



Bulletin of the
PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
SEPTEMBER, 2024

1301st Monthly Meeting
Native American Cultural Influence on
English Radicals Thomas Spence and Thomas Paine

John Duff

Wednesday, September 25, 2024, 7:30 PM PDT
Online

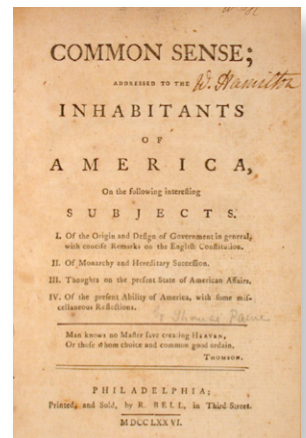
Those of us who were raised in the U.S. public school system probably never gave a second thought to how Native American society might have influenced the philosophy of European settlers. Interestingly, some of the features of indigenous society are quite similar to the treatises of Thomas Paine (*The Rights of Man*, 1792) and Thomas Spence (*The Rights of Infants*, 1797).



Conder Token
Attributed to Thomas Spence

Join us online on **Wednesday, 25** when **John Duff** will discuss common influences of Native American culture on each of the two English Thomases: Spence and Paine (*not* English Muffins!).

Plan to exhibit your Conder tokens, your Native American cultural artifacts; but most importantly, please exhibit your Common Sense. So that everyone may participate, please take pictures of your exhibits to facilitate viewing on Zoom.



Thomas Paine's Most
Famous Pamphlet

AUGUST MEETING RECAP

Since at least the creation of the flag for the 1846 Bear Flag Republic, the grizzly bear has been used to represent California. Bill shared images and the history of his delightful collection of badges, so-called-dollars, coins, and other exnummia that employ the grizzly bear as a device to represent the Golden State.

Bill pointed out two features of grizzly bears, long claws and a distinctive hump on their backs, which differentiate them from other types of bears.

Bill showed examples of his collection that spanned the time from the 1846 Bear Flag, used in the short-lived rebellion against Mexico by Fremont and other US citizens, to the 1948 Centennial of Sutter's discovery of gold. It was a broad range of material.

Bill's talk also covered the life and death of an actual grizzly bear that was captured near Ventura in 1889. He was given the name "Monarch" and exploited by the SF Examiner newspaper and then housed in various SF Bay area zoos, exhibitions, and eventually museums. His image was used for several purposes that Bill delineated. One purpose was to represent the undaunted spirit of San Francisco after the great 1906 earthquake.

You can view Bill's presentation on the [PCNS YouTube channel](#).

PCNS MEETINGS

PCNS meetings take place at 7:30 pm on the fourth Wednesday of most months. Currently, meetings are held online using the Zoom platform, thereby allowing members, presenters, and guests to attend no matter where they are located. Everyone with an interest in numismatics is welcome to attend. A meeting code/invitation link will be emailed to all members separately the day before the meeting; non-members can request a link by emailing webmaster@pcns.org.

Special occasions, such as the annual BBQ, will continue to occur in person.

PCNS CALENDAR FOR 2024

September 25, 2024 **John Duff**, *Native American Cultural Influence on English Radicals*
Thomas Spence and Thomas Paine

October 23, 2024 *Speaker and Topic TBA**

November 27, 2024 *Speaker and Topic TBA**

December 18, 2024 **Annual Meeting and Election of Officers** for 2025, *Speaker and Topic TBA**

SPEAK UP!

There are always opportunities for **you** to make a presentation. Thanks to Zoom, you don't even need to be in San Francisco. Your topic can even be something about which you have submitted or plan to submit a *Paper*. Please email webmaster@pcns.org to sign up. **Don't delay! We need you!**

AUGUST MEMBER EXHIBITS

Michael W shared items from the 1894 Midwinter Fair, 1904 Knights Templar (Santa Barbara), and the 1915 PPIE

John Duff shared a Conder token from Goodmans-Fields Brew House

Stephen H shared Canadian bullion and coins, a whimsical Pear State Flag, and a collection of small ursine-related pieces

Henry Goodman shared a 34mm 1914 German medal that commemorated the capture of 80,000 Russian soldiers on one side and Field Marshal Hindenburg on the other

Jason M showed examples of both the 1925 California Diamond Jubilee and the 1936 Bay Bridge commemorative US 50 cent pieces, each of which featured bears on the reverses (illustrated to the right).

Ed T showed three very interesting 80mm Portuguese medals with lighthouses.



*Grizzly on the 1925 California
Diamond Jubilee
Commemorative*



*Bear on 1936 Bay Bridge
Commemorative*

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Meetings of the Board of Governors normally take place 15 minutes before the membership meeting.

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