



# The E-Gobrecht

## Liberty Seated Collectors Club

2017 Volume 13, Issue 4

April 2017 (Whole #147)

### The LSCC at Baltimore



From Gerry Fortin: The LSCC Whitman Baltimore Spring Expo Regional Meeting was very well attended. My rough guess is approximately 35 people attended for a quick paced club status and educational program. Group photo (two merged above - sorry, Scott!), introductions, club news update, ANA Summer Seminar course preview, and a presentation on Liberty Seated half dimes were the primary topics. We managed to cover all of these topics in 50 minutes allowing attendees to reach the bourse floor for 10 AM opening time. As we filed out of the meeting, Michael Fey (former ANA Board of Governors) approached me and commented on how the LSCC was now in an obvious leadership role for numismatic clubs. While other organizations are struggling to maintain membership levels and traditional paper journals, the LSCC is expanding membership and has a reasonable chance of reaching the 700 club member threshold. The *Gobrecht Journal* speaks for itself as one of the leading numismatic hobby publications. The image at the right speaks volumes about the dedication of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club leadership team. There were no other clubs hosting tables other than the LSCC and BCCS at Baltimore.



Liberty Seated Dime Survey Now Online!	2
Register now for the Liberty Seated Summer Seminar	3
Auction News by Craig Eberhart	4
LSCC Calendar	4
Regional News by Dennis Fortier	5
Call for Hall of Fame Nominations	5
Cracked, Shattered, and Terminal by Benny Haimovitz	8-9
The Curious Collector by Len Augsburger	10-11
Quarter of the Month by Greg Johnson	11
They Fell at their Posts..." New Orleans Branch Mint, 1839 by Jim Laughlin	12-14
Free Advertisements	15
LSCC Information	16

The *E-Gobrecht* is an award winning informal electronic publication of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club (LSCC). The LSCC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the attributions of the Liberty Seated Coin series. The LSCC provides the information contained in this email newsletter from various sources free of charge as a general service to the membership and others with this numismatic interest. You do not have to be a LSCC member to benefit from this newsletter; subscription to the *E-Gobrecht* is available to anyone. All disclaimers are in effect as the completeness and/or accuracy of the information contained herein cannot be completely verified. Contact information is included on the last page.





(Continued from previous page)

When you are all done, hit the Submit Survey button at the bottom of the form.



After submission, you will be asked whether you want to continue the Survey (complete the second form for the other part), or return to the LSCC Home Page.

As with the paper survey form, **the deadline for the survey is June 30.** Thank you for your participation!

## Register now for *"Developing a Passion for Liberty Seated Coinage"* at the ANA Summer Seminar, June 17-22!



This course will feature interactive discussions on many topics, including the history and development of Liberty Seated coinage, evolution of the designs, and grading, including the nuances between series. The core of the class features a **deep dive** into each of the seven series: half dimes, dimes, twenty-cent pieces, quarters, halves, and both Liberty Seated and Trade dollars.

These deep dives entail in-hand inspection of many coins in all grades in all series, and will include in-depth discussions into collecting strategies, key dates, major varieties, attribution, counterfeits, and authentication. Students will have access to both reference materials and sit-down guidance from instructors throughout the course.

The ANA Summer Seminar Course Catalog is online. Seminar details and registration information are available at the ANA website, [www.money.org](http://www.money.org).

Course #28 is a four-day class and sessions go all day. Breaks, meals, and evenings allow for networking and camaraderie with all students and instructors, and provide plenty of time to talk coins with people of all backgrounds and levels of experience, from morning to night.

Class size is limited to 24 students, so if you are interested in attending this class, register soon, as it is filling up!

**Seminar #9: Developing a Passion for Liberty Seated Coinage**

**Instructors:** Gerry Fortin (LSCC President)

John Frost (LSCC Director of Education)

**Guest Lecturer:** Len Augsburg (LSCC Vice President)





## Auction News

by Craig Eberhart, LSCC #1348

### ANA National Money Show Auction by Kagin's Auctions - March 9-10

For the first time in many years Kagin's conducted one of the year's major auctions with a number of better date Liberty Seated coins. However, the highlight of the sale was the finest known collection of Bechtler gold coins ever assembled. This collection included 35 of the 37 known varieties.

As to Liberty Seated coinage, a relatively common date Carson City coin in a decidedly uncommon condition was auctioned on the first evening. An 1876-CC Specimen-66 BM (Branch Mint) dime graded by PCGS sold for \$158,625. An 1859-S quarter in PCGS EF45 was sold for \$6,462 and a NGC 1872-CC half

dollar graded EF45 went for \$1,998.

Several better date Carson City Trade dollars were also sold: an 1873-CC PCGS AU58 for \$4,406; an 1878-CC NGC EF45 for \$3,818; and three 1876-CC dollars as listed below.

