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Your Newsletter February 2007

Your Newsletter is an electronic publication of the American Numismatic Association dedicated to serving Young Numismatists by publishing their articles and related items of numismatic interest. To subscribe to the free *Your Newsletter*, email YourNewsletter@money.org and ask to be placed on the list. Permission to copy, distribute, and publish any information in *Your Newsletter* is granted to all.

Editor: Max B. Spiegel

Thank you to our contributors and readers! If you have an interesting numismatic article, website, or other item of interest that you would like published in *Your Newsletter*, email YourNewsletter@money.org.

Editor's Notes

Maybe my favorite part of college is having over a month off between first and second semesters. But another good part, ranking pretty close with the long vacation, is being able to choose from a wide variety of classes that interest me. This semester I am taking two that seem particularly interesting: "The Anthropology of Money" and "Introduction to Archaeology." Of course, both seem to have connections to numismatics and maybe will spark new ideas for articles to write. In the meantime I had the pleasure of being able to attend the New York International Numismatic Convention over my winter break where I watched my brother receive ANA Young Numismatist of the Year award. That was a lot of fun, and the NYINC always has some of the most interesting items for sale. The schedule for the 2006 YN of the Year was delayed, but make sure to get your applications in on time for this year, otherwise you will miss out! Good luck to everyone who is nominated.

Announcements

Summer Seminar ANA Young Numismatist Scholarships

February 16th is fast approaching, but there is still time to submit an application for an ANA YN Scholarship to attend Summer Seminar. Applications can be found on the ANA website at www.money.org click on "Summer Seminar" under the "Numismatic Events" drop-down menu. Recipients are chosen based on numismatic interest and activity on a local, regional and national level. Please contact education@money.org or 719-482-9869 with questions.

ANA Internship Opportunities

February 16th is also the deadline to apply for an Internship opportunity at the ANA. Two types of internships are available:

The American Numismatic Association Summer Internship Program is a great opportunity for young and emerging numismatists to study and work with ANA professionals in their fields of expertise. Interns spend considerable time working with the staff of the Money Museum and Library where they will focus on collection management, exhibit preparation, and numismatic research methods. They will also work with the Numismatic Outreach and Publications departments learning how information is disseminated to other numismatists and the public. The intent of the Internship is to introduce numismatists to the Association and have the Interns study and work with our professionals in order to gain a clearer understanding of the numismatic hobby and profession.

The Harry W. Bass, Jr. Numismatic Internship is designed to advance knowledge through scholarly numismatic research and study and to provide those individuals with a professional, peer-related venue to share their original findings and experience. Interns will spend considerable time working directly with ANA professionals in different departments to enhance their knowledge and hone the skills necessary to conduct original research. Interns will also work extensively on writing and presentation techniques and gain an overview of museum methods. This opportunity is generously funded by the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Foundation.

Interns must be at least 18 years of age. Further information and applications can be found at www.money.org. Click on "Internships" under the "Explore the World of Money" drop down menu. Please contact education@money.org or 719-482-9869 with questions.

Coins in the Classroom

Do you have a favorite teacher that you would like to introduce to the world of numismatics? *Coins in the Classroom* is an opportunity for teachers to learn to use numismatic items to create or enhance lessons in history, art, math and economics. The ANA will be offering *Coins in the Classroom* in several locations throughout the year, including a five day session in conjunction with Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs. Applications and full information can be found on the ANA website under "Teacher Tools."

The Coins of the David R. Cervin Ancient Coin Project Part 6 of 8: Bronze Coin from Arpi, Apulia

By Sam H. Spiegel

The ANA David R. Cervin Ancient Coin Project is a project open to all young numismatists who are members of the American Numismatic Association (ANA). The coins are earned a number of different ways, such as giving numismatic related talks, publishing articles, completing an ANA correspondence course, or a course at the Summer Seminar. There are a total of 8 coins available in the project. However, to earn the eighth, one must exhibit the first seven coins. The coins in the project are a great addition to any collection, representing civilizations as far-reaching as Gaul (modern-day France) all the way to the Mauryan Empire (India). They also range in time periods from the fourth century BC to the third century AD. That's 700 years of history! So, if you are a beginner, and looking at an ancient coin for the first time, or are a veteran collector, this is a great project that will add many memorable coins to your collection. In this series of articles, I will showcase a series of coins that I have received (and you can too). This month is the sixth coin in the series; a bronze coin from the city of Apulia in Arpi.



Map of Apulia. (Photo: University of Texas Library, http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/historical/shepherd_1911/shepherd-c-030-031.jpg).

