

The E-Gobrecht

Liberty Seated Collectors Club

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Central Ohio Numismatic Association Coin Show images, September 1-2, 2017

(at left) Gerry Fortin and Stephen Petty host a LSCC regional meeting and educational seminar.

(below) LSCC regional meeting group photo.



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 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.



A Remarkable Circulation Find for 2017 by John Frost, LSCC #2005

On Tuesday September 26, 2017, a friend of mine from Chicago sent me an email. Her sister owns a small retail shop in Louisiana and is always on the lookout for silver coins coming into her register. Normally, they include silver Roosevelt dimes and Washington quarters. She forwarded an email with the following picture at right, showing some of the coins in the "silver bag" that her sister had received last week in the shop.

However, what prompted the email to me this particular day was that in the morning, she had received in her cash register an old coin, nothing like anything she had ever seen before.



The email message was:

I have quite a collection of silver coins. I have a small retail store and we find silver every week. I can hear the sound when they drop it in the register. This 1838 is by far my best find. The condition is amazing for a circulated coin. The ridges around the edge, the details in her clothing and Liberty still visible on her shield.

When I opened the photos of this unknown coin, I was shocked! It was an XF 1838-O No Stars Liberty Seated dime! And it appeared to be in pretty remarkable shape. Never cleaned, the coin for the most part, only had normal circulation marks, and one very minor rim ding just below the date. The photos weren't particularly sharp (I sharpened them a bit for the article here), but most of the darker spots appear to be toning.



I told her that she had a valuable and scarce coin for the high grade, and advised her to keep it protected, and not to clean it. It is amazing that this coin re-entered circulation nearly 180 years after it was minted. Apparently, this coin never left the State of Louisiana!



Quarter of the Month by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

The 1841-O Reverse "F" Liberty Seated Quarter Dollar

The 1841-O was mentioned last month as an issue with an interesting set of die marriages. In addition to eight listed die marriages, of which I have seen only six in the past 14 years, there are also some distinct die states that the interested collector can pursue. Two reverses in particular, Briggs' B and F, deteriorate to the point that cuds form in later die states. Focusing this month on Reverse F, Figures 1 through 3 show the early die state, the late die state with heavy cracks over UNIT, and the very late die state with a cud over UNIT, respectively. Close up images are shown in Figures 4 through 6.

The 1841-O quarter is an elusive coin in grades of VF or better. Many of the known examples origi-

nate from the New Orleans Hoard and have significant problems. A truly original example of the 1841-O is something of a prize (CAC population of 21 in all grades). In addition to the corrosion and surface contamination common to hoard coins, rusty dies and poor strikes are the norm for the issue with some die marriages essentially unknown fully struck.

The 1841-O can be an interesting, or part of an interesting, collecting project. The issue offers the collector a die marriage set of 6-8 distinct coins, multiple die states of at least 3 of those die marriages, and the opportunity to hunt for elusive examples of each that are well struck and/or well preserved.



1841-O Liberty Seated Quarter Dollar Reverse F.
Figure 2. LDS.
Figure 3. VLDS.



Figure 1. EDS.





1841-O Liberty Seated Quarter Dollar Reverse F. Detail images of UNITED.

Figure 4. Close up of EDS. Figure 5. Close up of LDS. Figure 6. Close up of VLDS.





Auction News by Craig Eberhart, LSCC #1348

Auction Premiums. It should be noted that both CC dimes were in this sale. Not surprisingly, they were cent, and Bonham's is 17 percent. I did hear a few complaints about 20 percent premiums at the Long Beach show but 20 percent is easier for most bidders to calculate without electronic assistance and then adjust their bids accordingly.

September 2017 Auctions. Four major live coin auctions for September were all held in California by Bonhams, Kagin's, Goldberg Coins, and Heritage. The few Liberty Seated coins in the Bonhams sale were proofs. were quite sparse. However, an 1876-CC Trade dollar quarter in PCGS XF40 brought \$1,440. graded PCGS AU58 Type I/II was sold by Kagin's for \$2,585.

The **Heritage Long Beach Sale** (September 7 -10) did have a reasonable selection of better date Liberty Seated coins. An 1844-O half dime in PCGS 1867-S dime sold for \$1,020. Surprisingly, three 1873- brought \$1,680.

Heritage and Stack's Bowers now have a 20 percent the With-Arrows type. The NGC FR2 sold for \$1,680, buyer's premium, Kagin's and Goldberg's are 17.5 per- the PCGS VF25 for \$6,000, and the PCGS VF35 for \$7,200.

