



# The E-Gobrecht

The Electronic Newsletter of the LIBERTY SEATED COLLECTORS CLUB

## Liberty Seated Collectors Club

2009 Volume 5, Issue 10

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## Time to Vote!

No, not for your favorite politician but for your favorite *Gobrecht Journal* article. During the week of September 21st, LSCC members were sent two ballots with their 2009-2010 dues notice. The ballots are for the:

### Kamal M. Ahwash Literary Award 2008-2009

This award is for the best article to appear in the *Gobrecht Journal* during the past year including issues 103, 104, and 105. A selection of twenty-one articles are on the ballot and each member can vote for up to three articles.

### James B. Pryor Numismatic Research Award

This award was established to recognize an outstanding contribution to numismatic research on Liberty Seated coinage through publication in the *Gobrecht Journal*. This award is presented for the best research article published in the journal over the 25 consecutive issues from #76 through #100. The club officers selected the 15 articles they feel are worthy of this award and each member can vote for up to three articles. For those without access to these 15 articles, a short summary of these articles are included in a special edition of the *E-Gobrecht*, which was emailed to all subscribers on September 26, 2009.

Club members, please take the time to vote for your favorite articles and send the ballots in with your dues per the instructions included in the letter.

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## Club Members meet at the recent Long Beach Show

Club member, Brad DePew, reports that five members of LSCC met for a some Seated coinage camaraderie. They held an open forum type of meeting; just five guys sitting around a table talking about coins. Discussion covered whether or not the minters stored dies in a safe when not in use, the benefits of having the new Half Dollar book in loose leaf form over bound, and the effect hoarding of certain dates has on values for the varieties. Interspersed was Show and Tell for coins they wanted to share and show off. A possible new dime variety was displayed and is being researched. They all enjoyed the conversation and agreed to meet again.

The *E-Gobrecht* is a twice award winning 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 at the end.



## Auction News by Jim Gray

### The Bowers & Merena

Philadelphia Sale featured an 1845-O dime in VF20 that was nice for the grade but did not

sell. Two 1872-CC dimes were presented, one in XF40 that was cleaned and damaged with many pin scratches for \$1,553 and a VG8 with the right obverse legend gone that did not sell. A lovely problem free 1873-CC with arrows in XF45 soared to \$20,700. Two duplicates, one in XF40 cleaned and corroded went for \$2,687 and a better XF40 piece that was cleaned and nicely retuned went for \$6,900. An additional 1873-CC dime in VF25 with a nice obverse but weak on the reverse, particularly the denomination, did not sell.

An 1856-S/s quarter in G6 that was well worn and problem free went for \$834. An 1857-S in XF45 with a dark mottled obverse only realized \$920. An 1867-S in Fine 12 but very weak on the right side of Liberty did not sell. A well struck bright white 1869-S in MS62 was impaired by a dark area at DOL and did not sell. An 1870-CC in VF that had been cleaned but had nicely retuned in album sold for \$8,050. An 1872-CC in VG8 and decent for the grade hit \$1,725, while an 1872-S in VF20 with dark mottled toning did not sell.

An attractive 1873-CC with arrows half in AU50 realized \$2,875.

The **Heritage** Long Beach Sale featured an

1843-O dime in VF30 with nice natural gray toning at \$805 and a wholesome 1856-S dime in Fine 15 hit \$748.

An 1852-O quarter in VF30 but soft on Liberty's head and the stars went for \$2,185, while a bright white, well struck and mark free 1856-S in AU58 sold for \$5,750. A deeply toned 1858-S in VF35 and very nice hit \$3,105, whereas a corroded 1860-S in Fine 12 only eked out \$403. A choice 1867-S quarter in MS62 that was well struck, with light gray toning, and only one finer at PCGS rang the gong for \$18,400.

An 1855-S half was graded AU55 in spite of the wear being across the drapery line still managed \$7,763, and an 1870-CC half with VG details but scratched and rim dinged went for \$863.

A lightly toned 1851 original dollar in MS63 soared to \$54,625. 1854 and 1856 dollars in AU50 and AU58, respectively, each sold for \$5,175. An 1871-CC dollar in AU50 with slightly mottled toning hit a strong \$20,700.

