



The E-Gobrecht

The Electronic Newsletter of the LIBERTY SEATED COLLECTORS CLUB

Liberty Seated Collectors Club

2012 Volume 8, Issue 9

September 2012 (Whole # 92)

Brian Greer into the LSCC Hall of Fame !

Well known and respected numismatic scholar, enthusiastic dealer, knowledgeable collector, long time club member, and all around great guy, Brian Greer officially became the fifth inductee into the LSCC Hall of Fame. After intense competition of nine nominations by the club members, Brian won the most voting points of the HoF Committee. Citing his "significant accomplishments in numismatic literary excellence, numismatic research, and reference set building of Liberty Seated dimes," Brian Greer joins the previous inductees John McCloskey, Kam Ahwash, Al Blythe, and Randy Wiley.

Brian personally accepted his HoF plaque at the club's annual meeting on August 9th in Philadelphia. Please extend a hearty congratulations to Brian for this significant milestone.



Brian Greer (left) accepts congratulations for joining the LSCC Hall of Fame from President and previous HoF inductee, John McCloskey.

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The *E-Gobrecht* is an award winning informal electronic publication of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club (LSCC). The LSCC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the attributions of the Liberty Seated Coin series. The LSCC provides the information contained in this email newsletter from various sources free of charge as a general service to the membership and others with this numismatic interest. You do not have to be a LSCC member to benefit from this newsletter; subscription to the *E-Gobrecht* is available to anyone. All disclaimers are in effect as the completeness and/or accuracy of the information contained herein cannot be completely verified. Contact information is included at on the last page.



Auction News

by Jim Gray, LSCC #664

The Heritage sale and Platinum Night and the seven catalogue Stack's Bowers ANA Sale contained so many relevant coins that if all were reported, auction news would read like War and

Peace.

The **Heritage** sale contained the following coins. An 1838-O half dime V-2 in MS64 soared to \$11,750. Three mint state 1844-O in MS61, MS62, and MS64 went for \$6,463, \$7,344 and no sell. A deeply toned MS63 1846 rang the bell for \$38,188. A lovely 1843-O dime graded XF45 did not sell and 1845-O pair in XF 45 and XF 40 hit \$999 and \$1,293. Three 1846 examples XF45, AU50, and AU55 were offered with only the first selling for \$3,033. A magnificent MS65 CAC 1859-S went for \$88,125. There were three 1860-O coins graded XF 40, XF45, and AU 50 with only the second selling for \$3,069. An AU 53 1873-CC did not sell but an 1874-CC in AU 55 realized \$32,900. An AU53 1849-O quarter with mottled toning sold for \$8,049 while an AU55 1852-O with a weak strike on the head and stars did not sell nor did a 1860-S graded VF25. An 1864-S graded XF40 realized \$4,113 while a MS64 with irregular toning did not sell. A beautifully toned 1839 ND half dollar with a very weakly struck reverse was graded MS65 and sold for an amazing \$152,750. An 1844-O double date graded AU55 was worth \$5,581 and a rainbow toned 1852-O was sold for \$5,875. An 1857-S MS61 with streaky toning and an 1870-CC with AU details, but looked like it had been in a fire, eked out \$4994. As of August 1, both Heritage and Stack's Bowers began charging a 17.5% buyers fee for all coins that are sold.

The **Stack's Bowers** ANA and Rarities Night sales contained a large number of scarce and rare Seated coins but most of them did not sell. An 1838-O half dime in AU55 sold for \$3,055 and an 1844-O in the same grade went for \$2,215. An 1859-S quarter sold for \$2,070 in a VF35 holder and a F12 1872-CC hit \$3,525. A splendid AU50 1855-S half was worth \$5,784 and an 1873-CC NA sold for \$4,025.

Sixteen desirable coins did not sell.

Rarities Night featured a blue toned MS65 1844 dime for \$32,200 while a nicely toned AU58 1859-S hammered for \$18,800, a nice advance over the \$7,188 it sold for in my sale in 2004. An 1871-CC in AU50 hammered for \$16,100 and an 1874-CC in the same grade garnered \$27,715. Another 1874-CC, with XF details and surface damage, sold for \$11,500. A newly discovered 1853-O No Arrows half graded PCGS VG8, the fourth known, rang the bell for \$218,500. A nice 1870-CC half in XF40 hit \$9,234. Two 1871-CC dollars graded AU55 sold for \$19,550 and \$16,100 with the latter selling for \$18,400 in my sale. An 1872-CC, also in AU55, hammered for \$11,212. Thirteen coins did not sell. One was a MS62 1871-CC dime that sold for \$71,875 in my sale and has not sold in four later auctions. Perhaps the owner paid too much for it. Other coins that did not sell were two MS63 1856-S dimes and the finest graded (MS62) 1842-O small date half.

