



# The E-Gobrecht

## Liberty Seated Collectors Club

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### Manchester, NH Seated Dime Fest Once In A Lifetime Viewing Opportunity By Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

This year's autumn New Hampshire Coin Exposition featured a once in lifetime viewing opportunity for northern New England Liberty Seated collectors and area dealers. The LSCC coordinated an amazing display of condition census Liberty Seated dimes at "Seated Dime Fest." Headlining Seated Dime Fest were the incredible Eugene H. Gardner #1 NGC Business Strike and Proof Strike Registry sets. Gerry Fortin also displayed his #1 PCGS Business Strike Registry set and important selections from the Top 100 Varieties collection. Six cases housed these fantastic numismatic compilations on October 5 and 6. Dennis Fortier and John Frost once again combined efforts to host LSCC and BCCS club tables and presented interesting pieces from their individual collections.



Gene Gardner, left, and Gerry Fortin at the Manchester Show

Friday show attendance was robust with numerous Liberty Seated collectors spending time at the display tables. One could frequently hear "Wow!" and

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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

There were no auctions in October so there is no Auction News column this month. Jim will return next month with his popular News column.

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“Amazing!” as individuals made their way across the six display cases. Gene Gardner with his numismatic advisor, Bill Nagel, hosted a broad array of finest known dimes and spent substantial time answering questions and discussing rarity and provenance for specimens within the business and proof strike collections. There were so many extraordinary dimes in the Gene Gardner’s display cases that attempting to list and describe each one is well beyond the scope of this *E-Gobrecht* event report. However, I was simply blown away after viewing his Eliasberg 1845-O dime graded PCGS MS69 OGH with a 16x loupe. An MS69 grade implies perfection and this 1845-O dime featured a monster strike, no blemishes whatsoever and uninterrupted mint frost. Indeed it was perfect!



Gene Gardner, left, and Stephen Crain, far right, with six cases of quality seated dimes betwixt.

Throughout the two day show event, Liberty Seated dime variety collectors stopped by to view my Top 100 Varieties display. Organizing the display and writing the title cards was much fun. The display highlight was obviously the 1839 Pie Shattered Obverse graded PCGS EF45 along with two earlier die states prior to the terminal die state. Experienced collectors and casual visitors had never experienced a coin with such massive die breaks that could be enjoyed without a loupe. One LSCC member even drove from Maryland to take advantage of the displays and was not disappointed.

Dennis and John were exceptional hosts at the combined LSCC and BCCS Manchester regional meeting. Attendee turnout was strong with 13 individuals (see group photo on page 6) treated to topics ranging from an LSCC Officer Transition Committee update, a detailed presentation on the 1839 Pie Shattered Obverse dime, and discussion concerning Lane Brunner and John Frost’s forthcoming release of *Double Dimes: The United States Twenty-cent Piece* in hardbound book and online website.

The Manchester, NH Seated Dime Fest report would not be complete without thanking several individuals. First is show promoter, Ernie Botte, for providing a special display area and increased show security overnight and throughout the show. The LSCC sincerely thanks Gene Gardner for the time taken to prepare his magnificent collection for display and coordinating schedules with Bill Nagel. The Gardners, Anne and Gene, were gracious hosts during Saturday evening dinner. Spending several days with Gene present the opportunity to understand this premier collector’s background and thought processes for constructing sets with

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finest known pieces. Pursuing the finest Liberty Seated dimes extant requires in-depth rarity knowledge, broad numismatic relationships and much patience and determination. It takes a devoted collector with extraordinary passion to assemble the dimes viewed that Manchester, NH weekend. With considerable certainty, Gene Gardner ranks as a leading collector of our generation and the LSCC is grateful for his membership and club commitment.



Left to right: Bill Nagel, Gene Gardner, and Gerry Fortin



Gene Gardner, left, with John Frost and Dennis Fortier.



Gene Gardner, seated at right with back to camera, proudly discussing his dimes with collectors.





## Liberty Seated Collectors Club Officer Transition Committee Status Report by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

This month's committee report will be brief as no formal committee meetings were held in October. As committee Chairman, please let me share the following activity highlights and near term plans to ensure that the Committee remains on its published schedule. Key Committee deliverables include launching the November 2014 *Gobrecht Journal* issue with Bill Bugert as Editor and announcing post McCloskey era officer nominations and conducting the membership approvals process before John's retirement at the end of August 2014.

1. Working towards the November 2014 *Gobrecht Journal* debut, Bill Bugert created a prototype format template using computer based publishing software that can be easily processed by commercial print shops. The template is in color and contains test articles with different sized images and tables. Bill plans to validate his publishing software and print shop's ability to recreate and match the current *Gobrecht Journal* format that members have enjoyed for years. Article solicitation for the November 2014 will begin soon.

