



The E-Gobrecht

The Electronic Newsletter of the LIBERTY SEATED COLLECTORS CLUB

Liberty Seated Collectors Club

2011 Volume 7, Issue 9

September 2011 (Whole # 80)

Randy Wiley into the LSCC Hall of Fame Gerry Fortin wins the Ahwash Award Greg Johnson wins E-Gobrecht Award!

Over forty members and guests attended the LSCC annual meeting on August 18, 2011 at the ANA's Chicago (Rosemont) World's Fair of Money. President John McCloskey called the crowded and noisy room to order at 9 AM by welcoming everyone.

The LSCC Treasurer/Secretary, Len Augsburger, presented his summary of the club's finances and announced we are fiscally solvent. Complete details will be in the next *Gobrecht Journal*. John McCloskey summarized the club's old business with details of the status of *Gobrecht Journal Collective Volume #6*; in short, the printer is having problems with loss of past issues and John is working the issue. Len Augsburger then briefly discussed Dennis Fortier's concept of a club medal. Len asked for a show of hands of interested purchasers assuming a \$60 silver medal; the room was filled with raised hands.

President McCloskey then discussed the Kamal M. Ahwash award and stated Gerry Fortin, who won the award, was in China and not able to attend. Bill Bugert accepted the award for Gerry and will present it to him at the November Baltimore meeting. Bill Bugert then gave background on the LSCC Hall of Fame and announced the 2011 Inductee—Randy Wiley. Randy also was unable to attend so Bill Bugert accepted the award for Randy and will present it to him at the November Baltimore meeting. Congratulations to Gerry and Randy!



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The *E-Gobrecht* is a twice 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 at on the last page.



Auction News

by Jim Gray, LSCC #664

The Heritage Coin Auction, Platinum Night, the Stack's-Bowers ANA Sale and Rarities Night contained so many relevant Seated coins that if all of them were described, Auction

News would be 10 pages long.

The **Heritage** Auction featured an 1840-O half dime with drapery in MS61 that was well struck and attractive for \$5,463. An 1839 no drapery half dollar in MS61 that was well struck and nicely toned sold for \$7,475, while a natural gray 1870-CC half dollar in VG10 hit \$3,220. A deep gray 1873 no arrows open 3 in VF30 went for \$7,475.

An 1872-CC dollar in F15 with L-Y visible sold for \$3,738, while an original gray 1878-CC trade dollar in XF45 hit \$4,025.

Platinum Night featured an 1872-CC dime in AU55 and tied for the best certified at NGC. This was definitely a generous grade in that OF AME was missing but the coin still sold for \$16,100.

An 1855-S quarter in PR64, and thought to be the first quarter struck at the San Francisco Mint, soared to \$276,000, while an 1891-O in PR62, and one of two known, hit \$18,400.

An 1839 no drapery half dollar in MS61, with nice toning but very weak on the left side of the reverse, managed \$8,050. An 1852-O half in MS63 with lovely toning sold for \$9,775, while an 1855-S in AU58, but with streaky toning, still hammered for \$16,100. An 1855-S in PR65, despite a stain at star 13, and a twin to the 1855-S PR quarter, also realized \$276,000. An 1870-CC in XF40 with a typical soft strike did not sell, but a well struck 1871-CC in AU58 went for \$15,525. A bright white 1878-CC in AU58 sold for \$10,465.

An 1878-CC trade dollar in AU58 with lovely toning hammered for \$12,070.

The **Stack's-Bowers** ANA Sale featured a large number of the rare Carson City dimes. The results were as follows: 1871-CC, VG10, \$2,875; 1872-CC, VG10, no sale; 1872-CC, XF45, \$10,350; 1873-CC, VG10, \$4,313; 1873-CC VF20, \$4,313;

1874-CC, G6, \$10,350; 1874-CC, F12, \$12,650.

A nice 1849-O quarter in AU50 sold for \$7,820, while an 1870-CC in VG8 and choice for the grade hit \$11,213.

An 1852 original dollar with environmental damage and AU details did not sell, while an 1871-CC with VF/XF details but with surface damage hit \$4,313. An 1873-CC with XF details but filed rims managed \$8,050.

