

# The Diablo Die Break

58<sup>th</sup> Year Vol. 10 September 2018



**The whole group at the Borges Ranch in 2017.  
At the club's July barbeque**

## **Our Officers:**

**Larry Cassagrande (President)**  
**Robert E. Luna (Vice President)**  
**Kyle Anderson (Treasurer)**  
**Dave Davis (Secretary)**  
**Jim Gallegus (Board Member)**  
**Brad Lee (Board Member)**  
**Charles Ludvik (Board Member)**

## ***Mission Statement***

*The Diablo Numismatic Society of Concord, CA is a non-profit coin collecting club dedicated to serving all its members from beginner to expert – with focus on three priorities: education, fellowship, and fun!*

**The SOCIETY meets monthly on the third Thursday of the month.**

**OUR NEXT MEETING: September 20th**

**Meeting Starts at 7:00PM**

**The doors open at 6:00PM**

We will be assembling the postcards for our October show starting at **6PM**. It should go quickly with the aid of a few volunteers. We are affixing address labels and stamps to approximately 1000 postcards. **Pizza and soft drinks will be served to the volunteers.**

We will be having an auction at the September meeting. 5 items are max., with a reasonable starting bid.

September is exhibit night, bring your coin exhibits.

**Concord Museum & Event Center  
1928 Clayton Road  
Concord, California**

**Our Web site is: [www.diablocoinclub.org](http://www.diablocoinclub.org)**

## **Youth Section**

**Connecting America Through Coins**

Kids' interactive timeline: <http://www.usmint.gov/kids/campCoin/timeline/>

**United States Mint Education pages:**

<http://www.usmint.gov/kids/games/>

## **Diablo Numismatic Society Club Meeting Minutes Date: 08/16/18**

**The meeting called to order:** 7:03PM **by President** Larry Casagrande

**Total Attendance:** 37 **New Members/Guests:** 3

**New Members/Guests:** Gianni and Maria Callwood, Andrew Troxeu, and David J. Anderson.

**On time prize:** 2018 Silver Krugerrand **Won By:** Bill Hickman

**Treasurer's Report by Kyle Anderson**

**General Account:** TBA

**Coin Show Account:** TBA

### **The following announcements were made:**

There is a sign-up sheet for volunteers for the October Coin Show.

**At our September meeting we will be assembling the Coin Show postcards starting at 6PM.**

September is exhibit night, bring your coin exhibits.

**Please pay for your holiday dinner if attending, the form is in the Die Break.**

The Historical Society will be seeking funding for drapes to the windows, this should help reduce the background noise.

We will be voting to accept a raise in the club dues.

**We will be having an auction at the September meeting. 5 items are max. with a reasonable starting bid.**

### **August's Program: Coin Grading of Buffalo Nickels**

By Bruce Berman

Bruce gives insight as to what to look for as in weak strikes or circulation wear.

**Show and Tell:** Your favorite numis. Book. **Entries:** 8 **Prize:** 1964 Proof set **Winner:** Gianni

**50/50 Drawing:** \$26.00 **Total Pot.** \$52.00 **Winner:** Linda Cunha

**Drawing Grand Prize:** \$100.00 star note **Winner:** Bob Luna

**Membership Drawing Prize:** Australian Year Of The Dog 50 cent piece

**Membership Drawing Winner:** Steve Jarrett

### **Miscellaneous:**

Don't forget - **we will be voting on a dues increase at the September meeting**, from \$10 to \$15 for email and \$15 to \$25 to have the Die Break sent through the mail. This increase is long overdue, costs have increased and **now we are paying for a meeting place.** Where can you go for good refreshments, good programs, dealer setups, door prize drawings, and also a coin drawing.

**The meeting was adjourned at:** 8:58pm

**Respectfully submitted by:**

**David F. Davis Jr. Club Secretary**

## DIABLO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY PROGRAM SCHEDULE

01/18/2018 - BRAD LEE – THE TWO CENT SERIES

02/15/2018 - PCGS WEBINAIRE - STRIKE, LUSTER, SURFACE PRESERVATION & EYE APPEAL

03/15/2018 - ANNUAL CLUB BANQUET – TEXAS BACK FORTY (**No Meeting**)

04/19/2018 - CHARLES LUDVIK – MEDAL SERIES of the PRESIDENTIAL ART MEDALS COMPANY

05/17/2018 - OTHER HOBBIES NIGHT - MEMBERS SHARE THEIR NON-COIN HOBBIES

06/21/2018 - DETECTING COUNTEREIT U.S. CURRENCY w/DISPLAY | – BRIAN FREDERICKSON UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE SPECIAL AGENT, SAN FRANCISCO

07/14/2018 - ANNUAL CLUB SUMMER BBQ – BORGES RANCH (**No Meeting**)

08/16/2018 - BRUCE BERMAN – COIN GRADING

09/20/2018 - EXHIBIT NIGHT – A THEMED TOPIC, BOXED or FRAMED

10/18/2018 - JIMMY GALLEGUS – WEALTH DISTRIBUTION.....SOMETHING or NOTHING?

