



The E-Gobrecht

The Electronic Newsletter of the LIBERTY SEATED COLLECTORS CLUB

Liberty Seated Collectors Club

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New Dime Rarity Identified !



Long recognized as a major Liberty Seated dime rarity, this 1839 F-105b Pie Shattered Obverse dime is now the second finest known. It was recently identified in an Ohio collection and purchased by Gerry Fortin. See complete details in the article by Gerry on page 7 of this issue of the *E-Gobrecht*.

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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 at on the last page.



Auction News

by Jim Gray, LSCC #664

The **Heritage** Dallas Sale featured an 1840-O with drapery half dime in AU53 that sold for \$1,528, but a lovely 1844-O graded MS61 CAC did not sell.

An 1846 VG8 hit \$1,028 and an 1853-O NA was worth \$1,469 in VF35.

An 1860-O dime sold for \$1,998 in VF30 and a well struck 1871-CC in AU50 soared to \$19,975. An 1885-S graded MS62 hit \$6,756.

A F12 1852-O quarter sold for \$823 and a natural gray toned 1856-S hit the same amount in VF35. Three nice 1858-S pieces graded VF30, AU53, and AU58 realized \$1,880, \$4,406, and \$5,581. 1859-S and 1866-S, both VF35, cost \$2,233 and \$2,585. A nice original AU50 1872-S was worth \$10,575. A problem free VF35 1873-CC Arrows continued the strong prices for the rare CC quarters with a bid of \$19,975. An 1891-O graded VF25 hit \$1,410.

An 1839 No Drapery half dollar sold for \$1,293 in VF35 and a nice 1844-O double date realized \$4,553 in AU50. An 1855-S in VG10 did not sell and an XF45 1856-S was worth \$1,234. A VF30 1870-CC with a reverse countermark still got \$2,978 while an XF40 duplicate was worth \$9,929. Two 1872-CC pieces graded XF40 and XF45 hit \$1,880 and no sell. An 1873 NA open 3 in VF25, and nice for the grade, soared to \$12,925.

A choice 1871-CC dollar graded VF35 hit \$12,925. A VF20 1872-CC with (LI)BE(RTY) not visible and another in XF45 were sold for \$4,406 and \$9,400.

A large number of these coins had a sign stating to make an offer to the owner. By the time the Heritage commission and the amount that the owner wanted would raise the price close to 25% more than it realized in the auction.

Upcoming LSCC Events

2012-2013 **LSCC dues** (a bargain \$20) payable immediately to LSCC Secretary/Treasurer, Len Augsburger, P.O. Box 6114, Vernon Hills, IL 60061.

November 9-10, 2012, **Marlborough, MA**, Bay State Show, Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel (note new location), LSCC table, 10 AM to 7 PM, located on the bourse floor.

November 16, 2012, **Baltimore, MD**, Whitman Coin and Collectibles Expo, East Coast LSCC Regional meeting, 9 A.M., room TBD.

Late November 2012, **Gobrecht Journal** postal mailed to all current members.

November 30, 2012, **Deadline for ordering** LSCC 40th Anniversary medal.



The LSCC's 40th Anniversary Update

by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

The last few weeks have seen some good press in *The Numismatic News* and *Coin World* for the 40th Anniversary Medal. *Coin World* (Sept 17th edition) devoted a full page and a quarter (minus advertisements) as well as picturing the medal on page 3 the contents page. *Numismatic News* (Sept 11th edition) gave us about a third of a page and included my email address for ordering. So far I've received five inquiries from non-members interested in medals.

Gerry Fortin informs me there have been 200 downloads of the medal order form on the club website to date. That is very encouraging. Len Augsburger is currently swamped with membership renewals and is unable to update us on current medal order totals. Len does a great job as club Treasurer; it's a lot of work and we owe him a great deal of thanks for doing it.

Last month, I suggested a 40th Anniversary *Gobrecht Journal* edition. I regret to report I did not receive a single response offering to write an article.

This is unfortunate. Perhaps I could solicit a letter to the editor about what your membership in the LSCC has meant to you and your collecting goals. How about a story about how knowledge gained from another member leads to a great Cherrypick, or may be a connection to a significant purchase through a club member? Personal experiences like these are what this club is all about. Can you share something with your fellow members? Even to thank the member who made it possible?

Don't forget you procrastinators, November 30th is the last day to order your medals.

