Liberty Seated Collectors Club
Founded 1973

E-Gobrecht

Liberty Seated Collectors Club

2023 Volume 19, Issue 2

February 2023 (Whole #217)

Stepping back in time to a bygone era of the Liberty Seated coin design period, both far and wide, and a little before & after...

See Page 12 for Cover Description

Liberty Seated Collectors Club

Uniting collectors of Liberty Seated coinage since 1973

E-Gobrecht's 19th Year 2014-2023

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Welcome to the following new LSCC Member(s) this month:

James Broesder
Dan Cassia
Jeremy Eaton
Donovan Epling
Isaiah Nicely
Ronald Shryock

There are currently 1381 active Subscribers to E-Gobrecht & counting including 287+ local coin clubs across the country

Please keep your subscription e-mail address current as you could be dropped from the monthly issue if your email is twice rejected in a two-month period as non-active or non-existent.

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 U.S. Coin series. The LSCC provides the information contained in this "electronic" e-mail newsletter from various sources "free of charge" as a general service to the membership and other subscribers with a numismatic interest. You do not have to be a LSCC member to benefit from this newsletter; subscription to the *E-Gobrecht* is available on a complimentary basis to anyone. All disclaimers are in effect as the completeness and/or accuracy of the information contained herein cannot be completely verified. Contact information for this publication can be found on the last page.

Liberty Seated Collectors Club
Founded 1973

Liberty Seated Collectors Club

Uniting collectors of Liberty Seated coinage since 1973

President's Message

Welcome to our February issue of the E-Gobrecht, ably produced by Paul Kluth each month. The January sales are now behind us, which included market appearances of the 1870-S half dime, the 1873-CC No Arrows dime, and an 1870-S dollar. That's a trio not likely to be repeated any time soon!

But, for most of us, the focus leans toward collector coins that lie decidedly further down the affordability scale. With the snow season in full force, it's a good time to hunker down with a few such coins and a copy of your favorite reference book at hand. Stay warm, and we'll see you next month ...*Len Augsburger*

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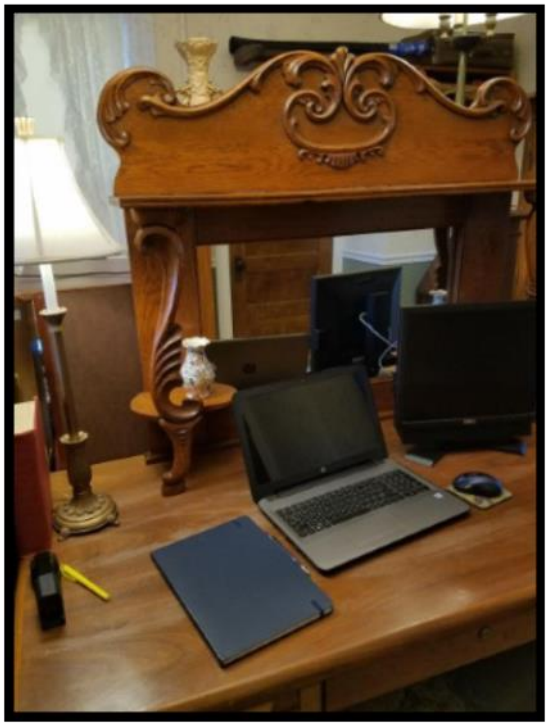
Editor's View From the Rim

Is It Time to Downsize while still fulfilling one's passions, yet still under rehabilitation? ...PK



That's a quirky title for an Editor's Viewpoint, but as mentioned last month, I have been mostly silent these last 7 month's while recovering from a second major surgery on my abdomen. My movements are limited and painful, but there is light at the end of the recovery tunnel while healing, God willing.

Sitting here in bed with the laptop gets me thinking "is it time to start downsizing or just leave it to the family to figure out one day? It is probably a good time to start consolidating and spinning off activities that are more than I can handle, meaning those activities I am no longer active with.

Does this last paragraph sound familiar to some of my fellow senior numismatists?

Well, I couldn't think of anything else to brilliantly chat about this month (big laughing cough...) and my follow Liberty Seated friends and contributors will cover January-February numismatic events for you as they always do each month.

DAVID KAHN
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LSCC <u>Membership Renewals</u> are now due. Look for renewal form in your Fall issue of the Gobrecht Journal. It will also be time to vote for your favorite articles for the Literary Awards and the slate of elected Club Officers for 2023-24.

