



The E-Gobrecht

Liberty Seated
Collectors Club

2014 Volume 11, Issue 1
January 2015 (Whole # 120)

LSCC Meeting and Educational Programs to be Held at the 2015 FUN Convention

There will be a meeting of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club at the 2015 FUN Convention in Orlando, Florida on Friday, January 9, 2014 from 9 AM - 10 AM EST. It will be held in Room W224C of the Orlando Convention Center.

In addition to the meeting, there will be two educational programs. The two guest speakers will share their expertise on two topics:

W. David Perkins will give a presentation on the Gobrecht Dollars 1836-1839

And

Christopher Pilliod will give a presentation on Liberty Seated Coinage Love Tokens.

Additional details can be found in this issue on pages 3 and 6. Please try to attend and support the guest speakers who volunteer their effort, and expertise to support the club. We hope to see many of you at the LSCC Meeting at the FUN Convention January 9, 2014. Thank you.

Auction News by Jim Gray	2
LSCC Calendar	2
Regional News by Dennis Fortier	3, 13
LSCC Education by John Frost	4, 12
Proposed LSCC Logo Designs	5
The Curious Collector by Len Augsburger	6
Quarter of the Month by Greg Johnson	7
The Strike Zone by Rich Hundertmark	8
LSCC Member in the Spotlight: John Okerson	9-10
The Man with the Five Dollar Bill (more on the silver coin shortage 1851-1853) By Jim Laughlin	11, 14-15
2014: A Year in the Life of a Half Dollar Collector by Dennis Fortier	13
Subscriber Correspondence	16-19
LSCC Auction Items Wanted	20
Free Advertisements	21
Club Info	22

**If you haven't done so already,
please send in your annual dues.**

Please see details on page 20 of this issue.

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** Houston Money Sale contained a splendid 1846 half dime graded AU53 that sold for \$7,638 and an VF20 1853-O No Arrows went for \$881.

An 1846 dime graded F12 hit \$646 and a G6 1873-CC Arrows went for \$2,703. An 1885-S in MS66 from the Eliasberg collection soared to \$45,531.

An 1849-O quarter dollar realized \$2,675 in VF30 and a nice MS64 1856-S hit \$15,275. An 1858-S AU53 piece sold for \$4,113 and a VG10 1873-CC Arrows was strong at \$9,400.

An 1852 half dollar grading XF45 hit \$1,645 and \$5,875 was the value of a VF30 1870-CC. An 1874-CC in VG10 sold for \$2,027.

An 1855 dollar graded XF45 sold for \$5,288 and an AU58 1859-S hit \$4,406. Four 1872-CC dollars in VF20, VF35, AU53, and AU58 sold for \$3,290, \$5,288, \$9,400 and \$17,625.

LSCC Calendar

ASAP. **LSCC annual dues payable** to the LSCC Secretary-Treasurer.

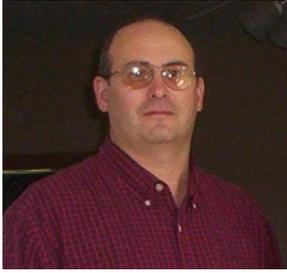
January 9, 2015. **Regional club meeting and education program, Orlando, FL FUN Show 2015**, Orange County Convention Center, 9 AM in room W224C. See detail on next page.

January 16-28, 2015. **Joint LSCC/BCCS table**, Hot Springs, AR, Tri-Lakes Coin Show. John Frost will be hosting this table. See show program for more details.

February 1, 2015. **Deadline for submission** of articles and advertisements for *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #122.

February 13-15, 2015. **Joint LSCC/BCCS table**, Charlotte, NC, Charlotte Coin Club Show. John Frost will be hosting this table. See show program for more details.

March 2015. **Gobrecht Journal** Issue #122 published and mailed to all current members.



Regional News

by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

New Year's resolutions are something few people keep, usually because resolutions are meant to rectify something that we want to correct. As we all know Liberty Seated collectors are practically perfect in every way, so there's little need for resolutions. Goals are much better. Goals are uplifting accomplishments. Goals can be of a personnel nature like adding a significant coin to your collection, or they can be a shared experience such as finally making it to a major show or attending an LSCC function of some kind.

Sadly only a small portion of LSCC members are able to attend club sponsored functions (meetings, educational seminars, dinners, etc.). Some are limited by geography; our country is large and even with all the remarkable efforts of our regional team, it simply isn't possible to get to every corner of this great land. This year, New York and Texas were added but that still leaves many areas without an LSCC event locally. Many of our members are missing out on the comradeship, enlightening presentations, and networking that is a big plus for those who do attend club functions. Rome wasn't built in a day; the regional team will continue to do all it can to bring an LSCC presence to as many areas as possible. Technology like webcasting will help fill in the gaps.

Dick Osburn and John Frost led the effort in Houston. Here is John's commentary on that show.

The LSCC had an impressive showing at the Houston Coin Show, held December 4-6. During the three days, many collectors came by the LSCC/BCCS club table, with interesting exhibits and club information, as usual. It was clear that almost every collector that stopped by had never heard of either club and we handed out a good many brochures. Two new members also joined the LSCC at the show. This was in spite of the fact that our table was a late addition to the show, too late to be included in the Dealer List that was handed out to attendees. At our LSCC meeting on Friday morning, a modest group attended two educational presenta-

tions. Dick Osburn presented an overview of Liberty Seated dollars, highlighting his upcoming book and web book on the series, co-authored by Brian Cushing. John Frost also did a last-minute presentation on Double Dimes. Both presentations were well received as both entertaining and informative, with Q&A following each. We have been invited back to the show next year, with an excellent Table location, and an even larger level of participation in even more educational sessions, which are included in the show's general program. We look forward to next year's event in Houston, and this wasn't only due to the all-you-can-eat barbeque served to the dealers on Thursday evening (but that certainly didn't hurt!).

An impressive first appearance for the club, thanks for all your efforts Dick and John. Next up is FUN. There is as always a good amount of buzz about the FUN show. Here is some of what you can expect at FUN.

There will be a meeting of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club at the 2015 FUN Convention in Orlando, Florida on Friday, January 9, 2014 from 9 AM - 10 AM EST. It will be held in Room W224C of the Orlando Convention Center.

There will be two guest speakers for the LSCC meeting. W. David Perkins, a long-time member of LSCC and a researcher, author, and collector of the early silver dollars 1794-1873 will give a presentation on the Gobrecht Dollars 1836-1839 and Christopher Pilliod will give a presentation on Liberty Seated Coinage Love Tokens.

As most LSCC members know, all Gobrecht Dollars are rare and are infrequently seen on the bourse, even at the larger shows. Major auction sales typically only offer 1-3 examples, if any. Those attending FUN 2015 will have the opportunity to view over 20 Gobrecht Dollars from 1836-1839, in grades from Very Fine to PR65!

