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Fall, 2004 Top 100 Insights

Featured Larry Briggs on 1878-S Morgans

Morris Plains, NJ-November 3, 2004. The Fall, 2004 issue of *Top 100 Insights and Value Guide* featured veteran dealer Larry Briggs on rare and desirable 1878-s Morgan dollar varieties. The 1878-s Morgan dollars remain one of the last great frontiers of variety collecting. No one has more experience with these dollars than Larry Briggs, who has looked at more than 30,000 such coins over his many years experience as a coin dealer, founder and grader for the SEGS grading service.

“If you like die gouges as markers, you’ll think you ‘ve died and gone to heaven or something like that with 1878-S Morgan dollars” claimed Briggs. Briggs shared information and

images on several different premium varieties worth acquiring. These included such whimsical names as 1878-s “Spaghetti Wings”, “Dragon Scales”, “Tail Gouges”, “Eye Spikes”, and the more popular Top 100 B¹ (Long Nock) reverse varieties.

The Society of Silver Dollar Collectors (SSDC) also provided a complementary copy of its first *Top 50 Peace Dollar Varieties: Value Guide* of certified coins for subscribers to *Top 100 Insights*.

Record prices were recorded for an 1878 8TF NGC 63 VAM 14.10 at \$865., and NGC MS 62 1880 s VAM 10 at \$395., a PCGS AU55 1901 VAM 3 “Shifted Eagle” doubled die reverse at \$2600., and an ANACS AU 50 1903 s “Micro s” VAM 2 for \$1775.

VAM is an acronym for Leroy Van Allen and A. George Mallis who were first to catalog varieties of obverse and reverse dies called die pairs by VAM number.

For further information, please contact Michael S. Fey, Ph.D., at RCI, P.O. Box 9157, Morris Plains, NJ 07590 or call (973) 252-4000; FAX (973) 252-0481; E-Mail: Feyms@aol.com
Information on *Top 100* pricing can be found in RCI’s quarterly newsletter, *Top 100 Insights & Value Guide* at <http://www.rcicoins.com>