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MARCH 1999

NO I



U.S. MEXICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION  
Don Bailey, Editor, P.O. Box 98, Homer, MI 49245-0098





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**HUBBARD SPEAKS ON MUNICIPAL COINAGE AT HOUSTON**

Clyde Hubbard, C-127 spoke at the USMexNA membership meeting in Houston to twenty-five members of the Association. Hubbard spoke on the Municipal Coinage of Mexico. A copy of the hand out and copies of some of the pieces that were shown in the slide presentation, will be presented within this Journal.

Hubbard's talk was as always, interesting generating a lot of discussion afterwards. The Association is grateful to Clyde for his sharing of some of his vast knowledge of Mexican numismatics.

The members present were presented an annual financial report by the Executive Director, which is presented else where in this Journal.

The International section of the GHCC Money Show International went fairly well for the first attempt. We had 18 dealer's tables in the International section, and reports I receive indicated that all were pleased with the activity.

Mr. Juan Manuel Solana, Economic Affairs Officer with the Consul General of Mexico offices in Houston was present for the ribbon cutting to open this convention. Mr. Solana was very interested in the efforts of the Association.

The Best Mexican Exhibit sponsored by the Association was won by a Junior, "Howie Rogers" of Sugarland Texas, who will become a junior member. Look for his smiling face in the photo section of this report.

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**Executive Director Don Bailey C-1 with Lois Bailey, C-10 presents the "Best Mexican " plaque to "Howie Rogers. Congratulations Howie.**

**OTHER USMexNA BUSINESS MATTERS****ANA SACRAMENTO MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

20 members and guests attended the Association membership meeting at the ANA Convention. There were brief opening remarks by the Executive Director on the financial condition, and current membership, as to how many and where the new members are coming from, and then each member introduced him self and told of their collecting interest. A general discussion was held on the future of the Association, and everyone enjoyed the chance to get together and visit on Mexican numismatics.

**MEMBERSHIP LISTING**

We will be putting out a new Membership Listing sometime around July, so if you did not get in the one we issued last year, or there are any changes in your telephone number or e mail address please let us know. For the newer members, this is the listing that is generated from the membership Survey that you should have received with your first membership card. If you did not receive it, or have misplaced it let the Association's office know it, and we will get one out to you.

We understand the safety concerns of our members, so we do not list the mailing address, just the telephone numbers, and/or e-mail address. Remember that with the right software and a listed telephone number one can find the location from which that telephone number originates. This is why we have asked that you give us written permission to print the information you send.

I have received reports of good connections being made between collectors of like interest via this listing.

**ASSOCIATION DEALERS LISTING**

Even though we have paid advertising in the Journal, there are still many dealers that are members of the Association. We would like to make available to our members, and people of the Mexican Numismatic field who are not yet members a listing of these dealers, and the areas that they deal in.

From the Association web site we get several requests for where to buy Mexican coins, and we would like to have a listing available for those that ask for it.

What we would need from members that are dealers, that either through published price lists or attend coin shows is; business name, address, telephone number, fax number, and e mail address, as well as the area of dealing interests.

Any comments on this would be appreciated.

**COMMENTS FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

As most of you know we travel during the months of January through March, attending Coin Shows where the sun shines, which makes it hard to answer correspondence and business of the Association. We do the best that we can, and we appreciate your understanding, and indulgence. This year after returning from this trip we had two shows scheduled and in the middle of this we had a death in the family that took our interests elsewhere other the Journal. We are back on track, and please accept my apologies for any delay in getting back to our members and the delay in getting this issue out.

The membership is continuing to grow, lest a few days ago I issued membership number 281, and we now have three junior members. This is one area we really need to work on for our future.

Don Bailey, Executive Director



## MUNICIPAL COINAGE OF MEXICO

Handout from Clyde Hubbard's Presentation  
Clyde Hubbard, C-127

## 1. WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG DID MUNICIPAL COINS CIRCULATE?

Period is approximately a century, starting in the latter part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and continuing to the 1880's. They were outlawed by a national decree in 1905

## 2. WHO ISSUED THEM?

Municipalities, or persons doing business within a municipality. Some of the coins bearing the name of a municipality also have the name or initials of an individual who may or may not have been authorized to strike coins for circulation.

## 3. WHY WERE THEY MADE?

Although they did make small transactions easier, profit motive was probably the main reason for coinage of copper coins. Copper was much cheaper in intrinsic value than silver. Labor was cheap and simple dies could not have been very expensive.

## 4. ARE THESE PIECES COINS OR TOKENS?

Several books include them as tokens. However, they should be considered as coins if authorized by a government. Many issues were officially sponsored and some were not. Incomplete or non-existing records make it impossible to distinguish the difference.

## 5. WHERE DO THEY FIT INTO THE MEXICAN NUMISMATIC CATEGORIES?

During the nineteenth century there were national, state, municipal coins all circulating simultaneously. At the same time there were private tokens of haciendas, mining companies and business establishments.

## 6. WHAT ARE THE BEST REFERENCES AVAILABLE FOR IDENTIFICATION AND STUDY?

The only book dealing exclusively with the subject of municipal coins of Mexico is LAS MONEDAS MUNICIPALES MEXICANAS, by Mauricio Fernandez Garza. Printed in 1979 it lists and illustrates with drawings approximately 300 different pieces. The first 37 pages covering the historical background are in Spanish and English. The remaining pages with coin descriptions, rarity population figures and comments are in Spanish, ending on page 106.

