

Liberty's Outlook

2016 NLG Awards:
Best Dealer Publication

June 2017, Volume 23 Issue 6 Liberty Coin Service's Monthly Review of Precious Metals and Numismatics June 7, 2017

While Waiting For Major Price Surge— —US Dollar Down As Economy Sinks —Gold & Silver Up On Physical Shortages

As discussed in last month's issue, I anticipate a strong probability that gold and silver prices will go through a major price surge starting in early August at the latest. I also realize that it may begin before then.

The timing of my forecast has nothing to do with events coming up in the precious metals markets. Instead, I expect it to be sparked as state, county, and local governments and government school districts in America that have June 30, 2017 fiscal years are required to report on their balance sheets, for the first time ever, the massive net present value of unfunded liabilities for employee pensions and retiree health care benefits.

For the city of Lansing, Michigan, which has a June 30 fiscal year end and where Liberty Coin Service is located, this amount could be \$675 million or even higher—which doesn't include the amount owed by the Lansing School District. That is about \$6,000 for each city resident!

Most of the more than 500 government school districts across Michigan also have a June 30 fiscal year, as do many other county and local jurisdictions.

The state of Michigan, which has a September 30, 2017 fiscal year end, will probably report its unfunded liabilities sometime in November. Look for the state's unfunded liabilities to come out at least \$55 billion and almost certainly higher.

As big as those figures are, they are dwarfed by amounts that will be reported elsewhere.

There are two government employee pension plans in California

2017 Year To Date Results Through June 6, 2017			
<i>Precious Metals</i>			
Palladium	+25.1%	Russia Ruble	-7.8%
Gold	+12.5%	Israel Shekel	-8.0%
Silver	+11.3%	Mexico Peso	-12.0%
Platinum	+6.4%	U.S. Dollar Index	96.57 -5.6%
<i>Numismatics</i>		<i>US And World Stock Market Indices</i>	
US MS-63 \$20 St Gaudens	+9.1%	NASDAQ	+16.6%
US MS-63 \$20 Liberty	+1.1%	Dow Jones World (excluding US)	+13.5%
US MS-65 Morgan Dollar, Pre-1921	-7.0%	Frankfurt Xetra DAX	+10.5%
<i>US Dollar vs Foreign Currencies</i>		S&P 500	+8.5%
Argentina Peso	+1.0%	Dow Jones Industrial Average	+7.0%
Brazil Real	+0.7%	London FT 100	+5.4%
Hong Kong Dollar	+0.5%	Nikkei 225	+4.5%
Canada Dollar	+0.1%	Sao Paulo Bovespa	+4.5%
Philippines Peso	+0.0%	Russell 2000	+2.8%
Chile Peso	-0.1%	Australia S&P/ASX 200	+0.0%
Indonesia Rupiah	-2.0%	Shanghai Composite	-0.1%
China Yuan	-2.2%	10 Year US Treasury Note interest rate	2.147% -12.2%
Peru New Sol	-2.6%	<i>Energy and Other Metals</i>	
Colombia Peso	-3.6%	Cobalt	+70.5%
New Zealand Dollar	-3.6%	Molybdenum	+15.3%
Australia Dollar	-4.1%	Aluminum	+10.5%
Great Britain Pound	-4.4%	Lead	+4.8%
Singapore Dollar	-4.7%	Copper	+0.7%
Malaysia Ringgit	-4.8%	Zinc	-3.3%
Sweden Krona	-4.9%	Tin	-4.7%
Thailand Baht	-5.2%	Crude Oil, Brent	-10.2%
India Rupee	-5.3%	Nickel	-12.1%
Switzerland Franc	-5.6%	Natural gas, Henry Hub	-19.6%
South Africa Rand	-6.4%	<i>Metal Content Value Of U.S. Coins</i>	
Japan Yen	-6.5%	Lincoln cent, 1959-1982	1.68¢
Denmark Krone	-6.7%	Lincoln cent, 1982-date	0.64¢
Euro	-6.7%	Jefferson nickel, non-silver	3.18¢
Taiwan Dollar	-7.3%	Roosevelt dime, 1965-date	1.44¢
South Korea Won	-7.4%	Washington quarter, 1965-date	3.60¢
		Kennedy half dollar, 1971-date	7.21¢

where researchers at Stanford University calculate that the combined unfunded liabilities to be booked on the balance sheet will come to about \$1 trillion.

By the time all of the state, county, and local governments and government school districts issue their financial statements for the current fiscal years, look for the total of unfunded liabilities

to total several trillion dollars.

These governments, which are required to operate with budgets that are supposedly in balance, will mostly be forced to reveal that they are insolvent and possibly bankrupt.

None of these entities have the authority to create money out of thin air. In the US, only the federal government

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Fewer US Jobholders page 3
Many Bullion Premiums Decline page 4

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has that authority.

In attempts to try to manage these unfunded liabilities (which the media is trying to soften the public by describing them as nebulous “legacy costs”), these governments and agencies will have a limited list of options:

- 1) **Sharply cut existing expenditures.** In order for Lansing to fully fund its unpaid liabilities within the average remaining working career of current employees, it would have to pay off these expenses in the next 10-12 years. That would require cutting the city’s operating and all other budgeted expenditures by at least 25%. To achieve this would require significant layoffs and cuts in services.
- 2) **Increase taxes.** As taxes rise, productive taxpayers lose the incentive to work as hard as they already do. Consequently, any such tax increases are just about guaranteed to bring in lower funding than projected.
- 3) **Increase borrowing.** Borrowing funds to be repaid in the future is really an effective tax increase on future generations. Plus, keep in mind two facts— governments that are in dire financial straits may not be able to borrow at all or will have to pay much higher interest rates and also this will be a tactic being tried by governments across the nation, which would have the effect of drying up funding for private sector wealth-creating and job-creating activities. The negative impact, short and long term, of

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borrowing is likely to be so onerous that most taxpayers will object to pursuing this option to a major degree.