Type I/II. Tall CC. AU58 PCGS \$2,828

Type I/II. Tall CC. AU55 NGC \$1,998

Doubled Die Reverse. Type I/I. FS-801.

MS62 NGC CAC \$9,988

### The March Baltimore Auction by Stack's Bowers Galleries

Since this auction occurs at the very end of the month it will be included in next month's Auction News.

## LSCC Calendar

April 11, 2017. **2017 Thomas P. Rockwell Memorial Lecture. Waltham, MA.** Lectures co-sponsored by the Boston Numismatic Society, Collectors Club of Boston, and Currency Collectors of New England. John Frost lectures on the topic for the evening, *Three Numismatic Vignettes*, highlighting Liberty Seated coinage. See club website for details.

April 20-22, 2017. **LSCC table. Marlborough, MA.** Bay State Coin Show. Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, Marlborough MA. Joe Casazza and Todd Mazzola host the club table.

April 28-29, 2017. **LSCC table, meeting, and educational program. Schaumburg, IL.** Central States Numismatic Society 78th Anniversary Convention, Renaissance Hotel and Convention Center, Schaumburg, IL. Stephen Petty hosts the club meeting at 9 AM in the Prosperity Room and Gerry Fortin will have an educational presentation at the meeting entitled "The Many Faces of Liberty Seated Coinage."

**LSCC website: [www.lscweb.org](http://www.lscweb.org)**



## Regional News

### by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

Show after show, the passion for beautiful Liberty Seated coins is evident in the committed pursuit of our members. The interest and devotion to Liberty Seated coinage is a constant battery charger at the club tables. Occasionally, a new convert is made and that really sends the charge of the charts.

The Whitman Baltimore show is in full swing as of this writing so a full report will have to wait until next month's column. Scheduled was a display and presentation by Bill Bugert on 1843 Liberty Seated half dollar die cracked varieties. At the last minute, Bill had to cancel so we hope to reschedule it for the November show. John Frost will instead give Steve Crain's presentation on Liberty Seated half dimes at the meeting. Alan Welty will provide a display of 1838 die varieties of Liberty Seated half dimes for us with the added bonus of a new variety for the 1871 proof Liberty Seated half dime.

Back in the Northeast, the annual Willimantic show has just concluded. The LSCC is part of the fabric of this very special little show where dealers from eight states regularly set-up. John Frost and

Dennis Fortier (see Dennis in the photo below) staffed the club table and always have a nice display of rare and interesting Liberty Seated coinage. Highlighted were Philadelphia Liberty Seated half dollars and John's 1877 circulated proof set.

Floor traffic at Willimantic was very good and the club table was quite busy. Several collectors came by looking for advice on a coin or denomination. It is always a pleasure to assist collectors in any way we can.

On Tuesday evening April 11, LSCC Education Director John Frost is the invited speaker at the 2017 Thomas P. Rockwell Memorial Lecture, co-sponsored by the Boston Numismatic Society, Collectors Club of Boston, and Currency Collectors of New England. The topic for the evening, *Three Numismatic Vignettes*, highlights Liberty Seated coinage, as well as the value of being a member of the LSCC. Details can be found on the LSCC website.

April has the club at the Bay State Show in Marlborough, MA April 20-22. Thank you to Joe Casazza and Todd Mazzola for hosting the club table.

The Central Region has its big spring show to finish the month. The Central States Numismatic society show is April 26-29. Stephen Petty will host the club meeting (April 28, 9 AM in the Prosperity Room) and Gerry Fortin will have an educational presentation at the meeting entitled "The Many Faces of Liberty Seated Coinage."

As you can see by the many people mentioned just in this month's column, it takes a dedicated team to make the Regional Program a success. Thank you to all the far flung members and helpers of the Regional Team who make our club so special to club members and the public.





Liberty Seated half dime display and proud owner/exhibitors at the March 2017 Whitman Baltimore Spring Expo

Paid advertisement

**DAVID KAHN**  
RARE COINS, INC  
EST 2005

Seated and Bust coins our speciality,  
quality and eye appeal our focus.

**[www.DavidKahnRareCoins.com](http://www.DavidKahnRareCoins.com)**  
**(301) 570-7070**



Paid advertisement

*Check out our Website*  
**www.briangreerrarecoins.com**

We have a large inventory for all  
denominations of Liberty Seated coinage.

Brian Greer - LSCC #716  
(515) 331-3534  
9 AM - 6 PM, CST, weekdays

## **Call for Nominations for the LSCC HALL OF FAME**



The Hall of Fame Committee composed of club members Len Augsburger, Bill Bugert, Tom DeLorey, Gerry Fortin, and Mark Sheldon wishes to inform the membership that we are accepting nominations for the Liberty Seated Collectors Club's 2016 Hall of Fame (HoF). Please consider honoring a noteworthy individual to this prestigious distinction for his/her contributions to the club and/or to the advancement of collecting Liberty Seated coinage.

