



Liberty Seated Basics 101

by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

Issue XV - Networking

Introduction: One of the requests we often hear is for articles in club publications that reach back to more basic skill building. Members are at all different levels, and newer members are in some instances unfamiliar with commonly used terms in our little corner of the hobby. Mint production has changed over the last two-hundred +plus years. The Liberty Seated years (1836-1891) saw its share of production change during that time. Those changes came with a learning curve. A good deal of that learning curve had to do with the first few Branch Mints coming on line and Mint employee's at those Branch Mints needing to learn their craft.

Some of the topics already discussed include the following:

- Issue I - Weak Strikes (June 2020 E-G)
- II - Die Wear in (July 2020 E-G)
- III - Security/Home Safes (August 2020)
- IV - Security/Safe Deposit Boxes (Sept. 2020)

- V - Buying White Coins (October 2020)
- VI - Raw vs. Certified (November 2020)
- VII - Mintage vs. Survival Rate (Dec. 2020)
- VIII - Mintmark Sizes & Placement (Jan.'21)
- IX - Liberty Seated Oddities (February 2021)
- X - Die Lines & Lint Marks (March 2021)
- XI - Learning to Say 'No' (April 2021)
- XII - Covid, CAC and Market Change (May)
- XIII - Doubled Dies vs. Machine Doubling (Jun)
- XIV - The Cadillac Effect (July 2021)

Additional topics to be discussed in future months will include: Design Changes, Type Collecting, Popular vs. Rare Dates, Varieties, Cuds/Rust Lumps/and Die Cracks, Dished Dies and more.

"An Introduction to Liberty Seated Basics 101" also appeared in the *The Gobrecht Journal* Summer 2020, Volume 46.2.

Networking

Networking is the buzz-word of the millennials. The definition of networking in this context is: the action or process of interacting with others to exchange information and develop professional or social contacts.

For collectors of scarce and rare coins like ours, networking with fellow collectors and Club members is paramount to achieving success in your collecting pursuits. I would estimate about 25% of

my collection came from other collectors/LSCC members. Many of them very scarce or rare.

When coins get transferred from one collector to another without the open market taking a role in the process, collectors who do not connect with other LSCC members are at a disadvantage. Those are coins they never see and never have an opportunity to acquire.

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L.S. Basics 101 - Networking cont.

We in the Club's Regional Program often hear kind compliments on our work for the Club. These compliments are appreciated! However, I must admit the work we do has its own rewards. Being plugged into the coin hobby/industry circuit, provides many opportunities to enhance our collections that would otherwise go to other collectors. Dealers who know us and know what we are looking for will sometimes walk a coin over to us for a first shot at the piece. As has been stated many times before, working a Club table at a show allows dealer setup access to coins before the public gets in. It is a rare show that doesn't see one of us buy something cool or something we need before the public gets a chance at it.

As a new collector of Liberty Seated coins many years ago, I not only was able to add difficult and scarce coins to my collection, but the tutelage I received from being in the company of LSCC experts over the years put my educational trajectory on an accelerated pace. Liberty Seated coinage is an advanced area of numismatics that requires the collector to development his/her knowledge in order to achieve success in building a quality collection at any

grade level. What better way than being in company with those who really know the series.

If this sounds like a pitch to convince some newer members to join us in the Regional Program; it is! If you are a new to the Liberty Seated series and are reading this column, you are exactly the sort of collector that should be involved. You can be involved as much or as little as your schedule and interest allows.

This column was started at the request of several newer collectors of Liberty Seated coinage. However, any column or columns cannot replace that personal interaction and education one gets from being in the company of advanced collectors like those in the LSCC, and it certainly can help connect you to the coins you need. Long before the word 'networking' was thought of in the arena of personal interactions, collectors were already doing it and using it to build their collections.

Contact Club Vice-President and Regional Team Leader Dennis Fortier for networking opportunities in your area: ricajun@msn.com

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Coins the author purchased from other LSCC members just by his personal effort of 'Networking'

1851 Half Dollar - PCGS XF45
1870-CC WB-2 Half Dollar - PCGS-G4
1873-CC NA WB-1 Half Dollar - PCGS-VG8





L.S. Basics 101 - Networking cont.



[Terms used in this article, if unfamiliar, can be found in literature published in series-specific books by Liberty Seated experts. Some of these are available on the club website.]

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