- 4) **Sell existing government assets.** Lansing, for example, owns a municipal electric and water utility. Selling all of its operations might cover 1/3 of the unfunded liabilities. However, any suggestion that this option be considered is almost universally being rejected outright by currently elected politicians. The same would go for jurisdictions that might consider selling any real estate it owned, any parks or recreational facilities, parking systems, garbage collection operations, and the like. Financial reality will almost certainly force many such assets to be liquidated, but who will pay much for them if people and organizations have to directly pay for services the city used to provide and pay higher taxes?
- 5) **Cut, repudiate, or default on currently promised pension and retiree health care benefits.** When the private sector was forced to book their unfunded liabilities in the 1990s, this was the area where the greatest changes took place. In a handful of states, government pensions are theoretically guaranteed. However, that has not stopped some governments in California from revising how these guaranteed benefits are calculated. Instead of just figuring pension benefits on full earnings in the last 1-3 years of employment, some jurisdictions now exclude overtime pay and bonuses from the base calculation and have gone back as far as the last ten years of employment to figure the benefit. In the private sector, a major adjustment was the abolition of defined benefit retirement programs and replacing them with defined contribution plans (such as 401K programs) where specific retirement benefits are not guaranteed. Perhaps the largest change in private sector finances was the curtailment and reduction of retiree health care. Now that governments are going to be forced to adopt some of these same more accurate financial reporting standards, I look for their employees to suffer deep cuts to their currently promised pensions and health care.

So What?

The fiscal calamity wrought by govern-

Patrick A. Heller’s Upcoming Speeches and Appearances

June 21-22, East Lansing, Michigan (tentative) 4-H Exploration Days Summer Day Camp program on Coin Collecting on the Michigan State University Campus. Registration required at http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/4_h_exploration_days/registration_information.

June 21, Owosso, Michigan, Mid-Michigan Treasure Hunters meeting, “Collecting Coins For Fun And Profit,” public is welcome. Send an email to request time and location.

For more information on any event or to arrange for a presentation at schools, senior citizen groups, Scout organizations, fraternal or business organizations, call 800-933-4720 or email path@libertycoinservice.com.

ments being forced to more accurately report their finances will have far-reaching consequences.

As this problem occurs nationwide, the entire economy will suffer as large numbers of workers lose jobs. With a shrinking taxpayer base, governments will be even further squeezed to take extreme measures.

Another result is that foreigners will fear that the federal government may become even more aggressive at inflating the money supply than it is already doing. The value of the US dollar is almost certain to decline significantly as this inflation occurs or as foreigners stop accepting US dollars and more aggressively repatriate the dollars that they already hold.

As the dollar sinks, more Americans will be seeking an alternative store of value outside of paper assets such as stocks, bonds, and currencies. In addition, the foreigners who cash out their US dollars will also be seeking alternative safe haven assets, preferably ones that are easily liquid (note—after last June’s British vote for that country to leave the European Union, people there suddenly realized just how illiquid real estate assets were).

You probably already realize where I am going. I expect that the prices of physical gold and silver will soar in relation to the US dollar and other government-issued unbacked currencies.

I don’t expect this price surge to occur instantly, but I do see within a couple years at the longest that prices will rise higher than almost anyone is

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willing to forecast.

As demand to acquire bullion-priced physical precious metals takes off, expect supplies to become even tighter than is developing right now. I anticipate that almost any form of what might be called “paper gold and silver”—be it shares of exchange traded funds, commodity futures and options contracts, certificates of deposit for metal supposedly stored somewhere, ownership of “unallocated” precious metals in vault storage (and some people will even lose their “allocated” metals as we saw occur in the MF Global bankruptcy in 2011), and the like will default on delivery. Expect that a lot of the gold central banks have leased out will never be returned.

Once physical gold and silver supply shortages become obvious, it will become almost impossible to purchase, no matter the price.

Obviously, the prudent measure to take is to establish your “wealth insurance” position ahead of time, when prices are much lower and you can obtain them. Review the box at the upper right for suggestions on how much of your net worth to consider allocating for this purpose.

Physical Gold And Silver Supplies Tighten

During May, major dealers of physical bullion-priced gold and silver reported tight supplies of the two metals. Many dealers were unable to locate immediately available quantities to fill sizeable orders for major customers.

These shortages grew even worse in the following weeks. The US COMEX June 2017 Gold Options contracts expired May 25. Normally, the US government, through the use of the Exchange Stabilization Fund, or through trading activities by its primary trading partners and allied central banks, would aggressively suppress prices as expiration approached to reduce the quantity of call options contracts that are exercised for the immediate delivery of physical metal (which has the effect of further tightening supplies).

Last month, precious metals

prices were not clobbered as of the COMEX close on May 25. In fact, as you can see in the chart on the back page, they closed higher that day. Had the US government been able to knock the price of gold back under \$1,200, as it came close to doing two weeks earlier, that would have eliminated the immediate demand for delivery of physical gold by several hundred thousand ounces compared to what actually happened that day.

As it turned out, the holders of exercised June 2017 gold options contracts, to a far greater degree than typical, agreed to alternative settlement terms in lieu of immediate gold delivery. A sizeable percentage accepted a cash payment in return for allowing a deferred delivery date, or for accepting another options for futures contract with a further out maturity date.

This pattern repeated on June 2 when the much larger volume of June over-the-counter options contracts expired on the London exchange. As you can see in the daily price chart, precious metals prices rose noticeably on June 2.

There has been a huge increase in the short sales of gold and silver futures contracts on the New York COMEX over the past two weeks, in a mostly futile effort to try to push down precious metals prices. The reason such a tactic is not working as well as it has in years past is because physical inventories are so tight.

Imports of physical gold into China and India, the world’s two largest gold-consuming nations, have been much higher in the early months of 2017 compared to the same period a year earlier. Provisional data from analyst GFMS puts official gold imports into India at 144% higher through the first five months of 2017 compared to the year before. Monthly imports into China coming through Hong Kong are up mostly 50-100% compared to the same months in 2016.