Barber Coin Collectors' Society
Founded 1989

BCCS Club Meetings, Club Table and Educational Programs are routinely held at most of the LSCC coin show events, and their table is usually right next to the LSCC Table for your convenience.

LSCC 50th Anniversary Medals - 2nd Order

Due to popular demand, a second order for the LSCC 50th Anniversary (Commemorative] Medals is being offered.

This newly designed Silver medal will have approximately 4.19 ounces of .999 silver with a diameter of 2.25".

A Brass medal (below) is also being offered..

Silver medal: **$300**
Brass medal: **$100**

Orders restricted to LSCC Members only so join the Club if you want a medal.

Both medal images courtesy of Bill Bugert

2nd Order Deadline - Contact Dennis Fortier (VP) by February 20, Send payment (check or PayPal 'family & friends') by March 10.

Contact Dennis Fortier ASAP at **ricajun@msn.com**
Afterwards send check or money order made out to LSCC to the attention of:
Dennis Fortier
215 Pomeroy Drive, Crossville, TN 38558
PayPal orders add $5 for each medal to LSCCdues@gmail.com

Regional News

by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

Knoxville / Spartanburg / FUN Recap

This month the Regional Team returns to one of the team's favorite shows, the 59th Annual Ft. Loudon & Smoky Mtn. Coin Club Show, Feb. 3-4 at the Rothchild's Catering & Conference Ctr., 8807 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN. This will be the 10th year with a LSCC presence at this well run smaller show. Club display & education program to be Lane Brunner Double Dimes & Exonumia.

The 53rd Upstate South Carolina Coin Show in Spartanburg will be held at the Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium on February 17-18. This show is another favorite on the Regional schedule. Stop by the Club table and say hello.

Recap of the FUN Show: The Club's 50th Anniversary got off to a great start at the FUN show in Florida. The new 50th Anniversary medals made their debut. Both the Silver and Brass Medals arrived on time to open up the 50th Anniversary Celebration. Everyone seemed pleased with the medals and the few remaining medals sold out quickly. Due to numerous requests, a second production order for both medals is now being offered. See previous page 7.

Fifteen members and guests attended the Club dinner on Thursday night, while twenty

(Continued on next page)

Regional News cont.

members and guests were at the Club meeting on Friday morning. At the meeting, a recap of Club events and the 50th Anniversary events was presented. The educational portion was a presentation on the recent Chopmark Survey results.

The Club table, thanks to John Lundsten, had an almost complete Liberty Seated Quarter Collection, missing just two coins. Also, Dennis Fortier displayed his complete set of San Francisco Liberty Seated Half Dollars along with the 50th Anniversary medals.

Many members stopped by and shared experiences and new purchases. Our Club Treasurer, John Lundsten, commented that he enjoyed being part of Club activities at the show. "It lent a new aspect to his show experience".

* * * * *

New Regional Team Member Ernie Ely represented the clubs at the Winter Salt Lake Coin Show, here is his report:

Hello to all Liberty Seated collectors. I just finished representing the LSCC, BCCS, and the SHS at the Utah Winter Coin Show, sponsored by the Utah Numismatic and Token Society. It is the first time any of these clubs have been represented at a Utah coin show.

It was a blast being part of the show and representing the clubs! On display were my complete sets of Liberty Seated Quarters and Half Dollars (minus the 1878-S), as well as my complete Barber Dimes, Quarters, and Half Dollars. Other series included: all early coppers, all Bust series, three cent silvers, three cent nickels and all five-cent nickels series.

(Continued on next page)

Regional News cont.

Images from F.U.N. 2023 on this and the previous page (with well attended Club Dinner)

I had so much fun meeting new people and answering questions. I know many dealers at the show and they were 'wowed' at my full collection of Liberty Seated quarters and halves. All said they had never seen full collections of these coins.

There's another coin show coming up sponsored by the Ogden Coin Club. I'll be there, too! ...***Ernie Ely LSCC/BCCS/SHS Utah Regional Representative***

(Continued on next page)

Regional News cont.

Utah Show photos with Ernie Ely

Ernie has just experienced what the Regional Team members have known for many years. Representing the Club, displaying your collections and your enthusiasm for Liberty Seated coinage (IS A BLAST – EE). Having your enthusiasm acknowledged and admired, is one of the best parts of being part of the Regional Team. Thank you Ernie and well done.

(Continued on next page)

Regional News cont.

