



The E-Gobrecht

Liberty Seated
Collectors Club

2014 Volume 10, Issue 9
September 2014 (Whole # 116)

John McCloskey retires! New LSCC Officers! Gene Gardner in Hall of Fame! Gerry Fortin wins E-G Award! Dick Osburn wins Ahwash Award!

LSCC members and guests attended the Club's annual meeting on Thursday, August 7, 2014 at the ANA World's Fair of Money in Rosemont, IL. Complete coverage with images will be in the Fall issue of the *Gobrecht Journal* (so that all club members see the events) but here are the major takeaways.

- John McCloskey retired as LSCC President and *Gobrecht Journal* Editor.
- John announced election results for new club officers (to take office immediately):
 - ⇒ President—Gerry Fortin
 - ⇒ Vice President—Len Augsburger
 - ⇒ Secretary/Treasurer—Crag Eberhart
 - ⇒ Publications (*Gobrecht Journal* and *E-Gobrecht*) Editor—Bill Bugert.
- Eugene Gardner was inducted into the LSCC Hall of Fame. Gene joins other honored club members including Kam Ahwash, John McCloskey, Al Blythe, Brian Greer, Randy Wiley, Gerry Fortin, and Jim O'Donnell.
- Gerry Fortin received the *E-Gobrecht* Editor's Award for exceptional contributions.
- Although previously announced, Dick Osburn received the 2013 Kamal M. Ahwash Literary Award for his *Gobrecht Journal* article entitled, "Building The First Complete Collection of Mint State Seated Half Dollars."

Outgoing Secretary/Treasurer, Len Augsburger, reported the club is in strong financial condition and that dues will remain \$20 for the club's next fiscal year (September 2014 thru August 2015).

There was no club benefit auction this year as the majority of the time scheduled for the club meeting allowed club members to personally commend John McCloskey and wife, Norma, for their 39 years of service to the Liberty Seated Collectors Club.

Auction News by Jim Gray	2
LSCC Calendar	2
Regional News by Gerry Fortin	3
The Curious Collector by Len Augsburger	4
Quarter of the Month by Greg Johnson	5
The Strike Zone by Rich Hundertmark	6-7
LSCC Meeting at the Ohio State Show By Stephen Petty	8
St. Louis as seen by a traveling Californi- an in 1859 by Jim Laughlin	9- 10
A New Die State of the Rare 1876-S (WB-43) Type II Re- verse Liberty Seated Half Dollar by Dennis Fortier	11
The Liberty Seated Collectors Club Wants You! by Gerry Fortin	12
Free Advertise- ments	13
Club Information	14

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 ANA Sale** featured a MS64 1838-O dime that did not sell and a nicely toned 1844 MS61 piece realized \$3,290. 1846, 1856-S, and 1859-S specimens, all graded VF30, went for \$1,295, \$1,410, and \$1,410. An 1860 -O sold for \$7,638 in AU50. Two VF35 1873-CC coins sold for \$8,225 and \$9,400. A VF details, but porous, 1874-CC managed \$7,638.

An XF45 1860-S quarter, which is the highest grade at PCGS, did not sell. A F15 1872-CC hit \$4,407.

1871-CC and 1872-CC half dollars grading AU53 and AU50 went for \$4,406 and \$3,055.

An 1872-S dollar graded MS61 sold for \$8,225 and a VF35 1878-CC Trade Dollar went for \$2,820.

The **Heritage Platinum Night** had an 1851 dollar graded MS60, but really a great AU58, that soared to \$41,225. 1871-CC and 1872-CC dollars graded XF45 and MS62 sold for \$15,428 and \$35,250. A MS61 1878-CC Trade dollar went for \$18,800.

The **Stack's Bowers ANA sale** contained a MS62 1844-O half dime that sold for \$3,245.

Three dimes, 1860-O AU50, 1871-CC VG8, and 1872-CC VF30, did not sell.