[Editor's note: Photos of the proof club medal are depicted below. For those of you who actually saw the medal at the annual club meeting in Philadelphia, it is absolutely beautiful and is a tremendous memento of the club's founding. Consider ordering a satin or proof silver version or the gold example. Complete information on the medal with a downloadable order form is contained on the club's website at www.lscweb.org.]



Photos of one of the two LSCC 40th Anniversary medal Proof silver "Trial Strikes"



Regional News

by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

A light October travel schedule allowed me to stay home in Maine for over three weeks. During that time, I was able to give Liberty Seated numismatics some attention including the 1839 F-105b Pie Shattered Ob-

verse variety purchase and update the Liberty Seated Dime web-book for improved iPad display. The home leave is over and this *E-Gobrecht* regional news issue is being written after being the last October 29 flight out of Portland due to Hurricane Sandy. My thoughts remain with fellow LSCC friends caught in the direct path of Sandy's wrath and pray the flooding and power outages are not too severe. My wife Diane is prepared with a generator and 10 gallons of extra gas. Let's hope the reserves are not necessary.

November LSCC regional activity will be taking place on the East coast with separate events in the greater Boston area and Baltimore, Maryland. The long standing Bay State Show has been officially moved from Boston to Malborough, MA this year. After remaining in close contact with the Bay State Show promoter, Dennis Fortier, our Northeast Regional Director, passed along this information, "I

just heard back from Ed Aleo, the Bay State Show organizer. Ed informed me there is no private room at the new location to stage our regional meetings. However, the LSCC will have a table set with a display of the copper trial strike 40th Anniversary medal along with other Seated coinage items. Hopefully we'll continue our success at smaller shows and add a few new members. The dates for Bay State show are November 9-10, 10 A.M. to 7 P.M. The new location is the Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, 181 Boston Post Rd (West), Marlborough, MA."

After the Bay State show, the LSCC returns to its home base at the Baltimore Whitman Coins and Collectibles Expo the following week. A regional meeting is scheduled for November 16 at 9:00am. As usual, Len Augsburger, LSCC Secretary/Treasurer will host the meeting and provide club update.

Our next major LSCC regional meeting event will be held at the Winter FUN Show in Orlando, FL. Plans from Jason Feldman, South Regional Director, will be forthcoming in the December *E-Gobrecht* issue.

Photo at right:

Mr. Half Dime, aka Stephen Crain, discussing the benefits of LSCC membership and displaying selection from his fabulous Liberty Seated half dime collection at the LSCC table at the October 2012 Manchester, NH Coin Expo.





The Curious Collector

by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

Len is taking this month off from writing and numismatic activities to concentrate on his New York City Marathon training schedule. Even though NYC was devastated by hurricane Sandy, the event will take place on Sunday, November 4th. Keep Len in your thoughts and wish him luck.

Look for him in this column next month.

Note: the two announcements below were run the previous two months but responses were negligible. Here they are again for a third try...

LSCC Historian Wanted!

- 40th Anniversary of the LSCC is next year.
- Volunteer help wanted!
- We need someone to document the history of the LSCC before it is lost forever.
- You make the job. Possibilities include:
 - Interviewing long time members
 - Gather and search club records
 - Document the club's past history, people, awards, and events.
 - Chronicle future major events.
- Interested? Please email LSCC Vice President Bill Bugert at wb8cpy@earthlink.net.

Variety Pricing Guide Feedback Wanted!

Recently, various club members have expressed their desire and need for a Liberty Seated variety pricing guide. In a gross simplification, "prices" for all denominations with major and minor varieties would be available in various grades to aid buyers and sellers. On behalf of the idea originators, John McCloskey presented this idea at the LSCC annual meeting.

Some discussions were heard after the meet-

ing including the depth of information wanted, listed grades, listed varieties, available media for the data, dealer versus collector implications, and workload requirements.

The club officers are seeking your feedback on this idea and request that you email your thoughts to the *E-Gobrecht* editor at wb8cpy@earthlink.net. Results will be published in a future issue of the *E-Gobrecht*.



Quarter of the Month

by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

This month is the third in a four part series on seated quarter varieties left off of the Top 25 list for being too rare. September's column featured the 1854 thin date and October's the 1856 Flag of 6 in the Shield.

This month we will discuss the 1857-O Briggs 7-C with the top of "18" in the obverse denticles below the date (Figure 1 and 2). The reverse, which also pairs with obverse 6 (very low date), has several distinctive clash marks (Figure 3). The die pair was described as "the rarest variety of the year" in Larry Briggs' *Comprehensive Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Quarters* (Lima, OH 1991). It was not included in either the 1993 or 2007

surveys, but Larry Briggs, in a December 14, 2007 article in "The Coin Dealer Newsletter Monthly Supplement" described the issue as "Rarest variety of the year... Presently only 3 coins known of this variety."