Regular Media Report Positive News About Precious Metals

The Wall Street Journal almost never reports positive developments with precious metals markets, but aggressively shares any negative news. However, that may be changing. At the top of the first page of today’s issue was a gold sub-headline touting how well the price of gold has performed thus far in 2017.

The same attitude seems to affect

Summary Of Current LCS Recommendations For Precious Metals and Rare Coins

How much of your total net worth should be in precious metals and rare coins?

	<u>Conservative</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Aggressive</u>
	10-15%	20%	25-33%

*How much to allocate for each category of precious metals and rare coins?**

	<u>Conservative</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Aggressive</u>
Gold	35%	30%	20%
Silver	65%	60%	55%
Rare Coins	0%	10%	25%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%

*Platinum and palladium both have volatile markets with long-term supply/demand fundamentals that are not as attractive as those for gold, silver or rare coins. While either or both might outperform gold, silver, or rare coins in the short- to long-term, to be conservative we have omitted them from our allocation.

Bloomberg. Yet, it did a feature story last Friday on the guilty plea by former Deutsche Bank trader David Liew for conspiring to spoof gold, silver, platinum, and palladium futures trading. Spoofing involves posting buy or sell offers on the market with the intention of manipulating prices without having to actually execute any trades. Go to <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-06-02/trader-pleading-guilty-in-metals-probed-to-deutsche-bank> to read this news report.

When major US media outlets start covering positive news stories about precious metals, you can almost guarantee that prices will be higher in the relatively near future.

Decline In US Jobs Sign Of Economic Decline

If you only read the headlines of the Bureau of Labor Statistics last three monthly jobs and unemployment reports, you would have read about an alleged combined increase of 447,000 jobs.

Not true at all!

In subsequent adjustments, the BLS trimmed this total by 85,000 jobs to 362,000, which reductions are not included in the headlines.

Even worse, the reported jobs increases were distorted by including 517,000 jobs that were double-counted with the “birth/death adjustment.” After the BLS counts

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the number of job holders, it then adds more because the US population is rising. Once you exclude these double-counted jobs, there are 155,000 fewer job holders last Friday than were reported four months earlier. That is a sign of an economy in decline.

The decline in jobholders is confirmed by the drop in the BLS's reported labor force participation rate. Over the past three months it has declined from 63.0% to 62.7%. With a workforce of 254 million people, the means that indicates that the number of people holding jobs in the US has declined by more than 760,000 over the past three months! That's even worse.

Remember, for the second quarter of 2013, the US Commerce Department revised its calculation of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to include factors not included by any other nation. This had the effect of reporting as GDP a figure that was about 3% higher than what had formerly been reported. If you reduce subsequent GDP reports by this 3% fudge factor, you find that ten of the last fifteen quarters actually show a contraction of the US economy. In my judgment, that still overstates the correct GDP.

In other words, whether looking at employment, GDP, retail sales, home sales, shipping volume, and so forth, the accurate data all show a slowing or contracting US economy.

For self-protection, you need some assets not dependent on the strength of the US economy or US dollar. Call us.

And—stop believing the headlines of federal government financial statistics.

Silver and Silver Coins

The price of silver closed on the COMEX today at \$17.58, up a solid \$1.10 (6.7%) from last month.

In early May there was a small surge in US retail demand for bullion-priced physical gold and silver coins and ingots. It quickly fizzled out and led to even lower demand than we have seen in multiple years.

As happened in April, sinking demand led to further declines in the premiums of many bullion-priced silver products. When you combine lower premiums, ready product availability, and prices today much lower than I ex-

The Month

Gold Range	79.25	6.4%
Net Change	+43.50	
Silver Range	1.68	10.2%
Net Change	+1.10	
Gold/Silver Ratio	75.6	
Net change	+7.0	
Platinum Range	59.00	6.5%
Net Change	+43.00	

Platinum/Gold Ratio 0.73

Date	Gold	Silver	Platinum
May 03	1,246.50	16.48	904.00
May 04	1,226.50	16.24	907.00
May 05	1,224.75	16.22	910.00
May 08	1,225.25	16.19	919.00
May 09	1,214.25	16.00	900.00
May 10	1,217.25	16.15	910.00
May 11	1,222.75	16.20	917.00
May 12	1,226.25	16.34	917.00
May 15	1,228.50	16.45	917.00
May 16	1,235.00	16.69	937.00
May 17	1,257.50	16.85	946.00
May 18	1,251.75	16.62	936.00
May 19	1,252.75	16.75	940.00
May 22	1,260.75	17.14	950.00
May 23	1,254.75	17.09	949.00
May 24	1,252.50	17.08	947.00
May 25	1,255.75	17.15	953.00
May 26	1,267.50	17.28	963.00
May 29	1,closed		
May 30	1,262.00	17.38	941.00
May 31	1,272.00	17.36	950.00
Jun 01	1,267.00	17.24	929.00
Jun 02	1,276.75	17.49	953.00
Jun 05	1,279.25	17.54	957.00
Jun 06	1,293.50	17.68	959.00
Jun 07	1,290.00	17.58	947.00

Gold, silver and platinum quotes are work-in spots at 1:45 EST/EDT each day, quoted in U.S. dollars per troy ounce.

Shanghai Gold Exchange premiums above London spot prices as of newsletter date:

Gold: +\$ 7.64

Silver: +\$ 0.89

Current Shanghai Gold Exchange premiums can be tracked at www.didthesystemcollapse.com

pect in the future, that spells a bargain buying opportunity to me.

My recommended form of bullion-priced silver to purchase is still US **90% Silver Coins** (4.2%). They are highly divisible where one dime contains about 1/14 of an ounce of silver. They are also highly liquid. **100, 10, and 1 Ounce Ingots** (4.5%-5.7%) are also worth considering.