Basic qualifications for club member nominees are significant advances in or contributions to at least one of the following four criteria:

- Numismatic Research on Liberty Seated coinage
- Numismatic Literature related to Liberty Seated coinage
- Collection(s) of Liberty Seated coinage
- LSCC Club officer (for at least five years).

Previous inductees to the HoF include Kamal M. Ahwash (deceased), John W. McCloskey, Alfred E. Blythe (deceased), Randall E. Wiley, Brian Greer, Jim O'Donnell (deceased), Gerry Fortin, and Eugene Gardner (deceased). This year's inductee will be announced at the LSCC 2017 Annual meeting at the August ANA Convention.

The **nominations must be received no later than April 15, 2017** and are due to the HoF Chairman, Bill Bugert, via email at [wb8cpy@earthlink.net](mailto:wb8cpy@earthlink.net) or via postal mail at Bill Bugert, 1230 Red Rock Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-6927 or to Bill via telephone at (717) 337-0229.



## Cracked, Shattered, and Terminal by Benny Haimovitz, LSCC #2494

### The 1887-S F-107 Liberty Seated Dime, R6



The San Francisco branch mint produced some 4,454,450 circulation strike dimes in 1887. Considered common in circulated grades, the F-107, Shattered Reverse, is certainly an exception to being common in late die state.

The obverse of this die marriage does not pro-

vide much diagnostic guidance, other than die erosion in the field to the left of Liberty's left arm. The reverse diagnostics, however, are an entirely different matter.

In the lower wreath, the primary die crack spreads almost completely from near K-4 to K-9 with



(Continued on page 9)



(Continued from page 8)

additional substantial cracks toward the rim at multiple points.

In the upper wreath (shown at the right), the primary crack continues until ending in the wheat grains. In total, it spans more than half of the entire wreath design and is indeed a most impressive die state.

Die state diagnostics courtesy of Gerry Fortin who indicates this variety was first published by Jason Carter in the *Gobrecht Journal* and reported only a single example (AU 50-55) in the results of his Top 100 Liberty Seated Dime Survey Results in the November, 2006 issue. A review of currently available resources indicates a population of 7 reported examples ranging from VF20 to AU58. Images courtesy of PCGS TrueView with this example graded by PCGS as AU58.



Paid advertisement

**GerryFortinRareCoins.com**

**Collector Quality Bust, Seated  
and Gold Coins**

**Please visit  
*Gerry's Daily Blog***

**The Advanced Collector's  
*Online Destination and  
Consignment Trading Desk***



**Gerry Fortin - Professional Numismatist  
Wuximems@hotmail.com 207-329-9957**



# The Curious Collector

by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

## Mint Mark Mania

Many collectors today will be surprised to learn that 19<sup>th</sup> century American numismatists generally paid little attention to mint marks. The typical collectors put together date runs, often proofs and an 1873 proof Liberty Seated dollar was just as good as an uncirculated example of the same year from the Carson City Mint. This all changed in 1893 with the publication of Augustus Heaton's *A Treatise on the Coinage of the United States Branch Mints* (<https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/book/512404>).

Heaton's motivation to delve into mint marks is explained in the preface of the work – "The writer, a few years since, after enriching his almost complete collection of silver and minor issues of the parent institution [Philadelphia Mint] with all attainable varieties, became much interested in gathering United States coinage bearing the letters to which he has referred. The attraction of his pursuit grew with each piece acquired, each series completed, and each unknown variety found, until his modern dates quite divided his consideration with the old." Here we see the timeless quality of a numismatist – the desire to explore the unknown and to document the findings. Not to mention that an interesting collection can be assembled in the course of the work! These characteristics are all operative today and any number of authors are systematically researching die varieties and documenting discoveries in a variety of formats.

Heaton's work was first announced in the *Numismatist* in May, 1893 (<https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/book/512969>, p. 90). A book on a new collecting topic is a fine thing, but the corresponding market won't gain traction without collectors and dealers rallying around the concept. Edouard Frossard's sale of the Friesner collection in June 1894 (<https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/auctionlots?AucCoId=510789&AuctionId=511389>) was well-timed in this regard. The cataloger remarked in the preface "Mr.