The Rarities Night featured the fabulous Seated half dollar collection of club member Dick Osburn. This collection contained some the finest half dollars and many were purchased from the Pryor and Noblet Sales.

The highlights contained the following: 1840-O reverse of 38 in MS62 for \$8,050; 1842-O small date in MS63 did not sell; 1852-O in MS63 with nice toning hit \$8,625, while an 1855-S jewel in MS67 soared to \$115,000. An 1856-S in MS63 with light toning sold for \$10,925, while an 1857-S in MS61 with streaky toning hammered for \$5,750. An 1866-S no motto in MS62 realized \$12,650. An 1870-CC in MS62 that was well struck with beautiful toning, and looked finer and tied with one other as the finest certified, hit a magnificent \$172,500. An 1871-CC in MS62 with a proof-like obverse sold for \$17,550, while an 1872-CC in the same grade sold for the same amount. An 1873 no arrows open 3 half in MS60 hit \$20,700, while an 1873-CC no arrows in MS64 sold for \$25,875. An 1874-CC in MS64 with lovely rim toning realized \$57,500, while an 1878-CC in MS65 with mottled toning still managed \$48,875. An 1878-S in MS63 with gold and blue toning soared to \$184,000.

The following dimes were all very nice, but none sold: 1844, MS63, 1846, AU55, 1856-S, MS63, 1859-S, MS65, and the finest certified, 1871-CC, MS62, 1873-CC, AU55, and a choice coin. An 1858-S in MS62 did sell at \$16,100.

An 1867-S quarter in MS63 and one of the two finest, with some dark peripheral toning hit \$20,700, while two 1870-CCs, the first with AU de-

(Continued on page 14)



Seated Ponderings & More

By Paul Kluth, LSCC #1994

Any subscriber can submit questions or comments related to any numismatic topic regarding Liberty Seated Collecting. Send in your thoughts directly to the Editor at wb8cpy@arri.net --- Paul Kluth

Question:

1. As a follow-up to the ANA Convention, please tell us about your experience in Chicago at the ANA. What was enjoyable and maybe not so enjoyable from a collecting perspective?

2. For the Liberty Seated denomination(s) that you collect, what are your favorite die varieties and/or die states?

For example, do you like to collect the top 25 die varieties for a denomination?

Or do you prefer collecting?:

- a. Die Marriages
- b. Double Dies
- c. Repunched Dates or Mintmarks
- d. Overdates or different size Mintmarks
- e. Misplaced Dates
- f. Rotated Dies
- g. Other die varieties

Maybe you prefer EDS (early die states), the most perfect obverse/reverse dies that likely exist, or LDS (late die states) where dies exhibit more imperfections including clashed die and terminal die break conditions?

Wanted!!!

Exhibitors for the September Philadelphia Show

Please consider exhibiting your/part of your collection of Liberty Seated coins and/or related numismatic books or material. You need not have a complete collector nor condition census coins. Just having Liberty Seated coins will attract attention. Your efforts will enable you to show off what you have and increase collector interest in our series.

Contact Dennis Fortier, the LSCC Northeast Regional Director, at ricajun@msn.com for additional information or if you are interested.



LSCC Annual Meeting (Continued from page 1)

Next, Bill Bugert, the editor of the *E-Gobrecht*, announced a new award for extraordinary merit in contributions to the LSCC electronic newsletter, the *E-Gobrecht*. Greg Johnson, the author of the monthly column "Quarter of the Month" won this award and was surprised when his name was announced. He accepted the award and graciously thanked the audience. Congratulations Greg for a well-deserved award!



Craig Eberhart and John Frost both provided updates to LSCC Regional activities. Complete details are in Gerry Fortin's column on the next page.

Bill Bugert then presented a draft listing of candidates for the Top Ten Liberty Seated half dollars. Voting will be conducted concurrent with an upcoming issue of the *Gobrecht Journal*. Bill presented a listing and asked for feedback on candidates for the listing. The slides are detailed below and everyone is welcome to comment to Bill at wb8cpy@arrl.net.



