



The E-Gobrecht

The Electronic Newsletter of the LIBERTY SEATED COLLECTORS CLUB

Liberty Seated Collectors Club

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Full House at FUN Show Regional Meeting

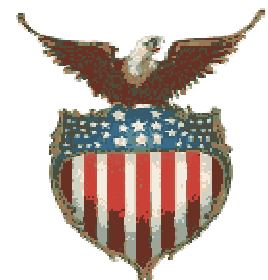
Gerry Fortin reports:

A full house is the best way to describe the LSCC FUN show regional meeting with over 30 club members and guests in attendance. LSCC officers and regional directors present included Len Augsburger, Craig Eberhart, Jason Feldman, Gerry Fortin, and Steve Petty, and former LSCC Vice President, Larry Briggs. Jason Feldman brought the meeting to order promptly at 9:00am and guided attendees through multiple presentations and a thought provoking question and answer session. Gerry Fortin provided information on the 1839 F-105b Pie Shattered Obverse Liberty Seated dime variety and his recent purchase of an PCGS EF45 example. As always, metallurgist and minting expert Chris Pilliod provided a well researched discussion of double die occurrences across Liberty Seated coinage denominations. Jason wrapped up the meeting with a presentation entitled, "When Things Go Wrong" and solicited audience inputs on several Liberty Seated dime minting errors and late die state varieties.



**Attendees at the January 2013 FUN LSCC Regional Meeting
(at least, those who were on time and wanted their photo taken)**

Auction News by Jim Gray	2
Upcoming LSCC Events	2
40th Anniversary Activities by Dennis Fortier	3
Call for LSCC Hall of Fame Nominations	3
Regional News by Gerry Fortin	4
The Curious Collector by Len Augsburger	4-5
Quarter of the Month by Greg Johnson	6
Subscriber Correspondence	7
Reminder! Liberty Seated Quar- ter Top 25 Variety Survey	7
Free Advertisements	8
LSCC Information	9



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** FUN sale contained an 1838-O dime in MS61 for \$2,978 while deeply toned 1843-O and 1860-O, both graded VF30, realized \$1,058 and \$1,998. 1871-CC and 1872-CC, both with AU details and serious environmental damage, eked out \$1,998 and \$1,410. Two 1874-CC dimes graded XF 40 and AU50 were worth \$21,150 and \$29,375. A deeply toned 1885-S in VF35 went for \$1,763.

1842-O SD quarters graded G4 and VF20, both nice for the grade, sold for \$588 and \$2,233. An 1849-O in G6 hit \$1,308. 1851-O pieces graded VF20 and MS60 hammered for \$1,177 and \$8,225. An 1852-O graded AU55 sold for \$9,988 in spite of dark spots at stars 12 and 13. An original 1856-S in XF45 hit \$2,820 and a deeply toned 1864-S went for \$2,115 in VF25. A well toned VF30 1866-S sold for \$1,528. A VG6 1870-CC with a scratch soared to \$9,988. A nice 1871-S graded XF40 sold for \$4,700 while a cleaned 1872-S with XF details hit \$7,638. A choice VF20 1891-O sold for \$999.

An 1844-O double date half graded AU 50 sold for \$4,113 and an 1847/46 with lovely blue toning soared to \$11,750. A nice VG10 1866-S NM was worth \$588 and a VF30 1872-CC hit \$1,293. An 1873 open 3 in AU58 rang the bell for \$28,200 and a

light gray XF45 1878-CC realized \$5,288.

A XF40 1852 dollar sold for \$34,075. I wonder what my AU58 piece would be worth today. 1855 dollars in VF25 and MS61 hammered for \$4,994 and \$12,396. A G4 1872-CC, nice for the grade, sold for \$2,350. A cleaned 1873-CC with XF details soared to \$23,500.

The **Stack's Bowers** Americana and Rarities Night had a number of great coins but many of them did not sell. An 1838-O dime in AU58 sold for \$1,998 and a well struck MS61 1858-S went for \$7,050.

