



# E-Gobrecht

Liberty Seated  
Collectors Club

2020 Volume 16, Issue 2

February 2020 (Whole #181)

*Stepping back in time to a bygone era of the Liberty Seated coin design period both far and wide...*



## *LSCC Meeting Attendees at this year's FUN Convention on Friday, January 10th.*

*Did you know you do not necessarily have to be a member of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club to attend one of their Regional Meetings at various coin shows around the country throughout the year. All are welcome to attend, socialize, learn more about the organization and enjoy the various educational programs.*

Welcome & Editor Viewpoint	2-3
Regional News by Dennis Fortier	4-6
Making News This Month	6-8 19-21
Announcements for LSCC Members	7-9
2020 Regional Events Calendar / Schedule	1, 7 9-11
Hall of Fame & ANA Summer Seminar	7-8
Quarter of the Month by Greg Johnson	12-13
Stories from the Club Table by Dennis Fortier	14-15
The Curious Collector by Len Augsburger	16
**Ten of Hearts** Mystery Challenge	16
Auction News By Craig Eberhart	17-18
LSCC & Publication Information	22

## LSCC Events Calendar for February

**\*February 20-22 Long Beach Expo, Long Beach CA at the Long Beach Convention Center - Club table, LSCC/BCCS Club Social & Dinner at the Rock Bottom Brewery on Thursday at 6:30 p.m. (Hosts: Brian Cushing, Bob Clark)**

The *E-Gobrecht* is an award winning informal electronic publication of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club (LSCC). The LSCC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the attributions of the Liberty Seated Coin series. The LSCC provides the information contained in this email newsletter from various sources free of charge as a general service to the membership and others with this numismatic interest. You do not have to be a LSCC member to benefit from this newsletter; subscription to the *E-Gobrecht* is available free to anyone. All disclaimers are in effect as the completeness and/or accuracy of the information contained herein cannot be completely verified. Contact information is included on the last page.



## Welcome to the following new LSCC Members this month:

*Shawn Fruge, L. Richard Harner Jr., Randy Pritchett,  
Randall Scales and Erick Vitols*

## And to the additional new E-Gobrecht subscribers this month:

*Eric B., Gary Allen, Johnny Johnson, Jo Sherwin, Bill Slade, Les White,  
Jim Hirtle, Mark Miller, Troy Moxley and Eddie Schulte*

## Editor's View From the Rim

### *Stepping Back To A Bygone Era*

Yes, it is a New Year... 2020!, and even a Leap Year at that; one of those years that has that funny little surplus day this month of February 29<sup>th</sup> that keeps the calendar balanced so it doesn't drift from the astronomical year as we orbit the sun.

#### **2020 is also the start of a New Decade!**

These 10-year increments seem to travel and go by too fast in our lives at what appears to be lightning speed. Odd how each of the 10-year segments of time take on a personality and character of their own? Each decade has its own fads and gimmicks, in-style fashion and décor, and its own technological advancements that can be so hard to keep up with.

Most of us can still remember past decades like the start of the Millennium in 2000, the 90's., the 80's., the 70's., the 60's., the 50's., the 40's., and even the 30's for some of us. Some of us can remember those times as if they were just only yesterday in our lives.

Speaking of those past decades in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, can you imagine our ancestors recalling for instance the Civil War and Slavery? How about remembering the really 'hard times' of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century; or the horse and buggy as a convenient means of transportation, unpaved roads too, adventurous pioneers, the Wild West, the Gold Rush, early steam locomotives, the first photographs, the tragedies of numerous ships sinking at sea and countless lives lost, the American Industrial Age, advances in science and medicine,

19<sup>th</sup> Century American politics, economic crises and the banks, and the Gay Nineties?

So, if you will allow yourself each month; **let us step back in time to a bygone era of the Liberty Seated coin design period both far and wide** (and maybe at times a little before and a little afterward).

The Liberty Seated U.S. coin design series with multiple denominations covers a fascinating period of American history and economic prosperity that can also be translated through "numismatics" in a way that collectors of our day can truly understand and appreciate.

The next time you are at a coin & currency show, busy on the bourse floor, on-line at a dealer's website or eBay or an auction, or in person at an auction, at a museum, or studying the items in your collection; recognize the essence of what you are doing may be deeply rooted in your underlining appreciation of history & art, the banking & monetary system, the minting of those old coins, and the engraving & printing of those old notes.

Going forward with the E-Gobrecht for the benefit of its subscribers and readers, there is obviously much interesting numismatic subject matter pertaining to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century that can be shared. Here is at least a beginning Plan for the E-Gobrecht for the coming decade of the 2020's... maybe we could call it the "*Reflective 20's*" here unlike the "*Roaring 20's*" of a century ago. PK

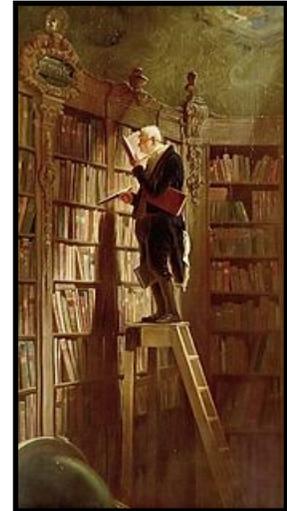
*(Continued on next page)*



(Continued from page 2)

**Related to going forward with E-Gobrecht for 2020 and beyond, here are some ideas for proposed New Topics & Columns:** *Warning: A Subtle Sense of Humor is Required!* ♥

1. The Lovely Little “Half Dime”
2. “Dimes” Are Your Destiny
3. Expecting a “Double Dime”?
4. More “Half and Half” Please! or The Halves and the Half Nots’
5. “Dollars” and Sense
6. A “Token” For Your Time
7. It’s All in the “Medal”
8. From Deep in the Library Archives (topics for bibliophiles) —>—>—>—>
9. Current News (or Making News This Month) (may also include specialty & local club news relating to the Liberty Seated era)
10. Blast from the Past (a glance back at great past articles published in the E-Gobrecht or The Gobrecht Journal of renewed interest to today’s collectors)
11. Mining History (Ore/Precious Metals) related to Coin Production
12. 19th Banks and the Monetary System
13. Related Vintage & Collectible
14. Did you know readers love to read other collector’s stories about finding a coin at a coin show, in a shop’s inventory, at auction or with a metal detector?