Criteria

- Top Ten Liberty Seated Half Dollars
- General guidelines - **Design differences only**
 - No mintmark or date size variations
 - No errors such as doubled dates, doubled dies, etc.
- Draft listing on next page - ballots will be mailed to all club members
- Voting results to be published in *Gobrecht Journal*
- Comments/feedback to Bill Bugert

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Candidate Listing

Top Ten Liberty Seated Half Dollars

• 1839 No drapery	• 1855-S
• 1840 (O) Medium letters reverse	• 1866-S No motto
• 1842 Small date, small letters reverse	• 1870-CC
• 1842-O Small date, small letters reverse	• 1873-CC No arrows
• 1850	• 1874-CC
• 1851	• 1876-S Type 2 reverse
• 1852	• 1877 Type 1 reverse
• 1853-O No arrows and rays	• 1878 Type 1 reverse
	• 1878-CC
	• 1878-S

3

Greg Johnson discussed an upcoming survey on the top twenty five quarters. More details will be announced in an upcoming *Gobrecht Journal*. Bill Bugert then presented an overview of early New Orleans Half Dollars. President McCloskey discussed dwindling submissions of articles to the *Gobrecht Journal* and asked for member contributions. He suggested stories of memorable purchases of Liberty Seated coins and asked for articles by September 10, 2011 (see a copy of his letter on page 11).

Brad Karoleff wrapped up the club meeting with a very entertaining benefit auction of donated items (see auction items on page 10.). If you've never participated in one of his auctions, you are missing a truly memorable event. Many thanks, Brad. After the auction, the meeting formally adjourned.



Regional News

by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

Dear fellow LSCC members,

This edition of the LSCC regional news is written in the aftermath of Irene and its heavy rains and Northeast

flooding. In Southern Maine, we experienced tropical force winds and luckily suffered little damage other than a favorite maple tree having its leaves shredded. Diane is presently dealing with power and cable outage that I'm sure will last several days given our remote location in Raymond. I hope that all LSCC members on the East Coast were fortunate and escape serious property damage from winds and flooding.

As mentioned in the August regional news column, the first half of September features three LSCC regional meetings each spaced one week apart and located in the east, central and west regions. Since the Ohio CONA show is occurring during the September *E-Gobrecht* release, let's focus on the Long Beach and Whitman Philadelphia regional meetings. West Regional Director, Craig Eberhart, sent along a brief summary describing the September 9 Long Beach regional meeting activities. Craig writes, "The LSCC west regional meeting will be held on Friday September 9 at the Long Beach Coin, Stamp, and Collectible Expo. The meeting will be in Room 102C and start promptly at 9:00 am. Introductions will be first, followed by a short discussion of the Chicago ANA meeting, my presentation on "Seated Coins of New Orleans", and other issues for discussion. I hope to see a good turnout of members at the "Beach!"

On the heels of Long Beach, September 15-17 finds the LSCC at the Whitman Philadelphia show in another joint event with the Barber Col-

lectors Club Society. Northeast Regional Director Dennis Fortier is teaming with John Frost and sharing a complimentary club table on the bourse floor from Thursday through Saturday. Table number is 656 for LSCC members that wish to stop by and discuss Seated and Barber coinage. Dennis Fortier writes, "I will have some CC seated halves as well as both the first marriage and the re-marriage of the 1841-O Baseball Die Crack and John Frost will have rarities of other seated series. I also have two newspapers from 1836 with announcements of the new Gobrecht Dollar and Seated Half Dollar. In the same newspapers, we can also read Andy Jackson's state of the Union address and the progress of the Seminole war. At the September 16 joint LSCC and BCCS regional meeting, a presentation entitled *Collecting Carson City Seated Halves on a Budget*, will be featured along with one additional presentation. We will also kick the tires on a 40th Anniversary medal for the club that was approved at the ANA and hope for another strong turnout as in Manchester, NH!

There are no regional meetings scheduled for October but in November, our Directors are scheduling regional meetings in Boston and Baltimore. The Boston meeting is in conjunction with the Bay State Show and is scheduled for November 12. Immediately following Bay State is the fall installment of the Whitman Coin and Collecting Expo and a regional meeting planned for November 18. LSCC Treasurer and Secretary Len Augsburger is coordinating preparations for Seated Fest, a public display of well noted Liberty Seated coinage sets across all denominations. More on this matter in the October *E-Gobrecht*.



