Members and guests of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club gathered in Baltimore, MD on February 28th thru March 2nd, 2019 at the Whitman Spring Expo to celebrate Liberty Seated coinage with the Seated Fest II and the traditional LSCC regional meeting.

The Seated Fest II will be covered in detail in the April issue of the *E-Gobrecht* (we are still compiling all the information and photographs). Attendees gathered for a quick group photograph before the Regional Meeting as shown below. Others arrived after the image was taken.

President Gerry Fortin hosted the shortened regional meeting and opened with a club news update. LSCC Editor/Publisher Bill Bugert provided a detailed update of the March *Gobrecht Journal* issue that was mailed to all current members on February 25th. LSCC Regional Director, Dennis Fortier, covered a long list of upcoming regional meeting events followed by Educational Director, John Frost, announcing our participation at the ANA Summer Seminar (details in the following paragraphs). The meeting closed with a historic announcement from John - the discovery of a photograph of William Barber by the family, and first time to be published at any public event. That photograph is depicted on page 4 of this issue.

(Continued on next page)
ANA Summer Seminar. After a year off, LSCC returns to the ANA summer seminar with a course in seated coinage to be offered in Colorado Springs, CO from June 16-19. Teaching the class will be John Frost, Craig Eberhardt, and myself. It’s a lot like being at a coin show, except without the buying and selling. See https://www.money.org/summer-seminar for more info.

The LSCC meeting at the FUN convention concluded with a most important presentation by Steve Petty on the subject of CAC certification. Steve has been given access to CAC certification statistics and shared some of the data at the meeting. A fuller presentation will be made in the Gobrecht Journal in due course. Tidbits included the number of Liberty Seated quarters with gold CAC stickers (36), the percentage of all PCGS/NGC Liberty Seated coins with CAC stickers (between 4% and 9%, depending on the series), and the all-important CAC success rate for submitted coins (about 1 in 3, depending on several factors – higher value coins tend to have a lower success rate). We look forward to seeing Steve’s full analysis in the future, and acknowledge CAC for their transparency in making this data available. It shouldn’t be a mystery why one coin gets the “green bean” and another doesn’t, and, with a common understanding, the playing field is leveled for everyone.

At the Baltimore Club dinner, Bill Bugert and Jeff Ball were discussing Kam Ahwash’s burial location, which at the time, we thought unknown. Jeff pulled out his phone and located it almost immediately. Here it is from www.find-a-grave.com.

**KAMAL M. AHWASH**

**BIRTH** 6 Jan 1924 Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA

**DEATH** 29 Apr 1983 (aged 59) USA

**BURIAL** South Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia, USA

Served in the Army during WW II. He studied at the National Conservatory of Music in Paris and graduated in 1951. He performed in the opera in Europe including the Paris Opera Company. Married Delores Keenan. They had one daughter. As an actor Ahwash appeared in the Broadway production of *Infidel Caesar* 1962 to 1963. He appeared in two movies, *Requiem for a Heavyweight* and *Girl in the Country*.

He began collecting coins at age nine. Founder and first president of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club. He was a columnist with "Kam’s Korner" for *Coin World* and co-editor of *The Gobrecht Journal*. Author of *Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Dimes* in 1977. Five hundred copies were printed. It was reprinted in 1981. Selections from the Ahwash collection were included in the Kagin’s auction February 2-4, 1984. He died in Philadelphia.
Absence of evidence is not evidence of absence.

This succinct statement captures an important idea in statistics. An idea that is also relevant to searching for rare die varieties. Some varieties are unique or nearly so and may never turn up, or may appear only after a decade or two of collecting. Fairly early in my search for interesting, rare and esoteric Liberty Seated Quarter varieties I began to get frustrated with the number of allegedly “known” varieties that I had not found after years of effort. One veteran collector answered every question that I asked him with, “Well, yeah, it’s rare!”

I was just a bit too diplomatic to point out that the same logic could “prove” that unicorns, the Loch Ness monster, and Yeti obviously exist, but are rare. The fact is that there are many factors, including strike and wear or other post mint damage, making it difficult and unwise to conclude a variety exists based on one person seeing one low-grade example. There are quite a few varieties that I’ve heard about or thought I saw in an eBay photo for which I am withholding judgment while waiting and watching for another, hopefully higher grade, example to appear.