Two 1877 proof double-dimes or twenty-cent pieces, graded by PCGS brought strong prices. This date is the rarest Philadelphia proof double dime and exceeded only by the much rarer branch mint San Francisco proof of 18751. The PR61 sold for \$13,200 and the PR63 for \$18,000. Two 1855-O quarters in PCGS holders were sold: an EF45 for \$2,400 and a VF25 for \$552. An 1865-S quarter graded PCGS XF45 Both Goldberg's and Kagin's liberty Seated selection with a green CAC sticker sold for \$3,360. An 1875-CC

An 1866-S no motto half dollar graded F15 by NGC sold for \$720. Two 1873-CC half dollars, both with small CC reverses were sold: a PCGS XF40 sold for \$1,560 and an NGC AU58 for \$3,840. An 1859-S silver dollar graded PCGS XF45 sold for \$1,748 and an XF45 brought \$1,320. An 1843-O dime in a PCGS 1870-CC graded NGC VG8 sold for \$900. A darkly VF25 holder was also sold for \$1,320. A PCGS XF45 toned 1876-CC Trade dollar grading PCGS AU55

¹ For more information on twenty-cent piece proofs, see the following reference: Brunner, Lane J. and Frost, John M. Double Dimes—The United States Twenty-cent Piece. Self-published, July 2014.



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ville, PA. The Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists (PAN) Fall Coin Show Convention, Monroeville Convention Center, Monroeville (Pittsburgh), PA. John Frost will be giving his talk "Introduction to Liberty Seated Coinage" on Friday October 27th at 1 PM. The regional club meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 28th at 12:30. The club table will be located on the bourse floor.

Early-November 2017. Gobrecht Journal Issue #130 will be postal mailed to all current LSCC members.

Note: See the LSCC website (www.lsccweb.org) for information on additional upcoming coin show club activities.



LSCC website: www.lsccweb.org





Regional News by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

From Stephen Petty: We held two sessions of the LSCC Midwest Region meetings on September 1st and 2nd from 9 AM to 10 AM during the Ohio State Coin Show in Dublin, OH. This show is the largest

in Ohio with 125 tables.

Both days Gerry Fortin began the meeting with "The Many Faces of Liberty," I followed with a presentation on Liberty Seated Dollars titled "What a Dollar Would Buy from 1830 to 1870." I also brought my complete (yes, complete!)_set of Liberty Seated dollars so everyone could inspect and comment on the set. The average grade is MS62.

The first session was attended by 10 members with a fall off to 2 the second day. Attendees provided many positive comments regarding the meeting and the topics covered.

I put Stephen's report first because when he submitted it, he was back in Florida without power, AC, or internet. Armed with only his smart phone and dealing with Irma's wreckage, he took the time to send in a report for the members. That is dedication! - Keeping in mind our Florida and Texas members dealing with hurricane devastation.

Membership continues to grow steadily. Currently, we are 657 members strong. Regional outreach, ANA Summer Seminars, Educational programs, and, of course, our two fabulous periodicals all work together to keep member interest (and retention) high while adding to our ranks.

The LSCC is fortunate to have committed volunteers all over the country in the Regional Program and a professional leadership team guiding the club into its future.

The Long Beach Coin Expo included a club dinner at The Rock Bottom Brewery (see photo below) hosted by West Coast Regional Director Brian Cushing. Good cheer and coin talk were the spirit of the evening. (You can't get that over the internet).

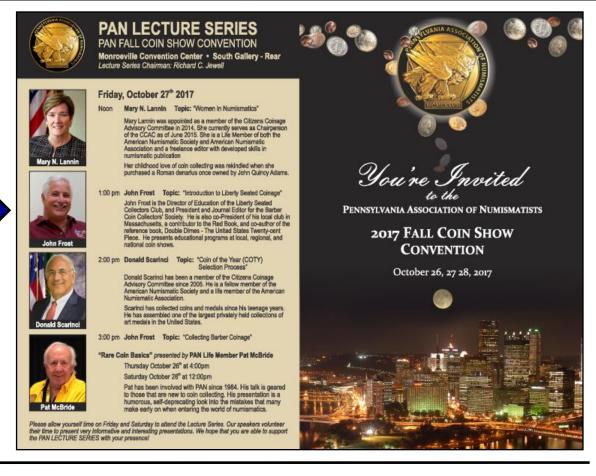


Sadly, the club table went empty as Bob Clark was busy dealing with last minute personal issues. Which reminds me, Bob could use some help there. Are a dealer's badge and early access to the show worth a few hours of your time? Please contact me if you wish to help.