In the past several weeks, prices for

Morgan and Peace Silver Dollars from circulated to high Mint State grades have all declined, despite rising spot prices. It is fairly typical that such coins decline or rise on a delayed basis when precious metals markets fluctuate. Among the Common-Date "Blue Chip" issues right now, one of the best values looks to be **Common-Date Very Choice Mint State-64 Peace Silver Dollars**. We acquired an unusually large quantity of them last week that we can offer at very attractive prices. Please see our enclosed flyer.

Gold And Gold Coins

Gold settled on the COMEX today at \$1,291.00, an increase of \$43.50 (3.5%) from five weeks ago.

As with silver, there are a number of lower premiums compared to last month. For example my low premium favorites such as the US **American Arts Medallions** (1.9%), the Austria **100 Corona** (1.5%), and the Mexico **50 Pesos** (2.3%), are mostly better buys relative to gold value than they were last month.

Other coins such as the US **1 Oz Gold American Eagle** (3.9%), Canada **1 Oz Gold Maple Leaf** (2.9%), and British **Sovereign** (5.9%) are also available at lower premiums this month.

By the way, these lower premiums will all disappear as soon as there is a lasting surge in buying physical precious metals.

As I warned you last month, there is a slight catch to these falling premiums. For the most part, you would have to pay higher premiums if you want 2017-dated coins.

Even with the rise in the spot price of gold, some **Pre-1934 US Gold Coins** across a wide spectrum of grades declined in price over the past month.

Unfortunately, we were unable to come up with any specials groups in the past few weeks for an offering. And—tight supplies often presage higher prices in the near future. However, we did purchase a moderate quantity of the **US 1997-W Proof \$5.00 Gold Jackie Robinson Commemorative Legacy Sets**. We offer them, while they last, at prices lower than we see them offered elsewhere.

Item	Qty	Fine Wt	Price	Cost/Oz	Premium
*U.S. 1 Oz Gold Eagle	10	1.0000	1,341.25	1341.25	3.9%
*U.S. 1/2 Oz Gold Eagle	10	0.5000	693.25	1386.50	7.4%
*U.S. 1/4 Oz Gold Eagle	10	0.2500	357.00	1428.00	10.6%
*U.S. 1/10 Oz Gold Eagle	10	0.1000	146.70	1467.00	13.6%
*U.S. 1 Oz Gold Buffalo	10	1.0000	1,354.25	1354.25	4.9%
*U.S. 1 Oz Medallion	10	1.0000	1,315.50	1315.50	1.9%
*U.S. 1/2 Oz Medallion	10	0.5000	659.00	1318.00	2.1%
*Australia 1 Oz Kangaroo	10	1.0000	1,350.50	1350.50	4.6%
*Austria 100 Corona	10	0.9802	1,284.50	1310.45	1.5%
*Austria 1 Oz Philharmonic	10	1.0000	1,340.00	1340.00	3.8%
*Canada 1 Oz Maple Leaf	10	1.0000	1,328.50	1328.50	2.9%
*Canada 1x25 Maplegram	10	0.8039	1,170.75	1456.34	12.8%
*China 30 Gram Panda	10	0.9646	1,335.00	1383.99	7.2%
*China 1 Oz Panda	10	1.0000	1,380.00	1380.00	6.9%
*Mexico 50 Peso	10	1.2057	1,592.25	1320.60	2.3%
*S. Africa Krugerrand	10	1.0000	1,335.00	1335.00	3.4%
*1 Oz Ingot	10	1.0000	1,327.25	1327.25	2.8%
*Austria 1 Ducat	10	0.1107	155.20	1401.99	8.6%
*British Sovereign	10	0.2354	321.75	1366.82	5.9%
*France 20 Franc	10	0.1867	256.00	1371.18	6.2%
*Swiss 20 Franc	10	0.1867	256.50	1373.86	6.4%
\$20 Liberty BU	10	0.9675	1,395.00	1441.86	11.7%
\$20 St Gaudens BU	10	0.9675	1,395.00	1441.86	11.7%
\$20 Liberty Extremely Fine	10	0.9675	1,375.00	1421.19	10.1%
\$10 Liberty Extremely Fine	10	0.4838	695.00	1436.54	11.3%
\$10 Indian Extremely Fine	10	0.4838	725.00	1498.55	16.1%
\$5 Liberty Extremely Fine	10	0.2419	365.00	1508.89	16.9%
\$5 Indian Extremely Fine	10	0.2419	410.00	1694.92	31.3%
\$2.50 Liberty Extreme Fine	10	0.1209	300.00	2481.39	92.2%
\$2.50 Indian Extreme Fine	10	0.1209	265.00	2191.89	69.8%
*U.S. 90% Silver Coin	1,000	715	13,140.00	18.38	4.2%
*U.S. 40% Silver Coin	1,000	295	5,405.00	18.32	3.9%
*U.S. Peace Dollars, VG+	1,000	760	18,550.00	24.41	38.4%
*U.S. Silver Eagles	1,000	1,000	20,080.00	20.08	13.9%
*Canada Silver Maple Leaf	1,000	1,000	19,720.00	19.72	11.9%
*100 Oz Silver Ingot	10	100	1,843.00	18.43	4.5%
*10 Oz Silver Ingot	100	10	186.30	18.63	5.7%
*1 Oz Silver Ingot	1,000	1	18.63	18.63	5.7%
*1 Oz Platinum Ingot	10	1.0000	999.00	999.00	4.9%
*U.S. 1 Oz Platinum Eagle	10	1.0000	1,052.00	1052.00	10.5%
*Canada Palladium ML	10	1.0000	898.00	898.00	7.0%

Gold:	\$1,291.00
Silver:	\$17.63
Platinum:	\$952.00
Palladium:	\$839.00

Notes from Liberty

By Allan Beegle
LCS Chief Numismatist

May sales volume started off strong, then fell sharply. By the end, May's sales were the lowest for any month at LCS in several years. Once again, the decline in sales was for bullion-priced products.

LCS's numismatic products are still selling quite well. Our experiences are matched at dealerships across the country.