Friesner made the collecting of the Silver Coins of the Branch Mints of New Orleans, San Francisco, and Carson City a specialty. His arrangement of the Coins under these sub-heads has been preserved, and forms a happy innovation in classification, which will no doubt be appreciated by the many Collectors interested in the subject." In creating the catalog, Frossard arranged offerings by mint mark rather than strictly by denomination as is the custom today. Frossard's novel approach was copied by other catalogers well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Among the Liberty Seated delicacies in the Carson City group (p. 29) were an 1873-CC dollar (realized \$9.25), 1870-CC quarter (realized \$4.00) and an 1872-CC dime (realized \$0.60). An 1838-O half dollar, by this time more appreciated than the relatively recent Carson City coinage, hammered at \$113. (Lest the reader consider this is a "bargain," a few strokes on the calculator reveal a 7% annual return on the investment, assuming a value of \$500,000 today. This is substantially lower than the return on the stock market over the same period.)

While Frossard the dealer did his part to promote the branch mint concept, two collectors fueled the fire. One was Heaton himself. The July 1894 *Numismatist* commented "the mint marks of the Friesner collection formed the most profitable part of the sale. Heaton's *Treatise on the Coinage of the Branch Mints* is the only guide to this line of coin study and indispensable to American collections....[Heaton] obtained at the Friesner sale the 1838-O mint half-dollar and the 1842-O quarter-dollar, paying for the former \$113.00. He only needs now, we believe, the 1873-S dollar and C.C. 1873 dime without arrows to complete his series of mint marks." The *Numismatist* also printed this tidbit – "J. M. Clapp also obtained a long line of prizes at the Friesner sale. He has lately taken up the collection of gold as well as silver mint marks." The Clapp name needs little introduction, as advanced

(Continued on next page)



## Quarter of the Month

by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

### New World Quarter Dollars

World coins can offer an entirely different experience from collecting United States coins. One of the interesting themes that students of world coins quickly encounter is that of European mints making coinage dies and equipment for the “New World.” The British Mints in Soho were particularly enthusiastic about exporting coin making technology. Richard Doty describes those efforts in impressive, scholarly detail in his book “The Soho Mint and the Industrialization of Money” (Smithsonian Institution 1998). In addition to the British, the French also prepared dies for use overseas; for example they supplied the Du-

rango Mint in Mexico during the 1830’s and 1840’s. Not to be left out, the United States mint also exported coin making to other countries, providing some interesting opportunities for interested collectors to expand their horizons.

The images below illustrate two quarter sized coins that copy, or at least are based on, United States coinage. An 1847 2 Real from Ecuador (Figure 1) features an obverse based on the U.S. bust quarter. An 1865 Liberia 25 cent coin (Figure 2) is an obvious variation on the Liberty Seated quarter dollar design.



Figure 1. 1847 2 Real from Ecuador



Figure 2. 1865 Liberian 25 cents

(Continued from previous page)

collectors all know that the Clapp coins formed the lion’s share of the spectacular branch Mint silver in the Eliasberg collection, sold by Bowers & Merena in 1996 and 1997.

With two high-powered collectors and a prominent dealer on board, the stage was set, and today we can hardly imagine collecting U.S. coins without serious consideration of mint marks. The only mystery remaining is the disposition of the Heaton coins. Heaton was a president of the New York Numismatic Club, a position generally associated with significant collections. Two Heaton consignments are found in Thom-

as Elder sales of February and June 1926 (<https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/auctionlots?AucCoId=23&AuctionId=513413>) and (<https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/auctionlots?AucCoId=23&AuctionId=513415>) but the material is minimal and not pertinent to this discussion. David Stone and Mark Van Winkle note in their recent monograph on the 1838-O half dollar that the Heaton collection sold intact to the Baltimore collection Waldo Newcomer. While a few coins survive with the Heaton pedigree (the 1838-O half dollar sold at the 2008 Central States sale), it is a pity that today’s market lacks a more available supply of Branch Mint coins that can be traced to this foundational collection.



## **“They Fell at their Posts...”**

### **New Orleans Branch Mint, 1839**

**by Jim Laughlin, LSCC #876**

The following excerpts are from three annual Director of the Mint Reports for the year 1837, 1838, and 1839. These reports were prepared by The Director of the Mint for the President of the United States. Following the President's review, these were forwarded in a formal Message to Congress under the President's signature. It is, of course, most likely that the Director of the Mint's reports were first reviewed by the President's Secretary of the Treasury and were reflective and conformed to the President's policy with respect to the Mint and dealings with Congress.

The Director's introductory comments from 1837 and 1838 indicate some of the teething problems that occurred when setting up a new mintage facility so far from the parent mint in Philadelphia. It also mentions the Director's fears regarding sending officers and workmen who were either from Northern or Mid-Atlantic States down to New Orleans at certain times of the year because of the yellow fever outbreaks. At the time, the epidemiology of the disease was unknown. Experience had shown that recent arrivals from the north in late summer or early fall were far more susceptible to the disease than for other northerners that had come down at other times of the year. (Of course we now know that these months coincide with peak mosquito populations). It was thought at the time acclimatizing in New Orleans over a number of months prior to the August-October period would maybe give some measure of protection from the disease.

