



# *E-Gobrecht*

Liberty Seated  
Collectors Club

2021 Volume 17, Issue 4  
April 2021 (Whole #195)

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

*Don't Miss  
the Start of the New Season!*

*Did you renew your membership  
in the Liberty Seated Collectors Club  
for 2021..?*

**The Club is missing a few of you  
out there in the stands  
with their renewals  
who will not get their next  
Spring issue of the Gobrecht Journal**

*Send in your membership renewal today!*

*...or be left out in the cold in far right field...*

*It's only still April, you can still make the Club Roster!*



# Liberty Seated Collectors Club

Uniting collectors of Liberty Seated coinage since 1973



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*E-Gobrecht's  
17th Year  
2014-2021*

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

*Ronald Amann  
David Clayton  
Derrick Combs  
Michael Decker  
Gregory Kitchen  
Collin Kubacak  
John Miller  
Fernando Rivera III  
Greg Schoenbaum*

*There are currently  
1019 active  
Subscribers to  
E-Gobrecht*

*Please keep your subscription e-mail address current as you could be dropped from the monthly issue if your email is twice rejected in a two-month period as non-active or non-existent.*

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 U.S. Coin series. The LSCC provides the information contained in this "electronic" e-mail newsletter from various sources "free of charge" as a general service to the membership and other subscribers with a numismatic interest. You do not have to be a LSCC member to benefit from this newsletter; subscription to the *E-Gobrecht* is available on a complimentary basis to anyone. All disclaimers are in effect as the completeness and/or accuracy of the information contained herein cannot be completely verified. Contact information for this publication can be found on the last page.



# Liberty Seated Collectors Club

Uniting collectors of Liberty Seated coinage since 1973



## President's Message

Welcome to the April *E-Gobrecht*, with a big shout out to our host Paul Kluth, who capably compiles this publication on a monthly basis. Spring is in the air and the country is slowing coming out of its year-long hibernation. I got my first COVID shot in March and am looking forward to attending summer coin shows if everything continues to improve. In the meantime, I am pleased to announce an LSCC virtual Zoom meeting that will take place on **Tuesday, May 11 at 9 pm Eastern time**, using the Zoom link: <https://wustl.zoom.us/j/5086565637>. Speaker and program are TBD ...*Len Augsburg*

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## *Editor's View From the Rim*

### *What can I say...*

The first issue of 2021 of the Gobrecht Journal (Vol. 47.1, Spring 2021, #140) is another masterpiece, a true work of numismatic art.

The Liberty Seated denominations pictured on both the front and back glossy covers with a lilac to purple background are stellar examples of originality and patina of circulated coins. Jim Macor seems to keep improving each year with his designs for the Club's premier publication which sets a high standard in the hobby today for club publications. Jim is a professional graphic design artist who supports the LSCC by his fine talents. Thank you Jim again this year on behalf of all of us!

This latest Gobrecht Journal was Bill Bugert's last issue and masterpiece as well before retiring as Editor/Publisher. Knowing Bill, he won't be slowing down too much while



pursuing his other passions and next "A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties". He is another person of many talents whose dedication to the Club in official capacities will be sorely missed ...PK

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

## ***Liberty Seated Collectors Club***

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

New member join date	Amount Due	<i>Gobrecht Journals</i> To be sent to the new member
January thru March	\$25	3 (March, July, and November)
April thru July	\$20	2 (July and November)
August thru December	\$15	1 (November)

Fill in the above information and send this application with payment to:

**Liberty Seated Collectors Club**  
PO Box 119  
Lavalette, WV 25535





## **Regional News**

**by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016**

**March Zoom Meeting is a Smash  
Record 42 Attend Regular Meeting  
Next Club Zoom Meeting May 11th - 9 pm**

The March 9th Zoom meeting was well attended with 42 members and guests logging on. Club President Len Augsburger ran an efficient business portion of the meeting, updating members on the results of the change in editorship of the Gobrecht Journal, upcoming shows we hope will happen, and requests for donations to the Club auction scheduled for the ANA in August.

This last point of business is very important. The Club's expenses are rising and the LSCC's 50th Anniversary is coming in just two years. Money will be needed to keep Club services, publications, and anniversary preparations financed. Donations for the auction are desperately needed if we are to meet our expected obligations. Roy Ash has been very generous, we need others to step up. The Club and its volunteers give a lot to the membership. If you enjoy your membership in the LSCC, isn't it time to give back a little. Contact Dennis Fortier at [ricajun@msn.com](mailto:ricajun@msn.com) or 401-741-7475 with your donations.

*(Continued on next page)*

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## Regional News cont.

**Next LSCC Zoom Meeting May 11**  
**\*\*\*ANA Summer Seminar Cancelled\*\*\***

John Frost gave an informative presentation titled, "Grading, Pricing, Demand, and the "CAC Effect." Not one person left during John's presentation which speaks well to the interest in the subject matter and the quality of John's presentation.

Another ZOOM Meeting is planned for May 11th at pm EST! At that meeting it will be time to talk about Summer FUN and the ANA Convention.

April brings us back to Manchester NH for the New Hampshire Coin and Currency Expo - April 9-10, at the Double Tree in downtown Manchester. There will be no meeting as Corvid restrictions prevent it. Our grateful thanks go out to show promoter Ernie Botte for all his efforts during this pandemic and for his continued support for the LSCC. Northeast Regional Director Joe Casazza will host the Club table and John Frost will be displaying his newly acquired set of Charles Barber patterns, provenanced to Charles Barber's personal collection.

