

The E-Gobrecht

Liberty Seated Collectors Club

2015 Volume 11, Issue 9

September 2015 (Whole #128)

LSCC ANA Announcements:

Jim Gray in LSCC Hall of Fame!

Greg Johnson wins Ahwash Award!

<u>Jim Laughlin</u> selected for *E-Gobrecht* Editor's award!

Small format *Gobrecht Journals* now on-line!

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See more on these headlines and other happenings inside!

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.



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ANA Wrap-Up - News



Great turn out for the 2015 LSCC annual meeting: 61 members and guests, most in the photograph above! [Behind the camera: Whitman Publisher Dennis Tucker]



↑ John Frost, Craig Eberhart, and Dennis Fortier at the LSCC table with a YN.



↑ Auctioneer Bob Merrill chides Craig Eberhart.
 ← Q. David Bowers addresses the LSCC and discusses his new Liberty Seated *Red Book*.



↑ John and Norma McCloskey discuss upcoming personal and numismatic plans.

and a second

ANA Wrap-Up - News

LSCC Polo Shirts now available

At the 2015 ANA annual meeting, the officers modeled our new LSCC polo shirts that features the artistic club logo (imaged at right). The shirts were well received by attending members and the public. Given the positive feedback and initial demand, we would now like to make them available to the entire membership. The shirts are navy (though they look black) with silver embroidery of the club logo.



The cost is \$35 including shipping for the first shirt. Additional shirts

ordered at the same time and mailed to the same address are \$32.50 each. Please add \$3.00 per shirt for 2X and 3X sizes. For shipping outside the U.S., please add an additional \$5.00 for the first shirt and \$2.50 for each additional shirt.

Payments can be made via PayPal to the LSCC club account or via check/money order and mailed to Craig Eberhart, LSCC Treasurer, PO Box 712, Los Alamos NM 87544.

Please include a complete address for mailing and sizes. Ordering deadline is December 15, delivery will be after January. Order early so you don't forget and miss the cut off.

Show your club pride and collecting interest at club social events and your local club meetings. They look impressive when working a club table or giving a presentation on Liberty Seated coinage.

(Clip along line, fill in, and submit bottom portion with your order)

Name:

Address:

Telephone Number (in case of problems): _____

Email address:

(Fill in blanks below for your order)								
Number of Shirts	Size	Price per item	Total					
LSCC Shirt #1 (Shipping Included)		\$35.00	\$35.00					
Additional Shirts		\$32.50						
Oversize	(2X, 3X)	\$3.00						
Outside US shipping	-	\$5 first shirt, \$2.50 each additional						
-	_	Total Due						

Recordings of the 2015 LSCC Annual Meeting

At the 2015 LSCC Annual Meeting at this year's ANA World's Fair of Money, John Frost made recordings so that members not in attendance could watch the proceedings. These recordings have been uploaded to the LSCC Website, on the Education page at http://www.lsccweb.org/Educational_Presentatio • ns.php.

There are six MP4 files that cover the different items on the meeting agenda. Some of the file sizes are • VERY large, as noted on the web page. If you don't have high-speed internet service for streaming, the best • way to view these is to right-click the links and download the MP4 files before watching them.

Some disclaimers: The audio is only fair for most of these recordings - most of the speakers were too far away from the recording device and didn't speak loud enough (we will address that in future meeting recordings) and only Auctioneer Bob Merrill used a good as we would have liked. We will try to address microphone consistently. You will need to have both your computer's volume and the video player's volume set to the maximum. Manually size your video viewer

to make the video large enough to read. We will also try to improve image resolution quality in the future.

The Agenda recorded in six MP4 files are as follows:

- Welcome and recognizing John McCloskey Gerry Fortin
- Upcoming Liberty Seated Guide Book Q. David Bowers and Dennis Tucker
- Award presentations for LSCC publications Bill Bugert
- LSCC Hall of Fame announcement and induction -Bill Bugert
- LSCC Club Business Gerry Fortin, Craig Eberhart, and Dennis Fortier
- LSCC Benefit Auction Craig Eberhart and Bob Merrill (of Heritage Auctions)

Again, apologies as the audio quality isn't as this in the future.

LSCC Annual Meeting Auction Results

This year's club auction was a tremendous success. Proceeds went to the club Treasury to keep the dues low and to fund various club projects. Here are the auction prices realized.

Lot 1. - \$400. 1854 10¢, PCGS AU58 CAC.

- Lot 2. \$300 (\$90 to consignor this consignor agreed to accept an amount lower than the 85%, as a donation). 1876-S 10¢, PCGS MS63, Type I reverse.
- Lot 3. \$600 (\$510 to consignor). 1840-O No Drapery 25¢, PCGS MS details, Briggs-1A.
- Lot 4. \$60. 1853/4 25¢, ANACS Details with old ANACS certificate.
- Lot 5. \$425. LSCC Anniversary Medal, Copper Trial Strike, Proof.
- Lot 6. \$280. Gobrecht Journal #121, Fall 2014, Small format prototype.
- Lot 7. \$110. Gobrecht Journal #121, Fall 2014, Large format draft.
- Lot 8. \$650. A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume IV, New Orleans Branch *Mint, 1853-O WA to 1861-O*, Deluxe Leather Bound Edition, #10 of 10.
- Lot 14. \$4,400. The Gardner Collection, Complete Set of Photo Books for the Liberty Seated Series.
- Lot 15. \$100. LSCC Logo original artwork, executed by Jim Macor.

Total \$7,325 less \$600 to consignors – <u>net total \$6,725</u> to LSCC Treasury.

Many thanks to all the lot donors and bidders.

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All small format *Gobrecht Journals* (Issues #1-120) now on-line!



Gobrecht Journal Digitization by Len Augsburger

Newman Numismatic Portal Project Coordinator

The LSCC is pleased to announce that back issues of the *Gobrecht Journal* (through issue #120 – July 2014) are now available online at

https://archive.org/details/newmannumismatic (enter "Gobrecht Journal" in the search box). While the Collective Volume series remains indispensable for quick access in hardcopy format, many collectors prefer online references. This project was accomplished at no cost to the LSCC by the Newman Numismatic Portal.