Apulia (in Italian, *Puglia*) is a region on the heel of the boot that forms Italy. It is believed that the region was first settled by immigrants from Illyria, a region in northwest Greece. By the seventh or eighth century BC, separate tribes had emerged, and had organized under monarchical systems. But by the fourth century BC, these monarchies gave rise to republics, which in turn created many smaller city-states. As Greek influence spread throughout the Mediterranean, these city-states became more Hellenized, and began to adopt Greek legends of their founding. For example, one legend says that Diomedes of Argos, who fought for the Greeks during the Trojan War, came to Apulia and founded many cities, one such being Arpi. Because of this Greek-influence, many of the coins of this region have Greek words and legends depicted on them. According to the coins of Arpi, the city was

also an important horse breeding center in Italy, because horses appear on many of its coins.



The coin earned in this step comes from the city of Arpi. Arpi was allied with Rome during the fourth and most of the third centuries BC. But in 217 BC, during the second Punic War, Arpi sided with Hannibal and the Carthaginians, until, in 213 BC, it was brought back under Roman control. On the obverse of this coin is the head of Zeus, the supreme god in the Greek pantheon. He was also god of the sky, and thus, befittingly, a thunderbolt is shown to his right. The reverse depicts the famous Greek myth of the Kalydonian Boar. The basic storyline of the legend is that the god Artemis sent the gigantic boar to ravage the land of Kalydon because she was angry at the king. The boar finally met its end in the Kalydonian Hunt, in which many other famous heroes and heroines got together to hunt down the boar. So, on this coin, is the boar running right, with a spearhead above it. Below it is a Greek inscription, ΑΡΠΑΝΩΝ, most likely the ancient Greek name for the city of Arpi.

To earn this coin, you can do any one of three options. You can recruit five people to join the ANA, complete a correspondence course, or (my personal favorite), complete a session at the ANA Summer Seminar. If you do decide to recruit members to the ANA, have them mark down on the membership form that they were recruited by you. Or, if you decide to attend the Summer Seminar, remember that scholarship applications can be found on the ANA's website, and are due by February 17.

Next Time: A silver tetradrachm from Gotarzes II of the Parthian Empire, AD 40-51

Money Talks

was a radio project begun by the American Numismatic Association in October 1992 as a series of daily national radio programs. In 1996 the stories from Money Talks' first year were collected in a book published by the ANA. The following is a broadcast excerpted from the book, "Money Talks."

Hammered and Milled Coins

By Scott T. Rottinghaus

Coins have been around for thousands of years. But until the 16th century, there was no machinery at all for making coins.

This is "ANA's Money Talks."

Coin collectors make a distinction between hammered and milled coins. Milled coins are struck by machinery, like today's coins.



The first coin ever minted was this electrum stater of King Croesus, minted around 550 BC in Lydia. It was struck by hammer.
(Photo: ANA Money Museum).

But from the invention of coinage, about 2700 years ago, until relatively recently, coins were generally struck by hand, using a hammer. The process was fairly simple. Blanks, or unstuck coins, could be produced by pouring hot metal into molds, or they could simply be cut from large sheets of metal. The coiner would then place the blank between two dies and deliver a strong hammer blow to the top die, striking the coin.

Hammered coins look different from the ones made today. They're not perfectly round, they're often struck off-center, and the design is commonly weak because of uneven or insufficient pressure during striking.

Medieval hammered coins were very thin, and dishonest people could easily file or cut precious metals off the edges. This process, known as clipping, was a serious problem because it reduced the coin's value by reducing the amount of silver or gold it contained.

The invention of coin presses solved these problems. During the 17th century, milled coins replaced hammered coins in most of Europe. Milled coins are perfectly round and well-struck, and their edges are marked to prevent clipping. Today's coin presses can produce

hundreds or even thousands of high-quality and uniform coins every minute...quite an amazing advance over the former method of striking each coin by hand.

Young Numismatists Programs

The ANA has many programs to encourage Young Numismatists to be active in the hobby. Next year's ANA Summer Seminar will be held in two sessions during the last week of June and the first week of July. Summer Seminar is an opportunity for numismatic scholarship and camaraderie, offering students a wide and varied selection of week-long courses suited for anyone, from the curious beginner to the most advanced numismatist. Young Numismatists (YNs), ages 13 to 22, stay in a Colorado College dormitory with experienced chaperones and mentors. For more information about the Seminar, the numismatic highlight of the year, go to the ANA website (www.money.org).

Two great ways for Young Numismatists to learn and earn spectacular coins and other prizes are the David R. Cervin Ancient Coin Project and the Early American Copper Coin Project (select "Young Numismatists" from the "Explore the World of Money" pull-down menu on the ANA website). By completing hobby-related activities YNs can also earn auction dollars to spend at the ANA World's Fair of Money convention each year. To see how to earn these auction dollars, there is a form located on the Young Numismatists page of the ANA website.

If any other clubs have programs or events for Young Numismatists, please send the information to YourNewsletter@money.org.

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