Second book of importance is LAS MONEDAS DE NECESIDAD DEL ESTADO DE MICHOACAN by Manuel Romero de Terreros. An article of 28 pages in Spanish printed in 1940 as a part of Vol. II, No. 5 of the Autonomous University of Mexico's annals, lists 156 entries of municipal and hacienda pieces of the State of Michoacan. Two plate pages have photos of one side only of 21 pieces. A state map is included to show location of municipalities.

More recent publications of Frank Grove and Russell Rulau include drawings of a few municipal coins in their books about TOKENS OF MEXICO. Mauricio Fernandez points out that municipal issues are coins – not tokens.

## 7. DO COUNTERFEITS EXIST?

Yes, they do. Some are contemporary, especially ones of Zamora, Michoacan. In Guadalajara, several years ago, some entrepreneur began to produce die-struck fantasies in imitation of municipal coins. They may fool a beginning collector but are generally recognizable for what they are.

8. WHAT MATERIALS WERE USED TO PRODUCE MUNICIPAL COINS?

Copper predominates, followed by brass and lead. Lead was used in Yucatan. Also known, but rarely encountered, are leather, wood and soap.

9. WHAT DENOMINATIONS PREVAILED?

Some pieces bear no indication. The majority of coins are marked 1/8 or UN OCTAVO. To a lesser extent, 1/4 is found. At least two are CENTAVOS (Campeche, 1861 and Progreso, Yucatan, 1873).

10. WHAT IS A MUNICIPALITY?

A municipality in Mexico corresponds roughly to a county in the United States. It may include several towns or villages.

11. HOW WIDELY DID MUNICIPAL COINS CIRCULATE?

They were used only within a local market area. Traditionally, each commercial center of a region had certain established market days at which time people gathered to buy, sell or exchange goods. This was the time in which municipal coins are used most frequently.

12. IN WHAT CONDITION ARE MUNICIPAL COINS ACCEPTABLE FOR A COLLECTION?

This is a tough question, a matter for personal decision. Some issues can be found nicely and evenly struck in completely readable condition. Others may have been unevenly struck so that several pieces may be needed to decipher the complete legends. The colonial coins of Lagos are an example. Mauricio Fernandez classifies them as common; yet he could not be certain of the denomination – which is 1/4.

13. HOW SCARCE ARE MUNICIPAL COINS?

Fortunately, Fernandez Garza has a rarity scale, which is applied to every piece listed: Very Rare, Rare, Scarce, and Common. Again this may be adjusted according to condition.

14. HOW MANY STATES WERE REPRESENTED IN THIS TYPE OF COINAGE?

Michoacan, Jalisco, Zacatecas, Colima, San Luis Potosi, Mexico, Yucatan and Campeche were the principal ones. Perhaps there are a few others.

15. WHAT TYPE OF COINS MIGHT ONE EXPECT TO FIND?

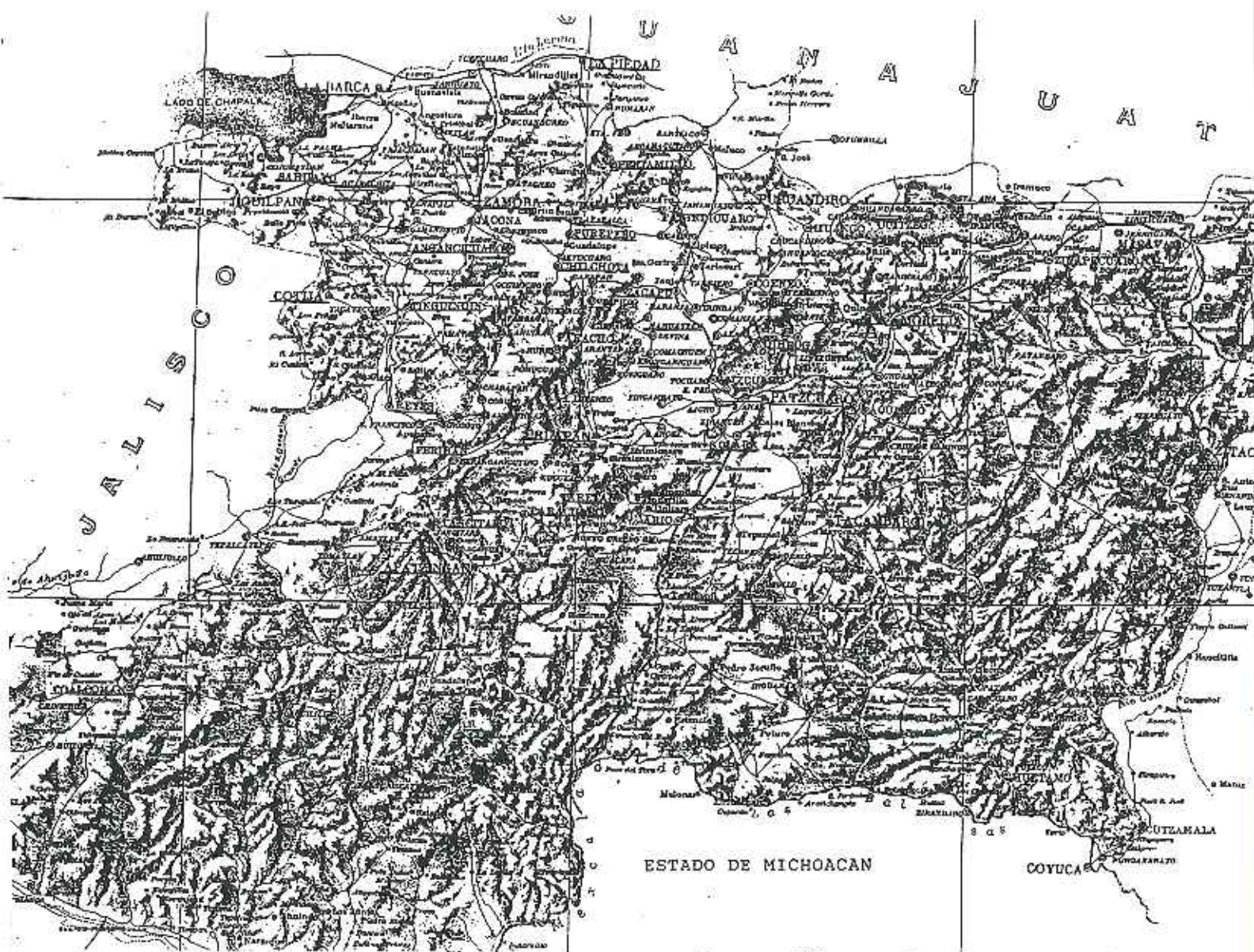
Many are uniface – that is, struck on one side only. The majority of coins were die struck, using two dies. A few were made by using incuse punches (those of PIEDAD 1871 for example.) In several instances, worn state coppers were countermarked with initials to circulate in specific localities. Those of Jalisco predominate. Some planchets were made by casting then countermarked (state coinage of San Luis Potosi 1859, with a CE punch for Catorce).