I have searched diligently for this variety since 2004, watching eBay, Liberty Seated specialist dealer inventories, and 2-4 major shows per year during that time. I have confirmed the existence of 8 examples in all grades and conditions. Several coins that have been attributed by dealers as Briggs 7-C have proven to be misattributed upon close inspection. It is likely that there are more unattributed specimens that exist, but the variety remains extremely rare and hard to locate. Only one of the known examples is certified and none grade better than about Choice XF to AU50.



Clockwise from above: Figures 1, 2, and 3 of the rare 1857-O Briggs 7-C Liberty Seated quarter dollar with the top of "18" in the obverse denticles below the date.



Second Finest 1839 F-105b Pie Shattered Obverse Liberty Seated Dime Identified and Purchased by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054



Liberty Seated dime variety specialist Gerry Fortin is pleased to announce that a high grade 1839 F-105b Pie Shattered Obverse dime was recently identified by Celina, Ohio attorney and collector John Sacher. John made initial contact with Gerry Fortin during the late August 2012 timeframe and reported the discovery of the rare 1839 variety in his *Red Book* listing collection based on information from the www.seateddimevarieties.com website. Several conversations with John ensued with the pie shaped shattered obverse die characteristics being described by phone along with a general overview of the dime's preservation state. John indicated the dime was in a higher grade but with darker surfaces and, importantly, was for sale. There was agreement that the dime would be first submitted to PCGS for verification and grading prior to a purchase discussion. John also emailed several images of the dime prior to TPG submission which confirmed the late die state nature of the shattered obverse.

On October 13, the PCGS graded dime was returned to John in an EF45 holder and, as a result, confirmed the existence of the second finest graded 1839 F-105b variety. John and I believed the PCGS grade was a fair assessment of the dime's overall state of preservation as minor wear points are visible at the left breast and lower leg above the knee. Now that the dime's originality and grade had been ascertained, a brief pricing discussion occurred resulting in a mutually agreed financial transaction that was to remain undisclosed during the subsequent announcement of the dime's discovery.

Upon receipt of the 1839 dime on October 25, I immediately compared the die state with that of the Kamal Ahwash plate coin in his *Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Dimes 1837–1891* and noted that both specimens are in the same approximate late die state with the heavy vertical die crack

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through the date's 8 digit and progressing fully into the upper rim at Star 7. The horizontal die crack contacts the vertical die crack at the obverse die's center point and moves into the right rim at Star 13. As with the Ahwash plate coin, the reverse die on this new specimen is without diagnostic points. Overall, this PCGS EF45 specimen exhibits nice original surfaces with an even brownish gray patina that is slightly heavier on the reverse. The light silver contrast of the obverse die cracks against the darker background creates a memorable plate coin image of this rare variety. This magnificent specimen is a fitting plate coin upgrade for my web based Seated dime varieties guide. This guide was instrumental in aiding John Sacher to properly attribute his 1839 dime and discover an important numismatic treasure.

Now that a second high grade 1839 F-105b specimen has appeared, some background on this variety's rarity is warranted. Clearly the 1839 F-

105b pie shattered obverse remains extremely rare and currently the author is aware of five examples extant as follows:

1. **PCGS AU55.** The finest example is the Kamal Ahwash and Brian Greer plate coin and resides in the collection of Dr. Tim Cook.
2. **PCGS XF45.** The second finest grading example as identified in this article and residing in the collection of Gerry Fortin.
3. **PCGS G6.** This dime is owned by Dale Miller as part of his Top 100 Liberty Seated Dime varieties collection.
4. **PCGS G6.** This coin resides in Jason Feldman's Liberty Seated dime collection.
5. **PCGS G6.** The former www.seateddimevarieties.com web-book plate coin and currently available for placement into an important Liberty Seated dime variety collection.

As Always....Happy Hunting!