An AU50 1849-O quarter did not sell but a blue toned duplicate in XF40 realized \$7,050. A VF30 1858-S did not sell.

Rarities Night had a wonderful AU53 1873-CC dime that was well struck and nicely toned was the best at PCGS except for a MS65 but did not sell.

A well struck MS65 1876-CC twenty cent piece rang the bell for \$564,000.

Desirable MS66 1865-S, MS64 1868-S and MS63 1872-S quarters did not sell.

Nice MS61 and MS62 1857-S halves did not sell nor did a PR55 Gobrecht dollar from the issue of 3/37. An 1872-CC dollar graded AU55, but with weakness on Liberty's head and the adjacent stars, sold for \$11,162.

Upcoming LSCC Events

February 1-2, 2013, **Manchester, NH**, Coin and Currency Expo, LSCC table and regional meeting on February 2 at 2 PM.

February 7, 2013, **Long Beach, CA**, Long Beach Coins, Stamp and Collectibles Expo, Special LSCC Regional Meeting, 7 PM, Rock Bottom Restaurant and Brewery, first round free!

March 15, 2013, **Baltimore, MD**, Whitman Coin & Collectibles Baltimore Expo, LSCC Regional meeting, 9 AM, room TBD.

Survey Responses due, **Liberty Seated Quarter Dollar Top 25 Varieties**, April 5, 2013, see LSCC Winter mailings.

April 26, 2013, **Schaumburg, IL**, Central States Convention, LSCC Regional meeting, 9AM.



40th Anniversary Medal Update by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

As of this publication the LSCC's 40th Anniversary medals should have been struck. The final tally is:

- 130 silver satin
- 180 silver proof
- 23 gold proof

This club should be called the procrastinator's club. We set the official deadline at November 30th and unofficially extended it to December 31st. We received our last order around the middle of January about a week or so before Dan Carr was to strike the medals. So we were taking orders right up until the final minute as it were.

We expect to have the silver for distribution at the Baltimore Show in March with members not at Baltimore receiving theirs in the mail shortly thereafter. The gold medals will be mailed directly to the members. We believed this procedure will be more secure and less costly by eliminating a second mailing of the gold. I can't wait to see the gold medal, how about you?

Call for LSCC Hall of Fame Nominations

The Hall of Fame Committee composed of club members Bill Bugert, Len Augsburger, Gerry Fortin, Mark Sheldon, and Tom DeLorey wishes to inform the membership that we are accepting nominations for the Liberty Seated Collectors Club's 2012 Hall of Fame (HoF). Please consider honoring noteworthy individuals to this prestigious distinction for their 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, and Brian Greer.

The Committee is accepting nominations in two categories: an active club member and a veteran (pre-founding of the LSCC [1973]); an announcement of the new inductee(s) will be made at the LSCC's annual meeting. The nominations must be received no later than April 15, 2013 and are due to the HoF Chairman, Bill Bugert, via email at wb8cpy@earthlink.net or via postal mail at Bill Bugert, 1230 Red Rock Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325 or to Bill via telephone at (717) 337-0229.



Regional News

by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

The beginning of 2013 finds the numismatic industry in a most

upbeat mood with a well attended FUN show and now the Stack's Bowers sale of the Cardinal Collection with an industry

record price of \$10,016,875 for the 1794 Flowing Hair silver dollar graded PCGS SP66. Dealers are working hard to locate and bring fresh material to the market warranted by new collector demand. Based on my own observations at the FUN bourse, original bust and seated coinage material in EF-AU collector grades is bringing well above trend pricing and eventually, the pricing guides will need to reflect some upward price movement to shake coins out of "strong hands".