John Frost and Ken Otto represented the Club at the Houston Show. Here is John's report:

Two weeks following FUN 2023 found us at the Houston Money Show. This is a great show organized and run by the Greater Houston Coin Club. Held in Conroe TX, once again traffic was heavy with attendees of all ages. Dick Osburn gave the clubs half of his table, and we were visited by a number of LSCC members. Many of them had joined the LSCC at this show in earlier years, as we are closing in on 10 years that we have been represented here.

The exhibit was a complete set of Carson City half dollars, along with all the late date low-mintage halves. As usual, people enjoyed seeing the attractive coins, and more than a few were disappointed that they were not for sale!

The educational program held on Friday was "Interesting Liberty Seated Varieties" with 15 in attendance with an excellent Q&A session. The GHCC does an exemplary job with this show. In addition to John and Dick at the table, Ken Otto split his time between helping at the table and being a GHCC Volunteer assisting dealers checking in. We look forward to next year's show!

(END)

Description of Cover Page Photos

The Cover image was taken on a cold morning in a rural area of Maryland. The ground was frozen at daybreak on this farm located in one of the many beautiful valleys in the state.

This month, the coin images are courtesy of David Sunshine of Sunshine Rare Coins, a dealer member and advertiser of LSCC.

Two Liberty Seated Half Dimes (an 1840 and 1855) and a Trade Dollar (1877-S) toned similar to the colors in both the 'daybreak sky' and 'dull green grass', gorgeous patinas of nature. Nice Grades too!

The Curious Collector

by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

Never Trust a Computer with Your Coins

The media has made a lot of fuss about artificial intelligence with the recent release of the Open AI chat bot. I "interviewed" this AI engine (https://chat.openai.com/chat) about the Liberty Seated Collectors Club, with mixed results.

Q. Tell me about the Liberty Seated Collectors Club?

A. The Liberty Seated Collectors Club (LSCC) is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to the study and appreciation of the Liberty Seated coinage of the United States. The club was founded in 1964 and has a membership of collectors, dealers, and researchers who are interested in these coins.

The Liberty Seated coinage includes dimes, quarters, half dollars, and dollars that were minted from the late 1830s to the early 1890s. The obverse (front) of these coins features a seated figure of Liberty, while the reverse (back) features a variety of designs, such as an eagle, a wreath, and a heraldic shield.

The LSCC holds regular meetings and publishes a quarterly newsletter called The Gobrecht Journal, which features articles on a variety of topics related to Liberty Seated coinage, including history, varieties, and market trends. The club also sponsors educational programs and exhibits at coin shows.

If you are interested in learning more about Liberty Seated coinage or joining the LSCC, you can visit their website at www.lsccweb.org.

Comment: Not bad, except that the club founding date should be 1974 and not 1964. The twenty-cent piece and Trade dollar were not mentioned.

Q. What are the most valuable Liberty Seated coins?

A. The most valuable Liberty Seated coins are typically those that are in excellent condition and are rare. Some specific examples of valuable Liberty Seated coins include:

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

- Liberty Seated dollars minted from 1840 to 1873
- Liberty Seated half dollars minted from 1839 to 1891
- Liberty Seated quarters minted from 1838 to 1891

The value of a specific Liberty Seated coin is determined by several factors, including its rarity, condition, and demand among collectors. Factors such as the coin's age, historical significance, and mint mark can also affect its value. It's important to note that the value of any coin can fluctuate over time and is dependent on market conditions.

Comment: This is pretty worthless; clearly this bot has little knowledge of rare coin values.

Q. Where is a good place to find Liberty Seated coins?

A. Liberty Seated coins are a type of United States coin that was produced from the late 1830s to the early 1890s. You may be able to find these coins at a coin dealer, at a coin show, or online through a website that specializes in selling rare and collectible coins. You could also try checking with local coin clubs or societies to see if any members have Liberty Seated coins for sale or trade. Another option is to check online auction sites, such as eBay, to see if there are any Liberty Seated coins available. Finally, you could try contacting the Professional Numismatists Guild (PNG) or the American Numismatic Association (ANA) to see if they have any recommendations for reputable dealers or sources of Liberty Seated coins.

Comment: Not bad, but they should have mentioned the LSCC.

Q. How much is an 1878-S half dollar worth?

A. Without more context, it is difficult to give an accurate estimate of the value of an 1878-S half dollar. The value of a coin depends on a number of factors, including its rarity, condition, and demand among collectors. An 1878-S half dollar is a relatively common coin, and in circulated condition it might be worth $20 to $50 or more. However, if the coin is in pristine condition or has some other special characteristic, it could be worth significantly more.