So, this month’s white whale was captured by dealer Brian Greer, who forwarded a photo and then the coin for study. You will note in the figure that a lump of metal encompasses the right arrow on the obverse of the 1853 Arrows and Rays quarter. After looking at the coin under high magnification I agree with Brian’s assessment that the anomaly is “probably post mint.” The interesting part of this statement is the “probably.” It is not obviously struck from a damaged die; and it is not obviously post mint. No matter how close the examination there is not conclusive evidence either way. Note that there is also no evidence of any post mint damage on the reverse of the coin adjacent to the illustrated obverse lump.

So here is one example. Now the question is: If this is in fact a die defect, can we find a second example to prove/support that conclusion? If you have or know of another example like the illustrated coin, please contact me via the E-Gobrecht Editor. I’ll be out searching for Bigfoot, but he’ll know how to reach me.

1853 Arrows and Rays Liberty Seated Quarter Dollar with a lump of metal on the right arrowhead
For years, researchers and collectors alike have sought a photograph of William Barber, 5th Chief Engraver of the U.S. Mint and designer of the Trade dollar and double dime. He served in that post from 1869 until his death on August 31, 1879. Prior to 2018, the only known image of William Barber was a profile portrait featured on an 1880 medal produced by son (and 6th Chief Engraver) Charles E. Barber, in honor of his father. No other images of William Barber of any kind had ever been seen.

As readers of the Gobrecht Journal learned last year, a painting of a young William Barber was brought to light by the Trepagnier family, when I was lucky to meet two of William’s great-great grandsons. However, no photo was to be found in the family’s possession, but the family promised to keep searching in their homes.

By an incredible stroke of luck as well as great timing, on February 18, just a week and a half before the SeatedFest convention in Baltimore, I was notified that they found one! An old frame, about 6” by 8” in size, contained photos of William Barber and his wife. They are positively identified by Edith Barber’s handwritten note on the back of the sealed picture frame. It reads,

William and Anna Maria Barber
Grandparents of Edith Barber Moseley
Great gr “ of Charles Barber Moseley

Framed photos of William and Anna Maria Barber

Borrowing the picture on short notice, I was able to photograph it so I could unveil the newly-discovered photo at SeatedFest at the LSCC meeting, and I am pleased to present it here. The high-resolution photo will be made available for download and publication on the LSCC website. There will be a short article in the summer issue of the Gobrecht Journal with background information and more details of the discovery. In the meantime, please meet William Barber as you have never seen him before.

Chief Engraver William Barber
First-known photograph, c. 1870s

Enjoy and please use the new photo. Look for other news outlets announcing the discovery to the numismatic world!
Two resources for half dime variety collectors have recently come to my attention. The first is Clint Cummins’ excellent guide to half dime varieties by date and mintmark. Clint is working through the series bit by bit, and has posted analysis for 14 of the 70 issues. This guide is posted at [https://web.stanford.edu/~clint/hdag/](https://web.stanford.edu/~clint/hdag/). Looking through the entry on the 1856-O, for example, one is immediately impressed by the depth and quality of the research. An extensive 28-page guide tells you everything you need to know – for starters, how to identify the eight obverse dies, the three reverse dies, and their respective date states. A handy table shows all the possible die marriages (pictured here), with everything cross-referenced to Valentine numbers. The guide is profusely illustrated with rarity ratings for each variety, in addition to a condition census. You want to know the highest graded examples of 1856-O V-7? Look no further, it is all here.

One of more compelling aspects of this guide is that it has largely been constructed through the use of Internet resources. I well remember John McCloskey explaining die variety research in the pre-Internet era. Several interested collectors would drive long distances, bring all their coins, gather in a hotel room, and start sorting out the die varieties. It was a slow and tedious process, and the path between building a reference collection and publishing a standard guide was lengthy. Today’s technology does away with the problems of distance and image sharing, which greatly facilitates the rest of the work. One can sit at their computer and access millions of coin images, and these alone answer most of the questions. The ultimate authority of course remains the coins themselves, but even without coins in hand tremendous progress can be made.