The **Stack's** Americana Sale had very few relevant Seated coins but did include a complete set of Liberty Seated dimes that were mainly in lower grades and many impaired. One multiple lot contained seventy-five coins. Other coins of relevance were an 1841-O closed bud in VF, but corroded, cleaned and retuned, still managed \$1,725. An 1860-

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O dime in Fine 12 hit \$1,092, whereas a rough, cleaned and porous 1871-CC in VF did not sell. A cleaned and rough 1872 dime in Fine 12 hit \$862. An 1873-CC in VG8, but dented and granular, went

for \$1,150 and a nice for the grade 1874-CC in G6 rose to \$9,200. Two certified 1873-CC dimes that were not part of the collection were as follows: a VF 35 with nice medium gray toning for \$10,063 and a F15 with deep steel toning did not sell.

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## Question of the Month

### *Topic for e-Discussion by Paul Kluth*

**A topic of obvious extreme importance at coins shows... Which Coin Shows/Conventions that you attend offer the best food? Which Shows aren't so good?**

All responses are welcome! Please consider taking a few moments and sending in your thoughts and opinions. Send your reply to the *E-Gobrecht* editor at [wb8cpy@arrrl.net](mailto:wb8cpy@arrrl.net).

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## Answers to last Month's Question

**If one were to compile a list of the top 10 collections of Liberty Seated Half Dollars to be offered for sale at public auction, which sales would be on your list?**

**From Bill Bugert:** Although not necessarily the top collections that were auctioned, here is a listing of some of my favorite auctioned collections and catalogues in no particular order:

- James Bennett Pryor Collection, B&M 1/1996
- George Byers Collection, Stack's 10/2006
- Queller Family Collection of Half Dollars, Stack's 10/2002
- Richmond Collection Part III, DLRC 3/2005
- Louis Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, B&M 4/1997
- Superior 10/1973
- Jules Reiver Collection, Volume II, Heritage 1/2006
- Norweb Collection, B&M 11/1998
- Rarities Sale (Douglas Noblet Collection), B&M 1/1999
- 1975 ANA Sale, Superior 8/1975
- RL Miles Collection, Stack's 4/1969
- Robison Collection, Stack's 1/1982



# Greer and Ahwash Plate Coins – PCGS Grading Results

By Gerry Fortin

It was time..... Considering the amount of effort to publicize the Top 100 Liberty Seated Dime Varieties and now, the Historical Collections initiative, it was time to start the third party certification process for raw Ahwash and Greer seated dimes. All of the Ahwash and Greer plate coins in my collection were secured during the early 1990s timeframe and mostly from Stack's or Brian Greer. A significant number of Ahwash plate coins appeared during the Stack's auction of the Allen F. Lovejoy Collection on October 16, 1990 followed by reappearances in subsequent Stack's or Coin Galleries auctions. Hours were spent checking each new Stack's auction catalog for the remote possibility of a resurfacing Ahwash plate coin until 1995 or so. After 1995, I believe the residual Ahwash plate coins were widely dispersed throughout the numismatic community if not place in several major collections. The acquisition of the Greer plate coins came about during the 1992 through 1996 timeframe as a result of a personal relationship with Brian during the final preparation stages of, "The Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Dimes." Brian desired to sell his collection and fortunately, I was one of the early buyers. I hoped to maintain some integrity for his guidebook collection for subsequent usage in a comprehensive seated dime varieties book that was in the planning stage at that time.

Many of the LSCC *E-Gobrecht* readers are aware that the Top 100 Liberty Seated Dime Varieties set is listed as an NGC Signature set, (<http://coins.www.collectors-society.com/registry/coins/ViewPersonalCollection.aspx?UserCollectionID=151&Tab=list>) again for publicity purposes. Unfortunately, I have been quite negligent in populating that online set due to most of the plate coins being used to illustrate the Top 100 set were raw; many came from the Ahwash and Greer

collections. At the 2009 FUN show and the 2009 Los Angeles ANA, a portion of the Top 100 varieties and combination Ahwash and Greer plate coins were submitted to PCGS to "test the waters" on current grading standards. Current third party grading (TPG) gossip was that of conservative and tight grading. I was hesitant to spend considerable monies to certify circulated, AU and lower end mint state dimes if the grading was unreasonable only to crack out the results and enter the resubmission process. For circulated coins, the crack out and resubmission process was not financially attractive given the existing recognition of Ahwash and Greer plate coin among fellow collectors.

