

INTRODUCTION TO THE SALE

Welcome to MB 52! There are 120 coins in the sale. The watchword for this sale is *Eye Candy*. The principal consignor, Tim Osborne, spent over 30 years on the hunt for bust half-dollars with exceptional eye appeal. His patience and practiced eye paid off. The 60 pieces laid before us in Part 1 of the Sale will remind you of the collections of Gehring Prouty and Keith Davignon. Not a dud in the bunch. When reviewing Tim's coins pay special attention to his AU 55s. I have not before seen so many in one collection that left me to wonder, "Why not AU 58?" John Albanese, owner of CAC, probably felt the same way. In June I sent him 56 of Tim's coins; 38 came back with stickers, including one gold. That is a remarkable batting average!

Dr. Charles Link surprised me with a late consignment of high grade coins and interesting die states. I hurriedly submitted 16 coins to CAC; 9 came back with stickers. Again, a wonderful result and a testament to his experienced eye. Chuck's coins are in Part 2 of the Sale. I was particularly taken with John Jay Pittman's 1827.

Howard Sharfman decided to move from bust halves to other numismatic arenas. He was kind enough to sell me his no. 1 rated "Everyman Registry Set" of capped bust half-dollars awhile back. Legend will sell his Registry Set of *Early Half-Dollars with Major Varieties* in September. If you hanker for 5 and 6 figure coins be sure to ask Legend for a catalog. Part 3 of this Sale consists of a small consignment of rare capped bust die marriages from the Sharfman Collection. The highlight is his R.5+ PCGS AU 58 1827 O.144. Or perhaps you will prefer his dazzling 1809 XXX edge, PCGS AU 58 with CAC sticker.

Several other collectors generously offered one or more pretty coins for the sale. You will find them in Part 4. The highlight may be Louis Eliasberg's 1818 O.111 but don't overlook the gorgeous 1813 O.103, 1818/7 O.101 and 1819 O.114.

The sale concludes with a modest selection from the incomparable collection of bust half errors assembled by Henry Hilgard. The collection has remained intact since it was purchased by a single buyer, not long after Henry died in 2013. This is the first public offering of error coins from the Hilgard collection.

SOMETHING NEW – SLAB PHOTOS!

I asked Lance Keigwin to photograph both the coins and their slabs. To view slab photos click the BID button on my web site. (No, that will not trigger a bid.) Voila! You will be greeted by my description of the coin and photos of the slab along with information on current bidding. Many photos were taken before the coins were submitted to CAC. Do not be alarmed if the description says CAC and the photo lacks a sticker.

A PEP TALK FOR BIDDERS

This is an auction. There will be coins that sell for record prices. There will be coins that sell below expectations. Approach the sale as you would any other: select the coins that are of most interest; research current and past prices (email me if you need Steve Herrman's latest AMBPR); then bid what YOU are willing to pay, without worrying that someone else will bid "too much." Some coins are doubtless of Royal Blood, the finest of their ilk. Others are working class citizens. Each is lonely and seeking a new home.

Thanks and enjoy the sale!



**PART 1 – SELECTIONS FROM THE COLLECTION OF
TIM OSBORNE – LOTS 1-60**



LOT 1 – 1806/5 O.101, T-6 R.3 PCGS XF 45 CAC

The glossy, original patina will catch the eye of experienced collectors. Tim did not let this one pass by when it appeared in a December 2013 offering of a dealer best known for his inventory of Morgan Dollars. Light contact marks under the ribbon are camouflaged by the antique toning. The surfaces are otherwise smooth. A faint die break connects the tops of ITE in the legend, presaging a rarely seen rim cud on the (R.7) O.101a. Striking weakness at the tip of the eagle's left wing contrasts with the nicely detailed central devices. Note, especially, Liberty's curls, drapery lines and the eagle's breast feathers.

Estimate: \$2,200 to \$2,500



LOT 2 – 1806 Knob 6, Small Stars O.106, T-4 R.4 PCGS AU 50

Unquestionably original pale auburn toning is infused with gold. Luster highlights the stars, legend and central devices. Striking weakness is confined to the lowest drapery lines and clouds opposite. Tim awarded the coin an "A" for eye appeal after acquiring it in March 2010. No argument here. This is a wonderful coin for the date, variety or type collector.

Estimate: \$3,000 to \$3,500



LOT 3 – 1808 O.106a R.3 PCGS OGH AU 55 CAC

Ex Gehring Prouty

A spectacular “AU 55” in an old green label PCGS holder that Tim and I considered a strong candidate to earn a gold CAC sticker. The halo of golden toning frames fully lustrous, lightly toned centers. Tim spotted the coin in my case during the 1994 summer ANA Convention in Detroit, part of a group consigned to me for the show by our mutual friend Gehring Prouty.

Estimate: \$1,900 to \$2,500



LOT 4 – 1809 O.103 R.1 PCGS AU 55 CAC

A blush of pale gold toning, darker at the rims, blankets the lovely surfaces. Luster abounds. I note just a hint of weakness in the left wing, a bonus for the O.103 die pair. Another acquisition from your catalogue during the 1994 ANA Convention.

Estimate: \$1,700 to \$2,000



LOT 5 – 1809 III Edge O.108 R.4+ PCGS VF 30

Iridescent turquoise and copper toning at the rims fades to soft russet in the centers – exactly what we expect from coins stored in a Wayne Raymond holder. Luster survives in protected areas. The O.108 is an underrated rarity. It takes no more than one hand for me to count the examples that I've cherished over the past 38 years. This is an honest, attractive, problem-free example that Tim found irresistible when he acquired it from *Eye Appealing Coins* in February 2012.

Estimate: \$500 to \$700



LOT 6 – 1809 III Edge O.109b R.3 PCGS AU 55 CAC

Electric blue and gold album toning engulfs the stars and legend. The centers are protected by a patina of russet and silver-grey. Another coin with first rate eye-appeal. The obverse die, in its first use, is free of the die break through star 4 that cherry pickers look for to ferret out unattributed examples of the rare 1809 O.108 and O.110. Yet another prize from the offerings in my bourse case at the 1994 Detroit ANA.

Estimate: \$2,000 to \$2,500



LOT 7 – 1810 O.101a R.1 PCGS AU 55 CAC

Ex Charlton Meyer, Jr.

Another early date with coveted album toning, a virtual twin to the preceding 1809 O.109b. The late die state is hallmarked by catastrophic die breaks circling the stars and legend. Striking weakness shows in the left wing and the clasp while Liberty's tresses and drapery folds remain distinct. This was BHNCer Troy Nelson's (*The Allgood Collection*) set piece, offered by Heritage at its FUN Show Sale in Jan. 2011 with no indication of where Troy picked it up. Tim was the happy buyer of Lot 3605 at \$1,840. The Meyer provenance appears on the PCGS label. My notes on the coin from 2008 (when I acquired and sold the Meyer Collection) show that Swampy purchased the coin from Elliott Goldman (*Allstate Coin*) in June 1989. I graded the raw coin *choice AU*, adding, "Nice, with halo toning." Troy Nelson and Tim Osborne agreed.

Estimate: \$1,700 to \$2,000



LOT 8 – 1810 O.109 R.3 PCGS AU 55

Brilliant, untoned with flashy luster. The reverse rotated 40° clockwise. This may have been the nicest coin in the collection of the late Lorene Farnsworth, the first female member of BHNC. I purchased her collection in the fall of 2009. Tim acquired the coin from me at the Central States Show in April 2010. The higher (Overton) numbered 1810s are much harder to find in high grade than those attributed O.101-102-103.

Estimate: \$1,200 to \$1,500



LOT 9 – 1811 Small 8 O.105 R.4 PCGS AU 58

Glorious russet toning with a splash of iridescent aqua through stars 1-7. Vibrant cartwheel luster enhances the eye appeal. Friction is confined to the high points; the few signs of circulation or handling are buried under the lovely toning. Don't overlook the R.4 rarity rating when formulating your bid. Alas, Tim misplaced his notes on the provenance of this offering. I find no record of it appearing at auction. PCGS suggests a value of \$2,500, a bargain price for this example.

Estimate: \$2,500 to \$3,000



LOT 10 – 1813 O.110 R.3 PCGS MS 61

Ex Gehring Prouty

The intricately detailed reverse contrasts with the generally blunt obverse. The O.110 is a May-December wedding. The obverse die had seen long service on the 1813 O.103; the reverse die is in its first use (later appearing on the 1813 O.109). There is a die crack, left of the date, extending into the drapery. Brad Higgins called my attention to this feature in May 2005, noting that it appears only on late die states of the O.110. The coin is strictly uncirculated with unbroken luster. With only minuscule signs of contact, the worn obverse die probably influenced both PCGS and CAC in their conservative assessments of the quality of the coin. Tim found the coin in my offering of coins from the Prouty Collection in February 1995. George Hamilton's comparable 1813 O.110 PCGS MS 61 brought \$4,230 at Heritage's August 2016 ANA auction.

Estimate: \$3,000 to \$3,500



LOT 11 – 1817 O.109 R.2 PCGS AU 53

Album toning, the centers with a beguiling blush of pastel russet. Unusually strong luster for the assigned grade. First rate eye appeal. The coin has rested in Tim's collection since he acquired it in an April 1990 Teletrade Auction. Teletrade, the first company to run computerized auctions, was founded by Bernard Rome in 1986. It remained in business until 2012 or so and was a training ground for several numismatic notables including Julie Abrams (Legend), Paul Song (Sotheby and Bonham's) and Ian Russell (Great Collections).