Down the road we hope to be at Raleigh NC in June, Summer FUN in July, and (cross your fingers) the ANA in August. Let's hope things continue to go in the right direction. If you are a Club member or show promoter and want the LSCC to come to your show, contact Dennis Fortier at [ricajun@msn.com](mailto:ricajun@msn.com) to start the ball rolling: April – Manchester NH / June – Raleigh NC / July – Summer FUN, Orlando / August – ANA, Chicago

(END)



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Gerry Fortin 207-329-9957  
[gerry@seateddimevarieties.com](mailto:gerry@seateddimevarieties.com)



## **LSCC Upcoming 2020 Regional Events Schedule**

*\* Details Mostly Finalized*

**\*CANCELLED:** Central States Numismatic Society (CSNS), Schaumburg, IL (April 21-24)

**\* REMAIN SCHEDULED:** New Hampshire Coin & Currency Expo (Manchester, NH), April 9-10 \*  
Club Table with hosts Joe Casazza and John Frost

*Note: Any other future shows to be announced next issue as further updates become available.*

(END)

### **Upcoming Major Coin/Currency Auctions for Liberty Seated Collectors**

April 22-25, 2021 - "Central States U.S. Coins Signature Auction"  
by Heritage Auctions. (<https://coins.ha.com>) (Please refer to website for full details)

**This Space Reserved for future auction event announcements**



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## 2021-2022 Officer Election Results

This election is for a two-year period effective January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022.

Thank you to all who participated and to all who are willing to serve.

<u>Office</u>	<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Votes For</u>
President:	Len Augsburger	176
Vice President:	Dennis Fortier	176
Treasurer:	Stephen Petty	176
Secretary:	Jeff Ball	175

There were no write in votes for any office this election.

### ★ *Submission Deadline for the next issue of the Gobrecht Journal*

The deadline for the Summer issue of the Gobrecht Journal magazine is June 1.  
Going forward articles should be sent to Leonard Augsburger at:

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

### Announcement: LSCC Hall of Fame Nomination due April 15

Send to: Dennis Fortier at [ricajun@msn.com](mailto:ricajun@msn.com) or 215 Pomeroy Drive, Crossville, TN 38558

Nominator \_\_\_\_\_ LSCC Member Yes / No

Nominee \_\_\_\_\_ Provide the following information to assist with selection:

Time as LSCC Club Officer or Leader / Position

Collections Built, including grade and as many specifics as possible

Published Writings (Liberty Seated Books, Articles, etc.)

Club Contributions (promoting or assisting the LSCC in its mission)

Numismatic or LSCC Awards

Miscellaneous Data that might add to Nominee's consideration & Nominators Comments

### \* LSCC Club Auction Announcement \*

Additional donations and consignments are wanted to support club efforts.

Liberty Seated Coins, Exonumia and Books  
are wanted by June 1<sup>st</sup> in time for the ANA Annual Club Meeting.

Please contact Club VP Dennis Fortier at [ricajun@msn.com](mailto:ricajun@msn.com) to donate or consign.



**Contributions from Readers/Subscribers of E-Gobrecht**

**In Response to Craig Eberhart's suggestion in the most recent Gobrecht Journal on page 46...** I think it's time that the Club make an amendment to Article #2 like Craig suggested. I see things totally different though. I suggest the Club allow peoples' pseudonym to be used. If all the forums use them why not allow it in the LSCC?

I was totally unaware of this rule when I wrote my article on the 1854 Date punch. Many know Funksterpuck as a collector with an incredible Liberty Seated half dollar set on the PCGS registry. I know many collectors and dealers by their pseudonym on these forums.

Let face it, safety & security is an issue today in my eyes. Just because you are a member doesn't mean you are honest and have good intentions. So my vote is to change Article #2 to allow pseudonyms. I think the Club would benefit by having more articles sent in by people that feel that same way. This is very minor to me when the Club is always seeking new authors to write articles. In the grand scheme of things, it shouldn't matter if you use your Name, pseudonym or wish to be remain anonymous, it's about sharing knowledge with other members. (Mark Twain, AKA Pickwickjr, LSCC #2315)

[Editor: Back in the May 2020 issue of E-Gobrecht on page 3, I noted the following just for E-Gobrecht...  
“**\*Did you know that you can even submit images, collector stories and brief articles under a pen name or anomalously if you prefer? Your Editor would need to know who you are for integrity purposes, but that is it. The Editor can correct paragraphs, grammar and spelling if needed. Thank you!**”

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**Member Obituary**

Long-time Club member **Philip Waltz, LSCC #688** of Harrisburg and a dear friend for 50 years passed peacefully last year. He started his collection with help from Kam Awash and Brian Greer, and many other members ...Joe Sarlo, LSCC #2600

**Tribute: Philip Dague Waltz**  
**April 29, 1955 ~ March 6, 2020 (age 64)**

Philip D. Waltz, 64, of Harrisburg, PA, passed away on Friday, March 6, 2020. Born in West Chester, he was the son of Laura H. Waltz and the late Dr. Harvey Waltz. Philip was employed by The Hershey Company for 25 years. He was a collector of coins and memorabilia. He loved music and nature, and he had a lifelong appreciation for birding, which included raising hawks as a young man. To celebrate Philip's life, contributions can be made in his memory to Hawk Mountain Sanctuary at [www.hawkmountain.org](http://www.hawkmountain.org).



**2<sup>nd</sup> Census  
for Reeded Edge Half Dollars  
now underway and being compiled  
by Jim Koenings, LSCC #2798 & JRCS #048**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Census Update**

Last month, I started the process of compiling data for the 2nd Census for Reeded Edge Half Dollars. The first Census was compiled and reported in the John Reich Journal in November 2018.

So far, 7 collectors have submitted their inventories for the 2nd Census. One collector checked his Type Book and discovered a very important 1838 die marriage. I am hoping several other Liberty Seated Collectors will check their Type Books and report their Reeded Edge Halves.