According to a PCGS Press Release, PCGS will exhibit an exceptional Gobrecht Dollar set at 2015 FUN. This set is owned by collector Bob R. Simp-

(Continued on page 13)



LSCC Education

by John Frost, LSCC Education Director, LSCC #2005

[*Editor: Last month, club President Gerry Fortin announced the creation of a new LSCC Education Director position. John Frost was appointed to fill that role. This month, John outlines his plan and goals, as well as details on how LSCC members will be able to access a library of Liberty Seated educational sessions. Read on...*]

First of all, I would like to thank the LSCC leadership for their trust in me for the position of LSCC Director of Education. As Gerry said last month when he made the announcement, the availability of a wide variety of educational material is essential to our Regional Program, as well to the continued thriving and growth of the LSCC. In addition to my enthusiasm for numismatics, I have a strong desire to share that enthusiasm with others, as well as a steady continuation of my own learning in this hobby. I routinely present numerous educational programs to local and regional coin clubs on a variety of topics. I also have had a 30+ years professional career which involved both the creation and delivery of training to a wide spectrum of audiences. The purpose of this article is to outline my goals and expectations and to provide the LSCC a view of what's coming.

The LSCC needs ready-to-go presentations to support the Regional Program at all levels. From introductory material on Liberty Seated coinage to topics of specialized and advanced interest. Materials are needed for LSCC members to make a presentation to their own local coin club, as well as for Regional Directors to present at their meetings, or as separate educational sessions at regional shows. An example was in Rochester NY in October, where Dennis Fortier and I had an exhibit table to promote the LSCC. There was no education program at the show per se, but we learned that there was a meeting room for a YN (young numismatists) session. We volunteered to give education sessions and the show organizers enthusiastically accepted. Announcing the sessions over the PA system, along with putting quickly-made signs up, we had excellent attendance at three sessions over the succeeding two days. We were treated like rock stars! Luckily we had out-of-the-box presentations to use, and as a result, dozens

more people got an education thanks to the LSCC. We would like to see more of this.

Goals

It is my goal to have 15-20 presentations available by the end of 2015 and at least half of these available by the Spring coin shows. This is very aggressive but I do think it is achievable.

I want to have at least one presentation on each series, right off the bat. I'll be soliciting for content from some of you, and I'd like it even more if people volunteer material that they have already. It doesn't what format it is, or how polished it is – I can take care of the rest. We aren't starting from scratch. I already have about 10 presentations of various topics that LSCC members have provided in the past. This includes talks on some of the Liberty Seated series, as well as the *Introduction to Liberty Seated Coinage* talk that was given by the club at this past year's ANA in Rosemont. Some of the material in these existing presentations needs updating, but I'll come to you for that.

What to Expect

Each of our presentation slides will be formatted so that they are easy to read and understand. The LSCC leadership is working to establish an LSCC "Brand" which will be our look-and-feel going forward for all documents. Once we have that brand, I will create presentation templates to be used. All of our presentations will adhere to our new Brand, and the templates will be available for you to download when you want to create a new presentation.

All of our presentations will also have Speaker Notes, a part of Microsoft PowerPoint that allows one to insert comments to provide speakers with the essential points of each slide. This is important for delivering effective presentations – not just reading the slides, but rather using the slides as visual aids to accompany the presentation. See the example below. In this way, a speaker can become comfortable delivering a presentation that he or she didn't write.

(Continued on page 12)



Proposed LSCC Logo Designs

DF#2016 December 2014

Last month, club officers solicited ideas for a new LSCC logo. We are happy to report we received seven outstanding designs. They are presented here for feedback from the membership before the officers adopt one.

The officers anticipate using the new logo on all official LSCC correspondence including letters, the website, *The Gobrecht Journal*, *The E-Gobrecht*, etc.

We are grateful to Jim Macor, a club member and accomplished designer, artist, and patented inventor who submitted a few designs and drafted ideas from others. Please address any comments and/or suggestions to the editor at wb8cpy@earthlink.net.



Concept A



Concept B



Metallic Silver Concept



Concept C



Concept D



Metallic Silver/Gold Concept





The Curious Collector by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

FUN Show Preview

The Winter FUN show takes place next week, kicking off the 2015 coin year. Over the last decade or so this show has turned into the #2 coin show in the BCS (that's the "best coin show") rankings, with the summer ANA firmly entrenched at #1. The only possible complaint is that they always schedule it the same week as the New York International Show, which, while called "International," still has a lot for the U.S. collectors. There is the side benefit of being in New York City – not to be underestimated – but one can't argue with the weather in Florida either. It's hard to do both and there is no wrong answer here. This time I'll be visiting the Mouse City. For the Liberty Seated collectors, there are a few things to be aware of:

- The PCGS table (#108) will have the Simpson collection of Gobrecht Dollars on display. The set is complete barring one coin – the 1836 Judd -61, which is a unique reeded edge variety. For most collectors, a single Gobrecht Dollar would constitute "completion" but clearly this is not the same sort of endeavor. PCGS will have a color brochure of the set which is free.
- If the Simpson set inspires you, you can visit Dave Perkins' table (#1528) where a number of Gobrecht Dollars will be for sale, including a large selection of circulated pieces, the kind that will only cost you one arm instead of two. You'll be able to write the check with the one arm that is left.
- Also at holding court at Perkins' table will be our own Gerry Fortin. Gerry will have his usual inventory and is also working on a large group of love tokens from Eric Streiner. Streiner does nothing in a small way and it will be exciting to see this collection.
- Rich Uhrich will be at #712 and have on display something not seen often – an 1838-O Capped Bust half (9 known) and an 1853-O No Arrows half (4 known). A quiz for our readers – when was the last time these two issues both appeared in a single auction? As a side note, Kevin Flynn and John Dannreuther will shortly be coming out with a book on the 1838-O half that can be ordered from Mr. Flynn at kevinjflynn88@yahoo.com.
- The LSCC meeting will be held at 9am Friday, January 9, in room W224C. The FUN show is in the west hall this year, I mention this because if you mistakenly land in the north or south hall you are looking at a 10 or 15-minute walk to the correct location. [Editor: Late breaking notice from John Frost: This meeting will be recorded and the recording should be available within a week via the LSCC website at www.lscweb.org. For those of you unable to attend the LSCC meeting at FUN, the meeting will be recorded and available for viewing about a week after the meeting.]
- Heritage Auctions features the usual cornucopia of U.S. coin goodness. I call particular attention to the set of patterns of the year 1792. It is by far the finest such set ever put together, a group the collector started in the 1960s and chock-full of finest knowns and unique specimens. Even if you can't bid, do yourself a favor and check them out at the lot viewing – these are really neat coins.



Quarter of the Month

by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

1872 Quarter?

Happy New Year! While I am looking forward to this column reaching its five-year anniversary during 2015, over the past year I have gone from usually having the next 6-8 columns pretty well planned out in advance to sometimes wondering what to write about next month. So, I was particularly pleased to receive an email a couple of weeks ago from a club member with an interesting question and a quarter variety I had not seen before. He had read an entry in the *Cherrypicker's Guide 4th Edition Volume 2* for an 1872 quarter with a dramatically repunched date. Such a variety isn't listed in Briggs and I had never seen one, so I put researching the 1872 on my to-do list and went back to my paying job for a couple of weeks.