**As readers, certainly you can come up with better topic headers than this? What do you suggest?**

**Please consider submitting material to share with fellow readers under any of these 13 topic areas!** The general theme of course is Liberty Seated, History and the historical period, and coin designs by Christian Gobrecht, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Chief Engraver of the U.S. Mint. As a LSCC Member, you can also submit articles to the full scale magazine *The Gobrecht Journal* through Bill Bugert, Editor and Publisher.

*My own printed page notes as topic suggestions or a submission:*





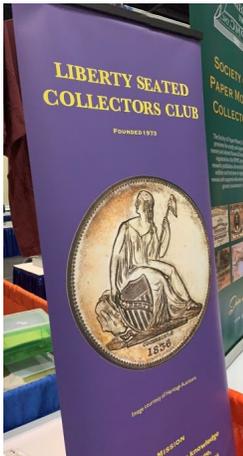
# Regional News

by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

## FUN in Orlando and Houston

Images:

(Top)  
Carl Feldman and  
Joe Casazza manning  
both the BCCS & LSCC  
Club table at FUN



(Middle)  
John Frost presenting at the  
LSCC Meeting at FUN



(Bottom)  
Lane Brunner at the combined LSCC & BCCS  
Club table at the Houston Money Show  
(Note: That's a "Lightning Bolt" die break  
in the picture of course) ♥



## Regional News Cont.

### 2020 Roars off to a Big Start

#### **The FUN Show lives up to its name!**

The Regional staff had a very busy time of it at FUN. All reports point to a great show in Florida.

Here's Jeff Ball (Southeast Regional Director) with the recap: The LSCC has had a very successful FUN show. The table has been staffed during all show hours and traffic has been very steady. We have had conversations with members and friends old and new non-stop.

We had 7 for the LSCC dinner. The *Orena Sports Bar* location was awful. The minute I walked in I could smell smoke. Yes, there is still smoking in some Florida eating establishments. So I waited out front and gathered dinner attendees as they arrived. Carl recommended a nearby *TGI Fridays* and off we went. We had a wonderful evening of discussion on all things from helicopters to performance cars to even coins.

The meeting Friday was perfect. All AV equipment worked perfectly. There were 33 members in attendance (DF - wow). We followed the agenda with intros, group photo, club business and the half dime educational presentation by John Frost. John's presentation was very well received. Many members commented on how it may possibly spark an interest in collecting half dimes.

The presentation was a nice tribute to the efforts of documenting important varieties by Stephen Crain. The educational display at the LSCC table supported the research by Mr. Crain.

John will have the final numbers on renewals/new members and shirt sales. I know we had many in all categories.

All volunteers have been amazing. John's tireless efforts are to be commended! I am sure he

can provide a few more details I have left out.

Thanks for the help of all regional volunteers and we are looking forward to FUN 2021.

John Frost reports 4 new members and 7 member renewals at FUN. Three shirts were sold at FUN as well.

#### **Report on Liberty Seated "FUN Talks" by John Frost:**

On Saturday, Dick Osburn and Brian Cushing had a FUN Lecture, entitled "How Rare are Liberty Seated Dollars." About 30 people were in attendance which was impressive, but perhaps not surprising given that the largest percentage (by far) of attendees at the LSCC Meeting the previous day said they were Liberty Seated dollar collectors. Included in the talk were interesting statistics contrasting certified populations and pricing of selected Seated dollars with those of the 1893-S Morgan dollar, 1916-D Mercury dime, and 1909-S VDB cent. A lot of eyes were opened that day!

Special thanks to Joe Casazza and Carl Feldman for staffing the table, Dick and Brian for their Liberty Seated Dollar talk, and a very special thanks to Jeff and John for all their work. A real team effort!

#### **John Frost's Houston Money Show Report:**

A week after FUN, the LSCC was in Conroe, TX for the Houston Money Show. The new venue north of the city continues to attract large numbers of attendees, and the show was crowded most of Friday and much of Saturday as well. Lane Brunner and John Frost staffed the club table, which featured both half dimes and Trade dollars. We signed up one new member and greeted numerous club members who joined the LSCC at earlier Houston shows

*(Continued on next page)*



## Regional News Cont.

we've attended the last six years. On Friday, John gave an educational program on Trade Dollars to 15 collectors during the peak of the afternoon bourse activity. We are already looking forward to next year's show, which will be two weeks after FUN, so it will be a less hectic ordeal getting from one show to the other!

The **Knoxville Show** report will be in the next edition of the E-Gobrecht as it straddles the end of January and the beginning of February, and I don't want to delay this report.

**Long Beach Feb 20-22:** West Coast Regional Director Brian Cushing will host the Club

table at the Long Beach Expo. The Club dinner will be at the Rock Bottom Brewery, 1 Pine Avenue, on Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Club shirts have been selling well and our supply is starting to run low on some sizes. If you're in the market for a Club shirt do not wait too long.

