
Longacre's Ledger

Vol. 5, No. 1

Winter 1995



Official Publication

Flying Eagle and Indian Cent Collectors Society

The "Fly-In Club"

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WINTER 1995

LONGACRE'S LEDGER
Official Publication of the
FLYING EAGLE AND INDIAN CENT COLLECTORS SOCIETY

Vol. 5, No. 1

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FLYING EAGLE AND INDIAN CENT COLLECTORS SOCIETY

The purpose of the Flying Eagle and Indian Cent
Collectors Society is to promote the study and
collection of Longacre's design of small cents.

OFFICERS

President Richard Snow
Secretary Xan Chamberlain
Treasurer Charles Jones
Publisher/Editor Larry R. Steve

State Representatives

Page 10

ON THE COVER...

1878 Indian Head Cent

Tucked in between the 1877 "key date" and the more common 1879, this date (1878) is often overlooked for its "semi-key" status. The reported mintage of just 5,799,850 pieces indicates that this date is a real "sleeper".

Articles, opinions and comments appearing in this Journal reflect the views of their author and may or may not agree with those of the Society.

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LONGACRE'S LEDGER

Table of Contents WINTER 1995

Presidents Letter	4
Editor's Comments	6
Announcements.....	8
State Representatives	10

WHAT ARE OUR INTERESTS? by George R. Conger	11
--	----

TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR COIN COLLECTIONS by Bill Weikel	16
---	----

MISER'S ODYSSEY by G. Webster.....	20
---------------------------------------	----

LATE DATE INDIAN CENT VARIETIES-1886 Type II-1899 by Douglas W. Hill	24
---	----

A NEW VARIETY OF 1909 INDIAN CENT by David J. Druzisky	27
---	----

HOW MANY ARE THERE ANYWAY? by Jerry Wysong	28
---	----

THE F.I.N.D.E.R.S.™ REPORT by Larry Steve	31
--	----

BACK ISSUES ORDER FORM	34
ADVERTISING RATES & POLICY	35
CLASSIFIED ADS	36

PRESIDENTS LETTER . . .

*by Rick Snow, President
Fly-In Club Life Member #1*



The Fly-In Club is entering its 5th year in existence, which means that elections are to be held later this year. If you would like to run for an office in the Fly-In Club please submit a short platform and biography to the Editor in time for the next journal. Up for election are President, Secretary, and Treasurer. In addition, the office of Vice President is now open and vacant.

We are now accepting upgrades in your membership to Life Member. The price is \$300. Members interested should send their check to Xan Chamberlain at the Palo Alto address.

I think there was something definitely lacking at the recent FUN convention in Orlando Florida - A Fly-In Club meeting! We will be organizing a meeting next year.

One of the privileges of being President is to have a quarterly soapbox on which I can share some of my views.

Numismatics is first and foremost a science. Like other pursuits of science, be it astronomy, biology, or physics, the field of numismatics needs the work of both amateur and professional researchers. Rewards in this as well as these other fields are the same as in numismatics: Pride in the advancement of the science. When a new variety is discovered the discoverer should be listed and forever linked to that variety. When a paper is submitted to a publication detailing some new finding, then that researcher should get credit in the future for his efforts.

The sharing of information is crucial to the advancement of the hobby. A code of ethics must be diligently maintained between

collectors, researchers, dealers, and specialty clubs like The Fly-In Club. The unwritten code I am talking about applies to information that is gathered and published. Information cannot, and should not be proprietary! No one rightfully owns information. You may possess it, be the discoverer of it, keep it a secret, use it, or publish it, but you don't outright own it. The discovery of a variety should be recorded so that the discoverer gets recognition and the coin collecting public gets the correct information.

Profits may be made by cherry picking a coin, and reselling for a profit - to the one with the most knowledge goes the most rewards, if the knowledge is used properly. Although it amounts to only a few cents per hour, money can also be made by writing a book - To the researcher who puts in the effort should go the rewards. An author owns the language in the text, but he doesn't own the information. That's yours to use as you see fit, except that the information in a book or article should be used with a mention of its source, otherwise that is another violation of the code of ethics that I am talking about.

Fly-In member Kevin Flynn's recent article in Numismatic News (Jan. 31) about his determination as to the real nature of the 1865/1865 Plain 5, (which used to be called a Plain 5/ Fancy 5 (Snow), and prior to that used to be called an 1865/ 4 (Breen) Plain 5) is a great example of getting the facts out to the public. Not only will old information not be repeated as true, but education about the Plain 5 and Fancy 5 will inspire more collectors to acquire both date types for their sets.

If you would like to advance your favorite science, please think about writing an article for the Longacre Ledger. Please let us know about your new discoveries.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

We are now entering our fifth year, and like any other successful organization we are encountering growing pains. It is sometimes necessary to undergo certain changes in order to continue with our growth and success. One such obvious change is the format and appearance of the Ledger; I hope the members like this new, more professional look. Another change with regard to our journal is, the actual typesetting or retyping of the articles has been turned over to the printer. I remain as Editor and will continue to review all articles and other items that are printed in our journal, but I will no longer be bogged down with the actual assembly of the text. This comes as a welcomed relief, and we might well consider 1995 as "The Year of Change" - all for the better.

All of the hard work that had been completed over the past four years, by myself and others, was strictly on a volunteer basis. This had been undertaken, in part, to ensure the financial security of the Club, and, in part, as a genuine interest in promoting the Club. Occasionally this volunteer work takes its toll, as other responsibilities take precedence. This was the situation with myself, which necessitated the changes mentioned above. As I undertook these steps, I grossly miscalculated the time required to make the transition - for this I personally apologize for the delay in the delivery of this issue. All and all, however, we should now be able to proceed with a much quicker turnaround time from here on.

