



The E-Gobrecht

The Electronic Newsletter of the LIBERTY SEATED COLLECTORS CLUB

Liberty Seated Collectors Club

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June 2012 (Whole # 89)

LSCC Meets in Manchester, NH...



Per Dennis Fortier (in photo, l to r Dennis and John Frost) the Manchester LSCC regional activities went very well. We signed up four new members for the LSCC and had 12 people at the joint meeting with the BCCS. John Frost gave a great presentation on his 1875-S Twenty Cent Branch Mint Proof and Dennis Fortier updated the members on the progress of the 40th anniversary medal. The tables had a lot of collector interest. Besides his Branch

Mint Proofs John had his collections of LS Dollars and Trade Dollars. Dennis had some Half Dollar varieties and the complete volumes of the *Gobrecht Journal* to demonstrate the available literature on LS coinage. Special thanks to new members Matt Student and Joe Casazza who helped out at the tables.

... and in Denver, CO



Approximately ten members and guests attended the LSCC Western Regional meeting at the ANA Money Show in Denver, CO. LSCC Western Regional Director Craig Eberhart updated the audience on club activities and gave an outstanding presentation on early New Orleans Liberty Seated design changes.

An enthusiastic audience asked many questions and Craig generated wide attendee participation. Shown above are those attendees who were available for the photograph.

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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 **Goldberg** Pre-Long Beach Sale was the only major auction in May and was lacking in relevant Seated coins. An 1872-CC quarter in VG8 had the usual marks and scrapes and sold for \$1,725. A nice original 1850-O dollar in AU58 was purchased for \$5,405.

Upcoming LSCC Events

June 30, 2012, **Baltimore, MD**, LSCC 5-6 Mile Fun Run, meet in the Days Inn Hotel lobby, Inner Harbor across from the Convention Center, 6:30 AM.

August 9, 2012, **Philadelphia, PA**, ANA World's Fair of Money, LSCC Annual Meeting, 9 AM, room TBD.

LSCC Fun Run



Len Augsburger, LSCC Secretary-Treasurer and unofficial race master, announces he has organized a "LSCC Fun Run" in conjunction with the Whitman Coins and Collectibles Baltimore Expo. Experienced and inexperienced runners are encouraged to join Len, Brian Cushing, and John Coyle for a fun filled 5-6 mile casual run through the streets of Baltimore. Please be sure to arrive in the Days Inn Hotel lobby at 6:30 AM (the Days Inn is across the street from the front entrance to the Convention Center).



LSCC 40th Anniversary Medal Design

by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016



As many of you know, a committee of club members has been working with Daniel Carr of Moonlight Mint on a design concept to honor the 40th Anniversary of the LSCC with a medal. Here are the first renderings from Daniel Carr. Some changes have already been suggested by committee members but this gives you an idea of what to expect.

For your planning purposes, the club is planning to offer LSCC medals with three options:

1. Satin silver 1 ounce (shown above)
2. Proof silver 1 ounce
3. Proof gold 1 ounce.

The gold medal will only be available to members of the LSCC. In order to simplify the process it has been decided to have members supply a 1 ounce gold coin (such as a Krugerrand) for melting. Many members own gold at a much cheaper level than today's prices. If you do not own a 1 ounce gold coin, now may be a good time to purchase one while gold is around the \$1,500-\$1,600 level. This suggestion is offered so you can be prepared to order your LSCC medal when the design process is complete and orders are being accepted. All gold LSCC medals will be stamped with the members LSCC number on the edge of the medal for personnel legacy.

Pricing of the silver versions is subject to change with the metals market but we hope to offer the silver medals at around \$70 each for members (non-member prices will be approximately \$10 more) and the proof gold medal, in addition to the 1 ounce gold coin supplied by the member, will have a \$150 surcharge for its share of die production, shipping, and melting of the gold.

Your thoughts on the medal design are desired and may be sent to the editor of the *E-Gobrecht* for inclusion in next month's edition.