A little holiday down time afforded an opportunity to look into this mystery a bit further. The photo from the *Cherrypicker's Guide* (Figure 1) shows a dramatically doubled date. I first rechecked Larry Briggs' *Comprehensive Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Quarters* to make sure we both hadn't missed something already published. Satisfied that it was indeed unlisted, I then went to the *Gobrecht Journal Index* for the first 100 Issues. Of course, I got distracted in the collective volumes for a while and learned a few more things that were

new to me, but in the end confirmed that such a doubled date was thus far unreported.

My personal quarter collection is very heavily skewed towards no motto quarters and I have never owned an 1872 so the next step was to consult the trusty Heritage Auction archives. It took less than a minute of looking at the dates on the pictured 1872 quarters (Figure 2) to realize that the date on the coin in the *Cherrypicker's Guide* was either far too large or the exergue of the coin far too small for the pictured coin to be a quarter. So, off to Gerry Fortin's webbook at www.seateddimevarieties.com where the coin in question was quickly identified as an 1872 F-106 seated dime (http://www.seateddimevarieties.com/date_mintmark/1872_106page.htm). Though this turns out to be the first non-quarter of the month, the mystery was solved and now we know why the variety isn't listed in Briggs.

Note: The *Cherrypicker's Guide* is now in its 6th Edition and, not owning a copy, I am not sure if this error in the 4th Edition was corrected in subsequent editions.



Figure 1. 1872 quarter dollar date (?)

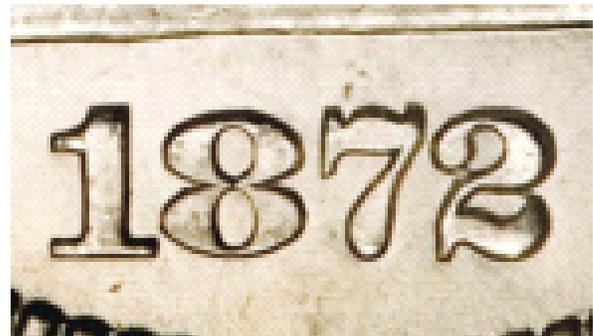


Figure 2. 1872 Quarter Dollar date



The Strike Zone

by Rich Hundertmark, LSCC #2347

Quick Observations on the Market - Cleaned or Dipped Liberty Seated Dimes and Half Dimes

Modified fly fishing proverb of the month:

All the romance of coin collecting exists in the mind angler and is no way shared by the coin.
- borrowed with appreciation from Harold F. Blaisdell, *The Philosophical Fisherman*, 1969

Hi friends,

Recently, I have been selling parts of an old estate collection, of which a couple of small denomination Liberty Seated coins were found in the midst of a sea of Morgan Dollars. The coins for discussion, an 1842 Dime in EF and a 1872 Half Dime in AU, both appeared to have been cleaned, most probably quite some time ago. Neither coin could be attributed with a variety premium.

Both pieces were subsequently put up on eBay for sale and properly described as cleaned for the aforementioned grades. My rule of thumb in estimating market value for cleaned material is basically to ballpark price at 50% the grade and to use "minus one grade" as a second check (i.e., a nice EF that has been lightly dipped might fetch about what a VF would go for). So how did this theory pan out?

First, the 1842 "With Stars" Variety 2 dime has a fair market value by *Numismedia* of \$115 in EF, so \$57 would be the expectation. The second

price point, \$69 in VF would be the upper limit. The sale result was \$50, not quite the expectation but a reasonable result.

The second coin, the 1872 "Legend" Half Dime has a \$80 fair market value in AU so \$40 would be the expectation. The second price point check, \$39 in EF basically the same. The coin sold for \$28, well below the expectation but still for more money than a VF at \$22 fair market value.

My conclusion? There is definitely a market for properly graded Liberty Seated coinage that has been identified as cleaned, with a value of somewhere between 40% and 50% of a problem free original piece a good initial estimate of market price. I also might guess that this market exists because of the popularity of Liberty Seated coinage and the amount of dates and varieties in the series weighed against the finite budgets of many collectors.



LSCC Member in the Spotlight:

John Okerson

by Tony Barreca, LSCC #2151

Note from Tony: As a relatively new member of the LSCC, I am most pleased to have John's participation in this column. His enthusiasm is tangible and we look forward to a long membership in our club!

When did you first become interested in coin collecting and numismatics? Was there a specific experience or set of experiences that triggered it? What series did you start collecting when you did?

1955, at age 8. All of my siblings shared a newspaper route and also participated in 4-H with gardening and poultry. We worked diligently to earn money with plans for college. The newspaper route required collecting \$1.31 every other week, so most of what I saw was a dollar bill, a quarter, a nickel, and a penny.

None of my siblings seemed interested but my Father introduced me to a man in a nearby town who was a coin collector. He suggested collecting pennies by date and mintmark using a 100 tube box. My Father also took me from St. Simons Island, GA to Jacksonville, FL for a coin show.

I remember an older gentleman who delighted in selling me quarters for 35 cents. They were average circulated Barber quarters, but I was excited! By 1960, we had moved to Valdosta, GA (a much bigger town) where I continued the 4-H projects but not the newspaper route.

Within a year or two, I was going downtown to trade with the banks, and even went into what must have been a bar/café. I got an 1899 Barber half dollar from their coin till! Silver dollars were too large a denomination for me then, but I collected pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and halves barely crossing into the 19th century.

Starting in 1961, I attended the Choate School in Wallingford, CT, and my collecting slowed dramatically. Silver dimes became an interest in 1965, as we needed to determine the purity of silver in them as a part of chemistry lab. From 1966-1970, I worked two jobs most every summer week, one in construction and the other waiting tables. I looked through whatever coins I had access too, and would often acquire silver coins from the till.

My Father agreed to buy the silver coins from me at a premium, so I had incentive. Our agreement was that I had to earn a specific amount of money each summer

– anything beyond that was mine to use as I saw fit. I got lots of early Lincoln pennies and a few Indian head pennies, but he wasn't interested in them as best I knew.

As I graduated from University of Virginia and had access to more money, my interests grew.

How did you initially become interested in Liberty Seated (LS) coins? Which LS denominations do you focus on currently? Previously?

I started with Capped Bust Half Dimes, but quickly found more of the Liberty Seated dates at more reasonable prices than the R-5, R-6, and R-7 coins I needed. It is tough to find ANYONE who sells much more than a sampling of CBHD, but I found Gerry Fortin's web site for Liberty Seated Dimes and found a new home!

Obviously, he carries more than just one denomination but Liberty Seated Dimes were my entry point to more serious LS coins. Now, I collect LS Half Dimes, LS Dimes, LS Quarters, and LS Halves plus a pair of LS Dollars for my type set. I also collect three-cent silver, twenty-cent pieces, and a few Trade Dollars.

My Liberty Seated dimes collection is the largest group with about 150 unique coins, mostly because Gerry has so many available and lists over 1,440 in his web book. I still focus on half dimes and hope a comprehensive half dime book with top-notch illustrations will be released. I have eighty of the Capped Bust half dimes and another forty-five Liberty Seated half dimes. Lately, my interests have grown to include silver coins with cuds and rotated reverse from before 1892.