In parallel, the Newman project is creating its own website, http://www.newmannumismaticportal.org. This site will incorporate all of the scanned content in addition to electronic data, such as auction records. Users will be able to search across all of this material, creating a powerful search experience dedicated to the numismatic space. It should be noted that Internet Archive supports search within single documents only – so, although all previous Journals are now available online, it is not yet possible to search across the entire set at once. The Newman Portal, which will deliver

The Newman Portal, sponsored by the Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society and administered through Washington University in St. Louis, aims to capture the world's numismatic information, on a free and forever basis, within a single site. The scanning center for

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this capability, will be open in 2016.

While back issues of the Journal are now online, there is no immediate plan to support online subscriptions to the *Gobrecht Journal*, although the officers are certainly open to proposals in this regard.

the Newman Portal is located in Olin Library at Washington University. The Newman Portal then uses Internet Archive, a San Francisco company, as its document warehouse, to upload and host scanned documents. Scanned documents appear immediately on Internet Archive, and new documents are added daily.

The LSCC wishes to thank NNP Project Coordinator, Len Augsburger, for expediting the scanning of the *Gobrecht Journal* for public use and Steve Crain and Bill Bugert for loaning back issues of the *Gobrecht Journal* for use in this project.

E-Gobrecht now accepting advertisements

At the Annual club leadership meeting, I (*E-Gobrecht* Editor) agreed to accept advertisements in the *E-Gobrecht* on a trial basis. All advertisements must conform to the following guidelines:

- You must be a current LSCC member to advertise in the *E-Gobrecht*.
- All advertisements must be for Liberty Seated coins and/or related material.
- All advertisements must be no larger than 3.5" high x 7.5" wide.
- Text and/or images are allowed.
- All advertisements must be submitted 3 days before the last day of each calendar month.
- All advertisements must be camera ready (that means I don't have to do <u>anything</u> to your ad before emplacing it in the *E-Gobrecht*). JPEG and TIFF files are preferred.
- Rates are a flat \$25 for each advertisement and will run for one issue only. Renewals are welcome. Payments are due to the club Treasurer.
- The E-Gobrecht editor reserves the right to reject any advertisement deemed inappropriate.

Foreign Coin Sale to Benefit LSCC Treasury

A generous LSCC member has donated a group foreign coins to be sold on behalf of the club through Gerry Fortin Rare Coins. A complete set of images is featured in the Gerry Fortin Daily Blog for August 21



(http://www.seateddimevarieties.com/DailyBlog.htm). While many collectors purely focus on U.S. material, world coins offer a lot of "coin for the money," with 18th and 19th century examples available in high grades for substantially less than their U.S. counterparts. Pictured here is an 1887 silver Florin (2 shillings, similar to a half dollar) from Great Britain. This coin is available for \$50. Queen Victoria reigned from 1837-1901, a 64-year reign soon to be eclipsed by the present Queen, Elizabeth II. This piece was issued during the 50th year of Victoria's reign, along with a number of other pieces that com-

memorated this "jubilee." A full description is at http://www.seateddimevarieties.com/FS_Lists/Foreig n.htm.

Has anyone seen... by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

In issue #5 of the *Gobrecht Journal* (April 1975), Kam Ahwash notified the membership of a club meeting to be held at the New York Numismatic Convention. Kam also announced a trophy for the best exhibit, to be known as the "C. W. Grayson Award." Do any *E*- *Gobrecht* readers know if such a trophy was indeed ever awarded?

Even better, is the award or is there a photograph out there somewhere?



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Auction News by Jim Gray, LSCC #664

The **Heritage** August Sale contained G4 1872-CC and 1873-CC dimes which sold for \$1,175 and \$2,820.

Two 1842-O Small Date quarters graded VG10 and F12 sold for \$1,028 and \$1,763. VF35 and AU55 1849-O pieces went for \$3,525 and \$7,550. F15 and XF40 1860-S coins sold for \$2,820 and \$8,049 and an XF40 1864-S was worth \$3,525. 1870-CC and 1871-CC, both graded VG8, were strong at \$1,0281 and \$11,163. 1872-CC and two1872-S all graded

F15 sold \$3,567, \$4,700, and \$3,995. An 1873-CC G4 sold for \$4,818 and a nice MS 1891-O piece hit \$14,100.

The rare VG8 1853-ONA half dollar rang the bell for \$199,750 and an 1871-CC piece graded XF45 sold for \$4,230.

1854 and 1855 dollars graded VF35 and XF45 sold for \$4,465 and \$5,640. A lovely AU58 1870-CC piece soared to \$19,975. MS60 and XF45 1872-CC coins sold for \$24,675 and \$5,640. An AU55 1873-CC rang the bell for \$56,400.

The **Stack's Bowers** ANA Sale contained VG10 1871-CC and VF30 1872-CC dimes that sold for \$2,820 and \$3,525. Two 1873-CC pieces hit \$5,581 and \$3,055 in grades of VF20 and VG10.

A VF25 1872-CC quarter hit \$5,581. An AU53 1855-S half dollar did not sell. A VG8 1870-CC hit \$2,820. Two XF40 pieces of 1872-CC and 1873-CC NA hammered for \$1,586 and \$1,723.

Rarities Night contained MS64 1838-O and 1844-O half dimes. The first sold for \$16,450 and the second did not sell.

An AU50 1843-O dime was worth \$10,450 and a MS61 1871-CC soared to \$30,550.

A MS61 1856-S quarter sold for \$11,750 and an 1870-CC in XF45 realized \$35,250. 1871-CC, 1872-CC, and 1873-CC coins graded F12, XF45, and XF45 sold for \$14,100, \$9,400 and \$18,800.

A MS66 1866-S NM half dollar did not sell and an 1873-CC NA was worth \$12,925.

An 1871-CC dollar graded AU58 and realized \$32,900. XF45 and AU55 1873-CC coins sold for \$30,550 and \$32,900.



ALC: NO

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The ANA might be described

bers set their sights on becoming part of something special. While the sharing of numismatic knowledge will always be the hallmark of the LSCC, it is refreshing to see the organization making strides to become a more inclusive and social focused organization.

Sixty-one members and guests were in attendance for the annual club ANA national meeting followed by a club dinner attended by an enthusiastic group at The Five Roses Pub. John Frost's education-

al seminar on "Double Dimes and the Amazing Discovery at the Carson City" was well attended and presented. Dennis Fortier's "Overrated/Underrated Liberty Seated Coinage" presentation (photo at right) was well-liked by collectors of many levels.