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

Seventieth in a Series

by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

ANA Report (LSCC version)

There was no flying to the ANA Convention this year, for I live in the northern suburbs of Chicago and the convention center is only half an hour away by car. I compensated by scheduling way too many coin activities for the week, but somehow they all got done. Monday was exhibit setup day - I displayed a caseful of tokens and medal related to Christian Gobrecht. I did not expect to win an exhibit prize, and as far as that goes things turned out as expected - the more important purpose was to attract any potential sellers of Gobrecht-related material! It took until Thursday, but around lunchtime someone came around with an inventory list of very delectable material. It wasn't for sale, but a good contact was made and perhaps someday we'll make a deal.

Tuesday I worked as a table assistant for seated and bust dealer Rich Uhrich. Things went swimmingly during dealer setup time as a few of Rich's regular suppliers came by with lots of goodies for sale. The buying was going well, but the selling had problems, for Rich's security service was having difficulty getting his inventory onto the show floor. After a few heated phone calls the coins landed on the show floor mid-morning and we hastily unpacked everything into the display cases. I got to chat with a number of seated quarter (my specialty) enthusiasts and table activity was brisk throughout the day. At the end of the day Rich paid me (it was a lot of fun - I would do it for free, don't tell Rich!) and invited me to his staff and suppliers dinner later in the week.

Thursday morning we held the annual meeting for the LSCC (I believe Bill Bugert is providing a full report elsewhere in this issue), the highlight being the election of Randy Wiley into the LSCC Hall of Fame. Randy, not to mention his comprehensive knowledge of the seated half series, authored a landmark work on the 1861-O half dollar - I think it is fair to say that this is the most popular series of articles ever written in the *Gobrecht Journal*, for which I continually get reprint requests. Gerry Fortin took the Ahwash award for best article in the *Gobrecht Journal* for the club year 2009-2010. Greg Johnson was awarded the first ever *E-Gobrecht* award recognizing his contributions to our online newsletter. The meeting concluded with a energetic auction hosted by Mr. Brad Karoleff, and I will not try to describe it - if you've seen Brad in action you know what I am talking about. If not, try to come to the annual meeting next year in Philadelphia! \$1,905 was raised for the club treasury, and a big thanks goes to all the bidders and to those who donated auction lots.

Thursday evening was the highlight on the convention for seated collectors as the Dick Osburn collection of MS Liberty Seated halves headlined Stack's-Bowers Rarities Night. The auction room was literally electric - very crowded (the great spread Stack's put on definitely helped) with hardly a seat available. Chris Karstedt of Stack's invited Dick to say a few words before the sale started. Dick was present with his two sons and wife, who admitted that she was more than a little bit nervous! Sales were good, and will be reported elsewhere in this issue. The big coins were the 1870-CC (\$150K ham-

(Continued on page 13)



Quarter of the Month

by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

The 1840 With Drapery Large O quarter (which I will abbreviate as 1840 WD LgO) was called the “rarest collectible seated quarter” in *The Comprehensive Encyclopedia of United States Liberty*

Seated Quarters. There were 16 confirmed examples at the time of the book’s publication in 1991. Since then a number of examples have surfaced with current estimates at about 40 pieces in all grades and conditions. It is a well-known and highly regarded variety pairing the newly introduced with drapery obverse and a reworked reverse previously used to strike no drapery quarters at the New Orleans mint. It can accurately be referred to as an *important* transitional coin. The 1840 WD LgO quarter was voted number 7 in the Liberty Seated Collectors Club survey of the 10 greatest New Orleans seated coins (Gobrecht Journal Issue 101), finishing as the third highest rated quarter in the group behind the 1849-O (#3) and the 1842-O Small Date (#6). It was included as coin #2 in the Top 25 Seated Quarter Varieties described in *Gobrecht Journal* #111. This month’s column will provide some additional photographs of the variety, a photographic summary of the other 1840-O seated quarter die pairings, and some speculation regarding the minting of these coins.