Thank you for your interest. Any comments about the above will be appreciated. Sometimes I can answer questions.

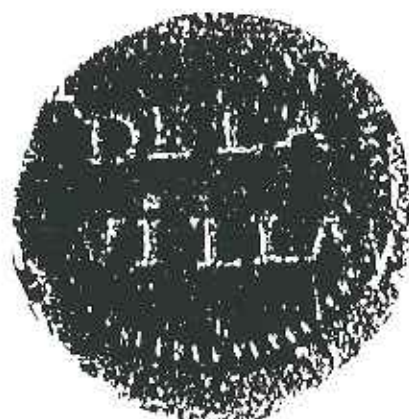
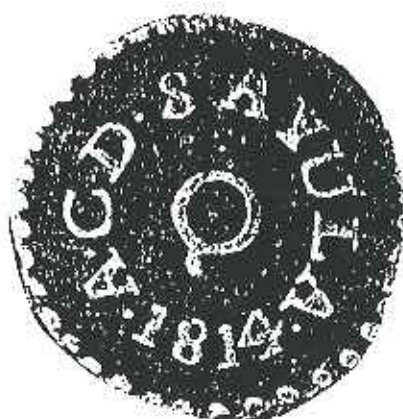
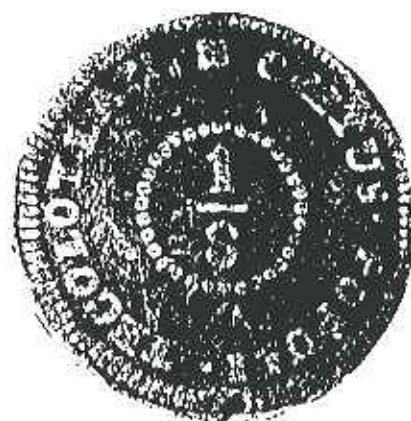
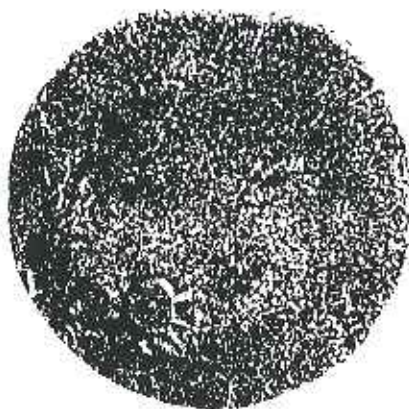
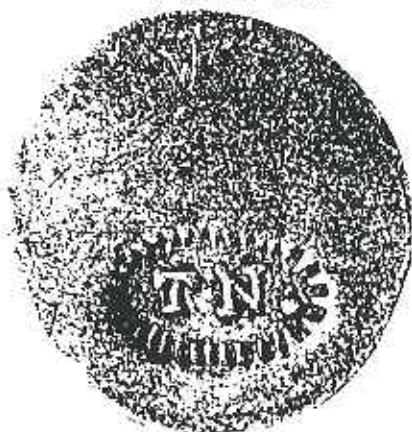
Clyde Hubbard  
9051-C Siempre Viva Rd., Suite 21-50  
San Diego, CA 93173

The following three pages, which show a map of the Mexican State of Michoacan, and two pages of Municipal coins accompanied the hand out.

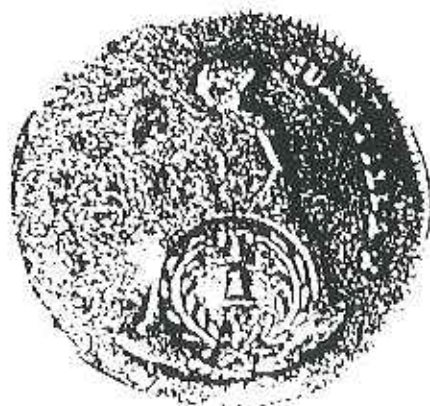
















Clyde Hubbard, C-127, GBCC President Ralph Ross, Judy Matherne C-24 & Don Bailey, C-1

