of our last regular club meeting on May 10, 2023, were provided to club members by email several days before the meeting. The reading of the minutes of our last meeting were waived and the minutes were approved.

Report On SVCC Coin Shows – Bob Shanks noted that we now have nine dealers who have paid their fees to attend our September coin show. He is hopeful of another sell out of dealer tables. That show will be on September 29, 30 and October 1.

Newsletter – President Williams mentioned that in the May 9, 2023 edition of the Numismatic News magazine, it is announced that our club's newsletter received special recognition. Clifford Mishler's article in the magazine highlights several noteworthy club newsletters and included a whole paragraph extolling the excellence of our club's newsletter. The announcement commends our January 2023 edition with the portion entitled "This Month in Numismatics" receiving particular praise. A hearty "well done" to our club's Corresponding Secretary, Mike Grieneisen.

Club Member Ill – Dan Thompson is in the hospital. Our club members send their best. A "get well" card was passed around for people to express their wishes to Dan.

Educational Program -

Jeff Shevlin presented information about So-Called Dollars. Jeff is a Life Member of our club and a past president. He also is a former director of the A.N.A. and was an Assistant Chairman and General Chairman of the two A.N.A. coin shows that were held in Sacramento. He is the author of several books about So-Called Dollars (SCD). His latest book is a catalog of all known SCD's associated with major fairs and expositions up to the mid-1960's. Jeff noted that the first SCD that he collected was purchased at a SVCC meeting in the 1980's. Some key points made in Jeff's presentation:

- Many SCDs were designed by US Mint employees such as Charles Barber, George Morgan and Augustus Saint-Gaudens. Some SCDs were produced at the US Mint.
- Most SCD commemorate either a major fair or exposition, or mark some historic event such as the completion of the Erie Canal, the Panama Canal or the opening of the Manila Mint.
- There were a total of 67 fairs and expositions that struck SCDs. Three of these were in San Francisco – the Midwinter Exposition of 1894 (held in Golden Gate Park), the Panama-Pacific Exposition of 1915 (held in the Marina) and the Golden Gate International Exposition of 1939-40 (held on Treasure Island). The California Pacific International Exposition in San Diego in 1935 (held in Balboa Park) was also a great California event.

- These events were very well attended and usually had a major positive impact on the host cities. Over the course of the San Diego Fair the population of the city tripled.
- Old system for numbering SCD is out of date and “broken”. The HK numbering system made no provision for newly discovered coin designs found relating to the various fairs or historic events. Mr. Shelvin, along with his partner, William Hyder, created a new SH numbering system that works much better.
- Some great examples of SCD from fairs were shown, including:
 - 1853 Exhibition of the Industry of All Nations – New York
 - 1893 World’s Columbian Exposition - Chicago
 - 1915 Panama-Pacific Expo – San Francisco
- Previously unknown medal designs from fairs and other historic events are still being found. Not many people have studied the field of SCD. Many SCD are available in fine condition and are quite affordable. Building a collection of a few dozen SCDs can be great fun for a coin collector. Mr. Shelvin’s talk was very well received by the club membership.

Break started at 8:06 p.m. and was over at 8:18 p.m.

Auction started at 8:19 with John Degen commanding the auctioneer’s gavel. There were six donated items and 49 items put by members for sale. The auction ended at 8:58 p.m.

Raffle – This was our second Super Raffle of the year. (The first was at our January 15th induction luncheon.) The raffle’s top prize was an 1883 CC Morgan dollar slabbed and graded MS63. Some other special prizes included a Silver Proof Set, a slabbed ancient Roman coin, and a one-gram gold bar. There were seven prizes in all – one more than our typical prize package. That top prize of the CC Morgan dollar was won by Steve Weaver.

The meeting ended at 9:08.

Respectfully submitted, May 27, 2023
Patrick Carpenter, Recording Secretary SVCC