Within the series of LS coins you focus on, do you consider yourself a variety collector? If so, what is your approach to variety collecting?

(Continued on page 10)



LSCC Member in the Spotlight *Continued from page 9)*

I would say yes. In February 2014, an EAC member introduced me to the concept of collecting all of the varieties of a specific date, the 1804 half cent. That approach has migrated to my other denominations.

I still want specific years first, then work to add the varieties listed in the *Red Book*, *CDN* newsletters, or Gerry Fortin's Open Registry listings. My last step is to try collecting all of the varieties of each date.

One of my friends is interested in what I term "year collecting" and I am close to trying it myself. I have picked 1833 and have one or more of each denomination save for the quarter, which is a Bust coin. I try very hard to buy the books first, read them and then start into a set.

Earlier dated coins are easier to find quality books, particularly as specialists begin releasing web books. I have Al Blythe's books on half dimes, Valentine's books on half dimes, Larry Briggs' book on quarters, and all four of Bill Bugert's books on LS Halves plus online access to his earlier book. I await Bill's two remaining volumes and Brian Cushing and Dick Osburn's book on dollars too. I have the new twenty-cent book from Lane Brunner and John Frost too.

How long have you been an LSCC member? In your opinion, what are the main advantages of belonging to the club?

Just a few months. I like the association with a great bunch of folks. I wish there were meetings closer to me but hope that the ability to record and rebroadcast meetings comes to fruition. When I contact a dealer or book seller and describe my interests, I often list my EAC, JRCS, and LSCC numbers in my second or third email with them. It is easy to know that I am seriously interested.

Do you ever participate in Club activities? If so, which ones? Have you ever visited the Clubs message boards? Attended a meeting in person? Which activities could you see yourself participating in at a future time? Have you ever actively recommended that a collector friend join the LSCC? If not, why not?

I use the LSCC message boards through Gerry's web site and am proud to get responses from almost everyone I write to. Video conferencing seems the best I can do.

I have tried to get a young associate to join, but money seems a problem even at age 38.

In your collecting career, what was the greatest coup you ever pulled off when purchasing a coin? Your biggest mistake?

Buying an R-7 CBHD with cud was my greatest coup.

I try to avoid mistakes but buying a second Al Blythe book was clearly one. Not buying a higher percentage of certified coins is a major mistake I have made, but budget constraints in retirement preclude many nice pieces. I prefer coins centered about VF35 +/- 15 points. When I go below that range, I often wish I had waited for a nicer coin. Sometimes a nice coin with CAC approval pops up and "speaks" to me. It soon finds a new home.

Do you think of the hobby as being a form of investment as well? If so, how do you approach your use of coins as an investment vehicle?

I do! I assuredly hope so anyway.

I don't expect to make a windfall within a year or two, but over the long run I look for appreciation. I try to limit my percentage of coins to 10-20% of my investment portfolio and usually lump my precious metal possession in that percentage. I find it MUCH more fun to buy a rare coin in silver than to buy another 100 ounce bar of silver!

On a more personal note, what is your work and career?

I was an airline pilot for 32 years. I started with Southern Airways, which merged to become Republic Airlines, merged again to become Northwest Airlines (aka NWA Airlines), and then merged with Delta Airlines. I've flown planes ranging in size from 18 seaters to 403 seaters. My last three years were based in Detroit, MI while living in Memphis, TN.

What other hobbies/interests do you have besides numismatics?

Genealogy is my primary interest. I have over 142,000 people in my tree and it is posted on Ancestry.com and on WorldConnect. I show multiple connections back to Adam and Eve, every US President, etc.

What is your greatest or most memorable personal achievement?

Flying airplanes for many years without an accident or injury.



The Man with the Five Dollar Bill

(more on the silver coin shortage 1851-1853)

By Jim Laughlin, LSCC #876

In last month's article, an impression may have been left that there were only two ways to explain the denomination and amounts struck by the Mints in 1851: that they were either specifically requested by the individual bullion depositors or they were struck under the orders of mint using the "bullion fund", so as to have coin on hand to pay off bullion depositors as soon as possible (Per the Coinage Act of 1837). The third way that wasn't mentioned was through the actions of the Secretary of the Treasury and his Department administering the U.S. Treasury. The Secretary was responsible to receive all taxes, duties, imposts, and excises, and to pay all debts authorized by Congress. The Secretary occasionally did transfer coin (likely foreign or worn U.S. coin) from the Treasury to the Mints to be re-coined and the new coin was then returned back into the US Treasury. Occasionally the newspapers of the day gave some insight of the amount of moneys involved but I have yet to see any indication what denominations the Treasury may have requested to be coined. The following is an example of business at the New York Sub-Treasury in 1847 about a year into the war with Mexico:

July 15, 1847, New York Daily Tribune
COMMERCIAL and MONEY MATTERS.
There is now in the Sub-Treasury here two and a half millions of specie. The receipts of the Custom House are large, averaging about \$125,000 per day. A half million is being sent to the Philadelphia Mint for coinage and within a month two million have been sent to New Orleans for the same purpose. Yesterday half a million was paid out at the counter of the Sub-Treasury on drafts from Washington. The New Orleans Bulletin says the Government has ordered in all six millions to that point, from the North, and that the transportation and insurance cost 1½ per cent, so that the whole cost to the dear people of moving this coin under the beautiful Sub-Treasury is \$67,500.

Likely somewhere buried in the 1847-1848 New Orleans mintages are the two million dollars' worth transferred by the Treasury from New York to the New Orleans Branch Mint for re-coinage. No

doubt these funds were being transferred closer to "the front" to facilitate the war effort.

All through 1851, 1852, and right up to mid-1853, the newspapers across the nation carried stories of the shortage of silver coins plaguing the East. The following are a few examples from the period:

February 7, 1851, New York Daily Tribune
COMMERCIAL and MONEY MATTERS.
 ...The Scarcity of silver continues and small dealers are very much annoyed by the want of change. Some of them have adopted the expedient of issuing tickets for small sums. This, although illegal, is convenient. At Thompson's office, 64 Wall Street the premiums paid for specie are 2½ per cent for American halves, quarters, dimes and half dimes. 2 per cent for Spanish change. Gold Dollars are for sale at 1½ per cent premium....

February 25, 1851, Daily Alta California
 From the Journal of Commerce, New York (no date given but probably November or December, 1850)

...The smaller pieces of gold coin are becoming scarce, and this scarcity must continue, as the Philadelphia Mint cannot furnish small coins for currency, and at the same time make prompt returns to depositors.

At the present time, silver coin of all denominations is at a premium; American half and quarter dollars are from 2 to 2½ per cent; dimes and half dimes from 3 to 4 per cent; and Spanish and Mexican dollars from 4 to 5 per cent.

