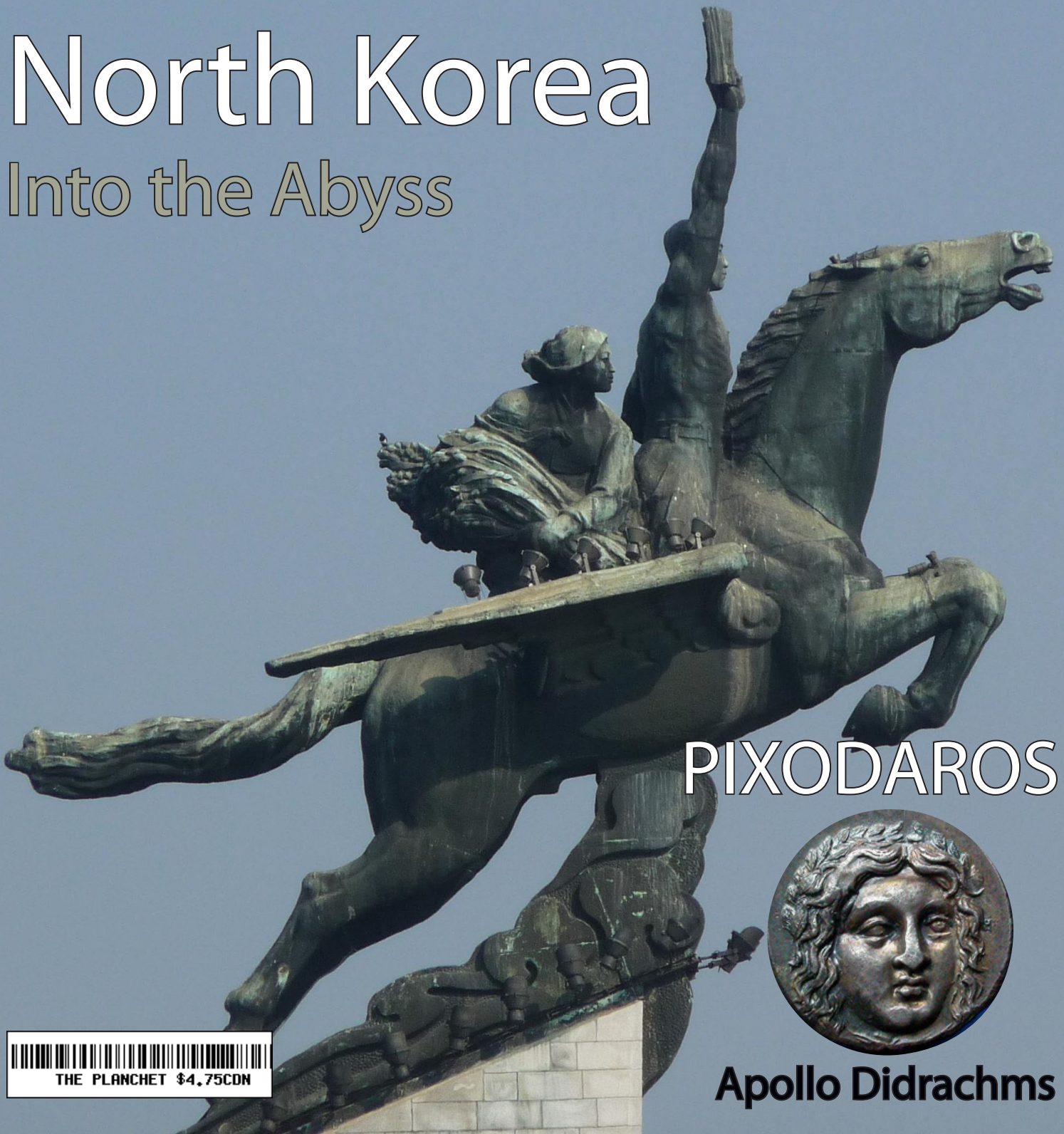


THE PLANCHET

EDMONTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

March/April 2013
Volume 60 Issue 2

North Korea Into the Abyss



PIXODAROS



Apollo Didrachms



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2011 - 2nd Place
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THE PLANCHET

March/April 2013 Volume 60 Issue 2

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ON THE COVER:

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Message from the President

David Peter 2010-14



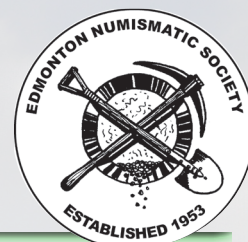
I would like to welcome all new members who signed up at the last coin show. We actively encourage your involvement and contributions to our society, and I look forward to seeing you at the monthly meetings. If you are unable to attend, we do have other events throughout the year, including our annual BBQ.

The Royal Canadian Mint continues its attempt at educating all Canadians about their prominent history through coins. It is commemorating the War of 1812 by striking both silver and circulating coins. In March, it announced the release of a 25 cent circulating coin featuring hero Lieutenant Colonel Charles-Michel de Salaberry, a prominent figure who raised a militia group to defend Lower Canada against the attempted invasion.

It is interesting how the Royal Canadian Mint has brought back a cameo affect on a circulating coin through this series, which really has not been seen since the 1960s. It has also colorized some of the coins, once again showing the advanced mint techniques that make our federal mint internationally known. The exciting aspect from a non-profit, educational group such as ourselves is that these coins also help educate and introduce young people and new collectors to the hobby and the art of coinage. It's important not to be too critical of these new series, as they help ensure the continuation of the next generation of numismatists and hobbyists.

David

@ The Next Meeting Wednesday, May 8, 2013



Royal Alberta Museum, 12845 - 102 Avenue
Meeting Start Time 7:15pm

- Introduction of new members
- Society matters
- announcement of ANNUAL ENS BBQ date and location
- design of the ENS 60th Anniversary Trade Token
- Fall Show
- **Presentations:**
 - **American Civil War Paper Currency - by Marc Bink**
 - **The Reign of Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands (1890 - 1948) in coins and through videos - by Pierre Driessen**
 - Show and Tell - bring numismatic items of interest to you to share with fellow society members
 - Silent Auction
 - Door Prize Draws

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About Your Society

Minutes from ENS Monthly Meeting on March 9, 2013

1) David Peter the ENS President opened the meeting at 1920 hrs. He stated that the March 2-3, 2013 coin show was a great success, with a turnout of 1099 visitors. This was our 2nd best show of all time in terms of attendance, as we were only missing five more visitors to set a new record. Once again this accomplishment would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of our ENS volunteers.

Howard Gilbey briefed us on the silent auction that was held in conjunction with the coin show. This auction was our best to date, with 61 out of 70 lots selling, for a grand total of \$2693.00. He noted that the majority of the lots were purchased by non-ENS members.

2) Marc Bink our VP presented the current membership report. We still have approximately 60 members who have not paid their 2013 ENS membership dues. The benefits of membership in our dynamic club was reiterated, as a reminder of what we have to offer. In addition to the camaraderie of meeting with fellow hobbyists, it comes with an electronic subscription to *The Planchet* as well as refreshments and snacks at all meetings, topped off by a yearly BBQ.

3) We changed things a bit by having the show and tell earlier in the meeting than normal. Bob Fillman started out by speaking about a very large coin shop he visited in Hawaii that had an amazing selection of items, including a wall of valuable Hawaiian coins.

The broad selection of items passed around included:

- Souvenir spoon from Sudbury,

- ON with a embedded 1951 five Cent commemorative coin,
- 1914 United States of America Barber Dime from the San Francisco Mint,
- 1864 \$5 Confederate States of America hand signed note from Richmond, VA,
- 1960s era 1st Edition Medallion Set from the Sherritt Mint,
- 1808 Thaler from the Kingdom of Saxony which was created by Napoleon,
- 2 Napoleonic pieces from Italy,
- Charles I Half Crown from the Tower Mint in London,
- 1914 \$5 & \$10 gold coins from the newly released Bank of Canada hoard. A general discussion on this hoard followed for a few minutes.

Circa 1870 Anticosti Island token. Anticosti Island is part of Quebec, situated in the Gulf of St. Lawrence at the outlet of the St. Lawrence River. It was privately owned in the 2nd half of the 19th century. It's controversial, as not everyone agrees that this token with a helmeted roman bust obverse is from this island. The reverse has an "A" over 1/8 that supposedly signifies Anticosti. Others say the "A" is merely the well-known mintmark of the Paris Mint and that these were made there as trial striking.

4) Wayne Hansen showed us a slide show of pictures he took at the March coin show. This created a lot of laughter as the audience saw themselves on screen with some unique expressions as they went about their activities.

5) Members were encouraged to contribute articles to *The Planchet*, our club's publication.

Conclusion

Door prizes were drawn, and the meeting was adjourned at 2027 hrs.

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No Bright Lights in this Northern Area

By Marc Bink



It usually starts when I find a coin. This time was no exception; I found an interesting coin in one of my "junk" boxes the other day. It was made out of aluminum, and had the usual "socialist" style reverse devices which immediately caught my attention. Yes, this definitely looked "socialist", and therefore probably meant an oppressive regime...it had all the right elements. I'll make no secret of it; I have this "thing" for totalitarian regimes. I have no idea what makes me want to study and investigate them. In most cases, they are repulsive, inhumane and generally just "bad". And yet, I'm drawn to them, most of the subject matter in my personal library is man's inhumanity towards man, I guess I just can't get enough of how other people can be so incredibly inhuman towards others and still sleep at night. This next case is no exception, except that the horror is still on going for people living there. The worst of it is they've been at it so long that most people who live in that country don't know anything different, so they probably don't think it's too bad. But it is, it really is.

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The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) was founded on September 9th, 1948 in the Soviet occupied northern zone of the Korean peninsula at the point of a gun, which was the usual process for a Soviet-puppet government. The American controlled southern area formed its own government shortly after the North was founded. The division of the country was arbitrarily decided by both belligerents in 1945 as a "prize" for the Soviet Union entering into the war against the Japanese at the tail end of the Second World War. The Soviets never did engage the Japanese in combat, two atomic bombs and Japan's quick collapse insured that, but the Soviets were allowed to keep their half as "spoils of war". The Soviets also did finance and support the Chinese Communists under Mao Zedong. While Mao was stomping the republicans into the ground, the Soviets installed a Korean puppet hastily chosen from their own ranks to start forming a local offshoot of the Communist Party. The man they selected was Kim Il-Sung, and he was given 3 days in which to learn and memorize a speech prepared for him in Korean, a language he hadn't used since he was a child and barely even spoke anymore. The reason he was selected is because his Russian handler thought he looked good and impressive enough to be a leader, it had absolutely nothing to do with the man's leadership skills. At this point, they were irrelevant.



Old series, 1959-2005 The 50 chon coin dated 1978 has what's called a "Chollima" (flying horse) apparently according to legend this thing does 1000 Ri a night. It has become the symbol of North Korean "progress", much like the fist and sickle was for Mao's "great leap forward".

Kim Il-sung was born as Kim Song-ju in a small village that sits on the Peak of Manyungbong Mountain in 1912. Although western historians are not entirely sure of these facts, it is believed to be true. His parents were reasonably well off, and they happened to be Presbyterians. In around 1920, Kim and his family were driven from Korea into China, where Kim grew up. All of his "formal" education (which consisted of about 6 years) occurred in China, and he eventually went to the Soviet Union where he became a Communist. At some point in the 1940s, he assumed his current name of Kim Il-sung, who was at the time a well-known revolutionary. The original Kim was a good deal older than his "new" incarnation, but this didn't seem to matter to the Soviet MVD who literally invented Kim from scratch in 1945. It is currently believed that the Soviets invented Kim's bona-fides by claiming he was a guerrilla leader engaged against the Japanese occupation. All it did was give the new improved Kim Il-sung an excuse to purge the country and kill everyone who really knew the truth. As he implied to his long-suffering people, he was always in pursuit of the truth. What he didn't tell people is what he did when he found it; which was to usually kill it.