The club table, despite being at the farthest end of the

bourse, was a popular meeting place for club members throughout the convention. It was helpful to have extra assistance at the club table from Steve Crain, Carl Feldman, and Jason Feldman. Special thanks to John Frost for making the table arrangements and coordinating the display.

Serious collectors were out in force on the ANA bourse floor during the first three days of the convention and a more family orientated atmosphere taking over for the final days of the show. Eight new members were signed up and an additional four members returned.

August 21-22 found the LSCC at the Carson City Mint Coin Show and Education Fair, courtesy of

Regional News by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

as the LSCC's social event of the season. Club members renewed old acquaintanceships and made new friends. Some long absent members rejoined the club and brand new memthe Nevada State Museum. John Frost hosted the LSCC table. Notes from John ...

Although the show was small and we didn't sign up any new members, it was a great deal of fun. I talked with a number of current LSCC members, who were delighted to see us represented at the show. Two educational sessions were attended by over 20 people each, and there was a lot of traffic at the table, in the concourse of the Museum. Many people toured the museum and the show, and when they passed our table, were fascinated by the display, and wanted to talk about Carson City coinage, of which we had numerous examples at the table. One of the most fun shows to attend in some time! Plus, it turned into a real Double Dimes weekend, which is covered elsewhere in this issue of the E-Gobrecht.

> Looking ahead, September is going to be another busy month. Labor Day Weekend has the Ohio State Coin Show with Steve Petty hosting a club meeting Friday September 4th 9 AM in the auction room of the Crown Plaza in Dublin OH. Steve will be giving a seminar on "Twenty-Cent Piece: Historical legislative attempts and rarity ratings."

The Gettysburg National Battlefield show held September 10-12 brings out many LSCC members and officers. This time around, however, there are no scheduled club events in connection with the show. Club officers will be spending several days reviewing past club presidents Kamal M. Ahwash's and John McCloskey's club files and establishing formal LSCC archives. That said, there is always an opportunity to say hello on the bourse floor as the officers will be at the Gettysburg show at some time.

Bob Clark will host the club table at Long Beach September 17-19. Please stop by, say hello, and check out his display.



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The Curious Collector by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

ANA Recap

This was my 15th consecutive ANA convention, going back to Atlanta in 2001. There are always the

coins that got away, and at the 2001 show Duncan Lee had the 1873-CC No Arrows 25c (one of five known) in NGC XF40 for sale, priced around \$80K. Duncan said he would be happy to take my check for it, but I replied he would not be so happy when he tried to cash it! In rare coins, you have to jump when opportunity strikes, but without experience, it is hard to identify what's a "good opportunity" and what isn't. Going to conventions like this and spending time with fellow collectors and dealers is a great way to further one's education. This year's edition started on Monday, August 10.

Monday. This was an easy day with dealer setup from 3 PM to 6 PM. I drove down to Rosemont, registered for the show, and delivered some coin trays to Rich Uhrich that he uses for the Chicago shows. Rich's shipment from Brinks arrived on the show floor about the same time, and between Rich, myself, and Bill Bugert, we were able to layout the inventory in the cases in record time. Placing coins in the cases is not for the neurotic – if placing a stray coin at the end of a row violates your sense of "coin order," then you better have your medication handy. There are also inevitable decisions about which coins to stack on top of each other. Rich had a corner table with six cases, one reserved for "eye candy" while the remainders held either slabs or raw coins.

Tuesday. I spent Tuesday at Rich's table, showing coins, selling a few, and saying hello to all the early attendees. In the afternoon, I had a discussion with Lori Kraft, who runs the Baltimore show for Whitman. The Baltimore Expo show has been quite good for the LSCC, and over the years we've had some nice exhibits and events in conjunction with this show. We want that to continue, and Lori and I had

a good discussion about possible future activities. Tuesday night Rich hosted his table assistants at McCormick & Schmick's, a little bit down the road from the convention center. Social events like this are always the highlight of the show, and a good time was had by all.

Wednesday. I had my own one-day table, co-hosted with Joel Orosz (*see image below*). Joel, myself, and Pete Smith are currently working on a book on 1792 coinage, to be published by Heritage. We don't really sell anything at our table, this is more of an opportunity to converse with fellow writers and collectors from a single, convenient location. Quite a few stopped by, and there was really no dead time the



Left to right: Joel, Len, and Bob Julian.

whole day. At the end of the day we piled into a limo with a group of fellow bibliophiles and headed to downtown Chicago for a dinner at Naha on N. Clark Street.

Thursday. The big event Thursday was the LSCC annual meeting, of which much will be said in the remainder of this issue. My main responsibility at the meeting was bringing in the auction lots and representing the "bid book" for phone and mail bidders. Bob Merrill called the auction in his usual entertaining style, and in the end the club treasury took in

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Quarter of the Month by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

1853 A&R With a Reverse Cud

Especially when compared to most other Liberty Seated Quarter issues, the 1853 Arrows and

Rays is a common date. It seems as though they were minted one for every man, woman, and child in the United States at the time. Today, it can actually be challenging to find a dealer who doesn't have one and only about half of them will try to convince you it is a rare date. The large mintage predictably results in a number of varieties as well as some interesting late die states. Larry Briggs' The Complete Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Quarters catalogues no less than 8 different cuds. A search of the Gobrecht Journal Index and Collective Volumes reveals few articles and little research involving the 1853 Arrows and Rays. A rotated reverse variety of the 1853, reported as early as 1977 by John McCloskey, is noted, as are some of the cuds described in Briggs' book. However, there is frequently little note taken of the 1853 A&R and its varieties.

The coin pictured was not immediately identifiable as a known variety and was acquired for study as a suspected new cud. However, careful examination revealed it to be an early die state of Briggs' reverse E with a rim cud over the "RI" in AMERICA. Not a new discovery. It is also higher grade than the plate coin. With at least 8 cuds already known (and very likely more to be discovered) a set of 1853 cuds would make an interesting set to collect.

Photo courtesy of Gerry Fortin.