2. The Committee approached a long term club member as potential candidate for serving in the Club Historian role. The Club Historian role is very significant as John McCloskey's *Gobrecht Journal* preparation manuscripts and other important docu-

ments must be cataloged and preserved as important LSCC history.

3. The Transition Committee is planning its next meeting at the Whitman Baltimore show as four of the five committee members will be in attendance. The primary focus is validating the Committee's recommendation for elected and volunteer club positions to accomplish the nine key LSCC functions as outlined in the October *E-Gobrecht* Committee report.

The Committee is targeting the December *E-Gobrecht* issue for publishing its revised club management structure including those positions that are elected and those that will be voluntary in nature. Within the January *E-Gobrecht* issue, the Committee will announce its recommended candidates for LSCC elected positions.

Bill Bugert, LSCC Vice President and Len Augsburger, LSCC Secretary/Treasurer are both reporting a heightened club interest as measured by new member applications and individuals requesting to be added to the *E-Gobrecht* email distribution list. I am very pleased with the support of the Transition Committee members and look forward to ongoing progress towards accomplishing our Mission and deliverables.

### Upcoming LSCC Events

November 8, 2013, **LSCC regional meeting and LSCC table**, Whitman Winter Coin and Collectibles Expo, Baltimore, MD. Regional meeting at 9:00 AM, Friday, Room 301. See show schedule for club table location.

November 2013. *Gobrecht Journal* Issue # 118 mailed.

**LSCC yearly dues.** \$20 payable now to LSCC Treasurer Len Augsburger. See last page for contact information.



## Announcing Eugene H. Gardner Liberty Seated Collections at [www.LSCCweb.org](http://www.LSCCweb.org) By Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

Mr. Eugene Gardner, in close cooperation with the Liberty Seated Collectors Club, has agreed to publish his Liberty Seated coinage collection at the club's website, [www.LSCCweb.org](http://www.LSCCweb.org). Each denomination will be published in a Pictorial Gallery format constructed with 350x350 resolution images that are clickable to access high quality, high resolution 2250x2250 images. Securing access to Mr. Gardner's finest known collection via high resolution images is an important numismatic milestone for the LSCC membership. Individuals conducting numismatic studies including die variety research and provenance analysis for finest known specimens will find Mr. Gardner's Pictorial Galleries to be an invaluable resource.

During the October 4-5, 2013 Liberty Seated Dime Fest at the Manchester, NH show, Mr. Gardner

transferred his Liberty Seated Dime business and proof strike set images to Gerry Fortin, LSCC webmaster. Those images were reformatted and are presently available for viewing in the Seated Dime Pictorial Gallery (<http://www.lscweb.org/GardnerCollection.php>). For each date and mintmark, Gerry Fortin specifies the dime's third party grading company and certified grade, a rarity estimate per the Dr. William Sheldon method, and finally, appropriate internet links for online variety information.

Mr. Eugene Gardner is the premier Liberty Seated coinage collector of our generation and the Liberty Seated Collector Club is proud to have him as a member and appreciates his kind contribution towards furthering the club's mission.



Sample page for the Gardner Proof Liberty Seated Dime Listing



## Regional News

### by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

The 2013 LSCC regional meeting calendar is winding down to a fitting ending at the Whitman Baltimore show next week. Typically the Fall Whitman show is the best of the year and already the club is expecting a significant member turnout at the Friday November 8 meeting. Len Augsburg, Secretary/Treasurer, will once again host the meeting. Agenda includes an update on November *Gobrecht Journal*, an Officer Transition Committee report, and two presentations on Double Dime books reaching the marketplace during 2013.

The afterglow of the "Seated Dime Fest" at the Manchester NH show remains as it was such a significant event in LSCC club history. Dennis Fortier, Northeast Regional Director, summed up his feelings about the event in this email shortly after the show.

*It's the morning after Manchester. It was such an exciting show, that I had to sit down and write my thoughts immediately. The Gene Gardner collection*

*of Liberty Seated Proof and Business strike Dimes was amazing. Combined with Gerry's awesome PCGS set was almost too much; but we managed to survive it. Several people came over to our LSCC club table shaking their heads and saying WOW.*

*Gene seemed to enjoy himself as much as we enjoyed having him and his lovely wife Anne at Manchester. We can't thank Gene enough for picking Manchester to showcase his finest known collection. The club meeting was well attended with about 15 people listening to Gerry's Transition Committee update and his brilliant presentation on the 1839 Pie Shattered Obverse seated dime (F105c). John Frost gave an update on his Double Dimes book (co-authoring with Lane Brunner) and then we went on to BCCS business.*

*We spoke to many collectors of all different interests and several YN's. The club signed up one new member and we have several hopeful candidates with membership sign-up brochures. I can't wait for March!*



Group photo from the Manchester, NH LSCC/BCCS regional meeting





## The Curious Collector

### by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

This month we interview dealer /club member Doug Winter. Doug is well known as a gold coin dealer but as of late has

started carrying a few seated coins. His website is <http://raregoldcoins.com/>.