## XXX INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATIC CONVENTION MEXICO 99

The Sociedad Numismática de México will conduct their Thirtieth International Numismatic Convention June 23 – 26, 1999 at the Del Prado Hotel, Av. Marina Nacional #399, col. Verónica Anzures, C.P. 11300, Mexico City. Additional information can be obtained from the Sociedad at Telephone 011 525 260-6284, Fax 011 525 260-5909, or you may contact the Association, and we will share what if any new information we might have received. The tentative program is as follows:

|                    |          |                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| June 22, Tuesday   | 9:15 AM  | Registration at the Hotel Lobby<br>Paper Money Plant Tour                                                          |
| June 23, Wednesday | 11:00 AM | Registration of exhibitors                                                                                         |
|                    | 12:00 AM | Dealer set up                                                                                                      |
|                    | 2:00 PM  | Buffet/Lunch, Presentation of 2 <sup>nd</sup> S.N.M. telephone card, and<br>The XXX convention commemorative medal |
|                    | 4:00 PM  | Bourse open to exhibitors, and buffet attendees.                                                                   |
|                    | 8:00 PM  | Bourse closes                                                                                                      |
| June 24, Thursday  | 9:00 AM  | Inaugural Breakfast                                                                                                |
|                    | 10:00 AM | Opening of the XXX International Numismatic Convention                                                             |
|                    | 8:00 PM  | Bourse closes                                                                                                      |
| June 25, Friday    | 10:00 AM | Bourse opens                                                                                                       |
|                    | 8:00 PM  | Bourse closes                                                                                                      |
| June 26, Saturday  | 10:00 AM | Bourse opens                                                                                                       |
|                    | 11:00 AM | Educational Forum, "Paper Money Issues of the Bank of<br>Mexico" by Ricardo Abdo Bejos                             |
|                    | 5:00 PM  | XXX International Numismatic Convention closes                                                                     |



*THE MEXICAN REVOLUTIONARY CORNER*

By Joe Flores, C-2

**GUERRERO, COMPO MORADO**

Un Peso 1914 from the state of Guererro, Campo Morado

These are very well known dies always struck on very crude rough planchets and very seldom do you see these coins well struck on either the obverse or the reverse. They are still quite rare, and always struck on silver planchets.

The photo shown is the same die as all the known silver coins, but the rarity of this coin is that it is struck on a BRASS planchet generating a genuine rarity. It is possibly a pattern-trial strike and unique.

I once mentioned my BRASS coin to a very well known dealer in Mexico City, and he did tell me that he had handled this same coin in 1950 for a very well known gentleman from Texas that collected rare Mexican coins.

The working dies are known by previous authors and catalogers as: HW-83, U-Gue. 20, G-Gro.-68, L.s. GRO.31, and G.B. #170.

Edge-----Plain,      Metal-----Brass,      Dia.-----32.60 mm,      Wt.-----14.70 grms.

Owner:  
Joe Flores  
P.O. Box 4484  
Stockton, CA 95204





## QUESTIONABLE 1733 Mo MX 8 REALE SURFACES

The below pictured pillar eight reales has been reported from one of the Association members, which he acquired from a south Florida source. This piece which weights 26.83 grams, make with good silver, comes with what appears to be ocean floor sediment, but when a mild acid is applied which removes the sediment, BUT there are no sand granules left.

The "QUE" and the 3s in the date look fishy. If anyone has any comments on this please let the Association know.



### UNITED STATES MEXICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

#### FINANCIAL REPORT, 1/1/98 through 12/31/98

CASH IN BANK 1/1/98 \$1,024.02

#### INCOME:

|              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Dues         | \$3534.00       |
| Advertising  | \$ 825.00       |
| Misc. Income | <u>\$ 37.00</u> |
| Total Income | \$4,407.00      |

#### EXPENSES:

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Postage        | \$1,584.72      |
| Printing       | \$1,527.81      |
| Supplies       | \$ 700.77       |
| Office Expense | \$ 431.42       |
| Miscellaneous  | <u>\$ 79.46</u> |
|                | \$4,324.18      |
|                | <u>\$ 82.82</u> |

CASH IN BANK, 12/31/98 \$1,106.84



**Some Additions to Don Bailey's "Numismatics of Spanish Colonial Mexico, Part IV", the War of Independence Coinage:**

With great interest I have read Don Bailey's 'primer' on the War of Independence period of Mexican numismatics in the USMexNA journal II, No. IV. I would like to take this occasion and add two further observations and new findings that I feel are not sufficiently covered by the numismatic literature available today.

A) The script 'LVA' and 'LVS' counterstamp

One of the more common issues of the insurgent forces that show multiple counterstamps is the so-called 'LVS' and 'LVA' mark found with either the Chilpancingo or the Morelos counterstamp, or with both (KM 297, KM 281, KM 286, KM 294; Pradeau p. 132). I would like to point out that in an 1993 article in the *Numismatist*, Edward S. Fisher has very convincingly shown these two counterstamps to be the same (also the author read it 'Ta.' and attributed it to the town of Tixtla). Furthermore, in my collection there is a cast 1809 MoTH 8 Reales with a single LVS/LVA/Ta. counterstamp (Seppa's Fisher collection auction, lot 1401). None of the books, catalogs and auctions that I have consulted so far mention a single counterstamp. It would be interesting to know how many other 'singles' exist and on which host coins they are found.

B) The San Martín Texmelucan counterstamp

This counterstamp, the letters 'SM' in an oval with dotted border, was originally rather indifferently attributed to Colombia (Bruce, p. 175, CC18). These coins also feature a second counterstamp, which may be read as a script 'VB' in an oval.

In Richard A. Long's recent auction sale 87, lot 174, this issue was described as 'San Martín Texmelucan counterstamps'. At the International Coin Convention in New York City in December 1998, a dealer specializing in Mexican coins was offering an example, also labeled as 'San Martín Texmelucan'. Since I have yet to read a publication on this topic, it would be interesting to know when and on what grounds this attribution was made, so that it can be de-



cided if this issue can assume a rightful place among the illustrious counterstamps of the Mexican War of Independence!