A second, new resource is the photo record of the Steve Crain Liberty Seated half dime reference collection, which is available on Newman Portal at [https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/imagecollection/514182](https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/imagecollection/514182), for the years 1838-1843. As many readers are aware, David Perkins has announced the sale of the Crain collection, and Perkins has graciously made this important collection available so that it may be captured for posterity. Steve Herrman’s excellent photography is on full display here, and in addition to the coins themselves he has captured the 2x2 holders on which Steve Crain recorded numerous notes on each coin. Crain was the ultimate seated half dime variety collector, chasing coins for an extended period of time, always on the lookout for a new discovery. His collection was comprehensive not only for die varieties but for die states as well. The LSCC has underwritten the work done so far, and we are seeking further contributions to continue the photography (donations to LSCC are most welcome, contact me at [leonard_augsburger@hotmail.com](mailto:leonard_augsburger@hotmail.com)). Between the Cummins reference and the Crain photos, Liberty Seated half dime variety attribution has made an important step forward.
Regional News
by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

March Update

Brian Cushing our West Coast Regional Director hosted the club table and the club luncheon at the Long Beach Coin Expo January 31 to February 2. Bob Clark assisted him. Floor traffic was reported to be very good and as the picture below provided shows the luncheon was well attended.

It is nice to see our West Coast members enjoying some good club comradeship. We look forward to seeing Brian in Baltimore.

John Frost and Dennis Fortier represented the club at the annual Knoxville Coin Show, February 1-2. Dennis gave a new presentation on Liberty Seated Half Dollars of Philadelphia. It was good to spend time with our friends from Tennessee. One new member was signed-up at the show.

As of this publication Seated Fest II is going on at the Whitman Baltimore Expo. With any luck you’re probably there. There will be a full report in next month’s edition of the E-Gobrecht.

The Bay State Coin Show is March 15-16 at the Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, 181 Boston Post Rd West, Marlborough MA. Bay State is one of the better coin shows in New England. Joe Casazza Northeast Regional Director will host the club table with John Frost.

The Willimantic Coin Show is Sunday, March 31, 9 AM - 3:30 PM at the Prospect School Gymnasium on the corner of Prospect and High Streets Willimantic, CT. This is a local favorite. The “Everyman Set of Liberty Seated Half Dollars” will be on display. It is hoped that members in the area will plan on spending some time at the club table with John and Dennis.

Club membership is back above 600 again with several dozen members renewing after receiving a reminder letter. Please consider renewing for multiple years or at least renew promptly when you receive the November issue of the Gobrecht Journal. The leadership team is all volunteer. Sending out over 100 reminder letters is a time-consuming chore. These volunteers do a tremendous amount of work for the members as it is. Please don’t add to the work load. Renew promptly or let someone know you will not be renewing.

Renew your membership for 2020 now on PayPal and stay ahead of the cycle. Renew at lsccdues@gmail.com

Don’t forget to keep the club updated on any change of address!
Call for Hall of Fame Nominations

The Hall of Fame Committee composed of club members Len Augsburger, Bill Bugert, Tom DeLorey, Gerry Fortin, and Mark Sheldon wishes to inform the membership that we are accepting nominations for the Liberty Seated Collectors Club’s 2019 Hall of Fame (HoF). Please consider honoring a noteworthy individual to this prestigious distinction for his/her contributions to the club and/or to the advancement of collecting Liberty Seated coinage.

Basic qualifications for club member nominees are significant advances in or contributions to at least one of the following four criteria:
- Numismatic Research on Liberty Seated coinage
- Numismatic Literature related to Liberty Seated coinage
- Collection(s) of Liberty Seated coinage
- LSCC Club officer (for at least five years).

Previous inductees to the HoF include Kamal M. Ahwash (deceased), John W. McCloskey (deceased), Alfred E. Blythe (deceased), Randall E. Wiley, Brian Greer, Gerry Fortin, Jim O’Donnell (deceased), Eugene Gardner (deceased), Jim Gray, Bill Bugert, and Len Augsburger. This year’s inductee will be announced at the LSCC 2019 annual meeting.