Estimate: \$800 to \$1,100



LOT 12 – 1818 O.114a R.3 PCGS AU 53

Silver-grey toning with bountiful underlying luster. High rims and razor sharp dentils. Stray hairlines are from short-term circulation. Acquired via private treaty in October 1991.

Estimate: \$700 to \$900



LOT 13 – 1819/8 Large 9 O.104 R.2 PCGS AU 53 CAC

An old friend. This was lot 3475 in Bowers & Merena's Nov. 1991 *Frontenac Sale*. The sale was rife with high grade bust halves. I never learned the name of the consignor. A peek at the catalog shows that I represented a dozen collectors, including Charlton Meyer, Gehring Prouty, George Hamilton, James Allen and Robbie Brown. This coin cost me \$242 and made its way into my fixed price list where Tim Osborne snapped it up in May 1992. A blanket of pale gold toning encases the lustrous, exceptionally smooth surfaces. After nearly 30 years in the bayous of Louisiana the coin is ready for a new home.

Estimate: \$800 to \$1,100



LOT 14 – 1819/8 Large 9 O.105 R.4 PCGS AU 55

Brilliant, untoned and oozing luster. Well struck to boot. The fields are free of friction. In days past the coin would have been offered as *BU with cabinet friction*. Tim found this one in my bourse case during the 2013 FUN Show.

Estimate: \$900 to \$1,200



LOT 15 – 1819 O.115 R.3 PCGS MS 62 CAC

Frosty uncirculated. Caky luster graces the lightly toned surfaces. All thirteen stars display center-points. Liberty's tresses are fresh from a visit to her favorite salon while the eagle has fluffed out his feathers for all to admire. This is an exceptional bust half from a year that yielded too few mint state survivors. Tim rescued it from a local dealer in November 1992. You will not go wrong stretching for this prize.

Estimate: \$3,000 to \$4,000



LOT 16 – 1821 O.101 R.1 PCGS AU 50

Ex Richard Pugh

From 1980 until he was felled by brain cancer in 1991 Richard Pugh was a fixture at coin shows in Southern California. His cherry-picking successes were legendary. They included a pair of 1827 O.137s and two 1827 O.148s, not to mention the (still) R.8 1805 O.114! His widow consigned his collection to Superior Galleries for its May/June 1992 *Jack Adams Sale*. The current offering was lot 1133 in that sale. I was the happy buyer, passing it to Tim Osborne immediately after the sale. The russet toning is highlighted by flashes of gold, aqua and turquoise iridescence. I suspect that the coin was stored for some time in a kraft envelope.

Estimate: \$550 to \$700



LOT 17 – 1821 O.102 R.2 PCGS AU 50 CAC

Though weakly struck in the centers, PCGS and CAC found the originality of the coin irresistible. Soft luster accords with the grade. Gentle sunset colors cloak the smooth surfaces. Trot out this coin whenever someone asks for an example of an *original* bust half-dollar. Tim plucked it from a dealer's case during the January 2012 FUN Show.

Estimate: \$550 to \$700



LOT 18 – 1822 O.106 R.3 PCGS OGH AU 50 CAC

Light rose centers, flanked by turquoise and gold iridescence through the stars and legend. A faint drift mark (planchet imperfection) crosses the portrait. In hand, it blends with the lovely toning. From MB 16, lot 115, Jan. 21, 1996. Tim was the winning bidder at \$404.

Estimate: \$450 to \$550



LOT 19 – 1822 O.114 R.3 PCGS AU 58

Ex Tom Bay, Sr. and Floyd Farley

This one has a history. Tom Bay, Sr. and Floyd Farley (BHNC #2) were stalwarts of the Bust Half Nut Club in the 1970s and 1980s. They resided in Oklahoma. Floyd came to Tom's home one day to look at Tom's collection. For Floyd it was a day of enlightenment. It had been Floyd's practice to dip and wipe his bust halves. "I want to SEE the coin," he explained. Tom preferred to store his wares in kraft envelopes. Over time they acquired the toning seen on the current offering. Floyd was impressed. He wasted no time in acquiring a box of kraft envelopes. Tom sold this 1822 to Floyd in May 1976. When Floyd found a mint state example of the marriage the Bay coin became available. Tim was at the ready. He purchased it from Floyd (who had moved to Sedona, AZ) in October 1992. The coin is pretty as the day Tom Bay passed it to Floyd Farley. Soft luster radiates through the fields, brightening the gossamer blanket of golden kraft toning.

Estimate: \$1,200 to \$1,500



LOT 20 – 1823 O.105 R.1 PCGS AU 55

Flashy luster would befit a higher grade. Untoned save for a ring of copper at the peripheries. The surfaces are virtually free of contact marks. Tim awarded the coin an A for eye appeal after he found it in Julian Leidman's case during the August 1995 ANA Convention in Anaheim.

Estimate: \$550 to \$750



LOT 21 – 1823 O.107 R.2 PCGS AU 50 CAC

Ex Robinson S. Brown, Jr.

Rose centers and iridescent turquoise peripheries yield extraordinary eye appeal. The surfaces are equally nice. This was Robbie Brown's set piece. Tim acquired it at the 1994 ANA Convention in Detroit, shortly after I acquired Brown's 500+ piece collection. It was then in an NGC holder. I don't recall the grade. A pretty one!

Estimate: \$550 to \$650



LOT 22 – 1824 O.104 R.3 PCGS XF 45 CAC

Ex Charlton E. Meyer, Jr.

A sticker on the back of the slab reads, *C. Meyer, 2/91 – The day we met.* I asked Tim for an explanation.

Fun story: I bought the 1824 O.104 and the 1825 O.105 from Swampy the day we met in February 1991. I was the newest club member with 105 marriages. The census showed Swampy at the top and me at the bottom. Feeling sorry for his fellow Louisianian, he drove down to South Louisiana to introduce himself and brought with him a hefty box of dupes to supply my need. Swampy started telling bust half stories as only he could. After several hours of coin talk and a nice dinner at Cafe Vermilionville, he headed back home with most of my money and helped me start the slow but rewarding journey up the census.

The coin features fabulous iridescent toning, favoring shades of gold, aqua and vermillion.

Estimate: Priceless!



LOT 23 – 1824 O.106 R.4 PCGS AU 53 CAC

Ex Norweb and Henry Hilgard

Lot 3082 from B&M's Nov. 1988 sale of the Norweb Collection, offered as a raw AU. I purchased the coin (\$522) as agent for my late, great friend Henry Hilgard. If you knew Henry, you expect the coin to be well struck, have original color and immaculate surfaces. This one qualifies – in spades. The toning is spectacular, the surfaces smooth as glass. Henry agreed to part with the coin in September 1989. Tim did not hesitate. This is a “WOW” AU 53 with a wonderful pedigree - and an R.4 to boot!

Estimate: \$700 to \$900



LOT 24 – 1824 O.116 R.3 PCGS AU 53 CAC

A rainbow of album toning adorns this nearly 200 year old relic of the Philadelphia Mint. The surfaces and eye appeal are first rate. Tim bought the coin 30 years ago from one of his favorite dealers, Sonny Toupard, a fellow Louisianian.

Estimate: \$450 to \$600



LOT 25 – 1825 O.101 R.1 PCGS AU 58

Frosty, uncirculated with cabinet friction on the cheek is an apt description. The coin, we may be sure, never entered the stream of commerce. Contact marks are difficult to find. The depth of luster is noteworthy. Tim was still climbing the ladder to 100 die marriages (the BHNC minimum) when he bought this coin from me in March 1989.

Estimate: \$800 to \$1,100



LOT 26 – 1825 O.105 R.2 PCGS AU 55 CAC

Ex Charlton E. Meyer, Jr.

This one is even prettier than its photo suggests. As the junior member of BHNC (see lot 22) Tim demonstrated a precocious eye for quality when Swampy allowed him access to his dupe box in February 1991. Luster roils under original, raucous toning. Planchet roughness at the bottom of the shield blends nicely with the colorful patina.

Estimate: \$700 to \$900



LOT 27 – 1825 O.113 R.1 PCGS AU 58

A heavy double profile at Liberty's neck, chin and nose might confuse newcomers to the capped bust series. The irregularity is common, especially among the dates 1823-1825. This is another lightly toned "AU" that never entered circulation. I find no breaks in the luster. Minuscule signs of handling require a glass to see. A private treaty acquisition in October 2014.

Estimate: \$725 to \$900



LOT 28 – 1826 O.107 R.1 PCGS OGH AU 50 CAC

A nicely toned, wholesome AU with soft, even luster. Drawn stars are the norm. The obverse die was first used on the O.106. From Alpine Numismatics in May 1998.

Estimate: \$325 to \$425



LOT 29 – 1826 O.116 R.1 PCGS AU 55 CAC

Silver-grey toning with strong, unbroken luster in the fields and across the devices. Tim carried the coin as O.116a though it lacks a die break through stars 8-13. Not important. The coin is well struck and a choice example of the die pair. Cherry pickers know this obverse: the die line above star 7 is a key to the rare 1826 O.115. From Sonny Toupard in October 1991.

Estimate: \$600 to \$750



LOT 30 – 1827 Sq. Base 2 O.106 R.2 PCGS AU 58 CAC

Golden centers with a halo of iridescent album toning. Just enough luster to support the assigned grade. Original toning and eye appeal recently earned this offering a CAC sticker. Tim found it (*sans* green bean) in a February 2014 Heritage auction, lot 3471, where it brought \$1,116.