If you need help with attributing your Reeded Edge Halves or if you need to have them converted from JR numbers to GR numbers, please contact me at [bustcoin1@verizon.net](mailto:bustcoin1@verizon.net).

Please send your inventories as soon as possible. Any recent acquisitions may still be added by May 31, 2021 for the Preliminary 2nd Census and by October 1, 2021 for the Final 2nd Census (Top 15 Collections).

**Please send your Census to:  
Jim Koenings at [bustcoin1@verizon.net](mailto:bustcoin1@verizon.net)**

Another update will be given in the monthly May issue of E-Gobrecht and you will be given information on how to obtain the Preliminary 2nd Census in the June issue.

(END)

**LSCC Member Application Form  
on page 4 or at:**

[http://www.lscweb.org/LSCC\\_Membership.pdf](http://www.lscweb.org/LSCC_Membership.pdf)





## Auction News April 2021

by Craig Eberhart, LSCC #1348

### Major Auction Results in March 2021

#### Heritage Auctions, Steve Studer Collection Part 3, March 22

Yet another nice selection of Liberty Seated coins from the Studer collection were sold this month. Based on the coins in this sale, Steve Studer was a strong bidder in the three Richmond Collection auctions sold by DLRC Auctions in 2004 and 2005. An 1860-O half dime, a common date with a gold CAC label, brought two to three times what I would have estimated had the gold been not been present.

The 1861-O half dollar also sold for more than expected. However, this price may have been due to the rarity of the die marriage, which appears to be a WB-1. For a Liberty Seated New Orleans coin, the 1861-O half dollars are notoriously tough to attribute. The date is quite popular because it was minted by three different governments: The United States of America, the State of Louisiana and the Confederate States of America. An award-winning article by Randy Wiley (Gobrecht Journal Issue #94, November 2005) provides an exceptional analysis of the linked die marriages and the minting authorities.

<u>1860-O</u>	half dime	PCGS gold CAC	MS63	\$900	
1842-O	dime	NGC	MS61	\$2,520	Ex: Richmond Collection
1845-O	dime	NGC	VF20	\$360	
1850-O	dime	NGC	MS61	\$1,860	Ex: Richmond Collection
1842-O SD	quarter	PCGS CAC	G6	\$840	Small date
1843-O	quarter	PCGS	VF30	\$528	
1843-O	quarter	PCGS	VF30	\$516	
1856-O	quarter	NGC	AU58	\$1,110	
1859-O	quarter	NGC	MS62	\$4,560	Ex: Richmond Collection
1842-O	half dollar	NGC	AU58	\$1,140	Ex: Richmond Collection
1851-O	half dollar	PCGS	AU53	\$1,440	
1861-O	half dollar	PCGS	XF45	\$1,200	WB-1? (my attribution)

#### Stacks Bowers March Auction, March 24-April 1

This auction will be included in the upcoming May Auction News.

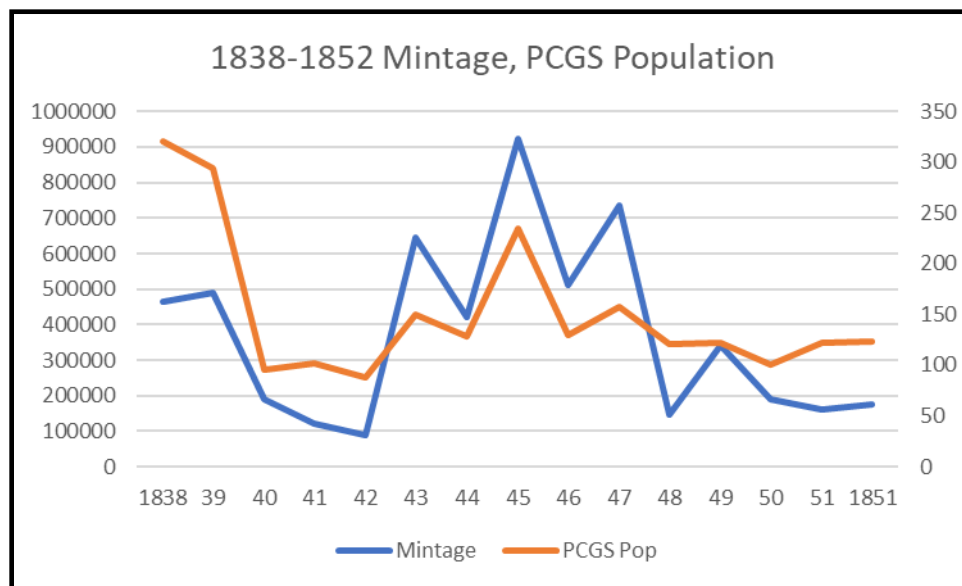


## The Curious Collector

by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

### A Closer Look at 1851 & 1852 Quarters

Traditional wisdom holds that 1851 and 1852 Liberty Seated quarters are more challenging than indicated by their mintage, due to silver melting prior to the 1853 Coinage Act. It is always good to challenge assumptions, so let's take a closer look at this.



This first chart shows the mintage with the blue line (mintage figures on left), along with the PCGS population in orange (figures on the right). For the No Drapery years (1838-1839), the PCGS population is proportionately higher than the mintage. We can chalk that up to the type coin collecting effect, as type coin collectors have only two dates to choose from, so it is more likely these two dates were set aside. As a result, I prefer not to read a lot into the data for those first two years.

Looking at 1851 and 1852, we see exactly the opposite of what the traditional wisdom reports – the se two dates are over proportionately represented in the PCGS population, relative to their original mintage. But wait – there's more. This effect extends all the way back to 1848, disregarding a small blip for 1849.

