

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
August 24, 2011

Board Meeting:

Whalen called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Board members present included: Whalen, Stephen Huston, Dan Hipple, and Bill Hyder. Other members present included Herb Miles and Michael Wehner.

The treasurer's report included income from July 27 through August 24 of \$85.00 and expenses of \$825 for rent at Fort Mason. Checking account balance is \$780.34 and savings is \$11,206.63. The board approved payments for mailing envelopes and raffle prizes.

There was a discussion of 25-year members. The secretary checked membership records and Rick Webster joined in 1983 (28 year member) and Herb Miles joined in 1986 making him a 25-year member. Dean Neald, Calvin Rogers and Kerry Wetterstrom joined in 1987.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

General Meeting:

Whalen called the meeting to order at 7:30.

Members present included: Whalen, Stephen Huston, Ed Treuting, Bill Hyder, Herb Miles, Michael Wehner, Dan Hipple, and Ken Takahashi.

Bill Hyder presented a talk prepared by himself and Jeff Shevlin entitled, Were Charbneau So-Called Dollars the Last of the Coins of the Golden West. Hyder related a brief biography of Jules Charbneau and noted that he designed the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition souvenir three piece Alaska gold set before designing the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition souvenir gold dollar-sized medal. The AYPE gold pieces are best known for their inclusion in a 1915 set of gold tokens known as the Coins of the Golden West. The set is typically attributed to ME Hart Co. of San Francisco.

Who was ME Hart and why are the AYPE pieces attributed to Hart instead of Charbneau? Hyder and Shevlin presented their evidence that Charbneau in fact designed the gold pieces and even ran an ad as the manufacturer and wholesale agent for the gold sets. The identity of ME Hart is more problematic, but they presented their theory that ME Hart is actually Mrs. Mary E. Hart, a California journalist and Alaska gold miner. They reviewed their evidence for the places and events where Jules Charbneau, Mrs. Mary E. Hart, and Farran Zerbe likely interacted

and had opportunities to partner or influence one another. Although they cannot prove that Mrs. Mary E. Hart owned ME Hart Co., they presented numerous threads of evidence that point to her owning the company and consolidating set of gold tokens for sale as opposed to manufacturing them herself. In the process, they built the case that the Charbneau dollar was the last in a tradition of small gold medals struck for US expositions between 1900 and 1940.

Member exhibits:

Herb shared GGIE bracelets and a ladies compact with designs that also appeared on souvenir medals and tokens.

Michael displayed a Midwinter International Exposition award medal acquired from the Jerry Schimmel collection.

Whalen brought SS Central America relics including an 1855S and an 1857S Twenty Dollar gold pieces.

Bill shared a boxed silver Charbneau so-called dollar and a boxed set of AYPE gold pieces.

Steven shared a Canadian "Red Poppy" dollar.

Dan brought an 1876 "Nevada Dollar" from the US Centennial exposition and two 1936 commemorative Philippines pesos with Roosevelt and Quezon and Murphy and Quezon.

Raffle:

Ed won a French jeton.

Whalen a selection of postcards and a Yosemite medal.

Dan a 1990 uncirculated set.

Whalen adjourned the meeting at 9:00