



The E-Gobrecht

The Electronic Newsletter of the LIBERTY SEATED COLLECTORS CLUB

Liberty Seated
Collectors Club

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Record Attendance at the Baltimore LSCC Regional Meeting

Len Augsburger, the LSCC Secretary/Treasurer, called the Regional Meeting of the LSCC to order at 9 A.M. on March 22, 2012 at the Baltimore Whitman Coin and Collectibles Expo. At least 30 members and guests attended for a record breaking and rousing agenda. Len briefly discussed the articles in the March 2012 issue of the *Gobrecht Journal*, the upcoming Stack's-Bowers August 2012 auction of the "Battle Born Collection" of Carson City coinage, and discussed recent auction highlights of Liberty Seated coinage.

Club member John Frost then discussed his recent find of an 1875-S Branch Mint proof twenty-cent piece. John provided an excellent presentation of the background of the known examples and diagnostics of these proofs. His presentation will be posted on the LSCC website at www.lscweb.org for all to enjoy. Of notable importance and great news for the community, John promised to author a "Complete Guide" reference book on Liberty Seated Twenty-Cent pieces in the near future.

Club member Bob Hammond then unveiled (literally!) and discussed his acquisition of a rare print of the Lamasure's painting of the First U.S. Mint. Bob and his wife, Shirley, stumbled upon this print hanging on the wall of a local historical society. The society was unaware of its importance; Bob enlightened them and after a persuasive presentation to the board, subsequently purchased it for a large donation. It was a big hit with the Whitman folks and made the Expo news.

The formal meeting then adjourned to enjoy Shirley's cookies and small-talk about Liberty Seated coinage.



Composite photo of the LSCC meeting at the March Baltimore

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



Auction News

by Jim Gray, LSCC #664

The **Heritage** March Sale featured an 1874-CC dime in AU55 with a soft strike, but still nice, for \$44,563. An original 1849-O quarter in XF40 went for \$6,613 while an 1859-S in the same grade hammered for \$4,888. An 1870-CC graded VG8 and a gem for the grade soared to \$12,650.

An 1866-S No Motto half dollar in VF25 hit \$1,093 while a problem free original VG8 1870-CC sold for \$2,760.

An 1878-CC Trade Dollar grading XF45 hit \$4,025.

The **Stack's-Bowers** Baltimore Sale contained an 1858-S dime in XF45 for \$2,070. An 1860-O graded VF30 did not sell but an F15 duplicate realized \$1,955. An 1872-CC with XF/AU details and filed rims hit \$4,888.

An 1859-S quarter with AU details, but cleaned, did not sell. An original 1864-S in VG10 went for \$1,150.

An 1846 over horizontal 6 half in AU58 and very nice sold for \$3,019. A 1866-S No Motto half graded XF40 CAC hit \$2,099. A natural gray 1873 NA Open 3 did not sell.

An 1872-CC dollar in VG8 and nice hit \$8,086.

Rarities Night contained an 1846 dime graded AU50 CAC for \$9,315 while a splendid 1871-CC graded AU50 rang the bell for \$18,400. An 1872-CC with AU details and a soft strike still managed \$9,488.

An 1842 Small Date quarter graded AU53 and a little jewel sold for \$13,225.

An 1870-CC VG10 quarter went for \$11,800 while an 1871-CC with very fine details but with gouges on both sides still managed \$9,488.

Upcoming LSCC Events

Now thru April 15, 2012, LSCC officers are accepting nominations for the **2011 LSCC Hall of Fame**. See nomination guidelines on page 1 of the January issue of the *E-Gobrecht*. Contact LSCC VP Bill Bugert at wb8cpy@arrl.net.

April 1, 2012, **Willimantic, CT**, 30th Annual Mansfield Numismatic Society Coin and Paper Money Show, LSCC Regional Meeting. It was today—hope you made it.

April 20, 2012, **Schaumburg, IL**, Central States Convention, LSCC Regional Meeting, 9 A.M., room TBD.