The FUN show LSCC regional meeting was a great success and provides a solid springboard for additional Q1 meetings. In parallel with the February E-G release, Dennis Fortier, Northeast Regional Director, and John Frost are hosting an LSCC table at the New Hampshire Coin and Collectibles Expo in Manchester, NH. Dennis sent in this on the floor report, "As of this writing the Manchester NH show is going on. John Frost and I are doing a joint LSCC/BCCS display and meeting. We'll be updating the members at the meeting on the 40th Anniversary medal project and John will be giving a presentation on the book he is writing on the Twenty Cent

piece. Hopefully we'll see you there."

Immediately following Manchester is the spring Long Beach show during February 7-9. Craig Eberhart, Western Regional Director, is trying a new LSCC meeting approach and sent along the following notice, "This is a reminder that the LSCC regional meeting at Long Beach will be held at the Rock Bottom Brewery on Thursday February 7th. We will meet in the registration area and walk to the brewery at 7 PM. Brian Cushing with Dick Osburn Rare Coins has graciously volunteered to buy the first round. There will not be a meeting on Friday morning."

During March, the LSCC will meet at its home base; the Whitman Baltimore show. The spring Baltimore show will be held during March 14-17. Len Augsburg will once again host an LSCC regional meeting on March 15 at 9:00am. Hopefully, the club's 40th Anniversary silver medals will be available to those attendees who submitted orders in 2012. I will be attending the Baltimore show and will bring along the 1839 F-105b Pie Shattered Obverse dime as presented at the FUN show and in a recent **Coin World** article.

(Continued from page 5)

mediately scooped it up for all of \$15 (today it runs well into 4-figures, more for a nice one), recognizing that it was an unknown variety and new discovery. Later, John became the recognized expert on Classic Head gold varieties.

I'm still missing a copy of *Gobrecht Journal* #23, but this clipping from John Burns is a good substitute for now. And if anyone wants to get started

on their own collection of Journals, John sets up at most major shows in the eastern half of the country - he is a big guy, and not hard to find!

[Editor's comment: I checked my paper files and found I had saved this article as well. It is from Coin World and dated Wednesday, July 18, 1990.]



The Curious Collector

by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

For some time I have been trying to finish my collection of *Gobrecht Journals*. The Collective Volumes capture most of

the content, of course, but the original copies contain ads not reproduced in the Collective Volumes, and also let the reader fully appreciate the evolution of the editing, especially through the early issues. I've never seen a complete set advertised for sale, so I've picked them up in parts, picking out the nicest copies from group lots and moving the duplicates out of the library. After several years I now find myself with exactly one missing issue, #23. So, I was recently pleased to locate a copy in the stock of numismatic literature dealer John Burns, who had a whole box of old GJs for sale. Alas, he was selling them all as one lot, as it was a fairly substantial run and he wanted to keep it together. So, no issue #23 for me, unless I want to pony up several hundred dollars and be left with a very large group of duplicates! I will keep looking. There was another little treasure in the box, an old unattributed news clipping containing an interview with John McCloskey. The "unattributed clipping" is the bane of the researcher, it's nice to have the information, but you really want to know where it came from. In this case, it appears to be from *Coin World*, about 1990, but more than that I can not say. I asked John Burns if I could just purchase the clipping by itself, and he was kind enough to give it to me gratis. There were some interesting stories about John McCloskey in here, which I will excerpt:

"John...began collecting coins in 1949 at the age of 11. 'My father had a large jar of Lincoln cents, so I bought a penny board and started filling holes....by the early 1950s, I had gathered most of the 20th century coins out of circulation.' Around that a time, he and a friend were beginning to purchase coins at local shows - with a little friendly competition. John's idea to gain an 'edge' in the

competition? 'I started to buy Liberty Seated dimes, which were selling for under \$1 in low grades at the time....by the time my friend found out about it, I already had 40 to 50 of them.'"

"John's fascination with the hobby, however, was solidified in 1961, when he decided to upgrade his dime collection (from Good to Very Good to Very Fine to Extremely Fine). When I would purchase the replacement coins, I noticed that a number of them had Mint marks of different sizes and in different locations, dates of different sizes and in different positions, etc.' John's natural curiosity took over, and he sought an answer: why would two coins with the same date and Mint mark have such differences?" [So there you have it - John started as a Liberty Seated dime collector, and the roots of the LSCC were planted in the early 1960s as he began to study Liberty Seated dime die varieties.]

