

# **E-Gobrecht**

Liberty Seated Collectors Club

2023 Volume 19, Issue 5 May 2023 (Whole #220)

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





1865 Proof L.S. Dollar on page 12 and Club Meeting at Central States







# **Liberty Seated Collectors Club**

Uniting collectors of Liberty Seated coinage since 1973

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Welcome to the following new LSCC

Member(s) this month:

Mike Albers

Jeff Clark

Dennis Cropley

Andy Leslie

Brendan O'Shea

There are currently

1387 active
Subscribers to E-Gobrecht
& counting including
282 local coin clubs across
the country



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 <u>not</u> 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

LSCC Meets at Central States Convention



Approximately 20 club members met at the Central States Numismatic Society show on Friday, April 28 in Schaumburg, IL. In addition, about 30 attendees (including E-Gobrecht editor Paul Kluth) joined remotely through the livestream provided by the Newman Portal Symposium. Following member introductions and Club updates, Len Augsburger spoke on the topic of "Buy the Best You Can Afford." Video from the meeting should be available in a couple weeks and a link will be provided on the LSCC website. The Club table was hosted by Craig Eberhart, John Lunsten, Ken Otto and Dennis Fortier left to right on page 11 ... Len Augsburger





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## Editor's View From the Rim

# Many LSCC Coin Show Events on the Calendar ... PK

Check out this year's Coin Show Events on the schedule celebrating the <u>Liberty Seated Collectors</u> <u>Club's 50th Golden Anniversary</u>. Hope you can attend the Annual Meeting and Open House Celebration at the Summer ANA Convention in Pittsburgh in August! Lot's of giveaways and Heritage Auctions is sponsoring the food and drink too. Large and bright tokens celebrating LSCC's 50th Golden Anniversary will be passed out during the Annual Meeting at this year's ANA Summer Convention in Pittsburgh or sent to members at no cost with their Summer Gobrecht Journal.











#### **LSCC returns to ANA Summer Seminar**

The LSCC is presenting our premier class at this outstanding learning event the last week of June. Summer Seminar is held adjacent to ANA Headquarters at Colorado College in Colorado Springs.

A Collector's Guide to Liberty Seated Coinage is being offered during Session 2, June 24-29. The class has limits on the number of students, so reserve early. The course catalog and registration information may be found at the ANA website:

#### www.money.org/summer-seminar



This course features interactive discussions on many topics, including the history and development of Liberty Seated coinage, evolution of the designs, and grading, including the nuances between series. The core of the class features a deep dive into each of the seven series: half dimes, dimes, twenty-cent pieces, quarters, halves, and both Liberty Seated and Trade dollars.

These deep dives entail *hand's on inspection* of many coins in all grades in all series, and will include in-depth discussions into collecting strategies, key dates, major varieties, and variety attribution. Historical perspectives on various topics will be offered throughout the course. Students will have access to both reference materials and sit-down guidance from instructors throughout the course.

**Instructors:** John Frost (LSCC Education Director), Len Augsburger (LSCC President), and Craig Eberhart (Auction column, noted New Orleans coinage expert).





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

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# Barber Coin Collectors' Society



BCCS Club Meetings, Club Table and Educational Programs are routinely held at most of the LSCC coin show events, and their table is usually right next to the LSCC Table for your convenience.





# **Regional News**by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

Big Changes Coming in the Regional Team Leadership

The LSCC Regional program has grown over the last 10 years from 6 to 10 shows a year (mostly major east coast shows) to over 20 shows per year. Today, you will find us from New Hampshire to Utah, and from Illinois to Florida. Today's Regional program is a much more involved entity than it was 10 years ago and it is time to bring in new blood at the helm so it doesn't get stale.

After lengthy discussions and preparations, Regional Team member Ken Otto is taking over as Regional Team Leader. Ken is a dedicated Liberty Seated collector and has been a valued member of our team. Ken has the leadership skills to maintain and build on the success the Regional Team has worked so hard to achieve. I want to thank Ken for his Club sprit and look forward to his contributions as the Regional Team leader.