Two 1842-O Small Date half dollars graded VF35 and XF40 sold for \$3,055 and \$3,295. An AU50 1851 did not sell. A VF30 1870-CC hit \$8,225 and XF45 1871-CC and 1872-CC coins did not sell. An 1873NA Open 3 graded VG8 hit \$3,290 and a AU53 1878-CC did not sell.

An XF40 1872-S dollar did not sell.

Stack's Bowers Rarities Night featured a MS65 1842-O half dime that did not sell nor did AU53 1873 -CC and XF45 1874-CC dimes.

A splendid AU58 1849-O quarter hit \$14,100 and a MS63 1855-S went for \$5,875. A MS63 1872-S did not sell.

1866-S MS62, 1870-CC XF40, and 1878-S XF40 half dollars did not sell.

LSCC Calendar

September 4, 2014, **LSCC social gathering**, Long Beach Expo, Long Beach, CA, Rock Bottom Brewery, Thursday, 7 PM. Brian Cushing hosts.

September 20-21, 2014, **LSCC table**, Battlefield Coin Show, Gettysburg, PA, All-Star Complex, Emmitsburg Road, Saturday-Sunday. John Frost and Paul Kluth staffing the table.

September 20, 2014, **Liberty Seated Coin Presentations**, Battlefield Coin Show, Gettysburg, PA, All-Star Complex, Emmitsburg Road, Saturday.
2 PM—1861-O Half Dollars by Bill Bugert
3 PM—Double Dimes & the Amazing Discovery at the CC Mint by John Frost

October 10, 2014, **Deadline for Articles and Advertisements** for the Fall 2014 issue of the *Gobrecht Journal*. Due to Bill Bugert, *Gobrecht Journal* Editor, at wb8cpy@earthlink.net.



Regional News

by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

As published elsewhere in this *E-Gobrecht* issue, the Chicago ANA annual meeting was indeed a memorable event as the club honored President John McCloskey for his 39 years of service as *Gobrecht Journal*

Editor. Eugene Gardner's induction into the LSCC Hall of Fame brought a standing ovation while the humility of his acceptance speech was truly touching to those in the audience. John McCloskey officially announced the newly elected club officers at the annual meeting and the club's generational transition is in progress.

I published the first Regional News column in the April 2010 *E-Gobrecht* issue to bring attention to the LSCC's regional meeting programs that was under construction at the time. There was a belief that club members would enjoy opportunities to meet and share their passion for Liberty Seated coinage if national meeting venues could be established. Individuals were recruited to define and schedule regional meetings across the United States. Craig Eberhart, Jason Feldman, Dennis Fortier, and Stephen Petty volunteered to be the first "Regional Directors" and the program was successfully launched. John

Frost became a de facto Regional Director during that timeframe as he merged LSCC and BCCS club meetings at smaller venues. Since 2010, the regional meeting effort has grown and the club now hosts 20 or more meetings each year. There is considerable effort on the part of the Regional Directors to schedule meeting facilities, develop presentations or find guest speakers, and ensure that each meeting is memorable for club members. I wish to extend a heart felt thank you to the entire Regional Director team for your commitment and efforts that allowed a vision to become reality.

This will be my last Regional News article and I am proud to announce that Dennis Fortier has volunteered to assume the role of Regional Director Team Leader. It is time for me to pass the torch to a younger individual who has demonstrated strong commitment to the regional meeting program and allow him to run "with the ball" and continue improving the club's outreach efforts throughout the United States. Congratulations Dennis and please accept my sincere thanks for stepping forward and taking this role. I'm sure that club members will look forward to regional meeting programs and to your forthcoming Regional News columns!

(Continued from page 4)

Friday featured a few more club meetings, most notably an educational forum presented by the LSCC which provided the audience a good overview of collecting seated coinage. A full array of experts were on hand to answer questions, including Steve Crain, Gerry Fortin, John Frost, Bill Bugert, Dick Osburn, and John Coyle.