With precious metals prices rising, coin dealers in America are still purchasing more bullion-priced gold and silver items from the public than they are selling to them. This is almost unique to the US. In the Far East, Middle East, and across Europe, demand to purchase physical precious metals remains strong.

Once again, virtually every numismatic item offered in last month's newsletter sold out quickly. Since they were genuinely rare items, we had to turn away several would-be purchasers after the treasures found new homes.

Though gold and silver prices are higher now than they were five weeks ago, there was a short-lived minor price drop in early May. With dealers buying more from the public than they were selling, there were also premium declines on multiple bullion-priced gold and silver coins and well as some "Blue Chip" numismatic issues.

I recently took advantage of this temporary decline when I came across the largest group of **Common-Date Very Choice Mint State-64 Peace Dollars** that I have seen in decades! After negotiation, we can offer these lovely coins at a small fraction of their prices from 30 years ago and even much lower than in recent times. With rising spot prices, though, this price level

LCS Postage Charges	
Value of Contents	Postage Charge
Under \$100	\$5
\$100-249	\$10
\$250-499	\$18
\$500-999	\$25
\$1,000-4,999	\$30
\$5,000 and higher	None

Please Note: Liberty Coin Service will be open Saturday, July 1 and closed on Monday, July 3 and Tuesday July 4 for the Independence Day Holiday.

Liberty Coin Service Call Toll-Free: **(800) 527-2375 National**
400 Frandor Avenue **(517) 351-4720 Local**
Lansing, MI 48912 **(517) 351-3466 Fax**

web: www.libertycoinservice.com email: path@libertycoinservice.com
 Trading Desk Hours (Eastern): Mon-Fri 9:30AM-6PM, Sat 10AM-2PM

Coins, Rolls and Sets

U.S. 10 pc Gold Medallion Set, 1980-1984, BU	\$11,150
U.S. Morgan Dollar, 1921, Brilliant Uncirculated Roll/20	\$650
U.S. Morgan Dollar, Pre-1921, Brilliant Uncirculated Roll/20	\$860
U.S. Peace Dollar, Brilliant Uncirculated Roll/20	\$550

Gold:	\$1,291.00
Silver:	\$17.63
Platinum:	\$952.00
Palladium:	\$839.00

Numismatic Coins (PCGS/NGC/ICG Graded)

	MS-63	MS-64	MS-65
U.S. \$20.00 St Gaudens	1,430	1,455	1,775
U.S. \$20.00 Liberty	1,445	1,635	2,560
U.S. \$10.00 Liberty	785	1,130	2,465
U.S. \$5.00 Liberty	525	655	1,840
U.S. 4 pc Indian Gold Type Set	3,505	5,010	12,345
U.S. 4 pc Liberty Gold Type Set	3,095	3,825	7,505
U.S. 8 pc Gold Type Set	6,540	8,685	19,400
U.S. Morgan Dollar (Pre-1921)	55	68	132
U.S. Peace Dollar	40	50	118

Prices quoted are for quantities indicated, and are actual selling prices at today's closes. Smaller lots are available at slightly higher prices. No Michigan Sales Tax on rare coins or precious metals bullion. Numismatic purchases have a 14 day return period. Orders for bullion-priced items (marked with *) are not returnable and, after confirmation, cannot be cancelled.

may not remain as low.

In our store, we acquired two exciting small groups of coins from long-time collectors. First, LCS General Manager Tom Coulson picked up a handful of **US Proof 1997-W \$5.00 Gold Jackie Robinson Legacy Sets**. Robinson was famous for integrating major league baseball in 1947. The general manager who hired him later drafted major league baseball's first Hispanic player and introduced other significant innovations to our national pastime. While they last, we offer them at prices lower than we see them going for elsewhere.

Next, we purchased **High-Grade 1880/9-S Morgan Dollars** from another collector. Though the 1880-S Morgan is common, this overdate variety, identified as VAM-11, is scarce. Again, we offer all of these coins at prices below what they have sold for in auction this year!

At the very last minute, LCS Communications Officer Pat Heller struck paydirt when a West Coast dealer offered us a moderate-sized group of **Medieval German Silver Hellers**, which are famous for depicting "The Right Hand Of God." After a more than 15-year search for these historical treasures, we were able to offer a larger group nine months ago that sold out quickly. Ever since, we have had wholesalers checking around the globe to find any other groups. Although this lot was slightly more costly, we are again offering them at the same price as we did last year.

You've heard me say it before, but I again anticipate quick sellouts for most or all of these special coins. That is why I urge you to quickly review this month's offering. Then pick up the phone right away to call our **Trading Desk toll-free at 800-527-2375** to check on availability and confirm your order.

Naturally, we have acquired a number of other items over the past few weeks that represent exceptional value. Here are a few to tempt you:

Mint State-60+ US 1964 Kennedy Silver Half Dollar Rolls: In one of the collections we recently purchased were a number of 20-coin rolls of Mint State-60+ 1964 90% Silver Kennedy Half Dollars. This is the only year that Kennedy Halves struck for circulation were made of 90% silver content. These have always been popular mementos of the assassinated president. This handful of rolls may be the largest we have had in some time, but nowhere close to enough to make a featured offering of them. As long as the silver spot price does not rise above \$18.00 you can purchase one or more of these rolls at \$199, which is less than \$10.00 per coin.

Mint State-60+ Canada 1967 Silver Dollar Rolls: The year 2017 is the 150th Anniversary of the Canadian Confederation. To celebrate, the Royal Canadian Mint has created one-year only designs for each of this year's circulating coins features.

This has happened before. To honor the

Centennial of the Canadian Confederation in 1967, the RCM also changed the designs for just that year for all the circulating coinage. The silver dollar, which was the last one struck in 80% silver that was put into circulation (silver content 0.6 troy oz), features a Canadian goose in flight.

