

Do you know what these are?



Stories from the Club Table	2
2021 Commemorative Coin Program	3
Quarter of the Month by Greg Johnson	4-5
LSCC Calendar	5
Auction News by Craig Eberhart	6-7
Important announcement for LSCC members	7
The Curious Collector by Len Augsburger	8
Regional News	10
LSCC Information	11

Go to the next page and find out.

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.



Stories from the Club Table

by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

Working the club table has brought me into repeated contact with many members of the club. Some are new members and some members of long standing; members from various parts of the country. Did you know that not all parts of the country are equal when collecting Liberty Seated coins or Liberty Seated Exonumia.

The internet has played a great part in equalizing regional anomalies but some areas of difference still remain. Getting to know members from other parts of the country has opened up opportunities for me to enhance my modest collection. By overcoming these regional anomalies thru club friendships I have been able to add certain Liberty Seated Exonumia pieces to my collection that are both interesting and demonstrative of my passion for Liberty Seated coinage.

Coin glass was produced in West Virginia for only six months in 1892, it depicts Liberty Seated coins. These pieces in pristine condition can bring several hundred dollars. With some chips in them the price is greatly reduced. In any condition they are considered scarce. In making the acquaintance of a long standing member of the club from that area of the country I have been fortunate to procure a couple of nice pieces to use and display at our table for company to enjoy. (see images on preceding page)

So why was this lovely glass only produced for six month? The answer is the Treasury Department believed it could be used to counterfeit coins. Yes, believe it or not that was their thinking. All the glass still at the factory and all the molds were destroyed. An interesting and unheralded piece of Liberty Seated history; the story makes for gripping conversation about the pieces at family dinners.

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COMMEMORATIVE COIN PROGRAM - This legislation, H.R. 3757, "1921 Silver Dollar Commemorative Coin Act" will require the United States Mint to produce two U.S. Silver Dollars (Morgan and Peace Dollars) dated 2021.

COIN DESIGNS - These two silver dollars will be minted from the original design work of George T. Morgan and Anthony de Francisci. The only change will be the date to 2021.

METAL CONTENT - The coins will be not less than 90% silver.

COIN SIZES - They will be as the original sized silver dollars in uncirculated and proof finishes.

COST - The pricing has yet to be determined. **40% of the surcharges will go back to numismatics** through the American Numismatic Association as directed by law. Since the restart of the Mint's commemorative coin program in 1982 coin surcharges have supported many worthy causes and projects. This will be the first time that the surcharge funds will be used to support numismatics.



<https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>



Quarter of the Month

by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

The 1840-O With Drapery Large O Quarter Dollar

The Comprehensive Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Quarters (published 1991) describes the 1840 With Drapery Large O quarter, with 16 examples confirmed at the time, as the “rarest collectible seated quarter.” As eBay and the internet became major influences in the coin market (roughly 2004 – 2010) the variety was avidly sought by collectors and many additional examples appeared on the market. The pace with which the number of known examples increased during that period made the variety seem almost common at times; though still quite expensive. By the time the Top 25 Set was formulated in 2011 there was estimated to be around 40 known. After the relative flurry of activity, with quite a few examples changing hands, the variety is notable now for how absent it has been from the market of the past 5 years.

So, perhaps it's time to revisit the 1840 With Drapery Large O quarter. The Liberty Seated quarter obverse with drapery added, along with other design changes, was first introduced in 1840. The With Drapery Large O (WDLgO) variety was apparently the first New Orleans quarter to feature the new design. The variety pairs the new obverse with a reworked reverse that had been previously used to strike no drapery quarters. Note in the figure the second set of hand cut denticles and the pronounced weakness on the right feather and left leg of the eagle. All known examples of the 1840 WDLgO have this weakness on the reverse and when certified are sometimes undergraded because of it. The other two New Orleans With Drapery die marriages from 1840 utilize new

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1840-O With Drapery Large O Quarter Dollar (photos courtesy of Heritage.com)



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reverse dies having the small O mintmark of subsequent years. Thus, the die marriage having the obverse With Drapery and the large O reverse can accurately be referred to as an *important* transitional coin. The 1840 WDLgO quarter was voted number 7 in the Liberty Seated Collectors Club survey of the 10 greatest New Orleans seated coins (*Gobrecht Journal* Issue 101), finishing as the third highest rated quarter in the group behind the 1849-O (#3) and the 1842-O Small Date (#6). It was also included as coin #2 in the Top 25 Seated Quarter Varieties described in *Gobrecht Journal* #111.