The Soviets already had plans in place so that once the new People's paradise was declared an oppressive infrastructure would immediately swing into total operation. This of course meant issuing money. And like most communist regimes, this new Korean regime understood little of how money

really worked and less about how to make it work. All they knew is that the State now controlled the means of production, and the happy, productive workers would be paid a salary to enable them to get what they needed to survive comfortably and nothing else. Since the country was in a constant rebuilding mode, there was never enough to go around and there certainly weren't enough consumer goods to be had. In fact none were being made. The first issues of the North Korean Won were all paper, there was no coinage issued. They could have issued the money in fabric or felt or rice paper for all that it mattered, there was nothing to buy with them anyway. Pretty soon people had oodles of money, but nothing to buy with it. The black market value of this Won was starting to drop. Pretty soon it was worthless.

In South Korea, things weren't much better. The Japanese had destroyed much of the country before they left and the American occupation people had their hands full and were chronically short-staffed. So nothing really was done, roads weren't repaired and industry wasn't rebuilt. Crops withered in the fields due to lack of fertilizer, or transport, and the closing of the traditional markets in the North. In the North, if the Japanese hadn't taken it with them when they left, then the Soviets stole it and sent it west. The North Koreans were considered to be the luckier of the two states; they got the industry while the South got the farms. As was the case with Germany and Vietnam, it soon became apparent that the country would be better



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served as a whole, and not split up. However, that idea was anathema to both super powers; there wasn't going to be any kind of unification. So the North decided to force the issue and invaded the South. The Cold War was beginning to heat up.

Kim Il-sung had convinced his Soviet handlers that the South with the help of the United States was going to invade and was poisoning wells. So the North decided to invade, and the South went to the United Nations and asked for help. The UN decided to help, and the Americans were given the "lead" in this case. They succeeded in driving the Northern troops to the Chinese border. And then things really hit the fan, the Chinese People's Liberation Army got involved and over-ran all the UN positions and drove them south again. To make a long story short, an armistice was arranged between both Koreas in 1953. But before this happened, a lot of American and Canadian soldiers got killed ostensibly for nothing because not one meter of soil was gained or one concession was granted. Since 1953 Korea has been an armed camp with both sides remaining far apart and not talking to each other. But one thing had changed, and that was the relationship between Kim and the Soviets. They were no longer best of friends. In fact, it was probably a good thing for Kim that Stalin died when he did. Rumor had it that Kim was to have been recalled to "centre" and probably wouldn't have returned under his own propulsion.



There is one important difference on the 1978 set of 10 Won notes, the "red seal" (issued to socialist visitors) and the "blue seal" reverse (issued to western visitors).

The usual diagnosis in those days was "cerebral hemorrhage", but what they don't say is that was usually induced by a 9 millimetre projectile. Kim was a very lucky man indeed. As it was, the new Soviet regime was less than pleased with their protégé, so they cut him loose. Kim had by that point already fallen out with Mao in China as well. So he came up with his own way of doing things. He fostered his own cult of personality and a funny concept called Juche.

Juche is in a nutshell, the North Korean philosophy of self-reliance and racial superiority. After they fell out with the Soviets and the Chinese, Kim decided that Korea had to go on its own and never be reliant on any other group again. So this meant that some sacrifices had to be made. It also meant that the strict Marxist or Marxist-Leninist theory was to be modified (read; abandoned) in favor of this home-grown version of communism. But what it meant for the average person on the street was more than just a little inconvenience as



5000 Won note features the smiling mug of the founder of the DPRK, Kim Il-sung.

was implied by the official literature. Developing a liking for the taste of tree-bark and sawdust paste wasn't a bad idea either, as imported food started to disappear. The other main component of the Juche philosophy was total and unconditional obedience to the Kim family. Since its inception in 1955, the Juche philosophy has taken on a life of its own, and essentially is the guiding ideology with its own schools and literature in North Korea. It is because of "American intransigence and its desire to drive the Korean people under" that the current nuclear weapons program was developed. The funny thing about this is the Americans have recently negotiated deals with the regime that certainly didn't do the US any favours, but were an attempt to keep the peace on the Korean peninsula. Juche also teaches that the Korean people have to be constantly vigilant against foreign incursion. So the North Koreans don't trust anyone, and no one trusts them. The worst of it is that they have nukes now.

Currency-wise, the North Korean Won followed a very "socialist" path. First, the regime introduced notes and coins that were made for internal or domestic consumption. Of course, it is illegal for foreigners to possess these notes. Why, no one is really too sure, because it is pretty much worthless except to collectors outside of North Korea. The North Koreans also made a "socialist" coinage that would go to "fraternal

Socialist peoples" from other communist countries. This usually had one star on the obverse on the small denomination coins. Then there was the "western" currency, which had two stars on the obverse or denomination side. I would assume these were coins that were issued when the State forced westerners to exchange a set amount of hard currency for their local issues. As far as the banknotes went, it was pretty much the same story, a three-tiered system which in a sense makes a mockery of the supposedly egalitarian system that in the end seems to vindicate

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capitalism. There was a local issue, a socialist issue, (red won, because of the red seal) and the western "blue won" issue with a blue seal. Otherwise the notes appeared much the same with the same devices as the domestic issue. The initial value of the won was pegged at 2.16 to the US Dollar, but this soon became unworkable as inflation set in. By the time the North Koreans started experimenting with their currency again in 2009, the Won was trading at the rate of about 4000 to 1 US dollar. After the currency reorganization of 2009, the official rate was pegged at W470 to the dollar, but within 96 hours of the currency's introduction the black market rate started to plummet again. Needless to say, foreigners heading to North Korea can expect to pay generously on exchange rates, and no, there are still no ABMs there. Credit cards are completely unheard of there as well. And since the North Koreans haven't been paying their foreign bills, no one will lend or do business there unless it is for hard currency cash, something which the regime is chronically short of. So if you're planning a holiday in Pyongyang expect to pay outrageous prices for lousy products and service. And no, unlike Seoul in the South, there really is no shopping district in Pyongyang to begin with. But the real problem is that it is next to impossible to run a centrally-planned economy in amongst a capitalist supply-and-demand world. Even though "socialist" money isn't supposed to lose its value, the laws of supply and demand still over-ride socialist thinking and the currency becomes worthless.

During the 60s and 70s, both Koreas were pretty much the same in most respects. Where the Northern government was harsh and inhumane,

the southern government was corrupt and just about as inhumane. Living standards were similar as both economies were pretty much wrecked. What remained was primarily geared for war production. Yes, the US nominally supported the South; but they tended to look the other way when the South Koreans violated human rights by shooting political prisoners and arresting student democracy protestors. Things started to change once premier Park was assassinated, a more liberal democratic government was allowed to form. But it wasn't until the early 80s when the South got its act together and actually started to boom economically. Throughout the decades since the Korean war, huge industrial combines such as Hyundai, Daewoo and Samsung to name a few were slowly gaining political favour. Then with a transition to a more western style democracy, the economy exploded and the South Koreans haven't looked back. Statistically, the South Korean standard of living only began to surpass the North's in about 1978. In truth, it had occurred much earlier, because the South had access to consumer goods. In the North, only the Kim family had access to consumer goods. The North Korean

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people on the other hand, had to make do with a home-grown synthetic fibre called "vinalon" that neither wore well or fit after a washing. Most North Koreans were forced to buy huge quantities of it and this is one reason they tend to look rather shabby in their shapeless costumes. It's pretty bad when a utilitarian "Mao suit" appears wrinkled and ill-fitting. Unfortunately for most North Koreans, clothes made from this chemical disaster are the only product available. However, Kim Il-sung had staked his country's entire economic future on this stuff, only to discover it wasn't going to ever sell in the West, and no one could use it. A few individuals wound up getting shot over that. Worse yet was what the regime did about food shortages, or rather, what they didn't do.

Life for the average North Korean is not very pleasant. For the few that aren't in any kind of

gulag¹, the stress of trying to maintain some semblance of a life must be impossible. Ever since the North Korean state was formed, it has never managed to feed itself. In most cases, it never even came close. Production targets were always skewed, and everyone lied. Those that got caught wound up either in a gulag or if they were lucky, quickly executed. The general population has been forced to make due with whatever North Korean scientists can come up with to eat. In

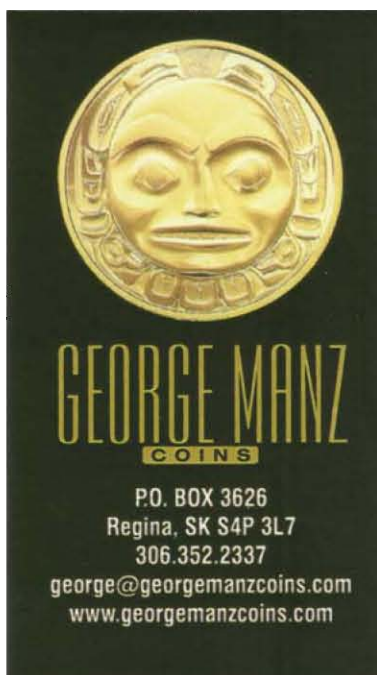
1 Gulag: This is what Soviet Concentration Camps were called. A Gulag is a state-run slave labour camp where conditions usually are inhuman at best, genocidal at worst. It's an abbreviation for Glavnoye upravleniye ispravityelno-trudovyykh lagerey i koloniy, or in English, Chief Administration of Corrective Labor Camps and Colonies. The Soviets ran camps like this from about 1930 until 1955, and most east-bloc nations ran similar ones until all of the "undesirables" were either dead or "re-educated".



many cases the mechanics of the human digestive system were poorly understood and people starved to death or died in agony after eating indigestible wood products. Reports of cannibalism have surfaced from time to time, although no one here in the west has the chutzpah to confirm them. The North Korean regime has been loathe to ask for any kind of international aid or help, even after it was graciously offered. The Kims are so scared of exposing their abuses to the rest of the world, as well as exposing their long-suffering population to their "class-enemies" who all seem to sleep at night with full bellies and look healthy. So besides what little supplies trickle in to the "special administrative districts" which are somewhat shared with Southern enterprises, some help filters in from China. But by and large, most North Koreans do not get enough food, and infant mortality rates are shocking. Not to mention, those which are fortunate enough to survive childhood are permanently stunted and developmentally challenged due to poor nutrition. The contrast in height between northern and southern Koreans is startling and becoming more pronounced with every successive generation.

What about any opposition? What opposition? According to the ministry of information there are no unhappy people in North Korea. Those who find it within themselves to complain are usually labeled as degenerates and their whole family is shipped off to a gulag for generations. There is only one way in and one way out of a Korean gulag, in through the front gate and out through the chimney. If a prisoner is lucky death comes swiftly, if not the poor wretch has the misfortune of surviving a long time. Gulag offenses range from dissent to looking the wrong way whenever the "dear leader" is mentioned. If a person displays one of the Kim's portraits incorrectly he and his whole family are sent away. During state staged protests or "popular movements" if a person does not protest enough or too much it could mean the gulag. North Koreans walk a very fine line between "freedom" and total enslavement. And it's not getting any better either.

Kim Il-sung was bad enough. He was not the sharpest tool in the shed, and he had this nasty habit of interfering with things and dispensing unsolicited advice which he expected action on. As Kim Sr. grew older and more senile, his first-born son Kim Jong-Il was slowly gaining influence



and offices. Where Kim Il-sung was concerned with public opinion Kim Jong-Il did not. Where Kim Il-sung was a womanizer and a bit of a degenerate, his son, Kim Jong-Il, was even worse. He proved Mustafa Ataturk's² observation that the "sons of great men are usually degenerates". Kim Jong-Il, once he fully assumed power after possibly knocking his old man off. After his father died under somewhat mysterious circumstances, the 5 helicopters carrying the senior Kim's retinue and doctors all crashed on the way back to Pyongyang, there were no survivors. Kim wanted to hear machine guns again. So the prisons were emptied. He had a voracious appetite for women, and discarded them as frequently as many people change clothes.

