

The Electronic Newsletter of the LIBERTY SEATED COLLECTORS CLUB

Manchester Regional meeting results were well beyond expectations!



Manchester, NH Show Summary by Gerry Fortin

At the July 29-30 Manchester, NH Coin Expo, the Barber Coin Collectors Society and the Liberty Seated Collectors Club jointly featured important coinage displays promoting the two clubs and hosted a combined regional meeting. The interest level from New England area collectors was well beyond expectations as over 20 people attended the Friday regional meeting. Gerry Fortin and John Frost provided an educational forum for attendees and explored the Liberty Seated and Barber coinage series by denomination and pitched the value of joining national clubs for enhancing collector hobby enjoyment. Many attendees were not LSCC or BCCS members but rather type collectors who had an interesting in learning more about specialized collecting of these series. After the regional meeting, three individuals became new LSCC members verifying that smaller show outreach is an important facet of new member recruitment.

Traffic at the display booths was brisk on Friday and Saturday. The general public and Manchester Coin Expo dealers took the time to review Gerry Fortin's Liberty Seated Dime collection certified by PCGS and the well de-

Liberty Seated Collectors Club

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The *E-Gobrecht* is a twice 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.

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drapery half dime in AU58, grade, sold for \$4,456.

An 1885-S dime in G6, with deep toning, did not sell.

An 1842-O small date quarter in F15, with nice toning, hit \$2,300. Three 1854-O huge O quarters in VG8, F15 and VF35 sold for \$1,151, \$2,300 and \$4,312, respectively. An 1855-S quarter in XF45 hit \$863, while an 1856-S in the same grade and well struck, with natural gray toning, was impressive at \$2,760. An 1859- \$12,650. S in VG10 and an 1860-S in F12 sold for \$1,035

Auction News by Jim Gray, LSCC #664

The Heritage Orlando and \$2,760, respectively. A light gray 1861-S in Sale featured an 1840-O with VF25 hit \$1,725, while a nice medium gray 1864-S in VF35 went for \$2,990. A decent and an underrated coin in this 1866-S in F12 hammered for \$1,495.

> An 1839 no drapery half-dollar in AU50, with a good strike and nice toning, realized \$2,668. An 1870-CC in F12 and original was impressive at \$4,888. An 1873 no arrows, open 3 half, with a good strike and untoned and graded AU58, with only one finer at NGC, soared to \$40,250. WOW!

> An 1872-CC dollar with UNC details and lightly stained but not bad, still managed



LSCC Hall of Fame Award Ceremony

In conjunction with the LSCC Annual Meeting at the 2011 World's Fair of Money in Chicago, IL, the newest member of the LSCC Hall of Fame will be inducted. Please try to attend and congratulate the new inductee.

Congratulations PCGS Registry Winners!

On July 25, 2011, the Professional Coin Grading Service announced the winners of the Registry Sets. A few LSCC members are honored with Best of Sets awards including:

- Gerry Fortin Best Classic Set of 2011, Liberty Seated Dimes, Circulation Strikes (1837-1891)
- Greenwich Collection Best Classic Set of 2011, Liberty Seated Quarters, Proof (1858-1891)
- Tradedollarnut Best New Set of 2011, Trade Dollars Basic Set, Circulation Strikes • (1873 - 1878)

Congratulations all and also the certificate winners!!

The E-Gobrecht Chat Room and Social Club By Paul Kluth, LSCC #1994

Chat Room Participation: Any subscriber can submit questions or comments related to any numismatic topic regarding the Liberty Seated Collecting Era. Send in your thoughts directly to the Editor at wb8cpy@arrl.net or to your Host at pcmdmp@msn.com --- Paul Kluth



Question:

It's the middle of Summer and not much going on with the heat and folks in the vacation mood... *except for the upcoming ANA Convention in Chicago!*

What are you looking forward to the most during your trip to the ANA (dining out with the spouse or coin buddies at some of the great eateries of Chicago, bourse hunts for that elusive numismatic item for your collection, selling some unwanted material, specialty activities like LSCC & other great clubs, the competitive exhibits, educational seminars, etc., etc...)?

What do you look forward to and what did you enjoy the most at the ANA?

Wanted!!! Exhibitors for the September Philadelphia Show

Please consider exhibiting your/part of your collection of Liberty Seated coins and/or related numismatic books or material. You need not have a complete collector nor condition census coins. Just having Liberty Seated coins will attract attention. Your efforts will enable you to show off what you have and increase collector interest in our series.