The **Battle Born** complete collection of Carson City coins was the finest set ever compiled and I am keeping the catalogue because I doubt if another set of the same quality will ever be sold. The owner was so confident that the coins would bring huge prices that all the coins were auctioned with no reserve. He was correct. An 1878-CC Trade Dollar graded MS64 sold for \$69,000. 1871, 1872, and 1873 dollars realized \$69,000, \$80,500 and \$63,500 in grades of MS61, MS64+, and AU58. A beautiful 1870-CC half graded MS62 soared to \$109,250. Other results were 1871 MS 64-\$80,500, 1872 MS63 \$54,625, 1873NA MS64 \$40,250, 1874 MS64 \$34,500 and 1878 MS65 \$40,250. An 1870 quarter graded AU55 sold for an incredible \$184,000 and a MS65 1871 rang the bell for \$345,000. A MS62 1872 \$74,750, 1873NA MS64 (five known) \$460,000, 1873-MS64 \$126,500, 1876 20cents M 64 \$460,000. 1871 dime MS63 \$97,750, 1872 MS63 \$184,000, 1873NA (unique) MS65 \$1,841,000, more that double the \$891,250 it realized in 2004. 1873 MS63 \$276,000, 1874 MS62-\$115,000. WOW!



Len Augsburger wins LSCC Ahwash Award

Although reported to club members in a January 2012 postal mailer from the LSCC President, this is old news but worthy of being reported here again. Len Augsburger officially received his 2011 Ahwash Award Plaque at the annual LSCC meeting on August 9, 2012 at the ANA's Philadelphia World's Fair of Money.

The Ahwash Award is given annually for the best article to appear in the *Gobrecht Journal* during the past year. Len won this award by popular vote of club members. His article, entitled "Eugene H. Gardner: Liberty Seated Collections of a Lifetime," details the personal life and numismatic life of prominent Liberty Seated scholar Gene Gardner.

Please extend your congratulations to Len and to ...Gene. Congratulations, Gentlemen!



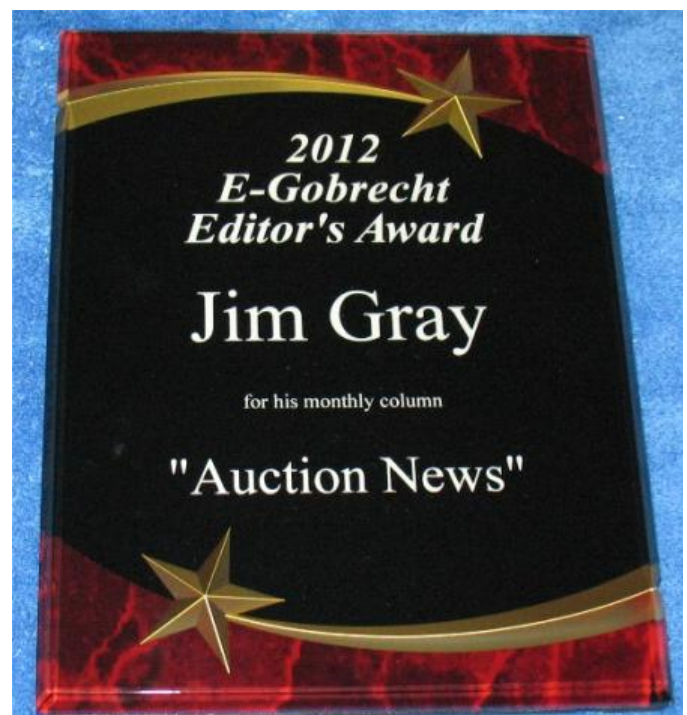
Len Augsburger (left) speaking after receiving the 2011 Ahwash Award from President John McCloskey.

Jim Gray receives E-G Editor's Award

Continuing a tradition started in 2011, the *E-Gobrecht* Editor's Award is presented annually at the LSCC ANA meeting for significant contributions to the LSCC electronic newsletter, *The E-Gobrecht*.

This year's award was presented to Jim Gray, who tirelessly analyzes monthly Liberty Seated auction results and reports them in his monthly *E-Gobrecht* column, "Auction News." Jim, a long time club member who amassed a tremendous collection of Liberty Seated coinage, auctioned his coins in 2004. Since then, his passion for Liberty Seated coinage has not abated and, as he says, "I enjoy looking at nice seated coins and it is a pleasure to write about them."

Jim was unable to attend the LSCC annual meeting and receive his plaque personally. He reports: "I received the plaque and have it mounted on the wall with my three Ahwash awards and the Literary award. Thank you for presenting it to me. Auction News is a labor of love and I enjoy writing it each month." An image of his plaque is depicted below.





Regional News

by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

The Philadelphia 2012 ANA convention and LSCC annual meeting were most memorable events for this seasoned collector. After not attending a major show since winter FUN, it was a pleasure to socialize with

LSCC club friends for several days. John Frost did another masterful job with the LSCC club table which facilitated an LSCC club member meeting point. I remember Carl Feldman, Craig Eberhart, Greg Johnson, Darrell Low, Len Augsburger, Dick Osburn, Harry Salyards, and Richard Shimkus stopping by at separate times or simply hanging and reviewing their latest purchases. Darrell Low provided considerable insight about a recent CAC review process for his Liberty Seated quarter and dime collection. His learnings and new found insight are worthy of a separate *Gobrecht Journal* or *E-Gobrecht* article.

Our LSCC annual meeting was well attended and I'm sure Bill Bugert will include numerous pictures in this *E-Gobrecht* issue. Congratulations are extended to Brian Greer on his selection as the 2012 Hall of Fame inductee. Brian contributions to the hobby and his personal integrity are a model for all LSCC members.