Estimate: \$900 to \$1,200



LOT 31 – 1827 Sq. Base 2 O.126 R.2 PCGS AU 55 CAC

Ex Dr. Charles Link

A well struck example with subdued cartwheel luster. The lightly speckled antique grey toning appears original. Dr. Link purchased the coin at the January 2011 FUN Show. (Heritage lot 10839, already sporting a CAC sticker.) He passed it to Tim a year later.

Estimate: \$500 to \$600



LOT 32 – 1827 Sq. Base 2 O.132 R.3 PCGS OGH AU 55 CAC

A regal coin that probably deserves a gold CAC sticker. The outrageous toning is generally seen on select or gem uncirculated bust halves. You must preview the coin to appreciate its originality and eye appeal. Be prepared for competition when you enter a bid on this scrumptious coin. From Alpine Numismatics in March 1997.

Estimate: \$800 and up



LOT 33 – 1827 Sq. Base 2 O.134 R.2 PCGS Gold Shield MS 62

Another 1827 with majestic, original toning. Tim found and salted this one away in September 2008. Lance Keigwin's photo captures the magical array of iridescent colors that decorate the coin. A touch of cabinet friction atop the eagle's left wing may be the reason this important coin lacks a CAC sticker.

Estimate: \$1,800 to \$2,250



LOT 34 – 1827 Curl Base 2 O.147 R.4- PCGS Gold Shield MS 62

Should someone offer a bet that you will find a mark on this remarkable coin, *don't take it!* The surfaces, shrouded in original sunset colors, are impeccable. Full luster illuminates the fields. I wonder whether a bit of darkness on Liberty's cheek and bosom scared CAC. Of the many working dies employed to strike coins in 1827 only one was prepared with a curl base 2. Its first marriage was to the far more common O.146. Tim found this coin in my bourse case during the January 2012 FUN Show.

Estimate: \$2,750 to \$3,250



LOT 35 – 1828 Curl 2, No Knob O.101 R.1 PCGS AU 55 CAC

Ex Floyd Farley

In December 1973 Floyd Farley added this coin to his soon-to-be complete set (at the time) of capped bust die varieties. He consigned the coin to my January 1997 Mail Bid Sale No.19. I offered this brief description of lot 29: *Light grey centers with a becoming halo of blue, turquoise and gold through the stars and legend.* Tim Osborne prevailed, awarding his prize an “A” for eye appeal. No argument. Here is your chance to become its 3rd owner in 48 years.

Estimate: \$550 to \$750



LOT 36 – 1828 Sq. Base Knob 2, Large 8s O.108 R.3 PCGS AU 58 CAC

Yet another bust half with original iridescent album toning. Luster is not as vibrant in the fields as some 58s but the coin offers terrific eye appeal. PCGS and CAC agreed. This is a distinct *Red Book* variety. Just two of twenty-three die pairs in 1828 feature a square base 2 with large 8s. Tim has held the coin since purchasing it from Alpine Numismatics in November 1997.

Estimate: \$900 to \$1,200



LOT 37 – 1828 Sq. Base 2, Sm. 8s, Lg. Lets. O.121 R.3 PCGS AU 50
Ex Dr. Gerald Schertz

Rose centers, electric blue at the peripheries. I wish all our “AU 50s” looked like this. From the 1980s until the mid-1990s Dr. Gerald Schertz was among the most fervent members of BHNC. His first love was the pre-turbs, 1794-1807. In 1994 he consigned his nearly complete die variety set of capped bust halves to me. (The pre-turbs came 3 years later.) I organized a series of auction and private sales that featured Jerry’s coins. Tim picked up this 1828 in May 1994 along with a few other pieces from the Schertz collection. The coin is gorgeous, essentially without faults. Jerry Schertz and I met in 1983 and became close friends. In the years to follow we enjoyed “expedition travel” to Australia, Antarctica, Papua New Guinea and India. He died in November 2013 after being stuck by a car during a violent storm outside the hospital where he worked. His obituary is worth reading: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/nhregister/name/gerald-schertz-obituary?pid=168251975>.

Estimate: \$400 to \$600



LOT 38 – 1829 O.103 R.1 PCGS AU 55 CAC

Blazing luster dazzles the eye. The untoned surfaces are virtually free of marks. A bold strike makes the coin ideal for those assembling a date or type set. Tim pilfered this one from my bourse case during the January 2001 FUN Show.

Estimate: \$650 to \$800



LOT 39 – 1829 O.112 R.1 PCGS AU 55 CAC

Ex Richard Pugh and Dr. Gerald Schertz

Early die state, confirmed by die lines under star 13 and the nicely detailed central devices. Luster in the fields matches that between the stars and in other protected areas. *Translation:* the coin saw little if any actual circulation and has not been fussed with. A pretty coin with a nice provenance. Dr. Schertz picked it up at Superior's May/June 1992 sale of Richard Pugh's collection (lot 1402 @ \$176). In July 1994 I placed it in MB No. 12 (lot 79) where Tim prevailed at \$220. It won't hurt to study the obverse of this die pair. It appears again on the R.8 1829 O.120, married to a different reverse.

Estimate: \$600 to \$700



LOT 40 – 1829 O.117 R.2 PCGS Gold Shield AU 55 CAC

Extra nice surfaces compliment the iridescent toning: copper, aqua and turquoise on the obverse; pale cobalt blue on the reverse. From Tim's friend and local vest pocket dealer Jon Alderman in October 1991.

Estimate: \$600 to \$700



LOT 41 – 1830 Sm. 0 O.109 R.4+ PCGS OGH AU 55 CAC

The latest BHNC revision of Overton's rarity ratings added a + to the R.4 status of this die pair. I was surprised to see how few examples have appeared at auction in recent years. Caky luster is unbroken beneath a protective patina of steel-grey. A toning spot next to the date and a little color at the rims inside stars 1-5 are minor exceptions. This one has been Tim's set piece for over 30 years. He acquired it at a Teletrade auction in January 1990.

Estimate: \$750 to \$1,000



LOT 42 – 1830 Small 0 O.110 R.3 PCGS OGH AU 55 CAC

Once again, gorgeous toning, nice surfaces and gangbuster eye appeal. The number of CAC-approved AU 55s in Tim's set is remarkable. He owes thanks to David Olmstead of Alpine Numismatics for this beauty, acquired in March 1997, a month before the historic sale of Louis Eliasberg's bust half-dollars.

Estimate: \$600 to \$800



LOT 43 – 1830 Sm. 0 O.116 R.2 PCGS OGH AU 58 CAC

An 1830 that will attract hedonistic color freaks -- a sizable group of which I am a charter member. It is a challenge to find a break in the frosty luster. A couple of hairlines on the portrait are the only marks worth mention. Tim found the coin in the bourse case of Taos Rare Coins during the March 1991 midwinter ANA convention in Dallas.

Estimate: \$800 to \$1,200



LOT 44 – 1831 O.101 R.3 PCGS AU 55 CAC

Pastel sea-green with hints of copper and gold. Early die state with high rims and complete dentils. Weakness at IBUS of the motto is traditional. A “recent” addition to Tim’s set, priced at \$995 in December 2013 by my friends at *Eye Appealing Coins* (Ray and Phil Hinkleman).

Estimate: \$500 to \$700



LOT 45 – 1831 O.108 R.1 PCGS AU 58 CAC

Ex Charlton Meyer, Jr.

Vibrant luster explodes from the untuned surfaces. Just a hint of cabinet friction on the cheek. The centers are fully struck; note especially the detail in Liberty’s curls. The only weakness is at her lowest drapery lines. The PCGS label includes the Meyer provenance. My personal notes reveal Swampy’s source: *Superior Galleries’* May 1995 sale, lot 2790. Tim acquired the coin from Harry Laibstain at the January 2009 FUN Show.

Estimate: \$800 to \$1,100



LOT 46 – 1831 O.110 R.2 PCGS AU 55 CAC

The epitome of an original bust half-dollar. The dusty grey patina speaks volumes. It tells us that stewards of this coin for the past 190 years avoided the temptation to clean or otherwise “improve” it. The razor sharp reverse is a happy bonus. The obverse die was used earlier on the 1831 O.109 and always shows wear. Here is a coin for the connoisseur. Brian Greer offered the coin to Tim in June 1999. There was not a moment’s hesitation.

Estimate: \$600 to \$800



LOT 47 – 1831 O.111 R.1 PCGS AU 55 CAC

Ex Floyd Farley

Charlton Meyer introduced Tim to Floyd Farley soon after Tim joined the Bust Half Nut Club. On occasion Floyd offered club members selections from his hoard of capped bust halves. This one became available in September 1992 and Tim was happy to add it to his collection. No wonder. The russet toning is beautiful and the strike first rate. An ancient disturbance beneath star 2 is buried under the original toning and will require a loupe to spot.

Estimate: \$600 to \$700



LOT 48 – 1832 Sm. Letters O.105 R.3 PCGS AU 55 CAC

Drawn stars but the centers are well struck. And how about those drapery lines!?! Unbroken luster and mark-free surfaces suggest a higher grade. A bit of pink at the rims, otherwise untoned. The 1832 O.105 is a tough die marriage. There are whispers suggesting a promotion to R.4. Tim acquired the coin from Alpine Numismatics in July 2001.

Estimate: \$650 to \$800



LOT 49 – 1832 Sm. Letters O.106 R.1 PCGS AU 55 CAC

Ex Robinson S. Brown, Jr.