11/15/2018 - Robert E Luna – THE UNITED STATES NICKEL & QUARTER THAT NEVER WERE

### DECEMBER

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER – Sunday December 9th (**NO MEETING**)

## **DIABLO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY'S ANNUAL EXHIBIT NIGHT**

The intent of Exhibit Night is for a member to create, bring to the meeting, and share either a boxed or framed Exhibit of a Numismatic area of his or her collecting interest.

1. The Exhibit should have a title and/or a brief description of what it is.
2. It should be attractively displayed.
3. It must be of a Numismatic theme of coins, currency, or medals.
4. First, Second, and Third Place plaques will be awarded to the top three entrants by a paper ballot vote from the members present. The ballot will have three spaces upon which the voting members will write the three Exhibits they liked the best. Two DNS members who have not entered an Exhibit will be the tabulators for the top three Exhibits.

Tabulation will be done by adding up the number of times an Exhibit is on the collected ballots. The Exhibit with the highest number of votes will be awarded First Place, the next numerous is awarded Second Place, and the next numerous after that is awarded third Place.

## Upcoming Coin Shows

**September 9, 2018: Livermore Coin Club Show, Elk's Club**

**Sept 21-23 Santa Clara CoinExpo - Santa Clara Coin Show**  
**Santa Clara Convention Center**  
**5001 Great America Parkway**

**Sept 28-29 Sacramento - Sacramento Valley Coin Club**  
**4900 Duckhorn Dr.**

**October 12-14, 2018 Diablo Numismatic Society**  
**Elks Lodge – 1475 Creekside Drive, Walnut Creek, CA**

**November 9-10, 2018: Sunnyvale Coin Show, Domain Hotel, Sunnyvale, Ca**

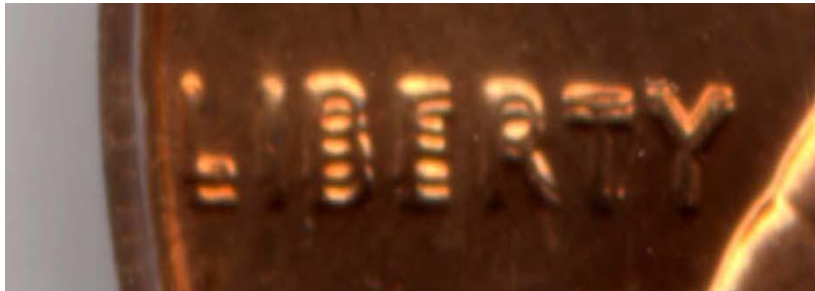
**Nov. 30-December 1, 2018: San Francisco International Numismatic Bourse,**  
**Holiday Inn Van Ness**

### September Drawing Prizes

	<b>Date</b>	<b>MM</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Cond.</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Value</b>
1	1878	S	Morgan Dollar	NGC	MS 64	\$ 115.00
2	1941		Walking Liberty Half	PCGS	MS 63	\$ 52.00
3	1938	D	Buffalo Nickel	PCGS	MS 66	\$ 50.00
4	1964	D	Roosevelt Dime - OGH	PCGS	MS 66	\$ 50.00
5	2007	W	Silver Eagle Early Release	NGC	MS 69	\$ 40.00
6	1940		Mercury Dime	NGC	MS 65 FB	\$ 36.00
7	1944		Mercury Dime	NGC	MS 66	\$ 35.00
8	1944		Walking Liberty Half	PCGS	AU 58	\$ 25.00
9	1999	D	Lincoln Cent	PCGS	MS 67 Rd	\$ 25.00
10	1952		Lincoln Cent - Wheel Mark	PCGS	Genuine	\$ 1.00
			<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 429.00</b>



## Identify This Coin:



Answer at the meeting and in the next Die Break.

Last month's "Identify this coin" was :

"Able to leap tall buildings in a single bound", It's Super bird!