March 28, 1851, Sacramento Daily Union (CA)

Hon. Samuel D Ingram of New Jersey, former Secretary of the Treasury proposal to lighten weight of silver coin (1829-1831 under Jackson), has recently published an interesting paper on the monetary system of this country in which he suggests a remedy for the inconvenience and loss to trade resulting from the premium of three percent, and is being so rapidly

(Continued on page 14)



LSCC Education Director *Continued from page 4)*

Double dimes 1875-1878

Minted for circulation for only 2 years

- Plus 2 more years as proof-only issue
- Biggest flop in U.S. coinage history... you be the judge

Irony: this series actually caused a short-changing problem!

Liberty Seated Collectors Club Page 7

The biggest flop in all of U.S. coinage, this coin only lasted 2 years for circulation issues, and it was known by all before the end of 1875, the first year, that the denomination would not last. Proofs were minted for collectors for two additional years before someone said "Enough of this nonsense" and abolished the denomination.

You be the judge as to why this coin was a flop. [Step through the animation]

The pictures are to scale... first the quarter.... Then the twenty-cent piece. [next] The quarter... twenty cent piece.

Now, how could anyone be confused? [sarcastic]

Perhaps the greatest irony of all is that the coin that was supposedly meant to solve a short-changing problem actually *created* a short-changing problem! One that really didn't exist before.

Example of PowerPoint Speaker Notes

It is also my goal to have recordings of our most popular presentations. As many of you know, member Paul Kluth and I have been experimenting with webcasting and recording meetings and educational sessions. In last month's *E-Gobrecht*, Paul wrote of a local coin club meeting where he actually played a pre-recorded session of an LSCC presentation, with audio, recorded in Rochester.

The legendary 1876-CC
One of our most famous rarities

- Often thought of with the 1804 dollar, 1894-S dime
- 10,000 ordered and minted, but never released
- Some left mint as souvenir assay coins, or keepsakes
- All still on hand ordered in early 1877
- Fewer than 20 known

Playing Pre-recorded Sessions

This is just another means where we aim to provide easy access to LSCC education materials, for all of our members to utilize. This method can be

valuable to those members who do not excel at giving presentations themselves or otherwise would feel more comfortable hearing how the presentation's author would present the session, before presenting it themselves.

Availability and Access

As we create our library of presentation materials and recordings, we will be enhancing the LSCC website and will incrementally post the materials there as they become available. Stay tuned here in the *E-Gobrecht* and the website for our progress.

It is our intention to have multiple flavors of templates, supporting both wide-screen and narrow-screen format. We also plan to have both white background and colored background templates, so that speakers can choose the best version for their presentation environment. Recordings will be compressed to allow manageable file sizes.

We expect some speakers will want to take the master copies of the materials and then tailor or edit them as needed to suit their audience and the time available for their presentation. We wholeheartedly encourage this approach. The materials can be used as a starting point for members creating their own programs or they can be used as is.

Moving Forward

We have a number of members that have expressed their interest to become more involved with the LSCC but are faced with very limited time availability. Utilizing existing education materials at local shows and coin club meetings can be one way to make a significant contribution to the LSCC without a huge time investment. And you will find it very rewarding as well.

If you have any materials you would like to provide for consideration or if you have any suggestions or requests, please send me email at john.frost@doubledimes.com. There is a lot of work to do, but the entire LSCC leadership team is excited about what this initiative will mean to the club's continued growth and success.



2014: A Year in the Life of a Half Dollar Collector

by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

2014 has been a good year for me, both personally and numismatically speaking. I like to take a look back around this time of year and see what I have added to my collection. Many members enjoy reading about other member's success and I believe sharing acquisitions in this manner demonstrate to newer collectors of Liberty Seated coinage that Liberty Seated collecting is a marathon not a sprint.

While I usually have a short list of coins I am targeting, I don't as a rule have a must-buy coin or coins. As we Liberty Seated collectors know quality material is scarce so if you go in with a must-buy attitude you will most likely come away with a coin you won't be happy with. Patience is paramount in the Liberty Seated series. As usual, there were some interesting surprise acquisitions this year that weren't on my radar. Here are a few of the highlights.

- The biggest personal achievement for me this year was the discovery of a new die marriage (my first) in the 1850-O issue. I look forward to writing it up in the *Gobrecht Journal* next year.
- After six years I finally finished my short set of Carson City Half Dollars with a nice coin. The 1877-CC WB-8 (R-6) with a high and tight mintmark; it grades PCGS VF30 and is tied for second finest known of that variety. I wanted an XF for the set but an R-6 die marriage in VF that complements my set works well.
- The next was a nice surprise, the 1876 WB-106 Large over Small Date. With only about a dozen currently known, this one is tied for third finest known at PCGS AU58. First publicized in Wiley/Bugert's *The Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dollars* over twenty years ago, this is a rare variety.
- Other rare die marriages I added this year include the 1861-O WB-1a PCGS VF35 (R-5) and the 1876-S WB-43 Type II reverse PCGS F15 (R-7). I also upgraded a well recognized semi-key date the 1857-S PCGS XF45, a nice original coin. Other tough holes filled were 1841 PCGS VF35, 1845 PCGS XF45, 1872 PCGS XF45, and an 1874-S PCGS VF35. In all I was able to add thirteen quality Liberty Seated half dollars and a very nice 1849 Liberty Seated Dollar PCGS XF45 (completing my denomination set) to my collection this year, not a bad haul.

Several years ago a Half Dollar survey was done and I noticed most collections listed had less than one hundred half dollars. Noting this, I made it a personal goal to get to one hundred Liberty Seated Halves. After ten years of collecting Liberty Seated Half Dollars I am sitting at exactly one hundred Seated Halves. Another goal attained this year.

(Continued from page 3)

son of Texas, and is on display courtesy of Simpson and Legend Numismatics of New Jersey. The set will be displayed at the PCGS booth, Number 108. The 10 Gobrecht Dollars in the Simpson Collection range in grade from PCGS PR62 to PR65, all are Condition Census, and many are the finest graded.

W. David Perkins will have 11 Gobrecht Dollars 1836-1839 at his table 1528. These dollars are duplicates from the Julius Korein Collection and will be available for sale at the Perkins table at the FUN Convention. Perkins can be contacted at wperki@attglobal.net, or cell phone 303-902-5366.

We hope to see many of you at the LSCC Meeting at the FUN Convention January 9, 2014.

John Frost will be hosting a club table at the Tri-Lakes Coin Show in Hot Springs Arkansas Jan 16-18. There will also be a TBA presentation at the show. This is a new show for the club, we hope club members in the area will stop by the table and say hello. Thanks John.

The new *Gobrecht Journal* continues to get raves and is responsible for three new sign-ups at Hartford in November. Make it a goal in the New Year to enjoy the best of your club. The entire Regional Team wishes you and yours a healthy, happy, and prosperous New Year.



(Continued from page 11)

withdrawn from the banks and public treasury for the purpose of exportation as to justify the apprehension that in a short time there will be nothing left for the ordinary purposes of trade and circulation but personal paper and "shin plasters."

Mr. Ingram proposes, as a remedy for this evil, that Congress authorize the mint to produce a limited number of silver coins of various denominations less than a dollar, so much lighter than those now in use as to prevent their exportation, and that they be made a legal tender only for sums not exceeding ten dollars.