Comment: This one gets a total fail. The bot is clueless on this point.

Q. Which is the best coin grading service?

A. There are many coin grading services, and it can be difficult to determine which one is the "best." Some of the most well-known coin grading services include Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS) and Numismatic Guaranty Corporation (NGC). Both of these services are widely respected in the numismatic community and have strict grading standards. However, there are also many other coin grading services that may be just as reputable. It's always a good idea to do your own research and read reviews before choosing a coin grading service.

(Continued on next page)

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Comment: This is good – a casual collector will quickly get routed to one of the two major grading services (not counting CAC Grading, which has not yet launched).

Q. What are some valuable varieties in the Liberty Seated coin series?

A. The Liberty Seated coin series, which was produced by the United States Mint from 1836 to 1891, includes many varieties that are considered valuable by collectors. Some examples of valuable varieties in this series include:

- 1838-O No Stars Obverse: This variety is notable for having no stars on the obverse (front) side of the coin. It is considered rare and is highly sought after by collectors.

- 1853 Arrows and Rays: This variety features arrows on either side of the date and rays on the reverse (back) side of the coin. It was minted for only one year, making it a sought-after rarity.

- 1878-S Proof: This proof coin, was made for collectors rather than circulation, is considered rare and valuable.

- 1879-O Micro O: This variety is notable for having a small "O" mint mark on the reverse side of the coin. It is considered rare and is highly sought after by collectors.

Comment: My head just exploded. There is no 1878-S proof, and the micro-O is a Morgan, not a Liberty Seated coin. The 1853 Arrows & Rays quarters and halves are common. Denominations are unlisted for all coins. We need a grade below "Fail" to rate this answer.

Q. How much is an 1870-CC quarter worth?

A. The value of an 1870-CC quarter, or any coin for that matter, depends on a number of factors, including its condition, rarity, and demand from collectors. Without more information about the specific coin you have, it is difficult to give a precise valuation.

That being said, the 1870-CC quarter is considered a rare and valuable coin due to its low mintage. According to the Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS), the value of a 1870-CC quarter in "Good" condition (the lowest grade assigned by PCGS) can range from $2,500 to $3,500. However, the value of a 1870-CC quarter in higher grades, such as "Very Fine" or "Extremely Fine," could be significantly higher.

Comment: I have no idea what edition of the PCGS price guide they are quoting, but it must be one from the 19th century. Too bad this bot doesn't have any coins to sell.

Q. Where are the coins that were deposited in the San Francisco Mint cornerstone in 1870?

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A. It is not uncommon for coins or other objects to be placed in the cornerstone of a building during its construction as a way of marking the event and possibly as a good luck charm. The San Francisco Mint, which was established in 1854, is no exception. According to a report from the United States Mint, a cornerstone for the San Francisco Mint was laid on July 4, 1870, and a "time capsule" containing various coins and other objects was placed inside.

The exact contents of the time capsule are not known, but it is likely that it contained a variety of coins, including examples of those produced at the San Francisco Mint. It is not clear what happened to the time capsule after it was placed in the cornerstone. It is possible that it remains there to this day, sealed inside the cornerstone of the building. It is also possible that the time capsule was later removed and its contents dispersed. Without more information, it is difficult to say where the coins from the time capsule are currently located.

Comment: Not bad, but the cornerstone dedication was May 25, 1870, not July 4. I'll give the AI engine good marks for grammatically correct English (which by itself is an amazing feat for a computer), but it has a long way to go in the area of specialized numismatic knowledge.

Worse yet, some of the answers here are non-factual or downright misleading. I think you will get much better advice from your fellow LSCC members!

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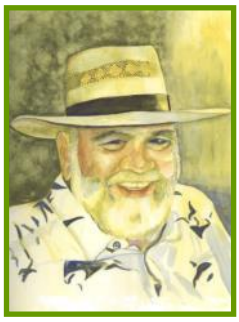

The Auction Realm

by Craig Eberhart, LSCC #1348

February 2023 Activities

As is often the case, the auction(s) associated with the FUN show are typically quite extensive with many rarities. This year the Heritage auctions included part II of three major collections: The Harry Bass Collection; The Bender Family Collection; and the Prestwick Collection.