Late August and September LSCC Regional Meeting Events

Central regional director Steve Petty is hosting a Midwestern LSCC regional meeting on August 31 at the CONA, Ohio State Coin Show in Dublin, Ohio. The meeting is set for 9 AM in Room 183. Steve will provide a preview of his 1870-CC seated dollar research that will be published in an upcoming *Gobrecht Journal* issue. John McCloskey, LSCC President, cited Steve's detailed research at the LSCC annual meeting.

On September 6, Western regional director

Craig Eberhart will host a regional meeting at the Long Beach Stamps and Collectibles Expo. The meeting is scheduled for 9 AM in Room 102a. Craig was kind enough to forward the following preview, *"At the upcoming western regional meeting of the LSCC, I will be giving a presentation on collecting Carson City seated coins that has been prepared by Darrell Low. I will also discuss the recent sale of the Battle Born Collection which was sold at this year's annual ANA auction in Philadelphia. This collection was completed for an anonymous collector by Rusty Goe, a dealer from Reno Nevada who is the recognized authority on the Carson City mint and its coinage. This collection was complete with 111 different coins many of which were the finest known including the unique 1873-CC no arrows dime."*

The week following the Long Beach show, the LSCC is back on the East Coast at the New Hampshire Coin and Currency Expo being held in Manchester, NH. John Frost and Dennis Fortier, Northeast regional director, will host a regional meeting on September 14 at 2 PM; please note the afternoon meeting time! At the meeting, well known Liberty Seated half dime researcher Steve Crain will be doing a presentation on Half Dimes and Varieties. Attendees will be in for a treat as Steve will also be exhibiting his complete collection with many early die states of numerous varieties at the show. Other seated rarities will be on display at the club table on the bourse floor on Friday and Saturday.

I do wish to express a sincere thank you to the regional directors and to John Frost for their ongoing efforts to promote the LSCC through educational regional meeting programs. Conducting a regional meeting and hosting club tables requires a significant amount of personal time and effort.



The Curious Collector

by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

ANA Recap

As most of you are aware, this year's festival of coin-dom took place in Philadelphia the week of August 6th. For the true die-hards, the pre-show and early auction activities kicked off the weekend before. On my flight home I ran into John Dannreuther in the airport, who had been there for the entire duration and was ready to go home. Conversely, I got there late and wished I could have stayed longer. Such will not be the case in the near future, as the show moves to Rosemont, IL, my backyard, for the next three years. The ANA's choice of venue has been much discussed, but, like it or not, future show attendees will be rather familiar with the Rosemont area by the time it's all done. The latest Executive Director in the ANA turnstile has indicated a willingness to move out of Chicago - here's hoping they can keep the show fresh one way or another.

I arrived very late Monday night after working all day, a bit of poor planning on my part - if you want the weekend off at the office, it's a lot better to tell everyone your vacation starts on Monday, not Tuesday. I had a lot going on at work and was trying to maximize office time, a plan which worked a little bit too well. Tuesday I had a research pow-wow with Scott Rubin, whose house boasts a numismatic-literature-to-empty-space ratio of about 1792 to 1. He was offering a personal tour on Wednesday, sadly I could not attend. After lunch, I attempted to spend a great quantity of money in the Stack's auction on a strong offering of Comitia Americana medals, and without success. A gorgeous Washington Before Boston medal went to a prominent LSCC member, but I had no luck on the de Fluery and Greene pieces, both quite rare in the series. A few of the prices were quite strong, 2x-3x what the same pieces brought in the Ford sales less than 10 years ago. Who says there are not hot seg-

ments of the market? Tuesday night dinner occurred at the Morris House with a few friends from the NBS (Numismatic Bibliomania Society) crowd.

Wednesday I was camped out at Rich Uhrich's table all day, showing lots of coins, selling a few, and talking to a lot LSCC members who stopped by to check out the inventory. Half of the fun of this job is examining the offering of people walking the floor and selling coins. A lot of dealers won't take table space at a show, but instead lug their coins from one bourse table to the next and do their business. Relationships develop over time, they learn which dealers like which coins, and which dealers aren't a good fit for what they are dealing in. Of course, anything Rich passes on I get "first shot" (that is, if you call "first shot" looking at a box of coins that probably a lot of dealers have seen already). I saw one keeper this time, a gorgeous AU seated quarter. Sad to say the price was too high (\$700 for a common date) and the deal was not done. I did make one purchase which walked up to the table, a copy of the 1969 Mint dedication ceremony program, signed by Mint Director Eva Adams. Wednesday night a few LSCC folks were invited to a cookout at a member's house in New Jersey, a nice break from the usual convention food fare.

Thursday is club meeting day the ANA, and you can do nothing but attend meetings all day if you wish. The LSCC Annual Meeting kicked off at 9 AM. The highlight of the meeting was Brian Greer's induction to the ANA Hall of Fame. Brian is what I call a "multiplier" - quite a few of us started off buying coins from Brian, learning what was good and what wasn't, and went on to make our own contributions to the LSCC. I've since upgraded quite a lot of my seated quarter collection, but there are still a number from Brian which I will not let go of, even if they are duplicates. Some are not even

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Quarter of the Month

by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

Earlier this month, I took three vacation days and drove across the state of Pennsylvania to attend the ANA convention in Philadelphia, including the meeting of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club (LSCC). Both the convention and the meeting have been described elsewhere. At least one person commenting on the convention described those of us who attend shows on weekdays (in my case Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) as “diehards.” My only comment for those of you who have not done so is that, if you can find a way to manage it, attending an ANA, a FUN show, or a Baltimore Whitman show is a great experience which I always find worth the travel and the vacation time. This year two of the highlights were the LSCC meeting and the opportunity to view the Battle Born Collection.