In addition to the volunteer nature of the services provided by dedicated members, the organization has been operating on an informal basis. The Charter Officers are to be commended on their diligence in handling the affairs of the Club. With the advent of Life Membership now being offered and the prospect of "the changing of the guard" by election of new Officers, it is essential that we formalize the manner by which the Club operates. For this, we should have a written Constitution and By-Laws. Mark McWherter has graciously

volunteered to act as the By-Laws Committee Chairman to coordinate and draft these important documents. Lawrence Sturup, our new State Representative from New Hampshire, has also volunteered to serve on this Committee. If you have any thoughts, comments, or sample wording of club constitution and/or by-laws, I strongly urge each and every member to write to Mark. His address is given in the "Announcements" section, or can be found in "Information on State Representatives".

Lastly, please take the time to write a short article or two for the Ledger. Remember, a journal is the cornerstone of any organization and is a measure of its success.

Until the next *issue* ...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** ELECTIONS ***

Elections are to be held later this year. The term of office is for two years commencing on January, 1996. If you are interested in running for office, please submit your name and a short biography to: Editor, Longacre's Ledger, P.O. Box 291, Jarrettsville, MD 21084.

*** VICE PRESIDENT OFFICE ***

A new office of Vice President has been created for the Club. The primary duties of this office are to represent and promote the interest of the Club, and to assume the responsibilities of the President in his absence.

*** BY-LAWS COMMITTEE ***

A new By-Laws Committee has been created for the purpose of drafting the Constitution and By-Laws of our Club. The chairman of this committee is Mark McWherter; his address is: 1107 E. Northview Ave., Olathe, KS 66061-2968. Members who wish to serve on this Committee should contact Mark.

*** LIFE MEMBERSHIP ***

A new category of Life Member has been created for those interested. The dues for this membership is \$300.00. Members who have paid their annual dues for regular membership and who wish to convert to life membership during the remainder of 1995 will be credited with \$ 15.00 plus any prepaid annual dues, the difference would then be due for this conversion. Current low regular membership numbers will be reserved for life membership numbers until December 31, 1995, after which life membership numbers will be assigned sequentially on a first-come first-serve basis.

*** AWARDS ***

At the Florida United Numismatists 40th Annual Convention, the Best-of-Show and First Place - Errors Awards were presented to Larry R. Steve for his exhibit entitled "A Selection of Flying Eagle and Indian Cent Die Varieties".

*** CLUB MEETINGS ***

We will be scheduling our annual Club meeting to be held at the ANA Convention later this year. For those interested in helping, please contact Rick Snow, President at P.O. Box 257, Seahurst, WA 98062, 1 (800) 323-2646.

We would also encourage the State Representatives to schedule local Club meetings at shows held in their general regions.

*** NEW STATE REPRESENTATIVE ***

We'd like to welcome Lawrence M. Sturup as our new State Representative from New Hampshire. His address is 22 W. Yellowstone Dr., Londonderry, NH 03053-7468.

WANTED TO BUY : VARIETIES

I am a serious collector of varieties - primarily repunched dates, overdates and doubled dies. I prefer VF of better (Full LIBERTY). Paying 5 to 50% over CDN Bid, depending upon condition and type of variety. Write first!

Larry R. Steve • ANA, CONECA & FLY-IN #2
P.O. Box 291 • Jarrettsville, MD 21084
Telephone (410) 557-8508 after 5 p.m.

INFORMATION ON STATE REPRESENTATIVES

The names and addresses of our Representatives by State are provided so that our current and prospective members may have a local contact with respect to Club programs and events.

Alaska

Robert L. Hall
P.O. Box 242212
Anchorage, AR
99524-2212

California

Xan Chamberlain
P.O. Box 915
Palo Alto, CA 94302

Florida

Douglas W. Hill
P.O. Box 1483
Winter Park, FL 32790

Indiana

Chris Pilliod
P.O. Box 12722
Fort Wayne, IND 46864

Kansas

Mark R. McWherter
1107 E. Northview Ave.
Olathe, KS 66061-2968

Kentucky

Bill Weikel, Ph.D.
P. O. Box 209
Morehead, KY 40351

Louisiana

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P.O. Box 4371
Fort Polk, LA 71459

Maryland

Larry R. Steve
P.O. Box 291
Jarrettsville, MD
21084

Michigan

S. Scott Smith
P.O. Box 411
Delton, MI 49046

New Hampshire

Lawrence M. Sturup
22 W. Yellowstone Dr.
Londonderry, NH
03053-7468

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162 Traver Rd.
Gansevoort, NY 12831

North Carolina

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27120

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Dayton, OH 45429

Pennsylvania

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Southampton, PA
18966

Virginia

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P.O. Box 2018
Arlington, VA
22202

Washington

Kenneth R. Hill
3200 S. Mt. Baker Blvd.
Seattle, WA 98144

Wisconsin

Ronald W. Neuman
P.O. Box 20772
Greenfield, WI
53220-0772

WHAT ARE OUR INTERESTS?

*by George R. Conger
Fly-In Club Life Member*

Reading through recent issues of Longacre's Ledger, I got the impression that what I had been reading in our journal in 1994 had changed rather markedly from what I had read in that same publication in prior years. That suspicion raised a question in my mind regarding the evolution of the Flying Eagle and Indian Cent Collectors Society (the Fly-In Club). Had the group passed me by?

