

# **ANNOUNCING THE \$20 SILVER LIBERTY!**

**March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2004**

Today, I am particularly excited and pleased to announce a first for me and for our expanding Liberty Community – a new \$20 Silver Liberty “Pietfort”.

## **AVAILABILITY**

NORFED is now accepting orders for the all-new Limited Numbered Edition Proof \$20 Liberty Pietfort (numbered 001-999) and the Limited Edition of only 4000 Brilliant Uncirculated \$20 Liberty Pietforts.

The Pietfort is a 2-ounce, double-thick Liberty, with the Liberty head obverse design and the NEW reverse design, which matches the style of the \$1 and \$5 reverse.

All orders will need to be pre-paid by check, cash, money order, or credit card. Delivery will begin within 30 days. Proofs may take a little longer.

## **PRICING**

Associates can get the \$20 Uncirculated Libertys for \$20 each from NORFED or an RCO, and can get the numbered \$20 Proof Libertys for \$30 each from NORFED.

Non-Associate pricing is double Associate pricing. Pricing is subject to change at any time. Please order today as they may change tomorrow.

## **THE STORY OF THE \$20 LIBERTY PIETFORT:**

“What’s a Pietfort?” If you asked a thousand coin collectors you may get the same wrinkled up look with “What?” Just as the French gave us Troy, the unit of weight for precious metals – named after Troy, France – Pietfort is also French. “Piet” means heavy and “fort” means extra. There forth, Pietfort means something that is “extra heavy”. Numismatically, the term has come to mean a coin, medal, or item that is minted on an extra heavy planchet. (“Planchet” is also French for the round metal disk (blank) that is struck or “coined” into a medal, coin, or in this case, a Silver Liberty.)

So today, in my thirtieth year as a Mintmaster, I am pleased to announce the TWO OUNCE \$20 Silver Liberty Pietfort. If you think you get a reaction when you “Do the Drop” with the one-ounce Silver Liberty, just wait until you try out the “extra heavy” \$20 Pietfort! Am I suggesting that this piece will be circulated? Probably not. It, like the other commemorative \$1, and \$50 Silver Liberty were issued to help round out the collection for the 5th Anniversary. Now, we have a complete matching set with \$1, \$5, \$10, \$20, and \$50 in both Silver Libertys and Silver Certificates. Neat, huh?

And to give this \$20 Pietfort the “extra heavy” status that it deserves, it will be issued in both a numbered Proof and an un-numbered Brilliant Uncirculated editions. Both editions will be minted with a special “spaced” collar. (The collar is the metal ring that holds the planchet and retains it from spreading as it is struck with the dies. It is the collar that puts the little serrations or “reeds” on the edge of the Silver Liberty when it is minted.) Not all collars are the same. Some are very complex and contain words or even symbols like stars. Others contain a “space” where a word or number is added to denote its specialty. Such is the case with both Limited Editions of the Silver Liberty Pietfort.

The Proof Limited Edition will be numbered from 001 to 999, so it is truly a Limited Numbered Edition and only 999 will be minted (plus ten extra Pietforts numbered “000” for a certain Mintmaster. One of the ten “000 Pietforts” will be auctioned off at the next RCO Liberty University this April. Numbered

editions will be issued in the order that they are ordered. First come – first served. No more than 10 can be ordered at one time. All Proof Pietforts will be sealed in a special double thick capsule and shipped in a box.

Only 4,000 Brilliant Uncirculated Limited Edition Pietforts will be minted with the special space collar and marked “UNC” to denote its Brilliant Uncirculated (BU) mint condition. But this is not intended to keep it from being circulated if you so chose. All Brilliant Uncirculated Pietforts will be sealed in a special double thick capsule and shipped in a velveteen moneybag.

And just before the Pietfort was issued, the new shallow (but not very shallow) relief obverse (front/heads) die for the Silver Liberty was issued. This ushers in a new phase for the Silver Liberty as we move towards a truly pocket friendly medium and the mass introduction of the currency to save not just our money, but also our country. So, the new shallow/wide rim obverse is Type #10 and the Pietfort is Type #11 in the Silver Liberty series. But who’s counting?

Unfortunately, we will all be counting our money when it comes to getting a Pietfort. Does anyone know why French things are always expensive? Be it food, wine or perfume, even the women, they always seem expensive... even if it just has a French name! And so, with silver prices nudging towards the “crossover point”, where we cross over to the \$20 Silver Base, and due to the nature of manufacturing the Proof and BU Pietforts with a specially marked space collar and the simple fact that the \$20 Silver Liberty Pietfort contains TWO OUNCES, (approx. \$15 in silver alone) the Brilliant Uncirculated Pietfort is available today at \$20 to Associates and \$40 to non-Associates. The Proof Pietfort in Limited Numbered Edition is \$30 to Associates and \$60 to non-Associates. Granted this is not cheap, but hey, it’s French! No, not really! It is still the American Liberty Dollar and simply a very special piece for the collector in all of us. Now we have matching specie for each denomination of paper currency.

Discounts from face value will be available only to Regional Currency Offices (RCO). Of course, Associates can resell or circulate the Pietfort anyway they chose. Whatever you chose to do, I strongly encourage everyone to get at least one of each of these truly unique pieces and probably a couple extras too...Christmas and higher silver prices are coming. And they always will make the most unusual presents! Just as the \$1 Silver Liberty is now \$2 each, the Pietfort, like silver itself, will rise to astronomical prices before we see this !@#\$% government returns to a balanced and disciplined budget. As history of fiat money is against us, I pray our “return to value” will not be too painful. Please take protection now for the onslaught against the US Dollar. Remember from 1919 to 1923 the price of one ounce of silver went from 12 German marks to 534 Billion in four short years and produced Hitler. In 1979/80 silver went from \$5 to \$50 per ounce. And in 1995, the Russian ruble lost 60% of its value in one day! And it is still a fiat currency! Heaven help us! Buy Silver.

PS: I almost forgot to mention the Pietfort features the new reverse design, which is a preview to the new one ounce \$20 Silver Liberty that will be issued when we “crossover” to the \$20 Silver Base. Orders are now being taken. All orders will need to be pre-paid by check, cash, money order, or credit card. Delivery will begin within 30 days. Proofs may take a little longer. Now’s the time to get ready for the doubling of the Liberty Dollar and astounding inflation in America... Thank you again for your support and efforts to peacefully return America to value – one Liberty Dollar at a time.

Bernard von NotHaus  
Monetary Architect

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