Regional News

by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

The June regional news edition is being written from Shanghai while attending the U.S. - China High Technology Trade Seminar. Experiencing international trade negotiations between the two largest world economies first hand reveals how China and U.S. each view each other and plan to benefit from the relationship. Each country carefully establishes their negotiating positions. After sitting through a day of key note speeches and subsequent panel sessions, two common themes become most obvious. The Chinese Commerce Department continually requests access to more U.S. high technology goods and manufacturing equipment while the U.S. officials reinforce the fact that U.S. high technology is only available for civil applications. These positions seem to be logical and non contentious. However, difficulties and friction occur when the two parties discuss the execution of high technology sales. Our U. S. officials explain and demand implementation and enforcement for technology controls and verification given that U.S. government's primary interest is national security. The Chinese position is simplistic; how rapid can the

technology transfers occur without complex rules. The Chinese discuss few details and focus on the end objective while the Americans explain rules, details, and why they are important to the U.S. government. So goes the discussion between the two parties for another day as I am about to shower and join Day 2 of the conference. Living in the eastern and western worlds simultaneously as an American working inside a Chinese state owned enterprise allows for a unique perspective on high trade issues.

Back to the LSCC and numismatics.....

The regional meeting calendar is quiet during July with no schedule events. However next month brings about the annual ANA World's Fair of Money show during the week of August 6. This year's convention is being held in Philadelphia. Our LSCC annual meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 9 with a usual starting time of 9 AM. A full agenda is planned including Kam Ahwash Hall of Fame selection announcement, club updates, an education presentation, and an always exciting fund raising auction.

See you in Philadelphia!

Wanted:

Items for the LSCC Annual Benefit Auction

Attention LSCC members: please consider donating an item or two for the club's benefit auction to be conducted in conjunction with the LSCC annual meeting on August 9th in Philadelphia (with the ANA's World's Fair of Money).

The club officers request the donated items be "somewhat" related to the Liberty Seated coin series and can be small or large in value. We already have a few items but need more to have a successful auction. Sales of the donated items benefit the club Treasury and, in the past, we have purchased club banners for use at regional and annual meetings and overhead digital projectors for use at our meetings. Proceeds from this year's sale will help defray costs of the 40th Anniversary club medal program.

Please reply to the *E-Gobrecht* editor if you wish to help! Many thanks.



The Curious Collector

by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

[Editor's comment: After twenty five articles in the Budget Collector series, Len is starting anew with "The Curious Collector."

We wish many more successful articles, Len; great work and keep them coming!]

This month we turn to gold. What does that have to do with Liberty Seated coinage? Hang on, we'll get there. Two things are easy to find in the national conversation of the last generation – politicians of both persuasions blaming the other, either for excessive tax cuts or overspending, and gold bugs who pile on with ever horrifying predictions of imminent doom. One such gold bug in the 1970s was Harry Browne. Around 1975, Mr. Browne somehow got my name off a coin dealer mailing list and sent me one of his books, unsolicited, along with an invoice. An interesting way to sell books, and also a good way to scare a ten-year old kid! The invoice went ignored and I imagine the book has long since met its demise at the paper recycler.

In any event, a keen filter is useful when listening to either the politicians or the purveyors of collapse. One statistic I've long learned to ignore is the size of the national debt. The size of the debt, or who is to blame for it, isn't nearly as important as the ability of the country to manage the debt. The more important information is thus the size of the debt as compared to the GDP. A quick search of the Internet reveals that, since 2008, the U.S. debt has risen from 70% of the GDP to 105% of the GDP. What's the breaking point? Greece is running at 160% but, unlike the United States, they do not have the authority to print money. More in favor of the U.S. strength in corporate profits and job creation data on the plus side have generated recent optimism. Nevertheless, gold remains strong and until federal spending is more in line with the national

capacity, I see no pullback in the "yellow stuff," as one local dealer calls it. The "gold bug" scenario is, of course, that the federal government will eventually have to resort to massive printing of dollars ("stimulus" they call it) which in turn will kick gold into high gear. With all that in mind, let's look at a few gold numismatic items related to Christian Gobrecht and the Liberty Seated coinage.