A 1952 Proof Washington Quarter - the "Super bird" variety.

Someone at the Philadelphia mint thought it would be fun to carve an "S" on the eagle's breast.  
They never found out who did it.



# Keeping Track of Your Coin Collection

Dave Davis

It is important to have an accurate inventory of your coin collection, both for insurance reasons and for your heirs if you plan to leave the collection to them. It is important to record the serial numbers of your certified coins in case they are stolen.

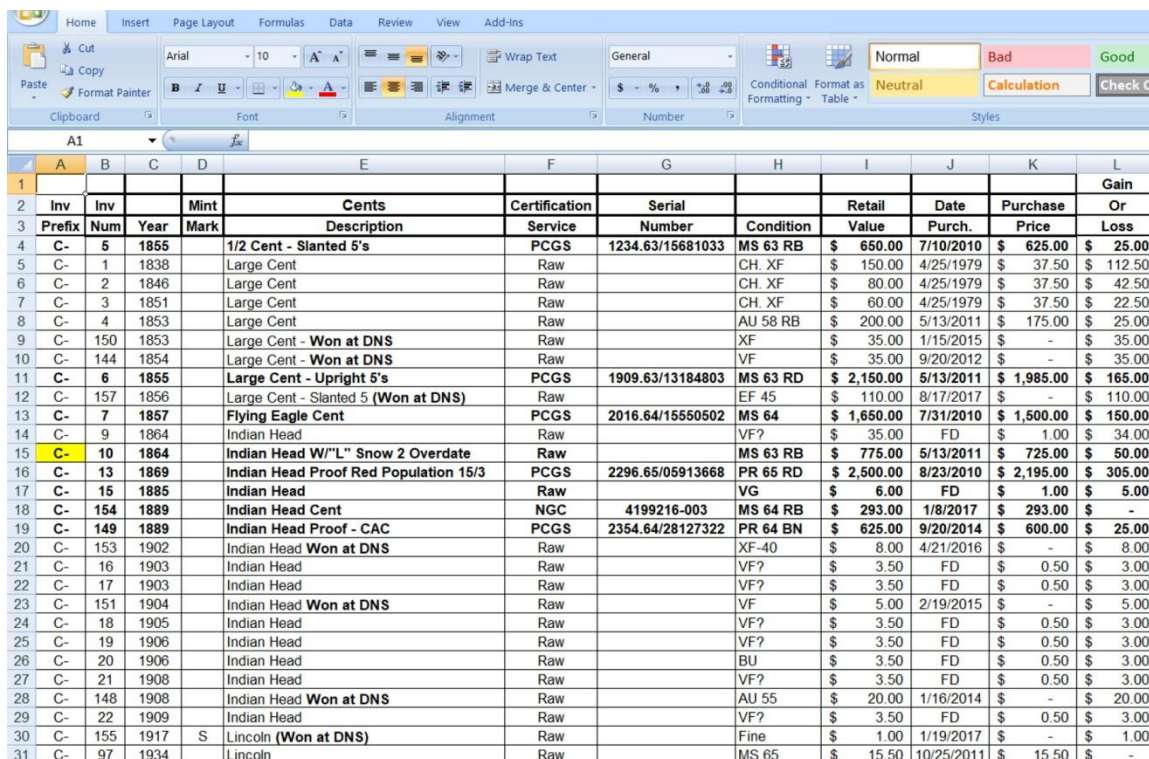
When I moved out to California in 1965 to attend college, my dad and I started collecting coins. I did have a part-time job in the evenings and weekends so I had a little extra money for coins. I need to emphasize "little", I couldn't afford most of the coins I wanted and some of my coins needed to be purchased on lay-away. I was only making minimum wage back then (\$1.35 per hour). We both decided that we should keep track of the date of purchase, the condition of the coin, and the cost of the coin. We wrote that information in a small notebook that I still have today.

Fast-forward 50 or so years and now I keep all of my coin information in an Excel spreadsheet. It is very easy to set up an Excel spreadsheet with any and all of the data about your coins that you want. I also transferred all the entries from the little notebook into the Excel spreadsheet.

I toyed with the idea of inserting photographs of my coins within the spreadsheet. This proved to be too cumbersome, not to mention that the spreadsheet would be over 150 pages long. I decided to keep the photos of my coins in separate binders, and the spreadsheet online.