The beginnings of the New Orleans Branch Mint overlapped the introduction of the new Gobrecht Liberty Seated designs with the older Matron facing left Kneass-Reich capped bust design. Dimes and half dimes were struck in 1838 with the new Gobrecht “no stars” obverse design and, in 1839, New Orleans struck Dimes and Half Dimes of the Gobrecht “with stars” obverse. Also in 1839, New Orleans struck half dollars of the old bust design with the “O” Mintmark on the obverse above the date. (There are a handful of very rare 1838-O dated bust half dollars which I always thought were the first coins

struck at the New Orleans Mint; however, current research tends to point were not struck till 1839. Ah-wash states that on May 7-8 the first 30 specimens of the 1838-O dated dimes were struck for which 10 went into the New American Theater cornerstone, the other 20 distributed as souvenirs. So these dimes are likely the first.)

[Message from The President of the United States \(M. Van Buren\) Communicating A Report from the Director of the Mint \(R. M. Patterson\), Showing the Operations of that Institution during the year 1837. Read and laid upon the table in the House of Representatives, January 17, 1838](#)

.....The machinery of the New Orleans branch mint was executed, and the steam-engine set in action, in May last; and there would have been no difficulty in putting the mint in full operation, but for the apprehensions from the climate. Two of the officers and all the workmen were from the Middle States, and acclimated; and I was advised by the resident officers that they would incur great risk in going to New Orleans in the warm season. The occurrence of a fatal epidemic, soon after, proved that these apprehensions were too well founded; and the officers and men from this place were thereby prevented from reaching New Orleans before the beginning of December. They are now, however, all at their stations, and making every exertion to commence the operations of the mint at an early day.....

[R. M. Patterson, Director of the Mint, to the President of the United States.](#)

The wording above maybe a bit odd, but the reference to the Two Officers and all the workmen from the Middle States were “acclimatized;” I take as meaning they were acclimatized to the area about Philadelphia and the Middle States, and not to New Orleans. Patterson takes advice from Officers already living in New Orleans, not to transfer those employees south at that time of year.

[Message from The President of the United](#)

*(Continued on page 13)*



(Continued from page 12)

States (M. Van Buren) Communicating A Report from the Director of the Mint, Showing the Operations of that Institution during the year 1838. Read and ordered to be printed in the Senate of the United States, January 18, 1839

....The branch mint at New Orleans received its first deposits of bullion on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March and commenced operations immediately. Afterwards. The demand for silver change led the officers to confine the coinage to dimes, of which 367,434 were struck before the end of July, when the work was interrupted. Two of the officers, and nearly all the workmen of this mint were from the north, and it was deemed unsafe for them to remain in New Orleans during the first sickly season. Accordingly, leave of absence was granted them on the first of August, the workmen being put on half-pay. In November, the operations were resumed, but much could not be accomplished before the close of the year. The value of the bullion received at the mint was \$40,600 in gold, and \$237,000 in silver. The coinage amounted to \$40,243 all in dimes.....

R. M Patterson, Director of the Mint, to the President of the United States.

Here Congress is told that work had started striking dimes at New Orleans but, for fear for the health of the Mint Officers and workmen from the north, leave was granted and coinage suspended from the beginning of August, not being resumed till November.

The Director indicates 402,430 dimes and no half dimes were struck at New Orleans in 1838. Ah-wash indicates that 367,434 dimes were struck June-July, 1838 (probably based on this Mint Report) and indicates that he assumes an additional 121,600 1838-O dated dimes were struck in January 1839 for a total mintage of 489,064. This 489,064 is the current *Red Book* listed mintage. Researcher J.W. Julian in a *Numismatic News* article from 2010, indicates a possible 35,000 dimes were delivered on December 29<sup>th</sup> and a further 3,600 delivered January 7, 1839, which would make a 406,034 possible total for 1838-O dated dimes. The Julian article also indicates the 70,000 half dimes were delivered on January 16, 1839.

Message from The President of the United States (M. Van Buren) Communicating A Report from the Director of the Mint, Showing the Operations of

that Institution during the year 1839. Referred to the Committee of Finance and ordered to be printed in the Senate of the United States, February 3, 1840.

....The coinage at the New Orleans branch mint, up to the 17<sup>th</sup> of August, when operations were suspended, amounted to \$227,160 in silver, composed of 2,401,600 pieces of coin. The deposits for coinage during the same period, amounted to \$85,159 in gold, and \$173,901 in silver.

I have to regret that after keeping back this annual report to the last day allowed by the law, in the expectation of obtaining from the New Orleans mint the information necessary to enable me to include its operations to the close of the year, this information has not been received, and that my report, so far as it regards this branch, is therefore necessarily incomplete. I may state, however, that the amount of the deposits and coinage, thus left unreported, must be inconsiderable.