Subscriber Correspondence

From **Dennis Garstang:** I recently spoke at the Johnson County (Kansas) Coin Club. My topic was Liberty Seated Dollars. There were approximately 75 collectors in attendance. *[Editor's note: Thanks for advancing the Liberty Seated cause.]*

From **Scott Lingo:** I received the *E-Gobrecht* and was surprised to see on page 13 info on the 1873 Open 3 that I (and a lot of others) found on eBay. As soon as I found the coin...my suspicions were first aroused when I saw that the coin wasn't slabbed. Yes, I know there are a few people out there that don't know about the open 3 but they are so rare that to see a raw example raised by concern. Second was my concern over the area around the date where the arrows would be. It appeared to me that they had been removed...especially the arrow on the left side of the date. I was just not willing to take a chance on a coin, especially a rare coin, that I wasn't absolutely sure it was genuine.

Concerning the 40th Anniversary Coins....I have already ordered by two silver coins but has anyone considered sending them to PCGS and having them certified...then selling them? PCGS certifies a lot of coins why not these. Might be a good selling point. *[Editor's comment: Great idea but according to information on the PCGS website, "PCGS will [only] grade medals or tokens that were officially minted by the U.S. Mint. They must be able to fit inside the PCGS holder." Hence, the LSCC 40th anniversary medal does not qualify.]*



An 1860-S Quarter with a “Hole”

by Gary Rosner, LSCC #2085



Attached are two pictures, obverse and reverse, of a 1860-S quarter dollar with a hole in it. I hope when some of the readers see it that it doesn't cause too much mental anguish.

The coin came from an auction lot that I bought in 2007. Included in this lot were mostly U.S. coins, some foreign, and a partial type set of coins all with holes in them. I took out the few coins that I needed for my collection at the time and then only looked at the other coins, including the ones with the holes in them, briefly and put them away for another day.

That other day was a few nights ago (over 5 years later) when I finally got around to begin the task of

inventorying the holed low grade U.S. and the foreign coins. At first I thought the quarter was an 1860 Philadelphia and then when I flipped it over I was pleased to see it was an 1860-S. I have a small collection of Liberty Seated quarter dollars but I knew that the 'S' mints are rather scarce. I opened up my *Coin Dealer's Newsletter* and when I saw an 1860-S was \$600 bid in Good then I got excited. I'll keep the coin for my collection because it comes with this neat little story.

[Editor's note: Gary is a relatively new LSCC member. We welcome this first article.]



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Larry Briggs Rare Coins. New updated website with many photos—check us out at:
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David Kahn Rare Coins. Please check out my website—I have an easy to use website and list many original bust and seated coins with excellent photos.
www.davidkahnrarecoins.com

1879-1890 Quarters and Halves Wanted to Buy: I'm looking for Philadelphia mint 1879-1890 quarters and halves, grades 35-45 only. Must be absolutely original, never cleaned or dipped. What do you have? Denis Loring, 561-207-6180, dwloring@aol.com.

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 lists his complete inventory, has pictures of coins over \$100, and is updated frequently. He offers a newsletter which notifies you when significant new purchases are available and offers his take on the coin market in general as well as Bust and Seated silver. He also actively services want lists. He is an authorized PCGS and NGC dealer and a member of ANA, LSCC, EAC, and JRCS. Contact him at richuhrichcoins@comcast.net, 717-533-2935 or 717-579-8238.

Dr. Eugene Bruder is constantly updating his website, www.typecoins.com, which features a nice selection of bust and seated material for sale. Pictures are generally available for all coins, and can be obtained if not posted. He will also take consignments for exposure at shows and the website. He attends most major shows, and will try to accommodate want lists. You can reach him at 530-894-0922 or email at: gene@typecoins.com.

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/>

Rare Coins for Sale: Since 1979, David Lawrence Rare Coins has specialized in Seated and Barber coinage for collectors. Please visit our web site for 6,000+ offerings of U.S. & World coins, currency, and stamps for sale and auction. We are also interested in buying or selling your coins at auction. <http://www.davidlawrence.com> or phone 1-800-776-0560, members: PNG, ANA (life), FUN, CSNS

Cuds, Cuds and more Cuds: I am interested in purchasing cuds, major die breaks, and shattered dies on Liberty Seated Quarters. Cuds on other U.S. series of interest too. Also wanted are major reverse rotations on all U.S. series. Please reply directly to Paul Kluth at pcmdmp@msn.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

Wanted to Buy: Nice, problem-free bust and seated material. We specialize in affordable collector coins. Puro's Coins and Jewelry, web: www.vtcoins.com, email: puro@vtcoins.com, phone: 1-800-655-1327.

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 or 1-949-929-2830.



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LSCC

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 Membership Information. Dues remain bargain priced at \$20 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.

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

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

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@arrl.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.

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