**The data I keep in my spreadsheet (illus. 1):** the date of the coin, the mint mark, a description of the coin, the certification service, the serial number, the coin's condition, the retail value of the coin, the date I bought the coin, the price I paid for the coin, the gain or loss (retail minus the price paid), and any comments I might have about the coin.

Illus. 1



1	Inv	Inv Num	Year	Mint Mark	Description	Certification Service	Serial Number	Condition	Retail Value	Date Purch.	Purchase Price	Gain Or Loss
2	C-	5	1855		1/2 Cent - Slanted 5's	PCGS	1234.63/15681033	MS 63 RB	\$ 660.00	7/10/2010	\$ 625.00	\$ 25.00
3	C-	1	1838		Large Cent	Raw		CH XF	\$ 150.00	4/25/1979	\$ 37.50	\$ 112.50
4	C-	2	1846		Large Cent	Raw		CH XF	\$ 80.00	4/25/1979	\$ 37.50	\$ 42.50
5	C-	3	1851		Large Cent	Raw		CH XF	\$ 60.00	4/25/1979	\$ 37.50	\$ 22.50
6	C-	4	1853		Large Cent	Raw		AU 58 RB	\$ 200.00	5/13/2011	\$ 175.00	\$ 25.00
7	C-	150	1853		Large Cent - Won at DNS	Raw		XF	\$ 35.00	1/15/2015	\$ -	\$ 35.00
8	C-	144	1854		Large Cent - Won at DNS	Raw		VF	\$ 35.00	9/20/2012	\$ -	\$ 35.00
9	C-	6	1855		Large Cent - Upright 5's	PCGS	1909.63/13184803	MS 63 RD	\$ 2,150.00	5/13/2011	\$ 1,985.00	\$ 165.00
10	C-	157	1856		Large Cent - Slanted 5 (Won at DNS)	Raw		EF 45	\$ 110.00	8/17/2017	\$ -	\$ 110.00
11	C-	7	1857		Flying Eagle Cent	PCGS	2016.64/15550502	MS 64	\$ 1,650.00	7/31/2010	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 150.00
12	C-	9	1864		Indian Head	Raw		VF?	\$ 35.00	FD	\$ 1.00	\$ 34.00
13	C-	10	1864		Indian Head W/"L" Snow 2 Overdate	Raw		MS 63 RB	\$ 775.00	5/13/2011	\$ 725.00	\$ 50.00
14	C-	13	1869		Indian Head Proof Red Population 15/3	PCGS	2296.65/05913668	PR 65 RD	\$ 2,500.00	8/23/2010	\$ 2,195.00	\$ 305.00
15	C-	15	1885		Indian Head	Raw		VG	\$ 6.00	FD	\$ 1.00	\$ 5.00
16	C-	154	1889		Indian Head Cent	NGC	4199216-003	MS 64 RB	\$ 293.00	1/8/2017	\$ 293.00	\$ -
17	C-	149	1889		Indian Head Proof - CAC	PCGS	2354.64/28127322	PR 64 BN	\$ 625.00	9/20/2014	\$ 600.00	\$ 25.00
18	C-	153	1902		Indian Head Won at DNS	Raw		XF-40	\$ 8.00	4/21/2016	\$ -	\$ 8.00
19	C-	16	1903		Indian Head	Raw		VF?	\$ 3.50	FD	\$ 0.50	\$ 3.00
20	C-	17	1903		Indian Head	Raw		VF?	\$ 3.50	FD	\$ 0.50	\$ 3.00
21	C-	151	1904		Indian Head Won at DNS	Raw		VF	\$ 5.00	2/19/2015	\$ -	\$ 5.00
22	C-	18	1905		Indian Head	Raw		VF?	\$ 3.50	FD	\$ 0.50	\$ 3.00
23	C-	19	1906		Indian Head	Raw		VF?	\$ 3.50	FD	\$ 0.50	\$ 3.00
24	C-	20	1906		Indian Head	Raw		BU	\$ 3.50	FD	\$ 0.50	\$ 3.00
25	C-	21	1908		Indian Head	Raw		VF?	\$ 3.50	FD	\$ 0.50	\$ 3.00
26	C-	148	1908		Indian Head Won at DNS	Raw		AU 55	\$ 20.00	1/16/2014	\$ -	\$ 20.00
27	C-	22	1909		Indian Head	Raw		VF?	\$ 3.50	FD	\$ 0.50	\$ 3.00
28	C-	155	1917	S	Lincoln (Won at DNS)	Raw		Fine	\$ 1.00	1/19/2017	\$ -	\$ 1.00
29	C-	97	1934		Lincoln	Raw		MS 65	\$ 15.50	10/25/2011	\$ 15.50	\$ -



I also keep each coin type in separate worksheet pages, as in **illus. 2**. To change the name of the worksheet tab, just click on the tab to highlight it, and then right-click and click on **"rename"**. The name turns dark, just start typing in the new name of the tab. To add a worksheet page, click on a worksheet tab, right click, and click on **insert**.

