

**Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
August 2019 Minutes**

The board meeting for August 28, 2019 was called to order at 6:50pm at the Ortega branch of the San Francisco Public Library by President Dan Hipple. Vice President Jason Macario, Treasurer Stephen Huston and Secretary Bob Somers were in attendance. Governor Ed Treuting sent his regrets.

The minutes from the July meeting were approved.

The Treasurer's Report for July 1 through August 27 was approved.

2019 papers contest results were published in the August bulletin.

There was no update on Jerry's monograph.

The CD discussed at the last meeting will not be purchased at this time.

The Board approved the funds to continue the PCNS domain name for four years.

Michael Wehner will be the speaker for the September meeting at Fort Mason.

The board meeting adjourned at 7:04pm.

The general meeting was called to order at 7:15pm. In attendance were Charlie Catlett, Federico Castillo, Jerry Schimmel, Ken Takahashi, Mark Wm. Clark, Jeff Fung, Chris Donaldson and Paul Turner.

PCNS welcomed new member Paul Turner.

Medals were presented for the 2019 papers contest to:

1st place: Stephen Huston - COIN AGES

2nd place: Jerry Schimmel - Frisco's Old East Street: Sailor Saloons and Little Brass Checks with Side Trips to Jackson Street, The Cliff House

The 3rd place medal will be mailed to William Hyder for San Francisco Remembers the Franco-Prussian War

There was no update on the movement of the PCNS Library from the Sutro location. Federico will speak to Michael and report back.

Dan reviewed the current financials and announced upcoming coin shows.

Federico Castillo presented on Clodomiro Picado Twilight: A Tale of Penicillin and Snake Venom.

Federico shared his research on the Picado medal which he shared at the May meeting. The medal celebrated the famous Costa Rican's work with anti-venom and depicts him milking a snake for venom. Born in Nicaragua, Clodomiro Picado Twilight showed an early aptitude for science and received a scholarship to study in France. He received his undergraduate degree

from the Sorbonne in 1912 and returned to Costa Rico to repay the sponsorship of his scholarship with service to his country. While working in a Hospital, he witnessed the slow painful effects of snake bites which influenced his work on anti-venom. His discovery that anti-venom was site specific contributed to many snake anti-venoms across the Americas. There are also claims that he was not properly credited for his work - which may have contributed to the discovery of penicillin. While a botanist by trade he was a member of several scientific societies in the Americas and published many articles including how fungi juice impacted plants. Picado's notes in 1923 demonstrate that he understood that bacteria could be destroyed by fungi although he never published on that specific topic. Alexander Fleming is credited for the discovery of penicillin in 1928. Fleming does not cite Picado's work but there remains a possibility that Fleming was aware of Picado's work on fungi. Even without the attribution, Picado work is now considered a precursor to modern antibiotics.

Member exhibits included:

Stephen – A veterinary medicine medal and his latest purchase and reattribution, a Phoenician ancient

Jeff – three Dan Carr medals

Paul – 1860 cent with DW Tisdell counterstamp, 1867 three cent piece, 1847 cent and 1811 half dollar

Jerry – Snake venom pictures

Bob – Set of four Washington Masonic National Memorial Commemorative Monument medals

Dan – 1804 English 5 schillings made from Spanish reales and Japanese trade dollars

Charlie – Venice merchant token and two credit tags from Gimbel's and Kaufmann's

Chris – 60th anniversary medal of Queen Victoria's reign and horse brass

Mark – Chinese "ghost" money of Kwangtung

There was no drawing held.

The general meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.