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The Strike Zone by Rich Hundertmark, LSCC #2347

My Summer ANA Trip

Modified fly fishing proverb of the month:

"Scholars have long known that numismatics eventually turns men into philosophers. Unfortunately, it is almost impossible to buy decent coins on a philosopher's salary." - Patrick F. McManus

My summer journeys continued in August with a long planned trip to the Chicago ANA that combined numismatic activity with a few other vacation item to do's. I arrived at O'Hare airport on schedule early afternoon Tuesday, checked-in at the Hilton and got to "the show" around 2 PM. As I was waiting for the airport bus shuttle I ran into fellow LSCC member and dealer Eugene Bruder. I mentioned to Gene that many years ago while on a business trip in California, I had actually first met him at the Santa Clara Show and he introduced me to Liberty Seated Half dime coinage and gave me some valuable insights for a raw type set I was then working on.

My plan of attack at the show was to first visit both the PCGS and NGC tables to take care of planned grading submissions. As a collector and part time small dealer, I always take advantage of show submissions to reduce shipping and insurance costs. Both tables were equally well run, lines were small, and my submissions went smoothly as I had already filled out paperwork and properly labeled the submission coins in their flips.

The balance of the afternoon found me on the floor, actively buying and selling for both my personal collection and for clients. Key afternoon Liberty Seated purchases included a lovely 1857 Quarter graded MS 64 by PCGS and a raw 1842 Dollar with mostly crusty original surfaces that I graded EF. The next day's activities started with an early 8 AM meeting with my eBay partner and we went over pricing and descriptions of new material. At the show, I continued buy-sell activities and also attended Dennis Fortier's presentation on "Overrated/Underrated Liberty Seated Coinage."

Food at the show was not so good on-site, and many dealers had food delivered from the local eateries. I managed to be at a dealer's table when Giordano's deep dish pizza was being served and one slice was all it took to make me an aficionado!

I should also mention that at each show I attend I always try to add a book for my numismatic library. This show I didn't try quite so hard as earlier in the month I finally secured a near mint edition of Larry Briggs book on Liberty Seated Quarters after about a two year search; knowledge is key and I am a big proponent of "buy the book then the coin".

Thursday's activities began with the 9 AM LSCC meeting that was well attended and the club's auction that was expertly run by Bob Merrill of Heritage. Also in attendance was Q. David Bowers, who received quite the ovation when introduced. I am sure much more of the meeting will be written by others, I would just say that membership is strong and the LSCC has a great future.

After the club meeting it was back to the bourse for another hour, then off to the "EL" and a trip to Wrigley Field with a friend to see the Cubs play the Brewers. As a huge baseball fan it has always been on my "bucket list" to visit Wrigley, I was not disappointed as the park truly maintains its traditions and old school "feel" even with the addition of a few modern scoreboards.

Finally, the day's trip into the city concluded with a trip to Franklin Street and a great steak dinner at Gene and Georgetti's, superb !

Friday was my travel day, and I was back home in New Jersey by 5PM. It has been a wonderful summer, great fishing, bad golfing, good coins, the "Wrigley experience" and more ! Thanks for reading,

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The Curious Collector (Continued from page 10)

about \$7,000, by far a record for the club auction. Many thanks to Gene Gardner, who donated a set of his photo books, and to the mail bidder who won the books at \$4,400. My wife Debra, who was in attendance, did not understand I was bidding for the "book" and got a little concerned for the health of our checking account. A quick explanation resolved that situation! I would like to give a shout out to Jim Macor, who designed a fabulous auction catalog cover. Bob Merrill's marked up copy of the catalog was retrieved after the sale and will probably make an appearance in a future auction.

Following the LSCC meeting, I headed over to room 22 where I presented status of the Newman Numismatic Portal to a group of about 60 attendees. As many of you know, I work fulltime for Washington University in St. Louis as project coordinator of the Portal. See elsewhere in this issue for an important announcement related to digitization of Gobrecht Journal back issues. Thursday dinner was held at the Five Roses Pub with a number of LSCC members. Thanks to Jason Feldman for organizing this event.

Friday. Friday started out with an early breakfast of the LSCC officers. I took meeting minutes in between bacon and eggs, and some good points for improvement were captured. I attended a few other club meetings this day, most notably the Numismatic

day. I am especially grateful to those organizations who are allowing us to scan their journals – our aim is to make numismatic information available to all on a free and forever basis, and the level of collaboration is encouraging. Friday I had dinner with my coauthors Pete Smith and Joel Orosz at the nearby Park Tavern. Pete tried to stump us with various propositions ("I'm thinking of a coin – which one is it?"). By this day I was brain dead and not capable of making many good guesses. But the food was really good – fish tacos for me, with carrot cake split three ways for dessert.

Saturday: I attended the Rittenhouse Society breakfast, hosted by Q. David Bowers. This is a group of numismatic researchers, and the quantity of expertise in the room overwhelms me. Whitman Publishing always picks up the check, a very nice gesture on their part. Our own Bill Bugert is a fellow member, and it is always refreshing to meet with colleagues and do a little networking. I had a nice chat with Harry Salyards, better known as the Editor of Penny-Wise, but who is also a diehard Liberty Seated half dollar collector. I worked the rest of the day at Rich's table. There was some time to walk around the floor – the neatest thing I saw was a group of Liberty Seated quarters from the New Orleans hoard at Jeff Garrett's table. Most of this hoard was dispersed at the time of discovery (1982), but Jeff had a group of quarters, about 15 pieces, that had remained together. Their appearance was remarkably uniform – grainy, dull gray surfaces, with good detail. The price was

Bibliomania Society meeting where Don Kagin talked about the Saddle Ridge Hoard. On the show floor. I had a number of follow up discussions based on the Newman Portal presentation from Thurs-



stiff (\$18,000 for the set-see image at left), and I headed back to Rich's table. The show public hours ended at 4 PM, but action was quiet after lunch. We packed up, Brinks came for the coins, and another year of the ANA was in the books.



LSCC Member in the Spotlight: W. David Perkins, LSCC #790 by Tony Barreca, LSCC #2151

Tony's note: My experience of David is quite limited, but one thing I can attest to from it is that he's a real gentleman who was ridiculously easy to work with. Thanks!

Tony. When did you first become interested in coin collecting and numismatics? Was there a specific experience or set of experiences that triggered it? What series did you start collecting when you did?