Sources:

- Bruce, Colin R, II (1981): *Standard Catalog of Mexican Coins, Paper Money, Stocks, Bonds and Medals*. Iola, WI: Krause Publ.
- Fisher, Edward S. (1993): "A New Twist on an Old Countermark", in: *The Numismatist*, Vol. 106, September, pp. 1239-1243.
- Krause, Chester L. and Clifford Mishler: *Standard Catalog of World Coins*. 22nd ed., 1995, Iola, WI: Krause Publ.
- Long, Richard A.: Mail Auction Sale 87 Langlois, OR, Nov. 23, 1998.
- Pradeau, Alberto F. (1978): *Numismatic History of Mexico*. New York: Sanford J. Durst Numismatic Publications, repr. from 1938.
- Seppa, Dale A.: Mail Bid Sale. The Edward Southworth Fisher Collection of Cut, Counter-stamped, etc. Coins. Virginia, MN, Dec. 8, 1997

For new information or comments, please contact Ralf W. Bopple, Durlchastr. 16, 70499 Stuttgart / Germany or at [ralf.boepple@bw-bank.de](mailto:ralf.boepple@bw-bank.de).

### UPDATE ON ROBERT DIEDRICH

Reports on Bob Dierich have been coming in to the Association and I am glad to report that Bob seems to be doing quick well under the circumstances, and has appreciated all the get well cards that were sent to him. Let's keep them coming to Bob. Anyone interested in corresponding with Bob can contact him at:

Robert Diedrich  
192 S. Sherwood Village #204  
Tucson, AZ 85710  
Fax (520) 722-8308

### MEXICAN NUMISMATICS LOSSES TWO MORE OLDTIMERS

Reports were received at the Texas Numismatic Association's convention in Houston that Harvey Bruns, of Mission, Texas and Emil E. Spranz, of Alamo, Texas both recently passed away. Harvey had been out of the coin business for a number of years doing "Wild Cat" shows in the Texas valley. A recent report on our "Chasing the Sun" trip was that someone had run into Harry and he was planning on getting back into coins. I have not heard of Emil for many years, but kept hearing reports on Harvey, and think he showed up at a recent Long Beach show.

We will continue to run reports of happenings with the old-timers for the other ones that are still with us.



## THE TEXAS JOLA

By James Ehrardt C-59

In the December 1998, Vol. No. IV of the U.S. Mexican Numismatic Association Journal, Don Bailey wrote about "THE NUMISMATICS OF SPANISH COLONIAL MEXICO, PART IV, FINAL". I have wanted to write about a particular part of that era which I find to be of great importance to numismatic groups in both Mexican and United States numismatics.

I would like to take this time to thank the authors of all of the articles pertaining to this subject. With a special thanks to Frank W. Brown, A.N.A. 57265, the San Antonio Express newspaper, for their articles on the de la Garza family, and their contribution to early minting in what was then San Fernando de Bexar, (San Antonio, Texas). Thanks to Mike Dunigan, Richard Medina and Kirk Menczer for their input.

Geronimo de la Garza built the "Garza" house in 1734. A short time before that Geronimo had married Marla Cantu, who was one of the Canary Islanders sent to settle the portion of New Spain then known as San Fernando de Bexar. It was at this time a very substantial structure on Veramendi Street extending from Main Avenue almost to Soledad Street. The founder willed the property to his children, giving each child an equal undivided portion or interest in the estate. Through the years many changes in the streets were made. In 1824 don Jose Antonio de la Garcia purchased the entire premises, and subdivided the lot.

The War of Independence from 1810 through 1821 was a significant period of Mexican numismatic history. This article deals solely with this period, and what was then San Fernando de Bexar, the capital of Texas, and a province of New Spain. It was also headquarters for the military commander, and the Governor of the Province. In 1802 the population was about 2,500, but due to military uprisings and revolutions, the figure was reduced to about 1,800 by 1820.

Early records show that for many years there had been a shortage of minor coinage throughout New Spain. This was mainly caused by the mint's failure to coin a sufficient quantity, and most that were coined were shipped to Spain. The nearest treasurer's office was located some three hundred miles away. The only new money coming in was for the payroll for the military, and the government. This amounted to about 5 to 15 thousand pesos. In order for the military man to buy merchandise, or pay his bills the merchant would quite often not have the exact change, and gave him credit, or tokens of some type, which other merchants would not accept. This created a situation in which the buyer could not spend his money where desired, and he was unable to get full value. The shortage of small coins soon spread to the whole community, resulting in hardships for many, including the merchants. This also led to hoarding of small good money by many.

As a result of this shortage of small coins, the leaders and officials of the community prevailed upon the Governor to permit the coinage of a small copper coin. This was to be an attempt to end the circulation of tokens used by most stores throughout New Spain.

This led to the first money coined in what is now known as TEXAS. Lt. Col. Manuel Prado, then Military Commander, and Governor authorized Manuel Barrera, a merchant and jeweler to mint 8,000 copper coins with a value of ½ real. This authorization was signed March 29, 1817. The decree authorizing the minting was in the form of a "Notice to the public", of which a photostat copy, with translation on file was obtained from the Bexar Archives, Texas History Center, and University of Texas. No specimen or sketch of the Barrera, or "Jola" is known to exist. I have never heard of an example, or even seen any references pertaining to a Barrera coin, or "Jola".