How did you get started collecting?

I started collecting coins when I was around seven or eight. I got pretty serious by the time I was 10 or so. Growing up in New York City meant that I had access to many dealers and there were shows literally once per month which made it easy for me to see neat coins.

How did you get started dealing?

John Saunders, who now owns a coin store near John Wayne airport (London Coin Galleries), hired me to work for him part-time when I was 11 and I did Sunday coin shows with him at the Royal Manhattan Hotel in NYC. He would pay me \$50 a day but I was able to make that much or more on my own by "picking off" adult dealers. My specialty at the time was 1787 Draped Bust Left Connecticut cents and I actually had most of the varieties memorized so that I could buy the good coins unattributed without pulling out the Miller book [Len here - Doug was surely the only 11-year old in the entire universe that could cherry-pick colonial copper varieties - these are hard to attribute even with the book!]

You are #10 on the LSCC membership list. You must have had some interaction with Kam Ahwash - what are your recollections of him and did you ever deal with him?

Kam was a huge influence on me as a kid. The big Seated coin dealers at the time were Kam, Bill Grayson, Jim O'Donnell, Gene Edwards and Brett Simons. Kam was the most kid-friendly and he was extremely kind to me. As I recall, he couldn't really grade but he knew varieties extremely well

and taught me a lot about rare dates. He was a really interesting guy outside of coins. He was a trained opera singer and a real gentleman who didn't exactly fit the profile of "standard coin dealer" back in the day.

Did you ever collect seated coinage systematically (by date and mintmark, or by design type)?

I was a hardcore collector of Liberty Seated Quarters and also dabbled in Dimes and half Dollars. I collected by date and mintmark; I was never all that into the esoteric varieties but would cherry-pick good coins and sell them to Kam or other dealers. My goal was to assemble as complete a date/mintmark set of Liberty Seated Quarters as possible in VF-EF grades. I was about 60% complete but sold my coins in 1985 in order to finance my business.

In gold we talk about "dirty old gold" as highly original coins. To the uninitiated, what should an original silver coin look like?

The look that I like best on circulated silver coins is what I would call a "battleship grey" color. This is even more desirable if there is a "circulated cameo" appearance as the result of lighter devices offset by deeper fields. I'm a stickler for clean surfaces when it comes to silver and don't like coins that are rough or porous.

Do you believe any areas of the seated coin market are undervalued?

Even though quarters have gone up a lot in value in recent years, they still seem like great deals to me, especially nice No Motto coins. I like just about any perfect EF-40 to AU-58 Liberty Seated coin, regardless of date, at current levels; especially if the coin is choice and original. For collectors with a larger budget, I like truly original No Motto quarters and halves in the MS63 to MS65 range.



## Quarter of the Month

by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

### 1848 Rotated Reverse Quarter

One of the results of assembling this column each month is that collectors and dealers periodically contact me with a “have you seen one of these?” question. Though sometimes I can say yes, it is more frequently an opportunity to learn something that I did not know. A few weeks ago I received just such an email from Liberty Seated and Bust coinage dealer Rich Uhrich inquiring about the existence of an 1848 quarter with die rotation. I was compelled to confess that I had neither seen nor heard of such a thing. Liberty seated quarters struck from rotated dies are rare. In fact, one can just about count the number of seated quarter issues known with die rotations (greater than 20 degrees or so) on the fingers of one hand. Those that are relatively well known include: 1844-O, 1852, 1853, and 1861. I have seen examples of all these, and heard of an 1850-O with significant die rotation, but not seen it in person. A couple of back and forth emails confirmed that Rich had acquired an example of a previously unknown 1848 quarter struck from rotated

dies.

I met up with Rich at a Pennsylvania coin show last week and checked out the coin in person. There was no doubt as to its authenticity, but if we had had any doubts Larry Briggs (who had a table two slots up the aisle from Rich) put the last of them to rest. He also had never seen nor heard of an 1848 struck from rotated dies, confirming that Rich’s coin is, as of this writing, unique. The die rotation is about 90 degrees and, as seen in the figures, this results in some striking issues. The weak head on Liberty and the weak eagle’s wing are opposite each other due to the die rotation, most likely resulting in too large a gap between dies for the planchet to adequately “fill” the incuse areas of the die. The coin is otherwise about XF.