**Illus. 2**



The worksheet page titles are:

**Illus. 3**

Worksheet Page Tab Names	
6	Cents
7	Nickels - Miscellaneous
8	Nickels - Jefferson
9	Dimes - Miscellaneous
0	Dimes - Roosevelt
1	Quarters - Miscellaneous
2	Quarters - Washington
3	Halves - Miscellaneous
4	Halves - Franklin
5	Halves - Kennedy
6	Dollars - Morgan
7	Dollars - Peace
8	Dollars - Miscellaneous
9	Dollars - Eisenhower
0	Dollars - Sacagawea
1	U.S. Mint Sets
2	U.S. Proof Sets
3	Gold
4	Platinum
5	Miscellaneous
6	Paper Currency
7	Fractional Currency
8	State Quarter Bags
9	State Quarter Rolls
0	Ancient Coins
1	<b>Total Value</b>
2	

## The Summary Page:

The first page of my spreadsheet is a summary. It contains each worksheet name and the totals for that worksheet. I also calculate the percentage that the worksheet page represents verses the entire coin collection. For instance: 7.94% of my total coin collection are cents (1, 2, and 3 cent coins). The summary page retrieves the totals from each worksheet page and then uses them in calculations. I have a grand total of my coin collection on the summary page.

I have written a general narrative about the collection for my heirs on the summary page. It explains what books in my library they should read and how to identify which coins are which. **"The Coin Collectors Survival Manual"** by Scott Travers, **"Cash In Your Coins"** by Beth Diesher, **"What to do with Granddaddy's Coins"** by Jeff Ambio. These books give you good directions on what to do with coins you have inherited. **"Making The Grade"**, this is a book on grading coins and it can help in coin identification. To us this may sound redundant, but to a non-coin collector it is necessary. I showed my niece a cameo proof 3-cent nickel coin and she thought it was a foreign coin. She never knew the U.S. ever had 3-cent coins. **None of my heirs are coin collectors.**

Since some of my coins only have bullion value, I check the **Commodities** page on **CNN.com** and enter the spot prices of gold, silver, and platinum on the summary page.

Periodically I do update the retail prices according to various price guides. I try to keep the spreadsheet current.

There are many things you can do in Excel, for instance: I have built a table of silver values as in **illus. 4**. The **silver spot price** is in **column A** and the dollar value of each silver coin are in their respective columns. I increment the silver spot price by one cent in each row all the way out to \$60.00 per ounce.

**Illus. 4**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	<b>BULLION VALUE OF SILVER COINS</b>							
2								
3		<b>WARTIME</b>			<b>HALF</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>SILVER</b>	<b>SILVER</b>
4	<b>SILVER</b>	<b>NICKEL</b>	<b>DIME</b>	<b>QUARTER</b>	<b>DOLLAR</b>	<b>HALF</b>	<b>DOLLAR</b>	<b>EAGLE</b>
5	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>0.05626</b>	<b>0.07234</b>	<b>0.18084</b>	<b>0.36169</b>	<b>0.14792</b>	<b>0.77344</b>	<b>ROLL</b>
1063	\$ 15.32	\$ 0.86	\$ 1.11	\$ 2.77	\$ 5.54	\$ 2.27	\$ 11.85	\$ 306.40
1064	\$ 15.33	\$ 0.86	\$ 1.11	\$ 2.77	\$ 5.54	\$ 2.27	\$ 11.86	\$ 306.60
1065	\$ 15.34	\$ 0.86	\$ 1.11	\$ 2.77	\$ 5.55	\$ 2.27	\$ 11.86	\$ 306.80
1066	\$ 15.35	\$ 0.86	\$ 1.11	\$ 2.78	\$ 5.55	\$ 2.27	\$ 11.87	\$ 307.00
1067	\$ 15.36	\$ 0.86	\$ 1.11	\$ 2.78	\$ 5.56	\$ 2.27	\$ 11.88	\$ 307.20
1068	\$ 15.37	\$ 0.86	\$ 1.11	\$ 2.78	\$ 5.56	\$ 2.27	\$ 11.89	\$ 307.40
1069	\$ 15.38	\$ 0.87	\$ 1.11	\$ 2.78	\$ 5.56	\$ 2.28	\$ 11.90	\$ 307.60
1070	\$ 15.39	\$ 0.87	\$ 1.11	\$ 2.78	\$ 5.57	\$ 2.28	\$ 11.90	\$ 307.80
1071	\$ 15.40	\$ 0.87	\$ 1.11	\$ 2.78	\$ 5.57	\$ 2.28	\$ 11.91	\$ 308.00
1072	\$ 15.41	\$ 0.87	\$ 1.11	\$ 2.79	\$ 5.57	\$ 2.28	\$ 11.92	\$ 308.20
1073	\$ 15.42	\$ 0.87	\$ 1.12	\$ 2.79	\$ 5.58	\$ 2.28	\$ 11.93	\$ 308.40
1074	\$ 15.43	\$ 0.87	\$ 1.12	\$ 2.79	\$ 5.58	\$ 2.28	\$ 11.93	\$ 308.60
1075	\$ 15.44	\$ 0.87	\$ 1.12	\$ 2.79	\$ 5.58	\$ 2.28	\$ 11.94	\$ 308.80