The LSCC meeting, already recapped in this newsletter, included an informal discussion of the Top 25 Liberty Seated Quarter varieties (*Gobrecht Journal* Issue #111) and plans to survey club members regarding the coins in their possession during 2013. This topic is, obviously, of great interest to me and as I walked into Stack’s lot viewing while still thinking about the upcoming survey I began contemplating the term “uncollectible” as it may, or may not, relate to seated quarter varieties. The Battle Born collection included two Liberty Seated coins that one could consider uncollectible, the unique 1873-CC no arrows dime and the 1873-CC no arrows quarter (only five known examples). Does this idea extend to varieties? Clearly the sort of demand that pushed prices for these two coins to \$1,880,000 and \$470,000, respectively, does not exist for relatively esoteric quarter varieties. So are excessively rare varieties collectible?

The Top 25 list was formulated so that it could be a collecting objective. Though some rare varieties are included, no varieties with fewer than

10 examples known are in the set. In fact, a number of interesting varieties made the short list of coins to be included in the Top 25, but ended up excluded precisely because they are so rare as to be “uncollectible”, or at least to make the set too difficult for many collectors to pursue. There are four such coins that I hope to include in the 2013 survey: 1854 thin date (Briggs 1-A), 1856 with flag of 5 in shield (Briggs 9-G), 1857-O with 8 in denticles (Briggs 7-C), and 1858-S with far left mintmark (unlisted in Briggs).

Rather than compose an excessively long and detailed article, I will discuss and picture one coin per month in a four part series beginning this month with the 1854 thin date. At the time *The Comprehensive Encyclopedia of Liberty Seated Quarters* (Larry Briggs, 1991) was published, this variety was represented by only two known examples, the first discovered in 1988 by Harry Smith. Very few additional examples have been found since, though to be fair it is unclear how many people have actually looked for them. Counting the two mentioned by Briggs, I have been able to confirm only five distinct examples to date.

Attribution of the 1854 thin date is challenging. Though the date is indeed thinner than those on other obverse dies, both die states and wear of the coins themselves makes the relative “thickness” or “thinness” of the date unreliable as an attribution key. Date position is not useful either, as all known dies have approximately the same date position. The key to attribution of the thin date obverse is the *lack* of a small spur hanging down from the left base of the one (See Figure 1). The date punch used to prepare the thin date obverse die is unique amongst the known date punches used for the 1854; it is the only one that does not have the spur. Using the absence of a feature for attribution is problematic for obvious reasons, but the presence of the spur shown in Figure 1 does rule out the possibility that the coin in ques-

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Figure 1. 1854 25¢ Thin Date

tion is the thin date.

Fortunately, both obverse and reverse have notable die cracks that aid in attribution of the thin date variety. The obverse (Figure 2) has a die crack



Figure 2. 1854 25¢ Thin Date, obverse die crack

that runs through the left arrow, the left edge of the rock, and nearly to star 1. Earlier die states have the portion of the illustrated crack between the rock and



Figure 3. 1854 25¢ Thin Date, reverse die crack

star 1, with the lower portion of the crack extending through the left arrow developing in later die states. The reverse also has several die cracks and chips, with the earliest and most obvious running from the top of the "D" in UNITED along the tops of the letters and down through the tip of the left wing as shown in Figure 3.

Images courtesy of Heritage and John Wragg.



(Continued from page 5)

that valuable, but extraordinary for what they are - an AU 1862 quarter Brian called "stone original" and he was right. Our LSCC meeting also featured the ever entertaining Brad Karoleff, who we have engaged to call the club auction the last couple years. For those of you who haven't seen Brad in action, I highly recommend a trip to the ANA next year. Just don't twitch, or he will call it a bid! Later on Thursday, I had a book signing sponsored by the ANA. I don't usually flog my book this space, but if the Editor will indulge me, I will make mention of *Secret History of the First U.S. Mint*, [Editor: excellent book and worthy of everyone's library.] published by Whitman last year, available online and via the numismatic booksellers which you will find at the larger shows.

Thursday night was the high point of the ANA week, with the sale of the Battle Born collection, a complete Carson City set, the first such offering since the Eliasberg collection sold in 1996 and 1997. The room was overflowing, and the atmosphere electric as expected. The prices realized totaled about \$10M, or an average of nearly \$100K for every coin! I won't get into the prices too much as they will be covered elsewhere in this issue. I was pleased to see that an LSCC member was successful in acquiring not one, but all four of the early Carson City quarter dates (the 1873-CC NA was already in his collection). The Uncirculated 1871-CC in particular surprised me, going strong at about \$300K. I will never forget, about ten years ago, the late Jim O'Donnell imploring me to go after the unc 1871-CC at the ANR Kenneywood sale - the coin went for \$80K, way over my head at the time. Sometimes you have to trust your dealer and stretch - especially if they have a good track record, and Jim certainly did. The feel of \$10M moving around the room seemed to leave some opportunities available in the subsequent "Rarities" section of the Stack's sale. Dealer Rich Uhrich was successful in acquiring the fourth known (and recently discovered) 1853-O NA 50c, which David Hall of PCGS later called out as an attractive value coming out of the auction.