The efficiency of this branch of the mint has been greatly reduced during the year, by causes which are deeply to be deplored. First, disagreements arose among the officers, which ended in mutual denunciations, and rendered an investigation necessary as to the characters of those implicated, and the state of the institution generally. The task was committed to the United States District Attorney at New Orleans, and was executed with ability and impartiality. The result showed, that although there was no reason for suspecting the integrity of any of the officers, the condition of things at the mint was such as to require painful measures of reform, which the Government did not hesitate to apply. Scarcely was this investigation ended, before the fatal epidemic, to which New Orleans is subject, made its appearance at the mint, and rendered the entire suspension of its operations absolutely necessary. The melter and refiner, and the coiner, both officers of great merit, **fell at their posts**, victims to the disease; and four of the workmen also lost their lives, while scarcely one escaped without an attack.

Under these circumstances, it cannot be matter of surprise that so little has yet been accomplished at the New Orleans mint. The prospects for the future, however, are more cheering. The institution has now an able corps of officers, all of whom are acclimated, as are also nearly all the workmen. There is reason therefore to believe that the operations of the mint

(Continued on page 14)



(Continued from page 13)

may go on without further interruption, and that the just expectations of the public with regard to it may be no longer disappointed.

R. M Patterson, Director of the Mint, to the President of the United States.

Here Congress is informed that the melter and refiner, and the coiner, as well as four of the workmen at the New Orleans Mint had "fell at their posts," victims to the epidemic.

It seems so fateful and maybe with a bit of premonition that the Director's earlier messages of 1837 and 1838 had noted the fear of sending officers and skilled workmen from the Middle States down to New Orleans. One wonders what these officers and workmen thought of when they were initially struck with the disease, thinking no doubt back on the concern of the Director, co-workers, and friends of the risk of moving to New Orleans. As a Liberty Seated collector, holding a coin of 1839-O, has a tie with these events.

The following is a period newspaper announcement.

The North-Carolinian (Fayetteville, N.C.) September 14, 1839

#### New Orleans Branch Mint

We regret to learn that the yellow fever has been committing fatal ravages in this institution.

James Maxwell, Esq. the melter and refiner, died on the 18<sup>th</sup> inst.

Nathan Clark, foreman of the coining department, died on the 1<sup>st</sup> inst.

Owen D. Bird, one of the workmen, died on the 15<sup>th</sup> inst.

Charles Scheide, another of the workmen, died on the 17<sup>th</sup> inst.

John Mooda, another of the workmen died on the 10<sup>th</sup> inst.

Several others employed, are laboring under the disease, and it has been found necessary to suspend the operations of that branch mint until the 1<sup>st</sup> of November next. *Globe (of Aug 30)*

Coiner Rufus Tyler apparently died in September, 1839. The article above was written August 30, 1839, so it predates his death. He was succeeded by his brother Philos Tyler.

Being short of space, I hope to follow-up with a future article regarding these events and how it may

have had an impact on the quality of coinage emitted from the New Orleans mint in 1839. Gerry Fortin's web book documents that some 1839-O dime dies were used probably far beyond the time they should have been retired. Also, Congress was afoot again to abolish the Branch Mints, as the number of coins issued by the three Branch Mints were far and away more costly per coin than if they had just been coined at the parent Mint in Philadelphia. There was, I believe, a clear push to get the numbers of coin struck at New Orleans way up to stifle Congressional criticism. Additionally the Newman Numismatic Portal has the handwritten notes from the National Archives of the investigation referred to in the Director's February 3, 1840, Annual Report, that took place in 1839 under U.S. Attorney Slidell. The Portal indicates it was scanned under the direction of R. W. Julian, working on a grant from the Central States Numismatic Society. In a quick review, passing over a number of undecipherable words, there is a lot of interesting detail contained. It was very difficult to get a read on whether an item was truth or rumor, or accusation or what. I have not had opportunity to see whether Julian published a further work or what Central States did with it, but it is an interesting piece on the early New Orleans Mint that would be no doubt of interest to Club readers.

#### Sources:

Newman Numismatic Portal at Washington University in St. Louis; Message from the President of the United States, 1837, 1838, 1839. (Annual Report of the Director of the Mint 1837, 1838, 1839), <https://nnp.wustl.edu>

Newman Numismatic Portal at Washington University in St. Louis; U.S. National Archive, Record Group 104, Entry 24B (US Attorney Slidell Investigation Transcripts, 1839), <https://nnp.wustl.edu>

North Carolina newspaper; Library of Congress. <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>

Ahwash, Kamal M.. *Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Dime 1837-1891*. Kamah Press, 1981

Fortin, Gerry.. *Liberty Seated Dime Web-book*, <http://www.seateddimevarieties.com>

Julian, R.W.; Numismatic News, September 13, 2010, *New Orleans Mint Starts Out Slowly*.