This article is a brief report on Ahwash and Greer plate coins results from the first two submissions. Rather than write an extensive commentary on whether PCGS under or over graded certain dimes, I will leave the judgment to the *E-Gobrecht* readers. There are many opinions when the subject of TPG is discussed. Grading standards have eased and tightened while these plate coins quietly sat in my collection. As the FUN and ANA submissions are examined, one can draw the conclusion that Brian Greer employed conservative grading during the sale of his collection. I hope you enjoy viewing the following grading result pictorial and descriptions.

If you own or are aware of Ahwash or Greer plate coins in the numismatic community, your help would be appreciated for documenting those dime within the Historical Collections module at [www.seateddimevarieties.com](http://www.seateddimevarieties.com). Please do not hesitate to contact me at [wuximems@hotmail.com](mailto:wuximems@hotmail.com).

As Always.....Happy Hunting!

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**1838-O F-101 – Greer Plate Coin**

Purchased during 1992 from Brian Greer, graded EF 45

2009 certification as PCGS AU 50



**1838 Large Stars F-103b – Greer Plate Coin**

Purchased during 1993 from Brian Greer, graded AU 55

2009 certification as PCGS AU 55

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**1838 F-110a – Top 100 Varieties #8 - Cracked Obverse #2, Greer Variety Plate Coin**

Purchased during 1992 from Brian Greer, graded EF 40

2009 certification as PCGS EF 45



**1838 F-111a – Top 100 Varieties #9 - Cracked Obverse #3, Greer Variety Plate Coin**

Purchased during 1992 from Brian Greer, graded AU 55

2009 certification as PCGS AU 58

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**1839-O F-103 – Top 100 Varieties #11 - Small O Obv/Large O Rev, Ahwash Plate Coin**

Purchased during 1995 from Stack's, graded AU 50

2009 certification as PCGS EF 45



**1840-O F-101a – Large O Reverse, Greer Plate Coin**

Purchased during 1995 from Brian Greer, graded AU 50

2009 certification as PCGS AU 58

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**1840-O F-106 – Top 100 Varieties #16 – Medium O Rev with Crack, Greer Plate Coin**

Purchased during 1995 from Brian Greer, graded EF 45

2009 certification as PCGS EF 40



**1841-O F-104 – Medium O, Greer Plate Coin**

Purchased during 1995 from Brian Greer, graded AU 50

2009 certification as PCGS AU 55





**1841-O F-105 – Small O Reverse of 1842-O, Greer Variety Plate Coin**

Purchased during 1996 from Brian Greer, graded EF 45

2009 certification as PCGS EF 45



**1843 F-102 – Top 100 Varieties #25 - Repunched 1843/1843, Greer Plate Coin**

Purchased during 1992 from Brian Greer, graded AU 50

2009 certification as PCGS AU 55

(Continued on page 10)



**1852 F-105 – Top 100 Varieties #33 - Repunched 52, Greer Plate Coin**

Purchased during 1992 from Brian Greer, graded AU 50

2009 certification as PCGS AU 58



**1854-O F-102 – Top 100 Varieties #38 – Shattered Obverse, Greer Plate Coin**

Purchased during 1996 from Brian Greer, graded EF 45

2009 certification as PCGS AU 50

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**1857-O F-101 – Top 100 Varieties #45 – Strike Doubled Date and Stars, Greer Plate Coin**

Purchased during 1993 from Brian Greer, graded AU 55

2009 certification as PCGS AU 55

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## What happened to Roy Ash?

Some of the older club members may remember Roy Ash. Besides being an avid collector and researcher of 1842-O dated coins, Roy was a longtime member of the LSCC (member #159), he was a LSCC Vice President, had the “Autumn in the Shenandoah” coin business that routinely advertised in the *Gobrecht Journal*, and had a LSCC Question and Answer forum in the *Gobrecht Journal* in the mid-late 1980’s. Roy was a retired Air Force major who, when I last knew him, lived in the suburban DC area.