Saturday morning is the standing spot for the Rittenhouse Society breakfast at the ANA. Our own Bill Bugert was inducted last year and this was his first official meeting. Congratulations to Bill! The rest of the day was spent working at Rich Uhrich's table, and, being the end of the show, some of the clutter was cleared out of the cases for submission to

auction and to the grading services. Bill Bugert and I picked out all the "lock" coins for PCGS, and, if our batting percentage was good, we'll probably be called upon to perform the same task in the future. The best thing that happened on Saturday was dealing with a young man who cherry-picked an 1861-O half dollar (Union dies) from the bourse floor and brought it over to our table for verification. The coin checked out, and a four-figure profit was immediately realized. Congrats - it's nice to see the young blood be successful.



The Curious Collector

by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

2014 ANA Wrap-up

Another year's coinfest is in the books. The annual cornucopia of coins is a great opportunity to re-new relationships, swap war stories, and, with luck, expand the collection by a coin or two. All three objectives were well met this year in Chicago at the ANA convention.

Tuesday started at Rich Uhrich's table where I worked the entire day as a table assistant. Action on both the buy and sell side was active. Tuesday night Rich treated at his annual table assistant's dinner, which is rapidly becoming one of my favorite ANA events. I'm convinced that if you play your cards right, you can get through a whole week of the ANA without having to pay for a single meal.

Wednesday, I had my own table in the daily table section. Despite being on the edge of the bourse floor, visitors were non-stop the entire day, and included dealer John Kraljevich, Karen Lee of the Smithsonian, Bob Galiette (whose mega-collection of double eagles was featured in the Stack's Bowers ANA sale), Robert Julian, Alan Weinberg, and many others including Gene Hynds who knocked me out with his display of first steam press tokens. I had on display a few items from the estate of Mint Director Robert M. Patterson, which appeared on the market in 2013. A full report will be in the November issue of the *Gobrecht Journal*.

For dinner Wednesday night, a number of numismatic bibliophiles made their way to the restaurant Naha in downtown Chicago where the wine flowed freely and tall tales of numismatic research weren't far behind.

I'm not sure what else can be said about the gold Kennedy fracas. I will merely relate the experience told me by a friend. He joined the line at 11 PM, got his coin at 1 PM the next day, and immediately resold the \$1,200 coin for \$2,900 to one of the dealers hanging around the US Mint booth. He said

he did it just for the "experience," although I'm sure the \$1,700 profit didn't hurt. Oh, and by the way, there were no bathroom breaks for the entire 14-hour period. Personally, I actually like the coin and intend to order one online. The ANA is torn here - the publicity surrounding new releases from the Mint is good to leverage, but without equitable distribution everyone gets a black eye. All involved agreed improvements need to be made next time, and I hope the ANA and the Mint can find the win-win formula which surely must exist.

Thursday is always club meeting day at the ANA, the LSCC meeting of course being the highlight of the show. There were not one but two standing ovations this year, recognizing Gene Gardner's induction into the LSCC Hall of Fame as well as John McCloskey's retirement following an astounding 39-year stint as President and Editor. More will be found elsewhere in this issue regarding the LSCC annual meeting. Later in the day I gave a presentation at the MCA (Medal Collectors of America) meeting related to tokens and medals of Christian Gobrecht.

I also attended the NBS (Numismatic Bibliomania Society meeting) where Dan Hamelberg exhibited some wonderful documents related to the early Mint. Wayne Homren gave a provoking talk on the past, present, and future of online numismatics. I had nearly eliminated the old Usenet newsgroup (rec.collecting.coins) from my memory when Wayne presented a screen capture of this chat board from the early days of the personal computer.

Thursday evening was the LSCC officer's dinner, a great time to get caught up on the show happenings and strategize about club activities going forward. Discussion focused on the *Gobrecht Journal*, online presence, collective volume management, advertising, regional show events, and on it went. The new officer team is extremely energized and excited for the future of the club.