The article goes on to describe some of the early LSCC history. "For the first year, the 'club' was not really a club at all. 'Kam [Ahwash], who agreed to be president and editor, sent copies of the journal to the 150 collectors on this mailing list who were interested in seated coinage...One of our members, John Pryor, who was a printer, offered to print the journal for us for free [Len here again - that is a good deal, we have substantial printing bills today!...]...In 1975, we asked the 150 collectors on Kam's list if they would be willing to pay dues that year to become members of the club. About half of them joined.'" Kam Ahwash handled editing the *Gobrecht Journal* for its first year, and after that John took over and continues to this day.

The article then discusses John's interest in Bust coinage. Among John's contributions in that area are the discovery of the 1829 curl base 2 dime, which John cherried at a coin show in 1973 - he im-

(Continued on page 4)



Quarter of the Month by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

The January 2013 Heritage FUN auction was particularly unusual, and interesting for Liberty Seated Quarter variety collectors, because it featured not one, but two, high grade 1843-O Large O quarters. The finest known 1843-O Large O, which appeared in the recently concluded FUN auction, is the Eliasberg example (now in an NGC MS64 holder). It is not merely the only known mint state example of the variety; it is amongst the finest known 1843-O quarters of either the large or the small O variety. Its' 1843-O small O competitors atop the condition census are a single NGC MS65, one other NGC MS64, and a lone PCGS MS64.

(1991 Lima, OH), Issue 111 of the *Gobrecht Journal*, and the December 2011 *E-Gobrecht*.



(Figure 1. The Eliasberg 1843-O Large O 25¢)

Though the majority of 1843-O Large O quarters grade Fine or less, there are several AU examples in addition to the single MS specimen. The four finest known examples are a PCGS AU53, NGC AU55, NGC AU58 and the mint state Eliasberg coin. All four of these examples have been auctioned by Heritage since early 2003, with two of them sold just this month. Auction appearances are summarized in the following list, along with two recent auction appearances of XF examples:

- March 3, 2003 ANACS AU53 \$3,105 (now NGC AU55)
- November 29, 2006 NGC AU58 \$6,325
- September 18, 2008 PCGS XF40 \$3,018.75
- January 4, 2012 PCGS AU53 \$8,050
- February 2, 2012 PCGS XF45/CAC \$7,475
- January 9, 2013 PCGS AU53 \$7,637.50 (Same coin as 1/4/12)
- January 10, 2013 NGC MS64 \$25,850 (ex-Eliasberg)
- The Eliasberg coin (Figure 1) was graded MS-65, raw, and sold for \$14,300 in 1997 (Bowers 4/1997:1434).

Diagnostic features of the 1843-O Large O variety have been detailed in Larry Briggs' *Comprehensive Encyclopedia of Liberty Seated Quarters*

[Editor's comment: Greg mentioned that so far, he has received 16 responses to the LSCC Top 25 Quarter Variety survey. Keep them coming!]



Subscriber Correspondence

From **Gene Bruder**: Tell the contributors [*to the E-Gobrecht*] that I really appreciate what they do. I wish I had enough time and knowledge to contribute like that!

Reminder! Liberty Seated Quarter Top 25 Variety Survey

Included with the recent LSCC Winter postal mailing from President John McCloskey was a survey. This survey is a request for listings from the members who own any of the of the Top 25 Liberty Seated Quarter Dollar varieties. Complete details were included in that mailing but responses are requested to be returned by April 5, 2013 to Greg Johnson at the address on the survey form.

Please remember to submit your information for the club census.





Free Advertisements

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 (Rare American Coins - For Sale Lists), Email: wuximems@hotmail.com, Cell: 207-329-9957.

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Larry Briggs Rare Coins. New updated website with many photos—check us out at: 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

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/>

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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