The First Spouse series in 2008 brought us the Abigail Van Buren \$10 half ounce gold coin, featuring Gobrecht's Liberty on the obverse and Van Buren on the reverse. The First Spouse series were sold by the Mint at a substantial advance over melt value, making for an unattractive bullion play. I suspect most of these will eventually devolve to melt price, at which point I would consider a purchase. The mintages for these coins are low, in the thousands, and perhaps someday the rarity will kick in and drive a collector market. In the meantime it remains an overly ambitious (and overpriced) Mint offering.

A popular Gobrecht gold issue is the 1836 pattern gold dollar, for which Gobrecht cut the dies. The coin is readily available at a price. Expect to part with \$15K-\$20K for a nice one, about 200x melt value. This is probably not the best choice for a "gold bug!" Much more difficult to find is another pattern, J-135, an 1852 ring half dollar in gold, struck using the reverse die of a Liberty Seated half dime. This is a highly exotic issue listed as high R-7 (4-6 known) and with the last sale recorded in 2008 at the Superior January auction realizing \$41,400. Also difficult is Gobrecht's First Steam Coinage medal of 1836, restruck in gold by the ANA in 2001 in a half-ounce format. With a reported mintage of ten pieces, it will be nearly as hard to find as the 1852 half dollar pattern, although a lot cheaper when actually located. One specimen is known to have sold on the secondary market for

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Quarter of the Month

by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

The bimetallic standard enacted in 1834 fixed the relative values of silver and gold at a ratio of 16.002 to 1. This was later adjusted to 15.988 to 1 in 1837. This bimetallic standard worked

cent silver coin, the difference between silver exports and imports jumped from \$2,000,000 in 1850 to \$23,000,000 in 1851. During those two years the amount of silver exported exceeded the total volume coined by the United States Mint during the preceding twenty years.



effectively until 1844 when the relative price of gold fell with respect to silver, resulting in silver exports to England exceeding imports from Mexico. The ratio continued to decrease gradually until the gold rush in 1848, which accelerated the decrease in the ratio until full weight United States silver coins no longer circulated at all. Early in 1851 the market ratio fell to 15.45 to 1. The one dollar gold coin, authorized in 1849, effectively took the place of silver half dollars and quarters in circulation and further hastened the disappearance of silver from circulation.

Though a crisis was developing and the silver currency of the country was dwindling away, Congress was split and indecisive regarding just how to structure the U.S. monetary system. While Congress debated and finally enacted a bill authorizing the 3

“Before the end of 1851 conditions in retail trade had become chaotic. Trade was carried on with gold dollars, 3 cent pieces, underweight dimes and half-dimes, and badly worn Spanish reals and medios (half reals). The gold dollars were too small in size and too large in value. The dimes and half-dimes were the few survivors of the systematic culling out of good weight coins. The Spanish fractions were a motley collection of underweight coins. The adverse ratio had long since stopped the importation of Spanish coins of good condition, but badly worn pieces were still brought in...the whole world was ransacked for Spanish coins that had been discarded as unfit for circulation.”

After two years of delays and wrangling in Congress, involving several different proposals,

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Curious Collector (Continued from page 5)

\$1,000.

Gobrecht also engraved a couple medals struck by the U.S. Mint; one is somewhat available in gold and the other nearly impossible. The award medal of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Association seems to show up about once a year in gold, a decent example will cost from \$3K-\$5K. Conversely, I am aware of only one appearance of Gobrecht's Charles Carroll medal in gold (of three or four known), featured in Stack's John J. Ford V sale and selling for \$34,500.

In summary, most of the Gobrecht gold pieces fall into the "hard to find" or "really hard to find" category, not a good choice for the breathless telemarketer trying to push product. The "gold bugs" are probably better off sticking to American gold eagles. Meanwhile, the Curious Collector will continue to search the less traveled path!