A glistening AU with full luster and subtle champagne toning. The coin is everyone's AU 58. I expect no disagreement. Robbie Brown acquired it in an NGC AU 58 holder in 1989. Tim was the successful bidder in my "Brown Part 3 Sale," (MB 15, lot 66) at the 1995 ANA Convention in Anaheim. I wrote, "Blazing luster with faint rub on the cheek – a real '58.' The strike is a wonder: 13 star points, high rims, full dentils, curls, feathers and talons -- features rarely seen on 1832s." Tim's notes on the coin are brief and to the point: "A blazer; 'A' eye appeal."

Estimate: \$800 and up



LOT 50 – 1832 Sm. Letters O.113 R.2 PCGS OGH AU 55 CAC

Another "58" masquerading as "55." Untoned with cartwheel luster that befits a mint state coin. Generally well struck devices. Blended shield lines are mandatory on this die pair. From Jon Alderman, privately, in October 1991.

Estimate: \$600 to \$700



LOT 51 – 1832 Sm. Letters O.114 R.4 PCGS AU 55 CAC

Attractive russet toning circles the stars and legend. Decent luster, though somewhat thinner than the preceding 3 lots. The '32-114 is a REAL R.4, tough to find in any grade and rare in AU. The last CAC-approved AU 55 I handled was in January 2017: MB 44, lot 85 at \$1,485. PCGS suggests a current value of \$1,850. Brian Greer sold this one to Tim back in February 1993.

Estimate: \$1,200 to 1,500



LOT 52 – 1833 O.101 R.1 PCGS AU 58 CAC

Ex Floyd Farley

Tim purchased the coin directly from Floyd Farley in June 1995. The semi-prooflike surfaces are untoned and virtually free of contact marks. Light rub on the portrait, otherwise mint state. A flashy 1833!

Estimate: \$900 to \$1,100



LOT 53 – 1833 O.102 R.1 PCGS AU 58 CAC

A touch of rose toning highlights the surfaces of this fully lustrous 1833. Light rub on the cheek. In all other respects a mint state coin. The centers are fully struck. I sold this one to Tim during the July 1997 ANA Convention in NYC, the last time it was held in The Big Apple.

Estimate: \$900 to \$1,200



LOT 54 – 1833 O.110 R.1 PCGS AU 55 Gold CAC

Among a boatload of glorious AU 55s, CAC chose this “grey dirt” example for its coveted gold sticker. The reverse looks to be mint state; the obverse, with a blush of rose and gold toning, falls just short. Treat this one as a nice AU 58 and you will be in the running. From Brian Greer in October 1999.

Estimate: \$800 to \$1,100



LOT 55 – 1834 Sm. Date and Letters O.114 R.1 PCGS OGH AU 55

Another high-end AU 55. This one features a lightly toned obverse and richly patinated reverse. The grade is spot-on, the eye appeal first rate. From Alpine Numismatics, October 1996. Housed in an old green label holder.

Estimate: \$450 to \$550



LOT 56 – 1834 Sm. Date and Letters O.120 R.3 PCGS AU 55

Ex Floyd Farley

Brilliant with splashes of kraft envelope toning. Acquired directly from Floyd Farley in October 1992. It is a good bet that Floyd dipped the coin when he acquired it then stored it in a kraft envelope after ogling Tom Bays' eye-catching coins. (See lot 19 for details.) A flashy coin for your date set with a nice provenance.

Estimate: \$450 to \$550



LOT 57 – 1835 O.109 R.2 PCGS MS 62 CAC

A veneer of gold toning paints the fully lustrous surfaces. Liberty's curls and the eagle's feathers are boldly impressed. Among the late dates, 1830-1836, 1835 stands out as a problem child. The number of choice AU and mint state examples is distressingly low. This is a nice one. CAC agreed. Tim found it in Julian Leidman's case during the August 1995 Anaheim ANA Convention.

Estimate: \$1,300 to \$1,700



LOT 58 – 1836 O.110 R.1 PCGS AU 58 CAC

Ex Elton Dosier and Charlton E. Meyer, Jr

Extravagant luster embraces the fully lustrous surfaces. I remember the day Elton Dosier found this coin. He commented on the strike, telling me that the O.110 was especially difficult to find well struck. This one, he said, was the best he had ever seen. Sometime after Elton passed away in early 1997, Charlton Meyer put in a call for the coin. Tim found it in my bourse case (along with the upcoming two lots) at the January 2009 FUN Show. Wispy hairlines will be seen under a glass, too few to alter PCGS's or CAC's assessment of this remarkable coin. The Meyer provenance is shown on the PCGS label.

Estimate: \$1,200 to \$1,500



LOT 59 – 1836 O.115 R.3 PCGS OGH AU 58 CAC

Ex Charlton E. Meyer, Jr

Another fully lustrous 1836. This with a swath of light toning across Liberty's cap, stars 5-7 and corresponding area on the reverse. A flashy coin that caught Meyer's eye when he saw it in Jonathan Kern's case in September 1993. (Already graded and encapsulated in its current holder.) Tim added it to his collection at the January 2009 FUN Show.

Estimate: \$800 to \$1,200



LOT 60 – 1836 Bar Dot O.120 R.4- PCGS AU 55 CAC

Ex Charlton E. Meyer, Jr

The Meyer provenance is noted on the PCGS label. Swampy purchased the coin at a November 1975 Pine Tree Coin Co. auction, lot 619, where it was offered as "Brilliant Uncirculated." Only faint rub on Liberty's breast prevents that designation today. Tim put it in his basket of Meyer coins at the January 2009 FUN Show. The coin is lightly toned with full cartwheel luster. Quite an "AU 55" and R.4- to boot!

Estimate: \$600 to \$800

PART 2 – SELECTIONS FROM THE COLLECTION OF DR. CHARLES LINK – LOTS 61-88



LOT 61 – 1805 O.112‘a’ R.6 PCGS F.12 CAC

Who doesn't like a cud on early US coins? When it comes to bust half dollars it's slim pickin's, none in the capped bust series, 1807-1836. The reverse die of the 1805 O.112 was first used on the 1803 O.103. In its terminal die state a cud develops from the rim through TES of STATES, obliterating most of the letters and weakening the first two digits of the date. The die state was unknown to Al Overton. Jules Reiver is credited with spotting the first "O.112a" to appear at auction. He acquired it in Heritage's February 1986 auction, lot 2706. That coin, graded VF 20 by both NGC and PCGS, has since appeared twice at auction: the Reiver sale in 2006 at \$1,840 (lot 22539) and Heritage's sale of Chuck De Olden's collection (lot 1362) in January 2008, where it brought \$2,990. I can account for only 7 examples of this rarity. There may be a couple of others. The roster of owners reads like a BHNC hall of fame: Jules Reiver/Charles De Olden (same coin), Ivan Leaman/Jerry Schertz (same coin), Michael Summers/Brad Higgins (same coin), Barry Broyde (*aka* E. Horatio Morgan) and Charles Link. Dr. Link acquired the example offered here in January 2014 from Harry Laibstain. This is its inaugural appearance at auction. It earned a CAC sticker despite some unfortunate toning spots. Natural toning and smooth surfaces provide the necessary compensation.

Estimate: \$1,000 and up

A FEW REMINDERS

- The buyer's fee in this sale is only 10%
- The sale closes at 6 PM CDT Wednesday August 11, 2021
- You may enter bids on my web site, by email or by phone
- The one-lot-only and maximum expenditure options are handy bidding tools
- Be sure to read the Terms of Sale
- Invoices will be emailed to successful bidders



LOT 62 – 1809 III Edge O.109 R.3 PCGS Gold Shield AU 53

Ex Charlton E. Meyer, Jr.

The attribution and Link-Meyer provenance are noted on the PCGS label. The III edge is visible in a gap in the modern PCGS capsule, below the date. The earliest or “prime” die state of the O.109 is probably tougher than its R.3 rarity rating suggests. (Overton thought R.4.) Liberty’s fore curl is not yet clear of her handband and no die break appears on the reverse, through AMERICA. Meyer acquired the coin in my April 1991 Mail Bid Sale No. 4, lot 32. I noted the luster and light gold toning along with a short, unobtrusive scratch under the eagle’s beak. Dr. Link purchased the coin from our mutual friend David Kahn in July 2012. Dave touted it this way, *The toning is ... a simple mix of light silver with just a touch of golden overtones, but when combined with the solid strike, the cartwheel luster and the full dentils seen here, the result is a little jewel of a coin. A real treat to look at.* PCGS suggests a value of \$1,500 for the O.109 prime with III Edge.

Estimate: \$1,100 to \$1,300



LOT 63 – 1809 III Edge O.109b R.3 PCGS AU 55 CAC

A handsome piece with attractive antique grey toning, darker on the reverse. The III edge is visible under the date. A heavy die break disfigures letters in AMERICA. From Legend’s January 28, 2018 auction, lot 39 at \$2,200.

Estimate: \$1,500 to \$2,000



LOT 64 – 1810 O.104 R.3 PCGS Gold Shield MS 62 CAC
Condition Census

This gorgeous 1810 brought \$5,405 6+ years ago at Heritage’s 2015 Fun Show sale, lot 4839. AMBPR lists a Condition Census that ranges from MS 62 to MS 64. (A pair of PCGS MS 64 examples sold for \$17,400 and \$19,975 in 2016 and 2019.) Lightly toned, darker at the rims. Pleasing surfaces and all the luster one expects of a “62.” The rim pinch above star 8 is mint made, a result of the planchet falling just short of a 180° turn in the edge lettering device. *Scarce as hen’s teeth* is the appropriate adage attached to mint state 1810s. Most seen are O.101, 102 or 103. Here is a prize for the advanced collector.