May 4, 2012, **Manchester, NH**, Coin and Currency Expo, Radisson Hotel, LSCC Regional Meeting, time and location TBD.



Regional News

by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

Once again, this regional news edition is being written from China and hours before the *E-Gobrecht* publishing deadline. Thankfully, Bill Bugert is used to last minute column submissions! Unfortunately, I missed the spring Whitman Baltimore Expo but the shows reports have been most positive for David Chrenshaw and the Whitman staff. The numismatic market appears to be alive and well with strong reports from Legend Numismatics and Rich Uhrich. Closer to home, the LSCC's own John Frost sent along an email entitled "Baltimore Success." John manned a combined LSCC and BCCS table and continued to aggressively tout club membership benefits to those who stopped and viewed his display. John's efforts were rewarded as he writes, "Just to sum up Baltimore, we had a good show. I experienced light traffic at club table on Thursday (no surprise), but periods of activity at the table on Friday. The main benefit of the table this time around was people stopped by and we had some samples of LSCC and BCCS Journals and told folks about our meetings. In the end, we signed up four new LSCC members and three new BCCS members. Not bad!" John Frost should be recog-

nized for his ongoing LSCC promotion efforts on the U.S. East coast.

April has arrived and we find John Frost once again promoting our club at the Mansfield Numismatic Society annual coin show in Willimantic, CT on Sunday April 1. This is a smaller one day regional show but a ripe opportunity to sign up new members who rarely travel to the larger national show. April also brings the LSCC to the Central States Numismatic Society Convention and a club meeting on April 20 at 9 A.M. LSCC President John McCloskey and Central Regional Director Steve Petty will be hosting this meeting.

Looking ahead into May, John Frost is active once again and will host a LSCC and BCCS club table at the New Hampshire Coin Expo, in Manchester NH on Friday May 4 and a combined regional meeting. Also in May is a planned regional meeting on May 11 at the ANA National Money Show in Denver Co. I am checking with Western Regional Director Craig Eberhart to determine his ability to host this meeting. An update will be provided in the May Regional News column.

Lost and Found



A Motorola H17 Bluetooth earpiece was found in the meeting room after last month's LSCC regional meeting in Baltimore. If you lost it, please contact Bill Bugert at wb8cpy@arrl.net to claim it.



Western U.S. Regional News

by Craig Eberhart, LSCC #1348

The western regional meeting of the LSCC was held on Friday morning February 4, 2012 at the Long Beach Convention Center. About a dozen people attended this meeting where we discussed the recent *Gobrecht Journal* article by Jack Marston "The 1839-O Half Dimes." I originally met Jack (depicted in the image below) through Kevin Zeitler, another collector of early New Orleans coins. I have always been impressed by Jack's dedication to studying early New Orleans coinage by die varieties. As many members already know, I am also quite interested in New Orleans coinage especially with regard to those produced in the early years of the Mint. However, I was still surprised by the depth and detail in this article. After reading it several times, I asked him if he could present his work at our meeting, but regretfully this was not possible. With his strong and enthusiastic support, I summarized and presented

this paper at our western regional LSCC meeting. We discussed Liberty Seated half dime die varieties of the first three years of production (1838, 1839, and 1840). Other specific topics included the large O reverses, the 1840-O V-6 transitional issue with the no drapery obverse and the open bud reverse, the two 1839-O half dimes that were produced using 1840-O reverses that had already been used to strike 1840-O dimes, and the 1840-O with drapery half dimes.

Information about the next regional meeting will be included in the next *E-Gobrecht*. Volunteers to present a topic on Liberty Seated coinage would be greatly appreciated. Please contact me at craig@eberhart.us if you would like to volunteer or have some constructive suggestions for future meetings!



