

SVCC Meeting Minutes of June 12, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 6:59 PM. This meeting convened at our regular meeting spot, Swanston Community Center in Sacramento.

Gold: \$ 2,319.49 Silver: \$ 29.62

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: We were fortunate to have had five guests at our club meeting. Afeef Khawaja, son of Ubaid and younger brother to Ahmed, attended for his second time. Frances Huizar was also with us. We were happy to have three members from the Fairfield Coin Club came to the meeting – club president David Trimmingham, along with Barry Briden and Cathleen Gonzales. Welcome to all!

Attendance – Fifty-two club members, and the five guests listed above attended the meeting, for a total attendance of fifty-seven people.

New Club Members – There are now three new members of the SVCC! Voted in at this meeting are Paul Cummings, Vincent Garramore and Ahmed Khawaja. Welcome to our club.

Past Meeting Minutes - Minutes of our last regular club meeting on May 22, 2024, 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.

Future Expert Panel – For a future club meeting that will include a panel of experts addressing the topic of Odd Denominations of U.S. coins, club members were asked to submit their questions.

Show and Tell

Troy Dinin – Troy often has interesting coins to share and this meeting was no exception. Troy brought in a great collection of one ruble coins from Russia, the land of some of his family's ancestors. The oldest coin in Troy's collection dates from the time of Catherine the Great, well over two centuries ago. The collection includes a ruble from each successive national ruler up through the time of Joseph Stalin.

Marty Hartzell – Marty has been working on a collection of Canadian silver dollars and tonight he shared the most recent dollar coin he has obtained and the elusive one that completed his collection. It is a 1948 Voyager dollar.

Doug Wells – Doug has enjoyed collecting counter stamped coins. Tonight, he shared an 1859 cent and a 1943 dime, each stamped after its minting so as to function in another country as a different denomination.

Rick Yadon – Rick brought in a curious medal, made from either copper or bronze, that is blank on one side and has a replica of the U.S. Trade Dollar on the other. Rick has been unable to find out when it was made, by whom, and for what purpose. Rick hoped that someone in the club knew something more about the history of this mysterious token.

Bob Shanks – Bob brought in both a wonderful coin and some exciting news. The news was that at our next coin show, coming in late September, the top prize in the Great Coin Giveaway will be a \$20 gold piece. We have not had a Double Eagle gold coin in our raffles for many years, if ever. Bob showed off this special coin, a 1914 S Saint-Gaudens that has been graded by PCGS as Mint State 63. Ticket sales for this and other great prizes start at our next club meeting.

Lou Padgug – Lou has been traveling and recently was in Fort Worth, Texas, and visited the Western

Currency Facility of the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing. This is one of two plants that produce our nation's currency. Lou shared a token that he picked up from that tour as well as tokens from other U.S. mints and the B.E.P. facility in our nation's capital. The mint tokens were from Philadelphia, Denver, San Francisco, Carson City, New Orleans and West Point.

Robert Lizarraga – Robert shared two tokens from the early days of California. One was an 1849 “Steamship and Flag” token that had been graded as VG 10. The other was an 1850 token with two dancing bears. Great pieces from the early days of our state.

Ahmed and Ubaid Khawaja – The father of this team showed the club members a 2008 Siler Eagle that was a gift on Ubaid's wedding day. The son shared the first coin that Ahmed ever collected, a colorized Utah state quarter.

Nick Shel – Nick showed us a transitional coin that was intended to be used in Europe to help the original twelve nations make the move from their national currencies to the Euro. These curiosities are known as EQ coins and never were circulated. Nick's coin came from The Netherlands.

Steve Weaver – Steve happened upon some 2024 half dollars while enjoying a bit of gaming in Las Vegas. These Kennedy half dollars were surprising because we don't typically see the new half dollars until much later in the year. Steve was very happy to add these to his half dollar collection.

Rick Astorino – Rick reminded us of one of the great early American coins, the Libertas Americana medal that was designed, in part, by Benjamin Franklin to commemorate the American Revolution. Franklin gave these medals to influential leaders in France to encourage their support of the colonists in that conflict. The design includes a figure (representing France) of an armored Lady Liberty with a shield decorated with three fleurs-de-lis, protecting the infant Hercules (representing the new nation of the United States) against the attack of a lion (representing England). Rick recently got a chance to see one of these great and historical medals at Americana Rare Coin, which later sold for six figures. Rick noted that he can't afford one of the original medals, but that France produced a very nice silver restrike last year and that was the coin he shared. It's a beauty and much more affordable.

Tim Treichelt – Tim is yet another traveler bringing home an interesting coin. This one was from Cologne, Germany. Tim's coin has an image of the beautiful cathedral in Cologne and of the largest bell in that church's bell tower. The bell is officially called Petersglocke, but commonly called Dicker Pitter (i.e. “Fat Peter”). This bell weighs in at over 26 tons and had a diameter of over ten and a half feet. It is the second largest freely swinging ringable bell in the world. Tim noted that he climbed the bell tower and heard it ring up close – it was LOUD.

Patrick Carpenter – Patrick shared the smallest denomination British coin – a quarter farthing. This tiny copper coin was used in the colony of Ceylon and is about two-thirds the size of our dime. Being valued at just one-sixteenth of a penny, it would take an astonishing 3,840 of these little coins to make up just one British pound. The tiny coin has the “young head” portrait of Queen Victoria and dates from 1853.

Our club president expressed his thanks for everyone who shared a bit of their coin collections and then, after a random drawing, awarded a 1958 Franklin half dollar to Patrick Carpenter.

Break – Started at 7:48 and concluded at 8:05 p.m.

A special treat enjoyed by many club members during the break was three fruit desserts made by our club president's wife. They were yummy. Many thanks to Mrs. Williams. Steve Weaver was so moved by the generosity and great work of the baker of these goodies that he donated \$20 to help restock the Williams' flour and sugar stocks. Thanks, Steve!

Auction – The club auction commenced at 8:07 p.m. with John Degen doing a fabulous job of wielding the gavel as our auctioneer. There were nine donations auctioned off followed by seventy-five lots of members' items offered for bidding and purchase. The auction ended at 9:04 p.m. Many thanks to John Degen and all those who help to keep the auction running smoothly including Troy Dinin, Nick Shell, Marlain Minardi, Patrick Carpenter, Tim Treichelt, Bob Shanks, Christine Spring and Marty Hartzell.

Raffle – It was a Super Raffle with some extra nice coins in the group of prizes. The top prize in the raffle, a \$2.50 1914 Quarter Eagle gold coin in AU53 condition was won by Marty Scott. Congratulations to Marty. (Many recall that Marty also took home the top prize from our most recent Grand Coin Giveaway, that being a \$10 gold piece. Marty is doing something right!)

Next Meeting – Our next club meeting will be in two weeks, June 26. The meeting will include an educational presentation by Rich Kelly and Nancy Oliver entitled “Tunneling to Treasure.” We’ll all have to attend to find out just what fascinating numismatic tale Nancy and Rich have in store for us. Of course, we will also enjoy an auction, our raffle, and other coin collecting fun.

The meeting concluded at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, June 14, 2024
Patrick Carpenter, Recording Secretary SVCC