Amazingly, each collection included a unique coin. The Bass Collection included the 1870-S thee-dollar gold piece, the Bender collection with the 1870-S half dime, and the Prestwick collection with the 1873-CC no arrows dime. In addition, an 1870-S silver dollar, one of nine known, was also sold in the Heritage Signature auction. Lot viewing at the FUN show provided a rare opportunity (dare I say literally unique opportunity?) to examine the three unique coins.

A recent publication by Heritage Auctions, "Famed 1870-S Rarities", written in part by our LSCC President Len Augsburger, indicates that these 1870-S coins were minted along with a complete set of all denominations that were subsequently placed in the northeast cornerstone of the new San Francisco Mint on May 25, 1870.

However, the location of this cornerstone is no longer known possibly due to damage from the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. Therefore, the existence of the 1870-S cornerstone coins cannot be verified making the half dime and three-dollar gold pieces the sole known examples. As for the 1873-CC dime, it appears to be the only survivor of the five No Arrows dimes submitted to the Assay Commission from the Carson City Mint.

Last and definitely the least for most of us the auction prices:

1870-S	Half dime	PCGS CAC	MS64	$3.12 million
1873-CC	Dime – no arrows	PCGS	MS65	$3.6 million
1870-S	Liberty Seated dollar	NGC	XF40	$420,000.
1870-S	Three-dollar gold	PCGS	SP50 893 engraved	$5.52 million

(END)

LSCC Upcoming 2023 Regional Events Schedule

**** Details Mostly Finalized***

See next page

Christian Gobrecht

Note: **Updates provided as they become available**, but always check the organization's show website for further details and any last minutes changes.

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Liberty Seated Collectors Club

Name_____
Address_____
City_____State_____Zip_____
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Phone_____

LSCC Member Application Form also at:
http://www.lsccweb.org/LSCC_Membership.pdf

Fill in the above information and send this application with payment to:

New member join date	Amount Due	*Full Color Gobrecht Journals* To be sent to the new member
January thru March	$30	3 (March, July, and November)
April thru July	$20	2 (July and November)
August thru December	$10	1 (November)

Liberty Seated Collectors Club
c/o Craig Eberhardt, Secretary
P.O. Box 1386, Los Alamos, NM 87544

LSCC 2023 Regional Events Schedule Cont.

**** Details Mostly Finalized***

William Barber

*** February 3-4** **Knoxville Coin Show**, Knoxville, TN at the Rothchild Catering & Expo Center - Club table displaying portions of the Lane Brunner Double Dime & Exonumia Collection, Educational Program TBD

*** February 17-18** **Upstate Coin Show**, Spartanburg, SC at the Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium - Club table

March 16-18 **Whitman Spring Baltimore Coin & Currency Expo**, Baltimore, MD at the downtown Baltimore Convention Center - Regional Club meeting on Friday at 9 a.m., Educational Program TBD, LSCC/BCSS Club table

Note: **Updates provided as they become available**, but always check the organization's show website for further details and any last minutes changes.