*Photos Courtesy of Rich Uhrich Rare US Coins, Inc.*



1848 Quarter Dollar with 90° clockwise rotated reverse





## Information Wanted! NYNC Valentine Medals

By Jerry Fochtman



I'm working to build a census for determining how many of the New York Numismatic Club Medals of Dr. Daniel W. Valentine may survive. These medals are highly prized among half-dime collectors, fractional currency collectors, as well as NYNC members/medal collectors. This particular medal is generally viewed as the key to the series, as it is in high demand by members of these groups.



If you have one of these or know of the whereabouts of one, please send a note to me at [jerry@fochtman.us](mailto:jerry@fochtman.us) and simply give me the serial number of the medal you/they possess. The serial number is found on the edge of the medal, and should range from 1 to 50 for bronze medals, and 1 to 8 for any silver medals.

## REMINDER! LSCC REGIONAL MEETING AT BALTIMORE NEXT WEEK!

Friday, November 8, 9 AM, Room 301  
Baltimore Convention Center

On the agenda...  
*Gobrecht Journal* November Issue Update  
Transitional Activities Update  
Talks on the two new Double Dimes Books



## A Neat Contemporary Counterfeit Trade Dollar by John Frost, LSCC #2005

A couple weeks ago, I was meeting with a friend of mine, a coin dealer who knows of my interests for unusual things. He brought out some contemporary counterfeits that he had put away more than 30 years ago. Most of them were the frequently-seen cast counterfeit Seated and Barber coins, mostly quarters and halves. One of them, however, caught my eye, something I had never seen before -- a contemporary counterfeit Trade Dollar. Not one of the modern Chinese specials, mind you, but rather an interesting die-struck piece, made from crude hand-engraved dies.



This piece appears to be struck in a brass alloy, and then plated. The plating is wearing through in numerous places, exposing the brass underneath. It is 24.8 grams, and thicker than the genuine.

Liberty's face is great, with a smirk on it, and the stars are quite crude. The Date is loaded with tooling. The denticles are all hand-made and uneven, and the eagle's eye is mostly missing. One other interesting thing is that LIBERTY, IN GOD WE TRUST, and E PLURIBUS UNUM are missing. The ribbons they appear on are present, but the engraver didn't bother inscribing the letters!

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**Interesting face**



**Uneven denticles, no E PLURIBUS UNUM**



**Tooling at date, no IN GOD WE TRUST on ribbon**



**No LIBERTY, featureless bale**

All in all, this is a rare and interesting piece, which is in sharp contrast to the modern fake Trades we are all accustomed to.





## Free Advertisements

**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: carlscoins@gmail.com or (973) 479-9956.

**Buying and Selling Seated Dime Varieties.** Gerry Fortin, Liberty Seated Dime Varieties Web-book author, is buying and selling dime varieties including Top 100, major die cracks and cuds. New discoveries posted in web-book as a courtesy. Consignments and want lists wanted. Over 25 years in hobby with proven integrity and customer service. Other denominations also offered. Web: [www.seateddimevarieties.com](http://www.seateddimevarieties.com) (Rare American Coins - For Sale Lists), Email: wu-ximems@hotmail.com, Cell: 207-329-9957.

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**Dick Osburn Rare Coins** specializes in early U.S. Silver coinage, particularly Liberty Seated and Bust material. Please visit our website [www.dickosburn.com](http://www.dickosburn.com) to view our extensive inventory. If you'd like to buy, sell, trade or consign contact Dick or Brian Cushing at [rare-coins@dickosburn.com](mailto:rare-coins@dickosburn.com) or 703-373-7399.

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

**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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:richuhrichcoins@comcast.net), 717-533-2935 or 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. Pictures are generally available for all coins, and can be obtained if not posted. His website is fully searchable by die variety for most series of coins. 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](mailto: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/>

**Liberty Seated Quarter Cuds Wanted** among other things: Yes, I am still looking to purchase cuds, major die breaks, and shattered dies on LDS Liberty Seated Quarters. While I have been able to add quite a few examples during the long time of running this ad, there are more pieces out there missing from the 'ole collection. Also, cuds on other U.S. series and denominations wanted too, not to mention major reverse rotations on all U.S. series. Please reply directly to Paul Kluth at [pcmdmp@msn.com](mailto:pcmdmp@msn.com) even if its just to share what you have for the fun of it. Thanks!

**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)

**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](http://www.vtcoins.com), email: [puro@vtcoins.com](mailto: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](mailto:davethomas333@hotmail.com) or 1-949-929-2830.



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## 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 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@arri.net](mailto:wb8cpy@arri.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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