(Continued on page 3)



Quarter of the Month

by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

1854 Quarters with Different Reverse Cuds

The summer ANA is always a big event. The historic LSCC meeting, as well as other main attractions and happenings, have been quite thoroughly reported on elsewhere. The search for neat Liberty Seated quarters on the floor in Rosemont was, as it has been for a number of years now, rather challenging. The find of this show was acquired from dealer Brian Greer quite early in the week. The 1854 quarter with reverse cud (Figure 1) looked very familiar at first glance and appeared to be an earlier die state of the coin featured in the March 2014 column (Figure 2). There have been no less than three previous columns devoted to 1854 quarters with cuds, and I felt quite sure than I re-

membered them well enough to be confident that the newly purchased coin was not a new cud.

Comparison of Figures 1 and 2 reveal that I was incorrect in that conclusion and was surprised once I returned home and placed the two coins next to each other. The new coin, which grades VF, is in fact a previously undocumented cud. The figures show that there is actually no overlap between the two cuds, with the new cud ending over the N in UNITED, while the previously discovered cud starts over the I and extends over the rest of the word. It does pay to keep looking at those quarters; there are still new discoveries to be made.



Figure 1. 1854 Quarter with reverse cud



Figure 2. 1854 Quarter with reverse cud



The Strike Zone

by Rich Hundertmark, LSCC #2347

Liberty Seated Quarter Basics

Modified Fly fishing proverb of the month:

*“Many men collect coins all of their lives without knowing it is not the coins they are after.”
Borrowed with appreciation from Henry David Thoreau*

The Liberty Seated Quarter Dollar series spans 53 years from its first issue in 1838 until 1891. With issues from the Philadelphia, New Orleans, Carson City, and San Francisco Mints, it is a daunting set to collect and many collectors go no further than to assemble a type set.

Although the *Red Book* claims 5 Varieties, both the NGC and PCGS registries consist of six major design type varieties. Other type set collectors add two additional varieties which are essentially resumption of design types with weight changes from the original type issue. These design types, the “6 plus 2” and the corresponding *Red Book* Variety are summarized as follows:

<u>DESIGN TYPE</u>	<u>RED BOOK VARIETY</u>
No Drapery 1838-1840	Variety 1
With Drapery, No Motto 1840-1853	Variety 1
With Drapery – Arrows & Rays 1853	Variety 2
With Drapery – Arrows 1854-1855	Variety 3
With Drapery, No Motto Resumed 1856-1865	Variety 1 resumed
With Motto 1866-1873	Variety 4
With Motto – Arrows 1873-1874	Variety 5
With Motto Resumed 1875-1891	Variety 4 resumed

An initial review of the series by variety is as follows:

The 1st variety weighed 6.68 grams with 90% silver and 10% copper composition with reeded edge. The obverse design features 13 stars, and a figure of Liberty seated on a rock, holding in her right hand a shield inscribed LIBERTY, and in her left a pole with Phrygian cap. The reverse design is an American Eagle with wings spread and breast shield. For the first three years of issue, there is a space between the elbow and knee of Miss Liberty, the “No Drapery” variety, which was tweaked in 1840 to add drapery hanging from her elbow, creating the “With Drapery” variety.

Mintages for **Variety 1** are characteristically low, with all issues under 1 million business strikes. The 1850 to 1852 issues are particularly scarce as many were melted in 1853 as they were worth more than face value.

Enter **Variety 2** which was introduced in 1853. Arrows were added to the side of the date to indicate a weight reduction to 6.22 grams with rays added to the reverse fields surrounding the eagle. The recoinage resulted in an over 15 million business strike mintage of the new design for the Philadelphia strike and over 1.3 million for the New Orleans issue. As a one year type, the date is in great demand and pricing strong despite the high mintages.



The Strike Zone (Continued from page 6)

The next tweak in the series was the elimination of the Rays, referred to as “With Arrows & Drapery” or **Variety 3**. Coins were issued from 1854-1855 at both Philadelphia and New Orleans, and the new San Francisco Branch Mint's inaugural production in 1855. Pricing for Variety 3 is strong with 1855-S an elusive date in high grade.

