



The E-Gobrecht

The Electronic Newsletter of the LIBERTY SEATED COLLECTORS CLUB

Liberty Seated Collectors Club

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Call for Nominations to the LSCC Hall of Fame

Club members may have noticed that last year we had no inductees into the Liberty Seated Collectors Club Hall of Fame. The then current procedures called for a minimum of four votes from the five members of the Hall of Fame Committee for an individual(s) to be inducted. For the nominations received, none met that criteria last year. In coordination with the elected club officers and the Hall of Fame Committee Chairman and members, the voting procedures were changed slightly to more easily allow a successful vote. Now, four names will be provided to the Hall of Fame Chairman by the LSCC President from a listing of nominations submitted by the membership, the Committee will then vote for all four and a weighted value will be assigned to each vote with a ranking of one receiving five points, two - three points, three - two points, and four - one point. It will take 17 points to be elected so it possible for two candidates to be elected in one year.

The Hall of Fame committee is pleased to announce that it is accepting nominations for the Liberty Seated Collector Club's Hall of Fame. Eligible nominees include club members who have made significant contributions to expanding the literature on Seated coinage, who have built an important collection of Liberty Seated coinage, or who have served in a leadership position while contributing to the success of LSCC. Please send your nominations to the LSCC President, John McCloskey at John.McCloskey@notes.udayton.edu and include the nominee's name and a short narrative on why you feel this individual should receive this honor. Deadline for 2010 nominations is January 31, 2011.

As a reminder, previous inductees include the following three club members:

July 2008 - John W. McCloskey

July 2008 - Kamal M. Ahwash (deceased)

August 2009 - Al Blythe (deceased)

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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, LSCC #664

The **Heritage** Houston Sale was the only auction of note in December.

A V-2 1838-O half dime in MS61 had nice toning and the normal obverse lack of detail, but still sold for a strong \$6,325.

An 1873-CC dime in XF45 that was natural gray with the usual soft strike on Liberty's head and wreath sold for \$13,225. An 1874-CC dime with AU details that had been cleaned and toned back, but was well struck and presentable, hammered for \$16,100.

An 1842-O small date quarter in VF35 that looks much finer with good details and luster and definitely a nice coin bid up to \$6,038. An 1858-S quarter in VF35 CAC sold for \$2,990, while a duplicate with XF details but cleaned did not sell. An

1860-S with XF/AU details had a damaged and filed rim that was mentioned, but that also appeared to be holed and plugged at 12:00 on the obverse, eked out \$2,646. If this coin had been problem free it would have been in the condition census. An 1872-CC quarter in G6 and perhaps better, but with crossing abrasions on Liberty hit \$1,725.

Two 1839 no drapery halves in VF35 and XF45 sold for \$805 and \$1,725, respectively. An 1855-S with XF details but damaged, cleaned and porous was only worth \$1,380. A nicely toned 1872-CC in AU55 hit a strong \$6,325, while an 1874-CC in F12, but with E missing, realized \$2,530.

Two 1872-CC dollars, both natural light gray in F15 and AU53, went for \$3,565 and \$10,350, respectively.

Upcoming Seated Events

Regional LSCC meetings

Winter FUN Show, Tampa, Florida, Friday January 7, 9:00 am, Room 5. Please contact Jason Feldman for more information at jasonfeldman@gmail.com

Long Beach Coin, Stamps and Collectibles Expo, Long Beach, CA, February 4, 9:00am Room TBD. Please contact Craig Eberhart for more information at craig@eberhart.us

Bay State Coin Show, Boston, MA, March 26, 1:30pm Room TBD. Please contact Dennis Fortier for more information at ricajun@msn.com

Whitman Coin and Collectibles Expo, Baltimore, MD, April 1, 9:00am Room TBD. Please contact Len Augsburger for more information at leonard_augsburger@hotmail.com

Central States Numismatic Society Convention, Rosemont, IL, April 29, 9:00am Room TBD. Please contact Steve Petty for more information at stephenpetty@sbcglobal.net

Long Beach Coin, Stamps and Collectibles Expo, Long Beach, CA, June 3, 9:00am Room TBD. Please contact Craig Eberhart for more information at craig@eberhart.us

Whitman Coin and Collectibles Expo, Philadelphia, PA, September 16, 9:00am Room TBD. The LSCC meeting is in conjunction with the [Whitman Coin and Collectibles Expo](#). Please contact Dennis Fortier for more information at ricajun@msn.com



The E-Gobrecht Chat Room and Social Club...