# Free Advertisements

**WANTED Bugert Half Dollars Volume 2.** Please advise if you have one for sale and the cost. Thank you.  
Brad Karoleff, [bkaroleff@yahoo.com](mailto:bkaroleff@yahoo.com).

**Larry Briggs Rare Coins.** New updated website with many photos—check us out at: [www.larrybriggsrarecoins.com](http://www.larrybriggsrarecoins.com)

**Liberty Seated and Bust Coinage for Sale.** Rich Uhrich Rare U. S. Coins Inc. specializes in Bust and Seated silver coins, especially scarce and rare dates and varieties. His website [www.richuhrichcoins.com](http://www.richuhrichcoins.com) lists his complete inventory. He is an authorized PCGS and NGC dealer and a member of ANA, LSCC, EAC, and JRCS. Contact him at [richuhrich-coins@comcast.net](mailto:richuhrich-coins@comcast.net), 717-579-8238.

**Dr. Eugene Bruder** is constantly updating his website, [www.typecoins.com](http://www.typecoins.com), which features a nice selection of bust and seated material for sale. You can reach him at 402-475-0350 or email at: [gene@typecoins.com](mailto:gene@typecoins.com).

**Seeking 1839 Gobrecht Dollar.** Prefer 45-60 condition, cleaned and retoned OK. John Cory, 201-669-6500, [jcory@nj.rr.com](mailto:jcory@nj.rr.com).

**Sunshine Rare Coins.** I specialize in choice, eye appealing U.S. Type and better date United States coins, especially Draped Bust, Capped Bust and Seated coinage. Many coins are CAC approved and feature attractive color. Many quality collector coins! Member LSCC, JRCS, ANA. Please contact David Sunshine at [da-vidbsunshine@yahoo.com](mailto:da-vidbsunshine@yahoo.com) and visit his website at [www.sunshinecoins.com](http://www.sunshinecoins.com)

**Rotated Reverse Seated Dimes Wanted.** I am looking for rotated reverse Liberty Seated dimes. Any interested parties can email Jason Feldman at [jason@seated.org](mailto:jason@seated.org)

**Brian Greer,** well known dealer, collector, and numismatist, has an extensive listing of many new dates and varieties listed on his website. Check them out at: <http://www.briangreerrarecoins.com/>.

**Liberty Seated Dime Die Varieties Wanted.** I am paying high prices for Seated Dimes with major cuds, die cracks, and rotated reverses. Contact David Thomas at [davethomas333@hotmail.com](mailto:davethomas333@hotmail.com) or 1-714-872-2772.

**W. David Perkins - Large Selection of Gobrecht and Liberty Seated Dollars in Inventory.** W. David Perkins, LSCC #790, has many Gobrecht and Liberty Seated Silver Dollars in inventory, including many better dates. Please contact Dave at [wdperki@attglobal.net](mailto:wdperki@attglobal.net) or visit his new website at [www.davidperkinsrarecoins.com](http://www.davidperkinsrarecoins.com).

**David Kahn Rare Coins.** Over 40 years numismatic experience. Authorized PCGS and CAC dealer. My website is easy to use, and you will find many choice bust and seated coins there, all with excellent photos. High quality, original, eye appealing coins are my focus. [www.davidkahnrarecoins.com](http://www.davidkahnrarecoins.com)

**Wanted to Buy, Liberty Seated Quarters** for my personal collection. Prefer choice, original examples with attractive natural color and surfaces. Please feel free to offer me any coins and I will respond promptly. Doug Winter LSCC #10. Email address [dwn@ont.com](mailto:dwn@ont.com).

**David Finkelstein:** [www.djf-coins.com](http://www.djf-coins.com) - raw and slabbed collector coins. Many coins have CAC stickers. Every coin is pictured. In addition to being an authorized PCGS, NGC and CAC dealer, I am a member of the PNG, ANA, EAC, LSCC, JRCS, and other regional/national organizations. Visit my website at [www.djf-coins.com](http://www.djf-coins.com). Contact me at [sales@djf-coins.com](mailto:sales@djf-coins.com).

**Perfection:** #1 Liberty Seated Half, Date Set, always looking for beautiful Liberty Seated Half Dollars AU58 and higher. Must be PCGS/CAC with good eye appeal! Will pay the highest price if I like the coin! [RLondon@guesswho.com](mailto:RLondon@guesswho.com)

**Double Dimes – the United States Twenty-cent Piece,** a new book by Lane Brunner and John Frost, available both as a web book at no cost, and a Print Edition. Spiral bound, 179 pages, nearly 400 photographs. The Print Edition is available from the authors at [www.doubledimes.com](http://www.doubledimes.com).