Variety 1 was then resumed in 1856, but at the new weight. All three mints produced coins through 1860 at which time the Civil War stopped New Orleans production. Mintage for this variety are particularly low for the 1863-1865 war years.

Variety 4 came about when the IN GOD WE TRUST motto banner was added to the reverse above the eagle in 1866, with the variety noted for the low mintage Carson City issues of 1870-CC, 1871-CC, and 1872-CC in addition to the 1873-CC “Without Arrows” classic rarity, of which 6 are now known. How much are the CC quarters coveted? In researching, I came across an article referencing a 2005 LSCC survey to name the top 10 Carson City issues for ALL denominations, the results: the 1873-CC No Arrows quarter placed second, the 1870-CC fourth, and the 1871-CC seventh.

In 1873, the weight was revised again, this time up to 6.25 grams and once again arrows were placed at the date to signify the change, hence **Variety 5** came about, this time “With Motto and Arrows.” With only 12,462 business strikes minted, the 1873-CC With Arrows is the last of the rare CC quarter issues.

The final change to the series occurred in 1875 with the elimination of arrows and with weight the same as the previous variety. The final four years of Carson City mintage highlight this period with the 1876-CC and 1877-CC within reach in mint state grade to many collectors.

I focused the article as an introduction to the series via type set examination but there are certainly other ways to collect the set. For instance, an example of all four mints covering four of the major varieties would be another way to cover most of the design change while adding the historical branch mint element.

A check of current retail pricing in *Numismatic News* showed that in XF40 nice collector coins that exhibit all of the major design elements can be acquired for under \$700 according to latest retail pricing in *Numismatic News*:

- A Philadelphia date with No Motto, Variety 1
- A New Orleans date with Arrows, Variety 3
- A San Francisco date with Arrows and Motto, Variety 5
- A Carson City date with Motto, Variety 4 (resumed)

In the next article, I will continue with Liberty Seated quarters with a focus on major date varieties and key Proof quarters.

Last month's study question, “For which variety of the 1837 half dime were proofs issued?”

Answer: About 20 Proofs were struck for the Large Date variety.

This month's study question: How many mint state examples of the 1873-CC “Without Arrows” Quarter are known to exist?



LSCC Meeting at the Ohio State Show by Stephen Petty, LSCC #2077

Collectors interested in Liberty Seated coinage gathered at the LSCC regional club meeting at the Ohio State Coin Show in Dublin, OH on August 29, 2014. Regional Director Stephen Petty conducted round table discussions on Trade Dollars and the country's monetary system from 1840 to 1875. Everything was well received and Stephen gave out two applications of membership. Images are included (below).



Stephen Petty (in bright yellow shirt) chairs a round table discussions on Trade Dollars and the monetary system at the August 2014 Ohio State Coin Show.



St. Louis as seen by a traveling Californian in 1859

by Jim Laughlin, LSCC #876

The following is a firsthand account of what was seen in circulation in St. Louis, Missouri during 1859 (population 135,330). It is written by a Californian for an audience back home in California.

May 16, 1859, Sacramento Daily Union

...Currency here is almost entirely paper. State bank notes, which are convertible to specie take the place of gold; there are none under five dollars, and the smaller notes of other banks pretty much supply the place of silver. Under a dollar, of course, the currency is silver. It is seldom a cent piece is seen it be covered in dust in the boxes at the Post office. Except at that institution it is valueless; although is not regarded with quite the contempt it receives in California. Bits have entirely disappeared from circulation, and the dime and half-dime have taken their place. In fractions the decimal system prevails. Nothing is sold for thirty-seven and a half cents—that figure is equivalent to 40 cents. So the seller gains by the change. Foreign “quarters” are also nearly forced out of circulation, although with pillars upon them clearly defined they pass in trade for their nominal value. Bank notes pass from hand to hand rather more recklessly than you might suppose, considering the number of counterfeits afloat. Extremely careful men always have the “Detector” at their elbows, but the great mass of tradesmen rely on instinct to scent a counterfeit. From superficial observation one would not suppose there is a scarcity of money just now in this region, nor do I hear of distress of any kind....