There appear to have been few new examples discovered over the past ten years. The best current estimate is that less than 50 exist in all grades and conditions, making the variety an R6-. Most examples grade VG or lower and/or have problems such as cleaning or damage. LSCC surveys in 1993, 2007, and 2013 reported numbers in club member's hands of 6, 11, and 19, respectively. Six of the 19 reported in 2013 were certified. PCGS has certified 10 examples labeled as this variety (coin number 395925) to date. Though there are other certified examples in holders labeled without attribution as only 1840-O WD. There are at least three certified coins grading better than XF40; one AU and two Mint State. There are also at least three certified coins with CAC approval; a VF20, a VF25, and a MS64. Heritage has sold only two examples of the variety during the past five years, one PCGS XF40 and one PCGS MS64/CAC. The

MS64/CAC coin has sold three times at Heritage in the past five years.

Obviously, obtaining an example of this variety is an often expensive challenge. But, it also seems like the recent emphasis on quality, as illustrated by the popularity of CAC, has held back both prices and number of transactions for this variety. Most opportunities to obtain an example will involve less-than-perfect lower grade specimens. The overall rarity of the issue, along with the large percentage of problem and low-grade coins, makes waiting for a certified, problem free example an uncertain proposition.

References.

- The Comprehensive Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Quarters*, Larry Briggs, Lima OH 1991.
- "Results of the 1993 Liberty Seated Quarter Survey," Larry Briggs, *Gobrecht Journal* #59, March 1994.
- "The Ten Greatest New Orleans Seated Coins," *Gobrecht Journal* #101, March 2008.
- "An Analysis for the Seated Quarter Survey Data," John McCloskey, *Gobrecht Journal* #102, July 2008.
- "The Liberty Seated Quarter Top 25 Variety Set," Greg Johnson, *Gobrecht Journal* #111, July 2011.
- E-Gobrecht Quarter of the Month*, Greg Johnson, September 2011.
- "Analysis of Liberty Seated Quarter Top 25 Variety Survey Data," Greg Johnson, *Gobrecht Journal* #119, March 2014.

Photos courtesy of Heritage Archives.

LSCC Calendar

October 1, 2019. Articles and advertisements for the Fall issue of the *Gobrecht Journal* due to LSCC Editor and Publisher, Bill Bugert.

October 4-5, 2019. **LSCC club table, regional meeting, and educational program. Manchester, NH.** New Hampshire Coin Expo, Doubletree Hotel Conference Center. Regional meeting with educational programs Friday, October 4 at 2 PM.

October 17-19, 2019. **LSCC club table and educational program. Monroeville, PA.** PAN Show (Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists), Monroeville, PA Convention Center. Details TBD.

All dates: see the LSCC website (www.lscweb.org) for additional events and details.



Auction News

by Craig Eberhart, LSCC #1348

Goldberg's Pre-Long Beach Auction, Los Angeles, September 1-2. Only a few Liberty Seated coins were available in this auction. An 1852-O quarter dollar in a PCGS VF20 holder brought \$960. At the other end of the price spectrum, the finest graded double die 1876-CC Trade dollar, in a PCGS MS64+ holder with a CAC sticker, brought \$55,200.

Heritage Signature Auction, Long Beach Coin Expo, September 5-8. This auction included a nice selection of Liberty Seated coins with many scarce dates in every series. Several major rarities were also sold. These included an 1876-CC double dime with 15 to 20 known examples; one of four known 1842 small date small letters half dollars; and one of four known no arrows 1853-O half dollars. This small date small letters 1842 half dollar was the first known example, which was discovered by LSCC Hall of Fame member Brian Greer.