Any subscriber can submit questions or comments related to any numismatic topic regarding the Liberty Seated Collecting Era. Send in your thoughts directly to the Editor at wb8cpy@arrl.net. ---Your Host, Paul Kluth, LSCC #1994



Continuing theme from the last Gobrecht Journal...

The latest issue of *The Gobrecht Journal* (#109, pages 48-51) had a special topic of widespread interest to LSCC members presented by John McCloskey, Editor.

Opinions on the Rarity of Liberty Seated Coinage

With club members in attendance (Annual Meeting of LSCC at the ANA Convention in Boston) who have had years of experience collecting and dealing in Seated coins, it was decided to ask them to provide us with the benefit of their numismatic adventures in identifying Seated coins that they have found difficult to obtain. Specifically, members were given a blank page that contained the following question: Jim O'Donnell often expressed the opinion that we should ask the question, "Which dates have you had trouble finding?" Jim felt that a response to this question would help identify those dates that should be available yet are not. Therefore, please give the denomination, date, grade and mint of any Liberty Seated coin that you have had trouble finding. Indicate the extent of your search and any success that you have had in locating examples.

Attendee responses obtained during this exercise in Boston were provided in the article.

For those readers of *E-Gobrecht* who didn't have a chance to attend the LSCC Meeting at the ANA...

Which denomination, date, mint, and grade of any Liberty Seated coin have you had trouble finding?

Best 2011 to all E-Gobber! Paul

Answers to last Month's QoM

Are you planning to purchase yourself a numismatic Christmas present? If so, what will it be?

No answers last month - We guess no one purchased themselves a coin gift for Christmas.



2011 Summer ANA Call for Exhibits

By Paul Hybert, LSCC #1572

The ANA's 2011 Anniversary convention will be held in suburban Chicago, IL on August 16-20, Tuesday through Saturday -- next to O'Hare airport, at the same venue as in 1991 and 1999. The ANA has some Chicago 2011 information already on their web site, including hotel information. (In April 2011, Central States Numismatic Society will hold their convention at the same convention center -- LSCC usually meets at CSNS -- be sure to look at the many fine exhibits at CSNS!)

The Exhibits Area will be one of the highlights of the ANA summer convention. The many exhibits can be viewed at your leisure, as your schedule permits, during the long public viewing schedule. There is no need to view it all at once. View a few groups at a time, between the meetings and lectures that are so much a part of the convention experience. The Exhibits Local Committee is looking for new, lapsed, and returning exhibitors. Send all questions to us at ANA2011Exhibits@ChicagoCoinClub.org.

The key ingredient for an exhibit is information. Think of your favorite area in numismatics. You have acquired some interesting pieces, a few stories, and have an idea of how it all goes together. All the makings of an interesting exhibit! The URL for the main ANA exhibiting page is

<http://www.money.org/Content/NavigationMenu/NumismaticEvents/ConventionExhibits/default.htm>

Direct links to useful pages at ANA can be found on the page of the Local Exhibits Committee http://www.chicagocoinclub.org/events/2011/ana/lo/collector_gallery.html and that page will be updated as more information becomes available. Exhibiting does take a commitment of time -- the exhibits must be in place by the early Tuesday afternoon opening of the convention, and the exhibits cannot be removed until very late on Saturday afternoon (when the convention closes). It is possible to use an agent for setup or takedown, but that option has been little used during the last few years. If you cannot stay all week, but do live not too far away, maybe you could make two trips -- on PNG-day (or that evening, after work) for setup, and on Saturday for the takedown. At the 2010 Boston ANA, I met some LSCC members from northeast Illinois -- taking an exhibit to Boston, through airport security, would have difficult, as would have been staying there for at least five days -- Chicago 2011 will be a much easier exhibiting opportunity!

Do not despair if you have a great idea for an exhibit but will visit for only a day or two -- have you considered speaking at the Numismatic Theatre? Each program typically starts on the hour and lasts about 30-40 minutes, and is followed with a time for questions from the audience. Send your questions to the Numismatic Theatre Local Committee at ANA2011Theatre@ChicagoCoinClub.org.