In May 1817, the Viceroy of New Spain, Juan Apodaca appointed Antonio Martinez Governor and Military Commander of the Province of Texas, to succeed Lt. Colonel Manuel Prado, who had been in office only a short time. On November 30, 1818, Jose Antonio de la Garza, the Postmaster, made application to Governor Martinez for a permit to coin and circulate money in the town. He was awarded the monopoly by decree dated December 6, 1818, after he had complied with the requirements of the Governor. Photostat



copies of the application, the Governors decree, the writ of bond, and the public notice, along with copies of the translations, were obtained from the Bexar Archives and the transactions are:

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT  
TO COIN MONEY

This shall be the equivalent of the 2<sup>nd</sup> stamp of the Senor don Fernando the 7<sup>th</sup>, year of 1818.

MARTINEZ  
(RUBRIC)

The interested (party) paid the royal amount (due) for the stamp in this office of which I am in charge. Bexar, 5<sup>th</sup> of December of 1818.

Luis Gortari  
(Rubric)

Senor Governor:

(I) don Jose Antonio de la Garza, Postmaster of this city, appear before your lordship and state that the extreme scarcity of small change which we are experiencing in this land results in a notable harm to the public. Inasmuch as I wish to provide for this lack is so far as my means will permit. I have decided to make up to the quantity of five hundred pesos of small change in copper coins called jolas, which shall circulate only through the town with values of one half of a real each. These shall be engraved with first letters of my name and surname and the year of this date. For this purpose I shall give the necessary bonds on the terms your Lordship should order. I entreat Your Lordship to be pleased to grant me the necessary permission, if there should be no just cause to hinder it, so that this may be carried out, and this money may circulate as soon as possible.

San Fernando de Bexar, November thirtieth of one thousand eight hundred and eighteen.

Jose Antonio de la Garza

GOVERNOR'S DECREE

Bexar 30<sup>th</sup> of November of 1818

The petitioner shall present the bond he offers and the justices shall, in due form, make the corresponding certified copy of it which will be delivered to this government so that it may be protocolled in the government archive along with this request.

Under this condition, and that of collecting the jolas which, by concession of my predecessor, the citizen don Manuel Barrera, I permit the petitioner don Jose Antonio de la Garza to coin the five hundred pesos he wishes to mint in jolas with the name and surname of the expressed don JOSE DE LA Garza.

The bondsmans shall give security, in addition, for the jolas which should appear minted in addition to the five hundred pesos, under which condition, and that of depositing in the Town hall the die which the indicated coinage of jolas with the value of half a real, and absolutely no others, has been carried out, shall this permit have value.

Martinez

WRIT OF BOND

In the city of San Fernando de Bexar, capital of the province of Texas, on the fifth day of the month of December of the year one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, before me, don Jose Marie Sambrano,



senior ordinary alcalde, who am accompanied by the junior alcalde don Felipe Enrique Neri, Baron de Bastrop, for we act as receptoria with attesting witnesses for lack of a notary public within the boundary of the law, appeared in his own person don Manuel Turre Castillo, a merchant in this city, whom we certify we know.

He stated that by means of the present instrument he obligates and constitutes himself as bondsman, plain simple, laical and creditable, for the person of don Jose Antonio de la Garza, citizen of this above mentioned city, so that in virtue to it (de la Garza) may be permitted to circulate in this land the sum of five hundred pesos which he has minted in copper coin called jolas with the value of half a real each and the letters of his name and surname and the year of this date engraved upon them.

He guarantees that the said don Jose Antonio de la Garza shall gather them at his own expense when it should be deemed proper to suspend this concession, surrendering the value of said jolas in silver coin to whoever should present them when this should occur and to whatever other person (should present them) by reason of departure or transfer to another destination. In like matter, he guarantees that if some other quantity of the jola money should turn up in addition to the above mentioned five hundred pesos, (de la Garza) shall surrender its vale in the same manner, and that in order to prevent this fraud he shall surrender the seal or die with which it is engraved so that it may be deposited wherever it may be convenient. He added that for the fulfillment and security of all that has been stated he obligates his person and property both immediate and future, renouncing all of the laws, rights and exemptions which in such a case might favor him. He renounces the laws and jurisdiction of his Majesty's senior justices in this or in whatever other place they may be, so that they may compel, oblige and make him do all that has been stated as if it were a judgment passed, complied with and not appealed. He renounced his own rights and the SIT CUMBENEERIT DE JURISDICTIONE OMNIUM JUDICIUM.

On such terms he granted and signed (this instrument) with us, the above mentioned justices, and the attesting witnesses with whom we act in the manner stated, we certify:

Gasper Flores  
Witness  
Salvador Carrasco  
Witness

Jose Maric Sambrano  
El Baron de Bastrop  
Manuel Iturri Castillo

Agrees with the originals which are in the municipal archives of this city, from which this certified copy was made on the three used pages of which it is composed in order to deliver it to the senior Governor of the province. It is faithful and legal, corrected and adjusted. Present to see it made, corrected and adjusted were don Jose Manuel de la Garza, don Pedro Arevalo and don Jose Antonio Navarro, of this community. We certify and sign it with the above-cited attesting (witnesses). In witness whereof we certify:

Jph. Maria Sambrano  
(Rubric)  
Gasper Flores  
Witness  
(Rubric)

El Baron de Bastrop  
(Rubric)  
Salvador Carrasco  
(Rubric)

GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION  
AND PUBLIC NOTICE



Inasmuch as the citizens of this city don Jose Antonio de la Garza has requested that he be permitted to mint the quantity of 500 pesos in copper coin, and inasmuch as I am acquainted with the harm caused to the consumers by the lack of small change or coins, the reason for which they either stop buying what they need, have to pledge a (whole) peso, or have to spend all of it without needing to do so, I have permitted the above mentioned don Jose Antonio the manufacture and minting of the 500 pesos in jolas with the value of half of a silver real each and marked with the initials of his name and surname. These coins shall circulate in the town for the purposes of its businesses, the circulation of the (coins) which circulated in the town before, minted at the expense of don Manuel Barrera, ceasing as of today. In order that those who have some of the said jolas (belonging) to the indicated Barrera shall not lose them, they may present them to don Jose Antonio (de) la Garza. Who is obligated to gather them within the period of 12 days and give a equal quantity of newly minted ones (a fact) of which the public is notified. For this purpose, I command that it be proclaimed and affixed in the accustomed place for the information of everyone.