Contact Dennis Fortier, the LSCC Northeast Regional Director, at ricajun@msn.com for additional information or if you are interested.





Manchester, NH Show Report (Continued from page I)

signed Barber and Seated coinage display by John Frost. "Wows" became common place at both display tables as visitors studied rare coinage items seldom seen at a smaller regional show.



Club booth at the Manchester, NH coin show





Club hosts clowning around

Club hosts

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Regional News by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

Dear fellow LSCC members.

This month's edition of Regional News is written in the afterglow of the fun time enjoyed at the Manchester, NH

show and regional meeting. Seeing a large crowd of Type and Morgan collectors at a combined BCCS and LSCC meeting reinforced efforts to expand regional meetings to "smaller shows" and to involve those individuals who are unable to travel to national shows. Educational forums are the key to stimulating collector interest in our clubs and the Manchester regional program was tuned specifically for a general collector audience. John Frost and I thoroughly enjoyed participating in the Manchester, NH event and will plan similar activities in 2012.

On the heels of Manchester, our regional meeting program definitely accelerates in August and September with events throughout the United States. Several LSCC events are taking place at traditional national shows. However I am very proud of the regional director staff as new and smaller venues are added to the national line up.

The August ANA show brings LSCC club members to Chicago this year. Our annual meeting is set for Thursday August 18 at 9:00am. The meeting agenda is substantial including Hall of Fame and Kam Ahwash awards, club updates, discussion of LSCC medal project, and fund raising auction. The annual meeting is always the highlight of the year for club members and your attendance is important.

Early September brings the LSCC to Ohio and the first regional meeting to be held at the Ohio State Coin Show hosted by Central Director Steve Petty. Recently, Steve sent along the following

bulletin for LSCC members considering this meeting venue. Steve wrote, "The Midwest Regional Meeting of the Liberty Seated Collector's Club (LSCC) will be held in conjunction with the OHIO STATE COIN SHOW at Crowne Plaza Dublin, 600 Metro Place N. The meeting with be held on Friday, September 3, 2011 at 10:00 AM in Room 105. Stephen Petty will be presenting information on the club along with a presentation and show/tell on the seated 20c pieces minted from 1875 to 1878."

One week following the Ohio regional meeting, the LSCC finds itself back on the West Coast at the Long Beach Stamps and Collectibles Expo. West Regional Director, Craig Eberhart has scheduled a regional meeting on September 9 at 9:00am. Craig is presently developing meeting agenda and program and more details are forthcoming in the September E-Gobrecht issue.

The second week of September finds the LSCC at the Whitman Philadelphia Coin Expo. On September 16, Dennis Fortier will host a regional meeting. Leveraging the success of combined BCCS and LSCC effort at Manchester, discussions are underway for a similar approach at Philadelphia show. Again more information will be published in the next *E-Gobrecht* issue.

Stay tuned for developing details surrounding Seated Fest at the November 18 Whitman Baltimore show. Our club is attempting an ambitious event that will raise LSCC club awareness throughout the numismatic industry.

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The Budget Collector: Seated Deals & Steals Under a Hundred Dollars

Sixteenth in a Series

by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

This month the Budget Collector takes a brief hiatus while we review the upcoming Chicago ANA convention. My first ANA was in Chicago in 1991. I was a novice collector at the time and quickly overwhelmed. I didn't try again until the 2001 Atlanta ANA, and since then I've been to all of them.

LSCCers, take note of the following events:

• The fabulous Dick Osburn set of seated halves goes on the auction block Thursday, August 18th, at 5 P.M. in room #14. Even you aren't planning to bid, a visit to the lot viewing is well worth a couple hours. Pick a few of the coins you like the best and see how they do in the auction. Dick has previously exhibited much of his collection in Baltimore and there are a number of true museum pieces here - this is a "don't miss" opportunity! The Dick Osburn auction lots can be viewed online at

http://www.stacksbowers.com/auctions/auctionlots.aspx?auctionid=115&sessionid=211.

• Dick and Ruth Osburn will be presenting a Numismatic Theatre talk at 12 P.M. on Tuesday, August 16th, focusing on their life in numismatics. A great preview to the auction sale!

• The ANA Museum Showcase will feature 22 Gobrecht dollars from the Simpson collection. Simpson is well-known as a member of the Texas Rangers ownership group and has been widely collecting U.S. coinage. Although the exact exhibit coins haven't been revealed, I believe the intention is to display a complete type set of Gobrecht dollars. This will be an awesome display.

