



THE FRESNO NUMISMATIST

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE FRESNO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

James Obler, Editor – (559) 696-3012

Mailing Address: FNS, P.O. BOX 1493, CLOVIS, CA, 93613

Website: www.fresnocoinclub.com Email: fresnoclub@gmail.com

MEETS SECOND TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 7:00 PM

MEETING LOCATION: Trinity Lutheran Church, 3973 N. Cedar Ave., Fresno CA 93726

Steve Mendyk- President
Carolyn Vance- Treasurer
Sandra Arie- Auction Coordinator

James Obler- Vice President/Editor
Sandra Arie- Secretary
Richard Hunter- Coin Show Chairman

Volume 63

November 2024

Number 11

November, 2024 Meeting:

*Trinity Lutheran Church
3973 N. Cedar Ave.,
Fresno, CA 93726*

Happy November, FNS! As usual, our November newsletter will review our recent Coin Show which we conducted on 10/25 & 10/26/2024. We want to celebrate our successes and also consider what we can do to continuously improve the show. For a coin club to thrive we need to regularly put on a show and that show has to satisfy both the dealers and the attending public. Fortunately for 2024 I think we managed to do both.

The regular FNS meeting on 11/12 will of course feature discussion of the October show. We should have a lively Show & Tell segment where members share their show purchases; I know I bought some good stuff! We should have a live auction conducted by David Josephine,

plus the usual raffle and membership drawing and refreshments hosted by Carolyn Vance. If time permits, perhaps we can have an educational program as well. We will have to make that call at the meeting. Please come on down to Trinity Lutheran and enjoy the evening.

I believe our October show was a good one. We signed up four new members (hopefully they will come to the November meeting). Carolyn V. and Dave C. ran 42 Young Numismatists through our Coin Safari. We will need to stock up on proof and mint sets for next year! We sold 1,018 raffle tickets which is a 20% increase over 2023. Total attendance for the two days was 503 which is very good for us. The floor was very busy most of the time and I heard positive feedback from almost all of our dealers.

We did have one new dealer who signed up for the Saturday show only. He packed up and left after just 2 hours, apparently because he wasn't

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making any sales. His inventory seemed to consist mostly of elaborate and artistic silver rounds which I thought were interesting and attractive. I can only speculate that either his prices were too high or else our attendees just didn't like the products.

Our FNS table was well-attended, with many guests stopping by to pick up some literature and learn a little about our club. We also sold a few FNS medals from our back inventory. We offered soda and water for \$1 and sold some, but not a lot. Maybe we won't bother with drinks next time. There was however a lot of interest in our free Halloween candy!

We had solid participation by club members to manage the show operations. Front desk duties were performed efficiently, with great ticket sales. We also obtained good information about how attendees heard about our show. This data should help us decide which of our advertising efforts are most effective. A special shout-out to FNS members John Gravano and Lauren Dawson who really did a great job.

We provided dealer lunches on Friday (very much appreciated) and Post 509 offered hot dog lunches for sale on Saturday. We conducted our big raffle on Saturday around 4:30PM, awarding a total of 13 silver and gold prizes. Show tear-down perhaps could have been more efficient but we did get everything done without any problems. Bourse Chairman Richard Hunter, President Mendyk, and Your Editor met up at our storage locker on Sunday 10/27 to return our show equipment. Our cheapo PA system broke down at the show and we need to replace it with something better. When you are trying to announce prize winners during the show you need some amplification; shouting just doesn't do the job.

We have a significant problem for 2025. The Long Beach Coin Expo has rescheduled their autumn show to October 23-25 next year. This directly conflicts with our normal FNS show dates and many of our regular dealers will be going to Long Beach. We can't afford to lose these dealers so we are basically being forced to change our show dates. The FNS Board will be meeting to determine the new dates. It is vital that we make the decision quickly so we can

reserve the Post 509 facility. We will keep the membership posted.

I met two new dealers at the show whom I will mention specifically. Rob Martin came down from Sacramento and brought a nice selection of certified coins. He offered an attractive price for a PCGS MS-64 Liberty gold coin which I couldn't resist. Oddly, he had another example of the same date, in NGC-63 with CAC sticker. That coin was priced significantly higher than the PCGS MS-64 coin.

The other dealer was David Showers from Davis, CA. David had a great selection of ancient coins and really seemed to know his stuff. I had been looking for a Roman denarius depicting the Emperor Hadrian. He didn't have one but instead showed me a provincial Roman tetradrachm struck in Alexandria, Egypt. I wasn't really aware that provincial Roman coins exist in great variety, including coins struck during the reign of Hadrian. This particular coin dates from 136-137 AD and is struck in a debased silver alloy called billon which only contains about 15% silver. It features a very nice Hadrian portrait plus an image of the goddess Demeter on the reverse. Forget the denarius, I'll settle for this little beauty.