The next issue of The Gobrecht Journal will be out in March. If you have been procrastinating on your membership renewal, it's getting down to crunch time. You don't want to miss the next issue. Bill Bugert says it's superb!

## Making News This Month

### Stolen Coins

Recently a well known Liberty Seated dealer had some rare coins stolen by a USPS delivery person. The coins were to be delivered to a customer. That customer's delivery person took the coins. Ninety eight percent of USPS employees are honest, hard working people.

Much of your personal life is reflected in the mail delivered to your door every day. Your politics, financial information, and yes even your passion for coins. If you receive mailings from Heritage, Stacks or coin catalogs, your carrier knows you

are a coin collector.

What follows is a few suggestions to hopefully reduce the chances of becoming a victim of theft by a delivery person:

1. Get to know your carrier. Be more than just a delivery address to your carrier. Learn who is delivering your mail, learn their name, how long they've been working for the Post Office, and how long they've been delivering your mail.

2. Remember your carrier during the holidays and throughout the year. Even a small gift is appreciated. Perhaps

offer a cold drink on a hot summer day.

3. If you are apprehensive about having coins stolen through the mail, you can open a P.O. Box which will cut out one level of risk.

Switching delivery service may not solve the problem. Commercial delivery companies tend to run their employees hard leading to much shorter careers. This reinforces today's mentality of moving from job to job rather than making a career with one company or service. A long term professional career-oriented delivery person is your best defense against theft. *Dennis Fortier, VP*



# Liberty Seated Collectors Club

Uniting collectors of Liberty Seated coinage since 1973



## Making News This Month Cont.

### Call for Hall of Fame Nominations

The Hall of Fame Committee composed of club members Len Augsburger, Bill Bugert, Tom DeLorey, Gerry Fortin, and Mark Sheldon wishes to inform the membership that we are accepting nominations for the Liberty Seated Collectors Club's 2020 Hall of Fame (HoF). Please consider honoring a noteworthy individual to this prestigious distinction for his/her contributions to the club and/or to the advancement of collecting Liberty Seated coinage.

Basic qualifications for club member nominees are significant advances in or contributions to at least one of the following four criteria:

- Numismatic Research on Liberty Seated coinage
- Numismatic Literature related to Liberty Seated coinage
- Collection(s) of Liberty Seated coinage
- LSCC Club officer (for at least five years).

This year's inductee will be announced at the LSCC 2020 annual meeting.

The nominations must be received no later than April 15, 2020 and are due to the HoF Chairman, Bill Bugert, at [wbdcpy@earthlink.net](mailto:wbdcpy@earthlink.net) or via postal mail at Bill Bugert, 1230 Red Rock Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-6927 or at (717) 337-0229.



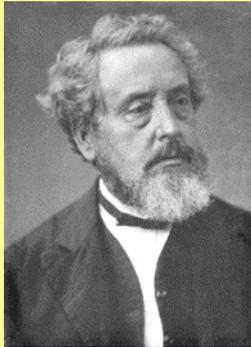
**Extra! Extra! - LSCC Events Calendar for February**

**\*February 14-16 ♥ 50<sup>th</sup> Upstate South Carolina Coin Show at the Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium, 385 N. Church Street, Spartanburg, SC, Club table Friday & Saturday and for interested Club members, Jeff Ball will host an informal Club Dinner nearby. RSVP to Jeff at [jeffballphoto@gmail.com](mailto:jeffballphoto@gmail.com) or see him at the table (Host: Jeff Ball, Director Southern Region)**

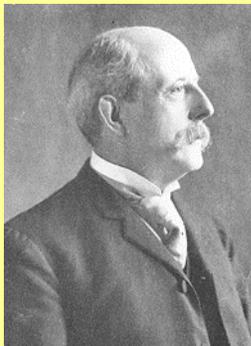


## Making News This Month Cont.

Register now for ***“The Legacy and Coinage of Father-Son Mint Engravers William and Charles Barber”*** at the **ANA Summer Seminar, June 29-July 2!**



**William Barber**



**Charles Barber**

With all of the recent publicity and interest regarding the engravers William and Charles Barber, Glenn Holsonbake and John Frost will be offering a class at the 2020 Summer Seminar at the American Numismatic Association (ANA) in Colorado Springs entitled, *The Legacy and Coinage of Father-Son Mint Engravers William and Charles Barber*. **The course will be offered during Session 1, June 29-July 2.**

This course will explore the history and coinage designed by 5th and 6th Chief Mint Engravers, William Barber (1869-1879) and Charles Barber (1880-1917). This hands-on class will study in detail all 6 circulation coin series bridging from the late 19th into the early 20th century. This includes William Barber's Trade dollars and twenty-cent pieces, along with Charles Barber's Liberty nickels, Barber dimes, quarters and half dollars.

In addition, we will explore the patterns and mint medals created by these prolific engravers, along with their designs of commemoratives and coins of other countries that were made under contract with the U.S. Mint. **Seminar #11: *The Legacy and Coinage of Father-Son Mint Engravers William and Charles Barber.***

**[The course is limited to 15 students, so register early!](#)**

The Summer Seminar catalog is available on the ANA website at **[www.money.org/summer-seminar](http://www.money.org/summer-seminar)**.