Indeed, most of the chart (1840 -1851) indicates a PCGS population roughly in the 100-200 range for each date, a factor of two, while the mintage figures range from 88,000 to 734,000 for that period – a relatively much larger range. This chart suggests a small number of collectors, perhaps a hundred or so, putting date sets together, who needed one of each issue. Of course there is still some impact from the original mintage, so an 1845 with 922,000 pieces struck is simply going to be more plentiful.

(Continued on next page)

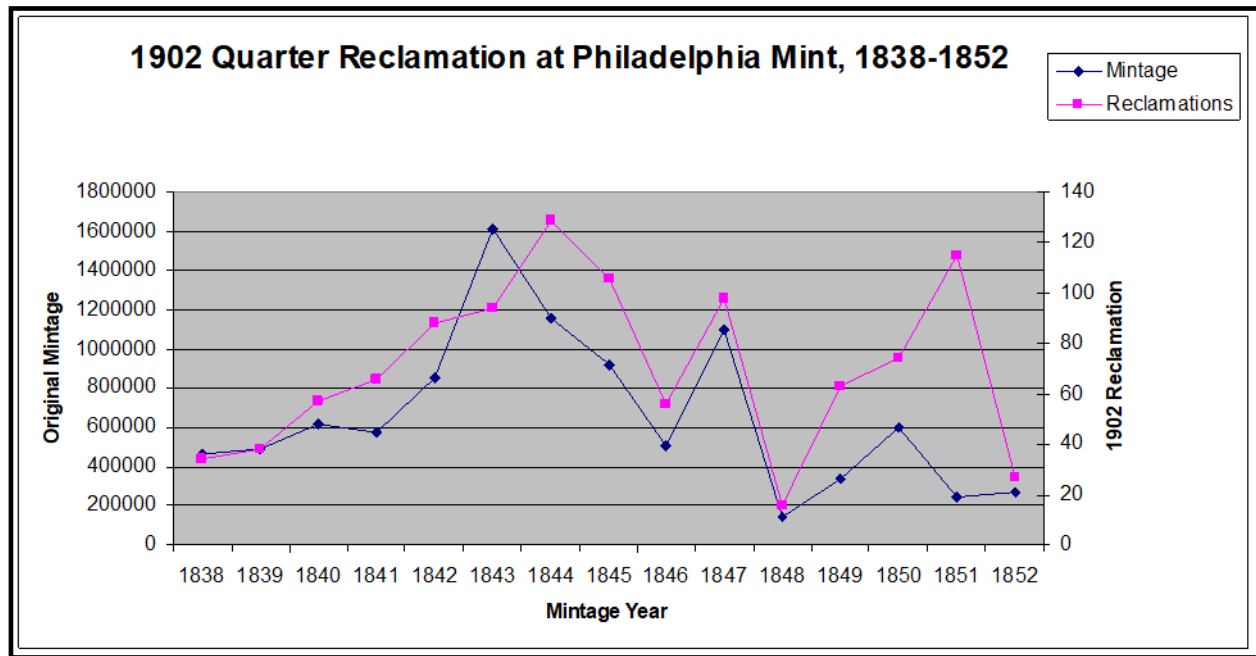




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However, as time marches on, the number of survivors becomes more dictated by what was saved rather than by what was minted. This won't be a hard and fast rule across all U.S. coinage, but I think it plays a part.

Let's look at another view, from the 1902 Mint report. In this year the Mint did a date analysis of all coins returned for recoining. Quarters for 1838-1852 look like this:



For the most part, the reclamations correlate with the original mintage, except for the period 1849-1852, for which the proportion of returned coins is higher than expected. It's important to note that the coins returned were likely underweight or damaged in some way. Full weight pieces could have been melted at a profit, so it made no sense to return those to the Mint. The country's circulation "self corrected" in this sense, in the same way that silver got pulled out of circulation in the late 1960s and 1970s. But we still have an anomaly here – of all the coinage from 1838-1852, why were these last few years over-represented? I invite readers to weigh-in on this!

For quarter collectors today, there are a few salient points:

- 1) Many silver coins were melted or exported prior to the Coinage Act of 1853.
- 2) 1851 and 1852 pieces are actually overrepresented in the PCGS census, possibly as a result of date runs formed by collectors in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
- 3) 1851 and 1852 quarters still have low PCGS pops and remain more desirable than the mid-1840s pieces.

(END)



## Quarter of the Month

by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

### The 1855 Double Die Obverses

One Saturday quite a few years ago, I went to a moderately large nearby coin show. One of the things I found at that show was a dealer with a large number of raw Liberty Seated coins. I spent a great deal of time searching through several boxes of quarters, finding not one, but two 1855 quarters with doubled die obverses (DDO). It was immediately obvious that the two coins had two distinct obverses, neither of which were listed in Larry Briggs' 1991 reference "The Comprehensive Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Quarters" (Lima, OH). The two coins graded very fine and were cleaned. One had some minor damage in addition to the cleaning. At the time, I would sometimes purchase coins with cleaning and problems if they were new varieties to me and not too expensive. Unfortunately, these were too expensive, and I did not purchase them. In fact, I remember those coins specifically, in part because the dealer actually became angry and openly hostile over my decision to keep my money.

Fairly early in my adventure with this column, I managed to both find nice, certify-able examples of both varieties, and to take photos and write about them. They've stayed in my collection since so I don't look quite as hard for examples anymore, though I do occasionally see one. I hadn't thought about the variety much for quite a while until a recent conversation on the topic with LSCC member Roy Ash. He got me thinking and I dusted off the old pictures and the old article. Fortunately, I still agree with what I said in 2014.