It just goes to show how much knowledge can be gained from attending a coin show. Every coin has a story, our dealers know those stories, and they are happy to share. Hopefully everyone who attended our FNS event came away with useful information, some excellent purchases, and a determination to come to the next FNS show. It will be hard to beat the success of our 2024 show, but I expect our dedicated members are willing to work on it.

Please come down to our November meeting on 11/12 and share your impressions of the October show. We hope to see you there!

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Last Month's Meeting

Our October 8, 2024 meeting was called to order at 7:02PM by President Mendyk, who welcomed the 33 attendees. These included guest Bob Holston, an experienced collector, dealer, and current Visalia Coin Club treasurer. Bob signed up with FNS at the meeting! He has PCGS and CAC submission privileges which could be very helpful for our members. Welcome aboard Bob!

We heard the Secretary and Treasurer reports and then moved right into some brief member reports. Herman C. put up a poster advertising our Coin Show at a busy intersection. Scott Eddy will have Fresno Water Tower and Monday Night Football-themed elongated cents at the show. Scott suggests all members should drop of show flyers wherever they go. Mel Kevorkian says ABC30 did a report about our show on TV. Steve M. had a card for house-bound FNS member Dennis Olswang and circulated it for signatures.

We confirmed with David Neidlinger at Post 509 that we can come on Thursday 11/24 from 5PM – 8PM to set up for the show. Your Editor and John Gravano will hang show banners on the Post 509 fence on Sunday 11/20. We need to collect more small prizes for the hourly drawing at the show. We already have enough proof and mint sets for the Coin Safari and will have Safari forms printed. Your Editor has interviews about the show lined up with ABC30 TV and with Central Valley Talk. Bourse Chairman Richard H. needs more people to sign up for show duty, including volunteers to wear yellow Security vests. We are still working on the FNS website update. Richard offered a Thank You to all our September White Elephant participants, and to Bob Vaughan who donated some very nice auction lots.

In Show & Tell Your Editor shared a 1797 10x6 Stars silver dollar in PCGS VF-35. This coin was purchased in a Heritage auction back in 2002. Dennis Soliday had souvenir bronze proof medals from the Alaska Mint featuring eagle and moose designs. Herman Castaneda had 2024 proof Morgan and Peace silver dollars, fresh from the mint. Patrick Hemphill shared his 1965 Swiss ½-Franc silver coin, graded NGC MS-67. Dennis Soliday won the S&T silver quarter prize.

We took a refreshment break from 8:05 – 8:30. Some members posed to have their picture taken with our new 5' X 10' coin show banner.

After the break we conducted our raffle prize drawing and membership drawing. Participants in the silent auction settled up their accounts. After a final appeal for everyone to come out to the show on 10/25 & 10/26, President Mendyk adjourned the meeting at 8:52 PM.

October Prize Winners:

1st Draw: 1864 \$50 Confederate note, heavily worn.
Winner- David Josephine.

2nd Draw: 1917-S Buffalo Nickel in VF+.
Winner- Bob Vaughn.

3rd Draw: 1899-O Barber Dime in XF.
Winner- Mel Kevorkian.

Membership Prize: 2011 Silver Eagle.
Winner: John Magnotti.

Coin Show Schedule

Central Valley Coin & Collectibles Show

DATE- November 15-16, 2024.

LOCATION- Doubletree Hotel 1150 9th St.
Modesto, CA 95354

Marin Coin & Collectibles Show

DATE- November 24, 2024.

LOCATION- Best Western Novato Oaks, 215 Alameda del Prado
Novato, CA 94949

North County Monthly Coin Show

DATE- December 1, 2024.

LOCATION- Embassy Suites Anaheim Hills
3100 East Frontera, Anaheim, CA 92806

San Francisco International Numismatic Bourse

DATE: December 7, 2024

LOCATION: DoubleTree Hotel SSF, 275 S. Airport Blvd.
S. San Francisco, CA 94080

Visalia Coin Show by John Ward

DATE- December 13-14, 2024.

LOCATION- Veterans Memorial Hall, 609 W Center Ave
Visalia, CA 93291


Sacramento Coin Show

DATE- December 15, 2024.

LOCATION- Lions Gate Hotel, 3410 Westover Street
McClellan / Sacramento, CA 95652


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JOHN MAGNOTTI

mn_johnm@yahoo.com
mn_johnm on ebay
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