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(from the DNS Archives)

## SEATED LIBERTY HALF DOLLARS



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I got hooked on coin collecting at an early age. My grandmother gave me a little coin purse with a bunch of coins that had filtered through their cash box at the Mom and Pop grocery store they ran. Included in this purse was an 1875-S half dollar. It was the only old half dollar in my earliest days of collecting. I noticed that my grandfather use to carry in his pocket, two old half dollars and one day I got the nerve to ask him what were the dates on the two coins. He slowly pulled them out of his pocket along with a rabbit's foot and a three-seamed walnut shell. The two half dollars had the dates of 1853 and 1854, but they were worn almost smooth. He gave them to me and then I was hooked!

I liked anything that was nearly a hundred years old. Years would go by without adding any more halves to my collection. Then while at an ANA convention on the east coast, I noticed that a supply dealer had a Dansco album for the Liberty Seated Half Dollars. It was on the bottom shelf and had collected dust on it's cellophane wrapping. There was no price tag on the item so I asked the dealer what he wanted for the album. I noticed that the album had some damage from being dropped on the upper right hand corner and had a wrinkle in it. The dealer says to me, "Will ya give me five bucks for it?" I whipped out a five spot and was on my way! My slogan is, "First the album - then the coin."

Ten years later, I need six halves to fill the album and complete the set. Six coins I may never afford to own...but the hunt continues! ☺