The 1855 quarter is a relatively common issue, though somewhat under-rated in XF and better grades. There were no notable, or particularly interesting, varieties described in the Briggs' reference and, despite a 1993 Gobrecht Journal article by Chris Pilliod (GJ #57 July 1993, Collective Volume 4 page 380) noting a doubled die obverse, varieties of the 1855 are not well known or often collected. The interesting thing about the issue is that there is not one, but two distinct 1855 doubled die obverses. In addition to the DDO-Right issue discovered and reported by Mr. Pilliod in 1993, there is also a DDO-Left. The two obverses are shown on the next page.

Two searches through the Heritage archive, about 7 years apart, plus personal observation of more than ten years suggest that less than 5% of 1855 quarters have one of the doubled die obverses. It also seems clear that DDO-Right is the rarer of the two varieties. The highest graded examples seen are an NGC AU55 of the DDO-Right and an PCGS MS62 of the DDO-Left. During my conversation with Roy, he also passed along that he had been in touch with David Lange at NGC. Newly added just within the last month, these two varieties are now included as part of NGC VarietyPlus. A collector can now have the two varieties certified, attributed and the variety listed on the holder by NGC. Happy Hunting!!



(Continued from previous page)



1855 Liberty Seated Quarter:  
Double Die Obverse - Left  
(DDO - Left)

1855 Liberty Seated Quarter:  
Double Die Obverse - Right  
(DDO - Right)



(END)





## April's Double Dime - 1876-CC by John Frost, LSCC #2005



Last month included the 145th birthday of the legendary 1876-CC twenty-cent piece. As can be seen in the image below, \$2,000 of 20-cent pieces (or 10,000 coins) were struck in Carson City on March 8, 1876, all on a single day. This image was taken from the Mint Director's Report showing coinage from the Carson Mint for the month of March 1876. Those 10,000 coins would be the only ones struck.

*Carson* *March 1876.*

DATE.	SILVER.				TOTAL SILVER.
	TRADE DOLLARS.	HALF DOLLARS.	QUARTER DOLLARS.	DIMES.	
1					
2			20¢ 2,000		
3				17,000	17,000
4					3,032
5	3,032				
6					
7					
8				20¢ 2,000	40,000
9					42,000
10			17,000	15,000	32,000

Portion of Mint Director's Report showing mintage of 1876-CC twenty cents  
(Image courtesy of Roger Burdette and the Newman Numismatic Portal)

(Continued on next page)





## April's Double Dime - 1876-CC cont.

Because thousands of unreleased 1875-CC coins were still on hand at the mint in early 1876, these new coins were not immediately released into the channels of commerce. As it turned out, they never would be, as demand never required it.

However, the new 1876 coins were available for purchase at face value by mint employees and visitors, etc., for collections or souvenirs. A few would have been also sent east for assay purposes. Regardless of the circumstances, these were to be the only survivors, as all unreleased twenty-cent pieces still on hand in 1877 were melted. Today, fewer than 20 examples are known today. Not surprisingly, most of these are still in mint state (after all, they weren't primarily obtained for spending purposes). Some of these are impounded in museums, so the number available to collectors is likely about 15 coins. Because of its rarity and associated significant price tag, the 1876-CC is simply out of reach for most collectors. For this reason, plus the fact that it ended up not being a regular issue, Lane Brunner and I have designated the 1876-CC as "non-collectible" or "NC." We assume the entire mintage was made using a single pair of dies as all known examples were struck using the same dies.

The most notable feature of the 1876-CC is the dramatic doubled die obverse, most easily seen on the shield (especially the word LIBERTY) and in the stars. In addition, there is a misplaced date in the denticles, where the tops of an 8 and the upper left serif of a 7 can be seen.



1876-CC Obverse Double Die & misplaced date



Wide CC mintmark & die cracks of reused 1875-CC reverse C



(Continued on next page)



## **April's Double Dime - 1876-CC cont.**

The reverse die was a carry-over from 1875, and is designated 1875-CC Reverse C, with a widely-spaced CC mintmark and diagnostic die cracks.

When an 1876-CC comes up for sale, it almost entirely appears at auction, and is a significant news event. Such is the case of a famous rarity in a frequently overlooked series. I certainly would love to own one someday!

For more information on the double dime, and particularly the 1876-CC, see our online book:

<http://www.doubledimes.com>

<http://doubledimes.com/1876CC-Summary.html>

Enjoy!

(END)

***Next LSCC online Zoom Meeting  
Tuesday, May 11 at 9 p.m. EST,  
at <https://wustl.zoom.us/j/5086565637>***

***Educational Program TBD  
(Open to Everyone—Mark Your Calendars)***

**Excellent+ Articles about Liberty Seated in the Numismatic Press:**

***Continued in future issues...***

**AI Grading Now and In The Future**

***Continued in a future issue...***



## **Liberty Seated Dollar News and Information** by Dick Osburn, LSCC #717 and Brian Cushing, LSCC #2170

### ***1870-CC – Wow! What a Cool Date!***



The 1870-CC Seated Dollar is often lost in the shuffle due to the rarity of the CC issues of the subsequent 3 years. However, a review of the facts will reveal that it's a really interesting date. Its mintage (12,462) is high by CC Seated Dollar standards - about 4 times the mintage of the 2nd most common Carson City product, the 1872-CC. For any other series this mintage would create a major rarity. Consider that it's about equal to the mintage of the 1878-S half dollar.

To make our case that this is a cool date we're going to concentrate on two facts:

1. A mintage of less than 13,000 pieces would indicate that this is probably a year for which a single set of dies was used. In fact, we've identified 9 different die marriages, struck from 4 different obverse dies and 6 reverses. We wouldn't be surprised if one or two other marriages surface in the future.
2. The obverse that was used for the first striking in early 1870 was subsequently shipped to San Francisco and used to strike the rarest Seated Dollar issue – the 1870-S. To our knowledge this is the only proven incidence of a die being used to strike regular issues at two different mints.