Unfortunately for these women, to be discarded meant a gruesome fate. This could be as a result of Kim losing his mother fairly early on; she supposedly died in childbirth, but there's a good likelihood that her husband had her shot when he tired of her. At any rate, anyone who has had the fortune to survive Kim Jong-Il's household and survive to tell the tale reports that his lifestyle was lavish and depraved. At the height of the famine, Kim had 10 million dollars in Swiss watches imported into his own personal collection. He had his barber shot for goofing up his bouffant hairdo. The man had worked for the Kim family for 15 years. He sent thousands of people out into the west with suitcases of cash to buy up anything his heart desired. This was at a time when the North Korean government was pleading poverty. He kidnapped 2 South Korean film stars in the early 80s and had them make a few films for him. They were lucky enough to get out alive. His own personal entourage consisted of toadies and sycophants. God forbid if he ever tired of one of them. Most who had fallen out of favour all of a sudden found themselves cut-off from society as a whole and eventually starved to death. His own family was not immune to this treatment either; a cousin of his fell out of favour and starved to death as his pleas fell on deaf ears. This is only a small sampling of what this man did and was capable of doing. Most of us here in the west could not fathom this man's paranoia or his depravity; it just doesn't register in a normal human being's psyche. But he was as bad as it was said. He died last year, unloved, but heavily mourned. In fact, if a person

² Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, 1881-1938, First President of modern Turkey. The quote comes from an interview he did where he was asked why he never had any children.

had the misfortune not to cry hard enough or convincingly enough while appearing on television or at one of the many public grief ceremonies that officials drummed up, it earned a short trip to the gulag. But one could see the tears were false and the grief was forced. His son, the current Kim Jong-un, may be just as bad, time will tell.

Part of Kim's strategy to maintain power was to always keep his own people off balance. In 2009 the Won had devalued to the point of uselessness. So the Kim government decided to do a currency swap. Unfortunately for most citizens, the window with which to exchange currency was too short, no prior notice was given, and the amounts that could be changed in one shot were so small and the potential loss was so high that it threatened to bankrupt most people. Kim didn't really care, until the people started grumbling. It was marginally okay to grumble as long as it went something like this: "If only our Dear Leader knew what those people are doing, - he'd clean them up...". Then Kim Jong-Il relented and had the finance minister shot.

This brings us to the current incarnation of the North Korean Won which is currently in use. The Krause catalog lists a number of commemorative issues of coins. Most if not all are non-circulating, and were only made to generate easy "hard" currency from Western collectors who have too much money. The subject matter is of course skewed propaganda, most of which puts Kim Jong-Il or his father in a positive light as great statesmen. As with most "socialist" countries, numerous "currency controls" are in place in order to prevent "hostile" influences from destabilizing the North Korean economy. These rules are for internal consumption, as most Westerners realize there really is no economy to destabilize and that the currency is pretty much worthless outside Korean borders. So the checks and balances do work, and very little gets out that the state doesn't earn some hard currency on. Here again, any hypothetical Western tourist vacationing in the "people's paradise" of Pyongyang would be strongly advised not to get caught in possession of currency when leaving. These people would become hostages, and if the hostage's state refuses to pay, then the poor hostage goes missing because he's outlived his usefulness. Or the state embarks on a propaganda mission and attempts to buy some credibility. Some influential Westerners were kidnapped by the Kim regime in the 80s, but that hasn't happened in a while. Nowadays misled and poorly educated has-been basketball players get invited to "party down" and are literally led down the garden path without fully realizing that they've been duped.

Right now North Korean currency is available, and any money generated probably goes into buying the kind of hardware for their nuclear program can not generate on its own. So I'd be kind of wary about buying any. A quick search of eBay listed in excess of 300 coin listings for proofs and specimen sets, and over 11,000 listings for all sorts of North Korean notes. None of it was expensive, and most of it seems to emanate from Thailand. Since the North Koreans are heavily into drug trafficking, one guess as to where all this money is coming from. So here again, be wary of what you could possibly be financing with your collector dollars.

Now that I've completed my research into the North Koreans, I'm probably going to do something I never thought I'd ever do; and that would be to throw a coin away because I find what it signifies is utterly repulsive to me. I think I've finally had enough...

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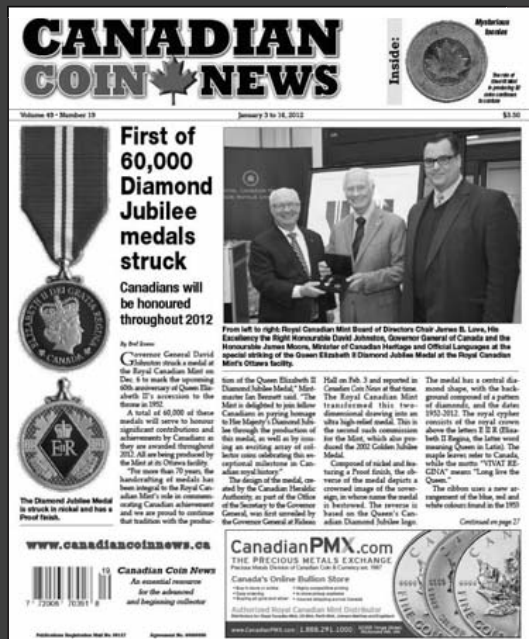
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Okay, So You Worship a Big Rock

By Terence Cheesman

Uneasy lies the head that wears the crown. Though Roman emperors did not wear crowns, the truth of the previous statement was as relevant to them as it was to the British kings that followed. Roman emperors lived under constant threat of assassination or military revolt. Caracalla was no different. He had a long and nasty career. Among other things, he killed his brother, his wife and numerous senators. He also wiped out a good sized section of the population of the city of Alexandria Egypt and executed a large number of Parthian nobility who made the mistake of showing up for his marriage to the daughter of the Parthian king. Needless to say, his end was violent and messy.



But he was not without his fans. He was very popular with the army, and the family of his mother, Julia Domna, was wealthy and very powerful. Though Domna died soon after her son, her sister, Julia Maesa, began plotting against the new emperor, Macrinus. To replace Macrinus as emperor, she selected her grandson, Avitus Bassianus, who was at the time high priest to the god Elagabal, the principle god of Emesa. This was not difficult. She claimed that Bassianus was the love child of Caracalla and her daughter, Julia Soaemais. This daughter's life at the court of Caracalla was described once as an "erotic haze", so it was entirely believable to the soldiers stationed near Emesa. They began the revolt against Macrinus and along with other troops, defeated him quickly.

Bassianus upon becoming emperor changed his name to Marcus Aurelius Antoninus. This was the official name of Caracalla, and like his alleged father, his official name has been replaced with a nickname. Bassianus's nickname was the



Latin version of the name of his god, Elagabalus. Elagabal literally means god of the mountain, but despite this, he was actually a solar deity. He manifested himself on earth in the form of a large conical meteorite. Elagabalus seems to have cared little for affairs of state; in fact, his main preoccupation was serving his god as high priest. Needless to say, he could not be away from the visible earthly manifestation of his god, so he brought the meteorite to Rome.

The obverse of the denarius reads ANTONINVS PIVS FEL AVG. In full this would be "Antoninus Pius Felix Augustus." Roughly translated, this is "Antoninus the loyal and lucky emperor." The loyalty expressed in this inscription might be to Caracalla, but a number of emperors took the names of two very revered emperors, Antoninus Pius and his successor Marcus Aurelius. It was an attempt to link them to the dynasty created by those two emperors, thus adding a greater degree of legitimacy to their rule. The reverse of the coin reads SANCT. DEO SOLI ELAGABAL and in full

would be "Sanctus Deo Soli Elagabal." Roughly translated, this is "Sacred Sun God Elagabal."

The depiction of the god is quite unusual. He is clearly seen as a conical rock within a four horse chariot. The rock is faced with an eagle. Literary sources are silent about the presence of the eagle, but it does appear, not only on Roman coins but on the coins of Emesa as well. Around the stone, one can see four parasols which no doubt protected Elagabal from the Sun (himself). Once a year, the god Elagabal would be paraded through the streets of Rome. The Roman historian Herodian describes the event thus, "A six horse chariot carried the deity, the horses huge and flawlessly white, with expensive gold fittings and rich ornaments. No one held the reins, and no one rode in the chariot. The vehicle was escorted as if the god himself were the charioteer. Elagabalus ran backwards in front of the chariot, facing the god and holding the horse's reins. He made the whole journey in this reverse fashion, looking up into the face of his god". While the Roman masses enjoyed the festivities mostly because of the food distributions, the Senate and the military were less amused.

That the reverse only shows four horses should not cause us many problems. The die engraver may have simply reduced the number of horses to make the composition easier to manage. However, it does beg the question as to what is actually being commemorated on the coin. These coins were minted in two mints, Antioch and Rome. The Rome issues are all rare, particularly the antoniniani and denarii. The denarii from the mint of Antioch are much more common. However, there is a problem. Recent scholarship has suggested that the coins ascribed to Antioch, during the reigns of Elagabalus and Severus Alexander, are in fact from the Balkans. The mints being suggested are Marcianopolis or Nicopolis ad Istrum. Both these cities have a vast issue of coins minted during this period, and there is somewhat of a family resemblance to these coins and the denarii which have been ascribed to the mint of Antioch. However, the jury is still out. In both cases, the four horse chariot design with the parasols are known to have been minted early in the reign of Elagabalus (218 to 219 A.D.). Thus the coin would be celebrating the god Elagabal's being transported from Emesa to Rome. One wonders if Elagabalus made the entire journey running backwards. This journey took over a year and provided the Roman people with a foretaste of the kind of government they could expect from their new emperor.

It would seem that Elagabalus was a religious zealot. He thought of little else, other than the worship of his god. What spare time he did have was given over to debauchery, which may have included prostituting himself out to



clients. If true, this would have been a novel method of trying to alleviate the financial crises facing the Empire at the time. The Roman ruling classes were unhappy with their new emperor, and in time, Julia Maesa began to take note. She must have had ice water running through her veins. She abandoned Elagabalus and began to promote her other grandson, Severus Alexander. Alexander was everything that his cousin Elagabalus was not. When both were presented to the Praetorian Guard, the soldiers cheered Alexander and ignored Elagabalus. He became very agitated and began to berate and curse the soldiers, which was not a very good idea, as he was surrounded by 9000 heavily armed and disgruntled men. They had enough and attacked him. He tried to flee and may have tried to hide in a privy. They found him, hacked off his head, dragged the body through the streets of Rome and then threw it into the Tiber. Elagabal, the giant meteorite, was returned to Emesa. The people of Emesa seemed pleased to get their god back. That city remained a strong bastion of paganism long after the triumph of Christianity.



Elagabalus standing in front of the chariot.



FROM PIXODAROS WITH LOVE

By Wayne Hansen



**Facing-Head Apollo Didrachm by
Pixodaros
(Another Miracle on Hekatomnid
Street)**

My last article ('She's Ugly But She's Rich', *The Planchet*, Jan/Feb 2013) focused on the coinages of the first two Hekatomnid dynasts - Hekatomnos and his famous son, Maussollos. Suffice it to say that Hekatomnos fathered three sons and two daughters, including Maussollos, who then intermarried and ruled the Persian satrapy of Caria for 60 years in an unbroken family succession. I'm sure this arrangement was all very regal at the time, but it reminds me of the old 'Redneck' jokes - such as: 'You know you're a redneck if ... your family tree has no branches!' or '... you've been married three times and still have the same in-laws!'. The party ended in

334 BC, when Alexander the Great began his conquest of Asia Minor and routed the Persians. The youngest son, Pixodaros, was the last satrap of Caria who was hereditarily linked to the local Hekatomnid family dynasty. Although he died just before Alexander's history-changing invasion, he left us with a few historical tidbits to ponder, as well as some interesting coin types. After Pixodaros, the Hekatomnid dynasty disappeared almost as quickly as it arose.

Pixodaros and the Hekatomnid Dynasty

My earlier article described the Hekatomnid succession in Caria and also described the types of coinages issued by each dynast. After the oldest son, Maussollos, died in 353 BC, his wife/sister Artemisia II took over briefly (completing their famous monumental tomb). Maussollos's brother Idreos succeeded Artemisia in 350, then Idreos was succeeded by Idreos's wife/sister, Ada I, in 344. Through some subterfuge, the youngest brother, Pixodaros, later grabbed the satrapy from Ada in 340 BC.