Rather than jumping to the conclusion that I was out of touch with my fellows, I thought I ought to first do a little research to determine if a shift had indeed taken place in the interests of our membership between 1990 and now. And, if it had, was it something we all should move toward?

Assuming that the tone and message of an organization's journal reflects the interests of its members, I reviewed the sixteen (16) issues of the Ledger from January 1991 when the first issue was printed and Fall 1994. I divided the 109 feature articles into four (4) groups based upon what I interpreted to be the main message the authors intended:

A. General Interest Information Specific to to IH Cent [e.g., history, personalities, mint practices, etc.]

B. Statistical Reports and Specific Generic Facts [e.g., "How Many Are There, Anyway?", "An Assessment of Indian Cents", segments of "The F.IND.ERS Report", and "The Finest Set ..." series.]

C. Articles Emphasizing Grading and Errors [e.g., repunched dates, faulty hubs, double dies, and the like; "A New '1' in the Neck"; "Grading Opinion for Circulated Bronze Indian Cents"; and so on.]

D. Miscellaneous Accounts [e.g., "The Confederate Cent", "What I Did on My Summer Vacation", "Collecting with a Purpose", and the like].

After I completed the counting, I found that there was a gentle skewing over time in a particular direction. But the numbers wound up being less significant to me than the pattern of distribution for those articles. Three things emerged. I found that, over time, (1.) the journal had gradually moved away from the subjects covered under categories "A" and "D", (2.) it remained fairly constant relative to offerings in category "B", and (3.) it became slightly more oriented toward category "C".

Because grading beyond the point of MS-60 doesn't capture my imagination [chiefly because I can rarely distinguish a MS-64 from a MS-63] and locating errors is a process that involves painstaking, detailed labor that's terribly challenging to my eyes, I was not especially pleased with the pattern I observed in the Ledger. For, you see, I am far more interested in human interest stories about the Indian Head Cent than I am about an errant number that might be discovered appearing faintly between the denticles of a coin.

Had I stopped at this point, I could have pouted and felt betrayed by my Club and my journal. I could have moaned about feeling cheated because fewer and fewer articles that interest me have been appearing in the Ledger. I might even have entertained the notion that our journal had become the domain of a few popular writers majoring on the minor aspects of our hobby. However, before I would indulge those sorts of silly thoughts, I felt obliged to first ask myself whether or not this pattern was a normal movement away from generalities common to all subjects or if what I had observed was a phenomenon peculiar to IH Cent collectors. To find the answer, I embarked upon a quick-and-dirty, unscientific review of article titles selected from other numismatic journals and magazines pertinent to other hobbies. This second phase of my study was cursory at best because of the time I was willing to give to this project and the availability of those other materials close at hand. In all, I reviewed five publications covering different periods of time — three in the field of numismatics [Lincoln Cents, Barber Coins and Morgan Dollars] and two outside of our hobby [airplane piloting, and skin-and-scuba diving]. It didn't take long for my answer to emerge.

Suffice it to say, we are not unique. Nearly every journal or commercially- available magazine dealing with an area of specialized focus that I reviewed tended to devote the early phases of its existence dealing with the broad and general aspects of its subject. Eventually — probably because there is only so much that can be said about the basics — more and more attention was given over to narrower and more ethereal aspects of the subject. The most dramatic illustration of this was brought home to me in the two fields outside of numismatics that I reviewed and in which I have some training and experience: scuba diving and flying. Heretofore I had never given it much thought. But I know from personal experience that once a person has achieved his initial level of open-water certification or earned his private pilot's license, he spends less and less time reading about or engaging in basic and often boring - activities such as looking at the mud bottom of a lake or flying around a grass-strip airport. If a diver remains active, he soon gets into something like photography or treasure hunting or cave diving. The same is true with pilots. The active aviator strives to earn higher ratings so that he can fly long distances in all kinds of weather or enter air races or go into some commercial aspect of the field like becoming a charter pilot or a flight instructor.

At this point I must hasten to mention another observation I made. None of these periodicals appeared to ever completely ignore the basics. They all appeared to be aware of their obligation to serve as a source of information for collectors or practitioners spread all along the continuum of knowledge and sophistication. Nearly every issue of each specialized publication I reviewed seemed to contain at least one article that was general in nature. This is a powerful asset to any society that hopes to bring new or young enthusiasts forward in their understanding of what their hobby is about.

CONCLUSION and IMPRESSIONS:

1. Numismatic journals do not necessarily reflect the interests of their readers. They simply reflect the interests of their contributors.
2. People who are prone to take the time to write about a subject are the ones who get published in journals and magazines devoted to a specific hobby. Therefore, if the things about which a person is

interested do not appear in that person's favorite publication, then it is incumbent upon that person to submit articles that deal with those topics. Lamenting a shift in a journal's emphasis is counterproductive. Instead, to those who might feel that Longacre's Ledger is paying undue attention to errors or dies or other technical topics of no interest to them as a reader, I challenge those people to latch on to something that does interest them. Put a few fascinating thoughts or observations together on paper. Then, submit the article for publication. Without this kind of boldness and creativity, our journal runs the risk of becoming a one directional, skewed and dull opus.

3. Editors of journals that seem to be moving off into only one narrow direction when there are other areas that ought to be considered must take the initiative. They should, from time to time, invite other writers to contribute articles on diverse topics if none are being volunteered. The responsibility for a balanced journal is a key obligation of any editor worth his salt.