## **LSCC 2020 Regional Events Schedule Cont.**

*\* Details Mostly Finalized*

\*March 19-21 **Whitman Baltimore Spring Expo, MD at the Baltimore Convention Center** - Club dinner TBD, Club table, Club Meeting & Educational Program on Friday March 20 at 9:00 a.m. (Hosts: LSCC Club Officers)

\*March 29 **Mansfield Coin Show, Willimantic CT on Sunday at the Prospect School** - Club table (Hosts: John Frost, Dennis Fortier)

April 2-4 **Spring National Battlefield Coin Show, Gettysburg, PA at the Eisenhower Hotel & Conference Ctr.** – TBD with a presence by LSCC Members

\*April 10-11 **New Hampshire Coin Expo, Manchester NH at the Doubletree Hotel** - Club table, Club Meeting & Educational Program on Saturday at 12 p.m. (Hosts: Joe Casazza, John Frost, Dennis Fortier)

\*April 17-18 **Bay State Coin Show, Marlboro MA at the Best Western Royal Plaza** - Club table (Hosts: Joe Casazza, Dennis Fortier)

*Note: Updates provided as they become available.*

*(Continued on next page)*

## **Important Announcements for LSCC Members**

### **Possible Lost Emails to the Club**

The LSCC email was reconfigured by our email provider on January 12, and, as a result, mail sent to [lsccl@lscclweb.org](mailto:lsccl@lscclweb.org) prior to that may have been lost. If you sent email prior to January 12 and have not received a response, please resend your message. Sorry for the inconvenience.

## **Important Reminder for LSCC Members**

It is now a new fiscal/calendar year for the Club.  
If you have not renewed your Membership for 2020,  
your annual dues are "Past Due".

*Step Back in Time  
and enjoy a good home-  
cooked meal, but don't forget  
your 2020 LSCC Club Dues!*





## LSCC 2020 Regional Events Schedule Cont.

*\* Details Mostly Finalized*

**April 22-25 Central States Numismatic Society Convention, Schaumburg (Chicago) IL at the Renaissance Convention Center Hotel – Club Meeting TBD (Hosts: LSCC Club Officers)**

**May 3 Pawcatuck Valley Coin Club Annual Coin Show, Norwich CT - Club table (Hosts: Dennis Fortier, John Frost)**

**May 16-18 Garden State Numismatic Association (GSNA), Somerset NJ - Club table, Educational Seminar (Hosts: John Frost, Carl Feldman)**

**June 4-6 Long Beach Expo, Long Beach CA - Club table (Hosts: Brian Cushing, Bob Clark)**

**June 5-7 Raleigh Money Expo, NC at North Carolina State Fairgrounds - Club table (Hosts: Dennis Fortier, John Frost)**

**June 13 Mt. Kisco Coin & Collectibles Fair, Mt. Kisco NY - Club table, Educational Seminar (Hosts: TBD)**

**June 18-20 Whitman Baltimore Summer Expo, MD at the Baltimore Convention Center – LSCC Meeting only on Friday at 9 a.m. (Hosts: LSCC Club Officers)**

**July 9-11 Summer FUN, Orlando FL at Hall WE1 - Club meeting only (Hosts: TBD)**

**August 4-8 ANA's World's Fair of Money, Pittsburgh PA at David Lawrence Convention Center – Important LSCC Annual Meeting & various Educational Programs, Club table, Club Dinner, all TBD (Hosts: LSCC Club Officers & Members)**

*Note: Updates provided as they become available.*

*(Continued on next page)*

Paid advertisement



**GERRY FORTIN**  
**Rare Coins**

**Maximize Your GFRC Experience With  
Ground Breaking Website Applications**

- o  Only Open Set Registry
- o  Price Research App
- o Sales Archive
- o Dynamic Price List App
- o  The Popular DAILY BLOG Too!

**[www.GerryFortinRareCoins.com](http://www.GerryFortinRareCoins.com)**



## **LSCC 2020 Regional Events Schedule Cont.**

*\* Details Mostly Finalized*

September 3-6 (Labor Day Weekend) **Ohio State Coin Show, Dublin (Columbus) OH** – Club Meeting, Club Dinner “New” (Host: Dennis Fortier)

September 17-19 **Long Beach Expo, Long Beach CA** - Club table (Hosts: Brian Cushing, Bob Clark)

September 25 - 27 **Virginia Numismatic Association (VNA) Annual Coin Show, Fredericksburg VA** - Club table, Educational Program (Hosts: John Frost, Dennis Fortier)

October 29-31 **PAN Fall Coin Show, Pittsburgh/Monroeville PA** – Club table, Educational Program (Host: John Frost)

October 2-3 **New Hampshire Coin Expo, Manchester NH** - Club table, Educational Program (Hosts: Joe Casazza, John Frost)

November 12-14 **Whitman Baltimore Fall Expo, MD at the Baltimore Convention Center** - Club table, Club Meeting & Educational Program on Friday at 9:00 a.m. (Hosts: LSCC Club Officers)

December 13 **Mt Kisco Coin & Collectibles Fair, Mt. Kisco NY** - Club table, Educational Seminar (Hosts: TBD)

*Note: Updates provided as they become available.*

(END)

Paid advertisement

**DAVID KAHN**  
RARE COINS, INC  
EST 2005

Seated and Bust coins our speciality,  
quality and eye appeal our focus.

[www.DavidKahnRareCoins.com](http://www.DavidKahnRareCoins.com)  
(301) 570-7070



## Quarter of the Month by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

### An Interesting 1875-S



#### 1875-S Liberty Seated Quarter with a Very Late Die State Reverse

Liberty Seated Quarters are interesting on many levels. The beauty of a gem uncirculated example or the rarity of the big four CC's have obvious appeal. But often the best finds in the series are among common dates in common grades. That's the case this month with an 1875-S Briggs 4-D in PCGS VF35.