Estimate: \$4,000 and up



LOT 65 – 1810 O.106 R.3 PCGS Gold Shield MS 63+ CAC
Coin Facts Plate Coin - Condition Census

The Link provenance is displayed on the label. Dr. Link spotted this one on eBay in July 2006. It was housed in an NGC MS 64 capsule. He accepted a modest demotion when crossing the coin to PCGS. Only 2 finer specimens from this die pair are known: the Eliasberg gem and an NGC MS 65 in the Overton Collection. Both are attributed as O.106a, leaving the Link coin as the No.1 example of its die state and No. 3 overall. Floyd Farley coined the descriptor “grey dirt.” Here is a wonderful example. Caky luster rolls under the protective patina. The surfaces are blemish-free. A magical 1810.

Estimate: \$6,000 to \$8,000



LOT 66 – 1811 Large 8 O.104a R.1 PCGS MS 63

This one is on the short list of the prettiest coins I have ever owned or handled. The accompanying photo faithfully depicts the colors but only a personal visit will reveal its iridescence and vibrant luster. Weak at the rims but the centers are nicely impressed. A “WOW” coin that will engender a legion of bids. It cost \$5,000 when Dr. Link pried it loose from my display case in November 2015. Be ready!

Estimate: \$4,000 to \$6,000



LOT 67 – 1811 Small 8 O.108 R.2 PCGS Gold Shield MS 62

Another elegant 1811 with colors drawn from a painting by an Old Master. Link provenance noted on the label. Nice surfaces and well struck central devices. Softly impressed arrowheads are the norm on this die pair. An April 2010 acquisition from your catalogue. (I wish all my 1811s looked like this.)

Estimate: \$2,200 to \$3,000



LOT 68 – 1812 O.107 R.2(3) PCGS XF 45 CAC

Ex Don Frederick

Frederick provenance noted on label. This is the somewhat scarce prime die state, without the familiar die lump adjoining the left wing. (Herrman's AMBPR suggests an R.3 rarity rating.) Soft luster rises from the naturally toned surfaces, stronger on the reverse. Dr. Link prevailed at the April 2010 Heritage sale of the Frederick Collection, lot 2941 at \$805. Frederick's storage envelope and personal notes accompany the lot.

Estimate: \$450 to \$600



LOT 69 – 1813 O.106 R.3 PCGS Gold Shield MS 61

Link provenance noted on the label. Silver-grey toning with decently impressed curls and wing feathers. But what happened to the tip of the bust and the left side of the legend and motto opposite? We can only guess. The striking abnormality is a hallmark of the O.106. (Compare the Overton plate coin for another example.) In all other respects the coin meets our expectation of a mint state coin: full luster and no signs of actual circulation. Dr. Link found the coin in a Sept. 2012 Heritage auction; it brought \$3,290 in a PCGS "rattler."

Estimate: \$2,700 to \$3,200



LOT 70 – 1813 O.110 R.3 PCGS MS 63 CAC

From MB 41, lot 27, August 2015, at \$5,869. There described: *A pristine survivor from the early mint. The toning is unquestionably original and of ancient origin. The surfaces are a dream, virtually free of contact marks (the obverse wholly so). Had the coin not been struck from a severely worn obverse die, first used on the O.103, we would expect a gem designation. If ever you are asked for an “original” bust half, this is the coin to be put on display. The PCGS Price Guide currently suggests \$5,500 for an MS 63 1813.*

Estimate: \$4,500 to \$5,200



LOT 71 – 1814/3 O.101 [Prime] R.7- PCGS VF 35

In his recent AMBPR Steve Herrman indicates “10-11 known.” This example is from MB 33, August 2007, where I described lot 165 as follows: “ANACS EF 40 ...a great rarity. I’ve encountered only 4 or 5 specimens. This coin has neither die cracks nor clash marks; the underdigit [3] is plain.... Denticles on the reverse are especially prominent, as are some curious raised die lines under and through TE of STATES.” The coin brought \$1,815. I have handled only one other “Prime” since 2007, a PCGS XF 45 in MB 43, lot 24, August 2016 that sold for \$3,575.

Estimate: \$2,000 and up



LOT 72 – 1814 O.106 R.5- PCGS Gold Shield XF 45 CAC

Ex Don Frederick

Magnificent toning is a welcome bonus on this established rarity. It was lot 2967 in Heritage's April 2010 sale of the Frederick Collection, where the cataloguer properly extolled both the luster and colorful toning. Dr. Link prevailed at a bargain price, \$1,610. He had the coin reholdered sometime thereafter. PCGS inadvertently omitted the Frederick provenance but added Dr. Link's name to the label. This early die state comes with only 1 reverse die crack, from the rim through R in AMERICA to the right wing.

Estimate: \$1,800 to \$2,200



Note: CAC sticker added after photo taken



LOT 73 – 1814 O.107a R.5 PCGS AU 58 CAC

Ex Don Frederick

Lot 2969 from the same sale as the preceding lot. PCGS again omitted Frederick's name on the label (while adding Link's) when the coin was reholdered after the sale. The die break through the date that Overton seems to require for the late die state is missing; PCGS nonetheless attributed the coin as O.107a. It was undoubtedly influenced by the worn, clashed dies and the presence of a small die chip on Liberty's nose. Full cartwheel luster and mark-free surfaces support the AU 58 designation. Russ Logan quaintly referred to this intermediate die state as the one with "a mouse on the nose." Logan owned one of two known 1814 platinum half-dollars, Judd 44. They were struck from the O.107 die pair. Since they do NOT have a mouse on the nose (or a die break between 81 of the date) we know that they were struck in 1814 at the Mint, not pieces *de caprice*, struck elsewhere from discarded dies.

Estimate: \$2,500 to \$3,500



Note: CAC sticker added after photo taken



LOT 74 – 1817 O.103'b' R.6? PCGS Gold Shield MS 64 CAC

Ex Charles De Olden

The only mint state example listed in Herrman’s latest AMBPR.. The coin went unsold in my sale of the De Olden Collection, June 2006, lot 30. Link acquired it after the sale. Here is the description: *Undescribed late die state, with superb luster, surfaces and eye appeal! Light gold toning, yielding to intense iridescence at the rims, an utterly charming coin. The early state of the obverse die, the so-called “punctuated date,” has a sharp dot between the 1 and 7. Oddly, the latest die state (as here) develops a different dot, somewhat closer to the 7. A minor die injury is the likely explanation. The PCGS label includes the Link provenance and attribution as O.103a.*

Estimate: \$8,000 to \$12,000



Note: CAC sticker added after photo taken



LOT 75 – 1818 O.104'b' R.5? PCGS Gold Shield MS 63

Ex Don Frederick

Lot 2990 from the Frederick sale. (See lots 72-73.) A heavy die crack from the rim above star 7 into cap and a *thin die break through stars 8 to 13* mark the terminal state of the obverse die. The latter die break was unknown to Overton; examples with the star 8-13 die break carry a rarity estimate of R.5 in the latest edition of Herrman's AMBPR. The Frederick-Link coin is the finest known. (Once again PCGS omitted Frederick's name from the updated holder.) Heritage was succinct and accurate in its description: *This splendid Mint State piece has frosty silver luster beneath light ivory at the centers, with deep steel peripheral toning [and] has exceptional eye appeal for the grade.*

Estimate: \$3,500 to \$4,500





LOT 76 – 1823 O.103'a' R.6? PCGS AU 53 CAC

A blanket of antique grey toning, infused with subtle iridescence, highlights this attractive piece. A significant die break runs through STATES OF AM. The die state was first described by Jules Reiver and mentioned in Heritage's sale of the Reiver Collection in January 2006 (lot 22865). Only a few other examples have appeared, earning the die state an R.6 rarity rating in the latest AMBPR. Dr. Link acquired this notable example from David Kahn in May 2017. Herrman lists only 1 coin in higher grade, a CAC approved PCGS AU 58 in Heritage's January 2014 FUN Show sale.

Estimate: \$750 to \$1,000



LOT 77 – 1823 O.111a R.2 PCGS AU 55

Swirling die breaks, obverse and reverse, are in full flower. As late a die state as you will hope to see. Strong luster and a halo of gold toning cement the eye appeal. A tiny depression in the planchet is noted in front of Liberty's nose. It is a mint-made curiosity of no significance. An eBay cherry in July 2013. Attribution and Link provenance noted on PCGS label.

Estimate: \$500 to \$700



LOT 78 – 1824 O.106 R.4 PCGS MS 63

A flat-out stunning bust half-dollar! Vibrant luster and iridescent toning set the eye appeal rating at 10 out of 10. (Dr. Link's private notes indicate "A+.") There is a paucity of mint state examples of this R.4 die pair. Herrman lists the raw MS 65 prooflike Buddy Byers coin at no.1, placing the Link coin at no.2 in the Condition Census, tied (perhaps) with another MS 63 graded by ICG. You should preview this coin before bidding. Filched from my bourse case at the April 2013 Central States Show. Link provenance noted on the label.

Estimate: \$3,000 and up



LOT 79 – 1825 O.117 R.4- PCGS Gold Shield MS 62

Silver-grey toning, lighter and more lustrous on the reverse. A well struck example of this scarce die pair. Captured in a 2011 Heritage auction and reholdered to show the Link provenance. The PCGS price estimate of \$2,250 may be conservative.