Quarter of the Month (Continued from page 6)

much debate, and many amendments, a bill reducing the weight of the silver half dollar, quarter, dime and half dime was signed into law by the President on February 21, 1853. The complexity of both the bill itself, and the issues it attempted to address, are underscored by a member of congress who stated that he could not understand it and would therefore vote against it. A detailed accounting of the issues and progress of the bill through Congress is provided by Carothers in Chapter 9 of his book *Fractional Money*.

Prior to the implementation of the weight reductions, the United States Mints produced a number of "old weight" coins dated 1853. These include half dimes at both the Philadelphia and New Orleans mints, dimes and quarters in Philadelphia, and a very few half dollars in New Orleans. These so-called "no arrows" coins are popular with collectors today. The 1853 no arrows quarter is a well known rarity (PCGS Coin #5421) in the Liberty Seated quarter series. The variety was recognized as early as 1867, at which time it was catalogued by W. Elliot Woodward in the Mickley sale. During 2008 the LSCC membership voted it number 8 on the list of greatest Philadelphia seated coins.

Attribution of the 1853 no arrows quarter is quite simple as the absence of arrows and rays is obvious. Authentication, however, is necessary as, due to its high value, attempts have been made to pass altered 1858 quarters as 1853 no arrows. Spotting this alteration is straightforward as the date styles of the two issues are notably different; specifically, the 1853 has a slanted upright in the "5" and the 1858 does not. The 1853 No Arrows was the least reported of the Philadelphia mint issues in the 1993 LSCC survey with a total of 12 examples. That number increased to 20 in 2007. The grade profile of the 1853 No Arrows is very unusual for a seated coin. Due to the hoarding and exporting described above there may be more uncirculated examples than VF's. Ten of the 20 pieces reported in the 2007 survey were in AU or MS grades.

Reference 1: *Fractional Money: A History of the Small Coins and Fractional Paper Currency of the United States*. Neil Carothers (1930). John Wiley and Sons, Inc.

Images Courtesy of Heritage Archive



A Quantitative Measure of Liberty Seated Dime Information Access

by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

At the 2004 Pittsburg Summer ANA convention, I announced and released *The Definite Resource for Liberty Seated Dime Variety Collectors* as an online web-book. The decision to publish online rather than using a traditional soft or hardbound book format was never in question. Many factors drove the decision to take Seated dime variety collecting to the internet. Most obvious were cost considerations and the knowledge that variety information published via traditional means would be obsolete once books were printed. The downside for web usage is an ongoing visibility issue with collectors who still favor hardbound volumes in their numismatic library. Since 2004, the favorable comments for the www.seateddimevarieties.com website and usage by major dealers and auction houses have balanced the occasion exclusion by collectors when referencing traditional paper resources in numismatic articles.

Unknown to me during the Seated dime web-book's planning and release phase were secondary benefits for online publishing. I soon realized that an online reference can create an active collector community for increasing content. Once collectors studied and used the web-book as a basis for variety hunting, the new variety discovery rate increased and the web-book saw ongoing updates. After eight years of usage, I still hold a 10-15 coin backlog of new varieties to be photographed and indexed into the web-book. Variety specialists including Dr. Tim Cook, Jim Smith, Chris Majtyka, Sean Saughnessy and Dale Miller have contributed their discovery coins to the cause. During a recent LSCC regional meeting at the 2012 FUN show, Dick Osburn announced that he planned to build a similar website for documenting Liberty Seated dollar varieties acknowledging the ease of updating new information and instant publishing to collectors actively performing their own research.

Another online publishing benefit is Internet Service Provider (ISP) tools to monitor website access points. In my case, the ISP provides "Webstats" that can be checked periodically to determine the content that is most popular and conversely, the content that no one seems to care about. Therefore online publishing provides an important feedback loop for assessing collector interest points. By simply clicking a few ISP website links, a wealth of usage statistics about the web-book are immediately available. This type of feedback is unfeasible for traditional paper publishing without costly surveys. The balance of this article will discuss collector usage statistics for the www.seateddimevarieties.com website and web-book content. I hope that readers will enjoy sharing my insights about which links and content are collector favorites.