Dave. My grandfather exposed me to coin collecting around age 9 or 10. He had a 19th Century type set that he kept in a fishing tackle box. I fell in love with coins. He lived in California at the time and I would stay with him and my grandmother for most of the summer. My grandmother would take me to the bank every day to get a \$50.00 bag of cents. I would look through the rolls in the bag and pull out the "good ones," including the 'S' cents I rarely found while living in the Midwest.

My grandfather lived in Chicago at one time when I was very young. One day I was playing hide-and-seek in his yard. I was sitting behind a large bush, leaning against the house hiding, when I found an 1857 Liberty Seated Quarter in the dirt! I put the coin in a paper 2X2 envelope and still have it today. It is very dark and very thin. I've always wondered if it might be a survivor of the great Chicago fire in 1871?

Tony. How did you initially become interested in Liberty Seated (LS) coins? Which LS denominations do you focus on currently? Previously?

Dave. In 1983, I was out of college and working, had a little extra money each month, and "got back into" coin collecting like so many of us did. I decided to collect 19th Century Type Coins and began putting together a set of Liberty Seated Type by denomination. I gravitated to the Liberty Seated Dollars and began collecting them, mostly in XF grades. Nice Liberty Seated Dollars were hard to find even back in the 1980s!

Tony. Within the series of LS coins you focus on, do you consider yourself a variety collector? If so, what is your approach to variety collecting?

Dave. I collected Liberty Seated coins by *Redbook* types. I especially like the early dates 1837-1840. One of my favorite coins was an 1838-0 No Stars Dime in very choice AU. I purchased this in a B&M Auction sale sometime in the mid-1980s. I wish I still had it!

I never collected Liberty Seated coins by die variety but I do collect the early U.S. silver dollars 1794-1803 by die marriage, with a focus on the 34 die marriages of 1798 Dollars. I love collecting by die marriage and die state.

Tony. How long have you been an LSCC member? In your opinion, what are the main advantages of belonging to the club?

Dave. There was a dealer in St. Cloud, Minnesota that I met at a local coin show in 1984. I believe his name was Dave Steckling. I talked to him about my interest in Liberty Seated coins. He told me about the LSCC. After the show he mailed me a copy of the LSCC membership application. I immediately joined. It was the first numismatic club/organization that I ever joined.

The first issue of *The Gobrecht Journal* that I received was Volume 10 Issue #29 (March 1984). This issue got me hooked on collecting Liberty Seated coins by *Redbook* type and Liberty Seated Dollars by date and mint mark. There was an article titled, "The Five Sisters Born 1854" by David H. Cohen. The article told of a gentleman walking into a coin store carrying a "crusty, dilapidated album of dollars." Most were circulated Morgan Dollars but at the end of the album there were five 1854 Dollars, the "five sisters born 1854." 1854 is a key date in the series and the five coins all graded AU to Mint State! I have been trying to locate this David H. Cohen for research purposes. I



LSCC Member in the Spotlight Continued from page 14)

have also been trying to acquire one of these "five sisters" 1854 dollars for about 30 years now!

My first large coin show was the 1984 Central States Convention which was held in Minneapolis where I lived at the time. I wrote LSCC founder and President John McCloskey a letter, and offered to pick him up at the airport and drive him to his hotel if he would come Dave. I can't think of anything I would change. to my house and look at my Liberty Seated Dollar Collection and give me his feedback. To my surprise and delight he agreed!

I had all of these nice XF and AU Dollars, but John's favorite coin was my 1864 Dollar in Very Good that I'd purchased in the Superior Auction of the Dr. Jerry Buss Collection! At the show, John introduced me to a number of collectors, including "Mr. 1873" (Harry X Boosel) and Russ Logan. I wouldn't have experienced all of this had I not learned about and joined LSCC.

To me, joining LSCC is all about the people you meet and the knowledge you gain from active participation in the club. I have now been a member for over 30 years and cannot begin to count all of the people that I have met. Over the years I have joined over a dozen numismatic clubs, and am active to different degrees in each one.

Tony. Do you ever participate in Club activities? If so, which ones? Have you ever visited the Clubs message boards? Attended a meeting in person? Which activities could you see yourself participating in at a future time? Have you ever actively recommended that a collector friend join the LSCC? If not, why not?

Dave. My education in numismatics initially came from reading and studying club Journals and Coin World newspaper from the 1980s until the 1991 ANA Convention in Chicago. The 1991 ANA was the first ANA Convention I ever attended. It was a great experience. I went to the LSCC, JRCS, and EAC meetings while there, studied the exhibits (The Armand Champa Numismatic Literature Display was awesome!), and met many collectors and dealers. With work, a wife, and four children, I was only able to attend one large show a year and that was the ANA.

I have written a number of articles for The Gobrecht *Journal* over the years, and gave a presentation on the Gobrecht Dollars 1836-1839 this year at the Liberty Seated Collectors Club meeting at the 2015 FUN Convention.

Tony. If you could change one thing about the LSCC, what would it be?

Tony. In your collecting career, what was the greatest coup you ever pulled off when purchasing a coin? Your biggest mistake?

Dave. It was not necessarily my biggest coup or my biggest mistake but this makes for a pretty good story. Many long term members who have collected or studied the Liberty Seated Dollars over the year may recall Jack Kleinman from I. Kleinman in New York. Jack had sent me a small package of Liberty Seated Dollars on approval. There was an 1863 Seated Dollar in Extra Fine condition in the group of coins he had sent. The color didn't look like the other Liberty Seated Dollars in my collection at the time. I called Jack and said I wasn't sure on this one, and was planning on returning it. He convinced me to keep it which I ended up doing. I sold my Liberty Seated Dollar collection through Bowers & Merena Auctions around 1988 or 1989. This 1863 Dollar realized over two times what I had paid for it less than five years earlier!

My biggest mistake was selling it; I didn't appreciate the coins rarity and exceptional originality, which I now understand much better. This is one "that got away." I've been looking for it for many years to no avail.

Tony. Do you think of the hobby as being a form of investment as well? If so, how do you approach your use of coins as an investment vehicle?