It is not expected by this policy, to check the exportation of silver dollars which Mr. Ingram thinks will continue until the country is completely drained of them. The want of the smaller denominations of coin for the purposes of trade is growing very serious in the Atlantic States and certainly requires a speedy remedy...

Interesting that the former Secretary basically wrote off the silver dollar back in 1851. While not too much detail given here, the framework of the proposal is remarkably similar to what Congress eventually adopted two years later in February 1853.

May 29, 1851, Sacramento Transcript (CA)
Dimes are now so scarce in the Eastern States. Owing to the large shipments of that coin to California that a premium of 5 percent is paid for them. The Yankees, when they start for California, fill their pockets with this small coin, because in paying expenses on the Isthmus of Panama, eight dimes will pass as a dollar. The New Granadians should get their eyes open, and stop that game, or they will soon find to their sorrow, that they have "plenty of the dimes", while their currency generally will become mighty "short."

October 21, 1852, Indiana State Sentinel
(Indianapolis, Indiana)

Advertisement.

Specie Wanted—At the office of John Wollet & Co.
American Dollars and Halves...\$1.01½
American and Spanish Quarters....\$1.02
Dimes...\$1.02 ½
Half-Dimes....\$1.03

December 8, 1852, Daily Alta, California

MARKETS

...Coinage at the US Mint, Philadelphia—The aggregate coinage at Philadelphia for the month of October falls short \$1,000,000 in value compared with the coinage for September last, while the number of pieces coined is 1,200,000 more. The increase in pieces is mainly the three cent coin, of which 2,666,800 were coined, amounting to \$80,004. In the absence of the larger denominations of silver coins, which at present bear a premium of three of four per cent, the three cent coins are much in demand. Notwithstanding the large number of these coined in September and October, the Treasurer of the Mint has few left....

February 14, 1853, Sacramento Daily Union (CA)
We clip the following from the letter of the Boston correspondent of the San Francisco Herald:

If you Californians would contrive to find a silver mine, or placer, you would lay us in this antique part of Christendom, under as great obligations as you did the whole world when you found the aurean treasure. There is a terrible scarcity of "change" here. There is a terrible abundance of inconvenience. Always an article of commerce, in addition to the part it has played in currency, silver is doubly so now, just as wheat increases in value when people most need it. It is disappearing almost as rapidly as did our first gold currency, half a century ago, and for the same reason—the legal value of silver coins being very different from their real value. It would perhaps amuse you, were you to see some of the stuff that passes for "change" with us. A friend of mine had occasion to be short three dollars in silver the other day, at a late hour, and the collection of coins that he made ought to have been preserved for a numismatic collection. "Nine pences" that looked as if they might have been used as a pocket piece by the little children in these days when the sons of God loved the daughters of men; "four pences" that must have been put in circulation from the mint that Adam, of course, established after he had the first writ of ejectment ever mentioned served on him; and "quarters" that, from their venerable appearance, were entitled to at least thirty-two quarterings--made up the assortment, with some three of four pieces mostly nondescript and which were, perhaps, "tin" in a double sense. There was actually one pine tree shilling in the lot, a specimen of that coinage issued when Massachusetts asserted her sovereignty two

(Continued on page 15)



(Continued from page 14)

hundred years ago, and pieces of which occasionally "turn up" in old houses. The present state of things call loudly upon Congress for action, but that honorable body is too busy in settling "the spoils" question, it is presumed, to pay any large amount of attention to a matter in which all are more or less interested. Perhaps your State, or some other country now engaged in pouring Pactolean streams into the great ocean of commerce, may finally regulate the matter by substituting silver for gold.....

April 29, 1853, Daily Alta California

Letter from Boston correspondent, dated March 26, 1853

Our money market is a shade easier since my last, and stocks have gone up a shade. The street rates for money are now 8 to 10 per cent. Specie is so scarce that Rhode Island banks have issued fractional notes of \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75.....

April 6, 1853, Daily Alta California

Letters from New York

...Speaking of omnibuses reminds me of a genius who has created considerable amusement in the community within the past week and who passes under the soubriquet of "the man with the five dollar bill". You are probably aware that since the great influx of gold from California small silver coins have been almost driven out of the country and that brokers now sell small change for bills or gold at four per cent premium. A very large quantity of the change goes into the hands of omnibus drivers, bar keepers and proprietors of restaurants who sell it to the brokers who again sell it to the expenders, and this continual profit is drained from the pockets of eaters, drinkers and riders. Our "man with the five dollar bill" never has anything smaller, and has for weeks ridden the omnibuses, imbibed freely at the bars, and wallowed dozens of the "natives", in payment for which he has continually tendered the eternal five dollar bill which nobody would change for so small an amount. He was hauled up before the police a few days since on a charge of false pretenses but no case being made out, he and his five dollar bill were let loose again to prey upon the community. Were it not for the immense numbers of three cent pieces afloat we should be at a decided loss for change.