The first table illustrates user access for the primary website links over a two year tracking period. As frequent users of my website know, the content is not limited to Liberty Seated Dime varieties but also includes other important supporting information or collector community features. From the table, one immediately sees that access into the main varieties web-book content dominates usage. The third most popular topic is the Liberty Seated Collector Club links which guides viewers into the *E-Gobrecht* Archives. Many club members still access the *E-Gobrecht* Archives via my website out of habit rather than using the club website (www.lscweb.org). Close by in usage rates are the Pictorial Index and Seated Coinage Registry links. The Pictorial Index is a secondary access point into the main web-book content but through a picture interface. I believe most readers are familiar with my website's open registry after the May E-Gobrecht announcement concerning Dale Miller's completion of Ultimate and Top 100 Seated dime variety

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sets. The open registry will be examined in detail later. In tenth position is the PCGS Variety Set cross reference guide that I wrote once PCGS expanded their registry to include a large subset of important die varieties. I am pleasantly surprised that this link made the Top 10 rather than the link for the Seated dime contemporary counterfeits database.

Top WWW.SeatedDimeVarieties.Com Links

Link	Location	Access #	% Top 10
1. Date and Mintmark Varieties Analysis	TOC	7890	22.0%
2. Table of Contents	Homepage	7646	21.3%
3. Liberty Seated Collector Club	Homepage	3205	8.9%
4. Seated Dime Date Pictorial Index	Homepage	3067	8.5%
5. Seated Coinage Registry	Homepage	2928	8.2%
6. New Discoveries	Homepage	2492	6.9%
7. Recommended Numismatic Website	Homepage	2440	6.8%
8. Top 100 Varieties	Homepage	2245	6.3%
9. Top 100 Varieties Pricing	Homepage	2231	6.2%
10. PCGS Complete Variety Set Cross Reference Guide	Homepage	1769	4.9%

Moving deeper into the website and studying Seated dime web-book usage produced the following tables which quantifies the most popular dates and mintmarks based on individual chapter page access. Chapter pages contain the obverse and reverse die variety tables and rarity estimates. The statistics clearly show that the 1876 Carson City date is a top favorite among variety collectors. I am not surprised as the 1876-CC date has numerous popular varieties that can be discussed in a future article as I have statistics for each 1876-CC variety link. Next were four dates with similar popularity; 1838, 1841-O, 1839-O and 1877-CC. The 1877-CC was the only surprise as maybe someone is performing extensive die variety research beyond that published in the web-book. 1891 New Orleans dimes are popular due to the host of shattered and clashed dies. This is the primary date for cuds followed by 1853 With Arrows.

Top Date and Mintmark Varieties Analysis Links

Link	Access #	% Top 10
1. 1876-CC	1057	16.3%
2. 1838	731	11.3%
3. 1841-O	711	11.0%
4. 1839-O	684	10.6%
5. 1877-CC	676	10.4%
6. 1891-O	601	9.3%
7. 1875-S Below Wreath	526	8.1%
8. 1840-O No Drapery	508	7.9%
9. 1853 With Arrows	499	7.7%
10. 1875-CC In Wreath	476	7.4%

The next table investigates the popularity of the Top 100 Seated Dime varieties that were published in the *Gobrecht Journal* circa 2005. Many Seated dime specialist have consider this variety collecting ap-

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proach and use my website as an attribution guide. I was surprised to see the 1837 F-101c variety with pie shaped cracked obverse die and significant obverse/reverse clashing as the most retrieved link. This finding may be due to an imaging software application for die clashing study published by Don Bennett and Michael Fey in the April 2010 *E-Gobrecht* issue. Don and Michael selected the web-book's 1837 F-101c images as a demonstration vehicle and increased this variety's publicity. Following the 1837 variety, the grouping between second and fifth place is tight with well known and appreciated key date varieties. *E-Gobrecht* readers are welcomed to formulate their own observation and conclusions for the balance of listings.