Jack Marston and wife, Liz



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

Twenty-fourth in a Series

by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

This month brings a couple items for the Carson City aficionados. First on deck is the recent Western States Token sale of Holabird-Kagin Americana. As is almost always the case with this firm, there is something of interest to the Carson City collector. Lot 920 featured a group of eight Nevada Centennial silver rounds. These were struck circa 1964 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the state of Nevada. The most interesting piece in the lot for the Liberty Seated collector bears an image



of the Carson City Mint. Hal Dunn, a long-time LSCC member (#313) who passed away in 2006, catalogued this piece in "Tokens and Medals Depicting the Carson City Mint" (1999). This piece appears to be Dunn-3, of which 2,500 were struck at an issue price of \$7.50. The Holabird-Kagin lot of eight mixed Centennial pieces sold for \$470, about twice melt value.

Next up is the August 2012 sale of the Battle Born complete Carson City collection, which was pre-viewed by Stack's-Bowers at the recent Baltimore

show. How exciting to hold the unique 1873-CC No Arrows dime in my own hands, even if there was an intent guard observing my every move. The incident brought to mind the Bowers' sale of the Jim Gray collection in 2004. During the lot viewing I was handling the 1870-CC quarter when it fell out of my hands, onto a concrete floor underneath the table skirt. Needless to say the coin was in a slab. But what coin came back from up underneath the table? Well, I sure hope it was the same coin, because I ended up winning it in the auction! Turning to the Battle Born sale, it will be interesting to see how the 1873-CC NA 10c is presented within the Carson City set. If you place all the dimes first (it is customary to put the lower denomination coins at the beginning of the sale), you are not saving much suspense for the end, since the 1873-CC No Arrows would be one of the first coins at the hammer. The coin has sold twice previously at auction, first in the F.C.C. Boyd sale in 1945, and again at Eliasberg in 1996. In the Eliasberg 1996 sale the coin was sold close to the end of the last session, as the auction began with colonials, copper, and proceeded through silver half dimes and dimes (the remaining silver denominations were sold in the Eliasberg 1997 sale). The F.C.C. Boyd auction threw convention out the window and presented all denominations in somewhat random order, with the dimes strategically appearing at the very end of the sale. With the Battle Born collection, it might be better to start with the gold and finish with the silver, placing the 1876-CC 20c, 1873-CC NA 25c, and 1873-CC NA 10c rarities towards the end of the sale. Of course the 1870-CC \$20 is no slouch either, but it is a safe bet that the 1873-CC NA 10c will perform substantially better at auction.



Quarter of the Month

by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

The 1840 New Orleans quarter dollars are, like all 1840 New Orleans seated coins, amongst the most interesting issues of the series. All five die pairs of 1840-O were high on my want list from my very first day as a “serious” variety collector. It was very clear that the 1840-O With Drapery large O was going to be both tough to find and expensive. What was not at all clear was that the 1840-O With Drapery small O Briggs 1-B would be even more difficult to find than the large O variety. During the time that I have pursued this collection I have seen, purchased or been offered more than twice as many with drapery large O quarters as small O reverse B examples.

Reverses B and C of the 1840 With Drapery small O quarters are illustrated here. The mintmark



1840-O With Drapery Quarter reverse B

location is distinct enough that coins can be attributed without magnification. Since 1999, when Heritage began placing photos in their online archive, they have sold 66 examples of 1840-O With Drapery small O quarters in all grades. Nine of those (13.6%) were die pair 1-B. Starting with the example sold as part of Larry Briggs’ private collection in 1999, six 1-B examples were offered over seven years. Interestingly, from 1999–2005, 6 of 22 coins (more than 25%) were reverse B. The total of 22 examples over



1840-O With Drapery Quarter reverse C

a period spanning seven years does represent a very small sample size, though, and the drought really began in 2005 – coincidentally just as I started looking for them. Since January of 2005 Heritage has auctioned 44 examples of the 1840-O With Drapery small O quarter. Only three (6.8%) were the Briggs 1-B die pair and two of those had significant problems (and were slabbed as such). The last problem free example of the 1840-O Briggs 1-B sold by Heritage at auction was in *September of 2006*.