I have been a collector since I was around 9 years old. I bought my first car in 1970 using the proceeds from the sale of my "childhood coin collection" for the down payment; for those that like muscle cars from the 1960s, it was a one year old 1969 Z-28 Camaro. The coin collecting hobby was pure fun for me in the



Happenings at San Francisco and Carson Branch Mints 1872-1873 by Jim Laughlin, LSCC #876

In searching to find the monthly mintage returns for the San Francisco and Carson City Mints of the early 1870s, I happened across a few short newspaper articles that might be of interest to LSCC members.

The first is a possible rational for the minting of Liberty Seated Dollars at the San Francisco Mint in 1872. The second is that Carson City Mint borrowed dies originally sent to San Francisco. The third is that brokers sent bullion as well as foreign silver coin from San Francisco to Carson to be converted into coin, bypassing the San Francisco Mint.

October 8, 1872, Daily Alta California (San Francisco) The Mexican dollars merely come here in transit for China, and the old ones, full weight, command 7 to 8 per cent premium, while the new ones only command 5 to 5 ¹/₂ per cent premium, both being of the same intrinsic value. As the old ones come from Mexico to be exported, the light ones are culled out. These accumulate to some extent and were finally sent to the Mint in the past month to be coined into United States dollar and sent to China as an experiment to see if they could be sold at the same rate as the Mexican, to which they assimilate in value.

The San Francisco Mint struck 9,000 standard silver dollars in 1872, having last struck 20,000 silver dollars in 1859. (There had been a very small 1870 silver dollar striking for the cornerstone of the new SF Mint Building). The above article seems to indicates that the silver brokers of San Francisco were receiving the new 1870 coinage of Mexico (eagle and balance scales) and at the same time receiving stocks of the old tenor 8 reales pieces of the 1824-1869 period (eagle, but with cap and rays). Both types, the pre 1870 8 reales and the post 1870 peso pieces, have the same silver content, however the Chinese discounted the new design as it was unfamiliar to them even though they were worth exactly the same. While the article talks of sorting out the "light weight" ones, this may be a reference to the brokers receiving uncirculated 8 reales coins of full weight mixed along with pieces that showed some

sign of circulation, and therefore a slight loss of weight. They apparently knew the Chinese would refuse or heavily discount a mixed lot with circulated pieces and someone apparently came up with the idea to cull these and have them recoined into brilliant uncirculated new seated liberty dollars; and see how they would fare in the Chinese market. There had been a further 12 years of contact and trade between the American and the Chinese since trying to introduce the earlier seated dollar in 1859, perhaps things have improved. While it doesn't say it, it may have been realized that this was an opportune time to try once again to get the Chinese brokers to accept the 412 1/2 gr. U.S. Dollar. The old 8 reales Mexican coin was becoming scarce in commercial channels as they were no longer being minted, and the Chinese apparently really didn't like the new Mexican "Peso" coin, as they had been discounting it below its true bullion value. Maybe the Seated Dollar could displace the new "Peso." The silver brokers were always looking for how to gain a percentage in their favor, as this is where the profits were.

The following is a late 19th century characterization of a Chinese coin broker:

September 7, 1889, The Age, Melbourne Australiathe Chinese are so exceedingly expert at the art of counterfeiting or imitation, that if a native coin were manufactured of sufficient value to offer inducements at counterfeiting the thing would be done, notwithstanding the death penalty attached to all offenses of the kind......When a Chinese receives a handful of Mexican dollars or any other silver coin he will scrutinize every one of them, and reject them for the slightest scratch or flaw in the milling. He does not entertain the notion that he can give offense to anyone in doing so. Here is a dozen coins which have been rejected by Chinese customers though anyone else would readily take them.....

The first part is reference that China only had a copper coin currency, and it took some 1000 copper

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"cash" to equate to a dollar, they being extremely bulky. The Government and traders only took gold and silver in payments by weight.

September 5, 1872, Sacramento Daily Union (California)

The new dollars to be coined in a few days at the Mint will be 6 per cent higher standard than the present halfdollar coinage, and it is expected they will go into general circulation as a legal tender, and be in demand for shipment to China.

September 7, 1872, Marin Journal (California) The San Francisco Mint will commence the coinage of silver dollars of an extensive scale during September. These pieces are coined as the standard value, which is six per cent higher than a dollar composed of two halves, and are therefore legal tender to any amount.

The Daily Alta California for October 2nd, 1872, list the treasure carried on board the P.M.S.S. CO steamer, SS Great Republic bound from San Francisco to Japan and China. She carried for China \$78,000 in gold bars; \$5,000 in gold dust; \$152,000 in Gold Coin; \$270,000 in silver bars; \$235 in silver coin; \$1,000 United States Dollars; \$88,000 in Mexican Dollars. While it doesn't specifically say United States "Silver" Dollars, by the order and description of the other entries, it would seem likely that is what is being referred to. If this assumption is true, there still is no way to know what Mint or date of the 1,000 United States Dollars were. As the 1872s had just been struck at San Francisco the month previous, this may be them; but I have also seen some reference that some silver dollars had been shipped West on the transcontinental railroad, so its just as possible these were Philadelphia coins. With \$270,000 in silver bars, the 1,000 seated dollars looks miniscule, but just might be that San Francisco broker's experiment to make a percentage or two.

I have hopes of eventually finding a newspaper or Mint report that will confirm that the entire 9,000 1872-S Silver Dollar were struck in September, 1872; as of yet I've only been able to find the references above that indicate at least some were struck in September.

The following indicates that the Carson City Mint borrowed 1872 dated dies from the San Francisco Mint and likely struck coins with them. Apparently the transcontinental railroad tracks were completely blocked, probably in Wyoming or Utah. Philadelphia likely had shipped the dies to Carson via rail, and all trains were held up waiting for the tracks to be cleared and/or repaired. The winter of 1871-1872 was noted for heavy rains and deep snows in the California mountains, following a "severe drought" that killed large numbers of range stock. From another source, Virginia City, Nevada, did not get the mails from the East for nearly an entire month, the first through mails from the East arriving on February 19th.

February 17, 1872, Sacramento Daily Union (California)

Superintendent Rice having received his dies from San Francisco, commenced work in earnest at the Mint yesterday. Owing to the detention of his dies from the East, by the blockade on the railroad, he was forced to borrow from the California Mint in order to enable him to meet the necessities of the community, who are dependent to a great extent upon this institution for coin for home purposes. Yesterday was employed in turning out half dollars at the rate of about 70 pieces per minute, and today some \$90,000 in gold—twentydollar pieces—will be finished and ready for circulation.....