Friday brought more club meetings, and a

useful Numismatic Theatre presentation on the Gobrecht dollar emission sequence, conducted by Craig Sholley, Saul Teichman, and John Dannreuther. The donation of the Korein collection (about one hundred Gobrecht dollars, a sizable percentage of the complete population) to the American Numismatic Society has enabled more careful study of these pieces. I'm not convinced the technical evidence and documentary records are completely synchronized, but when John puts his mind to studying die characteristics, there is no possible way that you will come away with LESS knowledge. The audience called for a book on the subject, to which the presenters demurred; however, it is expected that additional findings will make their way into one or more articles. As a fellow author said to me - books are like kids, once you have one, the decision to have another is made with great consideration. Later, Friday afternoon, I finally got my first chance to visit the LSCC club table, where John Frost had an array of goodies on exhibit for everyone to peruse. I had a box of coins I shared with those present, and a few passers-by showed some nice coins as well. Friday night Rich Uhrich hosted his table assistants as the nearby Maggiano's, a tradition started last year which I hope continues for a long while.

Saturday morning I attended the Rittenhouse Society breakfast, an organization dedicated to numismatic research, founded by Dave Bowers and others over a half century ago. This is always a nice opportunity to network with other researchers, find out who is working on what, and form connections for later collaboration. From there it was off the airport, and I still had not gotten through all the exhibits or even completely walked the show floor. Next year my vacation will have to start on Monday!



The 40th Anniversary LSCC Medal Program

by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016



Photos of one of the two LSCC 40th Anniversary medal Proof silver “Trial Strikes”

Club members had their first opportunity to handle the first strike copper and silver proof medals at the Philadelphia ANA Worlds Fair of Money. In short, they were a big hit. All the feedback we heard supported this program and the medal will be popular with the membership.

Of the two Silver Proof “Trial Strikes” that were produced (see photos above), one was sold at the LSCC benefit auction at the annual meeting. In spirited bidding egged on by auctioneer, Brad Karoleff, this medal brought \$700 to a lucky club member who, later that afternoon, submitted it NGC for encapsulation. The two silver proof trial strikes have been stamped “TS” on the edge and no others will be struck as such. The second of the two silver trial strikes will be auctioned at the 2013 LSCC annual meeting in Rosemont, IL.

We will have the 40th Anniversary copper trial strikes for display at all fall Regional meetings. They look great.

Orders for the 40th Anniversary Medals are being accepted until November 30, 2012. Len Augsburger’s contact information for ordering the medals can be found on the last page of this *E-Gobrecht*. He reports that the orders are coming in for all three types of the medal: silver satin, silver proof, and gold proof. Remember the gold is for LSCC members only. The member’s LSCC membership number will be stamped into the edge of the gold medal. Several members asked about having their name stamped into the edge of the gold medals as well. We are exploring this option with the minter at this time. Just inform Len Augsburger of your wish to have your name on the medal. If it is possible to do we will do so.



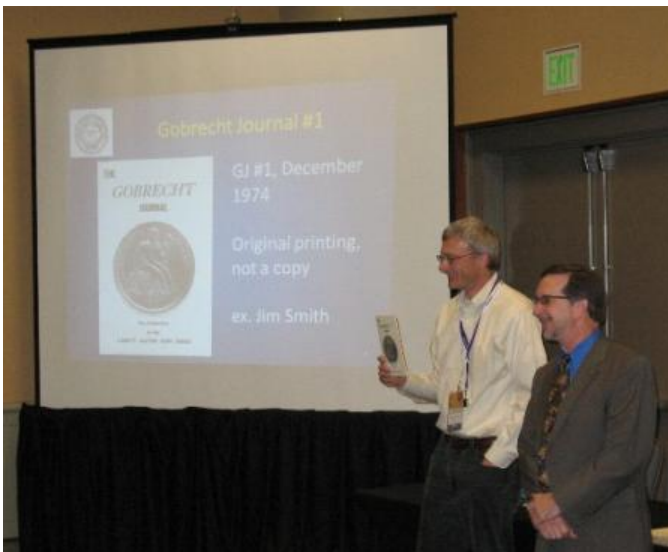
Photos from the 2012 LSCC Annual Event



Robert DeBold "signing in" Shirley Hammond's famous attendance book



The meeting was well attended with over 45 members and guests.



Len Augsburger and Brad Karoleff getting a good price at the club benefit auction for an original copy of *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #1.



2012-2013 LSCC Elected Officers:
President John McCloskey (left)
Vice President Bill Bugert (middle)
Secretary/Treasurer Len Augsburger (right)



Norma and John McCloskey enjoying the auction.



Craig Eberhart (l) and Carl Feldman staff the club table; missing from photo is John Frost who organized it and continually manned the table. John is a real LSCC trooper and a tremendous Ambassador for the club.