The quickly upcoming <u>Pawcatuck Valley Coin Club annual show in Norwich CT on May 7</u> has Verne Pitman hosting the Club table and showing his New Orleans half dollars. More on that event next month.

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Coming up soon <u>May 12-13 is the Gallatin, TN Coin Show at the Gallatin Civic Center</u>, 210 Albert Gallatin Avenue. Dennis Fortier will host the Club table and present an educational program on the 1861-O Half Dollar.

April has been a busy month for the Regional team. From New England to Georgia to Illinois and back to New England.

April 7-8 saw North East Regional Director Joe Casazza and John Frost hosting the Club table and meeting. John displayed Lane Brunner's Double-Dime collection for an amazed New England audience. John's talk at the meeting was based on that display. Here is John's report: "April 7 and 8 found us in Manchester, NH for the twice-yearly NH Coin & Currency Expo. Attendance this spring was the heaviest in years, as people are once again flocking to shows in large numbers. NE Regional Director Joe Casazza and Education Director John Frost staffed the table.

Our exhibit featured the double dimes collection of the late Lane Brunner. In addition to stacks of 20-cent pieces from his reference collection, mint errors and trays of unique exonumia were on display, including three trays of love tokens and counterstamps, and a tray of cuff links, buttons, and pins, all made from 20-cent pieces. Additional chains, bracelets, and fobs were also of special interest. The only visitors that were disappointed were those who really wanted to purchase some of these rare items. John was able to tell them that many of them would be featured in a future edition of the Double Dimes book.

As usual, the table was paired with the BCCS, who displayed some plasters attributed to Charles Barber, along with medals and patterns from the Barber estate. Each club signed up one new member, in addition to interacting with a number locals who had already joined the clubs in the past 10+ years that we have been doing this show. Some photos of the exhibit are shown on the next couple of pages."

#### The GNA (Georgia Numismatic Association) show in Dalton, GA was held April 14-15.

Two new members were signed up at the show. Ken Otto and Dennis Fortier hosted the Club table. Using a few of the "cull" Liberty Seated half dime and dimes that the club recently purchased from a coin shop owner and member, Dennis asked some YN's a few question on Liberty Seated coinage at the YN show function. The kids did well and were pleased to add a Liberty Seated coin to their collections.

Ogden Coin Club Show, Utah, April 14-15: Ernie Ely hosted a Club table with a banner saying "Fluid Coin Talk Spoken Here!" Ernie had a great time and signed up one new LSCC member. On a sad note, soon after the show Ernie fell off a ladder and broke his femur. He will be laid up for six months. We all wish him the best and look forward to his recovery and return to the coin show circuit.



<u>Central States, Apr 27-29</u>, had Craig Eberhart, John Lundsten, Ken Otto and Dennis Fortier hosting the Club table while LSCC President Len Augsburger hosted the Club meeting and educational presentation, "Buy The Best You Can Afford". A recording of the meeting will be available shortly.

Some very exciting news from the Central States show is that the Club may have a new Regional Team member for Minnesota in the fall. See the <u>President's Message on page 3</u> for Len's report about the Club meeting.

#### The Lane Brunner Die Variety Set, Errors, Exonumia and More















Central States Club Table

(END)



#### Dollar Essay by Bruce Vogel LSCC #2754

Christian Gobrecht's influence as the Chief Engraver of the U.S. Mint (1840-1844) cannot be understated. As the designer of the Gobrecht Dollar and the Liberty Seated series of coinage, his designs stood the test of time for almost fifty years after his death. From Half Dimes, Dimes, Quarters, Half Dollars, and Dollars, it can be argued that this series of coinage represents some of the most artistic and beautiful ever produced.

