

1879-CC Morgan Silver Dollar Grading Set

By Alan Slakis

#RM-0499

First, I'd like to first apologize to our C4OA president, Rusty Goe, for the tardiness of this article.

In the summer of 2011, I attended the annual C4OA meeting in Rosemont, IL. The meeting was most educational and very enjoyable. I spoke about my '79-CC Morgan dollar grading set and Rusty asked if I would write an article about my collection.

I started collecting Morgan dollars about ten years ago. I was soon hooked on "CC" Morgans. After finishing my "CC" Morgan dollar set, I decided to focus on the 1879-CC because of its relative rarity. After a visit to the mint and museum in 2008, and later joining the C4OA, I was determined to complete a set of 1879-CC dollars from PO-1 to MS-66, Regular and Capped Dies, for a total of 51 coins.

Question for Rusty: Will I ever find an 1879-CC PCGS MS-66 capped die?

My collection is all PCGS graded coins. I started it with VG-08s to VF-30s, and I became obsessed. After countless hours searching eBay and the Internet dealers, I found MS-62s, 63s, and 64s. In 2010, I purchased a raw '79-CC for \$18 on eBay. After looking at coin grades on PCGS *CoinFacts*, I thought I might have gotten my PO-1. I sent it in for grading and it was returned as the second of just two PO-1 '79-CCs, and my low-end collection was becoming complete. I have been offered \$500 for that coin, but I gladly declined.

Hunting for examples in the Capped Die category and in specific grade conditions is a challenge. Pieces in the 50s range (AU-50 to 58) are becoming hard to come by, with very few on the market, so my search continues. With coin prices rising and my salary not, my quest is becoming increasingly difficult.

Last year, a beautiful MS-64 appeared on eBay with a modest price of \$7,500. It's now the top coin in my collection, and is valued at \$11k. At this point, 39 of 51 coins have been obtained, and now I'm on to the middle MS-60s. Already having several CAC-certified coins in the collection, I'll be sending some of the better coins for certification at that service.

Hopefully, when my '79-CC PCGS CAC-certified grading set is complete, I will proudly display it at one of the C4OA annual meetings. I encourage all of my fellow "CC" coin collectors to attend all of these meetings.

The hunt continues.

Renewal Reminder:

**Please send your \$30 membership dues by June 30, 2012 to avoid missing any issues of *Curry's Chronicle*.
(For your convenience, we've enclosed a renewal envelope.)**