

perhaps it may be an initial of one of the die engravers.” In any event, Fey felt it was important enough to make this discovery known to numismatic researchers.

On April 25th, 2005, PCGS issued a Press Release declaring the 1896, 1900 and 1902 o Micro “o” varieties as contemporary counterfeits. A detailed history and account of legal ownership of these Micro “o” varieties was given in the Spring, 2006 issue of *Top 100 Insights*. While PCGS and NGC will not certify these varieties, ANACS and SEGS certify them as coins of “Questionable Origin”. There are many precedents in numismatics where contemporary counterfeits have become highly collectable, and are pursued as vigorously as mint struck specimens. This is especially true of colonial coins. A book by Keith Davigon has been devoted solely to *Contemporary Counterfeit Capped Bust Half Dollars*, many of which brought significant prices in a recent auction by Sheridan Downey.

For further information on the Spring, 2006 *Ultra Rarities* Auction, or to become a subscriber to *Top 100 Insights* and the *Top 100 Value Guide*, send a check or money order for \$19.95 for 1 year, or \$54.95 for 3 years to RCI, at P.O. Box 9157, Morris Plains, NJ 07590 or call (973) 252-4000; FAX (973) 252-0481; E-Mail: Feyms@aol.com, or visit their web site at

<http://www.rcicoins.com>
