



President's Message

By Len Augsburg

Welcome to the September E-Gobrecht, your monthly compendium of all things Liberty Seated. Thanks as always to our orchestrator-in-chief, Michael Fleming, for compiling our monthly musings. We are coming off the ANA convention, which by all accounts was a stellar event. I began attending the convention in 2001 and have a perfect attendance record since then. Of course, the 2020 show was cancelled due to the epidemic, so we won't count that one.

I was unable to buy as many coins as I would have hoped, but John Frost has been selling off the Lane Brunner twenty-cent piece collection for several years, and there is always something to find in his boxes. Selling several hundred twenty cent pieces is not a trivial task, and kudos to John for slowly and responsibly dispersing what must be the largest collector group of double dimes ever assembled. This year I added an 1875-S piece to my growing collection, and John says anyone who buys two or more pieces will qualify for membership into the (as yet unformed) Double Dimes Collectors Club. How about we call it the "D-squared C-squared" club?

The U.S. Mint was present in full force, and I do mean "force" as there must have been half a dozen armed guards carefully watching over their exhibit of eleven 1933 double eagles. The Mint further offered a selection

of 2026 semiquincentennial coinage, and other specialty items. The 1933 double eagles were paired with a program featuring one-time 1933 \$20 owner Stephen Fenton, U.S. Mint Counsel Greg Weinman, and David Tripp, who wrote the book on subject, *Illegal Tender*. The three regaled the standing room only crowd with the inside scoop on these coins and the related litigation. Video will appear in due course, and this was sponsored by Newman Portal (my day job) with the cooperation of the Mint. Many thanks to U.S. Mint Public Affairs Chief Dennis Fish for his help on this.

I never get to do everything I'd like to at the show, and, half in jest, I proposed that the show should last *weeks* rather than one. While this would be great from a collector's perspective, I doubt we could muster dealer support for such a proposal! Unfortunately, this year I could not get to Pittsburgh until Wednesday, but I'm sure I will do better next year.

Speaking of next year, the aforementioned Mr. Frost has already announced "Malnatti's Night" for Monday and Tuesday, August 9-10, 2027. Mark your calendar now and feel free to join us on those evenings. Pizza is a decidedly controversial topic in Chicago, but a large group of us are rather partial to Malnatti's deep dish. Combined with spirited coin talk, it is hard to beat. See you at the ANA next year!