There is not a lot known about Pixodaros - he ruled for only 5 years (340-335 BC). He was the youngest son of Hekatomnos and must have waited patiently to become satrap after his two older brothers and their wives/sisters had their turn. His predecessors had left their mark: Hekatomnos founded the dynasty in 395,

Maussollos moved the capital while expanding Caria's territory and influence, his wife/sister Artemisia II secured the expansion, and Idreos added to Caria's prestige. It is reported that Pixodaros was rather irritated in 344, when Idreos had left the satrapy to his wife/sister Ada I (Pixodaros's sister/sister-in-law) instead of to him. Quarrels broke out between his camp and Ada's camp over the next few years, leading to Ada being expelled and Pixodaros becoming satrap in 340 (Pixodaros may have had outside help from mercenary forces in the Carian-controlled stronghold of Rhodes). Ada retained support in the countryside, however, and she set up residence in northern Caria at the fortress city of Alinda.

Building on the particular efforts of Hekatomnos and Maussollos, the satrapy of Caria had become wealthy and powerful with a beautiful, fortified capital city at Halikarnassos, a large standing army and a fleet of warships. It also controlled

the Aegean-island territories of Chios, Cos and Rhodes, plus its political influence spread as far as Byzantium. The Hekatomnids were in fact one of the richest and most respected families in the Eastern Mediterranean. Until the time of Pixodaros, the Hekatomnid rulers would usually have responded quickly to requests from the Persian King for assistance in repelling outside incursions, including the maritime threat from the Athenians in the mid 350's. Caria was still reasonably powerful when Pixodaros took over, though his control slipped somewhat with his political-familial problems at home (the dynasty may have been partially discredited by the time he died in 335).

We don't know if Pixodaros endorsed the incestuous antics of his brothers and sisters. The in-family marriages of those earlier Hekatomnid rulers were no doubt designed in part to keep power within the small confines of the dynasty. When outsiders are invited in, things can get complicated. Ultimately, Pixodaros was the youngest brother and had little choice about whether to marry in or out, since no other sisters were left. Instead, he married a Cappadocian from central Asia Minor named Aphneis. Pixodaros and Aphneis apparently had no sons to succeed him, but they seem to have had daughters.

There are varying opinions about what instigated the talk of an alliance marriage between the royal house of Macedon and the Hekatomnid dynasty in 337 BC. The Hekatomnids had been quite independent up to that point, as can be seen from the in-house royal marriages. However, there had been various problems in parts of the Persian Empire in those years, and the far-off Persian King was not always paying attention. At the same time, Macedon had become a formidable power to the west. By 337, Philip II had consolidated his control of northern Greece up to Byzantium, subdued the Greek states to the south of Macedon (including Athens) and created the League of Corinth with the central Greek city-states. The League chose him to lead a full-scale invasion of the Persian Empire as soon as practicable, with the intent to at least recover control of the Greek cities in Asia Minor.

So it's clear that the topic of an alliance marriage did arise at that time, and that an initial envoy was sent either from Pixodaros to Philip in Macedon, or from Philip to Pixodaros in Caria. This depends on whether a) Pixodaros had been troubled by the problem of his own succession and/or he was concerned about the rise of Macedon, or b) Philip wanted to neutralize a dominant power in Asia Minor to improve his chances when he commenced his planned invasion. The result of

these machinations was the 'Pixodaros Affair' (see section below). In the end, a marriage between dynasties did not happen, and Pixodaros arranged for his most eligible daughter, Ada II, to marry a Persian official named Orontobates. Upon the death of Pixodaros in 335, the Persian King Darius III appointed the new son-in-law, Orontobates, as satrap of Caria, since he had become part of the ruling family (this indicates that Orontobates must have been seen as a more legitimate successor than the exiled Ada I).

Ada I did not disappear, however. This is interesting. In the spring of 334 BC, after Alexander III had replaced his father as King of Macedon (Philip was assassinated by a bodyguard in the Fall of 336), Alexander and his general, Parmenion, defeated Persian forces at Granicus then moved south to capture Sardis and Miletos. Ada surrendered Alinda to Alexander, then she apparently adopted him as her son. She would have done this to formally guarantee that he would inherit all that was Caria. As a dutiful son and recently successful 'conquistador', Alexander likely then re-appointed her as satrap, while he continued his conquest of Persia and beyond. The transition was not easy, since Alexander still had to subdue the capital city Halikarnassos, whose strong fortifications had been built by Mausollos to withstand catapults. He never did take it forcefully - Orontobates held out for a year with the assistance of Greek mercenaries commanded by Memnon, a general from Rhodes, then he surrendered the citadel while he escaped to Cos. Ada could have ruled the newly subjugated Caria as a Macedonian satrap from 334 until 326 BC. Several former Persian satraps kept their positions for some time after the conquest as seasoned administrators and new allies of Alexander; however when Alexander died in 323 BC, his massive Asian empire quickly devolved into regional rule by powerful Macedonian factions. Ada's own modest tomb, containing bones and a tiara of gold leaves inside a stone sarcophagus, was discovered only recently.

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Figure 1 - Map of Hekatomnid Caria

The Hekatomnid Dynasts governed the Satrapy of Caria rather autonomously on behalf of their Persian overlords. Caria was located in the stunning landscape of southwestern Turkey, directly across the Aegean Sea from several Greek islands, the Greek Peloponnese and Crete. Its cities were stretched between the Maeander River to the north and the Xanthos River to the south. The original capital of Caria was Mylasa, but the second Hekatomnid dynast, Maussollos, moved the capital to Halikarnassos (present day Bodrum) early in his reign, after building up its fortifications and embellishing its civic infrastructure. Pixodaros ruled from Halikarnassos almost until the conquest by Alexander the Great in 334 BC.

The Pixodaros Affair

As noted above, when Pixodaros was satrap in 337, there was an attempt to arrange a marriage between the Hekatomnids and the Macedonians. Either Pixodaros was anxious to establish a diplomatic/military alliance with the Macedonian court for reasons of security or succession, or Philip II of Macedon wanted to neutralize a large impediment to his planned invasion of Asia Minor. Regardless of which side initiated contact, Pixodaros offered his eldest daughter Ada II in marriage to either of Philip's sons. He was careful to maintain friendships with Persia at the same time, but in diplomacy, you often have to curry favor with rising powers, and Persia was already in some turmoil. Philip replied that his younger, illegitimate (and some say mentally deficient) son, Philip Arrhidaeus, could marry Ada (Philip Arrhidaeus later became King Philip III after his brother Alexander III

died). Again the record is uncertain, but with or without interference from his mother, Olympias, or from Alexander's companions, Philip's other son, crown prince Alexander, took exception to being left out, possibly thinking his brother was being groomed for the Macedonian succession in his place. Alexander then sent his own emissary, the actor Thessalos, to Pixodaros, offering to marry his daughter instead. Although this greatly pleased Pixodaros, Philip was enraged at the insolence, when he heard about it. There had already been great tension between Philip and Alexander (Macedonian culture was especially competitive for the elite and Alexander had been acting independently while living away). Philip had the emissary brought back in chains, and he exiled several of Alexander's companions – including Ptolemy.

According to one ancient report of the incident, Philip thought Alexander was not worthy of his

royal position for wanting to marry the daughter of a mere Carian, who was in turn 'enslaved by a barbarian king'. If this was true, it would be a measure of the decline of the Hekatomnid Dynasty at that point – Pixodaros was at the end of the line. However, during Philip's early reign, only twenty years before, Caria under Maussollos was powerful and splendid, with its large standing army and fleet of warships. The family Dynasty was the most revered in the eastern Mediterranean, and its influence spread through the region. Although Pixodaros was compromised by disputes at home, it is hard to see that the fortunes of the Carians could have been as low as Philip imagined. In the end, the marriage plans were off, Philip II was assassinated a year later in 336 (immediately making Alexander King Alexander III), Pixodaros died in 335, and the planned Macedonian invasion of Asia Minor was postponed until the spring of 334. Who knows what would have happened if prince Alexander had married the young Carian.

The Coinages of Pixodaros (340-335 BC)

The coins of Pixodaros are much like the coins of his Hekatomnid predecessors, Maussollos and Idreos (the sister/wives of these two dynasts either did not produce coins when they ruled, or they extended the coinage of their brother/husbands). Except for giving Zeus a lotus sceptre instead of a spear, Pixodaros used the same obverse and reverse coin types as the previous issuers, presumably to perpetuate the fabric of dynasty and to continue production of what must have been a popular coin motif – the facing head of Apollo. This design was, and still is, a dramatic and artistic representation of the god in all his youthful vigor. Facing head coins would have been novel and much appreciated by the ancients, since they were uncommon in either Greek or Persian states. It was difficult to carve artistic dies in any period, and facing heads would have been more of a challenge – if only for the heightened use of perspective and proportion. As I mentioned in the previous article, the Carians almost outdid the Greeks in their honor of Apollo in this regard.

As with the previous dynasts, as far back as Hekatomnos, almost all of Pixodaros's coin issues are rare and seldom offered for sale (Figures 2-6 below show a sample, or sometimes all, of the examples that I was able to find for these issues). I was only able to find three examples of Pixodaros's tetradrachms (two of them used the same obverse die – Figure 2 was the exception). Pixodaros minted all his coins in his capital city, Halikarnassos. As with Maussollos, he minted both tetradrachms and drachms, but he did not issue Maussollos's archaic looking silver tridrachm/stater

denomination that I presented in my last article – those tridrachms were from another time and another place. Instead, he also issued didrachms and small denomination gold coins, ranging from the half-stater to the 1/24 stater (see Figure 6). Pixodaros's scarce gold coins largely used the same Apollo/Zeus types as his larger silver coins (again reinforcing the theme of the dynasty).

Pixodaros is primarily recognized numismatically for the important, new didrachm denomination that he introduced to the Hekatomnid series. His didrachms maintained the same general style and types as the preceding Hekatomnid tetradrachms, but they were minted in vastly greater numbers. He issued so many coins, that we see examples of this issue being offered for sale fairly regularly today. Moreover, these didrachms appear with a multitude of different obverse dies and Apollo styles. The range of styles is similar to those of the tetradrachm issues of Maussollos and Idreos, with some being finely delineated and most others being a bit less artistic. Apollo's face is sometimes distorted and does not show much detail or facial modeling, but then these are pre-Hellenistic coins, circa 340 BC, produced in a region where previous coinage was crude and where the Persians dominated. These non-Persian, Carian-Hekatomnid rulers were trying to emulate the Greeks. Their numismatic achievement is doubly remarkable when we discover the truly exceptional coins that sometimes appear among the Hekatomnid issues (especially those featuring highly artistic dies, as in Figures 2 and 3a).

The Pixodaros didrachms are indeed an anomaly. We do not know why he switched to that denomination, nor why he minted so many. Coins were usually used for military payments, tribute to far off conquerors, storage of wealth or trade. We know that Caria was wealthy under the Hekatomnids, so perhaps they minted coins as a medium of storage until needed for mercenaries. It's possible that the Hekatomnids produced a lot more tetradrachms than we suspect today, but they were confiscated during the Macedonian invasion for re-minting as Alexander's imperial tetradrachms. The Macedonians had adopted the Attic standard and imposed it on the whole of his new eastern empire, wiping out other weight standards – including the significantly lighter Rhodian weight standard used by the Hekatomnids (15.2 grams compared to the Attic 17.2 grams). The new Macedonian imperial issues also simultaneously de-legitimized all the coins previously issued by the conquered territories. We can only assume that proportionately more of Pixodaros's didrachms survived the purge. I have listed the main denominations issued by

Pixodaros below. Some descriptive terms for the gold denominations are interchangeable (with only a few coins of each type found in references, auction catalogues can be very inconsistent when it comes to describing them). I have tried to standardize the descriptions for this list and for the coin examples shown in Figures 2 to 6. Several examples of Pixodaros's didrachms are shown in Figure 3, since there are many of this type to choose from, and since I wanted to illustrate the variety of styles that can be found. Bear in mind, however, that other, poorer-quality coins often appear on the market. They are generally well centered, but in addition to being of weak style, they can be under-struck and suffer from die wear.