First, we'll consider the known mintage information. The following table was constructed from information developed by R. W. Julian (reference 1) from U.S. Mint monthly reports, the 1870 Carson City Annual Report, and a letter from Carson City Mint Superintendent Henry Rice to Rossiter Raymond.

*(Continued on next page)*



## Seated Dollar News and Information cont.

It shows 13 different periods during which the Carson City mint struck dollars in 1870. Note that the delivery periods assigned may be slightly out of sequence due to the uncertainties related to one March delivery and to the August delivery.

<i>Delivery Period</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Mintage</i>
1	February 10	2,303
2	February 24	1,444
3	March 5	1,116
4	March 22	1,175
5	March 24	500
6	March 30	1,300
7	March?	400
8	April 7	500
9	May 20	600
10	June 11	870
11	June 14	550
12	June 30	1,400
13	August?	304

The large number of delivery periods indicates that the coins were struck in small batches throughout the year, probably as silver was turned in to the mint and redeemed for coinage. The following table, from our book on Liberty Seated dollars (references 2 and 3), documents the currently confirmed die marriages, their rarity, and the estimated number of surviving examples.

On the next page, note that the most common die marriages are the first and last ones issued. This is consistent with the first batch minted being the largest and indicates that most of the coins minted in several periods in June were probably from a single die pair. The August batch was probably from a previously used die pair.

A goal for the advanced collector would be to assemble an 1870-CC die marriage set. The goal is challenging but obtainable. Only OC-4 is extremely rare, and even for that marriage, a few examples have been discovered over the past few years. But the lack of general availability of the date would make it an extremely difficult undertaking. Such a die marriage collection could be rewarding. Carson City coins in general have performed extremely well in the past, even when the general market has been moving lower.

*(Continued on next page)*





## Seated Dollar News and Information cont.

As more collectors become interested in die marriages we expect the trends will continue upward.

<i>Die Marriage</i>	<i>Rarity</i>	<i>Obverse Die</i>	<i>Reverse Die</i>	<i>Estimated Survivors</i>
OC-1	R4-	1	A	170
OC-2	R5	2	A	60
OC-3	R5+	2	B	45
OC-4	R7-	3	C	10
OC-5	R5+	3	B	45
OC-6	R5+	3	D	45
OC-7	R5	2	D	60
OC-8	R4+	2	E	115
OC-9	R4-	4	F	200

Our second point of interest for the 1870-CC notes that the obverse die used to strike the first die marriage, our Obverse 1, was subsequently shipped to San Francisco and used to strike the 1870-S dollars that were created for the San Francisco Mint cornerstone ceremony in May, 1870. The investigation that led to this conclusion is documented in an article we wrote for the Gobrecht Journal (reference 4). To our knowledge this is the only confirmed example of a die being used at two different mints.

We hope that this article will stimulate at least a few collectors to dive deeper into the date. As noted previously we think it's possible that one or two more die marriages may be discovered if the date is carefully studied.

The photo that leads this article is courtesy of Heritage Auctions. It pictures the NGC MS64 example from the Gene Gardner collection. This is currently tied for the finest known example of the date.

Comments or suggestions for future articles are always welcomed! Our contact information:

Dick Osburn, 713-875-5860, dickosburn@comcast.net.

Brian Cushing, 410-571-4699, osburncushing@gmail.com

(Continued on next page)



## Seated Dollar News and Information cont.

### References:

1. R. W. Julian, "The 1870-CC Dollar Mintage", The Gobrecht Journal, Volume 42, Issue #125, Spring, 2016.
2. Dick Osburn and Brian Cushing, Seateddollarvarieties.com.
3. Dick Osburn and Brian Cushing, Liberty Seated Dollars, A Register of Die Varieties, self-published in January 2018.
4. Dick Osburn and Brian Cushing, "The Obverse Die for the 1870-S Dollar came from Carson City", published in Issue #128 of the Gobrecht Journal, Spring 2017.

(END)

### *The "Halves" and the "Half Notes"*

## Christian Gobrecht Designed Reeded Edge Half Dollars

Part 3a - 1839 by Jim Koenings, LSCC #2798

**Preface:** If you LOVE Liberty Seated Half Dollars,  
there is no reason why you wouldn't LOVE Reeded Edge Half Dollars.  
Capped Bust Half Dollars ended when they stopped putting letters on the edges of half dollars.  
See February's article to view the major differences between the two series and the  
difference between the Type I and Type II Reverse on the Reeded Edge Half Dollar.

This is Part 3a of a four-part series to educate Liberty Seated Half Collectors  
on Reeded Edge Half Dollars.

### Part 3a - 1839 Reeded Edge Halves

A quick review of known die marriages for Reeded Edge Half Dollars shows the following:

<u>Number of Die Marriages of Reeded Edge Halves</u>	-	<u>Year</u>	<u># Die Marriages</u>
		1836	1
		1837	25
		1838	16
		1839	8
		1838-O	1

(Continued on next page)



## Pre-Liberty Seated Halves cont.

Of the 50 known die marriages produced at the Philadelphia Mint, only one is extremely expensive and that is the **1839 GR-1**.



**1839 GR-1 NGC AU50 Obverse**

Of the 8 die marriages minted in 1839, the above photo shows Obverse 1. This Obverse was used for 1839 GR-1, GR-2, GR-3 and GR-4 (sequence unknown). 1839 GR-1 is rated R-7 (4 to 12 known), GR-2 and GR-3 are rated R-5+ (31 to 46 known) and GR-4 is the most common being rated R-1 (over 1,000 known).

In my opinion, 1839 GR-8 is the 4th rarest die marriage and is rated R-3 (201 to 500 known). 1839 GR-6, if it exists is rated R-3 (201 to 500 known). I believe 1839 GR-5 and GR-7 are both rated R-1 (over 1,000 known). I believe 1839 GR-6 may just be a later die stage of 1839 GR-5 (research needed).