Regional News

by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

Dear fellow LSCC members,
I hope club members enjoyed a restful holiday season and are prepared for another exciting year in the pursuit of their Liberty Seated numismatic hobby.

By the time that Bill Bugert publishes the January E-Gobrecht, the Tampa FUN show will be only days away. This year, Diane and I are enjoying a two week holiday in Venice, FL and the proximity to Tampa is ideal for attending the show on Thursday and Friday in support of the LSCC regional meeting and display. But more on this topic later as there is a considerable amount of news to discuss at the start of 2011.

Of key importance to the regional director team is the announcement that Stephen Petty has agreed to take on the Central director position. Stephen lives in Ohio and is president of EESGroup, an engineering and environment services firm. Thought Steve's professional demands are considerable, he still volunteered to facilitate the annual Central States regional meeting and also plans at least one other annual regional meeting in the Ohio, Illinois or Michigan area. During the upcoming 2011 CSNS LSCC meeting, President John McCloskey will introduce Steve and his Central region roles. I'm sure that Steve is no stranger to many club members considering his spectacular Liberty Seated Dollar collection. Steve offered the following introduction, *"I am currently a life member of the Central Ohio Numismatic Association (CONA); a local coin club in Columbus Ohio and serve on their Board of Directors. My collecting interests in the seated area center on Seated Dollars. We have a complete set of circulations strikes, including the 1870-S (MnSJoint Venture Collection). My interest in seated coinage started with input from my younger brother Robert, a long-term collector of Seated Half Dollars. He suggested we look at the challenging seated dollars. I have had the pleasure to put this set together*

with my son Mark who is very active in numismatics. It has been enjoyable to share this effort with him by attending many shows over the years to put our dollar set together. My other interests are with fully-struck liberty nickels; we've assembled a complete set in MS-64. My plans are to have local regional meetings annually at the Central States Show along with a rotating annual meeting at state shows such as the one in Michigan and Ohio. Any suggestions for other meeting sites would be appreciated. Our collection will be exhibited at the Central States show in April; we'd be glad to discuss the set with any members in attendance."

Next on the list of announcements is the upcoming Tampa FUN show and the efforts by Jason Feldman. Jason is excited about the upcoming FUN regional meeting on January 7 at 9:00am in Room 5. A memorable agenda is planned including the "Memories of Kam Ahwash" presentation by Carl Feldman and Jason's own presentation on Transition Seated coinage. There is also rumor of an important guest speaker. Jason hopes this year's FUN meeting attendance and agenda will match that of the well established Baltimore regional meetings. We invite club members to mark their calendars and attend this meeting.

In the December Regional News column, I discussed Craig Eberhart's Long Beach regional meeting efforts and the need for a multimedia projector to facilitate presentations. I am happy to report that the projector was completed funded via club member donations within several weeks of the request. I do wish to sincerely thank those individuals who stepped forward and donated. Craig has purchased the projector and will test its capabilities at the Tampa FUN regional meeting. As a reminder, the next Long Beach regional meeting is planned for Friday, February 4 and Craig reports that Dick Osburn will highlight the agenda with a Seated Half

(Continued on page 8)



The Budget Collector: Seated Deals & Steals Under a Hundred Dollars

Ninth in a Series

by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

This month's question: Is it possible to buy a trade dollar for less than \$100? The answer seems to be "yes, but not a very nice one." Among my cache of Christmas cards was a gift certificate from one of my favorite coin dealers for \$50. To diverge for a minute, this reminds me about a dealer who told me he is always careful to examine proof sets when they come through the store. The reason is this - proof sets are sometimes gifted and "salted" with cash. If little Johnny isn't interested in the proof coins, the currency may go unnoticed (only to be found later by the coin dealer). Anyway, I opened my coin dealer's Christmas card and did not fail to notice the \$50 gift card. Off to the dealer's website, where I selected an 1873 trade dollar, which after it was all said and done, cost me \$55. The coin is best described as F-12, cleaned, with a bruise on the reverse rim. The reverse surfaces have a little bit of life left in them,

the obverse less so. Dave Bowers, in his massive silver dollar encyclopedia, indicates that circulated 1873 trade dollars are rare, although this is one case where rarity isn't necessarily a good thing. While many San Francisco and Carson City trade dollars went to the Orient, Philadelphia coins seem to have not gone much anywhere at all. Chopmarked Philadelphia coins are a prize. I am sorry to say that this is not one of them. For my next project, I will attempt to acquire a seated dollar for less than \$100.

