

# THE FRESNO NUMISMATIST

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THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE FRESNO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

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MEETS **THIRD** TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 7:00 PM

MEETING LOCATION: Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1084 W. Bullard Ave., Fresno CA 93711

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Steve Mendyk- President

Carolyn Vance- Treasurer

Sandra Arie- Auction Coordinator

James Obler- Vice President/Editor

Tambra Eddy- Secretary

Bob Holston- Coin Show Chairman

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**Number 3**

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## March, 2026 Meeting:

*Redeemer Lutheran Church*

*1084 W. Bullard Ave.,*

*Fresno, CA 93711*

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at Redeemer Lutheran. We expect a typical round of meeting activities, including member reports, Show & Tell, refreshments (hosted by Sandra Arie), a live auction, and an educational program by Scott Eddy, presumably having to do with elongated coins. We will also have a membership drawing and prize raffle. Reminder: annual dues should be paid by March 31. Please see Secretary Tambra to complete the deal.

Speaking of Madame Secretary, she wanted provide the following introduction to her fellow FNS members:

“Hello All,

First I want to take a minute to give a huge Thank You to Sandra Arie for all her hard work during her terms as secretary for the FNS.

Next I want to introduce myself to you. My name is Tambra and I first attended an FNS meeting in 2020 and became a member that same year. I collect all kinds of different currencies. Most of my collection is elongates, but I do have a few generic slabs, some paper currency and 4 half dollars-one of which is graded and slabbed by PCGS. I am generally a quiet person who keeps to myself but once someone strikes up a conversation with me, I can talk forever. I am hoping to introduce some new ideas and help to grow our membership during my term. If you have any thoughts, ideas or questions; please feel free to reach out to me during the meeting, or email me at [tlhow78@hotmail.com](mailto:tlhow78@hotmail.com). Thank you for entrusting me to be your secretary for the current term - Tambra Eddy.”

*Continued on Page 2*

I want to recognize some special folks. Bruno and Kim Novi contacted FNS via email to get some information about coins inherited from Kim's dad, Norman Fletcher. This collection included silver dollars, world coins, and modern proof sets. I met with the Novis and offered my appraisal and advice on how to sell. They decided that they would just donate the proof sets to FNS! There were a total of 48 sets dating from 1981 to 2006. We will distribute these sets to the kids' coin clubs operated by Carolyn V. and Dave C. since we already have enough sets for our October 2026 Coin Show. It is appropriate that this gift will help encourage youngsters to become active in the hobby. FNS greatly appreciates this bequest from Norman Fletcher!

It might be productive to discuss some general options for liquidating a collection, as I did for the Novis with Mr. Fletcher's coins. This is a common situation for many collectors and especially for the heirs of a collector. I get emails from people in this situation on the FNS email account every couple months and I have some general advice I always share.

First suggestion is to never clean any coins; non-collectors often assume shiny coins will sell for more than tarnished ones. Next, the collection should be inventoried, with denominations, dates, mints, and quantities recorded. If possible, they can also take photos of part or all of the collection. Once they have a list and/or photos for me to review I can give them an opinion on potential value.

Most of these collections consist of modern coins like Eisenhower dollars, Kennedy halves, and assorted pocket change, with perhaps a few silver coins, older cents, and proof sets. Often there are replica coins (like "tribute proof" plated medals that resemble gold or silver eagles). I can usually help the owner separate the face value (and no-value) items from those that are worth a premium.

If the owner is interested I can arrange to meet with them, or I suggest they take their stash to Fresno Coin or Clovis Cards 'n Coins (the only in-town coin shops I know of) to see what the dealers will offer. They of course are invited to come to an FNS meeting, where they would be able to speak with any of our members or

member/dealers. I also let them know about our annual coin show, as well as other area shows. One lady I met a couple months ago had a pile of Eisenhower dollars, lots of common silver quarters, dimes, and halves, and a whole shoebox of face value coins. She deposited the face value coins at her bank and took the Eisenhower dollars and silver coins to Fresno Coin. I had given her value estimate of \$4-5,000 for the silver and she was very happy to get approximately that amount from Fresno Coin.

Other owners are not so fortunate. One lady's husband had passed and she showed me the coins he had accumulated. He had spent quite a lot on tribute proofs, gold-plated replica coins, colorized clad quarter sets, and similar items. I felt badly for her, since all those items were either essentially worthless or were only worth face value. The only valuable piece was a single tenth-ounce gold eagle. If that collector had put his money towards US silver or gold coins his widow would have had a decent nest egg. Lack of knowledge led him to purchase products with little chance of value appreciation. Our coin club exists (in part) to provide information that helps potential collectors avoid such mistakes.

Another sell option exists for owners with generic silver or gold coins. JM Bullion (for example) is a precious metals dealer that will make a firm offer for specific coins. You can call or go on their website and list the coins you want to sell. They name a figure (based on current precious metal spot prices) and will lock it in if you accept. They email you a shipping label and packaging instructions. You drop off your package to an authorized UPS office (there is one on Shaw Avenue near Willow) and in about a week you will receive a check (or direct deposit) for the full amount quoted, less a \$30 shipping fee. This is a simple and secure way to quickly convert your precious metal into cash.