*(Continued on next page)*





## Pre-Liberty Seated Halves cont.



**1839 GR-1 NGC AU 50 Reverse**

The above photo shows the ONLY Reeded Edge Half die marriage with an extremely small arrow feather sticking from under the olive branch. This style was later used on Liberty Seated Halves. It is also known as the “Small Letters” reverse. The eagle is also much smaller than on any other Reeded Edge Half die marriage.

Although, Dick Graham reported “A PCGS Population Report Coin, PCGS MS-63, Cert # unknown: Graded by PCGS as MS-63, Ron Guth stated that he thinks it has been resubmitted and upgraded to MS 64,

*(Continued on next page)*





## Pre-Liberty Seated Halves cont.

but no records remain in their system. Ron was confident with the attribution and the current owner is unknown”.

I do not believe the coin exists, PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING 3 PAGES QUOTED FROM MY NEWSLETTER #9:

“On November 15, 2019, Stack's and Bowers sold two very important Reeded Edge Halves. The first coin, Lot 7197 was an 1838-O GR-1, one of 9 to 11 known, in PCGS SP63 CAC that sold for \$504,000. I think that is a very low price when you consider it has been a Classic Rarity for ages, especially when you compare it to 1804 dollars, 1894-S dimes, 1827 Bust Quarters, etc.

The second coin, Lot 7198 was an 1839 GR-1, Small Letters Reverse, in PCGS XF40 CAC that sold for \$90,000. In the description of this coin, they claimed it was one of 12 now known with the Number 1 coin described as follows:

1. PCGS MS-63. Graded in 1997, according to Ron Guth, and listed on the PCGS Population Report. The present owner is unknown and no researcher has been able to confirm its existence.

They also commented on the fact that items #10 and #11 (both listed as in Fine condition) may be the same coin. Coin #10 was discovered in 1987 and has not been seen by Dick Graham. Coin #11 is a PCGS Fine details specimen that was sold by Heritage in June 2015. If the #1 coin doesn't exist and #10 and #11 are the same coin, that would mean there are only 10 known 1839 GR-1 Small Letters Reverse coins. (Note: Dick Graham later confirmed the two Fine coins are different, so there are 11 known.)

### NEWS FLASH

Last month, while doing research in Whitman's 4th edition MEGA RED book, I found a photo on Page 771, in the Reeded Edge Half Section of the book that compared 1839 Reeded Edge Half - Large Letters Reverse with an 1839 Reeded Edge Half - Small Letters Reverse. They were illustrating the Large tail feather under the olive branch to the Small tail feather of the Small Letter Reverse.

Since the photo of the Small Letter Reverse showed a clashed die in the shield, I immediately knew it was a photo of a Liberty Seated Coin. At that time, I thought it was an 1839 Liberty Seated Half, Small Letters Reverse. So I sent an email to Jeff Garrett, Senior Editor of Whitman's Red Book, asking if he could find the obverse photo of that same coin. Jeff forwarded my email to other members of the Whitman Team including Diana Plattner, Senior Editor Whitman Publishing, LLC and Dennis Tucker. Diana investigated the file history to see if she could find the obverse, but had zero luck. She said that the reverse photo has been used since the first edition, but was not used in its predecessor (Red Book Pro) or in any of their other books. She continued that the file name indicates the image came from Stack's Bowers, but couldn't find the coin in their auction archives. She attached a high-resolution JPEG and said the marks are pretty distinctive so they should be able to match it to the source if it's out there.”

The photo on the next page was emailed to me from Whitman and Page 771 had the following caption above the photo "Capped Bust, Reeded Edge (1836-1839) . HALF DOLLARS".



## Pre-Liberty Seated Halves cont.



**Enlarged Photo of 1839, Small Letters Reverse  
as shown on Page 771 of MEGA RED, 4th Edition**

I later sent another email to Jeff Garrett with the following question: "Is the coin that Ron Guth reported as seeing actually a Liberty Seated Half and not a Reeded Edge Half?".

Ron reported back "I never saw the 1839 GR-1 that is listed at the top of the Census. I was asked years ago to confirm its existence in the PCGS Population report, which I did by simply confirming that PCGS did in fact grade an MS63 example in 1997. I just rechecked and it is still listed in the PCGS Pop Report. Could it be a misattribution? Sure. Could it be an actual 1839 GR-1? Possibly, but the fact that none of the people 'in the know' has ever seen or heard of it, its existence seems unlikely."

After spending weeks looking at various archives and many older coin catalogs and not finding an obverse match, I sent an email to Bill Bugert. Randy Wiley and Bill Bugert co-wrote the book "The Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dollars". The enlarged photo that Diana sent to me was included in the email to Bill. A couple of hours later, Bill replied "It took me some time to find it, but it is an 1840 WB-2 reverse;

*(Continued on next page)*



## Pre-Liberty Seated Halves cont.

readily identified by the die lines from the dentils above (STAT)S and (O)F". Bill also sent me a blown up photo of the die lines (see photo below).



**Blown up Photo of 1840 WB-2 die lines (1840 Small Letter Reverse of 1839)**

Since I am not an expert in attributing Liberty Seated Halves, I had thought the reverse was from an 1839 Liberty Seated Half Dollar, and may have misled the very helpful Whitman people. After receiving Bill Bugert's attribution and photo, I sent another email to Jeff Garrett with the above information. He said "he would look into it."

If anyone owns the actual 1840 WB-2 as shown in this Newsletter and it was certified by PCGS as MS63 in 1997, please let me know. It may be the solution to the missing 1839 GR-1 in PCGS MS63.

At this point, I believe there are only 11 specimens of 1839 GR-1 known.