Unfortunately, the article doesn't say which denomination were struck from the borrowed dies. The article does makes reference to half dollars and also twenties being struck on that and the previous day. There likely is nothing to collect here, as Carson no doubt used their own "CC" reverse die; and more than likely just kept the obverse 1872 dated die they borrowed, not returning it to San Francisco. Just interesting that the Mints co-operate together.

The following articles indicates that some foreign silver coin and at least some bullion was shipped from San Francisco to Carson to be melted and converted into silver coin. This seems to divert from the common impression that Carson would have only handled silver bullion from the Comstock lode and silver





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coming from the greater "Great Basin" areas including east slope California.

September 6, 1872, Sacramento Daily Union Carson and Vicinity—The Register of September 3rd has these items: The total amount of mixed bullion, gold and silver, received at the Carson Mint yesterday, was \$38,584 ounces—864 ounces of which was gold bullion sent by the Sierra Nevada mine for coinage. The Mint also received 749 ounces of silver, foreign coin, sent from San Francisco to the Carson Branch Mint for coinage. Ten bars of unparted gold and silver were sent via Virginia and Truckee Railroad to Virginia City this morning, to the credit of the Crown Point mine, worth together \$26,868.81.

August 10, 1872, Daily Alta California The Carson Register, of the 8th, says; The Carson Branch Mint received eight hundred ounces of silver yesterday from San Francisco for coinage. To send precious metals to Carson to be put into dollars and half dollars seems rather strange, as the Bay City has one of the best Branch Mints in the United States. Yet it is, nevertheless, the fact that a great amount of gold and silver comes from California to the Carson Mint for refining and coinage.

March 11, 1873, Sacramento Daily Union (California) Treasure from Carson—By this morning's train going to Virginia City, says the Carson Appeal of March 8th, the Treasurer of the Carson Branch Mint shipped thirty bars of unparted gold and silver, weighing together 2,940 pounds, and worth \$124,382.15, to the credit of the Belcher Mine, Gold Hill, Nevada. The total amount of mixed bullion, gold and silver, received yesterday was 25,968 ounces, equal to 1,775 pounds, Troy weight. On the same day a large deposit of silver foreign coins was received from San Francisco, sent to the

Carson Mint to be melted and coined into United States money.

The reference to San Francisco in these articles is probably not a reference to the San Francisco Mint, but to bankers or silver brokers located in San Francisco area, that no doubt, for a percentage of profit, saw an advantage to pay transportation of bullion and foreign coin to Carson, rather than taking it to the San Francisco Mint. Perhaps it was by Comstock mine owners located in San Francisco, getting coin needed for payroll in Virginia City for the Comstock mines or elsewhere in Nevada. The Railroad from Carson City to Gold Hill and the lower mines of the Comstock was completed in November 1869; to Virginia City in January 1870. The rail line however connecting Carson City to Reno and the transcontinental railroad was not completed until August 1872.

Newspaper Sources

California Digital Newspaper Collection, University of California, Riverside, http://cdnr.ucr.edu

Australian Digitized Newspaper, http:// trove.nia.gov.au

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late 1950s and 1960s, including finding coins worth more than face value in circulation and trading. The car was fun also!

On the other side, when I transitioned to collecting more and more expensive coins like better grade Seated and Early Dollars 1795 to 1803, I would say that I was "collecting for fun while keeping an eye on investment."

I've had a lot of fun over the years and have also had some good fortune on the "investment side."

Tony. While we don't want to make anyone uncomfortable by getting too personal, it would be a real opportunity for your fellow club members to get to know you a bit if you'd also answer one or more of these optional questions.

Tony. What is/was your work/career?

Dave. I began my career in sales and marketing with IBM and held various sales and general management positions with IBM and other companies over the years. Later, as an executive, I managed companies, sales forces, and divisions of small and large companies ranging from a few million to over \$600M in revenue. I am now retired from the corporate world and have been a Professional Numismatist for the last two years.

Tony. What other hobbies/interests do you have besides numismatics?

Dave. Family, tennis, and I still like fast cars!

Tony. Is there anything about your family or family history that you'd like to mention?

Dave. As a life-long collector, researcher, and as a Numismatist, I have made two important connections between my coin hobby and family history. Both sides of my family, the Perkins and Strong families, arrived by ship to Boston (from England) in 1631.

I am pretty directly related to Jacob Perkins of Newburyport, MA who made dies for coins such as the 1788 Cents and Half Cents of Massachusetts, the 1799 Washington Funeral Medals, and plates for the currency of Massachusetts and other states, and made the first adhesive postage stamp, the British Penny Black.

My great-great Grandfather, Wm. Perkins, Jr., issued Civil War Store Card Tokens for the Perkins Hotel and Grocery Store in Detroit, Michigan which he opened in 1847. They were in business into the early 20th Century. I can only imagine him, his family, and employees taking in and giving out Liberty Seated Coinage every day for over 50 years! I collected 1847 dated coinage for years, one coin from each denomination. I sold them a couple of years ago. A few of these 1847 "Perkins" coins reside in LSCC members collections today including my 1847 dime, which is now in our LSCC President's fabulous Liberty Seated dime collection.

I currently have the only complete collection of all of the merchants and types of Detroit Civil War tokens. It took me over 25 years to complete this set.

Tony. What is your greatest or most memorable personal achievement?

Dave. One fun non-numismatic highlight for me was coaching an Inline Hockey team with my son on it. We won the 8 and Under 1998 USA Roller Hockey National Championship.



A Complete Double Dimes Display at Carson City by John Frost, LSCC #2005

A week after the ANA, I was in Carson City at the Nevada State Museum for the annual Carson City Mint Coin Show and Education Fair.