For computer-savvy owners eBay might be an option. You can create an account, link a bank account to PayPal, and start listing. You need to post decent photos of your coins so potential bidders can see what you are offering. You will need to ship your sold items and eBay will charge a significant fee, but for some sellers this process works well.

You know what else works well? FNS, of course! Please come to the next meeting on 03/17 and join us. We will see you then!

## Last Month's Meeting

Our February 17, 2026 meeting kicked off at 7:10PM with President Mendyk greeting the 35 (or so) attendees. We met guests Jared McCormick and Bill & Dorothy. Jared has signed up as a member. Other new members John Lippencott, Cliff Pedersen, Steve Bedoian, and Michael Harutinian were all present. There was no Secretary report. Treasurer Carolyn reported that after about \$1400 in expenses last month we have about \$26,250 in checking plus the cash box contents.

Bob Holston reported that so far about half of our dealers from the 2025 show have committed to the 2026 show. Scott and Tandra Eddy gave presentations at the three different kids' club meetings and are working to promote FNS and seek out new members. Your Editor contacted FNS Life Member Dennis Olswang who is housebound due to disability. Dennis would appreciate hearing from FNS members. FNS will no longer provide coffee service at the monthly meetings, since we can't store the equipment at the church and no one has volunteered to take over the duty.

In Show & Tell David Tomamichel scored a 1955 Rhodesia shilling on eBay; it shipped from the Czech Republic. Steve Mendyk added to his Civil-War-era collection with a raw mint state 1861 gold quarter eagle. Patrick Hemphill shared some hobo nickels, which are Buffalo nickels that were carved to alter the image on one or both sides. Some of these hobo nickels are highly valued. Your Editor had a hand-poured silver ingot with a cratered surface that resembled an abstract Baby Jesus.

Virgil Gomez had an error \$5 note with a large ink smear (as originally printed). This note is certified as 64 grade. Arden Estes had a brass replica of an 1854-S double eagle. He also had a series 1928 \$100 gold certificate which had been flagged as a possible counterfeit when a former owner attempted to deposit it. The Secret Service determined it was real; unfortunately, they stamped it "Genuine" on both sides.

Tandra Eddy received an elongated quarter as a merit award for helping out at the 2025 World's Fair of money. Randy Clifton won a 3-ounce silver medal with a Beethoven portrait on eBay. Scott Eddy had an elongated Walking Liberty half made by noted elongated coin artist Dotty Dowd. Randy

Ramey shared his gold Britannia 2017 proof, with reverse proof finish. Randy said he will be moving to Tennessee so this will be the last time he can attend an FNS meeting. We wish him well!

After refreshments we heard an educational presentation from President Mendyk. Steve described all eight major types of gold Quarter Eagles (2-1/2 dollar coins) issued by the US Mint. The 1796 no-stars and 1808 capped bust issues are very expensive one-year type coins. Many Liberty and Indian Head issues are affordable, with some dates in circulated condition selling for basically bullion value.

We then conducted our prize raffle and membership drawing. The meeting adjourned around 8:50PM. Silent auction participants settled us their accounts and we called it a night.

### February Prize Winners:

1st Draw: 1955-S Lincoln Cent in MS-66 Red.  
Winner- Jerry Forbis.  
2nd Draw: 1939-S Walking Liberty Half, AU-55.  
Winner- David Josephine.  
3rd Draw: 1935-S Peace Dollar, AU-50.  
Winner- Dave Cadenasso.  
Membership Prize: 1959 Franklin Half Dollar in BU.  
Winner: Arden Estes.

## Coin Show Schedule

### Sount Bay / Sunnyvale Coin Show

DATE- March 20-21, 2026.

LOCATION- Domain Hotel, 1085 East El Camino Real Sunnyvale, CA 94087

### CSNA 143<sup>rd</sup> Coin Show and Convention

DATE- March 27-29, 2026

LOCATION- Arcadia Masonic Center, 50 West Duarte Road Arcadia, CA 91007

### Inland Empire Coin & Collectible Show

DATE- April 12, 2026

LOCATION- American Legion Hall, 13759 Central Ave. Chino, CA 91710

### The Valley Coin, Currency and Collectible Show

DATE- April 18-19, 2026.

LOCATION- Marriot Courtyard, 15433 Ventura Blvd Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

## SAM NUMISMATICS

BUYER & SELLER OF U.S. COINS

JOHN MAGNOTTI

mn\_johnm@yahoo.com  
mn\_johnm on ebay

Kingsburg, CA

559-417-8875



## "TUCKS" COINS

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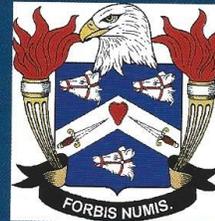
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