

SVCC Meeting Minutes of July 10, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM. This meeting convened at our regular meeting spot, Swanston Community Center in Sacramento. It was a very warm evening outside, and so it was a good time to be inside enjoying our hobby.

Gold: \$ 2,371.77 Silver: \$ 30.82

Club Officers in attendance:

President – Bruce Williams

Vice President – Troy Dinin

Treasurer – Marlain Minardi

Assistant Treasurer – Nick Shel

Corresponding Secretary – Mike Grieneisen

Recording Secretary – Patrick Carpenter

Guests: We had six guests at the meeting. A young numismatist, Colin Schulte, and his mother Jenny Collins joined us for their first time. Other guests who did not introduce themselves to the membership include Alyssa Gonzalez, Kayla Gonzalez and Annur Malik. Keitha Hunter, wife and temporary chauffeur for our recording secretary, joined us for the fourth time this year.

Attendance – Forty-nine club members plus six guests were in attendance, so the total number of folks that were at the meeting is fifty-five.

New Club Members – No new members joined the club at this meeting.

Past Meeting Minutes - Minutes of our last regular club meeting on June 26, 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.

Financial Report – Our faithful treasurer, Marlain Minardi, reported that our current bank account balance is \$21,570.05 and our savings account balance is \$6,001.73.

Upcoming Coin Show News – Bob Shanks reported that nine coin dealers have now paid for their tables for the September coin show. As the deadline for our past dealers to pay so as to secure their past table locations is August 1, we should see a considerable increase in this number by our first meeting in August. One coin dealer who has not been at our show before also has sent in a check. He is first on the waiting list in case one of our past dealers has not paid by the August 1 deadline.

Our treasurer, Marlain Minardi, announced that we have already sold about forty books of tickets for the Great Coin Giveaway that will happen at the conclusion of the September coin show. Bruce Williams reminded the members that the grand prize this time is a lovely \$20 gold piece.

Patrick Carpenter reported that there now is one open volunteer spot to assist with the coin show. Patrick also advised that six members have volunteered to do a coin exhibit and that there are two spots left for anyone who would like to show off a bit of their collection. The deadline to sign up to do an exhibit is at our next club meeting.

Show & Tell – Tonight's theme is "Freedom"

Prior to the start of members showing their coins, President Bruce Williams reflected on the theme of Freedom. He noted that in his travels he has been in many places where people envy the freedoms we enjoy in our nation. Bruce continued to observe our nation's history in having to go to war to maintain our way of life. Bruce was named after a soldier who was a dear friend of Bruce's father. That friend was killed in action fighting for our nation's freedoms in World War II. Bruce asked all club members who have served in our nation's military to rise and be recognized. At least a dozen club members rose and the membership applauded them all, thanking them for their service.

Rick Astorino shared a “Baby Ruth Dollar” from 1892. The design includes President Grover Cleveland, his young wife, Frances, and their daughter, Ruth. She is the namesake of the Baby Ruth candy bar.

Patrick Carpenter shared two coins from Liberia. One was a 1961 5-cent piece that has a scene of a ship arriving to a new land with a palm tree and the quotation “The Love of Liberty Brought Us Here.” The other was a 2-cent piece from 1862 that included a profile of Lady Liberty in a freedom cap with a single star. Patrick noted that the nation of Liberia was started in the first half of the nineteenth century by black people immigrating from the United States searching for freedom and prosperity.

Mike Grieneisen introduced the club members to a Zambian bank note with a design of a statue representing Freedom that is located in the nation’s capital of Lusaka. The statue is of a man breaking heavy chains that represents the independence of the country. Mike added a bit of trivia that that our country was the first British colony to become independent and the second, in 1919, was Afghanistan. Mike also shared several coins celebrating NATO, one from Bulgaria in 1997, another from Poland in 1999, and one from Portugal in 1989.

Tim Treichelt shared some history of the Liberty Bell and a 1960 proof Franklin half-dollar that includes the bell in the design of the coin’s reverse. Tim also shared two U.S. \$100 gold coins, both minted at West Point, from the mint’s series on American Liberty. One is from 2021 with a design of a bucking bronco and the other is from 2023 with a design of a bristlecone pine tree.

Robert Lizarraga showed off two medals, both with a modernized version of Lady Liberty, designed by Bernard von NotHaus.

Bruce Williams shared a photo of a bald eagle, a national symbol of the United States of America. He also showed two “so-called dollars”. One was from the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, where Lady Liberty looks up towards the sun. The other was from 1926 Sesquicentennial Exposition, also in Philadelphia.

Madaline Machado noted that in her travels she has observed that the people of Portugal also celebrate their freedom. First from a monarchy in 1910 and then from a dictator in 1974. Madaline shared a complete U.S. type set coin album. Her set of coins, of every major type produced by our nation’s mint, was very impressive.

2\$Bill Walden came to the meeting festively clad in the stars and stripes. He shared a two-dollar bill from 1976 that includes an engraving of John Trumbull’s monumental painting, “Declaration of Independence.” The original has hung in the United States Capitol rotunda since 1826. Trumbull’s masterpiece shows the drafting of the document in Philadelphia’s Independence Hall, and includes the likenesses of many of the men who signed it.

Rick Yadon shared a 25 Kroner coin from Norway, dated 1970. This coin celebrates the 25th anniversary of Norway’s Liberation at the end of World War II. The obverse is of the two Kings of Norway who reigned in 1945 and in 1970. The reverse includes a large “V” for victory and the capitalized word FRIGJØRINGEN, which translates to “Liberation.”

Paul Cummings, one of our newest club members, shared a 2024 U.S. silver dollar celebrating “The Greatest Generation.” Paul noted that the coin reminds him of his father’s service in World War II and his excellent parenting. Paul noted that after the challenges of his military service Paul’s father only required the simple things in life – a roof that doesn’t leak, a warm house, and hot running water.

President Bruce Williams picked a random ticket from among those given to the presenters and was happy to award a 1961 Franklin half-dollar to 2\$Bill Walden.

Break time started at 7:56 p.m. and ended at 8:10 p.m. During the break, and for some folks well before the break, club members enjoyed baked goodies prepared by Bruce's wife. I'm told that the cobblers were delicious.

Announcement - With the members reassembled for the second half of the meeting, our club president reminded folks that they should not drop off their auction items on the vice-president's table until the vice-president arrives and is ready to accept new auction submittals. Leaving prospective auction items unattended is a poor choice and the accumulation of auction items can sometimes overwhelm the ability of the vice-president to process the materials in an orderly fashion.

Auction - The auction began at 8:13 p.m. with John Degan presiding as auctioneer. Assisting as runners for auction items was Tim Treichelt, Christine Spring, John Bither and Steve Weaver. There were five donated items followed by sixty-five lots of numismatic items that club members submitted for bidding and purchase. The auction was done at 9:08 p.m.

Raffle – The top prize, a U.S. 1/10th-ounce gold bullion coin, was won by 2\$Bill Walden. Congratulations to \$2Bill – a lucky fellow winning both the Show & Tell prize and the top raffle prize. Perhaps at our next meeting half the members will show up wearing stars and stripes clothing in hopes of getting a bit of that same luck.

Next Meeting – Rick announced that our next club meeting will be in two weeks, July 24th. The meeting will include an educational presentation by John Bither. Of course, we will also enjoy an auction, our raffle, and other coin collecting fun.

The meeting concluded at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, July 11, 2024

Patrick Carpenter, Recording Secretary SVCC