1846	half dime	NGC	G4	\$1,110	
1853-O NA	half dime	NGC	VF35	\$2,160	No arrows
1842-O	dime	PCGS	AU58	\$1,620	F-106, medium O
1858-S	dime	NGC	VF25	\$690	
1860-O	dime	NGC	VF30	\$2,040	F-101
1866	dime	PCGS	XF45	\$1,560	F-102a
1866	dime	NGC	MS63	\$2,280	F-102a
1871-CC	dime	NGC	VG8	\$3,120	
1871-CC	dime	PCGS	VG10	\$4,120	
1876-CC	double dime	PCGS CAC	MS64	\$456,000	
1849-O	quarter	NGC	VG8	\$1,620	
1870-CC	quarter	NGC	VF25	\$32,400	
1872-S	quarter	NGC	AG3	\$1,620	
1842 SD SL	Half dollar	PCGS	VF20	\$30,027	Small date, Small Letters Discovery Coin
1853-O NA	Half dollar	PCGS	VG8	\$144,000	
1870-CC	Half dollar	PCGS	F15	\$4,320	WB-2
1870-CC	Half dollar	PCGS	XF45	\$13,800	WB-5
1878-S	Half dollar	PCGS	AG3	\$21,600	
1871-CC	Seated dollar	NGC	VG8	\$3,720	OC-1
1873-CC	Seated dollar	NGC	XF45	\$19,200	OC-1

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Legend Regency Auction, PCGS Members Only Show, Las Vegas, September 26. An 1855-S half dollar, in a PCGS AU58 holder with a green CAC sticker, was sold for \$14,687. As usual for Legend Auctions many of the Liberty Seated coins are often among the finest graded. This auction was no exception and included a small but outstanding group of 16 high-grade Liberty Seated and Trade dollars, with 8 of the 16 selling in the five figure range.

Important Announcement for LSCC Members

This Fall with a mailer in the upcoming *Gobrecht Journal*, LSCC members are asked to vote on and approve the updated LSCC Constitution and By-Laws.

The club officers recognize that this is important to everyone so you have a chance to read them now as they are posted on the LSCC website at: <http://www.lscweb.org/Constitution.shtml>. Once on this link, you will see this header followed by the new By-Laws:

Liberty Seated Collectors Club
Constitution and By-Laws
Draft for discussion and approval - October 2019

You may also access the draft Constitution and By-Laws by going to the menu item under "About us" called "LSCC Constitution and By-laws."

Thank you.



The Curious Collector

by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

Preaching to the Choir

I know most of the *E-Gobrecht* readers are already LSCC members, but a number of you are not, and I would like to encourage you to join the club. The LSCC is a dynamic collector organization formed around our shared pursuit of the 19th-century Liberty Seated silver coinage and serves as the central point within the hobby to promote this collecting interest. By joining the club, you take part in a larger effort to help influence the wider collecting community in ways that will serve us all. The LSCC is not about making a quick buck or piggybacking onto the latest fad. If your thing is arguing about which Morgan dollar is MS67 and which is MS67+, this may not be the best club for you. Rather, we are about collecting for the long term, finding choice coins for the grade, and enhancing the hobby through a vibrant social experience.

Collecting Liberty Seated coinage requires patience, and, if attempting a long series, even more patience. We're comfortable with a 5, 10, or 20 year collecting objective, and, as long as it is going to take a long time, having a good time while doing it. The *Gobrecht Journal*, published three times yearly and capably edited by Bill Bugert, is the best way to plug-in to current club activities. The *Journal* will also inform you as to how other collectors are approaching Liberty Seated coinage. What floats their boat, and what appeals to you? It might be the rarity of the coinage, die varieties, historical and economic aspects of the 19th century, or simply the thrill of the hunt. As you see what other folks think, you will draw your own conclusions and form your own collecting path.