4. Very, very, very few numismatic journals devoted to other series of coins can hold a candle to Longacre's Ledger in terms of appearance, quality of paper, ease of reading, or convenience for storage on a book shelf. If this project served no other purpose for me, it made me extremely appreciative of our high- quality journal.

5. One bothersome similarity became apparent to me in skimming the three publications devoted to American coins. To different degrees but with some modest regularity, I was struck with the obsession numismatist seem to have with respect to the subject of grading. That is troubling to me because it seems that the mania for grading, particularly in the area of uncirculated coins, has the potential for driving away collectors especially young and working-class collectors - from our midst. I love the Indian Head Cent *per se*. I prefer to own coins in circulated grades. One of my favorite possessions is an attractive AG slabbed 1877. Obviously, I am one of those souls who is more motivated by date than grade. This is because, as a collector rather than an investor, I can find no logic for paying \$2,500 for an 1868 IH Cent in MS-65 when one can be bought graded MS-63 for 1/10th that price, or one graded VF for \$70. (On this topic, I refer you to a letter to the editor by Arvo Kaljumagi that appeared in Coin World the second

week of December 1994 in which he stated: "I don't want to be unkind, but hasn't it occurred to nearly everyone in the hobby that such a price differential smacks of total insanity?")

6. There is certainly a place in our Society for a narrowly focused body of highly sophisticated aficionados concerned mainly with highgrade uncirculated examples of IH Cents that possess odd characteristics ... errors that James Longacre never intended to appear on the surfaces of his coins. There is just as certainly a place for Fly-In'ers whose interests and values lie in other areas. And, so long as Longacre's Ledger remains a place where such a heterogenous forum is welcomed, I am confident that the Flying Eagle and Indian Cent Collectors Society will flourish into the next century.

Isn't it inspiring to see how rejuvenating a modest investigation can be to an old collector's spirits? My enthusiasm for the future of Longacre's Ledger has rebounded. I wholeheartedly recommend this sort of experience to you 900 other Fly-In Club members who have never submitted an article for publication in our journal. Go ahead. Give it a shot. You just might be the person who has a point to clarify or a body of information to share about which the rest of us have been wondering. Heaven knows, we can all benefit from a little diversity in the life of the Ledger.

TEN COMMANDMENT FOR COIN COLLECTORS

by Bill Weikel Fly In #133

1. Collect what you like. Find those issues, U.S. and Foreign that appeal to you and then decide how you wish to proceed. Many collect by date and mintmark and try to complete a whole series. Others, with perhaps a limited budget, collect one coin from each year, regardless of mintmark, while still others strive to own a certain type of coin from each era or country. It's your decision. The goal should be collecting pleasure.

2. Plan your collection. Before going to a coin show, have in mind what you are looking for and how much you can afford to spend. Avoid impulse buying, but don't be so rigid as to pass up a coin that appeals to you and screams "buy me".

3. Don't skimp on the "key coins". If you're doing a set of Indian Cents in Very Fine, don't accept an "about good" for your 1877, 1909 S etc. It will drag down the looks of the entire set and cost you money if you ever try to sell. Instead, save your money and wait until the right coin comes along.

4. Learn all you can about what you collect. Buy the book, join the club and go to the meetings. A knowledgeable collector gets much more enjoyment from the hobby and often finds the better buys. Also the social aspects of local or national club membership can be most rewarding. Since joining the Fly-In Club for example, I've made several new friends and spent many enjoyable hours at coin shows chatting with men and women who share my love of Flying Eagle and Indian Cents.

5. Nurture a relationship with a few dealers who share your collecting interests. Guess what? We're human too and really do love coins or else we'd be selling real estate or cars. That doesn't mean that when we're paying almost a thousand dollars for a table at ANA we can take an hour to chat, but we do love to talk coins, especially with bona fide "buyers". We buy too!

6. Don't be afraid to try to "dicker" with a dealer for a coin you'd like to own or to give a counter-offer. Most of us price with a little room to spare, but disdain totally ridiculous offers. Remember this is what many of us do for a living and the table rents, hotel bills (even at the Super 8) must be paid before a profit is made. We're an endangered species, try to support us because we support you!

7. Give something back to the hobby. Don't overlook the joys of sharing what you know and what you have. Make arrangements to visit a school and talk to the kids about coins. Share your specialized knowledge with community groups, seniors and all who would like to listen. With a little practice, you can be at least a local star!