There are five known die pairs for the 1840-O quarter. The two no drapery obverses and two no drapery reverses continued the die style used in Philadelphia during 1838 and 1839 and were presumably used early during 1840. Figure 1 shows no drapery obverse 1 as paired with no drapery reverse A, illustrated in Figure 2. Coins from this die pair are known as the “mintmark left” variety. No drapery reverse B, shown in Figure 3, features a dramatically different mintmark position from reverse A. The two no drapery varieties are thus quite easy to distinguish. The only known no drapery die pairs are 1-A and 2-B; neither obverse die appears to have been paired with more than one reverse.



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Figure 1. No Drapery Obverse 1



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Figure 2. No Drapery Reverse A (Mintmark Left)

A new with drapery obverse die apparently arrived part way through the year (most likely in June). The no drapery reverse B was reworked and paired with the new with drapery obverse. The reason for this is not obvious since according to mint

(Continued on page 9)



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Many thanks!



Quarter of the Month (Continued from page 7)



Figure 3. No Drapery Reverse B



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Figure 5. With Drapery Large O Reverse (A)

records a new reverse die was shipped with the new obverse. Figure 4 shows a with-drapery obverse and Figure 5 the reworked no drapery “large O” reverse that was paired with the with drapery obverse. Note the second set of hand cut denticles and the pronounced weakness on the right feather and left leg of



Figure 4. With Drapery Obverse 2



Figure 6. With Drapery Small O Reverse (C)

certified are frequently undergraded because of it.

The first with drapery obverse that was paired with the large O reverse was also paired with a small O reverse (that die – Briggs reverse B - is not illustrated here). The final New Orleans mint die pair of 1840 is Briggs 2-C illustrated in Figures 4 and 6. Interestingly, reverse C was re-used in 1841 (or more likely in December 1840) to strike the first

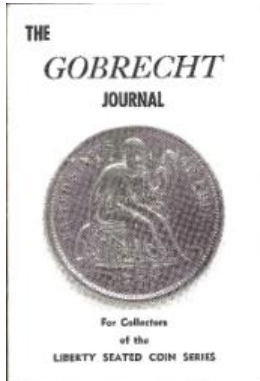
gle. All known examples of the 1840 WD LgO have this weakness on the reverse and when

(Continued on page 13)



Results of the LSCC Benefit Auction

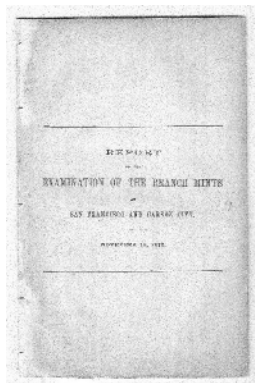
At the Chicago World's Fair of Money LSCC annual meeting on August 18, 2011, the officers of the LSCC conducted an auction of miscellaneous interesting numismatic items to benefit the club's Treasury. The results were record breaking (\$1,905) and we wish to thank the item donors and the auction participants; the funds will be used in efforts to promote the club and its activities. Here are the prices realized for the auction:



Original edition of *Gobrecht Journal* #1. Donated by Len Augsburger, \$150.



Unique 1858 Liberty Seated half dollar, attractively counterstamped "2011 LSCC", stamped and donated by Bill Bugert, \$75.



Original document entitled "Report of the Examination of the Branch Mints at San Francisco and Carson City, November 19, 1872." Donated by Rich Uhrich, \$130.



1873 Trade Dollar, as featured in the *E-Gobrecht* Volume 7, Issue #1. Donated by Len Augsburger, \$100.



Hardcover display books (two book set in hardcover slip case) of Eugene Gardener's Liberty Seated Quarter Collection. These books detail every LS quarter in Gene's collection with outstanding oversized photographs and narratives. Donated by Gene Gardner, \$700.



1872 Liberty Seated dollar, NGC certified VF details, as feature in *E-Gobrecht* Volume 7, Issue #3. Donated by Len Augsburger, \$100.