Estimate: \$1,800 to \$2,200



LOT 80 – 1826 O.109 R.1 PCGS Gold Shield AU 55
Rare Late Die State – R.7?

Solid for the grade with good luster and attractive pale gold toning. Its “selling point,” however, is its unlisted die state. A lengthy die break traverses 826 of the date, Liberty’s lowest curls, stars 11-12, exiting at the rim above star 10. A second impressive die break runs from the rim at 1 o’clock down through the cap and into the headband. My first encounter with this late die state was 1997 when Charlton Meyer showed me an AU example he had acquired from Jon Kern. His coin had the break through the date and right hand stars. In 2005 Brian Greer uncovered a VF coin with both die breaks, the only other example that I recall seeing. Dr. Link purchased the coin offered here from Rick Irons in June 2012. The label bears the Link provenance.

Estimate: \$800 and up



LOT 81 – 1826 O.113'b' R.6? PCGS AU 53 CAC
Ex Don Frederick

Third finest of 5 examples listed in Herrman’s AMBPR. Not in Overton. A die break joins the tops of STATES OF. A pretty coin with iridescent antique grey toning. Lot 3115 in the 2010 Frederick sale. The Heritage cataloguer wrote, [*this rare late*] die state should probably be cataloged as O-113'b'.

Estimate: \$500 and up



LOT 82 – 1827 Sq. Base 2 O.104 R.1 PCGS MS 62 CAC

Ex John Jay Pittman

Oh my! A pristine specimen from a collection put together in the 1940s and 1950s. The numismatic world converged when David Akers sold the Pittman Collection in Baltimore, May 20-21, 1998, two years after Pittman died. This was lot 1487 in that sale, offered raw (as were all coins in the sale) and simply graded, “Uncirculated.” My notes on the coin, written in the margin of my catalog, were equally concise: *grey dirt, original 63*. Pittman bought the coin in October 1945 at a sale conducted by George Bauer, Sale XVI, lot 538. It cost him \$2.50. Pittman had a complete set of the proof 1833-34-35 Crushed Lettered Edge halves. I bought them all, a highlight of my career in numismatics. This 1827 O.104 slipped by at \$935. It reappeared the next year in Heritage’s August 1999 ANA Sale, lot 7046, encapsulated by NGC as MS 63, part of the “Litrenta Collection.” Jason Carter purchased it, either at the sale or soon thereafter. He sold it to Dr. Tom Sears in September 2002. Sears crossed it to its current PCGS holder and held the coin until Dr. Link made an offer he could not refuse during the 2018 ANA Convention in Philadelphia. The Pittman provenance is noted on the PCGS label. The referenced NGC label accompanies the lot. As I sometimes say ... *a coin for the connoisseur*. (CAC sticker added after photo taken.)

Estimate: \$2,000 to \$2,500





LOT 83 – 1827 Sq. Base 2 O.113a R.4 PCGS Gold Shield MS 63+

Spectacular cobalt blue toning surrounds the portrait. The reverse flaunts an original, iridescent golden patina. Intense luster bathes the fields and devices. But for a vertical mark on the neck the coin might have earned gem status. Dr. Link found the coin in an NGC MS 64 capsule in Heritage's April 2012 Central States Sale, lot 4424, where it sold for \$2,760. (NGC label accompanies.) Feast your eyes on the detail in Liberty's curls and the eagle's feathers and talons. No detail is missing. The PCGS label notes the attribution and Link provenance.

Estimate: \$2,200 to \$2,500



LOT 84– 1827 O.128 R.4 PCGS Gold Shield MS 64

Immaculate surfaces, frosty luster and multicolored toning argue for a gem designation. The coin is at or near the top of the Condition Census. From the Goldberg's May 2011 sale of the Frank McCarthy collection, lot 803 @ \$3,220. The PCGS label notes the attribution and McCarthy-Link provenance.

Estimate: \$2,500 to \$3,000



LOT 85 – 1828 Sq.2, Sm. 8, Lg. Letters O.114 R.3 PCGS MS 64
Ex Don Frederick

Deep iridescent blue toning through the stars. Equally attractive antique grey and russet toning dominates the reverse. Intense luster throughout. Another coin with irresistible eye appeal. Offered as O.114a in the Frederick sale @ \$2,990. The attribution was corrected and the Frederick-Link provenance added to the label in 2014.

Estimate: \$2,500 to \$3,000



LOT 86 – 1832 Sm. Letters O.119 R.4- PCGS Gold Shield MS 63 CAC
Ex Charlton E. Meyer, Jr.

Swampy bought the coin in a PCGS MS 62 capsule at Bowers & Merena's Jan. 1994 sale, lot 583. It appeared in the April 2010 Heritage Central States sale, lot 876 (@ \$2,530), after being upgraded to PCGS MS 63 and awarded a CAC sticker. No surprise! The sharply struck central devices, creamy white toning and boisterous luster are all one might ask for in a choice uncirculated coin. The current PCGS label shows the Link provenance but omits Meyer. Close to Condition Census for this scarce variety.

Estimate: \$2,000 to \$2,500



LOT 87 – 1834 Sm. Date & Letters O.117 R.2 PCGS Gold Shield MS 62

Frosty luster engulfs the untoned surfaces. A tiny toning spot lingers on Liberty’s nose, likely costing this lovely coin a 63 designation and CAC sticker. Dr. Link’s notes include the exclamation *tough R.2!* A glance at your AMBPR reveals why. High grade specimens are in short supply. The Condition Census includes 3 coins graded MS 63 and this MS 62. Acquired from your cataloguer at the 2010 ANA Convention in Boston. The Link provenance appears on the PCGS label.

Estimate: \$1,400 to \$1,700



LOT 88 – 1834 Sm. Date & Letters O.120 R.3 PCGS Gold Shield MS 63

Another of those “sleeper” 1834s. The latest AMBPR puts this one in a tie for 3rd in the Condition Census. Light gold toning and nicely impressed devices make this a wholesome example. From Bowers & Merena’s March 2010 sale, lot 851. Attribution and Link provenance shown on the PCGS label.

Estimate: \$1,800 to \$2,100

**PART 3 – A SELECTION OF RARITIES FROM THE COLLECTION OF
HOWARD SHARFMAN – LOTS 89-94**



LOT 89 – 1809 XXX Edge O.101 R.5 PCGS AU 50
Condition Census

Until I offered the Kahn-Osborne-Sears AU 50 in my January sale this year (MB 51, lot 5 at \$9,350) I had seen or handled but one other AU 1809 O.101, the Floyd Farley/Charlton Meyer coin. I have never cherished an example. I won't belabor the rarity of this die pair. If you collect by Overton variety you already know. Dusty, pale auburn toning allows luster to flicker in protected areas. Contact marks are minimal. In February 2015, Sharfman found the coin in the inventory of a noted eastern dealer and did not hesitate at the asking price, \$10,000. The Meyer coin, a bit nicer, brought \$17,355 in July 2008.

Estimate: \$8,500 to \$10,000





LOT 90 – 1809 XXX Edge O.102 R.1 PCGS Gold Shield AU 58 CAC

The reverse die is in its third and final use. “Incused segments” over the eagle are a hallmark of the variety. (They are absent on the O.101, first appearing on the O.110.) Only early die states of the O.102 were struck on planchets with the XXX edge. All examples of O.101 and O.110 have an XXX edge. Both are rare die pairs, contributing little to the population of this scarce “experimental edge” and virtually nothing to the limited number of high grade specimens. The preceding lot is a notable exception. The Sharfman coin is lovely. A halo of iridescent album toning immediately grabs the viewer’s eye. Soft luster rolls through the fields. From Heritage’s 2020 FUN Show sale, lot 3753 at \$6,300. Tom Sears’ similarly graded, CAC approved example in my January 2021 sale (MB 51, lot 7) brought \$7,700, 2½ years after selling for \$8,519 in a Legend auction.

Estimate: \$6,500 to \$8,500





LOT 91 – 1809 O.104 R.5- PCGS Gold Shield VF 20

The standard, softly impressed version of this rare die pair. Evenly toned, obverse and reverse. Purchased in June 2015 as NGC VF 25.

Estimate: \$350 to \$500



LOT 92 – 1809 XXX Edge O.110 R.4+ PCGS VF 35

Ex Charles De Olden

I would put a double + by that R.4 rarity rating. When Heritage offered the coin in January 2007 (part of Chuck De Olden's collection) it was in an NGC capsule, graded XF 45 and brought \$1,092.50. Eight years later Heritage sold it again, this time for \$1,292.50. (Skidaway Island Collection, February 2015, lot 3715.) Sharfman prevailed and sent the coin to PCGS where its graders must have focused on the weak obverse strike, typical of the variety (3rd use of the die), and ignored the considerable luster that dances through the fields and around the devices. The coin is lightly toned with a few ticks and hairlines from a short tour in the stream of commerce.

Estimate: \$800 to \$1,200



LOT 93 – 1827 Sq. Base 2 O.144 R.5+ PCGS Gold Shield AU 58

Ex Dr. Charles Link, noted on the PCGS label. This Condition Census piece last traded hands in November 2008. The private treaty sale is recorded in Steve Herrman's latest AMBPR (\$14,000). It went unsold in my 2015 ANA Sale. Dr. Link modestly considered it the 3rd finest known of this seriously rare variety, behind Gehring Prouty's miraculous MS 64 and the Meyer/Davignon example, graded AU 58 by both NGC and PCGS. The obverse features full (slightly subdued) luster beneath a grey and pale charcoal patina. The especially attractive reverse is a bit lighter, with cartwheel luster.