The first example of the Briggs 1-B that I found offered for sale was that very same coin in the September 2006 Heritage Long Beach Sale. It was in an NGC AU58 holder, and after well over a year without finding a single example in any grade, I chased it with some determination, only to be outbid. Five months later I did acquire an AU example with a really nice strike and surfaces – except for a staple scratch near the rim from 1 to 3 o’clock on the obverse. Though pleased to have even a damaged example, the coin remained on the want list. It would be more than four years before the next sighting, a choice VF example that turned up on EBay, and as of March 2012 I have seen, bid on, or purchased a total of seven examples in seven years – including two problem coins sold by Heritage.



2012 Half Dollar Summit Wraps Up

By Bill Bugert, LSCC #455

During the week of March 25, 2012, Liberty Seated half dollar numismatists Bill Bugert, Randy Wiley, and Dick Osburn met at the Bugert home in Gettysburg, PA for the annual half dollar summit. The primary purpose of this “summit” was to accumulate as many half dollars from 1853-O to 1861-O, study die characteristics, and to determine die marriages and die emission sequences in preparation for the Volume IV of Bill Bugert’s half dollar variety reference books.



L to r: Randy Wiley, John Murison, Bill Bugert, and Dick Osburn with “surprise prominent numismatist’s” rarities on table

With visits by John Murison and Brian Cushing, this goal was accomplished all the while

eating, drinking, and enjoying the camaraderie of fellow experts. An anonymous prominent numismatist (not pictured) made a surprise visit with his massive collection of rarities for a quick show and tell. We were all amazed and delighted to view coins of everyone’s dreams including: 1792 and 1802 half dimes, an 1874-CC dime, 1823 and 1827 quarters, 1796, 1797, 1815, 1838-O, and 1878-S half dollars, Gobrecht and 1851 dollars, assorted coppers, cameo proofs of all denominations, and on and on. Many thanks to the PN for a once in a lifetime opportunity.



Randy Wiley studying 1858-O half dollars

Quarter of the Month (Continued from page 6)

Briggs’ does not comment on the rarity of the 1840-O With Drapery 1-B die pair in his book. My extensive search for an example and a quick look

into the Heritage archives indicate that it makes up around 10 – 15% of 1840 With Drapery small O examples and is a rare, or at least a very scarce, die pair.



1841-O cud reverse dime By Jason Feldman, LSCC #2003

The following image is of the 1841-O Reverse Cud Liberty Seated dime, one of two different but similar for the date. This coin is unlisted by Greer and as a F107b by Fortin. I find these coins to be very hard to locate. As the reverses of most 1841-O dimes are

reviewed for the closed buds and it would appear few of these appear. There is another cud that is considered to be rarer. Time will tell. In any event this is a major cherry pick for any variety collector. Happy hunting



Nominations wanted: LSCC Hall of Fame

Email Bill Bugert at wb8cpy@earthlink.net. Deadline
April 15, 2012.



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

www.davidkahnrarecoins.com

1879-1890 Quarters and Halves Wanted to Buy:

I'm looking for Philadelphia mint 1879-1890 quarters and halves, grades 35-45 only. Must be absolutely original, never cleaned or dipped. What do you have? Denis Loring, 561-207-6180, dwloring@aol.com.

Seated and Bust Coinage for Sale: Rich Uhrich Rare U. S. Coins Inc. specializes in Bust and Seated silver coins, especially scarce and rare dates and varieties. His website www.richuhrichcoins.com lists his complete inventory, has pictures of coins over \$100, and is updated frequently. He offers a newsletter which notifies you when significant new purchases are available and offers his take on the coin market in general as well as Bust and Seated silver. He also actively services want lists. He is an authorized PCGS and NGC dealer and a member of ANA, LSCC, EAC, and JRCS. Contact him at richuhrichcoins@comcast.net, 717-533-2935 or 717-579-8238.

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

Brian Greer, well known dealer, collector, and numismatist, has an extensive listing of many new dates and varieties listed on his website. Check them out at:

<http://www.briangreerrarecoins.com/>

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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