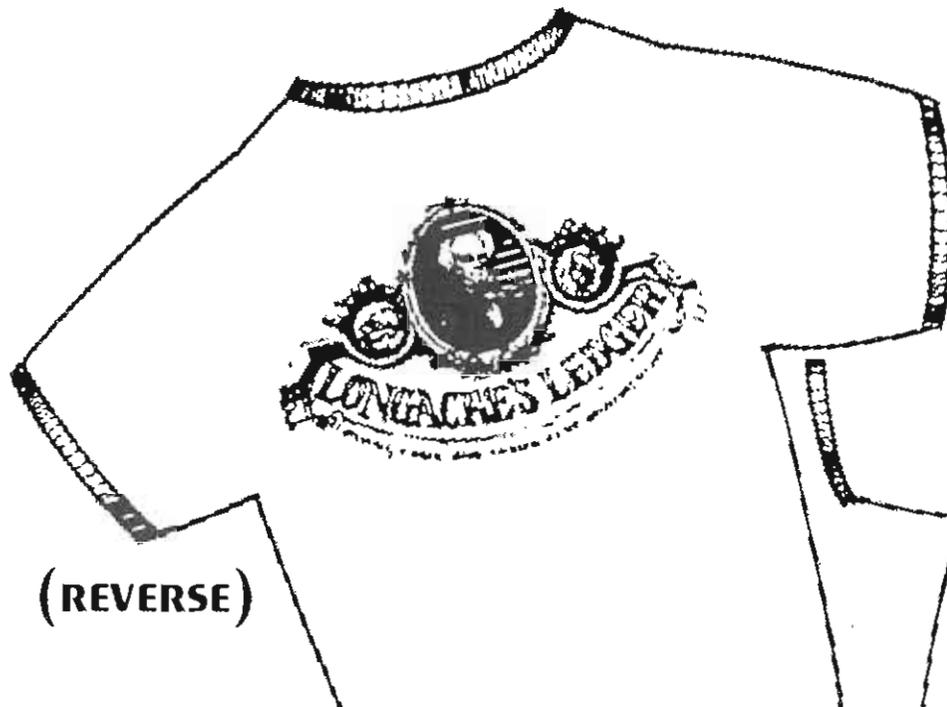
8. Take pride in what you have. There will always be greater and lesser collections. Even if you can't assemble a world class collection, your collection can still have class! Remember to have fun... if you someday make a tidy profit when you sell, more power to you!

9. Learn how to properly grade and evaluate coins. Buy the **ANA Grading Standards, Photograde** and other popular grading guides. It will save you money when you buy and make you money when you sell. If a coin doesn't make your practiced definition of a grade, don't add it to your collection.

10. Keep good records. Most of us use elaborate codes for our public display of coins, so that at trading time we know our exact cost. Make sure that a trusted friend or family member has access to your records showing what you bought, when you bought it and how much you paid. Some of the more investor-minded collectors use their personal computers to update current values of their holdings. Keep one copy in your safe deposit box or safe with your collection and another that is readily accessible.

*Bill Weikel, P.H. D. is a college Professor
and owner of Old Kentucky Coin.*

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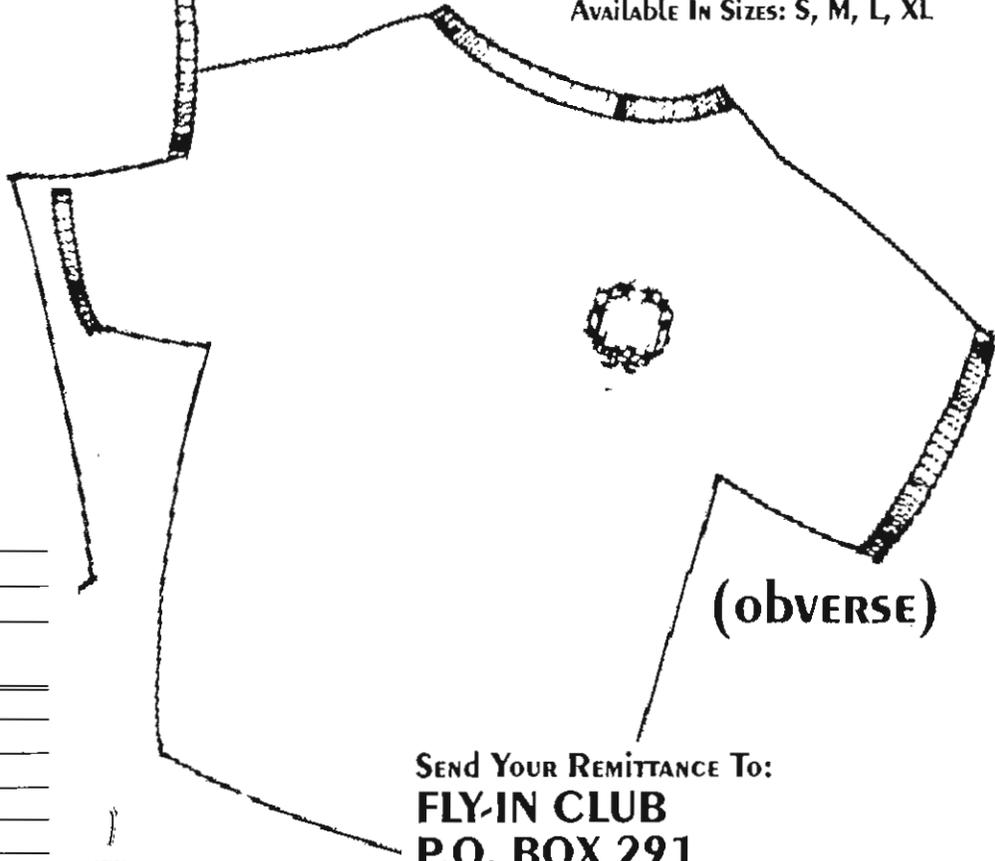
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MISER'S ODYSSEY

by G. Webster

With drapes against the winter coldness drawn,
One small lamp bulb burning low,
A sip of tannic, tepid tea,
All engulfed in the day's afterglow.

From his smallest desk drawer
He lifts one blue box of many marked "coin";
His finger pushes the Lilliputian drawer
Like a sea captain and ship conjoin.

Lifting a bundle of folded white kleenex,
Carefully opening it, layer from layer,
Until a round circle of iridescent copper
Bows to its rightful heir.

He eyes the coin marked "1877"
The year of his Mother's birth.
It was one among many she'd given him;
All have changed now in their worth.