Deluxe leather bound copy number #10 of 10 of "A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume III, New Orleans Branch Mint, 1840-O to 1853-O NA." Donated by Bill Bugert, \$650.



Handout at the LSCC Annual meeting



LIBERTY SEATED COLLECTORS CLUB

Publishers of the **GOBRECHT JOURNAL**



August 18, 2011

The Liberty Seated Collectors Club introduced the Gobrecht Journal in the fall of 1974 and has published three issues of the journal each year for the past 37 years. The original objective of the club was to provide a publication where collectors of the Liberty Seated series could report their observations on Seated coinage for the benefit of other collectors of 19th century silver coins.

Over the years the quality of the articles presented in the journal has improved dramatically as numismatic scholars have reported their observations and opinions from sophisticated research studies on Seated coinage. Sadly, contributions by the majority of club members reporting their experiences at shows or their good fortune at finding some unusual or rare Seated coin have decreased dramatically over the years. I would like to see the journal return to its original objective and once again include human interest stories presented by club members on their rewarding experiences with Seated coinage.

I propose the following exercise for club members attending this annual meeting of LSCC. I would like to ask all those in attendance to prepare for publication in the Gobrecht Journal a short story describing a *memorable* purchase of a Seated coin from your collecting experiences. This contribution can vary from a single paragraph to possibly two pages in length. It could be something like the satisfaction you experienced at purchasing the last coin to reach a collecting objective, the purchase of a rare date coin or a rare variety that you had searched for over many years, the purchase of an error coin that you didn't even know existed or any other experience to show the joys that one can experience at collecting these beautiful silver coins from the 19th century.

You may complete a paragraph on the back of this page and return it to me after the meeting or send it to me by email at John.McCloskey@notes.udayton.edu. I will also accept contributions at my postal address until September 10, 2011:

John McCloskey
President LSCC
5718 King Arthur Dr.
Kettering, Ohio 45429



Miscellaneous ANA photos



Dick Osburn saying a few words before the auction of his half dollars (above right) and Chris Karstedt of Stack's-Bowers calling a lot in his sale (upper left)



LSCC Vice President Bill Bugert at the club table (left) and LSCC President John McCloskey discussing *Gobrecht Journal Collective Volume #6* at the annual meeting (right)



Budget Collector (Continued from page 6)

mer) and 1878-S (\$160K hammer). If you've been doing this awhile, you know that an auction of seated material like this only happens every few years - so you have to take your chances when you get them. Best wishes to Dick and Ruth! Note, Dick retains his large set of seated half dollar varieties, which will no doubt keep him out of trouble for a few more years.

Saturday was the next big day on the seated calendar - Stack's had a nice run of seated quarters in their Saturday sale. The timing on Saturday had a few of the consignors concerned - would the prices hold up with everyone leaving town? By and large they did. I managed to score the 1847-O quarter in PCGS AU58, an upgrade to the current coin I have. I pulled the duplicate coin out of the bank with the intention of selling it, but it is a nice EF coin I got long ago from Brian Greer and is hard to let go of! I'll enjoy studying the coin a bit more before the next show. It is a Briggs 1-A per the mintmark place-

ment, but doesn't seem to quite match the other die characteristics for a 1-A, so I'll call it an "early die state" until I look at a few more of them. The other thing I like about this particular example is that it is not as flatly struck as many 1847-Os come.

Saturday afternoon I packed up the Gobrecht exhibit and headed home. On the way out I swung by the LSCC table to pickup any remaining literature. The LSCC hosted a club table at the ANA this year, which was well received. We handed out literature to prospective members and provided a location for LSCC members to meet up and visit. The ANA provided club table space at an attractive price, and we'll try this again next year in Philadelphia - hope to see everyone there!

Quarter of the Month (Continued from page 9)

1841-O quarters and is dubbed reverse A for 1841.

Note that the emission sequence proposed here is speculation based on research and insights published by Randy Wiley in issue #99 of the *Gobrecht Journal*. There is not hard evidence to prove that the coins were, in fact, produced in such a sequence, but the sequence is both plausible and consistent with what is known. That sequence is : 1) No Drapery Mintmark Left (Briggs 1-A); 2) No Drapery Mintmark Centered (Briggs 2-B); 3) With Drapery Large O (Briggs 1-A) – reverse die reworked No Drapery reverse B; 4) With Drapery Small O (Briggs 1-B) – same obverse die as the 1840 WD LgO; and 5) With Drapery Small O (Briggs 2-C).

