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<https://www.seateddimevarieties.com/FortinLibertySeatedDimeCollection.htm>

A sincere thank you goes out to LSCC President Len Augsburger for his professional marketing support and resource allocation via the Newman Numismatic Portal and to Paul Kluth for publishing this article.

Be well!

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Double Dimes – a look back, and a look forward to 2025 by John Frost, LSCC # 2005

Sentiment in the twenty-cent piece has had its ups and downs over the years. Only a few years ago, I would routinely hear from dealers that “They aren’t moving” except for the occasional type coin sale. This, however, seems to have turned around in recent years. Now I mostly hear “I can’t keep them in stock – as soon as I get one, it sells.” And I have run into a number of people who want a copy of our “Double Dimes” reference book, only to find it has been long sold out. At a recent show, a dealer saw my display copy and mentioned that he has a copy, but he paid \$250 for it on eBay, because he could not find one anywhere else. So, interest seems to be on the rise.

On the more technical side, I have made a couple of discoveries that answer some questions Lane Brunner and I had in the past. And finally, armed with Lane’s large reference collection along with my own, work has begun in earnest on the 2nd Edition of the book. Added to that are some new discoveries on Chief Engraver William Barber (which were published in the Journal of the Barber Coin Collectors’ Society). All in all, it has been an exciting year for the double dime.

The new year started out with a bang, with Lane’s entire double dime collection exhibited for the first time in its entirety at FUN 2025. It was a great tribute, with over 750 pieces on display, including rare mint errors, love tokens, counter-stamped pieces, and other

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exonumia. Lane's wife Molly and his mother Karin both came to the show for the exhibit, and attended our LSCC regional meeting. It was great to have them there, and they were impressed. Neither of them had seen his collection before (Molly was only familiar with them in boxes!).

Looking forward to 2025, work on the 2nd Edition of the book will continue. I have a goal, perhaps unrealistic, that it will be available in a year's time. There is a lot to do, with trips to the Smithsonian and National Archives a must for this year. Despite all that there is left to do, with the publishing knowledge and experience that I have gained over the past decade since the initial publication of *Double Dimes*, I am excited about what the 2nd Edition will look like. A busy year ahead!

People have been asking about the disposition of Lane's collection since his passing in 2022. Once the technical research on die marriages and die states is completed, parts of the collection will be up for sale. Specifics and timing have not been decided yet, but we are planning to label these coins with "Lane Brunner Collection" stickers. However, the core reference set coins plated in the book will be retained, along with the exonumia and mint errors that took Lane 35 years to assemble. But several hundred double dimes will eventually be available to interested LSCC members, and other collectors and dealers. Stay tuned!



Molly (left) and Karin (right) join John at Lane's exhibit



Lane Bruner Collection Exhibit with 7 cases at the LSCC Club table

See more images in Ken Ottos's Regional Report

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