The end of October has us at PAN (Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists), October 26-28. In addition to the club table John Frost, LSCC Education Director, with give a presentation on Friday at 1 PM "An Introduction to Liberty Seated Coinage." (See the PAN flyer on the next page.) A club meeting will be conducted on Saturday at 12:30. Check the show program for room number.

Carl Feldman, the LSCC New Member Chairperson, will be hosting the club table. Carl is always good for a coin story or an anecdote. When Carl opens the vault to display some of his holdings, you know something fascinating with emerge.





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Cracked, Shattered, and Terminal by Benny Haimovitz, LSCC #2494

1849 Liberty Seated Dime, F-106, R4





The Philadelphia mint produced 839,000 dimes in 1849. Both obverse and reverse dies show interesting and easily identifiable diagnostics for proper attribution.

Obverse Diagnostic 1: The obverse die shows a significant die crack starting in the rim to the left and slightly above star 3, continuing through stars 6 and 7, then across Liberty's forehead before exiting through the rim above star 8.



Obverse Diagnostic 2: Additionally, the obverse features a die crack through the bottom portions of the date numerals, exiting through the rim at about K-5.



Reverse Diagnostics: The reverse die appears substantially more cracked than the obverse die, especially so on the left side. A crack starts at the rim, slightly below and the left of the U in UNITED before going up through the UN of UNITED, through the wreath leaves and the T of STATES, before exiting the rim above the A in STATES. An additional crack begins in the rim at K-9, crosses through the E in UNITED



(Continued from page 8)

before intersecting with the larger vertical die crack in the wreath.



Die state diagnostics courtesy of Gerry Fortin.

Images courtesy of Eye Appealing Coins, with this example graded as MS62 by PCGS.

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The Curious Collector by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

The Whoopee Cushion in the Mint

The name Franklin Peale (1795-1870) likely rings a bell with many collectors of

Liberty Seated coinage. Peale was the son of Charles Willson Peale (1741-1827), a Philadelphia portrait artist and naturalist. Charles, the father, is best known as the proprietor of Peale's Museum, where city dwellers could see exotic animals and other curiosities neatly exhibited by Peale. Peale was a celebrated portraitist with connections to the young nation's elite, and museum visitors could virtually "rub shoulders" with the Founding Fathers that hung on Peale's walls. Peale was prolific in other ways as no less than sixteen children sprang from his first and second wives. Many were named after prominent artists such as Raphael, Rembrandt, Rubens, and so forth. Titian Peale was another, and today he is recognized for his model of the eagle on the reverse of the Gobrecht dollar.

Franklin Peale, Chief Coiner of the U.S. Mint from 1839 to 1854 (shown at right), was responsible for a host of innovations during his tenure which served to raise America's minting technology to a level competitive with the longtime European Mints. Indeed, Peale's first assignment was to take an extended tour of the European operations; this took place from 1833 to 1835. Among Peale's



contributions were the steam-powered press and important advances in the assaying of precious metals. Peale's talent was recognized early on and he was promoted to Chief Coiner in 1839, upon the retirement of the long serving Adam Eckfeldt.

The latter stage of Peale's Mint career was not without controversy, as charges were raised relating to private commissions for medal making. At this time, the choices to manufacture a medal were few and it was natural that societies wishing to create award medals and other memorials turned to the U.S. Mint for help. Peale accepted these orders personally and was accused of appropriating Mint resources to complete the work. The charges against

Peale are detailed in Richard McCulloh's Official Misconduct of Franklin Peale (https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/book/536061).

Much of this document makes for dry reading and we shall skip to the most amusing part which accuses Peale of implanting a whoopee cushion in his office sofa at Mint expense. McCulloh writes "He seems to think I ought to feel ashamed of having even alluded to his noisy sofa, the trumpet blasts from the seat of which may, he says, be useful to 'sound an alarm;' but which, I presume from what I have heard, were rather designed to terrify children and disturb the nerves of female visitors. As he is entitled to the gratitude of his country for having furnished the Mint with so useful a piece of machinery, I will let it pass with the remark, that the statements of others show it to have been more costly than he pretends, and that it was not made chiefly with his own hands."