Top 100 Varieties Links

Link	Access #	% Top 10
1. 1837 F-101c Large Date, Clashed Obverse and Reverse	580	11.6%
2. 1877-CC Type II F-105 1877/6 Overdate, Repunched Date	378	7.5%
3. 1887-S F-107 Shattered Reverse	345	6.9%
4. 1839 F-105b Pie Shaped Shatted Obverse	344	6.9%
5. 1839-O F-104a Repunched Large O Mintmark, Bisecting Reverse Die Cra	328	6.5%
6. 1839-O F-106a Cobweb Shattered Reverse	326	6.5%
7. 1841-O F-101 Transitional Large O Closed Bud Reverse	317	6.3%
8. 1839-O F-108 Polished Obverse, Huge O Reverse	315	6.3%
9. 1838 F-106 Cracked Obverse #1	311	6.2%
10. 1873 WA F-103 Double Die Obverse	302	6.0%
11. 1876-CC F-111 Misplaced 76 Digits	299	6.0%
12. 1876-CC F-107 Double Die Obverse, Greer Reverse B	298	5.9%
13. 1854-O F-102 Shattered Obverse	296	5.9%
14. 1840-O F-106 Medium O Reverse	291	5.8%
15. 1838-O F-101 Repunched Huge O	288	5.7%

We close out this article with a check of the Seated Coinage Registry. This website module was launched around 2006 as a parallel to the major TPG registry efforts. The major difference was the "open" approach which allowed participants to publish both raw and certified coins on a scout's honor basis. I've never considered annual awards..... Indeed, I was surprise to see the Seated Half Dime Business Strike with Varieties set being accessed more often than the Seated Dime Top 100 and Ultimate sets.

Top Seated Coinage Registry Links

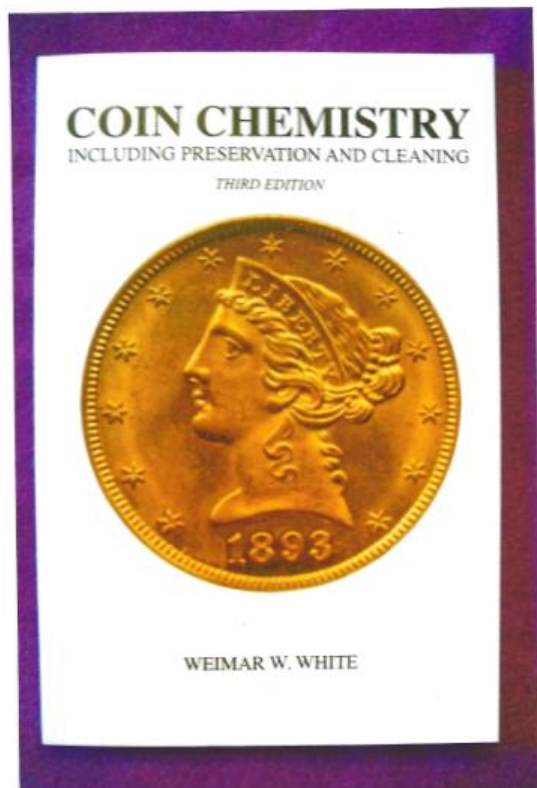
Link	Access #	% Top 10
1. Half Dime Business Strike with Varieties Sets	821	19.4%
2. Seated Dime Top 100 Varieties Sets	600	14.2%
3. Seated Dime Ultimate Varieties Sets	450	10.6%
4. Half Dime Business Strike Sets	409	9.6%
5. Seated Dime Business Strike Sets	369	8.7%
6. Seated Dime Carson City Sets	352	8.3%
7. Half Dime New Orleans Sets	332	7.8%
8. Seated Dime Business Strike with Varieties Sets	309	7.3%
9. Seated Quarter Business Strike Sets	309	7.3%
10. Seated Halves Business Strike Sets	288	6.8%

As Always.....Happy Variety Hunting!