So when you contemplate an early Liberty Seated dime, you might think back at the times these coins formed the basis of commerce in America. Who knows, it may have been secreted "for emergencies" in a vest pocket by the "man with the five dollar bill."

~~~~~

Newspaper Sources:

Non-Californian: Library of Congress  
<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>

California: California Digital Newspaper Collection, Center for Bibliographic Studies and Research, University of California, Riverside, <http://cdnr.ucr.edu>



## Subscriber Correspondence

[*Editor's Note: In response to Jim Laughlin's column last month, Dave Ginsburg and Jim Laughlin engaged in multiple interesting emails.*]

From **Dave Ginsburg** (some idle thoughts in response to Jim Laughlin's "A Letter from the Director of the Mint, 1851"): In response to Jim Laughlin's questions about the intentions of the depositors of silver in 1851, I thought I'd see what insights the Mint Annual Report for 1851 could provide.

The Philadelphia Mint reported silver deposits of \$528,620.62 in 1851, of which \$328,870.32 (62%) was "United States Bullion", \$167,480.24 (32%) was "Foreign Coins" and the remaining \$32,270.06 (6%) was "Foreign Bullion."

The New Orleans Mint reported silver deposits of \$196,560.55, of which \$60,600.54 (31%) was United States Bullion, \$62,801.18 (32%) was Foreign Coins, and the remaining \$73,158.83 (37%) was Foreign Bullion.

Of the United States Bullion, Director Eckert has this to say: ". . .the whole of such silver, with a very inconsiderable exception, . . .[was] separated, by the refining process, from California gold." As a result, it would appear that about \$389,470.86 or 54% of the total \$725,181.17 of silver that was deposited in the mints in 1851 wasn't actually deposited intentionally and, therefore, the Mint staff might very well have had significant discretion over the denominations that were minted from this metal.

Regarding the Foreign Coins, I think it is very possible to infer (from Carothers' *Fractional Money* and other sources) that this represented receipts of underweight Mexican and Latin American silver coins that had been received by the Government (the Post Office, Customs, etc.). Presumably, coins minted from Government deposits would have been delivered to the various sub-Treasuries, where they would have been used to meet the Government's expenses (payroll for Government employees, etc.).

What also seems clear from the mintage records is that, after the 3 cent pieces, the Philadelphia

Mint (or its depositors) thought that dimes were the most useful (followed by half-dimes) while in New Orleans, half dimes were considered twice as useful as dimes.

**From Dave Ginsburg (in a second email):** I was thinking of Jim's question about the "intentions of the depositors of silver," that is, why would people take silver to the mint to be coined (or re-coined), since silver was worth more as bullion than as American coins.

I included the quotation from the Mint Annual Report to show that just over half of the silver that was deposited came to the mints in the form, most likely, of unparted bars of California gold (such as were on the SS Central America) – therefore, those depositors probably thought of themselves as depositors of gold and the silver was just a by-product. That is, they did not primarily take into account the fact that they would lose money on the silver that was deposited in the Mint.

To my mind, depositing a bar of mixed gold and silver is a different commercial decision from deciding to deposit a quantity of worn silver coins or pure silver bullion. To the gold depositor, the loss on the silver value was probably a minor consideration, compared to the loss the silver depositor would take.

For the Government depositors, of course, it wasn't a commercial decision – they were obliged to deposit foreign coins in the mint to be re-coined.

From **Jim Laughlin** (in response to Dave Ginsburg): David, you caught the issue I was struggling with and the one I couldn't come up with any firm documentation about. During the period 1837 to April 1853, did foreign silver coin that was paid into various Government offices, get forwarded to the Mint for re-coinage into U.S. coin?

I've only come across a few rather shaky inferences that the Mint did receive some foreign silver coin that was paid into the Government for some taxes and or for some land sale receipts that were re-coined into U.S. coin. Every time it was rather

(Continued on page 17)



## Subscriber Correspondence (Continued)

(Continued from page 16)

sketchy and left me with the impression that there may have been widely divergent practice of which Department accepted what type of coin and what they did with those coin receipts. I just haven't had any luck finding a real good explanation of how the Treasury and sub-treasury handled coin, how they interacted with the Custom Houses and the other federal agency that took in coin receipts, and how these Institutions interacted with the Mint and the Mint bullion fund, regarding obtaining-transferring coin. (I know it changed over time, at least at San Francisco). I suspect the Mint would not have willingly undertake a re-coining of foreign coin if it resulted in "a loss" of the dollar value of the foreign coin transferred to them on the books, unless maybe it was on someone else's "books" like the Treasury. I'd sure be interested in being referred to a source if you know of one. As I recall, as good as Carothers is, he doesn't go into the interaction of the Government Departments and how coin moved between them.

In one of my drafts, I did have this but ended up cutting it as the article was way too long (I also had that Patterson was being heavy criticized for how long Philadelphia was taking to coin all the California Gold, which had resulted into calls in Congress to mover the Mint in total to New York, or if nothing else build an additional Mint in New York (New Yorkers were ticked at the cost and trouble that they had to go through unloading the bullion and re-ship it to Philadelphia...which ended up with NY getting an Assay Office). How this interacted with the New York Postmaster is anybody's guess, but might be why the letters got published in the first place, interesting times...). While I haven't written next month article, I probably will lead off with something brief about this as a follow up. I have a few articles of merchants complaining about the coin shortage. Also, there was an article blaming the East Coast dime shortage on the Argonauts buying up all the dimes to take with them to spend while crossing the Isthmus, where dimes traded at 12½ cents...anyway some "color" articles on the 1851-1853 coin shortage.

I appreciate the data from the 1851 Mint Re-

port. With 54% per cent, I can roughly figure that half was on Government account and the other half chosen by the depositors themselves. That's probably the best were going to come up with, unless someone had a lot of time to research the National Archives. I have most of the 1851 Philadelphia mint-ages month by month, and am only missing the September, November and December data:

Dollars: 1,300-June

Half Dollars: 78,000-Jan, 12,500-Jun, 10,000-Jul; 18,000-Aug, 36,000-Oct.

Quarters: 16,000-Jun, 20,000-Aug.

Dimes: 297,500-Jan, 105,000-Feb, 24,000-Apr, 65,000-Jun, 47,000-Jul, 137,000-Oct.

Half Dimes: 164,000-Jan; 100,000-Feb; 128,000-Mar; 80,000-Jul; 40,000-Oct.

I have ¾ of the 1852 also gathered. The New Orleans for 1851 has been harder to find as I only have found January's mintage. New Orleans for 1852 I have the first 8 month returns. Eventually, I figure to present this in LSCC if I can complete them. (Bill already has my San Francisco returns for 1875-78 and 1884-1891).

The following may be of interest: it is an excerpt from Director of the Mint Thomas Pettit's response to a letter from D. Leavitt, President of the American Exchange Bank and is dated April 14, 1853 (14 days after the new Mint Act took effect). It was published in the Sacramento Daily Union June 1, 1853. The Banker was asking various question about the Mint affixing sticker to refined bars with their values stated.

Regarding bullion deposits...

3. *With regards to silver separated from gold, the Mint now pays full weight in silver dollars--. The former practice of paying in gold was, by consent of the Treasury Department, changed by the late Director, who after mature reflection was convinced of its impolicy and irregularity, The dollars paid for silver parted are of course at a premium, which the depositor may realize, either by sale in the bullion market, or to the Mint at our fixed price of \$1.21 per oz, say a 4 per cent premium.*

(Continued on page 18)



## Subscriber Correspondence (Continued)

(Continued from page 17)

In the first sentence there is a conditional “now” and it doesn’t tell us the date when the “late Director” changed the practice...I assume that was Eckert July 1851 to April 1853, not Patterson who went out in July 1851....but I don’t know.

I am sort of getting rummy here and need to turn it but wanted to send thanks for all the detailed data forwarded and how quick you came up with it.

From **Dave Ginsburg** (in response to Jim’s email):  
It’s a great pleasure to hear from you!

I’ve been following your articles in the **E-Gobrecht** with great interest since I am also interested in how coins were used in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, as told through contemporary documents.

By the way, if the deposits in 1851 of Foreign Coins were from the Government also (Post Office receipts, etc.), then an additional 32% of total silver deposits was for the Government. One wonders if the Government specified specific denominations in return or whether that was up to the Mint.