This one she loved best of all
The brilliant circles she owned,
The "L" in the hair was especially strong;
One of the first of only a few honed.

She loved the flowing hair about her neck
And ribbon in her hair,
The letters, L-I-B-E-R-T-Y,
Seen on many coins elsewhere.

The seven beads around her neck
Were for the seven seas of foam,
The four diamonds in the ribbon,
Directions of the compass, one always leading home.

Land is what the "L" stands for,
With concrete forests and mountain streams,
Salt marshes melting into mica effected cliffs;
Gold ore — the Silver Lode — and miner's dreams.

"I" is the innocence of the Indians
Their tribal virtue still chanting true;
The Eagle god circling overhead,
Surveying, all that's old and new.

"B" Beauty in Nature's colors and textures,
Fragrance that defies man's words,
By day or night or snow or rain,
The animals, trees, flowers and birds.

"E" Eternal gifts we have been given,
Water, Air, Earth, Fire and Life;
Change, but stay the same,
With golden silences and clashing strife.

"R" Riches from the sky and ground:
Food, shelter and all our needs
Surround us in quantities of plenty,
Each mature — each having new seeds.

"T" Time is given us to gather
To plant, harvest, use and comply:
Natural things take time to endure,
And we need time to pass by.

"Y" Youth is given us early,
With its strengths and inquisitive will
From helplessness to helplessness,
The in-between, a time to fill.

Nine feathers atop the bonnet placed
Each to restore our faith when dimmed,
Pluck one each time you're forsaken,
With the last — life's cream is skimmed.

“UNITED STATES OF AMERICA”
Around the proud head coiled,
With a date to state the year
The hot metal with souls was boiled.

On the back, call it crest or a shield
With thirteen stripes proudly unfurled,
For the colonies of a new democracy,
Still respected across the world.

Three sharp pointed arrows across the base,
Only one its nock and butt proudly displayed,
No danger to man nor beast,
For they're bound tightly together, not ready to be obeyed.

Centered, “ONE CENT” is circled by strength
Of the mightiest and strongest tree:
Oak leaves and seven acorns;
Entwined to protect you and me.

The viewer's forefathers engrave the scene
And gave it beauty of meaning too,
He instilled his past and future
For the notions of many and few.

Copper, weighing only 48 grains
With one twentieth zinc and tin,
It's a metal sculpture, map and atlas,
To a people whose country is within.

All around the outside,
A smooth circle like the sun,
Never ending, timeless, perpetual,
Never a break, never begun.

The loving fingers journey around,
Two tender eyes regard in awe,
The marvels of perfection, election,
“Who, this hundred years foresaw?”

Back into the tissue,
Away from the harming light,
Into the desk with others,
And some call this guardian, “tight.”

The miser relishes his treasures,
Not this one that's worth thousands now,
But rather, all the dreaming times and places,
Each coin, a journey to him does allow.

DAVE'S
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LATE DATE INDIAN CENT VARIETIES

1886 TYPE 2-1899

by Douglas W. Hill

Before I present two potentially rare die marriages, I want to again address the question of "why bother to look for them?". This is a very legitimate question. After all, lapping lines (from a wire lorus to smooth the die surface) are often small and who wants to look for them if a new variety wont bring a premium?

My answer is that nobody cares at present primarily because they don't know what to look for. Sure, some people will never be interested in finding new varieties. However, some will and my articles are designed to give these people the tools needed to find new discoveries. Those of you in the Early American Coppers Club know exactly what I am writing about. Over time I think that there is a good chance that late date Indian cents, like large cents, will be collected by die marriage.

Finally, perhaps the best reason to collect late date Indians by die marriage is that the rare marriages are still out there. If a new collector wants to collect large cents he will quickly find that almost all of the rare varieties have already been *cherry picked!* But the collector of late date Indian cent varieties will find that the "good old days" are here now. I just don't know when the interest will catch on. However, those who start now stand to benefit the most.



The first die variety that I want to present in this paper is already well known to most Fly-In Club members. It is the *S-1* (1894/1894) which I have classified in my numbering system as the *H-2*. Presently, over 100 examples are known to exist so why do I think that this may be a rare variety? The answer lies on the reverse die. (Don't forget that I am concerned with die marriages and not just the obverse die.) I was able to borrow Tom Stott's ANACS MS-63-Brown example with a light die crack on the outside of the left wreath from 9 o'clock to 11 o'clock which then runs to a dentil above the wreath. This crack may be significant because Tom's coin is a very early die state example. It is possible that as the crack progressed, at some point a new reverse die was paired with the heavily repunched obverse die. If this happened, it is most likely that die cracks and lapping lines (if any) on the second reverse die will not match those in my line drawing at the end of my paper. The only way to know for sure is to closely examine the reverse dies of the 1894/1894 in a grade of XF-40 or higher.

I feel that the second die variety for this writing (1888 *H-7*) is a significant discovery. The coin is the first known doubled die for the year 1888 and the top of the 1 is also repunched to the north. The doubling is quite wide on the *Y* of *LIBERTY* (to the northwest) and on Longacre's *L*. A die line runs from diamond *I* in the ribbon to the base of Longacre's *L*. Another lighter line connects the bottom of the ear with the middle curl. On the reverse, light points are visible between most of the stripes in the shield. The coin grades XF-45 and is an early die state example. It is possibly a proof but most likely prooflike. I was lucky enough to find it at a Lakeland, Florida coin show in October, 1994.