The year 1840 is a most interesting one for collectors of seated coinage, with many transitional coins, mules, experiments, mistakes and other varie-

ties to study. Anyone with a particular interest in this year is strongly encouraged to read "The New Orleans Branch Mint in 1840" by Randall Wiley in Issue #99 of the *Gobrecht Journal*.

References used in this article

- *The Comprehensive Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Quarters*, Larry Briggs, Lima OH 1991.
- The New Orleans Branch Mint in 1840, Randall Wiley, *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #99, pages 3-14.
- The Ten Greatest New Orleans Seated Coins, *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #101, 53-57.
- The Liberty Seated Quarter Top 25 Variety Set, Greg Johnson, *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #111, pages 3-27.
- Photos courtesy of Heritage Archives.



Upcoming LSCC Events

Central Ohio Numismatic Association, Dublin, OH, **September 3**, 10 A.M., Room 105.

Please contact Steve Petty for more information at stephenpetty@sbcglobal.net.

Long Beach Coin, Stamps, and Collectibles Expo, Long Beach, CA, regional meeting, **September 9**, 9 A.M., Room 102C. Please contact Craig Eberhart for more information at craig@eberhart.us.

Whitman Coin and Collectibles Expo, Philadelphia, PA, regional meeting, **September 16**, 9 A.M., Room 208. Please contact Dennis Fortier for more information at ricajun@msn.com. Club table is 656.

Auction News (Continued from page 2)

tails, but cleaned and toned back, hit \$24,238, while an XF detail with the same description did not sell. An 1872-S in MS63 ex-Eliasberg sold for \$20,700.

An 1839 no drapery half dollar in MS65, but very weak on the left reverse, did not sell. Two coins from my collection, an 1870-CC half in AU50 and an 1873-CC no arrows in MS63 did not sell. An

1878-S half that was an original F15 soared to \$51,750.

An 1871-CC dollar in MS63 with golden toning rang the bell for \$126,000, while an 1873-CC in VF20 with only L-TY showing realized \$18,400.

An 1878-CC trade dollar in MS61 that was well struck but had a number of wispy abrasions still managed \$18,400.

Reflections on the sale of Dick's Halves

by Bill Bugert, LSCC #455

As many of you know, Stack's-Bowers auctioned the fabulous Mint State Liberty Seated half dollar collection of Dick Osburn in conjunction with Chicago ANA World's Fair of Money Rarities Night sale on August 18, 2011. Dick auctioned his complete date/mint Mint State collection and included some major varieties and patterns.

I was very fortunate and honored to sit next to Dick during the auction while he was flanked by his wife, Ruth, and his two attending sons (see photo on page 12). At approximately 5 P.M., Dick opened the auction when Chris Karstedt of Stack's-Bowers, who did an excellent job of calling the auction, asked Dick to say a few words. The auction of 152 lots then commenced and quickly ended less than two hours later. The room was filled to capacity with participants sitting everywhere including all available floor space. In a casual look around the room, I

noticed many LSCC members including, but not limited to, Rich Uhrich (who sat to my left), Len Augsburger, Brian Greer, Craig Eberhart, Greg Johnson, Dave Thomas, Q. David Bowers, Carl Feldman, Dennis Hengeveld, Karl Moulton, and Steve Tompkins. My good friend and colleague, Randy Wiley, was unable to attend and I am sorry he missed this—he would have enjoyed it immensely.

As the lots were called, I recorded the opening bid, winning bid and the bidder number. I knew many bidders but many lots were awarded to phone and internet bidders so their identity was unknown on the floor. Of note was the winner of the 1878-S PCGS MS63 half dollar (hammered at \$160,000) who also won the 1865-S NGC MS64 and the 1872-S PCGS MS64.

This was a truly memorable event that will go down in history as a major Liberty Seated event.



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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.

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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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