As a member of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club, I along with many like-minded Liberty Seated enthusiasts, celebrate this series and the man through the Club's publications; The Gobrecht Journal and the monthly online E-Gobrecht. Both publications are created by passionate members who provide and share their knowledge, and vast research.

Collectors have a variety of reasons why and what they collect. In my case, the early and unprecedented growth of the United States pre-Civil War peaks my interest. It was during this time period in our history that there was a tremendous need for silver coinage that could compete with the Spanish Dollar, the leading coin in commerce at the time. Chirstian Gobrecht's coin designs filled this need.

The Gobrecht Dollar (1836-1839), actually a pattern that evolved into the Liberty Seated Silver Dollar which was minted from 1840 to 1873. Produced at the Philadelphia, New Orleans, San Francisco and the famed Carson City mints, its use continued through the Civil War and beyond. Researchers believe that the majority of Liberty Seated Silver Dollars found their way to the Orient for use in Commerce and Trade, their intended purpose. Surviving examples are highly desirable and broadly collected. Survival rates are miniscule for most dates. It is interesting to note that of all dates and mints together amount to approximately 6.5 million pieces. Compare those numbers to the mintage of a single 1881-S Morgan dollar at over 12.5 million.

I love the Gobrecht Dollar and the Liberty Seated Silver Dollars that followed. It has been my good fortune as an adult to have the opportunity to be able to add this coin to my collection, which would have only been a dream as a youthful collector.

Liberty Seated Collectors Club "Rock Solid and well built for years to come"







# The Curious Collector by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

### This and That for May

- Congratulations to Craig Eberhart for his publication of "New Orleans Transitional Coins" in the May issue of <u>The Numismatist</u>. Craig scored a full spread on the front cover of the magazine, a nice piece of advertising for Liberty Seated coins in general. Craig's article documents the six known transitional issues that demonstrate the use of old dies within the New Orleans Mint. The 1840-O With Drapery Large-O quarter, for example, used a new With Drapery obverse die combined with a reverse die used on the earlier No Drapery coinage. All total, there are one half dime, two dimes, a quarter dollar, and two half dollars that fall in the "transitional" category. The two half dollar varieties, 1840-O WB-4 and WB-12, are particularly noteworthy as the reverse dies, shipped earlier, were originally intended for use with Bust half dollars. The Bust halves, of course, featured the mintmark on the obverse, so as a result the WB-4 and WB-12 varieties bear no mintmarks, even though struck in New Orleans. Such anomalies appeal to a wide range of collectors apart from those focused exclusively on Seated half dollar varieties.
- A big thanks is due to Heritage Auctions for sponsoring the catering at our 50th Anniversary Open House, which will be held at the ANA convention on Friday, August 11 at 3pm at the Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh. Heritage has handled some of the all-time great Liberty Seated collections in recent years, including Kaufman, Newman, Gardner, and Bender. We hope to see many of you at the open house. On the subject of major auction houses, congrats are due to Stack's Bowers for their recent offering of the James A. Millholland collection. Millholland (1842-1911), like many 19th century collectors, assembled proof runs of the current coinage. Remarkably, the collection was preserved together for over a century before the Stack's Bowers March sale. Stack's Bowers described the group as "approximately 550 coins, many of which are beautifully toned from more than 100 years in a custom-built wooden cabinet." Highlights included this spectacularly toned 1865 PCGS PR66+ CAC-approved Liberty Seated dollar, which sold for \$38,400.





