

### **Future presentations:**

Summertime 2007: Elliot Wehner: Charles I coinage

October 207: Steve Huston: TBA

Please contact Michael Wehner at mf\_wehner@yahoo.com or at 415 928 4469 if you would like to make a presentation

### **Important announcement!**

The new starting time for the regular portion of the meeting will be 7:30PM. This is thirty minutes earlier than we have had in the past. Under the new procedures, the board meeting will end at precisely 7:30 and the regular meeting will begin. The intent of this change is to let members, especially those with long drives, get home a bit earlier.

Also, be sure to check the board on the ground floor near the elevator in Building C. The announced room is subject to change by Fort Mason management.



**1093<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the  
Pacific Coast Numismatic Society  
7:30PM Wednesday May 23, 2007  
Room 370, Building C, Fort Mason  
San Francisco, California**



**Collecting Conder Tokens.**  
*Michael Wehner*

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

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Please join us Wednesday May 23, 2007 to hear Michael Wehner discuss collecting 18<sup>th</sup> century British tokens.

### **June Banquet**

The annual banquet will be at the Golden Mirror Restaurant in San Francisco on June 23. No host bar at 6, dinner at 7. Please return the enclosed order form as soon as possible if you wish to attend.

### **1092<sup>nd</sup> meeting. April 25, 2007** *August Saint-Gaudens Whalen* (reviewed by *Herb Miles*)

Whalen gave the Society a very graceful presentation on Augustus St Gaudens, whose name may actually be Augustus Saint-Gaudens, that is, a hyphenated last name contrary to all I have ever seen!

As an adjunct to his slides, Whalen exhibited two gold sets, one of coins designed by St-Gaudens and the other of coins designed by Bela Lyon Pratt. St Gaudens, though born in Ireland around 1848, was not of Irish extraction, but probably of French descent, though his parents had emigrated to Ireland for reasons unknown to us.

He exhibited an artistic talent at an early age and studied in France under Rodin, among others. Coming to the United States, he established studios in New York and New Hampshire.

Some of his well known sculptures are the Sherman Monument honoring Civil War General William Tecumseh Sherman, the Shaw Memorial featuring the Massachusetts 54<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Black soldiers commanded by Bostonian Shaw, and the Adams Memorial honoring the grandson of John Quincy Adams

These grand scale and superbly lifelike sculptures capture St. Gaudens' ability to portray strength, grief, honor, and victory. Victory personified leads General Sherman and apparently was used as the figure on the \$20 gold piece designed at the insistence of President Theodore Roosevelt. An interesting sidebar to the model for Victory is that it probably was a black woman who posed and is therefore

portrayed prominently on the Sherman Monument and on the \$20 gold piece, Hetty Anderson of South Carolina!

### **SHOW & TELL**

Federico brought a fake, dubious, spurious, and not altogether real 1917 50 Centimos from Costa Rica, a coin of which there are only 10 known real examples. Federico explained his eBay purchase and how he acquired the piece from a seller who was appalled that the coin was fake and offered it to him for whatever he would pay! 50 Centimos as payment sounds about right to me.

Whalen, the Speaker for the night, exhibited his St. Gaudens' \$20 gold piece and several other gold pieces he brought to share.

Michael Wehner brought his own St. Gaudens \$20 gold piece to share, a 1924 D in Mint State 64!

Gordon Donnell brought some medals to share with the membership; two Cable Car pieces featuring "I left my heart in San Francisco," a song made famous by Tony Bennett, and 2 Vallejo Numismatic Society medals with the old Carquinez Bridge portrayed.

Mark Wm. Clark, just back from surgery on a foot, exhibited the first coin issued by modern day Israel, a 1948 aluminum 25 Prutot which was actually made out of scrap metal in a machine shop instead of a mint, a 2 reales Central American counterfeit or altered coin, and an 1847 slave sale document from Havana, Cuba.

Herb Miles exhibited some insurance packaging from the Prudential Insurance Company that contained a new Washington dollar coin as part of the advertising campaign.

### **RAFFLE**

Our Raffle raised \$45.00 and featured the following items.

- 1) A 1978 S Proof Set to Federico Castillo
- 2) A grouping of British Military Payment Certificates went to Gordon Donnell
- 3) An 1892 Indian Head Cent was won by Sandra Whalen
- 4) A Silver Medal of Pope John Paul II went to unlucky Gordon Donnell