• The LSCC Annual meeting will take place on Thursday, August 18th, at 9 A.M. in room #4 of the convention center. John McCloskey and the club officers will hold forth on the club business and discuss current status. The always entertaining Brad Karoleff is on tap to call the club auction, which will feature some neat items available nowhere else. In addition, the Budget Collector is donating a couple lots which have been the subject of previous columns.

• The LSCC will be hosting a club table on Wednesday, August 17th. Stop by table # 1281 to rest for awhile and visit with your fellow collectors. Bill Bugert and Jason Feldman will be hosting.

• The Budget Collector will have an exhibit in the ANA exhibit area related to tokens and medals associated with Christian Gobrecht (see teaser image at the end of this column). It's a little bit on the historical side, but if you are into this sort of thing you will definitely want to look out for it. A big shout out to Mark Petty who assisted with the PowerPoint template for the display.

• I will let our editor confirm this, but a limited number of copies of Bill Bugert's New Orleans half dollar Register (volume III, covering 1840-1853-O NA), just published, will be available at the show.

• There are two events related to Carson City coinage, which typically draw a lot of crossover interest from the LSCC:

o On Wednesday, August 17th, James Hunt will be presenting a Numismatic Theatre at 1 P.M. on

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Quarter of the Month by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

The Liberty Seated Quarter Top 25 Variety Set appeared in *Gobrecht Journal* Issue 111 following a lengthy period of preparation and development and a great deal of help and input from many

sources. The intention for this column going forward is to take advantage of our editor's indulgence and flexibility in using this space to add to the information presented in the *Gobrecht Journal* article. The "Top 25" will be presented at the rate of about one per month with additional photos, attribution tips, updated information and anecdotal stories as appropriate.

The first variety is the 1839 very long claws. The photos presented here illustrate each of the three 1839 reverses – open claws (Figure 1), closed claws (Figure 2), and very long claws (Figure 3). Presumably the photos make the comparison and attribution of the different varieties straightforward without a great deal of explanation. Note the weakness in the left (facing) leg of the eagle – a feature common to all very long claws examples seen to date. The key to attribution, however, is the far left (facing) claw,



Figure 1: 1839 Quarter Dollar - Open claws







Figure 3: 1839 Quarter - Very Long Claws

which appears notably different for each of the varieties.

It has been suggested that there are two dis-



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Many thanks!

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Budget Collector (Continued from page 6)

the subject of the Comstock Lode and the Carson City Mint.

o On Thursday, August 18th, the Carson City Coin Collectors of America (CCCCOA) will meet at 1 P.M. in room #4.

• The Heritage pre-ANA Auction features the Daryl Haynor collection of proof Seated coinage, portions of which have been previously exhibited in Baltimore. Daryl has put together a selection of super eye-appealing proof Seated coinage - in person viewing is highly recommended. Especially choice pieces from the Haynor set have been reserved for Heritage's Platinum Night which takes place on August 12. The Heritage pre-ANA sale also presents the Golden Gate collection of 1855-S branch mint proofs - seated quarter, seated half, and three-dollar gold piece. Also found is an 1891-O "proof" quarter in an ANACS PR62 holder. I'm less convinced by that one - 1891-O quarters are known to come prooflike - but I do believe the 1855-S coins were deliberately struck so as to be "special," and previous auction results indicate that the market agrees.

All in all, a packed week is in the offing - see you in Chicago!



Sneak preview of Len Augsburger's Gobrecht exhibit for the ANA

Quarter of the Month (Continued from page 7)

tinct obverses paired with the very long claws reverse – one having the large beaded border (very rare) and the other having more typical denticles (merely scarce). Though I am not convinced that this is the case, the source of this suggestion is a most reliable and knowledgeable numismatist, and I cannot discount the possibility. The competing theory is that described in the *Gobrecht Journal* article that for some reason the denticles were struck higher than the rim around a portion of the coin's obverse and that uneven wear makes the same obverse appear different depending on wear. I continue to search for the coins that can be compared side-by-side to unequivocally prove that there are in fact two distinct obverses paired with the very long claws reverse. If anyone can provide such a comparison please get in touch with me through the *E-Gobrecht* editor or on the LSCC message board.

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Lots for the Upcoming LSCC Benefit Auction

The officers of the LSCC will conduct an auction of miscellaneous interesting numismatic items to benefit the club's Treasury; the funds will be used in efforts to promote the club and its activities. Please try to attend and bring your wallet.