(Presidio de) Bexar, 6<sup>th</sup> December of 1818.

This ends the translation that was required by don Jose Antonio de la Garza. On the obverse of the jola are the initials "J.A.G.", in the middle lying horizontally is "1/2" going one way on some jolas and "1/2" laying the other way, and at the bottom is the date "1818" on all coins. The reverse has a five-pointed incuse star (the first use of the Lone Star). I have never heard any reason for why the symbol of Texas, the Lone Star was used.

The coins were cut from copper sheets thick enough so the impression on obverse or reverse would not show through. In my research of these coins it looks like these were at least four dies for the obverse, but only one for the reverse (the lone star).

All indications are the jolas were in use from December 1818 until Mexico's independence in 1821. At this time it is believed that don Jose Antonio de la Garza redeemed as many of the 8,000 jolas that would have been minted. In fear of having to redeem the jolas twice, all previous articles and the beliefs of all, are that de la Garza bagged and buried the jolas in the San Antonio river where they laid until 1959, when a small hoard of about 60 were found after some excavation work that was done in the river. Records of the time show that the de la Garza's had holdings north and east of what is now known as San Antonio, Texas. After research, and the knowledge of where a few were found, it supports the theory and leads me to concur that they were buried north of downtown. I also believe that it would be a virtual miracle for de la Garza to redeem all 8,000 jolas, so we have only the figures that several writers have betted around as to actually how many are in existence. I personally believe the figure to be 100 or less.

In 1892 a brief reference to the coinage in San Antonio was published, but the persistence about the coinage still persisted without any further documentary reports to substantiate the stories. The publication of 1892 even showed an illustration of the de la Garza.

I would like to take this opportunity to clear up one issue that still shows up in various coin publications, and that is these coins (jolas) are and have always been 1/2 real pieces, not 1/8 real as they have been described. The one book that I have found to correctly show the value is "Walter Breen's" Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins". I am sure there must be other numismatic publications that correctly show the value, but this writer has only referenced my personal library of publications.

It is clear that this coinage is of GREAT importance, especially to collectors of both U.S. and Mexican colonial coinage, as this coin is the only coin to have been minted by a foreign country in what is now part of the United States of America. Of all of the Spanish Colonial issues, the jola represents the only known Spanish Colonial coinage struck in North America, north of Mexico.



Since the find in 1959, several articles have been written about the jola. The interest in this coin has been around for about 40 years, but it has only been the past 5 years that this writer has been involved with trying to find out all the history that surrounds the jola, don Antonio de la Garza, and the mint, (the de la Garza house). It is sad that the de la Garza house, the mint of this coin, was torn down in 1912, and the Rand building was built over the site of this historical place. The Wolff & Marx store occupied the building, and on the Soledad Street side a bronze plaque on the side of the building told of the history of this site. Unfortunately around 1980 the plaque disappeared, and has never been recovered. In a very recent conversation with Richard Medina, a local San Antonio coin dealer and historian, pertaining to the jola, it looks like Frost National Bank, one of San Antonio's oldest banks will pay for the replacement of the missing plaque. The main branch of the Frost Bank has a wall dedicated to numismatics. It is commonly referred to "The Wall of Money Museum". At the beginning of the wall are two of de la Garza's jolas. It is my understanding they were part of the small hoard of about 60 jolas found on the banks of the San Antonio River in 1959. The legend with the jolas tells of the minter and a brief history. If you are visiting the San Antonio area, this "Wall of Money Museum" is worth visiting.

This year, 1999 marks the 181st birthday of the "Texas Jola". As a numismatist, collector and a member of the U.S. Mexican Numismatic Association I wonder if don Jose Antonio de la Garza had any idea how important his coin would be to the numismatic world? I doubt it. The jola served its purpose to the merchants, and the persons who lived in San Fernando De Bexar (San Antonio, Texas). When Mexico won its independence from Spain in 1821, de la Garza redeemed his jolas in silver. History and stories of the jolas lead this writer, and many others to follow the belief that de la Garza buried the jolas to avoid the possibility of having to redeem them twice. In 1892, in the numismatic publication is a brief article on the Texas jola with a sketch of the actual coin. In 1959, after some excavation on the San Antonio River, a find of about 60 Jolas lumped together. This was 141 years after they were minted. Records show that nobody at that time knew what they were, where they came from, what they were used for, and who minted them. Over the past 40 years many of these questions were answered. This writer has spent only five years trying to find out everything I could. Many before me found what there has been to find, the rest never will be found out, such as how many did de la Garza bury, how many bags, if he used bags, actual location where buried, and most important, how many did he actually redeem?

When one looks at the various mints during the War of Independence, the quantity of coins minted is not stated. In coin books, such as the Krause Standard Catalog of World Coins, a widely used and popular book for numismatists, the Texas jola shows a quantity thanks to the records that Spain required. The actual records and their translations are available at the University of Texas at Austin. Also, to better understand the survival rate of this important coinage, one must take a look at the San Antonio River. As with most rivers it is dirty and polluted, not the place one would pick to preserve copper coinage. It is incredible that any of these coins survived, but some did. The picture that will be with this article is of one such piece that survived 179 years in this river, if one believes they were buried in the river in 1821. This particular jola was found in a very hard clay type soil, which actually preserved the coin quite nicely. Of the several jolas I have seen, most are heavily pitted, and in some cases they can not be attributed due to the harsh environment the coins were subjected to. I am aware just recently of a "jola" found in or around the town of Goliad, Texas, and not in a river. This highly sought after coin of this period can be found, the Goliad coin has proven to me that not all are around San Antonio, the birthplace of this highly sought after coin.