Estimate: \$11,000 and up



LOT 94 – 1830 Large Letters Reverse O.114 R.5+ PCGS VF 30

A killer R.5. And *Red Book* variety to boot. The 1830 Large Letters and 1812/1 Large 8 share this dubious, dual distinction. The coin is optimistically graded. It is softly impressed, not unusual for this rarity, with light grey toning, darker through the legend. The surfaces were lightly polished and exhibit a few marks, none serious. Sharfman plucked the coin from my Fixed Price List in February 2015.

Estimate: \$3,000 to \$3,500

PART 4 – PROPERTIES OF VARIOUS CONSIGNORS – LOTS 95-107



LOT 95 – 1805 O.111 R.3 PCGS VF 25

Even light grey toning with a few hints of luster on the reverse. Balanced strike, even wear and gently wiped. Acquired from David Kahn in April 2012. Decent coin for a mid-grade date or type set.

Estimate: \$750 to \$900



LOT 96 – 1808 O.104a R.5 PCGS AU 55

This seriously rare die state is hallmarked by a thin, jagged die break, star 6 to bust and a heavy break through STATES OF AMERICA. Herrman's AMBPR and Rutherford's Prices Realized identify just two PCGS graded AU specimens, the Tidwell-Prouty AU 58 last offered in 2004 and an AU 53 sold by Heritage in 2017. Full luster rolls across the surfaces of this high grade coin. Friction is confined to high points. The surfaces are smooth save for clash marks, the referenced die breaks and a pair of light scuffs in front of Liberty's nose.

Estimate: \$2,000 and up



LOT 97 – 1808 O.108a R.3 NGC AU 53

Luster glows under an even, medium grey patina. Worn and clashed dies come with the territory on this late die state. The surfaces are virtually free of contact marks. I note a single tick, between stars 4-5. Possibly from my sale of Dave Rutherford's collection, MB 33, lot 3, August 2007 at \$1,513.

Estimate: \$1,100 to \$1,500



LOT 98 – 1813 O.103'a' R.1 PCGS Gold Shield AU 58

Luster surges across the smooth, creamy surfaces. A halo of electric toning is the perfect counterpoint to the brilliant centers. The centers are nicely impressed. A thin die break along the legend qualifies the coin as the "a-model" of this die pair. The consignor salted away this beauty more than a decade ago, placing what he colorfully terms a "Gorilla Grip" on the prettiest coin in his collection. An 1813 of this quality is devilishly hard to find, much tougher than its sisters from 1811 and 1812.

Estimate: \$2,900 to \$3,500



LOT 99 – 1818/7 Large 8 O.101 R.1 PCGS AU 58

Ex Tom Sears

Riveting eye-appeal and luster. The flashy, untoned centers are framed by iridescent turquoise and russet toning. Liberty's curls and the eagle's feathers and talons are boldly impressed. The surfaces are free of distractions. I note a hint of cabinet friction on the cheek. Tom found the coin in Jason Carter's case during the 2002 summer ANA Convention. It was in an ANACS MS 62 capsule. The demotion at PCGS must have been a disappointment though it did allow Tom to include the coin in his award-winning Everyman Registry Set of Capped Bust Half-Dollars. The coin traded hands 2 years ago at \$3,500 and should bring that or more today

Estimate: \$3,000 to \$3,500

NEXT – THE ELIASBERG 1818 O.111





LOT 100 – 1818 O.111 R.1 PCGS MS 62 CAC

Ex J.M. Clapp, Louis Eliasberg, Russ Logan, Dick Graham, Keith Davignon

Eliasberg provenance noted on the PCGS label. Last offered in MB 45, lot 17, bringing \$4,840. *Strictly uncirculated with immaculate surfaces, a strong candidate for “upgrade.” Beautifully toned: the smooth blanket of iridescent grey sparkles with green and gold undertones. The strike is first rate. Russ Logan purchased the coin at the Eliasberg II Sale, April 1997, lot 1754 as MS 63. Logan’s tag notes an earlier provenance: J.M. Clapp, M.A. Brown and the Chapman Bros. Dick Graham purchased the coin from your cataloguer shortly after I acquired it at the Nov. 2002 Logan Sale, lot 2354. Keith Davignon became the next owner in January 2010, via private treaty. Graham’s, Logan’s and my personal tags accompany the lot along with the B&M tag from the Logan Sale. In short, a marvelous coin with a peerless provenance.*

Estimate: \$4,000 and up



LOT 101 – 1819 O.114 R.3 PCGS MS 62

Brilliant, untoned and well struck, with scintillating luster! A touch of cabinet friction on the cheek or we would be looking at an MS 63 coin with a CAC sticker. As a “62,” the coin gets an A for eye appeal. Check out those star points, wing feathers and hair curls. Nice!

Estimate: \$2,500 to \$3,500



LOT 102 – 1821 O.101a R.1 PCGS AU 55

Ex Tom Sears

Brilliant centers surrounded by a halo of iridescent album toning. A high-end “55” that on most days would grade a notch higher. Strong cartwheel luster and superbly detailed devices augment the eye appeal. Tom spotted the coin in Heritage’s February 2005 sale of *The Richard J. Chouinard Collection* where lot 1096 was offered as AU 58.

Estimate: \$900 to \$1,200



LOT 103 – 1821 O.107 R.2 PCGS MS 63

More eye candy from 1821, a low mintage year. Struck from dies that depict Ms. Liberty at her finest. Vibrant luster and pastel gold toning, darker at the rims, contribute to the eye appeal. Not a hint of friction. In person preview strongly recommended.

Estimate: \$3,500 to \$4,000



LOT 104 – 1823 O.107 R.3 PCGS AU 58

From the *Cape Cod Collection* offered at the Chicago 2019 ANA Convention, MB 47, lot 59, bringing \$1,650 and described as follows: *Dashes of iridescent toning at the peripheries contrast with the brilliant centers. This 1823 is awash in luster. Liberty's curls and the eagle's talons and feathers are fully struck. There is a trace of friction on the cheek, alongside a minuscule graze near the eye. Great flash!*

Estimate: \$1,000 to \$1,300



LOT 105 – 1824 O.113 R.2 NGC MS 61

A horizontal die line crosses the upturned curl of the 2 in the date. I had not noticed this feature of early die states until Jack Beymer called it to my attention a few years ago. We wondered whether there could be another digit under the 2. Alas, no. Probably just a short scratch in the die that soon disappeared. It remains a useful identifier of the 24-113 in its earliest die state. The coin exhibits soft luster throughout, stronger at the peripheries. A blanket of pastel gold toning warms the surfaces.

Estimate: \$900 to \$1,200



LOT 106 – 1828 Curl Base 2 with Knob O.107 R.2 PCGS AU 58 CAC

An old friend, from MB 42, lot 64, January 2016 where it sold for \$1,870. Here is the description: *An aristocratic patina of deep grey toning subdues the luster. The strike is absolutely first rate. This Red Book staple carries auction records that belie its R.2 rarity rating. The only other CAC approved AU 58 I find was sold by Heritage at the 2012 Summer Fun Show. Lot 3690 brought \$2,300. Roger Solomon's PCGS AU 58 commanded \$3,025 at my Aug. 2011 ANA Sale (lot 42). You've been warned!* A twin to this offering appeared in April 2016 at Heritage's Central States auction, lot 3471. If brought \$1,880. The 1828 O.106 is the only other die pair of the year with a curl and knobbed 2. It is rare and far more pricey.

Estimate: \$1,500 to \$2,000



LOT 107 – 1834 Lg. Date and Letters O.102 R.1 PCGS AU 55 CAC

From MB 50, lot 93 at \$798. *Wow! I think there is a misprint on the label. 55? This coin is everyone's 58 – and a nice one at that. The blinding luster is undisturbed in the fields. The strike is magnificent. I note a trace of friction on the cheek, none on the reverse. The date is common. The eye appeal is not. I cannot imagine another sale that has featured so many top notch, dare I say undergraded, AU 55s.*

Estimate: \$600 to \$800

PART 5

CAPPED BUST HALF-DOLLAR MINT ERRORS FROM THE COLLECTION OF HENRY HILGARD – LOTS 108-119

Henry Hilgard was my closest friend for many years. No one in our collecting community was better liked or more respected. If you visited my bourse tables in the mid-1980s until 2013 you looked forward to chatting with Henry. I may have owned the coins on display but in many respects it was Henry's bourse table. He was a joy to be around – personable, knowledgeable, curious and, above all, humble. If asked what he did for a living Henry responded, "I'm a teacher." Well, yes. He was a professor and chair of the biology department at a noted university; he held a string of advanced degrees, including a PhD and MD. He loved coins from the time he was 12. Mint errors were always a favorite. When he died in April 2013, a victim of sudden cardiac arrest, he had the finest collection of bust half-dollar errors ever assembled. Henry wrote a summary of the 57 coins in his collection, noting their significance and provenance. You will see his personal notes on each of the errors offered here. The collection was sold intact to a single buyer, consignee of the following 12 coins.



LOT 108 – 1809 III Edge O.107“a” R.8 (in 1970) XF 45+ Double Strike

Ex Mike Biggs and Charlton E. Meyer, Jr.