 Date/Time: August 18, 2011, about 10:15 A.M. (at the end of the LSCC meeting)
Place: 2011 World's Fair of Money, Chicago, IL, Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, Room 4
Auctioneer: The ever entertaining Brad Karoleff. This will be an event to remember.

Here is a listing of the tentative items to be auctioned. Additional donations are allowed and encouraged up until auction time.

Lots and descriptions

- Original edition of Gobrecht Journal #1. Donated by Len Augsburger.
- Unique 1858 Liberty Seated half dollar, attractively counterstamped "2011 LSCC" Stamped and donated by Bill Bugert.
- Original document entitled "Report of the Examination of the Branch Mints at San Francisco and Carson City, November 19, 1872." Donated by Rich Uhrich.
- 1873 Trade Dollar, as featured in the *E-Gobrecht* Volume 7, Issue #1. Donated by Len Augsburger.
- Hardcover display books (two book set in hardcover slip case) of Eugene Gardener's Liberty Seated Quarter Collection. These books detail every LS quarter in Gene's collection with outstanding over-sized photographs and narratives. Donated by Gene Gardner and a wonderful keepsake of his collection.
- 1872 Liberty Seated dollar, NGC certified VF details, as feature in *E-Gobrecht* Volume 7, Issue #3. Donated by Len Augsburger.
- Leather bound copy number #10 of 10 of Bill Bugert's latest book, "A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume III, New Orleans Branch Mint, 1840-O to 1853-O NA." Donated by Bill Bugert.

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Upcoming LSCC Events

World's Fair of Money, ANA Convention, LSCC annual meeting, awards presentations, and programs, Chicago IL, August 18, 9:00 A.M.-10:30 A.M., Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, Room 4. Please contact John McCloskey for more information at john.mccloskey@notes.udayton.edu.

Central Ohio Numismatic Association, Dublin, OH, **September 3**, 10 A.M., Room 105, other details TBD. Pleaser contact Steve Petty for more information at <u>stephenpetty@sbcglobal.net</u>.

Long Beach Coin, Stamps, and Collectibles Expo, Long Beach, CA, regional meeting, **September 9**, 9 A.M., details TBD. Please contact Craig Eberhart for more information at <u>craig@eberhart.us</u>.

Whitman Coin and Collectibles Expo, Philadelphia, PA, regional meeting, September 16, details TBD. Please contact Dennis Fortier for more information at <u>ricajun@msn.com</u>.

Other events of interest

World's Fair of Money, 2011 ANA Convention

• Multitude of events - See page 6 for details

(Continued from page 12)

examining the reverse die cap piece, he concluded that the two were indeed mates, produced within a few strikes of each other.

Now I had seen three major 1873-CC errors, with evidence that a fourth in the Nevada State Museum that I couldn't find. Intrigued, I browsed the Heritage archives, and found a doubled struck 1873-CC Half Dollar, PCGS F12 that sold in November 2003.

This seemed like too many errors to occur by accident. Whether all of these coins initially passed through the hands of Dr. Lee is hard to say, but he clearly had someone on the inside of the Carson City Mint helping him out. Not only did he at least have two major CC errors, but he also owned an 1876-CC 20cent piece, which he sold at auction in New York in 1899. The '76-CC 20-cent piece is a coin that truly needed "connections" to acquire.

The Nevada State Museum's broadstruck/brockaged Trade Dollar has since graded AU55 at PCGS, despite the touch of solder on the rim and a light polishing (probably from being used as a watch fob). Despite not having any CC mintmark visible, and having no major die diagnostics to link it with that Mint, PCGS felt the history behind the piece was convincing enough to call the coin an 1873-CC on their label. The reverse die cap trade dollar graded AU58, although I am confident it is an uncirculated piece. The coin's mate, owned privately, is PCGS graded XF45.

I strongly believe more 1873-CC errors exist, waiting to be found. Regardless, the existing evidence is significant enough to indicate that someone at the Carson City Mint was having some fun with the Mint equipment, and a significant portion of it somehow wound up with Dr. Lee. Although Lee was not in Carson City in 1873, it's plausible he acquired them from a Mint employee years later. The fact that he had multiple, tremendous errors and an 1876-CC 20-cent piece seems like too much to be coincidence.

From **Dennis Fortier**: When we were all discussing starting a regional program, I felt New England was under served by the LSCC. With the success of Boston in March (5 new members) and now Manchester, NH (3? new members) it looks like my hunch was right. We've hit some fertile ground for recruitment. I hope the other regions have as much or more success. Many, many thanks to John Frost and Gerry Fortin for putting Manchester together - great success and all due to their efforts. Now it's on to Philly.



