



# OCEAN COUNTY COIN CLUB, INC.

JUNIOR NUMISMATIC NEWSLETTER (JNN) • 5

You have now successfully completed 4 of the JNN's so we'll keep you moving along so you can get your "free" coins. If you have any questions at any time, DO NOT HESITATE to ask - that's what we are here for.

You learned a little bit about the LINCOLN CENT in JNN 3 so we are going to expand into a few other cents that also have been very important in the history of our country.

Following is your monthly article & quiz:

## \*\*\*\*\* EARLY CENTS & THEIR HISTORY \*\*\*\*\*

The first true cent struck in America was in 1793. It was called a "LARGE CENT." A portrait of Miss Liberty and a chain of 15 links, REPRESENTING 15 STATES at that time, was on the cent. Miss Liberty was on the OBVERSE and the chain was on the REVERSE. This cent was struck in pure copper and was much larger than the cents we see in circulation today. They were a little bigger than the quarters that you see today. Can you imagine a cent that large? Of course - - the cent in those times, you could buy a loaf of bread or plenty of candy. Large cents WERE STRUCK THROUGH 1857 in a number of varying designs and varieties.

IN 1857 FOR ONLY 2 YEARS, a new cent was struck for circulation. It was called the FLYING EAGLE CENT. It replaced the old copper large cents and had a bald eagle on the obverse and a wreath with "one cent" on the reverse. The bald eagle was actually "PETER," the mascot of the U.S. Mint. The Flying Eagle Cents were made of copper-nickel and at that time were nick-named "nickels" although they were cents. Although there are Flying Eagle Cents dated 1856, they were not an authorized mint issue. THEY ARE REFERRED TO AS PATTERNS. It was estimated that 1,500 were struck so they command a high price. In addition, ANY 1856 CENT NEEDS TO BE CHECKED CAREFULLY AS THERE WERE NUMEROUS COUNTERFEITS MADE OVER THE YEARS.

The Flying Eagle Cent was replaced in 1859 with a cent you may have heard about or seen somewhere. It was called the INDIAN HEAD CENT. It was struck FROM 1859 THROUGH 1909. This cent was in use during the American Civil War and also during the Indian Wars of the West when the Indians were fighting for their lands. The Indian Head Cent was struck using a figure of Miss Liberty wearing an Indian Headdress. It was NOT A TRUE INDIAN, however, it was a tribute to the Native Americans and a representation of an Indian princess. The Indian Head cents WERE STRUCK IN COPPER-NICKEL FROM 1859 THROUGH 1863 and STRUCK IN BRONZE from 1864 to 1909. DO YOU KNOW WHAT OTHER CENT WAS STRUCK IN 1909??

FOUNDED IN 1970 AT LAKEHURST, NJ

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

1857 & 1858 Flying Eagle Cents can be purchased for \$12. to \$15. dollars in Good or VG conditions. Many Indian Head Cents can be purchased for around \$1.00 (more or less) depending upon condition. If you ever see a 1877 INDIAN HEAD CENT for that price and it is not a copy or a counterfeit, then buy it right away. The 1877 is the rarest of the Indians selling for \$360. in good condition and escalating over \$1,500. in uncirculated condition. In addition the 1909S Indian has a large price tag, selling for around \$200. in good condition.

As you should know by now, GOOD CONDITION is not really a super condition coin. The GOOD CONDITION INDIAN HEAD is very worn and LIBERTY on the headdress is totally worn off.

There are many other Indian Head cents that are expensive and are referred to as SEMI-KEYS. Most of them, except the 1908S, are 1878 and earlier and will cost anywhere from \$10. upward for Good condition coins. However, Indians from 1879 to 1909 are moderate in price in the \$1.00 - \$2.00 range in Good condition.

The designer of the Indian Head cent was JAMES B. LONGACRE and it has been said that he MAY HAVE USED HIS DAUGHTER as one of the models for the portrait used on the cent.

Remember these are NOT PENNIES. They are "CENTS." The nickname Penny comes from the British coin, which was brought to the United States by the British Colonists.

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

NOTE: BE CAREFUL, SOME LOOK LIKE THEY COULD HAVE THE SAME ANSWER.

<u>ANSWER</u>	<u>COLUMN A</u>	<u>COLUMN B</u>
_____	(1) 1877 Indian Head Cent	(A) Peter
_____	(2) James B. Longacre	(B) Indian Head Cent
_____	(3) Mascot	(C) Most expensive Indian cent
_____	(4) First true cent	(D) Nicknamed "nickels"
_____	(5) Chain links	(E) Pattern coin
_____	(6) Flying Eagle cent	(F) Large cent
_____	(7) Struck only 2 years for circulation	(G) Designer of Indian Head cent
_____	(8) Obverse of Indian Head cent	(H) 1793 Large cent reverse
_____	(9) Struck 1859 through 1909	(I) Flying Eagle cent
_____	(10) 1856 Flying Eagle cent	(J) Indian Princess

FOR A BONUS COIN: What two type coins were struck in the year 1909?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name - please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(age)