The 1875-S is a date that is much less common, and less generally available than: a) the price guides appear to suggest; and b) most collectors not intimately familiar with the series generally suspect. The overlooked scarcity of the issue is compounded by the fact that the average example is quite poorly made. It is typical to find weak and uneven strikes, heavily cracked dies, and an overall appearance

ranging from bad to awful. Briggs, in *The Comprehensive Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Quarters*, speculated that the reported mintage of 680,000 might be notably higher than the number truly produced, while estimating the issue as R4 in F/VF, R4+ in XF/AU and R5 in UNC. The PCGS population of 154 in all grades, with half of those being uncirculated, indicates that the issue is probably not as scarce as it seemed to Briggs, but the CAC population of 17 in all grades supports observations regarding the quality and appearance of the issue.

The pictured coin is, as mentioned, in a PCGS VF35 holder. It is so lightly struck that the technical grade could, in fact, be notably higher than the "market grade" on the holder. Key features of

*(Continued on next page)*



this example are roller marks evident on both obverse and reverse, reverse weakness particularly in the middle portion of AMERICA, and heavy die cracks culminating in the appearance of a retained cud engulfing the UAR in QUAR. At a time when coin making was

generally far more consistent and of higher quality than in the early years of the series, the 1875-S quarter seems like a throwback to an era of poorly produced hand-made dies. The pictured coin is a surprisingly and delightfully crude example.



Start of retained cud at K-6 in above image

Roller lines in lower image



**As featured last month:** The 1851 Liberty Seated Quarter, NGC MS-67+\*, Incredible Quality, Melt Rarity, Ex: Newman, By Far the Finest Known. Superior eye appeal with incredible surface quality, impeccable strike and preservation. Great color of amber-gold, copper hues, and blue tones. From the HFW2 Collection (Lot #4162) realized \$20,400 in the Heritage Platinum Night Session at FUN.



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



## Stories from the Club Table by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

### Guess My Date

Several years ago while trolling eBay I saw a two coin lot of holed half dollars. The coin I was interested in was very much worn. I won the lot cheap as no one suspected what I knew. I then sent the one coin of interest off to a TPG to see if they would get the certification correct. John Frost had hopes that they would fail to correctly attribute the coin and we could display their failure.

However they did get it right. I taped over the header of the slab and we began displaying the coin as the “Guess My Date” coin. You see our idea was to challenge members and collectors to test their series knowledge and identify the coin. In testing collector knowledge we can demonstrate the advantages of learning everything you can about the series you collect.

The challenge of the “Guess My Date” coin is that the last digit of the date is worn away. There



are several clues that can identify the specific date of the coin nonetheless.

*(Continued on next page)*

Paid advertisement



## Quality Collector Coins

Check out Website

[www.BrianGreerRareCoins.com](http://www.BrianGreerRareCoins.com)

We have a large inventory for all denominations of Liberty Seated coinage.

Brian Greer –LSCC #716

(515) 331-3534

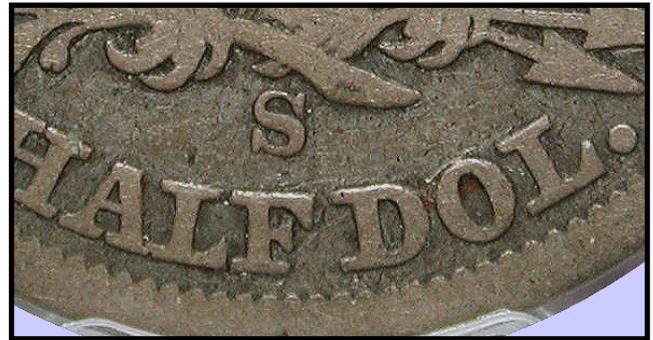
9 AM—6 PM, CST, weekdays



(Continued from prior page)



The first clue is the “S” mintmark on the reverse of the coin. That narrows things down a bit. Next the top of one arrow on the left side is still visible. These two clues alone should be enough to figure-out the date, but there is still one more clue to use. From the scan I could not see the remnants of the arrow, but I could see the 5 in the third date position. The 5 was slanted. My knowledge of the half dollar series told me that the 5’s from 1851 thru 1855 were slanted and starting in 1856 the 5’s were straightened.



As the San Francisco mint did not start minting silver coins until 1855 these clues left no doubt that the coin was an 1855-S half dollar; one of the semi-key dates of the series. Many show attendees have taken the challenge over the years. Overall about 30% of club members have passed the test with half dollar collectors doing a bit better. Non-members average about 10-15%.

This has been one more tool in our tool belt to demonstrate why being a member of the finest ♥ club in the hobby is a good idea.



# The Curious Collector

by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

## The Ultra High Grade Age and Rage

Dave Bowers writes in a recent issue of *Coin World* “PCGS tells me that a 1954-D Washington quarter dollar is worth \$22 in MS-65 grade and \$15,000 in MS-67+ grade. I am probably old-fashioned, but I would rather spend \$15,000 on a grand tour of Europe for a month and have a quarter in ‘only’ MS-65 grade....some of these things are beyond anyone to figure out.....” I’m all with Dave on spending \$15,000 on an *experience* instead of a two-point upgrade. One could also acquire quite a few pieces of nice collector-grade Liberty Seated material for the same price.

I used to think this sort of pricing for ultra high grade modern coins was the supreme expression of stupidity. In the 1990s and 2000s I was fully convinced that the next issue of *Coin World* would contain a large, bold headline announcing that the modern market has crashed and that collectors were rushing to get out of the market, no matter how steep the losses. Guess what? It never happened. Today this is a broad market with consistent auction results to back it up. The 1954-D quarter in MS67+ may not be worth \$15,000 to you, but it is in fact worth \$15,000.