Coin Denominations of Pixodaros:

- Silver Coins – Tetradrachm
Didrachm
Drachm
Trihemibol
- Gold Coins – 1/2 Stater (Hemistater)
1/6 Stater (Hekte)
1/12 Stater (Obol)
1/24 Stater (Hemiobol)

My Didrachm of Pixodaros

I have only ever owned two didrachms of Pixodaros. My first one (not shown) came from a collection assembled by a nuclear submarine commander. The Apollo obverse die of that coin was identical to the example in Figure '3d', although mine did not have the pleasant toning of '3d'. Moreover, my first coin was struck later than '3d', so the die state had deteriorated somewhat, resulting in less overall sharpness and more artifacts (otherwise I would have kept it since the style was exceptionally artistic).

Although I had already bought the aforementioned didrachm several years previously, I noticed another Pixodaros at an ENS show that exhibited an interesting classical style and a fresh strike (see Figure 7). It was close to mint condition, with excellent metal and surfaces, fresh detail, round flan and nice iridescent toning. The only problem was that it was under-struck in part of the hair, the nose and the chin - not an uncommon problem (my first coin and the '3d' coin were both under-struck in the hair as well). Virtually none of these Greek coins is perfect. So what to do? I concluded that the fantastic metal, toning and fresh die state of the new coin made the purchase worthwhile. It helped me to know that at the



Figure 2 – Amazing Pixodaros Tetradrachm

Pixodaros Tetradrachm (15.25g, 12h). Unique? Mint: Halikarnassos, 341/0-336/5 BC, Rhodian weight standard. Obv: Head of Apollo facing slightly right wearing laurel wreath, aegis tied at neck. Rev: ΠΙΞΟΔΑΡΟΥ; Zeus Labraundos walking right, holding double-headed axe and lotus sceptre. Ex: Triton XII, January 2009. (Photo courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group).

The Triton XII auction catalogue for this coin said it was a 'Masterpiece of Late Classical Art'. The style is absolutely fantastic, the strike is perfect, and the overall condition is superb. On top of that, the obverse die and the coin denomination are excessively rare. This coin was estimated at \$30,000 and sold for \$90,000 plus fees



Figure 3 – Pixodaros Didrachms

Pixodaros Didrachms (6.9 - 7.0g). Same types as the tetradrachm in Figure 2. Ex: Roma Numismatics 3a-3b, Busso Peus Nachfolger 3c, and Classical Numismatic Group 3d-3h. (Photos courtesy of the auction houses).

These didrachms show a sample of the broad selection available in commerce, reflecting the fact that they were likely the largest issue of any of the Hekatomnid dynasts. The didrachm was a new denomination for the dynasty. Since the minting period was only five years, and there were a large number of obverse dies for the issue, we can conclude that vast numbers were produced. We cannot as easily determine why such large numbers were needed (the usual reasons are payment for military, tribute, trade or storage of wealth).

The artistry of these didrachms can vary widely, from classical to late classical and from a fine style to a cruder/looser style. The sheer variety of die styles in one mint is extremely unusual. Some dies (such as the obverse die of 3b) are encountered more frequently, while others are rare. The first Pixodaros coin I owned (now sold) had the same obverse die as 3d, which is a rare style, and it had come from a collection owned by a nuclear submarine commander. Coins with fine style dies are exceptional and can fetch high prices – examples 3a and 3b sold for \$11,000 and \$7,000 respectively.



Figure 4 – Pixodaros Drachms

Pixodaros Drachms (3.6 – 3.7g). Same types as the tetradrachm in Figure 2. Ex: Classical Numismatic Group 4a-b. (Photos courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group).



Figure 5 – Pixodaros Trihemiobols

Pixodaros Trihemiobols (0.83 – 0.88g). Obv: Same as the tetradrachm in Figure 2. Rev: ΠΙΞΟΔΑΡΟΣ around stellate pattern. Ex: ArtCoins Roma 5a, and Busso Peus Nachfolger 5b. (Photos courtesy of the auction houses).



Figure 6 – Pixodaros Gold Coins

Pixodaros Gold (6a: 1/2 stater, 4.17g; 6b: 1/6 stater, 1.39g; 6c: 1/12 stater, 0.69g; 6d: 1/24 stater, 0.35g). Obv: Profile head of Apollo facing right (1/2 stater) or left. Rev: Same as tetradrachm in Figure 2 (same or shorter legend), or ΠΙΞΟΔΑΡΟΣ between double-headed axe (1/24 stater). Ex: Tkalec 6a, New York Sale 6b, Kunker 6c, and ArtCoins Roma 6d. (Photos courtesy of auction houses).

same time, an upscale auction house was showing an estimated value of 7,500 GBP for a coin with exactly the same obverse die, with the same hair under-strike and with more wear (it sold for 10,000 GBP plus fees). In the auction catalogue, the "excellent metal and superb style" of the coin, and its "rare sculptural quality" was described. It was noted that the Apollo had "a bold chin, proud cheekbones and a strong nose..." So I bought the new coin that I saw at the show and kept both of the didrachms for a few months before selling the original one.

I think my new didrachm is certainly a remarkable specimen, both in its style and its preservation. The style is conservative and classical with well-executed carving of the hair, wreath and facial features. As opposed to most other dies in the series, including those in Figure 3, the hair is depicted naturally. The other dies tend to show the hair radiating from Apollo's head on one or both sides of the face, which certainly makes those images dramatic and lively by comparison. I appreciate both styles, so I may eventually acquire another coin with the more-lively persona.

My new didrachm, with the conservative, sculptural style (Figure 7), is definitely much less common than the radiate hair issues produced by Pixodaros. It is unclear whether both styles were produced contemporarily, especially since the previous tetradrachms of Maussollos and Idreos exhibited the same divergences. The classically styled ones seem intuitively to have been first, but perhaps it was merely a matter of the training and experience of the various master carvers chosen to do the dies. Certain dies might have been carved

by artists from Greece, while others may have been done by local Greek or Carian craftsmen. Officially, however, the obverse die of my new coin is listed among the earliest in the series dated at 241/0 BC, at the start of Pixodaros's rule, making it contemporary with the most beautiful and extremely rare tetradrachm issued by Pixodaros (see Figure 2).

In Closing...

Pixodaros was not a major figure in ancient events, but he was an interesting footnote at a critical time – just as the Macedonian conquest was poised to sweep away the Persian Empire and impose Macedonian-Greek institutions on Alexander's new spear-won territories. It was the end of a momentous era, an era when Persia had dominated the whole of the known world to the East, and when the Great King's satraps could govern somewhat independently.

The coinage of Pixodaros marked the end of the important 'Greek' numismatic issues of the Carian Hekatomnid dynasty. Pixodaros's primary tetradrachm and didrachm coinage not only faithfully honored the magnificent facing-head Apollo design of his Hekatomnid predecessors, but he also produced the didrachms in reasonable quantity, affording a good opportunity to current collectors to obtain an example of this exceptional type. Pixodaros did indeed love you.

'Where there is love there is life.'

[Mahatma Gandhi](#)

'Love is the poetry of the senses.'

[Honore de Balzac](#)



Figure 7 – Featured Didrachm

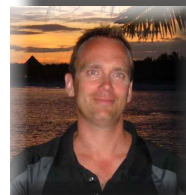
Pixodaros Didrachm (6.97 g, 19.9 x 19.2 mm, 12h). Mint: Halikarnassos. 341-340 BC, Rhodian weight standard. Obv: Head of Apollo facing slightly right, wearing laurel wreath, aegis tied at neck. Rev: ΠΙΞΩΔΑΡΟΥ; Zeus Labraundos walking right, holding double-headed axe and sceptre. Ex: Ancient Numismatic Enterprise, 2012; CNG Coin Shop. (Collection of the author and photo by the author).





Amazing Coins @ Auction

By Roger Grove



The Legendary Pittman/Krause 1936 Dot Cent - \$246,750

George V 1936 Dot Cent, KM28, MS63 Red PCGS. Ex: John Jay Pittman Collection. From our sale of the Chet Krause Collection in January 2004, Lot 14312, where it was described, "This piece is extremely well struck with a very sharp edge. It has been lightly lacquered at the Mint, as was the practice at the time. There is some spotting on the obverse and a notable planchet flaw on the reverse at the 3 of the date, as well as some planchet roughness near the right maple leaf. The planchet flaw and planchet roughness lend strong credence to this piece as the only Mint State example of the three known Dot cents, and this example does have distinctly different surfaces from the other two Dot cents.

This is far and away the most famous of the Dot cents, being the one stolen from the Pittman home in 1964 and later returned (with scratches in the right obverse field) in an envelope with other coins. In early 1936, George V passed away and was succeeded by his son King Edward VIII. As was common practice, for the remainder of 1936 the coinage continued to have the effigy of King George V. Toward the end of the year, models were made and dies produced with the effigy of King Edward VIII, but upon Edward's abdication the dies were no longer valid and a severe shortage of Canadian 1, 10, and 25 cent pieces arose in early 1937. Because of the shortage, Canada was forced to continue producing coins dated 1936 with the portrait of King George V. Canadian authorities felt a need to distinguish this 1937 mintage from the 1936 production, and a small Dot was placed on the reverse of the 1, 10, and 25 cent coins. The Dot is below the date of the 1 cent coin, and under the bow on the wreath of the 10 and 25 cent coins. History tells us that only the 25 cent piece was placed in circulation and that three pieces of the Dot cents are the only surviving examples." Once again, we are pleased to offer this wonderful piece of Canadian numismatic history. The current owner has known the pride of having this legendary coin for over 9 years, and now it's time for a new chapter to be written in the story.

This coin sold on April 18, 2013.



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Coinage of the Newfoundland Dollar

By Ermin Chow



Immediately prior to joining Canadian Confederation, Newfoundland was a British dominion, having the same status as Canada, Australia, and New Zealand at the time. In 1949, the former colony joined Canada as its easternmost province, Newfoundland and Labrador. Before 1865, the Newfoundland pound was its unit of currency, with British coinage and privately minted tokens being used in transactions. Its decimal coinage had been issued since 1865 and has been out of circulation since the dominion joined the Canadian Confederation.

The Newfoundland Dollar

Similarly to most currencies worldwide at the time, the Newfoundland dollar was based on the gold standard. It was valued slightly higher than its Canadian counterpart in its early years. Its exchange rate for the widely used pound sterling was 4 shillings 2 pence or 50 pence, although, after the Newfoundland banking crash in 1894 dubbed "Black Monday," it was devalued by 1.4%. This devaluation meant it traded at par with the Canadian dollar at 4 shillings 1.3 pence.

The denominations of coinage issued include 1¢, 5¢, 10¢, 20¢, 25¢, 50¢ coins, and a 2 dollar gold piece, but, the 25¢ and 50¢ coins were not issued until 1917 and 1870, respectively. While the one cent denomination was minted in copper, the remaining denominations are sterling silver (92.5% silver, 7.5% copper) but reduced to .800 fine silver in 1945. The reduction in silver content occurred a quarter century after the Canadian dollar's lead in 1920.

Most of the early coinage of Newfoundland was minted at the Royal Mint in London, while coins bearing the "H" mintmark were minted at the Heaton mint. Later issues were mostly minted at the Royal Canadian Mint, which are denoted by a "c" mintmark. The mintmark is located on the bottom of the reverses. See illustrations for the exact location. Newfoundland coins were not produced annually but rather when there was demand for their production.

Banknotes of various denominations were also issued by banks such as the Commercial Bank



and the Union Bank of Newfoundland. Later, the government Department of Public Works was forced to print notes due to the failures of the banks in 1894. These banknotes came in many denominations including 25¢, 40¢, 50¢, 80¢, \$1, \$2, and \$5.