The panic of 1837 and the subsequent bankruptcy of the States of Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida, Arkansas, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Maryland, and Pennsylvania (all by 1841), influenced the delegates framing the California Constitution in 1850. Many eastern residents were financially ruined by holding paper money issued by States, transportation companies, and private banks that had become worthless following the panic. Therefore, the California delegates included a provision in the California Constitution prohibiting the issuance of paper money in California. This explains the interest the reporter has with people using paper money so freely in St. Louis.

The Act of Feb 10, 1857 called in foreign silver to be replaced with the new small sized cents on the East Coast. Here in St. Louis, it appears that the old large cents were scarce and were referred to as being only seen in the “dusty boxes at the Post Office.” (Coin was generally held in wooden trays (boxes) placed near the tellers; at closing, the trays were removed to be secured in a locked safe.) This being apparently a swipe by the author that cents once spent at the Post Office, stayed there. The layer of dust showed that the tellers never touched the cents stored in the boxes. Our reporter reveals that (large) cents are held in contempt back in California.

By 1859, the dime and the half-dime had replaced the Spanish “Real” (“bit” or 12 ½ cents) or the “Half-Real” (medio or 6 ¼ cents). The author’s reference to foreign “quarters” (i.e. 2 Real pieces) nearly being forced out of circulation, except for those with the “pillars” clearly being “defined,” is interesting. (Silver coins of the Spanish Empire through 1821 were struck with a reverse device of a globe supported on either sides by pillars (i.e. the Pillars of Hercules)). As strongly “defined” pillars would tend to indicate light circulation wear, these coins were likely closer to full silver weight and therefore continued to pass at 25 cents (2 bits), although it may have been at the 20 cent official U.S. Government rate. It is interesting that despite all the New Orleans mint Liberty Seated quarter dollars produced since 1840, St. Louis still used pre-1822 Spanish Empire coins. Also, Mexican Republic “cap and rays” 2 Real coins (post-1823) apparently didn’t make it North to St. Louis.

(Continued on page 10)



(Continued from page 9)

Merchants in California and the new Territory of Nevada during 1859 were still pricing tolls, drinks, and items for sale using the Spanish “bits” (12 ½ cents), despite the San Francisco Branch Mint producing Liberty Seated dimes starting in 1856. The reference by the reporter that in St. Louis nothing was being sold for 37 ½ cents (3 bits), that merchants were pricing such “37 ½ cent” items at “40 cents” and in effect keeping the change, was (in my opinion) the reporter just “making hay” for the audience back home. I’m not quite sure whether this was because “bits” were still in circulation in California or whether it was just fair game to attack a merchant that appeared too greedy. This period, however, is about the start of the constant bickering that shows up in the California Press regarding merchants retaining the “bit” pricing, even though “bits” were no longer in circulation in California. The smallest coin in circulation became the dime, and, therefore, anything priced at a “bit” (12 ½ cent) meant someone would take a loss on the transaction, and more often than not, it was not the merchant. Even the striking of half-dimes starting in 1863 at San Francisco never seemed to change the debate.

(Continued from page 11)

noticed by mint employees and the dies were put away with the 1876 obverse 37 never being needed again.

In contacting Bill Bugert about this late die state, it seems a higher grade example (see images below—now in Bill’s collection) was discovered by Brian Greer several months ago. With so few currently known examples of WB-43 it may require time to see if other examples of this late die state surface to see any die crack progression and just how rare this die state is. Will our collections ever be complete? If we wanted complete, we would have collected something sensible like Walker’s or Morgan’s. Happy hunting.

References

Bugert, Bill. A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume I, San Francisco Branch Mint. Gettysburg, PA: Self-published, May 2009.

