

New Member

Please welcome to the Society *Richard Shrieve* of San Francisco.

CSNA Northern California educational symposium

Please register now for the educational symposium. An exciting set of experts have agreed to speak. They are:

Joseph Lang "Chinese Cash,"

Charles Fracchia "Early California Banking,"

Hal Dunn "Carson City Mint"

Don Allen "Past, Present, Future: A Canadian Perspective on the Evolving Monetary Scene."

The event will be in Room 370 at Fort Mason in San Francisco from 10AM to 3PM on Saturday, October 2, 2004. As in past years, a box lunch is available for \$10, payable in advance only. You can help the Society make this event a success by spreading the word to other Northern California numismatists.

Available from the PCNS

PCNS 1000th meeting medals. The set includes both a proof silver and an antiqued bronze specimen and is only \$30 plus postage and insurance. A reminder of the Society's long history.

The Old Streets of San Francisco, Early Street Names on Some Brass Tokens by *Jerry F. Schimmel*. Published by the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society in 1993. 41 pages including many pictures. A must have reference for those interested in western trade tokens or San Francisco history. \$10 plus postage

San Francisco Coin Club Medal

The San Francisco Coin Club is resuming their medal program after a ten year hiatus. This year's theme is the 150th anniversary of the first San Francisco Mint on Commercial Street. A silver and bronze medal set is being offered by subscription only for \$25 (plus \$3 postage if required). Orders or requests for more information may be directed to: SFCC Box 880994, San Francisco, CA 94188-0994 . Help support the other City coin club!



1061st meeting of the
Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
8:00PM Wednesday September 22, 2004



Federico Castillo
Costa Rican coinage:
Coin Types 1825-present

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
Box 475656 San Francisco, CA 94147-5656
Bulletin Editor: Michael Wehner

Please join us Wednesday, September 22 to hear *Federico Castillo* speak about Costa Rican coin types and design. The gold coin pictured on the cover is the first coin minted in Costa Rica. Please note the date.

1060th Meeting August 25, 2004. Octagonal Gold Slug Facsimiles *Michael Wehner* (reviewed by *Herb Miles*)

Michael Wehner, on very short notice, put together a program on Facsimile Slugs, i.e., replica \$50 gold pieces of the United States Assay Office in gold rush San Francisco. He noted that former member and numismatic researcher, the late Bill Weber, had assembled a huge collection of these facsimiles and had been preparing an article on these interesting pieces before he passed away. A majority of the replicas resemble the Augustus Humbert \$50 gold piece with an eagle motif on one face with the other face featuring a commemoration of some sort.

The earliest issues appear to be around the turn of the previous century as Michael exhibited one that was minted in 1906 commemorating Thompson's Restaurant. Some have been gilt, but most are brass or bronze. A number of the gilt pieces were possibly used to deceive the gullible, but it seems unlikely that anyone was fooled for long.

Two pieces were modified for such purpose. One had the "Imitation" wording carefully filed off, the other had clearly been turned in a lathe to make it round. A shady numismatist and a tool can be a dangerous combination!



Exhibits

Michael Wehner brought his extensive collection of octagonal medals, including a gold PCNS medal.

Cal Rogers exhibited a chopmarked Mexican dollar that had been hollowed out with a lead plug insert. A dealer had called it an opium dollar. The plug was attached to the inside of one half allowing for nothing to be inserted, opium or otherwise. There was considerable discussion as to whether it was intended to be a counterfeit or was a magician's piece. A mystery for sure!

Rick Webster showed some nice Portola Festival pieces; a nice ribbon, a rare bear spinner and heart-shaped locket.

Mark Wm. Clark brought a boatload of ANA goodies from the recent convention; a Pennsylvania 25 cent piece silver medal and a number of other banquet favors. He also showed a 1920s broadsheet from the San Francisco Post Office noting a robbery and listing the serial numbers of all the stolen currency. This was all done before the age of computers when list such as this were a significant task to create.

Raffle

Jerry Schimmel won a cancelled Wells Fargo receipt date December 7, 1905 for a Patrick Walsh, born in Kelkenny County, Ireland noting that his father's name as William Walsh, mother's maiden name of Johanna Murphy and Patrick's address as 524 Howard Street, San Francisco.

Michael Wehner took home an 1875 payment receipt form "Cohoes Straw Board Company" for a wagonload of goods, stamped on the reverse "Smith's Station—Wells Fargo".

Elliot Wehner won an unissued \$100 share from the Central National Bank, District of Columbia, probably from the early 1900s.

Federico Castillo won a book entitled "Coins of England and the United Kingdom", Seaby 1992.