



OCEAN COUNTY COIN CLUB, INC.

JUNIOR NUMISMATIC NEWSLETTER (JNN) # 2

CONGRATULATIONS on completing your first JNN. Our club rewards Junior members with free coins on the completion and scoring of the quiz at the end of each newsletter. You now know what a "numismatist" is and you are now progressing in the field of "numismatics."

Did you ever see a coin with two heads or two tails? Do not be fooled if you do because the coin was NOT made at the U.S. Mint. It is impossible in the normal production of coins to produce a two headed or two tailed coin. These coins have been made outside of the mint as NOVELTY pieces and are not ERROR coins. They are called MAGICIAN'S COINS.

Coins can be altered or changed so again don't be fooled. Attempts are sometimes made by individuals to change the date or mintmark of a COMMON coin. They do this to increase the coin's value and sell the ALTERED COIN to someone that does not notice the change. This practice is AGAINST THE LAW. It is another reason for a coin collector to know what they are buying. There are many books available to learn about coins. In addition, "experience is the best teacher." The more you look at coins and learn about them, the better equipped you will be to recognize an ALTERED COIN.

Following is your monthly article & quiz:

*****THE "JOHN F. KENNEDY" COIN*****

On March 5, 1964, 26 million "Kennedy" half dollars were delivered to the Federal Reserve banks and it was nowhere near enough to handle the demand. Banks were rationing them to their customers because long lines gathered. Coin collectors and NON-COIN COLLECTORS wanted the Kennedy coins. JOHN F. KENNEDY was assassinated while serving in office as the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES in NOVEMBER 1963. He was our 35th President & was the FIRST President born in the 20th century (May 29, 1917). He was only 46 YEARS OLD at the time of his death. President Kennedy was a HARVARD graduate and served in the NAVY as a PT BOAT COMMANDER during World War II. He was elected to the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES after the war in 1946 and elected to the United States Senate in 1952. In 1957, he was awarded the PULITZER PRIZE for literature and in 1960, elected as our 35th President of the United States.

President Kennedy was tremendously popular and the half dollar coin was, in a small way, a final tribute. This was the reason why there was a rush by the general public to obtain the coin. During 1964 there was a national coin shortage, the silver price was rising and there was a shortage of the Kennedy half dollars. The Treasury solved their problems and after minting the 64 Kennedy half with 90% SILVER, reduced the silver content to 40% in 1965. In addition, there were no MINT MARKS on the 1965, 1966 and 1967 Kennedy halves. The 40% silver (Silver Clad Coinage) was minted for the Kennedy halves thru 1970. It was the 1970D Kennedy that was ISSUED IN MINT SETS ONLY and consequently, has a much HIGHER VALUE than those issued for general circulation. THE OBVERSE OF THE COIN REFLECTS THE BUST OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, the reverse with the eagle & the presidential coat of arms; and the edge, often termed the third side of the coin, is a REEDED EDGE, teeth-like notches around the coin.

FOUNDED IN 1970 AT LAKEHURST, NJ

National Coin Week Show/Exhibit in April --- Annual Show/Exhibit in September

The 1971 KENNEDY HALVES CONTAINED NO SILVER and were minted as COPPER-NICKEL CLAD COINAGE. This continued through the current issue with the exception of the 1976S Silver clad.

During OUR BICENTENNIAL YEAR (1976), an open contest for the selection of suitable designs for the reverse of the Kennedy half, was held. The winning entry featured Philadelphia's Independence Hall as the center device. The obverse remained the same except for the dual dating 1776-1976. They were the only halves struck in 1975 & 1976 and were used for general circulation, uncirculated sets and proof sets. IN 1977, KENNEDY HALVES WERE AGAIN MINTED WITH THE EAGLE ON THE REVERSE.

Are there any Kennedy halves that were minted with errors or varieties? YES THERE WERE - The 1974D DOUBLE DIE OBERSE is one commanding higher prices, as are the 1979S & 1981S Proofs with "clear S" mintmarks. The other 79S & 81S proofs have "filled S" mintmarks. Another recent report has found a 1971S Proof Doubled Die Obverse.

The KENNEDY HALVES ARE A POPULAR COLLECTING SET. They have been minted only a little over 30 years and it will not cost too much to put a full set together.

NOW JUNIOR MEMBER: FOR YOUR FREE COINS, MATCH THE ANSWER IN COLUMN "B" TO THE STATEMENT IN COLUMN "A"

<u>ANSWER</u>	<u>COLUMN "A"</u>	<u>COLUMN "B"</u>
___	(1) YEAR PRESIDENT KENNEDY ASSASSINATED	(A) 40% SILVER
___	(2) ISSUED IN MINT SETS ONLY	(B) 1960
___	(3) 1ST YEAR KENNEDY HALF MINTED	(C) 35TH
___	(4) YEAR ELECTED PRESIDENT OF U.S.	(D) 1976
___	(5) 1979S & 1981S PROOF HALVES	(E) 1964
___	(6) OUR ___ PRESIDENT OF THE U.S.	(F) 1970D HALF
___	(7) RECEIVED PULITZER PRIZE FOR _____	(G) 1963
___	(8) 1964 HALF	(H) CLEAR & FILLED S MINTMARKS
___	(9) BICENTENNIAL YEAR	(I) LITERATURE
___	(10) 1965 TO 1970 HALVES	(J) 90% SILVER

FOR A BONUS COIN: A COIN HAS 3 SIDES - NAME ALL 3: _____

 (date) (Your name - please print) (age)