**Holt Rarities** is Buying and Selling Liberty Seated, Federal, and Colonial Issue coins of all denominations. Check out our website at [www.holtraricointies.com](http://www.holtraricointies.com) or call (931) 581-1890. Brad Holt has collected s for over thirty years and is a member of the ANA and LSCC.

**Wanted to Buy.** Collector of Liberty Seated Dollars wants engraved and/or counter-stamped (love tokens) or rotated reverses. All mints, any condition, holed OK. Carl Feldman: [carls-coins@gmail.com](mailto:carls-coins@gmail.com) or (973) 479-9956.

**Gerry Fortin Rare Coins.** Buying and selling all Seated denominations and actively servicing collector consignments. Varieties are a specialty. Quality, Integrity, and Service throughout any transaction. *The Seated dealer with a collector's perspective!* Visit [www.SeatedDimeVarieties.com](http://www.SeatedDimeVarieties.com) for GFRC and Liberty Seated Dime web-book. Email: [wuximems@hotmail.com](mailto:wuximems@hotmail.com), Cell: 207-329-9957.

[www.dickosburn.com](http://www.dickosburn.com) We buy, sell, and trade early U.S. silver coinage with an emphasis on Liberty Seated and Bust. Also accepting consignments and want lists. Call Brian at 603-767-7745 or contact Dick and Brian at [bpcushing@gmail.com](mailto:bpcushing@gmail.com)



Liberty Seated Collectors  
Club

### National Officers

#### President

Gerry Fortin  
[wuximems@hotmail.com](mailto:wuximems@hotmail.com)

#### Vice President

Leonard Augsburger  
[leonard\\_augsburger@hotmail.com](mailto:leonard_augsburger@hotmail.com)

#### Secretary / Treasurer

Dale Miller  
[dalecta@gmail.com](mailto:dalecta@gmail.com)

#### Publications Editor

Bill Bugert  
[wb8cpy@earthlink.net](mailto:wb8cpy@earthlink.net)  
P.O. Box 242  
Fairfield, PA 17320  
(717) 337-0229

---

### National Positions

#### Carl Feldman

[carlscoins@gmail.com](mailto:carlscoins@gmail.com)  
Membership Chairman

#### John Frost

[john.frost@doubledimes.com](mailto:john.frost@doubledimes.com)  
Education Director

#### Dennis Fortier

[ricajun@msn.com](mailto:ricajun@msn.com)  
Team Leader,  
Regional Directors

#### Jason Feldman

[jasonfeldman@gmail.com](mailto:jasonfeldman@gmail.com)  
Director,  
LSCC Southern Region

#### Steve Petty

[spetty@eesinc.cc](mailto:spetty@eesinc.cc)  
Director,  
LSCC Central Region

#### Brian Cushing

[bpcushing@gmail.com](mailto:bpcushing@gmail.com)  
Director  
LSCC Western Region

Vacant—Director,  
LSCC Northeast Region

## LSCC Mission

To encourage, promote, and dispense numismatic knowledge of the Liberty Seated coins; to cultivate fraternal relations among its members and all those interested in the science of numismatics.

LSCC website: [www.lscweb.org](http://www.lscweb.org)

LSCC email address: [lscweb@lscweb.org](mailto:lscweb@lscweb.org)

LSCC Membership Information. Dues are bargain priced at \$25 per year and include three issues of the *Gobrecht Journal*, an award winning numismatic publication. To join the Liberty Seated Collectors Club, for *Gobrecht Journal* mailing address changes, or for other membership questions, correspond with the LSCC Secretary/Treasurer.

Articles, comments, or advertisements for publication in the *Gobrecht Journal* may be addressed to the LSCC Publications Editor.

Information, input, comments, or suggestions for improvements to this *E-Gobrecht* are actively solicited from anyone and may be sent to the LSCC Publications Editor.

To be added or removed from the *E-Gobrecht* mailing list, send an email message with the words "Subscribe/Unsubscribe" in the subject line of the message to: [wb8cpy@earthlink.net](mailto:wb8cpy@earthlink.net).

### ***Wanted: Material for this newsletter!***

*Please consider submitting something for print. It need not be elaborate; it can be something as simple as a short note on your favorite variety, neat find, nice cherry pick, happenings at a coin show, rare Liberty Seated coinage coming up for auction, etc. If you are interested in it, rest assured, others will be too! Sharing information is a goal of this newsletter and you need not be an experienced or famous writer to submit something. This is a continuing plea.*

*The E-Gobrecht is not copyrighted; use its content freely but please be sure to quote the E-Gobrecht and the Liberty Seated Collectors Club.*