*Part 3b continued next month...*

Should you have additional questions concerning this series, you may reach me by email at [bustcoin1@verizon.net](mailto:bustcoin1@verizon.net). ...*Jim Koenings*





## Liberty Seated Basics 101

by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

### Issue XI - Learning to Say 'No'

One of the requests we often hear is for articles in club publications that reach back to more basic skill building. Members are at all different levels, and newer members are in some instances unfamiliar with commonly used terms in our little corner of the hobby. Mint production has changed over the last two-hundred +plus years. The Liberty Seated years (1836-1891) saw its share of production change during that time. Those changes came with a learning curve. A good deal of that learning curve had to do with the first few Branch Mints coming on line and Mint employee's at those Branch Mints needing to learn their craft.

Some of the topics already discussed include the following:

Issue I - Weak Strikes (June 2020 E-G)

Issue II - Die Wear in (July 2020 E-G)

III - Security/Home Safes (August 2020)

IV - Security/Safe Deposit Boxes (Sept. 2020)

V - Buying White Coins (October 2020)

VI - Raw vs. Certified (November 2020)

VII - Mintage vs. Survival Rate (Dec. 2020)

VIII - Mintmark Sizes & Placement (Jan.'21)

IX - Liberty Seated Oddities (February 2021)

X - Die Lines & Lint Marks (March 2021)

Additional topics to be discussed in future months will include: Design Changes, Type Collecting, Popular vs. Rare Dates, Varieties, Cuds/Rust Lumps/and Die Cracks, Dished Dies, Strike (Machine) Doubling and more.

"An Introduction to Liberty Seated Basics 101" also appeared in the *The Gobrecht Journal* Summer 2020, Volume 46.2.

### Learning to Say 'No'

In our zeal to acquire coins and build a collection it can be challenging to not buy a particular specimen. The most difficult lesson to learn is to say "NO." Ask yourself, is this a coin I will be happy with in the long term. Patience is a virtue many of us, myself included, struggle with. Quality coins show up in their own time and we as collectors must wait and prepare for the opportunity to acquire them.

Exceptional Liberty Seated coins for the most part can be very scarce. Experienced Liberty Seated collectors know it takes decades to build a quality

collection of Liberty Seated coins at any level. We all want coins we can be proud to own, and proud to show.

In this particular market, problem coins are something of a pariah. Tastes change over time. In the 70's, cleaned coins were not an obstacle to buy or sell as they were widely accepted in the market place. Today originality (never messed with) and eye appeal is everything. Remember when you buy, at some point you will have to sell! Selling for top dollar is easier when you're selling quality.

We all have problem coins in our collections, coins we regret having purchased. This is a natural

(Continued on next page)





## **L.S. Basics 101 - Learning to Say 'No' cont.**

component of the learning curve. The quicker you can learn this lesson, the less your regrets will be, the fewer mistakes you will have made in your collection, and the happier you, as a collector, will be for the long term. For the rarest of coins, exceptions sometimes have to be made. When opportunity presents itself at a later time, you can hopefully upgrade that rarer coin.

That said, try to buy a good quality coin in your target grade that you will be happy with the first time so you don't have to upgrade later. Upgrading is just spending money twice for the coin you really want in your set. Sometimes you have to pay a premium for quality. Pricing guides are just that, a guide. However, take care not to be foolish and pay an exorbitant amount for a coin and then be underwater on it for years.

In the current market climate, CAC'd coins are often selling for double or more of list prices at auction. Caution and judgement should be used. Collectors with money to spend and little access to shows are paying heavily for the very limited supply of quality coins. This situation, I believe, is temporary and due at least in part to the Covid lockdown.

So, what constitutes a quality coin. Eye appeal, originality, and properly graded (slabbed) coins. Not all problem-free coins in slabs are original. There is something called "market acceptable." This is the sneaky little way for grading companies to let some lightly cleaned, dipped or polished coins into holders for major customers like auction houses or large volume dealers.

For properly graded coins, it is essential that the collector learn how to grade the coins they collect. There is no substitute for developing your own keen eye for grade and quality. Do not totally rely on the grade someone else has put on the slab or the holder. Grade it yourself. Raw coins should be viewed with skepticism. Is there a reason that coin is not in a slab? Many VF-EF Dimes and Half Dimes are an exception owing to the cost of slabbing versus the actual value of the coin itself. The cost of slabbing is prohibitive or not always justified for such coins.

Coin doctors abound. Toned coins are very popular. Unscrupulous dealers want you to buy their merchandise so they will use artificial means to tone a coin. It takes experience to tell the difference between natural toning and artificial toning. Look at lots of coins (in hand) and talk to knowledgeable numismatists as there is no substitute for experience. Don't be afraid to ask an experienced LSCC member to look at a coin you are thinking about purchasing.

It has been intelligently stated by noted Liberty Seated numismatists that each circulated Liberty Seated coin is an individual example in itself as each piece has traveled its own path to the present. Therefore, each coin should be looked upon with an eye to its individual merits; good or not so good.

Learning to say "No" is the surest way to build a quality collection you will be happy with and proud to own for years to come. Rome was not built in a day and a fine collection of Liberty Seated coins was also not put together in only a few months!

Example Coin Images on next page.

[Terms used in this article, if unfamiliar, can be found in literature published in series-specific books by Liberty Seated experts. Some of these are available on the club website.]



## L.S. Basics 101 - Learning to Say 'No' cont.

**Examples of Liberty Seated Half Dollars**  
that you could call 'Yes' coins because of their originality and  
visually attractive appearance: An 1852, 1858-S and 1875.



Images courtesy of  
Bill Bugert



Images courtesy of  
David Kahn Rare Coins



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## 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 Jeff Ball, LSCC Secretary listed on this page.

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

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### ***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!"*

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