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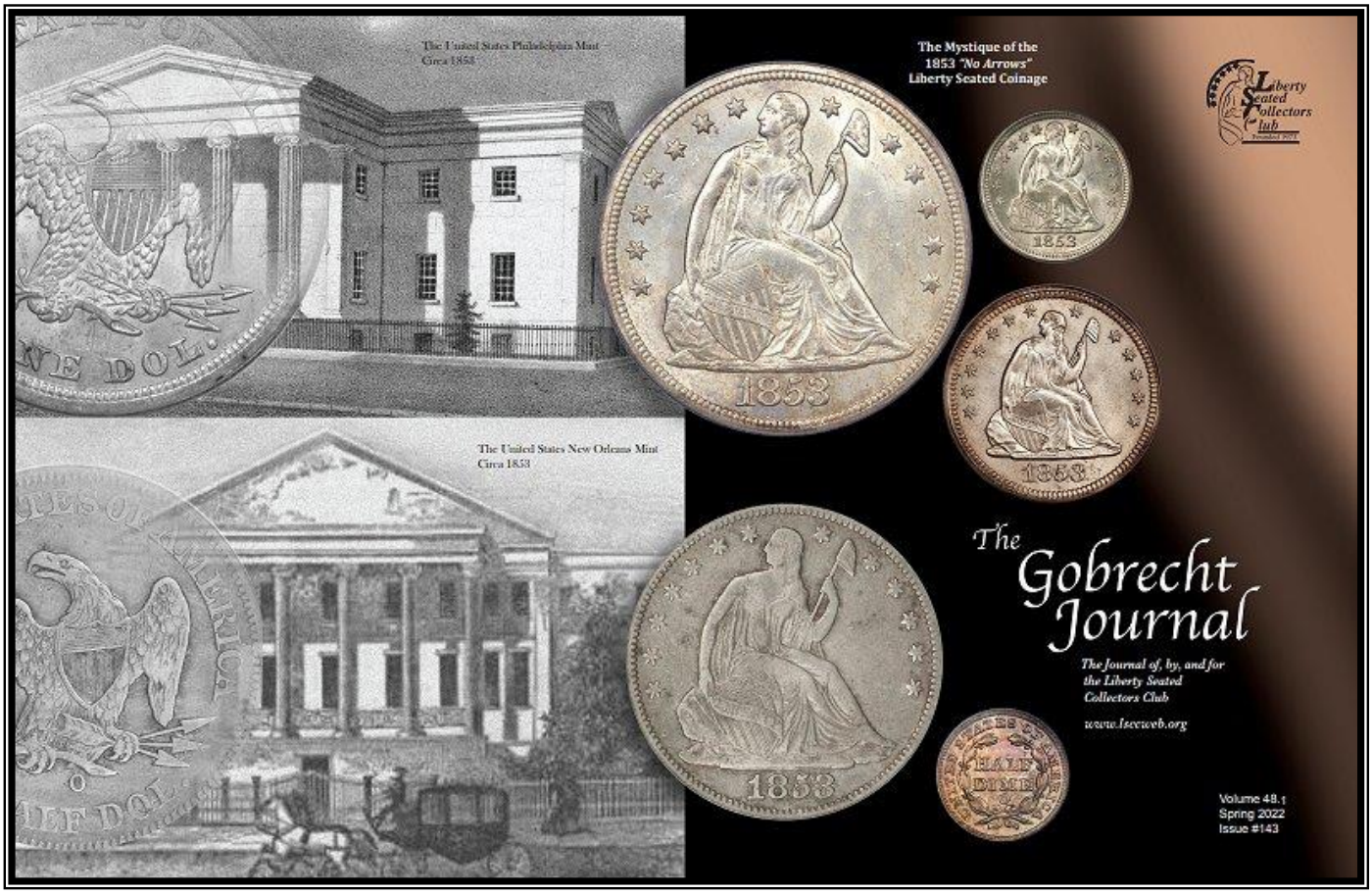

'Gobrecht' Bust Half Dollars

Annoucement: 'Top 25 Rarest Reeded Edge Half Dollars & More

by Jim Koenings, LSCC #2798 & JRCS #048

On January 15, 2023, I will start a New Series "The Top 25 Rarest Reeded Edge Halves", starting with the 25th Rarest and continuing monthly until I reach the No. 1 Rarest.
Other articles will appear in The Gobrech Journal from time to time, but not E-Gobrecht.
To learn more about Reeded Edge Halves or to ask questions, contact Jim Koenings below.

If you haven't done so, now is the time to sign up for our **Complimentary Monthly Newsletters (past & present)** by sending your **Name** and **e-Mail Address** to:

bustcoin1@verizon.net

Half Crazy

The Newsletter of the

Seated Half Society

Society hits Milestone of 31 Founding Members in first year

To receive the Half Crazy Newsletter for free and for further information about the SHS or questions about Liberty Seated Halves, please contact Verne Pitman or myself.

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LSCC Mission

To encourage, promote, and dispense numismatic knowledge of 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 $30 per year and include 3 packed 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, please correspond with Jeff Ball, LSCC Secretary listed on this page.

Articles, comments, or advertisements for publication in the *Gobrecht Journal* magazine may be addressed to Len Augsburger, Gobrecht Journal Publication Editor.

Submissions, correspondence, information and comments for this digital publication (*E-Gobrecht)* are actively encouraged from its subscribers and may be sent to Paul Kluth, E-Gobrecht Publication Editor.

To be added as a "free" subscriber to *E-Gobrecht* or removed from the mailing list or to change your email address, please send an email message indicating your preference in the subject line to: e-gobrecht@msn.com

Wanted: Submissions 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 a favorite coin, variety, neat find, nice cherrypick, happening at a coin show or local club, Liberty Seated coinage at 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 column writer to submit material of interest to others. "This is your monthly digital publication. It is what you make of it!"

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