(Continued from previous page)

- The Lane Brunner reference set of twenty-cent pieces was on exhibit at the recent Baltimore show, and a big thanks to John Frost for making this happen. I'm still trying to get my arms around this group it is safe to say that Lane's collection constitutes the largest and most important set of twenty-cent die varieties ever formed. The Baltimore exhibit thus represented many decades of doggedly hunting for anything related to the twenty-cent series. Some of the varieties in the series were represented by an entire roll of examples. Rolls of anything in the Liberty Seated series are frequently rumored and much less often actually seen. John Frost will be carefully studying and documenting this once-in-a-lifetime collection, which we expect will represent a combination of both fun and hard work.
- Through the courtesy of Florida United Numismatists (FUN), a couple presentations from the January 2023 FUN show in Orlando are now available online. Gerry Fortin speaks on "An Overview of Liberty Seated Coinage" <a href="https://archive.org/details/FUN2305AnOverviewofSeatedLibertyCoinage">https://archive.org/details/FUN2305AnOverviewofSeatedLibertyCoinage</a>, while John Frost's presentation on "Why the Barber Quarter Is My Favorite Series" is posted at <a href="https://archive.org/details/FUN2302WhytheBarberQuarterisMyFavoriteSeries">https://archive.org/details/FUN2302WhytheBarberQuarterisMyFavoriteSeries</a>. I think maybe John meant to present on "Why the Seated Quarter Is My Favorite Series", and got confused. Hopefully he will rectify the situation next year!
- Coin World recently established a U.S. Rare Coin Market Index, with the index level based on one hundred selected U.S. coins. The idea is to pick a cross-section of collectible coins across the U.S. series that together will reflect the overall market. Liberty Seated selections include:

1853 H10c MS64 1837 10c No Stars Large Date MS63 1872-CC 10c VF35 1879 10c MS66 1884 25c PR66 1853 50c A&R VF30 1879 50c MS65 1871 S\$1 MS64 1872 S\$1 PR65 1878-S T\$1 MS65 1880 T\$1 PR64

This is not an easy list to put together. While it is true that common dates trade the most frequently, and thus more accurately reflect actual market activity, I'd like to see scarcer issues on this list. The 1872-CC 10c is certainly a challenging coin, but rarity exerts a strong influence among Liberty Seated collectors and I am not sure that is completely captured here. Within the LSCC, there is additionally a focus on collector grade pieces, only two of which appear on this list. Distilling the overall strength of the market into a single number is akin to scoring intelligence via an IQ test – there is a ton of nuance that goes into the topline number, and collectors will use this index as a starting point before digging deeper.



### **LSCC Upcoming 2023 Regional Events Calendar**

\* Details Mostly Finalized

\* May 7 Pawcatuck Valley Coin Club (PVCC – CT/RI) Annual Coin Show, Holiday Inn, Norwich, CT - Host is Verne Pittman, Club table with display of New Orleans Liberty Seated half dollars

\* May 12-13 Gallatin, TN Coin Show at the Gallatin Civic Center - Host is Dennis Fortier, Club table with educational program "1861-O Half Dollar"

June 8-10 Whitman Baltimore Summer Coin Expo, Baltimore Convention Center in downtown Baltimore, MD, Host is Len Augsburger for a Club meeting on Friday at 9 am., Club table.

<u>Note:</u> <u>Updates provided as they become available</u>, but always check the organization's show website for further details and any last minutes changes.



Christian Gobrecht

(Continued on next page)

# 50 Years 1973-2023

#### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

## Liberty Seated Collectors Club

| Name    |       |     |  |
|---------|-------|-----|--|
| Address |       |     |  |
| City    | State | Zip |  |
| Email   |       |     |  |
| Phone   |       |     |  |

LSCC Member Application Form also at:

http://www.lsccweb.org/LSCC Membership.pdf

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

| New member join date | Amount<br>Due | Full Color Gobrecht Journals  To be sent to the new member |
|----------------------|---------------|--|
| January thru March   | \$30          | 3 (March, July, and November)                              |
| April thru July      | \$20          | 2 (July and November)                                      |
| August thru December | \$10          | 1 (November)   |

Liberty Seated Collectors Club c/o Craig Eberhardt, Secretary P.O. Box 1386, Los Alamos, NM 87544



### LSCC 2023 Regional Events Calendar Cont.

\* Details Mostly Finalized

June 16-18 Raleigh Coin Club Annual Money Expo, Exposition Center, NC State Fairgrounds, 1025 Blue Ridge Rd, Raleigh, NC - Hosts are Ken Otto and John Lundsten, Club table with Liberty Seated coins on display