Roy abruptly ended contact with the LSCC years ago; there have been some rumors to his whereabouts but none have been substantiated.

I am interested in reestablishing contact with him. If you have any knowledge of his location, please email Bill Bugert at [wb8cpy@arri.net](mailto:wb8cpy@arri.net).





# Subscriber Correspondence

From **Len Augsburger**: Another monster issue - good job!

From **Gerry Fortin**: All I can say is the September 2009 *E-Gobrecht* issue is a landmark for electronic publishing by LSCC members! I will load the issue in the website archives after returning home on September 15th. Keep up the excellent work and congratulations.

From **Barry Stallard**: Just finished reading the latest very pleasing issue - chock full of good stuff! I print out and also save every issue on my computer. It's fortunate that all past issues are available on Fortin's website, but, given the transient nature (planned obsolescence) of much of our computer software and hardware (new models and software), have there been any thoughts about someday printing up selected articles to preserve for posterity?

From **Jim Gray**: [Reference the Special Edition of the *E-Gobrecht*, issue #56] An overview of third party grading won the Literary Award not the Pryor research award.





## Information Wanted on Half Dime Errors

I'm currently working on the large task of cataloging the known seated half dime errors known to collectors by date/mintmark. If you own any seated half dime errors, please send me an e-mail at the address below and provide the following information to make this survey as accurate as possible:

- Date and Mintmark of coin
- Type of error
- Grade
- Certification service if graded
- Photographs of both sides of the coin (if possible)

Information about any known errors including blank planchets is welcomed. The results will be published in an article at the end of this year. Dennis Hengeveld, [Hengeveld.dennis@gmail.com](mailto:Hengeveld.dennis@gmail.com)

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## **Notice: Availability of past issues of the E-Gobrecht**

Through the generosity of Gerry Fortin, the previous issues of the *E-Gobrecht* are readily accessible on his seated dime web-site at <http://www.seateddimevarieties.com/LSCC.htm>

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## Advertisements

**Rare Coins for Sale:** Since 1979, David Lawrence Rare Coins has specialized in Seated and Barber coinage for collectors. Please visit our web site for 6,000+ offerings of U.S. & World coins, currency, and stamps for sale and auction. We are also interested in buying or selling your coins at auction. <http://www.davidlawrence.com> or phone 1-800-776-0560, members: PNG, ANA (life), FUN, CSNS

### **Liberty Seated Quarter Cuds & Rotated Dies**

**Wanted:** Other U.S. series of interest as well. Please reply directly to Paul Kluth @ [pcmdmp@msn.com](mailto:pcmdmp@msn.com) or to the e-mail address of the *E-Gobrecht* newsletter.

**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](mailto:jason@seated.org)

**Wanted to Buy:** Nice, problem-free bust and seated material. We specialize in affordable collector coins. Puro's Coins and Jewelry, web: [www.vtcoins.com](http://www.vtcoins.com), email: [puro@vtcoins.com](mailto:puro@vtcoins.com), phone: 1-800-655-1327.

**Seated Dime Die Varieties Wanted:** I am paying high prices for Seated Dimes with major cuds, die cracks, and rotated reverses. Contact David Thomas at [davethomas333@hotmail.com](mailto:davethomas333@hotmail.com) or 1-949-929-2830.



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**LSCC website:**

<http://www.lscweb.org>

## LSCC Pledge

**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.**

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LSCC Membership Information. Dues are still \$20 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.

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

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

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@arrl.net](mailto:wb8cpy@arrl.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.*

*The *E-Gobrecht* is not copyrighted; use its content freely but please be sure to quote the *E-Gobrecht* and the Liberty Seated Collectors Club.*

## **Mark your calendar !**

- **Deadline for articles for *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #106 - October 2, 2009**
- **Deadline for advertisements for *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #106 - October 9, 2009**
- **Ballots due for the James B. Pryor award voting - October 30, 2009**
- ***Gobrecht Journal* Issue #106 postal mailed - November 2009**