Notes from the 2012 LSCC Annual Meeting at the ANA World's Fair of Money

LSCC President, John McCloskey, called the 2012 Annual LSCC meeting to order in Philadelphia, PA at 9 AM on Thursday, August 9, 2012. After a brief introduction and recap of John and Norma McCloskey's recent health challenges, club Secretary/Treasurer, Len Augsburger, provided an update of the Club's 2011-2012 Finances:

2011 Starting Balance: \$14,526.49
 2011-2012 Income: \$14,161.77
 2011-2012 Expenses: \$13,942.31
 2012 Ending Balance: \$14,745.95

Income		Expenses	
Dues	\$11,220.00	Printing	\$6,926.65
Donations	\$ 1,185.00	Postage	\$3,855.77
Ads	\$ 120.00	Supplies	\$ 561.89
Back GJs	\$ 10.00	PO Box	\$ 86.00
Interest	\$ 21.77	Bank Fees	\$ 20.00
Auction	<u>\$1,605.00</u>	Exhibits	\$ 992.00
		Medal Engraving	<u>\$1,500.00</u>
Total	\$14,161.77		\$13,942.31

[Editor's note: I added in the \$1,605 auction results as the auction took place after this report was presented at the meeting.]

So stated, the LSCC is in excellent fiscal condition and dues were set again at \$20 for the next year.

Dennis Fortier then educated the audience with an update on the 40th Anniversary medal program. Details have been presented in previous issues of the *E-Gobrecht*, postal mailers were sent to all current club members, and an abbreviated update is in this issue as well.

E-Gobrecht editor, Bill Bugert, announced the award of the Editor's award to Jim Gray, author of the column "Auction News." More information is contained on page 3 of this issue. Congratulations, Jim!

While on the floor, Bill Bugert provided an update of his work on documenting the die marriages of Liberty Seated half dollars. An interesting bit of

trivial is the number of known die marriages for Branch Mint Liberty Seated half dollar. Guesses were sought out on the bourse floor in the days leading up to the club meeting with most guesses well off. The actual number is 745. The Philadelphia Mint die marriages will likely well eclipse that number.

President John McCloskey then presented Len Augsburger with the coveted Ahwash Award for 2011. More information is contained on page 3 of this issue. Congratulations, Len!

John then provided an update on the status of the *Gobrecht Journal Collective Volume #6* (work is progressing slowly with some printer technical difficulties), call for a Liberty Seated variety pricing guide (see more info elsewhere in this issue), call for more personal interest stories and articles for the *Gobrecht Journal*, and the need for and call for a volunteer to be the LSCC Historian (see info elsewhere in this issue).

The highlight of the meeting was the induction of Brian Greer into the LSCC Hall of Fame. See the cover page for more information.

Brad Karoleff conducted an very entertaining and profitable club benefit auction. His masterful extraction of funds from attendees was very laughable and we look forward to it every year. Here are the results:

1. *Gobrecht Journal* #1 - \$225
2. Counterstamped half - \$150
3. Al Blythe's Half Dimes book - \$100
4. 1967 HNS medal - \$130
5. 1975 ANA catalog - Jason Feldman - \$50
6. Seated Quarter holders - Jason Feldman - \$250
7. 40th Anniversary Club medal, silver test strike, #1 of 2 - \$700

Thanks to the auction lot contributors, Craig Eberhart, Rich Uhrich, Len Augsburger, Jim Smith, and Bill Bugert.

A good time was had by all; we adjourned at 10:15.



A Variety Collector's "Wow" Coin from the 2012 Philadelphia ANA: 1853 With Arrows F-107 Repunched Date by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

I truly enjoyed the Philadelphia 2012 ANA show. Besides the LSCC camaraderie and the historical Battle Born Collection auction event including the 1873-CC No Arrows dime, I did purchase a "Wow" seated dime at the show. Maybe it is a personal idiosyncrasy, but whenever a really special seated dime is viewed, the term "Wow" will be naturally forthcoming. This was the case during the dealer's only morning of August 9 when I happened to visit with Dr. Eugene Bruder. Over the years, I've bought several memorable seated dimes from Gene and that morning he flipped on the display case a noteworthy 1853 With Arrows F-107 repunched date dime encased within an NGC UNC Details, Cleaned holder.



As seen in the above images, the dime (now removed from NGC holder) has a hammered strike and proof like fields with the original die striations fully visible under a 10x loupe. Gene and I speculated that this dime was a "first strike" from a new set of polished dies and enjoyed seeing so many diagnostic points for the repunched date variety. After a brief round of friendly negotiations, I purchased the dime as a new F-107 web-book plate coin. Upon completing the purchase, I wandered over and visited with NGC's David Lange to secure his assessment for the NGC details grade. David studied the dime with his first question being, "Are these the 1853 WA proof dies?" which was an affirmation of mine and Gene's assessment of a first strike. David went on to explain that NGC probably details graded the dime due to less than adequate luster that could result from being over dipped. David did agree that the dime was one of the first strikes from newly basined dies.

Upon returning to Maine, I promptly imaged the dime with the repunched date attributes being collected and updated in the Seated dime web-book. The first set of images illustrates in precise detail the date

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digit repunching. Until purchasing this dime, the 1 digit repunching has never been photographed with such clarity. Repunching is obvious at the bottom right of each digit but traces of repunching are revealed at the top right of the 1 and 5 digits. The second image of the right arrow highlights a die defect type pimple on the fresh obverse die which was unknown to me.