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The E-Gobrecht



Submitted by **Jason Feldman**, who submitted this on behalf of a Collectors Universe board member for publishing in the *E*-Gobrecht:

As numismatists, we often fantasize about what we'd do given the opportunity to play with the Mint's equipment. Error enthusiasts would salivate at the opportunity to strike whatever concoctions their hearts may desire—a veritable kid in a candy store. In 1873, it seems that the Carson City Mint had one such exuberant employee, who struck a series of errors on Trade Dollars and Half Dollars. Of course, there's always the possibility that these errors were produced by genuine accident, and managed to escape the Mint legitimately, but the high proportion of 1873-CC errors relative to other years indicates that at least one employee was using the Mint equipment in a most unorthodox and cavalier fashion.

The story began to unfold in 2008, when I was a summer intern at the Nevada State Museum. Going through the collection of Dr. Simeon L. Lee, I discovered a massively broadstruck and brockaged 1873 Trade Dollar, and shortly thereafter a reverse die-cap 1873-CC Half Dollar. After searching through museum records, I found evidence that a third error coin, another Trade Dollar error, should be present, but I never was able to locate it. Lee had been a prominent doctor in Carson City for much of the late 19th century, moving there in 1870. In late 1872, he moved to Pioche, Nevada, but moved back to Carson City in 1879, where he spent the remainder of his life. He died in 1927.

Lee had collected a broad array of items. His collections of coins, stamps, arrowheads, pottery, Indian baskets, ore samples, etc. all were donated to the State of Nevada by his wife in 1934. It wasn't until the early 1940s that the coins were inventoried by the newly founded Nevada State Museum, and the early accession cards indicate that that first cataloguer had very little numismatic knowledge. The Trade Dollar error was simply described as "Imprint of Trade Dollar dated 1873 and marked CC." This is odd, since the coin does not even display a CC mintmark (the reverse is fully brockaged with the imprint of the obverse). The coins then went on display, but must not have caught anyone's attention. They spent several years on display before being stored back in the vaults in 1950.

A 1943 Smithsonian examination of Dr. Lee's coins concluded that the "coins in the Lee Collection, are, on the whole, not very satisfactory examples of American coinage." The error coins were on display, meaning they had been excluded from this shipment of coins sent to Washington D.C. As a result, Dr. Lee's coins wallowed in the vaults for the next half century, before being again discovered in 2008.

Months after finding the two error coins in the Nevada State Museum, I saw a picture online of an 1873-CC Half Dollar that appeared to have been the mate to the reverse die-cap Half Dollar. Fred Weinberg had previously handled the coin in question, and after

Pe

Ever Consider a Numismatic Presentation?

Rich Jewell sent in the following information: The form below is an application for a Numismatic Presentation at the Pittsburgh ANA National Money Show October 13-15. The deadline date for filing is August 24th, 2011. The form is self explanatory! Send to the Education Department at the ANA in Colorado Springs, CO. You can also CC him at rcj2543@earthlink.net.

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COLUMN OF THE CALL	NUMISMATIC	AISMATIC THEATRE PRESENTATION PROPOSAL FORM			
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Dr. Eugene Bruder is constantly updating his website, <u>www.typecoins.com</u>, 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: <u>gene@typecoins.com</u>.

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, <u>dwloring@aol.com</u>.

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/

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<u>I am still looking for those Liberty Seated</u> <u>Quarter Cuds & major Rotated Dies</u>: Cuds, shattered dies and significant rotations on other U.S. series of interest too. Please reply directly to Paul Kluth at <u>pcmdmp@msn.com</u> or 443-259-7134. Hey, thanks for reading my ad..

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

<u>Wanted to Buy:</u> Nice, problem-free bust and seated material. We specialize in affordable collector coins. Puro's Coins and Jewelry, web: <u>www.vtcoins.com</u>, email: <u>puro@vtcoins.com</u>, 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 <u>davethomas333@hotmail.com</u> or 1-949-929-2830.

Two Half Dollar Die Variety Books for Sale:

- A Register of Half Dollar Die Varieties, Volume I, San Francisco Branch Mint
- A Register of Half Dollar Die Varieties, Volume II, Carson City Branch Mint

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> http://www.richuhrichcoins.com/ http://www.dickosburn.com/

Liberty Seated Collectors Club

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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 are still \$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.

<u>Articles, comments, or advertisements for pub-</u> <u>lication in the *Gobrecht Journal* may be addressed to the LSCC President.</u>

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*.

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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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