In our cherrypicking department, LSCC member Anthony Alberts reports the purchase of an 1887-S dime, Fortin-107, struck with a shattered reverse die. As Gerry Fortin describes it, "massive die cracks form a concentric inner ring that covers about 60% of the wreath." The effect is quite spectacular, and to the uninitiated the cracks almost seem as if they





Quarter of the Month

by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

Once in a while I get asked questions by those who know of my interest in Liberty Seated quarter die varieties. One of the questions that has come up several different times is, “How do I tell a new reverse hub 1840 quarter (Briggs reverse B) from the transitional reverse (Briggs reverse A)?” I think that a big reason this question gets asked is that there is an error in Larry Briggs’ *The Comprehensive Encyclopedia of Liberty Seated Quarters* (Lima, OH 1991). The error is that the photograph labeled “New Hub Design Reverse 2-B” is actually an example of the transitional reverse A. This is the same die that is pictured on the previous page and labeled as reverse A. The book, overall, is a remarkably complete and accurate reference; however, it is not perfect, and in this case a typographical error leads to some confusion.

The keys to attributing the 1840 reverses are the eagle’s claws and the lettering in AMERICA. The shield lines can also be used to reliably distinguish the two dies in coins graded high enough for

them to be visible. One should also note that the descriptions provided in Briggs’ book are quite detailed and accurate for these two dies – it is only the picture that is inaccurate.

Reverse A – “...”AM” of “AMERICA” touch at base. Long curved claws. Middle and last talons of both claws are long, curved and noticeably separated from each other....Vertical line #6 extends to the fourth horizontal line...A die scratch is in the dentils above and past last “S” of “STATES”. “

Reverse B – “...Thick letters in legend with base of “AM” and “RI” touching. Long curved claws. Middle and last talon of both claws are long, curved, and virtually closed, touching and nearly touching each other respectively. Tip of left talon on left claw curled and virtually touches berry stem....Vertical line #4 extends to horizontal line #5....A die scratch is in dentil over right serif of “U” in “UNITED”.”

The two reverses are illustrated in the photos below. Hopefully this will help alleviate some of the confusion.



1840 Reverse A



1840 Reverse B



(Regional News Continued from page 5)

Dollar presentation.

Last on this month's regional news column is Dennis Fortier's plans for the first LSCC regional meeting at the Boston Bay State show. Dennis writes, "Welcome aboard to Steve Petty! Next up for the northeast region is the Bay State show in Boston, March 25-27. The club meeting is currently scheduled for Saturday March 26th at 1:30PM; please check the LSCC website for updates as the meeting date approaches. Our agenda is still being developed and I hope that an insightful presentation will be offered. Immediately after the LSCC meeting, numismatic expert and consumer advocate, Scott Travers will present the investment aspects of numismatics. I have contacted Ed Aleo, organizer for the Bay State show, and Ed indicates that the LSCC will have a display table. We need a volunteer to step up and

display some Seated coinage. We are open to any suggestions or offers. I can't tell you how much it helped at Coinfest to have a display. It gave the club a high profile and attracted a great deal of attention with numismatists. The display items don't have to be earth shattering, just interesting. Perhaps some rare varieties or a display of great die cracked coins, maybe a short set from one mint or decade. Also a Seated coinage type set would be another possibility. I would welcome two or more members working together to set up a display.

Finally we need you. It doesn't happen without you. We had a good turnout at the Coinfest meeting and I hope to see many of you again in Boston. Looking forward, we are planning to have a meeting and display at the Whitman show in Philadelphia next September. Please contact me at rica-jun@msn.com if you can help out with a display or a presentation. We need YOU to step up and help support the club."

Budget Collector (Continued from page 6)

are part of the wreath itself. The mintmark is distinctively smushed, which effect Fortin describes as possibly repunched, although I prefer the term "smushed" myself. Anthony found this coin on eBay and acquired it via the "buy it now" option for the pleasantly low price of \$15. As seated dime variety hunting becomes more popular, more so lately with

Fortin's encyclopedia online at seateddimevarieties.com, the "buy it now" option is one's best bet, as there are any number of eagle-eyed eBay users ready to pick off anything of interest. Surprisingly, this was Anthony's second encounter with the F-107, as he acquired another at a "hole in the wall" coin store in Illinois, whose location will remain undisclosed. They may check their proof sets there, but the seated dimes varieties are slipping through!