Copper Coinage

Initially, the one cent coins in Newfoundland were significantly larger than the modern pennies. However, they are virtually the same size as the Canadian large cents. These large cents were made up to 1936, when the government reduced the size of the denomination to save on production costs. Interestingly, the large cent was unpopular with the Newfoundlanders, because their provincial flower appeared in an unnatural configuration.

Despite the numerous minute varieties among these copper coins, the odd coinage die arrangement of 1872 dated coins is to be noted. It is the only one cent piece that does not use the medal die arrangement, possibly because the Heaton mint was not told about it. The commonly used medal die arrangement is identified as a



coin which appears upright when flipped over on its vertical axis, while the coinage arrangement is identified as a coin which appears upright when flipped on its horizontal axis.

The small cent was first minted in 1938 and bears an image of the pitcher plant, which is native to Newfoundland. All of the small cents were minted in Canada during World War II, because of the risks of transport from England. Although made in Canada, the "c" mintmark is missing on the 1940 and 1942 dated coins, due to an error.

Silver Coinage

Despite the extremely low mintages of under 150 000 for the vast majority of dates, it is realistic to be able to own most of these pieces, because of the relatively small collector base. Unlike Canada and the United States, Newfoundland used the 20¢ piece for many years, due to its immense popularity with Newfoundlanders. Not until 1917 was the piece replaced by the 25¢ coin, due to pressure from the Royal Canadian Mint, which minted Newfoundland coinage at that point in history. The rationale behind the preference was to simplify the minting process by using the same blanks as the Canadian quarter.

50¢ pieces were not minted until 1870 and are commonly available in Canada. All silver denominations use slight variations of the same portrait for each monarch, and the Edward VII and the George V ones are similar to those used in Canada. It is to be noted the Victorian portrait is actually different on the one cent denomination, however. The reverse designs on the Victorian issues are distinctly different from those used on the Edward VII, George V and VI issues.

Gold Coinage

The sole denomination struck in gold is the 2 dollar piece. This denomination was chosen since a gold dollar could be easily lost. The weight and size of a gold dollar will be tiny, because the bullion value of all coinage must correspond with the denomination. Dissimilar to most circulating

coinage at the time, this piece is denominated as "2 dollars," "200 cents" and "100 pence."

Although gold was not commonly employed as circulating coinage, this piece was used for everyday cash transactions. Newfoundland was the only British colony issuing circulation gold currency. This piece is extremely small, being the same size as the Victorian dimes in Newfoundland. Mintage for this denomination is very low, ranging between 2,500 and 25,000, but examples can be purchased for a modest premium over their bullion value.

Conclusion

The Newfoundland coinage is a relatively easy and short series to complete due to its few years of mintage. It is enjoyable to collect the coinage of this former British colony and dominion, because of the island's historical significance and its simple, yet charming, designs. Although only a small percentage of numismatists collect Newfoundland coinage, it is a nice series for anyone to start on. It is affordable for all budgets, although it might be slightly harder to find outside of Canada. The relatively few key dates in Newfoundland coinage makes it attractive to collect.

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ETRURIA

- The short lived kingdom !

By Pierre Driessen



Fighting back tears, trying to maintain the dignity and composure expected of her exalted station, María Luisa Josefina Antonieta Vicenta left the audience hall in Milan. Her passionate appeal to Europe's most powerful man had fallen on deaf ears. With the stroke of a pen, the once proud Queen of Etruria had lost everything. She and her tiny state had become yet another victim, caught-up in the titanic struggle between the superpowers of 19th century Europe.

How had it come to this? For the answers, we have to go back a few years and explore the complex web of dynastic alliances, shifting balances of power and the confusing tangle of treaties which characterized the turbulent years of late 18th and early 19th century Europe.

Located on the western side of the Italian peninsula in the Tuscan region, the kingdom of Etruria was named for what the Romans called the region's ancient inhabitants, the Etruscans. Its name fit in perfectly with the Greco-Roman revival of the Napoleonic period, what would later be called the Empire style. In addition, it gave the aura of ancient legitimacy. This belies the fact that the Kingdom of Etruria was a very recent creation. Its coming into existence was the by-product of a series of treaties between the Kingdom of Spain and the French Republic.

In the struggle for supremacy, territorial and dynastic advantage, enemies at times can become allies. This was the case with the Kingdom of Spain and the nascent French Republic. On 7 March 1793, Spain, in alliance with England, declared war on France and invaded Roussillon and Navarre. In 1794 - 95, the French took the offensive and invaded Catalonia and Guipúzcoa in northeastern Spain. On 22 June 1795, the Treaty of Basel ended the war, with the French returning their conquests while receiving the Spanish colony of Hispaniola and its capital of Santo Domingo in the Caribbean.

Not having success with its English ally, the Spanish changed sides and concluded the Second Treaty of San Ildefonso on 19 August 1796 with France, joining her in war against Britain. Although it resulted in the massive defeat of the combined Franco-Spanish fleet at the Battle of Cape St. Vincent, Spain renewed its alliance with France through the Third Treaty of San Ildefonso on 1 October 1800.

With this secret treaty, officially titled "*Preliminary and Secret Treaty between the French Republic and His Catholic Majesty the King of Spain, Concerning the Aggrandizement of His Royal Highness the Infant Duke of Parma in Italy and the Retrocession of Louisiana*", a complex set of territorial transactions and actions were set in motion, which would ultimately see Maria Luisa throw herself on the mercy of French Emperor Napoléon Bonaparte in Milan seven years later.

In this treaty, France promised to enlarge the Duchy of Parma, whose crown prince, the Infante Louis-Francis Philibert of Bourbon-Parma (5 July 1773 - 27 May 1803), was married to King Carlos IV of Spain's (b. 11 November 1748 - d. 20 January 1819, r. 17 December 1788 - 19 March 1808) daughter, the Infanta Maria Luisa Josefina Antonieta Vicenta. The younger duke and duchess were to be elevated to king and queen of the enlarged state. Where exactly the real estate for this aggrandizement of Parma was to come from was not specified.

In turn, Spain would transfer six 74-gun ships-of-the-line to France one month following Louis-Francis taking possession of his new kingdom. Six months after that, Spain would return or retrocede to France the colonial territory of Louisiana, which Spain had received in 1763 through the Treaty of Paris following the world war lasting from 1754 - 63, known in Europe as the Seven Years War and in North America as the French-Indian War.

Unlike its other American colonies, Louisiana was proving to be a drain on Spanish resources and thus not considered a great loss. In his memoirs, Spanish Prime Minister Manuel Godoy (1767 - 1851) stated:

because of our lack of means to provide it (Louisiana) with an increase at the same level of the other Spanish dominions of both Americas, not yielding much to our treasury,

nor to our trade, and generating sizable expenses in money and soldiers without profit, and receiving other states in exchange of it, the return of the colony can be deemed as a gain, instead of a sacrifice.(...) Almost all is yet to be done, just a sprout of life on those unpopulated regions. In Tuscany all is done, cultivation perfect, industry flourishing, trade expanded, benign ways, civilization at high level, rich country in monuments and prodigies of art, in precious antiques, in magnificent libraries and renowned academies; a million and a half inhabitants; state revenues of about three million pesos fuertes, no debts; extension of six thousand five hundred square miles.¹

This treaty was so sensitive that King Carlos IV's favourite courtier and Prime Minister, Manuel Godoy, only became aware of its contents one month after ratification by his master. The solution to the territorial commitment made by France's head of state, Premiere Consul

Napoléon Bonaparte, to the Spanish was to be found a little later in the Treaty of Lunéville.

French fortunes had been on the wane, its armies suffered defeats in Germany, Holland, the Italian peninsula and Dalmatia at the hands of Austrian, British, Russian and Turkish arms. France was faced with the loss of all her territorial gains since the beginning of the Revolution and possible invasion of her own territory. This situation was reversed when General Bonaparte returned from his ill-fated Egyptian expedition, made himself the effective dictator of France during the Coup d'Etat du Brumaire (9 November 1799) and assumed supreme command of France's armed forces.

Through effective and unified command, France went on the offensive with renewed vigour. Napoléon crossed the Alps into Italy, while General Jean-Victor Moreau (14 February 1763 - 2 September 1813) confronted the Austrians and their allies in Germany. By late 1800, the tide had turned in France's favour.



Image 1: 'La familia de Carlos IV' portrait by Francisco Goya (30 March 1746 - 16 April 1828), of the Spanish royal family in happy times. Painted 1800 - 01, it shows in blue Infante Ferdinand, Prince of the Asturias (Crown Prince of Spain), in centre are King Carlos IV and his consort Queen Maria Luisa of Parma, to right stand the future king and queen of Etruria, the Infante Louis Francis and his wife Infanta Maria Luisa, cradling her son Charles Louis. The painting, oil on canvas, hangs in the Museo del Prado, Madrid, Spain.



Image 2: early 19th century miniature of Infanta Maria Luisa Queen of Etruria, artist unknown.

After Austrian armies had been defeated in Germany and Italy, her ally Russia had withdrawn, and the French began the invasion of Hapsburg hereditary lands. Vienna threatened, Austria sued for peace. The result was the Treaty of Lunéville, signed 9 February 1801. Part of the concession Austria made was the cession of the Grand Duchy of Tuscany formally to Parma, in reality to French control. This cession gave Napoléon the needed territory to fulfill the conditions of the Third Treaty of San Ildefonso.

The Grand Duchy of Tuscany was an Austrian secundogeniture, ruled by Grand Duke Ferdinand III (6 May 1769 - 18 June 1824), the younger brother of Holy Roman Emperor and Archduke of Austria Francis II (b. 12 February 1768 - d. 2 March 1835; r. 1792 - 1835).

The grand duchy had been created by papal bull when Pope Pius V (b. 17 January 1504 - d. 1 May 1572; r. 1566 - 72) elevated his long-time supporter Cosimo I de' Medici Duke of Florence (b. 12 June 1519 - d. 21 April 1574; r. 1537 - 74) to Grand Duke of Tuscany in 1569. Tuscany passed to the house of Hapsburg-Lorraine in 1737 upon the death of Gian Gastone, the last Medici grand duke, by the Treaty of Vienna.

Ferdinand III was forced to abdicate and leave his duchy by Napoléon. He was not left destitute however, receiving the secularized lands of the former Archbishopric of Salzburg, which were converted into the Grand Duchy of Salzburg and

became its prince-elector. This arrangement lasted from 1801 to 1806, then his older brother annexed the grand duchy to Austria, and Ferdinand became the Grand Duke of Würzburg until 1814, when he was restored as Grand Duke of Tuscany.

Now Napoleon was free to set the execution of the Third Treaty of San Ildefonso in motion. The final terms of the aggrandizement of the Infante Duke of Parma were formalized in the Treaty of Aranjuez signed on 21 March 1801. It stipulated that the aggrandizement would take the form of a territorial swap. The Infante's father, Ferdinand Maria Philip Louis Sebastian Francis James (20 January 1751 - 9 October 1802), the reigning Duke of Parma surrendered all claims to Parma and its dependencies, Piacenza and Guastalla, to France for himself and his heirs. In return, Ferdinand's son received the territories of the Grand Duchy of Tuscany, which were transformed into the Kingdom of Etruria, with Infante Louis as its new king.

Why do you ask would the duke of Parma agree to this? Simple - duress. He had little choice. The French were dominant in Italy and could just as well have seized his little state without any compensation. The duke's family was a junior branch of the ruling Bourbons of Spain. Although this offered some measure of protection, it also made him dependent upon the good will of his more powerful relatives, and the Spanish monarch wanted this deal for the enhancement of his daughter and son-in-law's position. Tuscany was many times the size of Parma, far richer, and the elevation in rank from grand duchy to kingdom raised the couple's status. It is important to note that Parma's ruling duke was simply passed over in favour of his son. He was to have received indemnification from both France and Spain, but this never materialized. Upon his passing in 1802, Parma was annexed to the French Empire.