In future articles I plan to feature one variety each from the



years 1888 and 1894. Both years are popular among traditional variety collectors and have the second and third lowest mintage figures (after estimates for 1886 Type 2) of all dates between 1886 Type 2 and 1899. The mintage of 16.8 million for the 1894 is particularly low and it is possible that there are only 40-50 die marriages for this date. If future collectors ever want to collect most of the die marriages for a given years, I think that 1888 and 1894 are good candidates. For help in attributing any variety between 1886 Type 2 and 1899 please see my ad in the Wanted to Buy section.

A NEW VARIETY OF 1909 INDIAN CENT

by David J. Druzisky

At the 1991 ANA Convention in Orlando, FL, I had the opportunity to meet Rick Snow and others at the meeting of the Fly-In Club. We introduced ourselves and had a short discussion about the club and its goals. Then Rick gave a short talk about his book "Flying Eagle & Indian Cents". He went over every date and when he got to the 1909 he made a statement that due to the hub preparation there were no varieties. For some reason that statement stayed with me for quite a long time.

In September, I purchased several Indian Cents from a local dealer. After checking them I sent them off to be graded. The Indians were returned to me in early October. I was very pleased with the outcome— 3 MS65 BR, 2 MS64 RB, 2 MS63 RD. Two of the Indians were dated 1909. One was MS64 RB, the other was MS63 RD. There was something about the MS64 that caught my eye, and after checking it against the MS63 I noticed that the "L" on the ribbon was doubled. I didn't discuss it with anyone until I found a second specimen. (I wanted to make sure that I wasn't seeing things). At the 1992 FUN Show I found Rick and showed him my discovery. I think the first words from him were "How much"?

I didn't sell either of the coins, but did have them photographed by J. T. Stanton. I sent the pictures to Rick for inclusion in his next book.

Since the discovery of the first two pieces I have found several more and have heard that several other Fly-In members have also found some. With this information, I don't think that this is a rare variety but it is one that wasn't supposed to be. Good luck and keep hunting.

HOW MANY ARE THERE, ANYWAY?

by Jerry Wysong

I am pleased to report that since the Fall issue of the "*Ledger*" was published, I have received many letters and a few phone calls from individuals reporting their latest "finds". The letters also contained several good suggestions as to variety additions to include in the census and nearly all responded favorably for the addition of a fourth category for the misplaced date varieties. The responses represent a very small percentage of the membership as can be expected; but since no negatives were presented, I will proceed to develop the new category for the next issue of the "*Ledger*".

The months of October, November and December were not very productive for me in finding any better varieties of Flying Eagle or Indian Head Cents although I did find a 1857 FE Cent in Fine with a Std. Liberty 50c clashed die Obv. Some of you had far better success as is listed below. At a small monthly show I regularly do in Cincinnati a cherry picker brought me an 1897 1-in-Neck that he had just purchased as a common piece. The coin was a nice EF with good color, but had a scratch on the Reverse. I have included the piece in the census, but net graded the coin as a Fine-15 because of the scratch which was pretty severe.

December was a bad month for me in the sense that my computer totally crashed about the 12th; and my back-up files were incomplete. Included in my losses was the tabulated Census data that I had carefully prepared and checked last Summer. Those of you who own or operate a computer can appreciate my predicament. I now have a new computer system, and have spent many hours re-entering data to get back up to speed. One of my first projects was to re-do the Census data and appropriately back it up. As a side note, the CPU is essentially a loaner because mine is back ordered, and I am using the store demo unit in the interim. While I don't look forward to re-entering a lot of software and files again in a few weeks; the situation could be much, much worse. But enough of my chattiness and let's get on with the latest finds.

The *finds* reported to me are as follows:

1. 1866 DDO; Extra Fine; Chris Pilliod for John Kapetanakis
2. 1891 DDO; MS-64 Red; Chris Pilliod for Wayne Moore
3. 1887 DDO; ANACS EF cleaned; Chris Pilliod
4. 1887 DDO; Good; Chris Pilliod
5. 1857 25c Clashed Die; EF-45; Al Mays
6. 1873 DDO (S-1); NGC VF-30; Greg Volan
7. 1891 DDO; MS-64 R/B; Rick Snow for Mr. Davidoff
8. 1868 DDO; MS-64 R/B; Rick Snow
9. 1873 DDO (S-2); NGC MS-65 Red; Rick Snow
10. 1889 DDR; AU-58; Rick Snow for Ron Ahre
11. 1858/7 EDS; PCGS VF-35 R. Snow
12. 1897 1-in-Neck; F-15; J. Wysong
13. 1857 50c Clsd Die; F-12; J. Wysong

I want to thank all of you who contacted me regarding the census information, it is you the members reporting your finds that make these articles possible with meaningful and useful information. If you have any variety information to report please contact me by mail or phone. I would like to close by wishing each and every one of you a Happy New Year and hope that 1995 will be the best year ever for you.