#### August 8-12 ANA World's Fair of Money annual

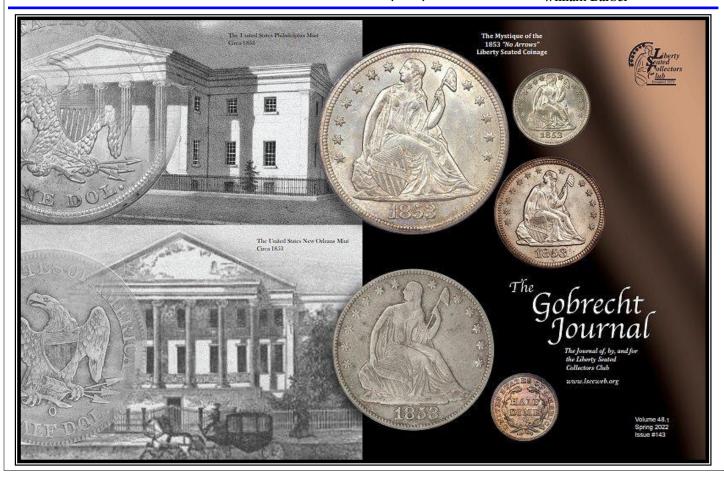
<u>convention</u> in Pittsburgh, PA - LSCC & BCCS annual meetings and major 50th Anniversary activities planned including an <u>Open House Celebration on August 11 at 3 pm in Rooms 408-409</u>. The LSCC <u>Annual Meeting will be on August 12 at 9 am in Room 326</u>.

September 25-27 (New) Westchester Annual Coin Show, Tarrytown, NY at the Westchester Marriott, 670 White Plains Road - Host is John Frost, Club table

<u>Note:</u> <u>Updates provided as they become available</u>, but always check the organization's show website for further details and any last minutes changes.



William Barber



(END)



#### 'Gobrecht' Bust Half Dollars

Annoucement: 'Top 25 Rarest Reeded Edge Half Dollars & More by Jim Koenings, LSCC #2798 & JRCS #048

On January 15, 2023, I will start a New Series "The Top 25 Rarest Reeded Edge Halves", starting with the 25<sup>th</sup> Rarest and continuing monthly until I reach the No. 1 Rarest.

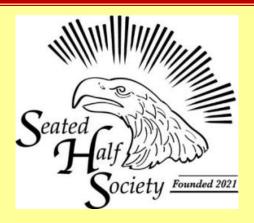
Other articles will appear in The Gobrech Journal from time to time, but not E-Gobrecht.

To learn more about Reeded Edge Halves or to ask questions, contact Jim Koenings below.

If you haven't done so, now is the time to sign up for our Complimentary Monthly Newsletters (past & present) by sending your Name and e-Mail Address to:

bustcoin1@verizon.net





# Half Crazy

The Newsletter of the

# Seated Half Society

Society hits Milestone of 31 Founding Members in first year



To receive the Half Crazy Newsletter for free and for further information about the SHS or questions about Liberty Seated Halves, please contact Verne Pitman or myself.

Dennis Fortier SHS President ricajun@msn.com Verne Pitman Vice-President vwpitman@gmail.com





## Liberty Seated Collectors Club

#### **National Officers**

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#### **National Positions**

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#### **Director - Western Region**

Brian Cushing bpcushing@gmail.com

#### **Director - Central Region**

**Dennis Fortier (email above)** 

#### **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.lsccweb.org
LSCC email address: lscc@lsccweb.org

LSCC Membership Information: Dues are bargain priced at \$30 per year and include 3 packed 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* magazine may be addressed to Len Augsburger, 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: <a href="mailto:e-gobrecht@msn.com">e-gobrecht@msn.com</a>

#### 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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