Napoléon refrained from simply seizing the duchy, because he wanted the territory of Louisiana back and Spain as an ally, especially against Britain. Spain had agreed to break the alliance between Portugal and Britain, by force if necessary. This resulted in the War of the Oranges (February - September 1801), with Spain invading Portugal and the later by the Treaty of Madrid (29 September 1801), paying a large indemnity but more importantly, renouncing its treaties with Britain. Spain, despite appearing on paper to be a great power with vast holdings across the globe, a large navy and substantial armed forces, was and had been in a steady decline. Its economy was weak, debts massive, government corrupt



Image 3: 'Luis de Etruria', oil on canvas by Francisco Goya (30 March 1746 - 16 April 1828), painted 1800 - 01, hangs in the Museo del Prado, Madrid, Spain.

and ineffective, its hold on its colonies slipping and unable to effectively participate in the power politics which were unfolding on the European continent and across the world. The deal with the French Republic offered King Carlos IV at the time what appeared to be the best strategy to advance the interests of his dynasty and those of Spain. The Spanish monarch and his advisors did not, and to be fair nor did the vast majority of Europe's ruling elite, understand the social and political forces which had been unleashed by the French Revolution and the nature of the man who ultimately came out on top in the struggle for power in France. Europe's ruling classes continued the game of dynastic intrigue as if it was business as usual, and this would have ramifications for them all.

For Infanta Maria Luisa Josefina Antonieta Vicenta, King Carlos IV's younger daughter and future Queen of Etruria, the roller coaster ride was about to begin. Born at the Royal Palace of La Granja de San Ildefonso 40 miles from Madrid as an infanta or princess of Spain, Maria Luisa (6 July 1782 - 13 March 1824) had an idyllic early life. In 1795, she married her first cousin Louis Francis, Hereditary Duke of Parma, the son of its ruling duke. He had come to the Spanish court to complete his education. It was understood that he would marry one of the Spanish king's daughters; initially,

this was to have been the Infanta Maria Amalia (9 January 1779 - 22 July 1798), Luisa's elder sister. Instead, Louis Francis chose Maria Luisa. She was not a raving beauty. All of Carlos IV's daughters were short and very plain, but she was the better looking and reported to be cheerful, generous, good-natured, clever, entertaining, kind-hearted and devout with short, curly hair and a Grecian nose.²

Her husband was the opposite. Louis Francis, though tall and handsome, was shy and reserved. He was frail of health with chest problems and suffered from epilepsy, possibly the result of a childhood accident when he hit his head on a marble table. They appear to have been a good match and their marriage a happy one. For their first years together, the young couple remained at the Spanish court. Their first child, Charles Louis, was born in Madrid on 22 December 1799.

Finally, all the pieces had fallen into place. The diplomats, but chiefly intimidation by French arms, had done their work effectively, and the way was finally clear for the young couple to take possession of their new kingdom. Louis Francis accepted all as a *fait accompli*; Maria Louisa on the other hand was not as enthusiastic. She had her reservations, not least of which was Napoléon's insistence they come to Paris, the place where only a few years before her relatives Marie Antoinette and Louis XVI had been beheaded, to be invested with their new kingdom by him. In addition, her husband's health had steadily deteriorated, and she was not at all schooled in politics and what it would take to rule a state, even a small one. Eventually, she relented under her parents' pressure, especially that of her mother Queen Maria Luisa of Parma (9 December 1751 - 2 January 1819), sister of the just deposed duke of Parma.

On 21 April 1801, they set out for Paris, arriving on 25 May. Their first impression on the ever-fickle French was not favourable, and their Spanish dress was not fashionable. Personally, Maria Luisa was deemed ugly but clever and agreeable, while Louis Francis was described as good looking, good hearted but a fool.³ In her memoirs, Duchess D'Abrantes (6 November 1784 - 7 June 1838), wife of French General Jean-Andoche Junot, wrote that Maria Luisa was a "*mixture of shyness and haughtiness which at first gave restraint to her conversation and manners*". In time she grew to like the young queen.⁴

During the visit, Napoléon and his wife Josephine feted the young couple. The First Consul, a staunch adherent to Corsican family values, was impressed by Maria Luisa's tenderness toward her



Image 4: 'Sejourne à Paris du roi et de la reine d'Etrurie (*Visit of the king and queen of Etruria to Paris*). Jeton struck by the Paris Medal Mint in 1801 to commemorate the young couple's investiture by First Consul Napoléon Bonaparte.

Obverse: shows a book inscribed with CODE TOSCAN resting on the fasces, behind is the caduceus of Mercury, in front are the scales and sword of justice, draped throughout are garlands of flowers and grapes.

Legend reads: AU ROI D'ETRURIE (*To the king of Etruria*).

Reverse: shows a genius representing France, walking toward the right, the Gallic rooster at his left foot, offering a rose with his right hand.

Legend reads: À MARIE LOUIS JOSEPHINE.

Exergue reads: 21 PRAIRIAL / AN 9 (*10 June 1801*)

The intent and message of this jeton is unmistakable, for it declares clearly that it is French power, read here Napoléon's, that granted the Kingdom of Etruria to the new monarchs.

details: copper, 19.19 g, 34 mm, edge: incuse diamond pattern.
references: Bramsen 152, d'Essling 933, Millin 133.

son, whom she nursed herself. The stress of the visit and worries about her husband's health took their toll. Maria Luisa had a fever and was often ill and bedridden. Her worst fears came true when during a visit to Malmaison, Napoléon's country estate, Louis Francis collapsed from an epileptic fit. In her memoirs Duchess D'Abrantes recounts that *"the Queen appeared much distressed and tried to conceal her husband; ... he was as pale as death and his features completely altered."*⁵

There are several reasons why Napoléon insisted the King and Queen of Etruria come to him in Paris. He had an agenda, for both domestic and international consumption. The chief reason was domestic propaganda, to show the French people his and through him France's new power in Europe, in being able to redraw the continent's map and depose and create princes at will. It also served as a demonstration of his and France's power to Europe's ruling elite in general. The First Consul also used the occasion to further his dynastic ambitions, so that *"before he placed*

*two crowns on his own head [he] thought it would promote the interests of his policy to place one on the head of a prince, and even a prince of the House of Bourbon. He wished to accustom the French to the sight of a king."*⁶ He wished to maintain the fiction, as is found in the play *Aedipus*, through the statement made by Philactetes:

"J'ai fait des Souverains, et n'ai pas voulu l'être." [Monarchs I've made, but one I would not be.]⁷

First Consul Bonaparte, dictator and in all but name king or emperor of France, was subtly preparing the French people for his next political move, to be realized in 1804.

Napoléon's other reason was to meet and assess the new monarchs. His opinion of Louis Francis was rather unflattering. He found him to be a very ordinary man in all respects:

*He is a mere automaton. I put a number of questions to him, but he can answer none. He is obliged to consult his wife, who makes him understand as well as she is able what he ought to say.*⁷⁸

He observed to his private secretary Louis Antoine Fauvelet de Bourrienne (9 July 1769 - 7 February 1834):

*"The poor Prince will set off tomorrow, without knowing what he is going to do. ...Policy requires it. Besides, the young man is not worse than the usual run of kings."*⁷⁹

French diplomat and military officer Anne-Jean-Marie-René Savary remarked about Louis Francis:

This unfortunate Prince was very ill calculated to recommend, by his personal character, the institutions to which the nobility clung with so much fondness. Nature had endowed him with an excellent heart, but with very limited talents; and his mind had imbibed the false impress consequent upon his monastic education. He resided at Malmaison nearly the whole time of his

visit to Paris. Madame Bonaparte used to lead the Queen to her own apartments; and as the First Consul never left his closet except to sit down to meals, the aides de camp were under the necessity of keeping the King company, and of endeavouring to entertain him, so wholly was he devoid of intellectual resources. It required, indeed, a great share of patience to listen to the frivolities, which engrossed his attention. His turn of mind being thus laid open to view, care was taken to supply him with the playthings usually placed in the hands of children; he was, therefore, never at a loss for occupation. His nonentity was a source of regret to us: we lamented to see a tall handsome youth, destined to rule over his fellow-men, trembling at the sight of a horse, and wasting his time in the game of hide-and-seek, or at leap-frog and whose whole information consisted in knowing his prayers, and in saying grace before and after meals. Such, nevertheless, was the man to whom the destinies of a nation were about to be committed! When he left France to repair to his kingdom, "Rome need not be uneasy,"



Image 5: An 1803 Francescone or 10 Paoli of the Kingdom of Etruria

Obverse: shows the right facing bust of King Louis Francis.

Legend reads: LVDOVICUS. I. D. G. HISP(aniarum). INF(ans). REX ETRVRIAE . PAR(mae). PLAC(entiae) & PRINC(eps). (*Louis I By The Grace of God Prince of the Spains, King of Etruria, Prince of Parma and Piacenza*).

Reverse: shows the coat of arms of the kingdom of Etruria and the House of Bourbon-Parma

Legend reads: VIDEANT PAUPERES ET LAETENTUR (*Let the poor see and rejoice*).

details: silver, 0.934, 27.51 g, 41 mm, edge: with either ornate design in relief or incuse inscription .

references: KM 42.1, LMN 1154. Struck in Florence.

said the First Consul to us after the farewell audience, "there is no danger of his crossing the Rubicon"¹⁰

After a three-week stay, the royal couple left for Etruria, finally arriving in Florence in early August 1801.

Their reign did not have an auspicious beginning. Its former resident had stripped their official residence, the Pitti Palace, bare. Etruria's finances and economy were in a deplorable state. The country had suffered through war, bad harvests and the costs of maintaining French occupation troops. Unpopular with their new subjects, commoner and noble alike, the young monarchs were regarded as mere French puppets.¹¹ The popular Ferdinand was missed; the Austrian grand dukes had been socially progressive and able administrators, instituting many reforms and reviving the region's prosperity. Serfdom had been abolished, industry stimulated and administration overhauled; it made Tuscany perhaps the best-ruled and most progressive state in Italy.

To enforce their claim, the new monarchs had the backing of French troops commanded by General Jean-Antoine Verdier (2 May 1767 - 30 May 1839). Personally, Maria Luisa had suffered a miscarriage, and Louis Francis' epileptic fits came with increasing frequency.

Their trip in 1802 to Spain, undertaken with misgivings from the start, but at her parents' insistence, to attend the dual weddings of her brother Ferdinand and younger sister Maria Isabel, was a disaster. They missed the actual weddings, due to a combination of delays caused by Louis Francis' illnesses and Maria Luisa recovery from the difficult and near fatal delivery while at sea of their daughter Maria Luisa Carlota (2 October 1802 - 18 March 1857). Then news reached them that Louis Francis' father had died.

Despite wishing to return to their kingdom, again at Maria Luisa's parents' insistence, they stayed in Madrid. They did not return to Italy until late December 1802. Back in their capital Florence, Maria Luisa tried to hide Louis Francis' deteriorating health from their subjects. As a dutiful wife, she performed all official functions and presided over court entertainments. Her subjects criticized her for neglecting her husband and accused her of trying to overshadow him. King Louis I of Etruria died on 27 May 1803, likely from an epileptic seizure. In this highly dangerous and uncertain political climate, he left his 3.5-year-old son, Louis Charles, as heir. Maria Luisa assumed the regency.



Image 6: painting of the Royal Family of Etruria circa 1803, showing Louis Francis, Maria Luisa and their two children, Charles Louis and Maria Carlota. Hangs in the Museo del Prado.

For a further four years she, was able to hold onto her son's inheritance. This became increasingly difficult, especially in light of the changing political landscape and ambitions of Napoléon, for himself and his relatives. Etruria had become a pawn, used as an entry point for espionage and smugglers into Italy. The issue of smuggling became more acute as the conflict between France and Britain escalated following the establishment of the Continental System by Napoléon with the Berlin Decree of 21 November 1806. The system was an economic blockade designed to deny continental European markets to British goods by shutting all ports to British shipping and commerce. The pretext for Etruria's annexation into the French Empire was Maria Luisa's failure to enforce the blockade against British shipping in her kingdom. Napoléon remarked about the kingdom's governance, "*I am afraid the Queen is too young and her minister too old to govern the Kingdom of Etruria*".¹² The Queen's pleas for intervention from her father fell on deaf ears. He told his daughter to yield to Napoléon's demands. King Carlos IV valued his alliance with Napoléon more. This would prove to be his own undoing, when he was forced to abdicate in favour of Napoléon on 5 May 1808.