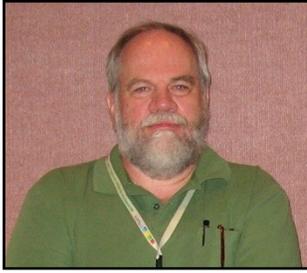
Collectors strive to be *distinct*. It’s all about having something the other person doesn’t. The 1874-CC dime is a good example. There can’t be more than a hundred examples, so simply having one at all qualifies as a mark of distinction. Of course, you can get

even picker if you like. You can insist on a PCGS-graded example (the PCGS population report indicates 60 grading “events”), or one bearing the CAC seal of approval (of which there are 13).

Modern collectors have their own distinctions. PCGS reports over a thousand examples of the 1954-D quarter in MS65, but just 20 in MS67, and only 4 at the MS67+ level. If you are hanging with fellow collectors, the 67+ coin is going to get a lot of attention. But here is where the Liberty Seated collectors get skeptical. The rarity of the 1874-CC dime, based on the number of *pieces* that actually exist, seems more fixed than the rarity of the 1954-D quarter in MS67+, which is based on the number of *grading opinions* that exist. Can’t additional *grading opinions* be created much more easily than actual coins?

It turns out, not necessarily. It’s no secret that the grading services are quite aware of market dynamics, the integrity of their brands, and the need to “hold the line.” The collective trust in the services is what supports the ultra high grade modern market, and for over 30 years the model has more or less held up. It’s time for the “old fashioned” folks like myself to acknowledge that this is a legitimate market with legs that isn’t going anywhere. I won’t be buying the 1954-D 25c in MS67+ anytime soon, but I’m not going to discredit the collector who does.

Special Valentine’s Day Mystery Challenge (*the Ten of Hearts*)  
Can you find the 10 Red Hearts elsewhere in this issue of the E-Gobrecht? Sorry, no clues!



# Auction News February 2020

by Craig Eberhart, LSCC #1348

## Heritage Signature Auction FUN Convention in Orlando, February 8-12, 2020

As with the December Signature auction, numerous better date Liberty Seated coins were included in this sale, many of them with Certified Acceptance Corporation (CAC) stickers. I tend to report CAC-stickered coins because they are often "solid" coins for the grade (as expressed by CAC and no, I have never received any remuneration from CAC to say this!).

A pair of 1840 no drapery half dimes provide an interesting comparison. The top coin was graded MS67+ and the bottom coin was graded AU58+. They look quite similar based on their respective images, but the hammer prices were, of course quite different. I did not examine these coins, but it is likely that surface conditions, often not captured by a photograph, are the primary difference.

Two 1867 half dimes were sold with the MS-64 grade only hammering for about 50% more than the VF35 example. Several pairs of Liberty Seated dollars are also listed for comparison. Even though not included here, there were 12 Liberty Seated and 20 Trade dollars from the Carson City mint in this auction. Multiple examples of Carson City dollars have been sold in many recent major auctions, especially the 1870-CC and 1872-CC dates. As such, they are not often reported in this column.

One of the more interesting coins in the sale was the 1840-(O) medium letter reverse half dollar. Randy Wiley and Bill Bugert, two of our illustrious LSCC Hall of Fame members, were the first to discover that this non-mintmarked coin was a product of the New Orleans Mint. They also identified two die



MS67+



AU58+

marriages with the current example being the much rarer marriage (WB-12). The hammer price seemed strong, but having studied this date for many years and having viewed the coin at the FUN show, I consider the selling price to be quite reasonable for this coin with the WB-12 die marriage.

**Auction News Cont.**

1840 ND	half dime	PCGS CAC	MS67+	\$6,600	No drapery
1840 ND	half dime	PCGS CAC	AU58+	\$720	No drapery (Jan. 21 auction)
1867	half dime	PCGS CAC	VF35	\$1,080	
1867	half dime	PCGS	MS64	\$1,500	
1860-O	dime	PCGS	VF30	\$2,400	
1872-CC	dime	PCGS	VF35	\$3,720	
1842-O	quarter	PCGS CAC	VF30	\$2,760	
1860-S	quarter	PCGS	VF20	\$3,720	
1861-S	quarter	PCGS	VF25	\$2,280	
1865-S	quarter	PCGS	VF35	\$1,560	
1891-O	quarter	PCGS	VF25	\$1,440	
1840-(O)	half dollar	PCGS CAC	XF40	\$2,880	Medium letters reverse WB-12
1842-O SD	half dollar	PCGS CAC	VF35	\$3,600	WB-2, small date & letters
1845	half dollar	PCGS CAC	AU55	\$1,500	
1856-S	half dollar	PCGS CAC	XF40	\$1,170	
1866-S NM	half dollar	PCGS	XF40	\$1740	WB-1, No motto
1870-CC	half dollar	PCGS	F12	\$3,360	
1878-CC	half dollar	PCGS	AU58♥	\$10,200	WB-1
1853	Seated dollar	PCGS CAC	XF40	\$2,010	
1854	Seated dollar	PCGS	VF30	\$4,320	
1854	Seated dollar	PCGS CAC	AU55	\$8,700	
1856	Seated dollar	PCGS	XF40	\$2,880	
1856	Seated dollar	NGC	AU55	\$3,480	
1862	Seated dollar	PCGS CAC	AU50	\$7,200	
1864	Seated dollar	PCGS	VF35	\$1,320	
1865	Seated dollar	PCGS	XF40	\$2,040	

**Legend Regency Auction, January 30, Las Vegas, NV**

Results from this auction were not available when this column was prepared. As usual with Legend auctions many high grade coins are included in the sale. Perhaps the most interesting Liberty Seated coins are the 18 dollars from the Bear Creek Collection. Most are scarcer dates in AU or uncirculated grades.