One thing I’ve discovered in studying the period is that one can’t make sweeping observations about coin use. Instead, one must look at specific geographic areas and go from significant situation or event to significant situation or event – things like the transition to reduced size gold coins from Old Tenor gold in 1834 or the Independent Treasury Act in 1846 or the California Gold Rush, etc.

Essentially, prior to 1847, Government receipts were deposited in commercial banks and the banks were able to use the coins to their own advantage (see my chapter reference below for further information). When the Independent Treasury Act went into force in 1847, the Government was required to only accept and pay out specie and its receipts were deposited in newly created sub-Treasuries which were generally required to deposit foreign coins in the Mints for recoinage. You can see the spike in deposits of foreign gold and silver

coin in the 1847 Mint Annual Report.

Also, during various periods there were different rules for paying Import Tariffs – sometimes they could be paid over time and sometimes they had to be paid in specie immediately. Unfortunately, I haven’t found a decent source for operating regulations of the Post Office, Custom Service, etc.

Regarding who would bear the cost of recoinage of underweight foreign coins: this was a recurring issue throughout the second quarter or third of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. While I haven’t conducted research into this question specifically, I have come across a variety of comments about the issue in Congressional hearings and the contemporary financial press. Roger Burdette may have located some specific documents when he did the research for his article on the introduction of the trime that he wrote for the fourth issue of his *Journal of Numismatic Research*. I’ll ask him.

As I recall, there is some discussion of recoinage in the Mint Reports of the later 1850s, as the new small cents were sold for Mexican silver, as a way of getting the underweight Mexican silver out of circulation.

I found your quotation from the Sacramento Daily Union very interesting. It seems to provide a reason for the continued minting of silver dollars after the 1853 Coinage Act and is something on which I don’t think any other researcher has remarked. (However, the mintage of silver dollars in the early-to-mid 1850s was so tiny that it’s clear that the Mint wasn’t paying all of the depositors of California unparted bullion with silver dollars.)

My primary interest is the New Orleans Mint and the use of gold coins in commerce, especially in the 1840s and 1850s, but I’ve found that I’ve had to broaden my interest to most of the 19<sup>th</sup> century in order to understand fully the 1840s and 1850s.

You may be interested in these two items:

(Continued on page 19)



## Subscriber Correspondence (Continued)

(Continued from page 18)

The first is a chapter I wrote for Doug Winter's *Gold Coins of the New Orleans Mint* in 2005. It's one of my earliest pieces of serious research and today I see only its flaws. However, I think it gives a decent overview of how gold was used in commerce and mentions, somewhat in passing, that, prior to 1847, the Government's receipts were deposited in commercial banks, so foreign coins didn't go to the Mint for recoinage.

My chapter starts on page 25 of the book; here is its address: <http://books.google.com/books?id=nFkJTM2Rzc0C&printsec=frontcover&dq=intitle:gold+intitle:coins+intitle:of+intitle:the+intitle:New+intitle:orleans+intitle:mint+inauthor:winter&hl=en&sa=X&ei=P19VLazNtW1sQSzkYAAQ&ved=0CDIQ6AEwAA#v=onepage&q&f=false>

The second is an article I wrote for the Southern Gold Society a few years ago that discusses the antebellum gold deposits at the New Orleans Mint. I've found that all of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Mint Annual Reports are available online and they sometimes also provide very interesting commentary. While the information has some inaccuracies and the commentary is intended for public consumption, at least the information is in a somewhat compact form and it's easy to collate. I used to have Excel spreadsheets showing the gold deposits at each mint, but lost them to a computer crash earlier in the year. Perhaps this winter I'll re-create them. Unfortunately, the information for silver deposits isn't as useful, but I'd like to put together the information anyway.

Here is its address: <http://www.southerngoldsociety.org/antebellum-gold-deposits-new-orleans-mint/>

I also prepared similar articles for the latest editions of Doug Winter's Charlotte and Dahlonega books and am preparing a chapter for his future Carson City update.

I've also been interested in the New York As-

say Office and the multi-year political struggle that lead to its establishment. I have in the back of my mind that I'd like to write an article about it someday, since no one else seems to have done so.

By the way, you might also find Cory Gilliland's article "The Financial Concerns of a Government Employee in the 1840s" in America's Currency 1789-1866 (COAC #2) to be of some interest.

I'll conclude here, so I don't overwhelm you. It is so nice to find someone who has a similar research interest!

From **Scott Grieb** (on another subject): As for the LSCC logos shown in the *E-Gobrecht* #119, I would vote for #2. #1 just looks like money and Liberty as shown on the coinage is to emulate the better ideals in society not just cash. #3 with the lettering overriding the motif looks crowded and unplanned.

#4, as is, is not good but the idea has merit; perhaps we could find an Augustus Saint Gaudens who could distill the idea of Liberty into a few lines, but until then I would stick with Gobrechts visualization and design.



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**Liberty Seated Collectors Club**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Membership fee: \$20.00 per year  
Fill in the above information and send it to:

**Dennis Fortier**  
**P.O. Box 1841**  
**Pawtucket, RI 02862**

Membership applications may also be downloaded from <http://www.lscweb.org/>.

## Reminder: Send in your dues payment!

### Membership update from Craig Eberhart, LSCC Secretary/Treasurer

Dues notices were mailed to current members in late September with a due date of October 31. We now have about 525 members that have renewed for the current year (volume 41, numbers 121-123). However, this means that I have yet to receive about 140 renewals. I would like to thank everyone that has already renewed and encourage our members in arrears to renew now before their name is removed from the current membership list in January 2015.

Checks should be made out to Liberty Seated Collector's Club and mailed to PO Box 712, Los Alamos, NM, 87544. Should writing a check and sending it by mail prove too onerous, you can now renew through PayPal by sending your \$20 dues payment to [LSCCdues@gmail.com](mailto:LSCCdues@gmail.com).

## LSCC Auction Items Wanted

As in most recent years (excluding 2014 when John McCloskey's retirement was the highlight), the officers conducted an annual auction to benefit the club's Treasury. With quality auction items and great participation from the membership, we have been able to reap a windfall, keep membership dues low (at \$20!), and complete some club projects (such as the LSCC display banners). In 2015, we are again planning an auction at the annual meeting at the ANA's World's Fair of Money.

Please consider donating a quality numismatic item for this year's benefit auction. In the past, items have included rare auction catalogues, Gobrecht medals, deluxe bound Liberty Seated books, and counter-stamped Liberty Seated coins but we are delighted to accept almost any quality item.

Contact LSCC Vice President Len Augsburger at [leonard\\_augsburger@hotmail.com](mailto:leonard_augsburger@hotmail.com) for additional information or to submit an item for the auction. Thank You!



## Free Advertisements

**Contemporary Counterfeits** (and Genuine Seated & Bust too!). Color images on my website [www.DaveWCoins.com](http://www.DaveWCoins.com). Also - get 1st shot at my new purchases by signing up for my "Making The Grade" e-newsletter. Just ask: [DaveWnuck@gmail.com](mailto:DaveWnuck@gmail.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).

**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.holtrararities.com](http://www.holtrararities.com) or call (931) 581-1890. Brad Holt has collected coins 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: [carlscoins@gmail.com](mailto:carlscoins@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** We buy, sell, and trade early U.S. silver coinage with an emphasis on Seated and Bust. Also accepting consignments and want lists. Call Brian at 603-767-7745 or contact Dick and Brian at [rarecoins@dickosburn.com](mailto:rarecoins@dickosburn.com)

**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.** 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)

**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), 717-533-2935 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. 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/>.

**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)

**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.



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

Craig Eberhart  
[craig@eberhart.us](mailto:craig@eberhart.us)

#### 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

#### **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**

[stephenpetty@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stephenpetty@sbcglobal.net)  
Director,  
LSCC Central Region

#### **Brian Cushing**

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

#### **John Frost**

[john.frost@doubledimes.com](mailto:john.frost@doubledimes.com)  
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 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 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@arrl.net](mailto: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.*

*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.*