Wiley, Randy and Bill Bugert. The Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dollars. Virginia Beach, VA: DLRC Press, 1993.

Osburn, Dick. “Transitional Reverses on Liberty Seated Halves.” The Gobrecht Collective Volume Five, LSCC, 2007.

Sholley, Craig. “Master Hubs and Dies of the Liberty Seated Half Dollar Series.” The Gobrecht Journal Collective Volume Four, LSCC, 1996.





A New Die State of the Rare 1876-S (WB-43) Type II Reverse Liberty Seated Half Dollar

by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

Will our collections ever be complete? Recently I chanced to acquire a rare 1876-S (WB-43) Type II reverse in VG-10. The Type II reverse for 1876-S has just two die marriages known, WB-42 (R-6) and WB-43 (R-7) identified in Bill Bugert's *A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume I, San Francisco Branch Mint*. Both are extremely rare with just a handful of examples known for the WB-43.

In 1876, Chief Engraver William Barber prepared a new reverse master hub reduction to correct design weaknesses due to wear on the existing reverse master hub. The most notable changes were a strengthening of the olive leaf details (strong center line or vein in the middle leaves) and, after making a Transitional hub to produce at least seven Transitional Reverse dies used in 1876 and 1877, a further change was made in closing the previously open lower berry in the olive branch (see image below). This



final hub version was used to make all new reverse dies for the remainder of the series. Some numismatists speculate this closed berry was Barber's way of signing his work.

Interesting as all that is, this commentary concerns the obverse (Obverse 37) used to make the WB-43 die marriage. With so few examples known

it is hardly surprising to discover a late die state of that rare die marriage. After identifying the correct die marriage, I was astonished to find a long die crack traversing the entire date (see image below). I



quickly returned to Bill Bugert's excellent reference and found no notation of it. Such a long die crack would have obviously been noted had one been seen prior to printing. The crack looking from left to right starts from beyond the 1, coming in about two thirds of the way down the digit and coming out at the right base of the 1 at the top and bottom of the base. The two spurs come together at the left side bottom of the 8 and travels along the bottom of the remaining digits. It then extends out into the field below the rock where it ends out almost below Liberty's foot. The entirety of the crack mimics the curvature of the coins edge. There is a second small, fine, crack below the rock from beneath Liberty's heel where the rock starts to climb up higher toward the edge of the coin.

These die cracks lead to some speculation. Was this the reason for a short die marriage run, if it was short, and consequently so few surviving examples? If so, why then was no other obverse used with reverse EE? Die marriage WB-42, the other known Type II reverse used a second reverse, reverse DD. Considering the Type II reverse was new and Bugert listed both Type II die marriages at the end of the die marriage sequence, it must be assumed they were produced at or near the end of the years run of half dollars and the need for half dollars was filled. The die failure which is not major most likely went un-

(Continued on page 10)



The Liberty Seated Collectors Club Wants You!

by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054



WE WANT YOU!

Older club members will remember this iconic image used for recruiting volunteers during World War II. I thought it fitting as an opening graphic for this brief article suggesting LSCC members consider club involvement. There are many avenues by which to support the club and its members so please read on!

If you love numismatics, Liberty Seated coinage and making new lifelong friends, then the Liberty Seated Collectors Club may be a wise endeavor. But how does one get started? Here are some approaches that could be considered.

1. Write a brief article about a Liberty Seated numismatic topic for the *E-Gobrecht*. Club members sharing a favorite acquisition are always a popular topic as are show reports. Did you view a special seated coin at a local coin club meeting? Then take a good quality picture with smart phone and pass it along.

2. Sign up for Facebook and become active with the LSCC Facebook page. I'm presently populating the LSCC page with current news and old club images to stimulate interest. Eventually, I would like to turn this role over to a Facebook page coordinator. Our goal is to get the word out that the LSCC is a cool club with special attention to those collectors

wanting to make that 20th Century to early type coin collecting transition.