The nominations must be received no later than April 15, 2019 and are due to the HoF Chairman, Bill Bugert, via email at wb8cpy@earthlink.net or via postal mail at Bill Bugert, 1230 Red Rock Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-6927 or to Bill via telephone at (717) 337-0229.
LSCC Calendar


April 5-6, 2019. **LSCC table and Educational Program. Gettysburg, PA.** Gettysburg National Battlefield Coin Show. Check LSCC website for exact details.

April 15, 2019. Deadline for LSCC Hall of Fame Nominations to Bill Bugert (contact info on last page of this issue.)

All dates: see the LSCC website (**www.lsccweb.org**) for additional events and details.
Couldn’t attend Seated Fest in Baltimore? Attended Seated Fest, but want more?

Register now for Developing a Passion for Liberty Seated Coinage at the ANA Summer Seminar, June 15-20!

Due to popular demand, the LSCC is once again offering this Liberty Seated course at this year’s ANA Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs. This course features interactive discussions on many topics, including the history and development of Liberty Seated coinage, evolution of the designs, and grading, including the nuances between series. The core of the class features a deep dive into each of the seven series: half dimes, dimes, twenty-cent pieces, quarters, halves, and both Liberty Seated and Trade dollars.

These deep dives entail in-hand inspection of many coins in all grades in all series, and will include in-depth discussions into collecting strategies, key dates, major varieties, attribution, counterfeits, and authentication. Students will have access to both reference materials and sit-down guidance from instructors throughout the course.

Course #9 is a four-day class and sessions go all day. Breaks, meals, and evenings allow for networking and camaraderie with all students and instructors, and provide plenty of time to talk coins with people of all backgrounds and levels of experience, from morning to night.

Class size is limited to 18 students, so if you are interested in attending this class, register soon, as it is filling up!

Seminar #9: Developing a Passion for Liberty Seated Coinage

Instructors:
John Frost (LSCC Education Director)
Len Augsburger (LSCC VP and Curious Collector column)
Craig Eberhart (Auction News column, noted New Orleans expert)

We look forward to seeing you in Colorado Springs!
Auction News  
by Craig Eberhart, LSCC #1348

Heritage Signature Auction, January 31 - February 3, Long Beach Coin Expo. February opened (and January ended) with Heritage's Long beach auction. A reasonable selection of better date Liberty Seated coins were in this auction. A With-Drapery 1840-O half dime in an MS61 holder sold for what I thought was a weak price. However, this coin appeared to be flat on Liberty's leg and breasts perhaps indicating that one or more bidders graded it choice AU instead of mint state. Several better date circulated dimes and quarters were also in this sale. Three AU 1857 Liberty Seated dollars, a scarcer date that is available in higher grades, were sold.

The Spring Baltimore Auction by Stack's Bowers Galleries - February 27 - March 5. If you attended this Baltimore show, I hope you had an opportunity to view the extensive exhibits of Liberty Seated coinage presented by several LSCC members. The auction included numerous rarities but was lacking in better date Liberty Seated coins. "Many" of the few are listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Variety</th>
<th>Grader</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<td>VG10</td>
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<td>VG10</td>
<td>$2,640.</td>
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<th>Variety</th>
<th>Grader</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<td>PCGS</td>
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<td>Trade dollar</td>
<td>PCGS</td>
<td>VF35</td>
<td>$2640.</td>
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Upcoming Auctions:
Heritage Signature Auction, March 14-16, Dallas
PCGS Members Only Show, March 21, Las Vegas, Regency Auction 31 by Legend
The Spring ANA National Money Show, March 28-30, Pittsburgh, by Kagin's
The 2019 LSCC survey on the most challenging years in collecting Liberty Seated coinage is now open for input on the LSCC website. Participation in this survey is open to LSCC members only (it requires reading the survey description, instructions, and example, as seen in the Spring issue of *The Gobrecht Journal*, Issue #134, on pages 38-40. You may use the LSCC website to respond to the survey.

**Instructions for completing the survey form online:**

- Read the article in *The Gobrecht Journal*, Issue #134, pages 38-40.
- Assign a number 1 through 10 in the box corresponding to the dates/years you pick as the most challenging. Assign the number "1" to the most challenging, and the number "10" to the 10th most challenging, and everything in between.
- Hit the **SUBMIT SURVEY** button at the very bottom of the page. Deadline for submission is May 15, 2019.