Jerry Wysong
P.O. Box 292561
Dayton, Ohio 45429

ph. (513) 435-1448

REPUNCHED DATE TABLE

****MINT STATE****

		<u>G/VG</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>VF</u>	<u>EF</u>	<u>AU</u>	<u>60/62</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1857/57	S-11	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
1858/57 EDS	S-1	1	1	11	9	12	3	2	5	0	44
1859/1859	S-1	4	1	0	3	5	1	0	1	0	15
1865/4 Fancy	S-1	3	0	0	2	3	0	1	1	0	10
1865/4 Plain	S-1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	5	1	9
1866/1	S-3	1	2	3	0	1	2	1	2	1	13
1867/67	S-1	22	6	12	6	3	5	5	12	5	76
1869/18	S-1	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
1872/182	S-1	1	1	3	2	0	2	1	4	1	15
1888/7 die#1	S-1	4	1	2	1	0	2	1	0	1	12
1891/1891	S-3	7	2	6	3	5	2	5	5	0	35
1894/1894	S-1	57	6	9	7	3	3	6	6	4	101
1897 1 in Neck	S-1	21	14	7	11	1	2	3	0	0	59

DOUBLE DIE TABLE

****MINT STATE****

		<u>G/VG</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>VF</u>	<u>EF</u>	<u>AU</u>	<u>60/62</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1864 DDO BZ		0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3
1865 1-R-IV	S-2	5	0	3	1	2	2	2	1	0	16
1866 1-O-V	S-1	1	3	8	7	3	2	1	2	0	27
1868 1-O-III	S-1	0	0	2	4	3	1	4	3	0	17
1870 1-O-IV(3)	S-1	0	0	2	7	5	6	4	7	0	31
1870 2-O-IV	S-3	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	4
1870 3-O-IV	S-5	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
1873 1-O-III	S-1	30	16	16	14	15	6	2	2	1	102
1873 2-O-III	S-2	0	1	4	9	10	7	6	3	2	42
1874 DDO;EDS	S-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	4
1880 1-O-IV	S-1	0	0	2	0	2	1	4	2	2	13
1887 1-O-V	S-1	22	9	4	6	1	0	1	1	0	44
1889 1-R-III	S-1	1	1	2	4	2	1	1	1	1	14
1890 1-O-II(3)	S-1	0	2	0	0	2	1	2	1	1	9
1891 1-O-IV	S-1	5	1	4	3	5	1	1	2	1	23

CLASHED DIE TABLE

****MINT STATE****

		<u>G/VG</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>VF</u>	<u>EF</u>	<u>AU</u>	<u>60/62</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1857 \$20 Obv.	S-7	3	0	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	9
1857 25c Rev	S-8	1	1	3	2	1	2	1	0	0	11
1857 50c Obv.	S-9	4	3	5	0	1	1	0	1	1	16

THE F.I.N.D.E.R.S™ REPORT

by Larry R. Steve
Fly-In Club Life Member

This series will continue to offer years of research material. In addition to searching for "error" die varieties, such as doubled dies, repunched dates and the like, it is always interesting to identify certain "hub" varieties. Many of these are well known — 1858 Large and Small Letters, 1864 No L and With L, and 1886 Type 1 and Type 2 Obverse — and they are generally included in ones collecting pursuits. Others are just now being recognized as significant varieties, such as the 1857 Type of 1856 and the 1860 Type of 1859 (Pointed Bust). Still others remain somewhat obscure, such as the Hub of 1860 to 1864 BZ (Broken ES), and the 1870 Type 1 and Type 3 Reverses.

The search for broken letters, digits and devices is one area that offers a good deal of challenge to the collector. One hub in particular, the Broken D in UNITED, has held a certain fascination with some numismatists. It has long been thought that this hub was first introduced in 1873 and was ascribed with problems contributing to the doubled dies found on the Closed 3 varieties. This somewhat demeaning trait, however, is undeserved. We now know that there are many, many other doubled dies throughout the series, and that these are not as a result of some defective characteristic found on the hub, but are actually a result of the hubbing process itself.

I have researched this particular hub, and have found that it was introduced slightly earlier than 1873, presumably late in the year 1872!! The first photo below is of an 1872 with this Broken D characteristic; the second photo is of an 1873 Closed 3 (non-doubled die variety). It is interesting to note that the working dies for these two coins were impressed with the same working hub. I have also found that this working hub was used to produce working dies for some 1873 Open 3 varieties, as well as for the years 1874 and 1875. To date, I've not found any later dates that display this Broken D characteristic. We might therefore refer to this as the Broken D Hub of 1872 to 1875.



By conducting this type of research, we can gain some insights into other aspects that may, at first glance, appear unrelated. The photo below is of another Closed 3 die with the Broken D (again, a non-doubled die variety). In this instance, however, the "outline images" of the letters clearly show that the legend was impressed too deeply into the die. The "bridge" of the gap on the Broken D is one of the revealing clues. Note that this "bridge" is also evident on the first S of STATES. Thus, in searching for answers to one question, we sometimes find answers to other questions.



Explore and enjoy .

EDITOR'S NOTE: FINDERS IS A TRADEMARK OF LARRY R. STEVE AND IS USED WITHIN THIS JOURNAL WITH HIS PERMISSION.



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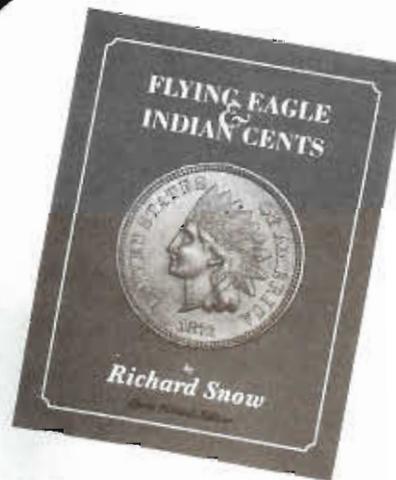
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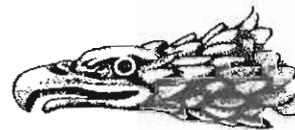
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