We were fortunate to acquire a modest quantity of 20-Coin Mint State Rolls of this historic coin out of another collection we purchased in May. While they last, you can acquire a full roll of these coins for \$299, which works out to \$14.95 per coin. We see these coins offered by our competitors or selling in on-line actions for as much as \$30 per coin—and sometimes even higher!

Awesome High Quality Ancient Roman Silver Denarius: Emperor Septimus Severus reigned from 193-211 AD, much longer than most emperors of the era. By this time, the denarius had been in circulation more than 300 years. To steal wealth from the populace the purity of silver content had declined from almost pure at the beginning to only about 60% at the end of the Second Century AD. For NGC to grade this coin as only Extremely Fine is incredibly conservative. Every detail is needle-sharp with the design well-centered on both sides. We dare you to try to find another this beautiful at our price of just \$140.

US Large Size Paper Money Bargains: From 1861 through the late 1920s, the US government issued paper money of much larger size than was issued later. Nicknamed "horse blankets," many issues are works of art. We have been fortunate to acquire multiple collections, of which we offer these PMG-certified (part of the NGC family of grading services) examples:

Fr-60 Series 1917 \$2.00 Legal Tender Note, Choice Uncirculated-63—\$350. On the front, President Thomas Jefferson appears at the left and the US Capitol in the center. Ornately engraved seals and shield across the reverse.

Fr-751 Series 1918 \$2.00 Federal Reserve Bank Note, Choice Very Fine-30—\$800. Nicknamed the "Battleship" for showing the battleship New York on the reverse. Always a popular note.

Fr-851a Series 1914 Blue Seal \$5.00 Federal Reserve Note, Choice Uncirculated-63 Exceptional Paper Quality—\$500. The front design is much like later notes, though with blue seals and serial numbers.



1964 Kennedy Half Dollars
MS60+ - \$199 per roll



Canada 1967 Silver Dollars
MS60+ - \$299 per roll



ROMAN EMPIRE
 Sept. Severus, AD 193-211
 AR Denarius **XF**

Colosseum Hoard

3762474-290





Ancient Rome Silver Denarius
 XF NGC Certified - \$140



1917 Series \$2.00 Legal Tender Note
 CU 63 PMG Certified - \$350



1918 Series \$2.00 Federal Reserve Bank Note VF 30 PMG Certified - \$800



1914 Series \$5.00 Federal Reserve Bank Note CU 63 EPQ PMG Certified - \$500

memo

Common-Date Very Choice Mint State-64 Peace Silver Dollars!



**A Top Value In “Blue Chip” Coins Today!
As Low As \$45.95 Each!**

To: All Clients

From: Allan P. Beegle, Chief Numismatist

Date: June 5, 2017

If you want to go way back, I remember selling MS-64 Peace Dollars thirty years ago for as much as \$295 a coin—and not being able to locate enough specimens for waiting customers! In the years since, we waited for prices to reach more reasonable levels before recommending them to our clientele.

In the past four years, Common-Date Very Choice Mint State-64 Peace Silver Dollars have sold for mostly in the \$55 to \$90 range.

Yet, even at those much lower levels, we still did not consider them a good value for our customers.

A month ago, when the spot price of silver was about \$16.50, we offered single specimens at \$52 each! That price was getting down to about double the price of lower quality Mint State-60 Peace Silver Dollars. It was also getting close to our lowest price on these coins over the past decade!

However, over the past few weeks, the spot price of silver has started to move back up. There are growing shortages of physical silver to meet strong industrial and financial demand. I’m not sure how long the price of these beautiful historic coins may remain this low.

I recently learned when calling a Midwest wholesaler friend that his company had the largest stock of these high-grade coins, all independently certified by either the Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS) or Numismatic Guaranty Corporation (NGC), that I have come across in years. I quickly approached LCS General Manager Tom Coulson and LCS Communication Officer Pat Heller about trying to pick up most of these coins (only those that met our strict fussy quality standards) to offer to our valuable customers—if we could obtain them at a great money-saving price. They both loved the idea.

When I called my friend back, we went back and forth for a bit before eventually striking a great deal. It helped that he knows from past transactions that we make fast, reliable payments.

Thanks to this opportune purchase last week of the largest quantity of these lovely coins that we have handled in decades we can offer these popular “Blue Chip” coins at almost semi-bullion prices!

Now is the time to take advantage of a money-saving opportunity (which we expect to be temporary) to acquire Common-Date Very Choice Mint State-64 Peace Silver Dollars at prices that are barely 60-70% more than you would pay for lower quality Mint State-60+ specimens!

Here’s why we are so excited to offer this discovery hoard:

-over-

The Designer’s Wife!

Anthony De Francisci, an apprentice to U.S. coin designers A. A. Weinman (Mercury Dime and Walking Liberty Half Dollar), Herman MacNeil (Standing Liberty Quarter), and James E. Fraser (Buffalo Nickel) was given only three weeks to submit his design for the Peace Dollar. With no time to hire a model, he used his new 22-year old bride!

In De Francisci’s words, “I opened the window of my studio and let the wind blow on her hair while she was posing for me The nose, the fullness of the eye and the mouth are much like my wife’s I wanted the Liberty to express something of the spirit of the country—the intellectual speed and vigor and vitality America has as well as its youth”

Never before had a U.S. coin designer used his wife for a model. In designing the Peace Dollar, De Francisci created the ultimate expression of his love.

- The price of Very Choice Mint State-64 Peace Dollars is typically 50-100% higher than that of Choice Mint State-63 specimens. Yet today, you can purchase them for less than a 25% premium to these lower quality certified coins.
- Over the past decades, MS-64 Peace Silver Dollars have sold for as much as six times the price of Mint State-60+ quality coins. Now they only cost you about double the price.

For both reasons, we consider the MS-64 Peace Dollars to reflect a great value at the current price. There is a potential for double-edged appreciation. As the price of silver rises (as we anticipate), these coins are likely to climb in price. If the rare coin market expands, no matter what the price of silver does, these coins could also appreciate. It is even possible that prices could rise both because of higher silver prices and stronger rare coin demand, in which case the price of Common-Date Very Choice Mint State-64 Peace Silver Dollars could get a double boost!