3rd Edition of *Coin Chemistry* now on sale

by Weimar White, LSCC #660



My publisher is now selling the third edition of my book entitled *Coin Chemistry*. It has three additional articles in it. The 2nd edition was a best seller but this latest edition will be my last edition. It has a soft cover and a very attractive 1893-CC Gold Half Eagle pictured on the cover. The book I understand will sell for less than \$13. This would be a great addition to your library or a nice gift to present to your collector friends. My publisher is Dave Aultman and he can be reached at 1-585-924-4250, ext. 300.

[Editor's Comment: Weimar's book is very useful and should be in every collector's library. Among other items, he discusses techniques for safely removing harmful contaminants from a coin's surfaces. I can attest to the merits of these techniques as I have used them as detailed in the second edition to remove heavy, thick tarnish from some unattractive coins.]





My Story

by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016 and PVCC #775

Like many collectors when I was a kid my father brought home a few well worn Morgan dollars he got at the bank. One of them was dated 1879; it was soooo old! Seeing my interest, dad gave them to me and then began bringing home rolls of pennies from the bank for me to search through. My most cherished find was a 1914-D Lincoln Cent. I was off and running. This was in the early 1970s. By then, silver was seldom found in circulation. After I got a paper route I began making weekly trips downtown to the local coin shop. I was now an official coin hound. I looked at every coin that came my way. I wanted an 1878 Morgan Dollar badly because it was the first year of the series and I had just missed with the 1879 my dad gave me.

Unfortunately, there was no coin club in Waterbury at the time. There was no one to share my interest with or learn from, so I dutifully cleaned all my coins to make them shine. As I grew up the lack of coin camaraderie worked against me. I fell into bad company and beer money was more important than my collection. I ended up selling it for \$50. The dealer I had bought coins from for years told me the 1914-D Lincoln Cent I found in a roll was a fake. He told me to look at the second 1 in the date but I didn't know what to look for. Maybe it was a 1944-D made to look like a 1914-D. I don't know, but it left me with a sour taste in my mouth for years. I stayed away from Numismatics for thirty years.

I often regret the years away from numismatics but I have to remind myself that I would have lost everything in the divorce I went through back in the 1990s anyway. In 2005 I took my family on vacation to Colonial Williamsburg. In one of the museums we saw the Lasser Collection of Colonial coins. Included in this amazing collection were Willow Tree, Oak Tree, and Pine Tree shillings as well as a NE Shilling and two high grade Continental Dollars (1776). This was the spark that brought me back to numismatics. I started by buying a few coins off eBay, Morgan Dollars mostly, including that 1878 Morgan I wanted as a kid. I bought a *Red Book* and started reading it. I fell in love with the Liberty Seated Half Dollar design. I saw the mintage figures of the so called ultra-low mintages from 1879 to 1890 and became intrigued. It wasn't until later that I learned the ultra-low mintage years are pricey but attainable. There are other issues such as the 1870-CC Liberty Seated Half Dollar that is much harder to find.

Soon after getting started on Liberty Seated Half Dollars my wife saw the meeting announcement for the Pawcatuck Valley Coin Club. I went to a meeting and joined. For the first time I had people to share my passion with, people who had that very same passion. It wasn't long before I became an officer in the club. Finding volunteers to do the work of the club is always a struggle, so when a new members steps up its welcome. I've been involved with the club leadership ever since and I still enjoy it. I don't remember the details but somehow, I learned about the Liberty Seated Collectors Club. My education in Liberty Seated coinage really started in earnest after joining the LSCC. Now I also serve the LSCC membership as Northeast Regional Director. Between my two clubs I have meet so many good people and made lifelong friendships while enjoying the hobby I have always loved. If I had had a club like the PVCC when I was a kid I would have never given up numismatics and possibly avoided so much trouble as a teen. Clubs like the PVCC are the life blood of the hobby and a beacon of light for the dark times of youth. It's up to all of us to keep clubs like ours alive, not only to bolster our hobby but to do our part for the youth of today. We must keep local clubs like the PVCC shining that beacon of light for the future of society.