Your responses will be anonymized, however we ask each respondent to designate their name and Liberty Seated Collectors Club Member#, if known, so that we can ensure that you are a member. Your LSCC Member# can be found on your mailing label, or your membership card that was included with that issue of the *Gobrecht Journal*. Your email address is requested only so that we may confirm that we received your submission. Thank you for your cooperation and your participation!


Free Advertisements

**Perfection**: #1 Liberty Seated Half, Date Set, always looking for beautiful Liberty Seated Half Dollars AU58 and higher. Must be PCGS/CAC with good eye appeal! Will pay the highest price if I like the coin!  
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**Holt Rarities** is Buying and Selling Liberty Seated, Federal, and Colonial Issue coins of all denominations. Check out our website at [www.holtraricointies.com](http://www.holtraricointies.com) or call (931) 581-1890. Brad Holt has collected 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](mailto:carlscoins@gmail.com) or (973) 479-9956.


**www.dickosburn.com** We buy, sell, and trade early U.S. silver coinage with an emphasis on Liberty Seated and Bust. Also accepting consignments and want lists. Call Brian at 603-767-7745 or contact Dick and Brian at [bpcushing@gmail.com](mailto:bpcushing@gmail.com)

**Larry Briggs Rare Coins.** New updated website with many photos—check us out at: [www.larrybriggsrarecoins.com](http://www.larrybriggsrarecoins.com)

**Dr. Eugene Bruder** is constantly updating his website, [www.typecoins.com](http://www.typecoins.com), which features a nice selection of bust and seated material for sale. You can reach him at 402-475-0350 or email at: [gene@typecoins.com](mailto:gene@typecoins.com).

**Sunshine Rare Coins.** I specialize in choice, eye appealing U.S. Type and better date United States coins, especially Draped Bust, Capped Bust, and Liberty Seated coinage. Many coins are CAC approved and feature attractive color. Many quality collector coins! Member LSCC, JRCS, ANA. Please contact David Sunshine at [davidbsunshine@yahoo.com](mailto:davidbsunshine@yahoo.com) and visit his website at [www.sunshinecoins.com](http://www.sunshinecoins.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](mailto:jason@seated.org)

**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/](http://www.briangreerrarecoins.com/).

**Liberty 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](mailto:davethomas333@hotmail.com) or 1-714-872-2772.

**David Kahn Rare Coins.** Over 40 years numismatic experience. Authorized PCGS and CAC dealer. My website is easy to use, and you will find many choice bust and seated coins there, all with excellent photos. High quality, original, eye appealing coins are my focus. [www.davidkahnrarecoins.com](http://www.davidkahnrarecoins.com)

**Quality Gobrecht, Liberty Seated, and Trade Dollars Wanted to Purchase or to Take on Consignment.** W. David Perkins, LSCC #790. Please contact Dave at [wdperki@attglobal.net](mailto:wdperki@attglobal.net), or Phone 303-902-5366. Website: [www.davidperkinsrarecoins.com](http://www.davidperkinsrarecoins.com)

**Wanted to Buy, Liberty Seated Quarters** for my personal collection. Prefer choice, original examples with attractive natural color and surfaces. Please feel free to offer me any coins and I will respond promptly. Doug Winter LSCC #10. Email address [dwn@ont.com](mailto:dwn@ont.com).

**David Finkelstein.** [www.djf-coins.com](http://www.djf-coins.com) - raw and slabbed collector coins. Many coins have CAC stickers. Every coin is pictured. In addition to being an authorized PCGS, NGC and CAC dealer, I am a member of the PNG, ANA, EAC, LSCC, JRCS, and other regional/national organizations. Visit my website at [www.djf-coins.com](http://www.djf-coins.com). Contact me at [sales@djf-coins.com](mailto:sales@djf-coins.com).
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 website: www.lsccweb.org
LSCC email address: lscc@lsccweb.org

LSCC Membership Information. Dues are bargain priced at $25 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/Treasurer.

Articles, comments, or advertisements for publication in the Gobrecht Journal may be addressed to the LSCC Publications Editor.

Information, input, comments, or suggestions for improvements to this E-Gobrecht are actively solicited from anyone and may be sent to the LSCC Publications Editor.

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@earthlink.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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