A witness, Joseph Canby, testified "Franklin Peale had a number of men, that were employed by the Government, doing a very foolish and expensive piece of work, for a sofa, said to be for his office; whose job, in my opinion must have cost the Government between one and two hundred dollars; and which work now has been destroyed or thrown one side." One of the Mint machinists further described the sofa "That about the year 1846 or 7, the said Franklin Peale had various workmen of the Mint employed at the Mint to make a sofa, which was to blow trumpets when a person sat on it - the carpenter Robert Wallace -James Noble, employed in the rolling room, made copper trumpets - David Gilbert, of the machine shop, made the springs, and W.M. Snider [the writer] was near or full two weeks making the mouth-pieces and valves of trumpets and other fixings. James Pierrie, who now works in the Mint, was sent for to paint it in imitation of rose wood."

Peale was eventually found guilty of sufficient misconduct and discharged by Mint Director James Ross Snowden in 1854. The sofa with the whoopee cushion is today sadly lost to history but we can be grateful Peale's steam press engine has survived and may be seen today at the American Numismatic Association museum in Colorado Springs, CO. But, the next time you look at a piece of Liberty Seated coinage dated 1846 or 1847, you can imagine a few trumpet blasts going off in the Mint!



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<u>Holt Rarities</u> is Buying and Selling Liberty Seated, Federal, and Colonial Issue coins of all denominations. Check out our website at <u>www.holtraricointies.com</u> or call (931) 581-1890. Brad Holt has collected s for over thirty years and is a member of the ANA and LSCC.

<u>Wanted to Buy.</u> Collector of Liberty Seated Dollars wants engraved and/or counter-stamped (love tokens) or rotated reverses. All mints, any condition, holed OK. Carl Feldman: <u>carlscoins@gmail.com</u> or (973) 479-9956.

www.dickosburn.com We buy, sell, and trade early U.S. silver coinage with an emphasis on Liberty Seated and Bust. Also accepting consignments and want lists. Call Brian at 603-767-7745 or contact Dick and Brian at bpcushing@gmail.com

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Liberty Seated and Bust Coinage for Sale. Rich Uhrich Rare U. S. Coins Inc. specializes in Bust and Seated silver coins, especially scarce and rare dates and varieties. His website www.richuhrichcoins.com lists his complete inventory. He is an authorized PCGS and NGC dealer and a member of ANA, LSCC, EAC, and JRCS. Contact him at richuhrichcoins@comcast.net, 717-579-8238.

Dr. Eugene Bruder is constantly updating his website, www.typecoins.com, which features a nice selection of bust and seated material for sale. You can reach him at 402-475-0350 or email at: gene@typecoins.com.

<u>Seeking 1839 Gobrecht Dollar</u>. Prefer 45-60 condition, cleaned and retoned OK. John Cory, 201-669-6500, <u>icory@nj.rr.com</u>.

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Rotated Reverse Seated Dimes Wanted. I am looking for rotated reverse Liberty Seated dimes. Any interested parties can email Jason Feldman at jason@seated.org

Brian Greer, well known dealer, collector, and numismatist, has an extensive listing of many new dates and varieties listed on his website. Check them out at: http://www.briangreerrarecoins.com/.

<u>Liberty Seated Dime Die Varieties Wanted</u>. I am paying high prices for Seated Dimes with major cuds, die cracks, and rotated reverses. Contact David Thomas at <u>davethomas333@hotmail.com</u> or 1-714-872-2772.

Large Selection of Gobrecht, Seated & Trade Dollars to be offered at ANA at Table 435. W. David Perkins, LSCC #790, will have a large selection Gobrecht, Seated and Trade Dollars for sale at the 2017 ANA Convention at Table 435. Many better dates and mint marks. Contact Dave at wdperki@attglobal.net, visit my website at www.davidperkinsrarecoins.com, or phone 303-902-5366.

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Wanted to Buy, Liberty Seated Quarters for my personal collection. Prefer choice, original examples with attractive natural color and surfaces. Please feel free to offer me any coins and I will respond promptly. Doug Winter LSCC #10. Email address dwn@ont.com.

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LSCC Mission

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

LSCC website: www.lsccweb.org
LSCC email address: lscc@lsccweb.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, correspond with the LSCC Secretary/Treasurer.

Articles, comments, or advertisements for publication in the *Gobrecht Journal* may be addressed to the LSCC Publications Editor.

Information, input, comments, or suggestions for improvements to this *E-Gobrecht* are actively solicited from anyone and may be sent to the LSCC Publications Editor.

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Wanted: Material 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 your favorite variety, neat find, nice cherry pick, happenings at a coin show, rare Liberty Seated coinage coming up for 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 famous writer to submit something. This is a continuing plea.

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