Repunching on 18 Digits

Repunching on 53 Digits



Die defect on right arrow

In the Liberty Seated dime varieties guidebook at www.seateddimevarieties.com, I had previously listed only two die states for the F-107 repunched date. The F-107 listing originally included the early and later die states with strong and eroded repunching on the date digits. The F-107a listing features a massive reverse cud which should be a separately listed die state. After purchasing the “first strike” variety example, it was decided to record three die states for the Top 100 Varieties F-107 listing. They are;

F-107 – Early die state with bold repunching on ALL die digits; reverse die is perfect. Definite bragging rights if die polish lines are visible on the obverse and reverse.....

F-107a – Interim die states with eroded repunching details on the date digits and reverse die cracks now visible. In this die state, repunching is visible only on the 853 or 53 digits.

F-107b – Terminal die state with massive reverse cud at 2:00-3:00.

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For those readers who may have not explored the Seated dime varieties web-book, following are images from the F-107b terminal die state. There are traces of repunching at the right of the 53 digits while the reverse die cud is simply spectacular in the eyes of a passionate varieties collector.



Medium Level Date - DR -1B0

Left Arrow - DR -1B0



Die cud at 2:00 - 3:00

As Always...Happy Hunting!



LSCC Historian Wanted!

- 40th Anniversary of the LSCC is next year.
- Volunteer help wanted!
- We need someone to document the history of the LSCC before it is lost forever.
- You make the job. Possibilities include:
 - Interviewing long time members
 - Gather and search club records
 - Document the club's past history, people, awards, and events.
 - Chronicle future major events.
- Interested? Please email LSCC VP Bill Bugert at wb8cpy@earthlink.net.

Variety Pricing Guide Feedback Wanted!

Recently, various club members have expressed their desire and need for a Liberty Seated variety pricing guide. In a gross simplification, "prices" for all denominations with major and minor varieties would be available in various grades to aid buyers and sellers. On behalf of the idea originators, John McCloskey presented this idea at the LSCC annual meeting.

Some discussions were heard after the meet-

ing including the depth of information wanted, listed grades, listed varieties, available media for the data, dealer versus collector implications, and workload requirements.

The club officers are seeking your feedback on this idea and request that you email your thoughts to the *E-Gobrecht* editor at wb8cpy@earthlink.net. Results will be published in a future issue of the *E-Gobrecht*.

Reflections on Carson City Activities at the ANA by Bill Bugert, LSCC #455

Any collector of Liberty Seated coinage, specifically Carson City coinage, would have loved this year's ANA. The CC buzz was in the air from the very beginning of the World's Fair of Money. The thrill and anticipation of the upcoming Sale of the Battle Born Collection of Carson City Coins was felt by many.

For those of you who missed the annual meeting of LSCC's sister club on Thursday afternoon just hours before the sale, the Carson City Coin Collectors of America, Rusty Goe, C4OA President and Founder, treated us to a very inspiring, educational, and motivating look at the who, what, when, and why of the CC Branch Mint and collecting Carson City coins. I wish I had the wherewithal to record his speech. Rusty spent countless hours researching and writing lot descriptions for the sale and the catalog is one to cherish and to constantly

refer.

I arrived a good hour and half before the auction to secure a good seat. This sale was history in the making. Already, fellow C4OA members were present and the excitement in the air was obvious: this was the sale of a complete collection of Carson City coins, only the second occasion in history. I sat with friends Rich Uhrich, Len Augsburg, and Gerry Fortin with Gene Gardner, Bill Nagel, and Tony Terranova in the seats directly behind. After Rusty read a welcoming letter from the Governor of Nevada, the lots came and went quickly with results reported elsewhere in this issue.

I was honored to have attended this Sale and witnessed history; afterwards, I am still enjoying the lot descriptions. Thanks Rusty!



Rarities Night Auction Observations

by Rich Uhrich, LSCC #968

Here are my Rarities Night observations - Liberty Seated coins only (all prices will be hammer prices): There were actually two coins with CC mintmarks missing in the Battle Born collection: the 1875-S/CC Trade dollar and the 1900-O/CC Morgan dollar.

Battle Born Collection Auction:

I thought the 1871-CC dollar PCGS MS-61 was a bargain at \$60,000. Same with the 1873-CC dollar PCGS AU-58 at \$55,000.

The 1870-CC half in NGC MS-62, which sold at Dick Osburn's sale at \$150,000, sold this time for \$95,000 after starting at a ridiculous opening bid of \$4,250. I was bidding on it but I stopped at \$85,000. I thought the 1871-CC half in PCGS MS64, the highest coin graded by either service by 2 points, was a bargain at \$70,000. The 1873-CC No Arrows half dollar in PCGS MS64 CAC was an outstanding coin, and a nice bargain at \$35,000. The 1874-CC half dollar in NGC MS64 sold for \$50,000 at the Dick Osburn sale and \$30,000 at this sale.