Henry's note to posterity: Incused segments across cap on obverse, indicating a second strike by the die. From the Charlton Meyer collection, and purchased by me from Sheridan Downey's "Selected Rarities" sale at the ANA in July 2008, lot #24. See full page write-up of this coin and the history of the "1809-O-107a" on p. 23 of that catalog.

Description of Lot 24, Meyer Collection Catalog

Here is one for the old timers, those who cut their teeth on Overton's 1970 2nd edition. Harken to those days of yesteryear when there were two sub-varieties everyone lacked, **1809 O.107a** and **1818 O.111a**. Each "sub-variety," of course, is better described as a mint error, having nothing to do with progressive changes in or deterioration of the dies. Describing the 1818 O.111a (O.25, 1st ed., 1967) Overton was forthright in calling it a double strike. When it came to the 1809 O.107a (O.20 1st ed.), however, he led us astray, suggesting that an intermediate stage of the obverse die came with, "... a curved row of small, incused segments or triangles from above star 7 across top of cap to star 8."

Dr. Gerald Schertz sounded the death knell of the 107a when his article, “*A Screw Loose in 1809?*” appeared in Vol. 2, Issue 3 of the December 1987 *John Reich Journal*. Dr. Schertz managed to find two so-called 107a’s. The placement of the rows of segments differed; and the reverses were from different stages of the die. He concluded that the 107a did not exist as a die state. But just how did the incused segments arrive on these coins if the die was not injured? Dr. Schertz postulated that on rare occasions a blank planchet might be only partially inserted in the coining chamber, perhaps resting at an angle on the open collar. When the hammer die descended the “... attempted strike would incuse segments from the lateral margin of one die in an arc across the planchet.” That planchet would then be retrieved, centered in the collar and properly struck - but with insufficient force to obliterate the segments. It seems fair to ask whether the segments might have occurred after a full strike. Perhaps the coin was only partially ejected or was still centered in the collar when an inadvertent throw or drop of the screw occurred.

Meyer picked up his “107a” in July 1987 from BHNC member Mike Biggs. It was accompanied by Biggs’ 1829 MB-1 [O.120], the discovery piece. The “107a” is an early die state, sharply struck, primarily grey with hints of kraft toning and some unobtrusive hairlines. Today’s attribution would be O.107 R.4, double struck. The provenance and lore it brings to the next owner is priceless!

Estimate: \$1,000 and up



LOT 109 – 1809 O.115a R.3 VF - Incomplete Planchet Punch

Henry’s Note: Mint-made circular indent on the reverse from about 1:00 to 7:00. This indent is almost certainly from an incomplete planchet punch (see #47 below). Purchased from Sheridan Downey in April 2011 at the Whitman-Baltimore show, where I discussed this coin with Craig Sholley (who gave a fine and well-researched talk about the early U.S. Mint in Philadelphia to the EAC group there).

Henry’s reference to “#47 below” is to a second error of this type in his collection, an 1831 O.108: *An extremely rare error type; I don’t recall seeing another on a bust half-dollar. The incomplete punch is clearly visible from 3:00 to 6:00 on the obverse, and 11:30 to 5:00 on the reverse. Purchased by me from Sheridan Downey’s Mail Bid sale #28, June 2003, lot #187 for \$789.00. Earlier from Michael Summers.*

Estimate: \$500 and up



LOT 110 – 1810 O.101 R.1 XF-AU Off-Center Strike

Henry's note: About 2% off center, and a very early die state. An EF45+ coin.

The coin is lovely, likely to slab AU 50 or 53, XF 45 on its worst day. The surfaces and iridescent copper toning are original. Off-center bust halves are among the most popular errors on early U.S. coinage.

Estimate: \$1,200 to \$2,000



LOT 111 – 1813 O.106 R.3 XF Defective Rim

Henry's note: Rim defects from 9:00 to 11:00 on the obverse are not damage but result from the tops of the edge letters (HALF) impinging on the rim. See JRJ article (2011) where this rim is shown in Figure 8. From J. Kern in March 2011 in Baltimore.

The coin was improperly aligned when it passed through the edge lettering device (Castaing machine).

Estimate: \$200 to \$300



LOT 112 – 1814 O.104a R.2 XF/VF Uncentered Strike from Misaligned Die

Ex Elton Dosier

Henry's note: Minor uncentered strike on obverse.

A reasonably common error in early days of the Mint. Henry acquired the coin in May 1985 from his close friend and mentor Elton Dosier. Dosier's kraft envelope accompanies, noting an attribution from Overton's 1st Edition (1967), "O.10." The coin is from a late state of the dies, richly toned and original.

Estimate: \$200 to \$250



LOT 113 – 1814 O.107 R.2 Fine Off-Center Strike

Henry's note: About 2% off center, more apparent on reverse than obverse. While a minor error, it is indicative of the problems that the U.S. Mint had in striking coins in 1814.

Light toning, smooth surfaces except for a small dig by the eagle's beak.

Estimate: \$300 to \$500



LOT 114 – 1814 O.107 R.2 VF-XF Misaligned Die

Ex Stewart Witham and Russell Logan

Henry's note: Misaligned die, about 5%, with the obverse being struck off center. Purchased by me from the Russell J. Logan collection auctioned by Bowers and Merena Galleries November 6-9, 2002, lot# 2317, where it sold for \$862.50. In the sale catalog, the description says simply "Struck 5% off center at 6:30" and the photo accompanying the lot does not match the coin. Earlier from Stu Witham to Russ Logan in April 1992.

A dramatic example of the error, with an unbeatable provenance. Silver-grey toning with underlying hairlines.

Estimate: \$750 to \$1,000



LOT 115 – 1824 O.111 R.2 PCGS VF 30 Triple Profile

Ex Elton Dosier and Olin Carter

Henry's note: Ex: Elton Dosier, then to Olie Carter, then to me after Sheridan Downey bought the Carter collection. Triple profiles are relatively common, so this is probably worth very little more than a regular VF30.

Natural dusty-grey toning with luster in protected areas and nice surfaces.

Estimate: \$175 to \$275



LOT 116 – 1826 O.101a R.2 AU Misaligned Reverse Die

Henry's note: Misaligned dies. Reverse is the side struck off center. While misaligned die bust halves are occasionally found, they are very rare with the reverse being the off center side. This coin was likely struck with the reverse die being the hammer die (see my JRJ article that includes this coin). A lustrous, high grade, coin. From Sheridan Downey, June 2001.

The only example I have handled with a misaligned reverse die. The obverse is perfectly centered. Lightly toned and gently wiped.

Estimate: \$1,000 and up



LOT 117 – 1829/7 O.101 R.1 F.15 Double Struck

Ex Russell Logan

Henry's note: Dentil tracks through Miss Liberty's cap indicate a double strike. From Russell Logan's collection, with his flip. Sold to me from the Coins+ auction sale of Logan's duplicates on 5/13/2006, lot #307 for \$331.00.

Another example of Dr. Schertz' "loose die" revelation. See lot 108. Medium grey toning, lighter on the devices. Imperceptible scratch in front of Liberty's nose. Logan acquired the coin from Dave Finkelstein in February 2002. The Coin+ auction, Finkelstein and Logan tags accompany.

Estimate: \$300 to \$500



LOT 118 – 1829 O.112 R.1 XF-AU "Struck Thru"

Henry's note: A "Struck Through" error at C of 50C on the reverse. There was apparently a piece of string or thin wire between the reverse die and the planchet when the coin was struck. A choice EF coin. Purchased from Sheridan Downey in April 1989.

A beautifully toned, nicely detailed coin that should grade AU at PCGS or NGC.

Estimate: \$750 to \$900



LOT 119 – 1834 Sm. Date & Lets O.111 R.1 XF Double Strike

Ex Gerald Schertz and Charlton E. Meyer, Jr.

Henry's note: Dentil tracks across star 7, indicating a second hit by the die. "Partial double strike" is Downey's description from MB #18 where this coin was lot #164 and sold to Charlton Meyer @ \$365.00. Purchased by me from Sheridan Downey along with other errors from Charlton Meyer's collection in 2009.

Henry figured his cost at \$500. Dr. Schertz' tag accompanies, showing his purchase on April 7, 1986 (for \$55!). Meyer used the Schertz tag to write his source, "Downey #18" and coded cost, RMH = \$365. The coin is light grey and hairlined, with a pin scratch between stars 4 and 5 into the field.

Estimate: \$300 to \$500

END OF PART 5

NEXT – A RARE COUNTERSTAMPED BUST HALF-DOLLAR



LOT 120 – 1828 O.117 R.1 Fleur-de-lis Counterstamp F-VF Holed

Not from the Hilgard collection, though Henry had a holed Good-4 1831 O.111 with the same counterstamp. This one was cherried on eBay awhile back. Stack's/Bowers recounted the origin of the counterstamp when it sold the Hilgard coin in March 2014:

Until the late 1850s, coins used in Puerto Rico were from many different nations, but primarily Spanish-American silver. In 1884, Louis Daban, governor of the island for Spain, issued a decree that mutilated and holed coins could be turned in at treasury depots and stamped with fleur-de-lis markings – apparently the marks varying slightly in style, according to what area of the island they were intended for use, the areas being Fajardo, Guayamo, Ponce, Mayaguez, Arecibo, Viques and San Juan.

The Hilgard coin was traced to a 1976 Jess Peters' sale, appearing later in the 1992 sale of the Witham and Sansoucy Collections. Though well worn, it sold for \$3,055. The present coin has an ancient, dark grey patina, *just like Grandma's silver*, Henry used to say.

Estimate: You're on your own!

END OF SALE