The Bargain Offer!

Because of our fortunate purchase, you can acquire lovely PCGS- or NGC-certified Very Choice Mint State-64 Common Date Peace Silver Dollars at money-saving prices ranging from \$49.95 all the way down to just \$45.95 per coin!

If you order at least 10 coins, you will receive three different dates (1922, 1923, and 1925). Orders of 60 coins will also receive at least one 1924 Peace Dollar.

Although we acquired our largest stock of these choice quality coins in decades, if not in our entire 46 years in business, there may not be enough to satisfy all customers. As has happened with some of our other recent offerings, when this bargain-priced supply is exhausted, we may have to decline further orders at these prices. To give everyone a better chance to acquire some of these historic coins, we must limit orders to 60 coins. No exceptions.

Don't Delay!

Orders will be filled on a first come, first served basis. I urge you to confirm your order and lock in today's low price! To reserve your purchase, call us today Toll-Free at **800-527-2375**. Or return the coupon below. You may also use your Visa, Mastercard, or Discover credit card for orders shipped to the billing address of the credit card..

Sincerely,



Allan P. Beegle

 Yes! Please ship me the Choice Mint State-64 1922-1925 Peace Silver Dollars that I have indicated below. I understand every coin has been independently certified by the Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS) or Numismatic Guaranty Corporation (NGC) and that all are backed by LCS's exclusive guarantees. Orders of 10 or more coins will receive at least three different dates. Orders of 60 coins will receive at least one of all four dates. I may return them for a full refund for any reason within 14 days of my receipt. Limit 60 coins per order.

_____ MS-64 1922-1925 Peace Dollars, PCGS/NGC, (1-4 coins)	@\$49.95 each = _____
_____ MS-64 1922-1925 Peace Dollars, PCGS/NGC, (5-9 coins)	@\$49.50 each = _____
_____ MS-64 1922-1925 Peace Dollars, PCGS/NGC, (10-19 coins)	@\$48.95 each = _____
_____ MS-64 1922-1925 Peace Dollars, PCGS/NGC, (20-39 coins)	@\$47.95 each = _____
_____ MS-64 1922-1925 Peace Dollars, PCGS/NGC, (40-60 coins)	@\$45.95 each = _____

Postage (see Computer Quotes Page) _____
 Total Enclosed _____

name _____

address _____

city,state,zip _____

telephone number _____

Confirmed by phone? _____ Confirmation # _____



US 1997-W Jackie Robinson Proof \$5.00 Gold Commemoratives!

Baseball fans know that Hall of Fame great Jackie Robinson is famous for breaking major league baseball's "color barrier" in the 1947 season, when the Brooklyn Dodgers General Manager Branch Rickey hired him to play first base.

During the 1947 season, the Dodgers set National League attendance records both for home and away games. Robinson helped lead his team to the 1947 World Series while earning the National League's Rookie of the Year award.

(Rickey himself contributed major changes to professional baseball. After a briefly playing major league baseball, he served as the manager of the University of Michigan baseball team from 1910 to 1913 while earning his law degree there. Rickey later drafted major league baseball's first Hispanic player, Roberto Clemente, when he was General Manager for the Pittsburgh Pirates. In addition, he created the concept for the current minor league farm system and introduced the batting helmet.)

This issue honors the 50th Anniversary of Robinson entering major league baseball. Many numismatists are aware that the Mint State version of this gold commemorative had the lowest mintage of any modern US Gold Coin before the \$10.00 Presidential First Lady issues were introduced in 2007. As it turns out, the Proof version we offer here, with a mintage of only 24,072, is also one of the lower-mintage US \$5.00 Proof Gold Commemoratives.

In late May, we purchased several of the US Mint's Legacy Sets of these coins as part of a long-time collection. Each set comes in its original wood display box with a modified reproduction of an early Robinson Topps baseball card. They are each accompanied by a certificate of authenticity. While the coins are pristine, we conservatively describe their condition as Superb Gem Proof-67+.

Other national competitors are offering these Legacy Sets for as much as \$750. On eBay, they have recently sold for \$477 to \$525.

While they last, purchase them from LCS for just \$475 apiece!

Call our Trading Desk Today! Reach us toll-free at 800-527-2375 to confirm your order. You may use your Visa, Mastercard, or Discover charge cards for purchases shipped to the card's billing address. As with all of our numismatic offers, your satisfaction is guaranteed. You have 14 days upon your receipt to return these coins for a full, immediate refund.

Rare 1880/9-S Morgan Silver Dollar Overdate!

The 1880-S Morgan Silver Dollar is one of the most common issues surviving in all Mint State grades.

However, there are several varieties from this year of production. In an effort to cut costs, the Mint's engravers retooled several obverses to change the old 1879 date into 1880. Often, indications of the original date survived this process.

For the 1880/9-S variety, identified as VAM-11 for its catalog number in the *Comprehensive Catalog And Encyclopedia Of Morgan & Peace Dollars* authored by Leroy C. Van Allen and George Mallis, there is some residue of the original 9 digit under the 0 at the end of the date. At

about 10 o'clock on the outside of the 0 is some extra metal. Inside the top of the 0 at the top are some horizontal die lines from the 9.

Unfortunately, the enlarged picture of the date here does not do justice to these differences.

The Professional Coin Grading Service has certified about 3,000 of this variety in Very Choice Mint State-64 and higher grades, far fewer than the more than 150,000 of the regular 1880-S date certified in the same grade range.

A savvy long-time collector detected that many of the coins among some rolls he owned were this overdate. He sent in the nicest pieces to PCGS, which all were graded Choice Mint State-63 or nicer (all but 2 are MS-63 or MS-64). We jumped at the opportunity to acquire this group—which is more specimens than we have previously handled in our entire 46 year history combined.