The 1870-CC quarter in PCGS AU55 CAC is a great coin without the corrosion that plagues many of the early CC silver issues. It sold for \$160,000, a bit more than I expected, but with only one Unc. and one other AU-55, where are you going to find another one? The 1871-CC quarter in PCGS MS65 CAC is a wonderful coin, tied for the finest of only 3 known Unc. specimens, that sold for a high price of \$300,000. The 1872-CC quarter in PCGS MS62 is one of only two known in Unc. (the other is NGC MS-66) and it sold for \$65,000, a screaming bargain. Congratulations to the collector who purchased this great coin! The 1873-CC No Arrows quarter in PCGS MS64 is one of the only three CC silver issues I have not owned. There are only 5 known, an NGC MS66, this coin, a PCGS MS63, an NGC XF40, and a F-VF with rough surfaces. This coin sold for \$400,000, which is a low price given the rarity and attention given this coin. Also, it sold for the same

price as the 1876-CC twenty cent piece, an issue with about twenty coins known. Why a noted Liberty Seated coin with 5 known sells for the same price as another Seated coin in the same grade with 20 known, is puzzling to me. In any case, congratulations to the happy collector who bought it! The 1873-CC With Arrows quarter in PCGS MS64 CAC, one of only two known Uncs. (NGC MS65), sold for \$110,000, a decent bargain.

The 1876-CC twenty cent piece in PCGS MS64 CAC is a great coin, and sold for about what it should have.

The 1871-CC dime in PCGS MS63 is a very attractive coin, is the second finest of four known Uncs. and sold for \$85,000, which I believe is a bargain. The 1872-CC dime in PCGS MS63 is the finest known coin and apparently the only Unc. coin known. As such, I am not surprised at its \$160,000 price. Congratulations to the collector who acquired it! The 1873-CC No Arrows dime in PCGS MS65 is an outstanding coin and is one of the few unique coins in the U.S. series. It is one of the only 3 CC coins I have not owned. It sold for \$1.6 million hammer, which I believe to be a very good bargain. David Hall agrees, he singled out two coins in his weekly video commentary as "bargains of Rarities Night", and this was one of them. The 1873-CC With Arrows dime in PCGS MS65 CAC is tied with an NGC MS65 coin as the finer of only two known Unc. coins. It is a very nice coin and the price of \$240,000 is not surprising considering its rarity. The 1874-CC dime in PCGS MS62 is tied for second of five known Unc. pieces. Its price of \$100,000 I believe is a nice bargain!

Rest of Rarities Night

A beautiful electric-blue 1844 dime in PCGS MS65 sold for \$28,000K. There are a lot of 1844 dimes in low and mid-grades, but very few this high. I

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thought the price was a bargain especially when you consider what nicely toned coins are bringing in the market.

A PCGS PR63 1846 dime sold for \$12,000. Admittedly, the collector base for proof early dimes is small, but this price strikes me as a screaming bargain, especially when you consider that it is \$7,000 less than a 1944-D nickel sold for a few minutes earlier! Two 1856-S dimes in PCGS MS63 did not sell. A very nice 1866 dime in PCGS PR66 DCAM was an outstanding coin and sold for \$8,500, which

seems like a high price until you look at the coin. An 1871-CC dime in NGC MS62 did not sell, and an NGC AU50 coin sold for \$14,000, which seems very reasonable to me. Three 1874-CC dimes were offered; an NGC AU50 with some spots sold for \$24,100 and seems fair for that coin. An EF with reverse damage sold for \$10,000 which is also fair. I was hoping to bid on the PCGS VG10 CAC coin, a nice original low-grade piece, but the reserve was more than I wanted to bid, and it did not sell.

Since most of the quarters and halves didn't sell, except for the 1853-O NA half which I bought, I have ended my commentary here.

Rich Uhrich Purchases 4th 1853-O NA Half !

As highlighted on the first page of July 2012's *E-Gobrecht*, the recently discovered fourth known example of the extremely rare 1853-O No Arrows and Rays half dollar was featured in the Stack's Bowers Galleries Rarities Night Sale at this year's ANA Convention in Philadelphia.

For those of you who are tracking Liberty

Seated rarities, bust/seated numismatist-dealer Rich Uhrich purchased this PCGS Secure VG8 coin at the sale for a hammer price of \$190,000. The lot (#11447) opened at \$152,000 and the under-bidder was an unknown internet bidder.

Rich purchased this coin for his stock and he can be contacted at www.richuhrichcoins.com.



Photos courtesy of Stack's Bowers Galleries



The 4th 1853-O NA half dollar - PCGS Secure VG8



Subscriber Correspondence

From **Mark Borckardt** (concerning the engraved 1840-O half dollar depicted in the last issue of the *E-Gobrecht*): I read ... about the 1840-O half dollar with the weight engraved, and the question about why. It was likely related to some sort of scientific coinage study, and the one that comes to mind is the annual assay meeting at the Philadelphia Mint. Please do let me know what the "right" answer is. *[Editor: I'm not sure we will ever know.]*

From **Gerry Fortin**: In response to question concerning 1840-O half with 13.244 grams engraving, my response (with a bit of Chinese humor) is that the engraver did not have Chinese chopmark to validate the silver weight so defaulted to hand engraving the weight as validation for where ever this coin acted as a monetary instrument.



From **Mark Glazer** (not really correspondence but show and tell) Mark stopped by the LSCC table at the ANA with an interesting item. Shown below are images of his 1858-O half dollar counterfeit dies. Comments anyone?





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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/>

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

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.



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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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