We also maintain an active presence at regional and national shows with club tables and regional meetings. This is a great opportunity to connect with other LSCC members, and, in my experience, long term rela-

tionships with like-minded collectors will be even more compelling than the coins themselves. Make no mistake though, we all still like coins A LOT. We are excited about the coins we collect and hope you will be too. Club meetings include educational presentations on any number of topics, with a recent favorite being Steve Petty's analysis of the "CAC effect" on third-party grading. The larger shows also include a wider selection of Liberty Seated coinage on the bourse floor than you'll see at the local coin shows. These coins are scarce, and it takes effort to find them, which of course is part of the fun.

Finally, the club has acted as the focal point for die variety research within the Liberty Seated series. The comprehensive die variety guides created since the 1970s have all been produced by LSCC club members, and much of their research is incrementally presented in *The Gobrecht Journal* as new discoveries are made. There is still room for growth in this area, as the die varieties for various denominations are not yet completely documented. This to me is a *good* thing, after all, what fun would it be if there was no opportunity to find something no else has? Die variety research has a storied tradition within American numismatics, and, although there are many other important aspects related to collecting Liberty Seated coinage, this is a foundational activity that technical specialists will appreciate and enjoy.

This all sounds great, you are saying, so how can I join LSCC? I'm glad you asked that. Our regional chairman Dennis Fortier can accept your check for \$25 at P.O. Box 1841, Pawtucket RI, 02862, or, if you wish, you can PayPal \$25 to LSCCdues@gmail.com (include your mailing address). We hope to see you aboard the LSCC train!



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Regional News

by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

Coin Season Begins !

Fall, better known as the beginning of Coin Season, is here. The ANA is the big dog of the summer but now we have Baltimore, Fun, PAN, and in the Northeast – Manchester to look forward to. CONA and Long Beach just concluded kicking things off in those regions. Here is Club President Gerry Fortin's report on CONA (Central Ohio Numismatic Association) and Western Regional Director Brian Cushing's report on Long Beach.

From LSCC President Gerry Fortin:

Bittersweet is the best way to describe hosting the 2019 CONA regional meeting. Friday's session was my last as LSCC president. Since all attendees, except Dale Miller, were not present at the Chicago ANA annual meeting, it was decided to share that meeting's presentation. After introductions and a group photo (thank-you to Gerry Tebbens), Gerry and Dale reviewed the healthy status of our fine organization and the topics that were discussed at the annual meeting. Two of the attendees immediately signed up for club membership!

From Western Regional Director Brian Cushing:

The Long Beach Coin Expo was a small group this time. There were four of us Thursday. We had a hearty discussion on grading Liberty Seated coinage as it relates to die state and strike weakness. It seems we had a unanimous opinion that the grading services grade too many perfect, UNC modern coins that properly grading real coins has become a challenge. (Regional Team Leader: Good point Brian)

Brian and his wife had a little girl, her name is Adalyn Grace. Mother and child are both doing well. Papa however might be another matter.

First up this month is the New Hampshire Coin and Currency Expo, October 4-5, Manchester NH. Ernie Botte puts on a well run show and it's one that the Regional Team looks forward to every spring and fall. North Eastern Regional Director Joe Casazza will host the club table, Mark Archambault helping out behind the table, and Educational Director John Frost will be displaying his complete set of Seated Dollars for the first time. Yes, John recently purchased a rare (original- not a restrike from the later 1800's) 1851 Liberty Seated Dollar to finish his Liberty Seated Dollar set. Stop by and see his entire collection.

The joint club meeting with the BCCS will be on Friday at 2 PM John Frost will talk about Liberty Seated Dollars.

PAN (Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists) October 17-19, Monroeville Convention Center, Monroeville PA. John Frost will host the club table at this exciting regional show. The LSCC is heavily populated with members from Pennsylvania. Don't miss it. (Tease: maybe John will show his Dollars?)

As always club shirts are available at the club table for cost, just \$30 for these high quality shirts. Show your club pride at your local meeting.



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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.lscweb.org
LSCC email address: lscweb@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, 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.

To be added or removed from the *E-Gobrecht* mailing list, send an email message with the words "Subscribe/Unsubscribe" in the subject line of the message to: wb8cpy@earthlink.net.

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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