

LIBERTY SEATED DIMES

BY: MIKE STANLEY

In March 2001, I was heading to Charlotte, North Carolina as a volunteer for the American Numismatic Association. My former Communications Officer that I served with aboard USS Enterprise, Malcolm P. Nash III, invited me to make a stop in Highpoint, the furniture capitol of the world, and look over a dime collection that his wife's uncle left to her. The coins were housed in a 3-ring binder and others in a Mason jar. Mr. Nash sent me an email with a list of coins in no certain order and no conditions listed. I only had a couple of dozen of these dimes in my collection at the time. I brought several thousand dollars in cashier's checks with me, and after reminiscing some old times aboard the Big E, we got down to brass tacks. I stacked the dimes up according to its date. There was over a thousand dimes in the collection. Some were nearly uncirculated. I offered him \$4000.00 for the entire collection. He conferred with the wife and said, she was happy with that price, and the deal was done. I drove back to Charlotte and got a motel room and couldn't wait to break out the dimes and look at them a little closer. I heard some commotion outside my room and turned the lights off and peeked out the drapes. Two guys were fighting and hitting each other over the head with glass bottles. I put all the dimes away in my suitcase and decided I would look at them after I checked into the convention hotel. I was overwhelmed at the condition of some of these dimes, and was really anxious to get back home to California so I could put them in my Dansco Album. Upon arrival I started inserting the best of each date into my album and lo and behold I had completed the set of coins all dates and mints except for four dates 1871, 1872, 1873, 1874 Carson City mintmarks. Today those coins in good condition would retail for \$5875.00. I might not be able to get this with the time I have left on earth. But the nice thing about this deal was that the duplicates I sold \$5400.00. a profit of \$1400.00 So when you come right down to it, the set of dimes were free. What a deal!