(End)



## Making News This Month Cont.♥

### ANA and NGC to Launch ANA Registry

**Colorado Springs, CO (Jan. 28, 2020)** - The American Numismatic Association (ANA) and Numismatic Guaranty Corporation® (NGC®) have partnered to launch the ANA Registry later this year.

Many collectors participate in online registry programs offered by NGC and Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS), the hobby's leading third-party coin grading services. These programs help numismatists organize their collections, set collecting goals and learn from other collectors around the world.

The competitive aspect of registry set collecting holds particular allure for numismatists. Registered coins receive a point score based on their grade, relative rarity and value. These scores are then tallied, and collections are ranked based on their total score. The top sets receive prizes and recognition.

The ANA Registry will allow both NGC- and PCGS-certified U.S. coins to be registered and displayed, recognizing that most U.S. coin collectors have certified coins from both services. Participation will be free and open to all collectors. ANA members will receive a special icon of recognition next to their sets.

“We are excited to announce the launch of the ANA Registry, a state-of-the-art collecting tool available at no cost to ANA members,” says ANA President Steven Ellsworth. “NGC has provided tremendous support to the Association for the past 25 years, and we’re delighted to be partnering on this venture. The ANA Registry will be the premier registry platform for U.S. coin collectors.”

The top ANA Registry sets will be recognized annually during the ANA World’s Fair of Money, the country’s most important numismatic event. ANA members will be eligible to compete for prizes valued at more than \$20,000.



Awards will be presented in categories that include Best Classic Sets, Best Modern Sets, Best Presented Sets, Best New Sets, Most Educational Sets and Best Overall Sets. The three winners in the Best Overall Sets category will be honored at the official ANA Banquet at the ANA World’s Fair of Money, and all the major award winners will be recognized in *The Numismatist*, the official publication of the ANA.

The first ANA Registry Awards will be held in August 2021.

The ANA Registry will have a strong educational mission. In addition to establishing an award for Most Educational Sets, the ANA Registry will display two or three important and informative sets in the Museum Showcase area at the ANA World’s Fair of Money. Participants also will be able to add images and commentary for all of their coins and sets.

Costs associated with developing the ANA Registry will be borne by NGC, which is committed to utilizing the latest technologies to feature an elegant, easy-to-use interface. The ANA Registry will be hosted on the ANA website, [money.org](http://money.org).

“The ANA is pleased to work with NGC to offer this collector-friendly registry set program,” says Kim Kiick, ANA executive director. “Although the ANA Registry is open to all collectors free-of-charge, only ANA members will reap the benefit of winning awards.”

Mark Salzberg, NGC chairman and grading finalizer, notes, “This collaboration will bring the hobby together in an inclusive platform for the benefit of all — collectors, dealers, researchers and grading services. We are honored to work with the ANA on this transformative development for the hobby.”

*(Continued on next page)*



## Making News This Month Cont.

(Continued from prior page)

The NGC Registry will continue to exist on NGCcoin.com with all the coins and sets in the NGC Registry automatically included in the ANA Registry. As a result, when the ANA Registry launches, it will already include more than 130,000 sets and 1.1 million coins from the best collections from around the world.

The ANA Registry will debut later in 2020. Announcements with more information, including details about how to participate, will be forthcoming.

[Editor: The forthcoming ANA Registry Program should be of special interest to E-Gobrecht readers as many individuals already participate in registry set competitive collecting under NGC and PCGS.]

### Recent Liberty Seated related articles in the general numismatic press:

**150 YEARS: Carson City Mint Celebrates Major Anniversary** by Paul Gilkes, Sr. Editor, Coin World Magazine (February 2020). A historical discussion also about the Liberty Seated Dime (1871-1878), 20-Cent Piece (1875-1876), Quarter (1870-1878), Half Dollar (1870-1878), Dollar (1870-1878) and Trade Dollar (1873-1885). Included was information about the less than 20 known examples of the 1876-CC Double Dime and various denomination cancelled dies that John Frost wrote about in The Gobrecht Journal and E-Gobrecht.

and **Collecting Carson City Mint Coins** in the same issue above.

**Using the Newman Numismatic Portal is researcher dream** by Chris Bulfinch, Coin World Magazine (January 2020). Are you conducting numismatic research? The Newman Numismatic Portal is an “unfathomable” range of available past numismatic publications, historical records from organizations and correspondence, and much more.

**Why Are These Coins Different** by Steve Roach, Coin World Magazine (January 2020). A fabulous perspective on rare U.S. coins in the various series and denominations including Liberty Seated.

(Continued on next page)

## Upcoming Major Coin/Currency Auctions

**February 16-19, 2020** - “Pre-Long Beach Sale” conducted by Ira & Larry Goldberg Auctions  
(<https://www.goldbergcoins.com/>)

**February 20-23, 2020** - “Long Beach Expo U.S. Coins Signature Sale” by Heritage Auctions  
(<https://coins.ha.com/>)

**March 18-20, 2020** - Whitman Baltimore Spring Expo “Baltimore Spring Auction”  
by Stack’s Bowers Galleries (<https://www.stacksbowers.com/>)

**April 22-27, 2020** - “Cental States (CSNA) U.S. Coins/Currency Signature Sale”  
by Heritage Auctions (<https://coins.ha.com/>)



(Continued from page 20)

**More Liberty Seated related articles:**

**Collect both types of the 1875-S dime - Coin is available in two subtypes, with Mint mark placement the distinction** by Chris Bulfinch, Coin World Weekly (February 10, 2020 issue)

**Coins have a link to 1859 slave auction - Slave owner from Philadelphia sells his slaves, then gives them quarter dollars** by Gerald Tebben, Editor of CSNS's *Central*, Coin World Weekly (January 20, 2020 issue).