Help wanted with an 1853-O A& R Half Dollar

by Bill Bugert, LSCC #455

Randy Wiley and I wish to study an example of a specific 1853-O Arrows and Rays half dollar die marriage. Randy saw an example of this variety many years ago, scribed detailed notes, and passed on the coin hoping to find another in better condition. That has not happened. I need one for study and to photograph it for inclusion in my upcoming book *A Register of Liberty Seated Die Varieties, Volume IV, New Orleans Branch Mint, 1853-O to 1861-O*. I will include proper credit for the coin to the supplying collector. Please study your 1853-Os and see if the obverse and reverse die diagnostics match those below. If so, please respond to me at wb8cpy@earthlink.net. I will pay all costs to borrow the coin.

Obverse diagnostic



Nearly horizontal lines in the drapery below Liberty's elbow.

Note: this obverse die is paired with three reverse dies. I need the one paired with the reverse diagnostics as shown to the right.

Reverse diagnostics



No ray inside the mintmark (photo above).

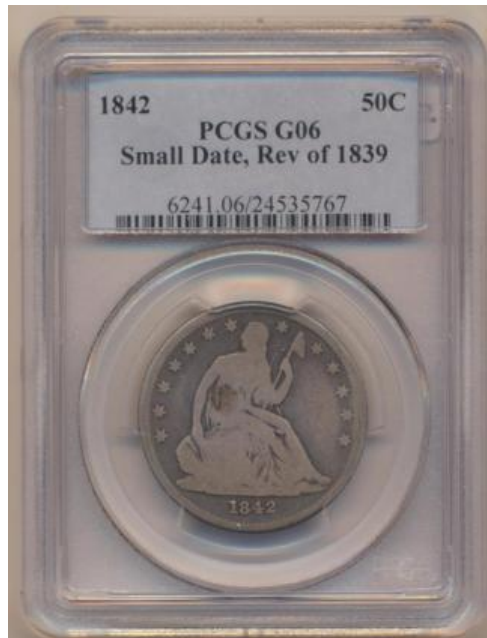


Die cracks thru arrowheads to (AMERIC)A and to the rim (as shown above)



4th 1842 SDSL Half Dollar discovered by Bill Bugert, LSCC #455

This is old news to many but worth repeating here (for additional information see the latest issues of *Coin World* [headlines—page 1] and *Numismatic News*). The fourth example of the rare 1842 small date small letter reverse half dollar was recently purchased by club member, numismatist, and dealer Rich Uhrich. Rich obtained the rare half dollar from another dealer and has posted information about the coin on his website at www.richuhrichcoins.com. This coin grades PCGS G06; images of the coin are shown below courtesy of Rich. Not to steal their thunder, complete information on the other three 1842 SDSL half dollars are included in the articles mentioned above. Questions or comments on this coin can be addressed to Rich at richuhrichcoins@comcast.net or at 1-717-533-2935.





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Dick Osburn Rare Coins specializes in early U.S. Silver coinage, particularly Liberty Seated and Bust material. Please visit our website

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Larry Briggs Rare Coins. New updated website with many photos—check us out at:
www.larrybriggsrcarecoins.com

David Kahn Rare Coins. Please check out my website—I have an easy to use website and list many original bust and seated coins with excellent photos.
www.davidkahnrarecoins.com

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.

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.

Dr. Eugene Bruder is constantly updating his website, www.typecoins.com, which features a nice selection of bust and seated material for sale. Pictures are generally available for all coins, and can be obtained if not posted. He will also take consignments for exposure at shows and the website. He attends most major shows, and will try to accommodate want lists. You can reach him at 530-894-0922 or email at: gene@typecoins.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/>

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Cuds, Cuds and more Cuds: I am interested in purchasing cuds, major die breaks, and shattered dies on Liberty Seated Quarters. Cuds on other U.S. series of interest too. Also wanted are major reverse rotations on all U.S. series. Please reply directly to Paul Kluth at pcmdmp@msn.com.

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.



Liberty Seated Collectors Club

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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 remain bargain priced at \$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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