While they last, you can pick up one or more of these rarities at the special LCS money-saving prices (which are all lower than what some have sold for this year in major auctions):

Grade	PCGS Retail	2018 Red Book	LCS Price
MS-63	\$85	\$75	\$69
MS-64	\$125	\$125	\$109
MS-65	\$250	\$300	\$225
MS-65+	\$300	not listed	\$275

Our supply is limited to the 15 total coins among all grades that we have on hand! **To confirm your order, Call our Trading Desk at 800-527-2375.**

As we guarantee with all of our numismatic offers, you must be satisfied with your purchase. You have 14 days upon your receipt to return any of these coins for a full refund.

—Tom Coulson, LCS General Manager



Repeat Of A Sellout—

“The Right Hand Of God!”

Medieval German Silver Hand Hellers

Nine months ago, I finally succeeded in a more than 15-year search to locate a quantity of this historic unusual medieval silver coin to offer to all customers.

They sold out quickly and we had to turn away a number of would-be purchasers.

Ever since we have been actively seeking any more lots. We have had wholesalers scouring inventories of dealers across the globe.

Late last month, a West Coast dealer friend contacted me to say he had found a smaller group that he could sell to me for close to the same money-saving price that we paid for last year's group. After he sent me a photograph of the lot, I eagerly told him to send them.

I just opened the package last night—too late to take my own photographs of the new pieces or to write fresh copy on these treasures. Consequently, we are offering these coins at the very same price we did last year and are reprinting below the text and photographs we used in our previous offering.

—Patrick A. Heller

A Religious Accommodation

Late Roman and Early Byzantine Empire coinage depicted Jesus Christ. However, around 800, the depiction of God was then considered to violate the Second Commandment of the Jewish and Greek Orthodox faiths that proscribed graven images.

The depiction of the Right Hand of God (in Latin called Manus Dei) grew to be used as an acceptable artistic representation of the Deity. God's hand symbolized salvation, protection, benediction, and absolution.

References to the Right Hand of God appear in the Hebrew Bible and in the New Testament. God's right hand is “full of righteousness” to vanquish enemies and serves as a guide to lead the faithful to the Promised Land.

A New Denomination

The Heller denomination originated in the southwestern German city of Hall am Kocher (known today as Schwäbisch Hall). It was derived from the previous silver pfennig, and was a denomination originally equivalent to half of a pfennig (though later considered the same value as the pfennig). The denomination was a reference to the city where it was struck.

The Royal Mint in that city was established about 1180 by Holy Roman Emperor Friedrich I. Barbarossa (1122-1190). The earliest known mention of the “Handelheller” coinage is in 1189. Production continued possibly up to the year 1500, though later issues were smaller, lighter, and had little silver content. The original silver coins weighed about 0.6 grams, but gradually declined to around 0.3 grams. The specimens in the discovery mini-
hoard offered here weigh an average of about

0.45 grams [note—this second group averages just over 0.5 grams!] and are about 2/3 pure silver. Post-1500 heller coinage is copper or bronze.

The heller was the smallest denomination of its era. Heller coinage continued to be struck for more than 800 years. It was struck in various parts of Germany up to 1873. The Austro-Hungarian Empire issued hellers from 1892 to the end of the First World War in 1918. Germany resurrected the heller denomination in 1904 for its then colony German East Africa, now modern day Tanzania.

After the political breakup in Eastern Europe in the 1990s, the Czech Republic and Slovakia issued heller-denominated coins and currency. The Czech government removed the last 50 heller coins from circulation in 2008 and printed the last 50 heller notes just a few years ago.

When I first encountered the Silver Hand Heller coins more than two decades ago, I had to purchase them for myself and my family because the denomination was the same as our surname. Over more than 20 years I have constantly searched for more pieces and maybe found a dozen specimens, sometimes paying more than the price at which we offer this group.

More than 15 years ago, a medieval coin specialist told me that a hoard of these coins had surfaced in the 1980s but not since. Upon hearing this, I kept my senses attuned to the possibility of any groups of these coins.

The Surprise Discovery Lot

At the American Numismatic Association World's Fair of Money in Anaheim, California last month, I encountered a Hand Heller in the stock of a dealer friend, which I promptly bought personally. I then commented that I had been searching for a group of these coins. The lightbulb went off in my friend's mind. He said that he thought he knew a dealer who had a group. Before the end of the show, he showed me a photograph of the lot, then quot-



ed me an irresistible price to take the entire group. I quickly said yes! After more than 15 years, my search was finally successful!



Simple Artistry

The obverse of the coin depicts the Right Hand of God. The reverse shows an artistic cross. There is no text. Both of these symbols appear in the city of Hall coat of arms.

These silver coins were crudely hand struck with a punch one at a time onto thin silver planchets. Because of the thinness of the blanks, some coins have small holes at the edge of the punch's imprint.

Act Today!

Upon checking online, I found these coins being offered at prices upwards to almost \$300. However, most dealers are pricing them from the low to high \$60s.

While this [now second] discovery lot lasts, we again pass along significant savings. You can purchase these historic coins, in Fine or better condition, for just \$45 each!

Once again, our offering is limited to our stock on hand. From past experience, we anticipate a complete sellout. To enable more customers to acquire some, we must limit orders to five coins. No exceptions!

To reserve your purchase, call us toll-free at **800-527-2375**. Or use the order form below. Or use your Visa, Mastercard, and Discover charge card for purchases shipped to the billing address of the credit card.

Yes! Please send me the Medieval German Silver Hand Helleners in Fine or Better condition that I have indicated below. I understand that they are backed by LCS's exclusive guarantees. I may return any numismatic purchase for any reason within 14 days of my receipt for a full, no-questions refund. Limit 5 coins per order.

_____ Medieval German Silver Hand Heller, City of Hall, 1189-1500,
Fine or better condition @ \$45= _____
Postage (see Computer Quotes Page) _____
TOTAL _____

Name _____

Address _____

C/S/Z _____

Phone _____ Confirmation # _____

Liberty Coin Service, 400 Frandor Ave., Lansing, MI 48912 800-527-2375