3. Actively post on the LSCC Message Board. Maintaining board momentum is always a challenge. If there are few posts, then people lose interest and stop visiting.

4. Write an in depth article for the *Gobrecht Journal*. Now that the *Gobrecht Journal* will be published in color and larger format, club members have more options for illustrating new variety discoveries or a special coin with significant history.

5. Volunteer to support the Regional Meeting program. The regional meetings are an important vehicle for club outreach and educational experiences for both club members and non members throughout the United States. Regional meetings provide an opportunity for members to meet each other, socialize and potentially strike new friendships. Our program is strong in the Eastern region but more support is needed at Southern and Western region coin shows.

Don't be bashful and contact one of the club officers for more information about how you might become involved.



Free Advertisements

Holt Rarities is Buying and Selling Liberty Seated, Federal, and Colonial Issue coins of all denominations. Please check out our website at www.holtrarities.com or call directly at (931) 581-1890. If you don't see an item of interest listed on the site please contact us so that we can locate one for you. Brad Holt has been collecting and dealing in coins for over thirty years and is a member of the ANA and LSCC.

Wanted to Buy. Collector of Liberty Seated Dollars wants engraved and/or counter-stamped (love tokens) or rotated reverses. All mints, any condition, holed OK. Carl Feldman: carlscoins@gmail.com or (973) 479-9956.

Buying and Selling Seated Dime Varieties. Gerry Fortin, Liberty Seated Dime Varieties Web-book author, is buying and selling dime varieties including Top 100, major die cracks and cuds. New discoveries posted in web-book as a courtesy. Consignments and want lists wanted. Over 25 years in hobby with proven integrity and customer service. Other denominations also offered. Web: www.seateddimevarieties.com (Rare American Coins - For Sale Lists), Email: wuximems@hotmail.com, Cell: 207-329-9957.

Buying PCGS/CAC Top Pop MS and PR
Seated 25C and 50C
Will pay retail or above for top eye
appeal coins that I need for my personal sets.
R@nationalcoin.com

Dick Osburn Rare Coins specializes in early U.S. Silver coinage, particularly Liberty Seated and Bust material. Please visit our website www.dickosburn.com to view our extensive inventory. If you'd like to buy, sell, trade or consign contact Dick or Brian Cushing at rare-coins@dickosburn.com or 703-373-7399.

Larry Briggs Rare Coins. New updated website with many photos—check us out at: www.larrybriggsrarecoins.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. His website is fully searchable by die variety for most series of coins. 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/>

Liberty Seated Quarter Cuds Wanted among other things: Yes, I am still looking to purchase cuds, major die breaks, and shattered dies on LDS Liberty Seated Quarters. While I have been able to add quite a few examples during the long time of running this ad, there are more pieces out there missing from the 'ole collection. Also, cuds on other U.S. series and denominations wanted too, not to mention major reverse rotations on all U.S. series. Please reply directly to Paul Kluth at pcmdmp@msn.com even if its just to share what you have for the fun of it. Thanks!

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: pu-ro@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

Contact Information:

National Officers

President

Gerry Fortin
wuximems@hotmail.com

Vice President

Leonard Augsburger
leonard_augsburger@hotmail.com

Secretary / Treasurer

Craig Eberhart
craig@eberhart.us

Publications Editor

Bill Bugert
wb8cpy@earthlink.net
P.O. Box 242
Fairfield, PA 17320
(717) 337-0229

National Positions

Carl Feldman

carlscoins@gmail.com
Membership Chairman

Dennis Fortier

ricajun@msn.com
Team Leader,
Regional Directors

Jason Feldman

jasonfeldman@gmail.com
Director,
LSCC Southern Region

Steve Petty

stephenpetty@sbcglobal.net
Director,
LSCC Central Region

TBD

Directors,
LSCC Western Region and
Northeast Region

LSCC Mission

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.

The E-Gobrecht is not copyrighted; use its content freely but please be sure to quote the E-Gobrecht and the Liberty Seated Collectors Club.