Subscriber Correspondence

From **Tom DeLorey**: Now that Len Augsburger has coined the word "Booseliana," I can lay claim to having "handled" one of the most unusual things he ever produced.

Harry was a frequent visitor to Harlan J. Berk's, and on the day he died had an appointment to introduce me to some friends of his who had a collection to sell.

A few weeks after the funeral, Harry's son called to ask for help in disposing of Harry's vast collection of "Booseliana," as we will now call it, much of it dated 1873, of course. We set a date, and he and his mother, Tillie met me at the store. We then went over to the First National Bank of Chicago and commandeered one of the larger rooms down in the safety deposit vault.

There were several safety deposit boxes, each with several cardboard boxes inside. I sorted the good stuff in one pile for them to consign to auction, and figured prices we would pay on the "common stuff."

Most everything was in paper envelopes well labeled as to contents. In the middle of one box, between two tokens, was an envelope that made me look twice at the label. I carefully opened the envelope, peered down inside to confirm the contents, and then solemnly handed Harry's 50ish son his belly button, which had fallen off after he was born.

From **Michael Luck**: COMMENTARY ON THIS CURRENT ISSUE: MOST EXCELLENT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Now here is the important question!! Can you ever top this issue!!?

From **Anonymous**: A recent front page article in *Coin World* mentions a lawsuit by PCGS against the Burnsville Coin Company of Burnsville, MN. Perhaps this is a fallout over the recent press in the *E-Gobrecht* on the counterfeit coins in counterfeit PCGS slabs.



Free Advertisements

1879-1890 Quarters and Halves Wanted to Buy: I'm looking for Philadelphia mint 1879-1890 quarters and halves, grades 35-45 only. Must be absolutely original, never cleaned or dipped. What do you have? Denis Loring, 561-207-6180, dwloring@aol.com.

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/>

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

Seated and Bust Coinage for Sale: Rich Uhrich Rare U. S. Coins Inc. specializes in Bust and Seated silver coins, especially scarce and rare dates and varieties. His website www.richuhrichcoins.com lists his complete inventory, has pictures of coins over \$100, and is updated frequently. He offers a newsletter which notifies you when significant new purchases are available and offers his take on the coin market in general as well as Bust and Seated silver. He also actively services want lists. He is an authorized PCGS and NGC dealer and a member of ANA, LSCC, EAC, and JRCS. Contact him at richuhrichcoins@comcast.net, 717-533-2935 or 717-579-8238.

Liberty Seated Quarter Cuds & Rotated Dies Wanted: Other U.S. series of interest as well. Please reply directly to Paul Kluth @ 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

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, email: 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 or 1-949-929-2830.

Two Half Dollar Die Variety Books for Sale:

- *A Register of Half Dollar Die Varieties, Volume I, San Francisco Branch Mint*
- *A Register of Half Dollar Die Varieties, Volume II, Carson City Branch Mint*

Copies of either are available now available in 3-hole punched format (ready for your binder) or plastic comb binding format each from two sources:

<http://www.richuhrichcoins.com/>
<http://www.dickosburn.com/>



Liberty Seated Collectors Club

Contact Information:

**President and
Editor, *Gobrecht Journal***

John McCloskey
John.McCloskey@notes.udayton.edu

**Vice President and
Editor, *E-Gobrecht***

Bill Bugert
(717) 337-0229
P.O. Box 3761
Gettysburg, PA 17325
wb8cpy@arrl.net

Secretary / Treasurer

Leonard Augsbarger
(847) 816-1649
P.O. Box 6114
Vernon Hills, IL 60061
leonard_augsbarger@hotmail.com

LSCC website:
<http://www.lscweb.org>

National Officers

Gerry Fortin

wuximems@hotmail.com

Director,
LSCC Technology and Marketing

Dennis Fortier

ricajun@msn.com

Director,
LSCC Northeast Region

Jason Feldman

jasonfeldman@gmail.com

Director,
LSCC Southern Region

Steve Petty

stephenpetty@sbcglobal.net

Director,
LSCC Central Region

Craig Eberhart

eberhart@att.net

Director,
LSCC Western Region

LSCC

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 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.

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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