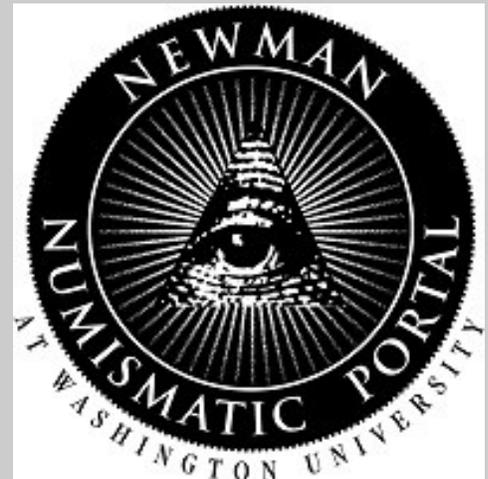
**Die varieties from the SS 'Central America' - 1856 S/S Seated Liberty quarter dollars bear Large S over Small S Mint mark** by Paul Gilkes, Sr. Editor, Coin World Weekly (December 30, 2019 issue)

**Quick and Easy Liberty Seated Resources at the Newman Numismatic Portal:**

Past issues of the *The Gobrecht Journal* through 2014 are accessible at no cost on NNP at <https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/publisherdetail/2096>.

*E-Gobrecht* issues are located at: <https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/publisherdetail/511326>.

The Steve Crain half dime reference collection is at: <https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/imagecollection/514182>.



As featured last month: An 1873-CC Liberty Seated Dollar, Choice PCGS EF-45, Rarest Carson City Silver Dollar with mintage of only 2,300. From the Watermark Collection (#4240) realized \$31,200 in the Heritage FUN Sale



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Liberty Seated  
Collectors Club

### National Officers

#### President

Leonard Augsburger  
[leonard\\_augsburger@hotmail.com](mailto:leonard_augsburger@hotmail.com)

#### Vice President

Dennis Fortier  
[ricajun@msn.com](mailto:ricajun@msn.com)

#### Secretary / Treasurer

Dale Miller  
[dalecta@gmail.com](mailto:dalecta@gmail.com)

### National Positions

#### Gobrecht Journal Publication Editor

Bill Bugert  
[wb8cpy@earthlink.net](mailto:wb8cpy@earthlink.net)

#### E-Gobrecht Digital Publication Editor

Paul Kluth  
[e-gobrecht@msn.com](mailto:e-gobrecht@msn.com)  
P.O. Box 275  
New Windsor, MD 21776

#### Carl Feldman

[carlscoins@gmail.com](mailto:carlscoins@gmail.com)  
Membership Chairman

#### John Frost

[john.frost@doubledimes.com](mailto:john.frost@doubledimes.com)  
Education Director

#### Dennis Fortier

[ricajun@msn.com](mailto:ricajun@msn.com)  
Team Leader  
Regional Directors

#### Jeff Ball

[jeffballphoto@gmail.com](mailto:jeffballphoto@gmail.com)  
Director  
LSCC Southern Region

#### Vacant

Director, LSCC Central Region

#### Brian Cushing

[bpcushing@gmail.com](mailto:bpcushing@gmail.com)  
Director  
LSCC Western Region

#### Joe Casazza

[jsazza236@gmail.com](mailto:jsazza236@gmail.com)  
Director  
LSCC Northeast Region

## LSCC Mission

To encourage, promote, and dispense numismatic knowledge of Liberty Seated coins; to cultivate fraternal relations among its members and all those interested in the science of numismatics.

LSCC website: [www.lscweb.org](http://www.lscweb.org)  
LSCC email address: [lsc@lscweb.org](mailto:lsc@lscweb.org)

LSCC Membership Information: Dues are bargain priced at \$25 per year and include three issues of the *Gobrecht Journal*, an award winning numismatic publication. To join the Liberty Seated Collectors Club, for *Gobrecht Journal* mailing address changes, or for other membership questions, please correspond with the LSCC Secretary/Treasurer listed on this page.

Articles, comments, or advertisements for publication in the *Gobrecht Journal* may be addressed to Bill Bugert, Gobrecht Journal Publication Editor.

Submissions, correspondence, information and comments for this digital publication (*E-Gobrecht*) are actively encouraged from its subscribers and may be sent to Paul Kluth, E-Gobrecht Publication Editor.



To be added as a "free" subscriber to *E-Gobrecht* or removed from the mailing list or to change your email address, please send an email message indicating your preference in the subject line to: [e-gobrecht@msn.com](mailto:e-gobrecht@msn.com)

### ***Wanted: Submissions for this newsletter!***

*Please consider submitting something for print. It need not be elaborate; it can be something as simple as a short note on a favorite coin, variety, neat find, nice cherrypick, happening at a coin show or local club, Liberty Seated coinage at auction, etc. If you are interested in it, rest assured, others will be too!*

*Sharing information is a goal of this newsletter and you need not be an experienced or column writer to submit material of interest to others. "This is your monthly digital publication. It is what you make of it!"*

*Please be sure to quote the *E-Gobrecht* and the LSCC as its contents are not copywrited. Use it contents freely.*