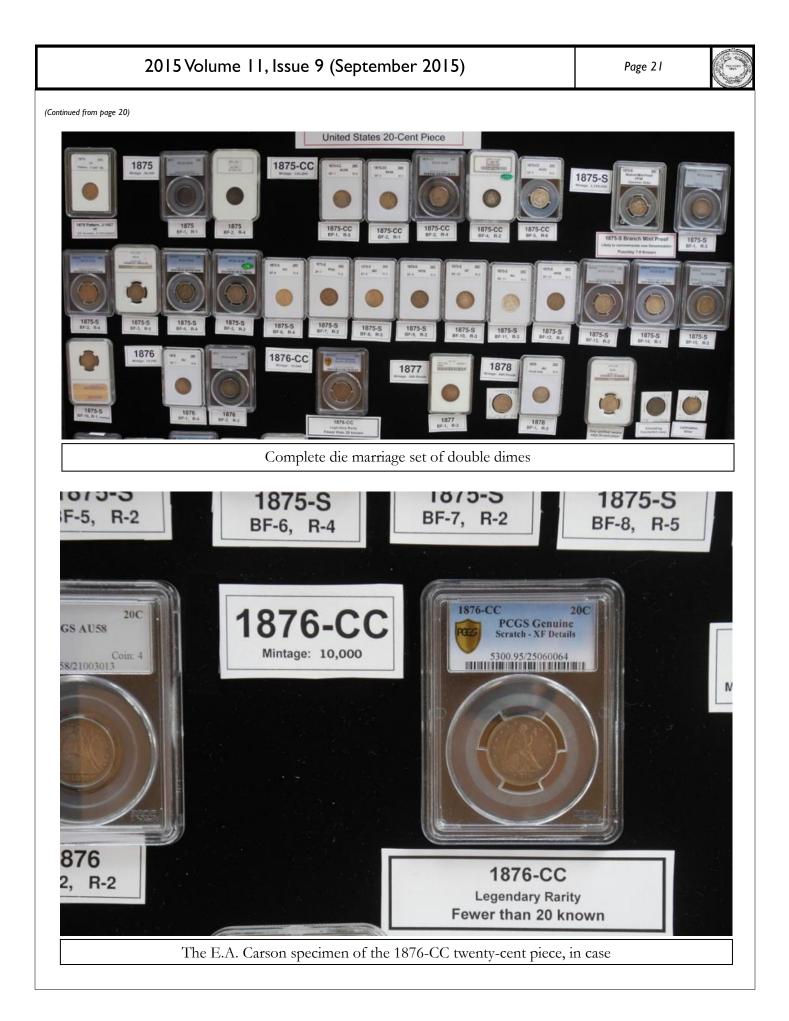
As some of you know, at times I exhibit my Die Marriage Set of twenty-cent pieces, with the disclaimer, "except for the 1876-CC of course." I am usually happy with displaying 27 of the known 28 die marriages, plus some neat errors and exonumia. But having committed to this show months ago, I was able to work with a local dealer to have one of the few circulated examples of the 1876-CC on-hand at the show, and added to the display, at least for a little while. The owner of the coin, who wishes to remain anonymous, was gracious enough to allow Northern Nevada Coin take custody of the legendary rarity, and make it available to me for examination, photography, inclusion in the display.

Thus, for the first time ever, in the Concourse of the Nevada State Museum, the LSCC table had on display a complete die marriage set of double dimes, with no exceptions. Photos below illustrate this historic event. I would like to thank the anonymous owner of the E.A. Carson specimen of the 1876-CC, and Allen Rowe of Northern Nevada Coin, for making this possible. It was a memorable experience examining this great rarity, and seeing it return to the place it was made.



John Frost (left) and Allen Rowe (right) present the complete die marriage set

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A New Exhibit at the Nevada State Museum by John Frost, LSCC #2005

In 2013, after a new, rare die marriage of the 1875-CC was discovered by LSCC member Mark Obstalecki, and brought to my attention, an active search began for this new coin, with a new mintmark position and severe die cracks on the reverse. Eventually, I was able to locate two examples of this coin.

During my visit to the Nevada State Museum earlier that summer while researching for our upcoming book (*Double Dimes – the United States Twenty-cent Piece*, with Lane Brunner), I was privileged to examine and photograph the four 20-cent piece dies that had been unearthed in 1999 and 2000 after being buried next to the Carson City Mint.

That autumn, while working on the book, I realized that one of the dies, a reverse, was an exact match with this new and rare coin, die cracks and all! It was a great revelation, and one that also excited the staff at the Nevada State Museum, as none of the dies recovered had been positively matched to specific coins. Most of the recovered dies were rusted and corroded beyond the ability to perform die attribution. So this was special.



Perfect match of die crack and mintmark on coin and the die

Over the past months, I have been working with the History, Exhibits, and Education curators and directors to put together a new exhibit for the Nevada State Museum, featuring their die, and my coin struck by that very same die. We worked together on exhibit content, photos, and signage and on Friday August 21, we installed the exhibit, entitled *A Perfect Match* in the Mint building. It was an instant hit, with Museum visitors looking at the exhibit, the enlarged photos, and description, and saying things like "Neat!" and "Cool!" – many taking photos of their own.

A more thorough explanation and description, along with additional photos, will appear in the next issue of the *Gobrecht Journal*. The exhibit will be in place for at least the next year, and more likely, several years. If you are visiting Carson City, be sure to stop by and see it!

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Ken Hopple (left) and Gene Hattori (right) of the Nevada State Museum with John Frost at the new exhibit





Free Advertisements

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>W. David Perkins</u>. Large Selection of Gobrecht and Liberty Seated Dollars in Inventory W. David Perkins, LSCC #790, has 10 Gobrecht and over 60 Liberty Seated Silver Dollars in inventory including many better dates. Please contact Dave at wdperki@attglobal.net or Phone 303-902-5366.

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David Finkelstein: www.djf-coins.com - raw and slabbed collector coins. Many coins have CAC stickers. Every coin is pictured. In addition to being an authorized PCGS, NGC and CAC dealer, I am a member of the PNG, ANA, EAC, LSCC, JRCS, and other regional/national organizations. Visit my website at www.djf-coins.com. Contact me at sales@djf-coins.com.

Double Dimes – the United States Twenty-cent Piece, a new book by Lane Brunner and John Frost, available both as a web book at no cost, and a Print Edition. Spiral bound, 179 pages, nearly 400 photographs. The Print Edition is available from the authors at www.doubledimes.com.

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

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

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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 530-894-0922 or email at: gene@typecoins.com.

<u>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 1-949-929-2830.



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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 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.

<u>Articles, comments, or advertisements for pub-</u> <u>lication in the *Gobrecht Journal* may be addressed to the LSCC Publications Editor.</u>

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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