I also made the same type of table for gold coin values in the next worksheet page.

## Conclusion:

You may ask why I'm going through the trouble of trying to explain to my heirs about my coin collection when I know they are not really interested in keeping it or continuing the collection. **"Why don't you just sell the coins and put the money in your retirement account" my friends ask me.** It's because I enjoy my coin collection, I enjoy the coin club I'm in, and I enjoy going to coin shows and finding a new coin that really strikes my fancy. I have no plans to sell my coin collection.

I have two heirs, my sister and her daughter. I love my sister but I think she would get taken by a dealer who would make an offer that was simply too low for this collection. I am leaving this collection to my niece, I know she will do her proper research and find out (with the help of this spreadsheet) what these coins are really worth and where to sell them. Plus, in 10 to 12 years she and her husband will need money for college for their two young kids. This collection will be a big help in their education.

If anyone needs help in setting up an Excel spreadsheet or questions about keeping track of their coin inventory in Excel, feel free to contact me:

**Dave Davis**

[dfd5115@astound.net](mailto:dfd5115@astound.net)

925-686-5115 home phone

925-586-2868 cell phone

You do need to have a copy of Excel or Microsoft Office installed on your computer.

## Miscellaneous information:

### Gold Karat Measurements

As a measure of purity, one carat is 24 times the purity by mass.

Historically, in England the carat was divisible into four grains, and the grain was divisible into four quarts. For example, a gold alloy of fineness (that is, 99.2% purity) could have been described as being 23-carat, 3-grain, 1-quart gold.

The carat system is increasingly being complemented or superseded by the millesimal fineness system in which the purity of precious metals is denoted by parts per thousand of pure metal in the alloy.

24 carat (millesimal fineness 999 or higher)

22 carat (millesimal fineness 916)

21 carat (millesimal fineness 875)

20 carat (millesimal fineness 833)

18 carat (millesimal fineness 750)

15 carat (millesimal fineness 625)

14 carat (millesimal fineness 585)

10 carat (millesimal fineness 417)

9 carat (millesimal fineness 375)

8 carat (millesimal fineness 333)

1 carat (millesimal fineness 042)

Carat or Karat can be spelled either way, both are correct.

**Articles are always needed for this paper.** If you have an area you are interested in writing about, please feel free to notify me:

**Dave Davis**

[dfd5115@astound.net](mailto:dfd5115@astound.net)

(925) 686-5115 home phone

(925) 586-2868 Cell phone



# 2018 Christmas Dinner

**Sunday, December 9th**

**Zio Fraedo's**

**611 Gregory Ln.**

**Pleasant Hill, Ca.**

**No Host Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres will be served at 5:30 PM**

**Dinner will be at 6:00 PM.**

Cost \$30.00 each

Note: meal includes appetizers, salad, starch, vegetable, bread and butter, dessert, and coffee or tea

Entrée Choices are as follows:

Prime Rib (Medium) \_\_\_\_\_

Salmon \_\_\_\_\_

Pasta Primavera \_\_\_\_\_

Total Attendees \_\_\_\_\_ \$30.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign up at the upcoming meetings

Or send check to:

Diablo Numismatic Society

P.O. Box 177

Concord, Ca. 94522