Maria Luisa left her capital of Florence the 10th of December 1807. She traveled to Milan to attempt to soften the French Emperor's heart. Napoléon was gracious to grant the deposed queen an audience but was not moved by her pleas. He did however promise her compensation in the form of the new Kingdom of Lusitania, to be located in northern Portugal. There was just one small problem; it did not as of yet exist. It was to come into existence following the conquest and partitioning of Portugal and all her dominions. Formalized in the Treaty of Fontainebleau on 27 October 1807, this was to be accomplished through a Franco-Spanish expedition. The proposed project was another reason why Maria Luisa did not receive support from her father against French actions, since part of the treaty was the incorporation of Etruria into the French Empire.

The kingdom was reorganized into the departments of Arno, Méditerranée and Ombrone. Its status within the French Empire was uncertain. For a while, it was governed by General Abdallah Jacques Menou (3 September 1750 - 13 August 1810) who had converted to Islam during Napoléon's Egyptian Campaign. By decree in early March 1809, Napoléon recreated the Grand Duchy of Tuscany and made his sister Elisa (b. 3 January 1777 - d. 7 August 1820), already Duchess of Lucca and Princess of Piombino, its grand duchess. Due

to its strategic importance, the decree stipulated that Elisa and her government were to strictly enforce her imperial brother's and his ministers' policies. Unlike in her other lands, she did not have any autonomy in her Tuscan domains. Elisa ruled Tuscany on her brother's behalf from 3 March 1809 to 1 February 1814. As the French Empire collapsed, Elisa was forced to abdicate in favour of the restoration of Austrian Grand Duke Ferdinand III.

The agreement between Carlos IV and Napoléon also called for Maria Luisa to marry Napoléon's younger brother Lucien (21 May 1775 - 29 June 1840), but both refused - Lucien because he was married and loved his wife; Maria Luisa because she did not want to displace her eldest sister Carlota Joaquina (27 October 1775 - 7 January 1830), Crown Princess of Portugal.

Napoléon's endgame was to seize the entire Iberian Peninsula, place his relatives or trusted subordinates on the thrones of the various states he planned to create there and gain control of the Portuguese and Spanish fleets, their colonies and the gold, silver and other resources which flowed from them.

Some people will never learn, and King Carlos IV and his ministers surely were persons who were seeing-blind. They should have divined Napoléon's



Image 7: An 1807 Francescone or 10 Paoli of the Kingdom of Etruria

Obverse: shows the facing busts of King Charles Louis and Queen Regent Maria Luisa of Etruria.

Legend reads: CAROLVS . LVD. D G. REX ETR(uriae) . & M. ALOYSIA R(egina). RECTRIX I. I. H. H.
(Charles Louis By The Grace of God King of Etruria and Maria Luisa, Queen Regent, Prince and Princess of Spain).

Reverse: shows the coat of arms of the kingdom of Etruria and the House of Bourbon-Parma

Legend reads: DOMINE SPES MEA A IUVENTUTE MEA (Lord, my hope in my youth).

details: silver, 0.913, 27.50 g, 40 - 42 mm, edge: ornate design in relief.
references: KM 50.1 , LMN 1170. Struck in Florence.



Image 8: A Dena or 10 Lire of the Kingdom of Etruria

Obverse: shows the conjoined busts of King Charles Louis and Queen Regent Maria Luisa of Etruria.

Legend reads: CAROLVS . LVD. D G. REX ETR(uriae) . & M. ALOYSIA R(egina). RECTRIX I. I. H. H.
(Charles Louis By The Grace of God King of Etruria and Maria Luisa, Queen Regent, Prince and Princess of Spain).

Reverse: shows the coat of arms of the kingdom of Etruria and the House of Bourbon-Parma

Legend reads: DOMINE SPES MEA A IUVENTUTE MEA (Lord, my hope in my youth).

details: silver, 0.958, 39.44 g, 44 - 46 mm, edge: incuse design and LIRE DIECI (10 Lire).

references: KM 49.2 , LMN 1168. Struck in Florence.

true intent, or at the very least, the complete disregard the French emperor had for all but his own interests. The manner in which Napoléon dealt with promises made regarding the territory of Louisiana should have been an abject lesson. Although not explicitly stated in the Third Treaty of San Ildefonso, it was understood that France would not cede the Louisiana colony to any third party. In 1803, this is exactly what France did by selling the territory to the United States of America.

The marriage idea having failed, Napoléon tried to keep control of Maria Luisa's person for future political and dynastic stratagems. He wished her to settle in Turin or Nice, both cities under direct French control. She refused and returned to Spain. Napoléon did not seize her, because he needed her father's cooperation until all had been prepared to execute his ultimate plan.

In Spain, Maria Luisa found a government and court in disarray and deeply divided. Her brother Ferdinand, Crown Prince of Spain, was openly challenging their father and his favourite, the Prime Minister Manuel Godoy. Ferdinand's anti-French stand had won him the support of the

populace. Napoléon, under the pretext of sending reinforcements to the war in Portugal, seized his opportunity and in fact, invaded Spain. King Carlos IV, finally facing the reality of the situation, made an abortive attempt to flee to his Mexican colony with his family.

On 20 March 1808 in a palace coup, Carlos IV was forced to abdicate in favour of his son, Ferdinand. Maria Luisa, despite all that had happened, sided with her father and acted as intermediary between the deposed king and Marshal Murat (25 March 1767 - 13 October 1815), commander of the French troops which entered Madrid on 23 March 1808. The French Emperor seized his chance and made use of the division between father and son. As he had done in the past, he assumed the role of mediator and invited both sides to a conference in France at Bayonne. It was a trap. In the end, through raw intimidation and naked threats, both kings were forced to renounce their claims and cede Spain to Napoléon. Carlos VI and Ferdinand VII (b. 14 October 1784 - d. 29 September 1833; r. 1808, r. 1813 - 33) were effectively imprisoned in France, all be it in great comfort.

Another round of throne shuffling ensued. The new King of Spain was to be none other than Emperor Napoléon's older brother, Joseph (b. 7 January 1768 - d. 28 July 1844). At the time, Joseph was perfectly contented in his role as King of Naples (1806 - 8) but was forced by his brother to assume his new role. As José I, he ruled, if you can call it that, a very hostile, rebellious Spain from 1808 to 1813. Marshal Murat, married to Napoléon's sister Caroline, had hoped to become king of Spain but instead was rewarded with the Kingdom of Naples, renamed the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies.

Maria Luisa and the entire Spanish royal family were forced to travel to France, to also be imprisoned in comfort there. She was very vocal in her opposition to the turn of events. Kept under strict surveillance by the French secret service, it was discovered from her intercepted correspondence that she was planning to escape to England.

The former Queen of Etruria was arrested, separated from her son and imprisoned in the Convent of Santi Domenico e Sisto in Rome. Charles Louis was left in the care of his grandfather, King Carlos IV, while it is not certain if her daughter, Maria Carlota, went with her mother or not. In her memoirs, Maria Luisa recalls:

*"I was for two years and a half in that monastery and one year without seeing or talking to anybody. I was not allowed to write or receive news not even from my own son. I had been in the convent for eleven months already when my parents came with my son to Rome on 16 June 1812. I was hoping to be released immediately after their arrival, but I was wrong, instead of diminishing the rigor of my imprisonment I was put under stricter orders."*¹³



Image 9: painting of Maria Luisa, Queen of Etruria, with her two children, Charles Louis and Maria Carlota, circa 1815. Maria Luisa had grown fat, not surprising considering all that she had experienced in her life to date. Oil on canvas by José Aparicio (1773 - 1838), Museo del Prado collection.

She was released in early 1814, when Joachim Murat, King of The Two Sicilies, having thrown in his lot with the allies when he realized Napoléon was doomed, entered Rome. While in Vienna, trying to influence events regarding her at the Congress of Vienna (1814 - 15), she wrote the *Memoirs of the Queen of Etruria* to support her case with the powers gathered in the Hapsburg capital dividing Europe for the restoration of her son's inheritance. She was not successful.

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Parma was granted to Marie-Louise, Napoléon's second wife, for her lifetime. Etruria was restored to the Grand Dukes of Tuscany and renamed such. Marie Luisa was given the small Duchy of Lucca, carved from Tuscany and allowed to retain the title of queen. For two years she refused but relented in 1817. Her tenacious defence of her family's interests had forced a compromise. Formalized in the Treaty of Paris, it

was stipulated that upon the death of Empress Marie-Louis, Parma would revert to her son and the House of Bourbon-Parma. Maria-Luisa was created Duchess of Lucca in her own right, her son to succeed her upon her death. Once the Duchy of Parma had been restored to the House of Bourbon-Parma, Lucca would revert to the Grand Dukes of Tuscany.

She ruled Lucca for six years, trying to obliterate any trace of its former occupant, Elisa Bonaparte Baciocchi Levoy, Princesse Française, Duchess of Lucca and Princess of Piombino, Grand Duchess of Tuscany, sister of the architect of many of her struggles, Napoléon Bonaparte. Maria-Luisa's new status gave her independence from the hare-brained schemes and dynastic plotting of her family. Her parents and brother, Ferdinand VII of Spain, wanted her daughter, Maria Luisa Carlota, to marry the Infante Francisco de Paula, Maria Luisa's youngest brother. She also thwarted plans for her son to marry Maria Cristina of Naples, a daughter of her sister Maria Isabel.

The Duchess of Lucca passed away from cancer 13 March 1824 at her winter palace in Rome. She was laid to rest in the ancestral crypt of the Spanish royal family in the Escorial near Madrid.

The Duchy of Parma was restored to the House of Bourbon-Parma on 17 December 1847, and Maria Luisa's son Charles Louis became its duke.

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1. Manuel Godoy. *Memorias de Principe de la Paz Cuenta Dada de su vida política por Don Manuel Godoy Principoe de la Paz o sean memorias criticas*

y apologeticas para del Sñor d. Carlos IV de Borbon (Madrid, Spain: Imprenta de I. Sancha, 1836), Tomo III, p 25.

2. Wikipedia: Maria_Luisa_of_Spain,_Duchess_of_Lucca.

3. Ibid.

4. Ibid.

5. Ibid.

6. Louis Antoine Fauvelet de Bourrienne. *Memoirs of Napoleon Bonaparte, by His Private Secretary*. (New York, New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1891), Volume II, Chapter V, p. 1.

7. Ibid.

8. Ibid.

9. Ibid.

10. Anne-Jean-Marie-René Savary, *Memoirs of the Duke of Rovigo* (London, England: H. Colburn. 1828), Volume I, p. 363.

11. Wikipedia: Maria_Luisa_of_Spain,_Duchess_of_Lucca.

12. Ibid.

13. Ibid.

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- Wikipedia: Kingdom_of_Etruria

- Wikipedia: Maria_Luisa_of_Spain,_Duchess_of_Lucca.



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These individuals have applied for membership into the Edmonton Numismatic Society. Pending any objections from the membership at large, these individuals will be accepted as "Members in Good Standing", effective this publishing date. Any objections to the aforementioned applications must be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Edmonton Numismatic Society, and will be evaluated by the Executive Committee on a case-by-case basis.

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May 8, 2013 - ENS May Meeting - Royal Alberta Museum, 7:15 pm start. Snacks provided.

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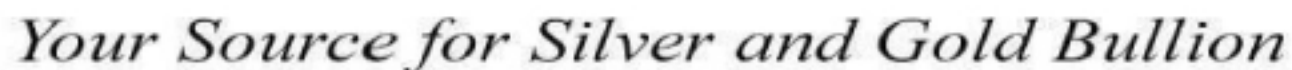
July & August, 2013 - No meetings

Summer 2013 - Edmonton Numismatic Society's club BBQ, details to be provided at the May meeting.

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