I would be remiss if I did not refer to Walter Breen, a brilliant numismatist. Mr. Breen has one of the most respected books available on the market, and Mr. Breen must have thought well of this coinage from San Fernando de Bexar, as he devoted an entire chapter to this one piece. Even though this chapter is only one page long, it is still a chapter, and the space given for this coin can only be due to what little information besides the Spanish records that are available. I would like to take a portion, and quote what he felt about this coin. I am referring to the book, "Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins", copyright 1988. The chapter is located under chapter 8, Post Revolutionary Private Issues, subchapter VIII, and I quote "The coins are rare enough, and crudely enough made, that grading is all but impossible, and hardly relevant.

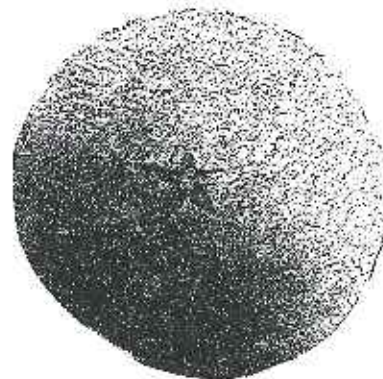
In closing, I can hardly stress how important this coinage was to the persons who used it between 1818 and 1821. It is an important coinage to both the U.S. and Mexican numismatics. The link is there, San



Fernando de Bexar, and San Antonio, Texas in the county of Bexar. Examples of this coinage are located in various places, both in the U.S. and Mexico. Several of the coins have been donated, and are on display at University of Texas, Austin, Frost National Bank, main branch, downtown San Antonio, and it is my understanding that several were donated to various Mexican banks, and or Museums. As for articles pertaining to the minter, don Jose Antonio de la Garza, this writer has several of these articles that were done over the years, and upon request I would be happy to send any of the members of USMexNA copies. My address is shown below. I hope you find this helpful, and I have enjoyed writing my first, and hopefully not the last article. Thank you.

Jim Ehrardt  
112 E. Ridge Lane  
Payson, Az 85541

The plates of the two Texas Jolas shown below are from two sources. The one on the right is from the author, Jim Ehrardt, the one on the left was purchased in the Bowers & Merena Rarity auction, in January by Henry Garrett and Tony Terranova for \$11,500, and has since changed hands. This was the plate coin in the Red Book. We want to thank Mr. Garrett and Terranova for sharing this rare piece with us. You will note that both have the same planchet defect, except in different positions.





## THE SOUVENIR SPOONS OF THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION AN UPDATE

By John O. Hardman, C-103

Nearly twenty years of searching for the souvenir spoons of the Mexican revolution has paid its first dividends. I recently acquired two of the five spoons produced and sold in 1911 by the A.D. Foster Company of El Paso, Texas. The acquisition provided an up close and personal look at the spoons, and also provided answers to many questions about the indistinct images that I had obtained from the microfilm copies of the El Paso MORNING TIMES.

The workmanship on the spoons is exceptional. Each and every detail is sharp and clear. I'm not familiar with the method in which the spoons were made. They could have been cast or stamped.

The handles of both spoons are identical. From top to bottom the front of the handles show the eagle and serpent, a victorious matador, a Mexican cowboy, the words *Recuerdo De Mexico*. The reverse shows a pulque gatherer, a water carrier, and a cactus plant. The reverse is also hallmarked with a pennant with the letter H incused and sterling. The name A. D. Foster Co. is stamped into the metal. There is a small blank space in which a series of five numbers are "scratched." I don't know if they represent serial numbers or control numbers, or serve some other function.

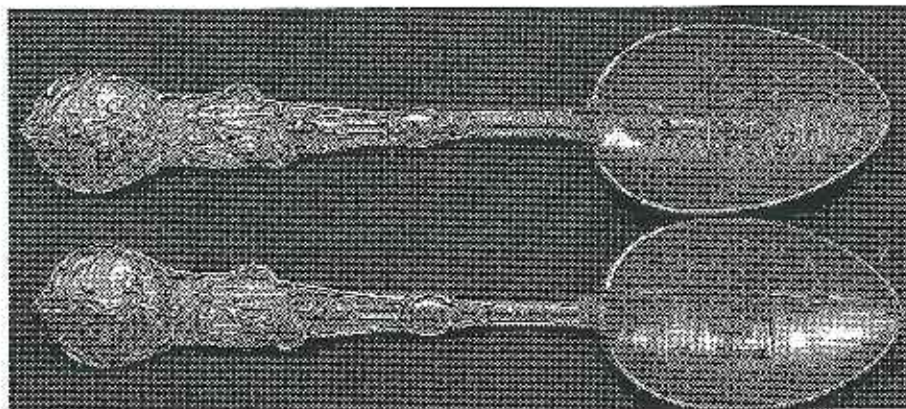
The scene in the bowl of one spoon shows the blue Whistler, the cannon stolen from El Paso in 1911, and used in the battles of Ojinaga, and the tools used to clean the barrel and load the cannon. The words "The Famous Blue Whistler" are above the cannon. The numbers 78111 are inconspicuously scratched on the back of the handle. The weight of this spoon is approximately 24.235 grams.

The scene in the second bowl poses a question. It shows the ruins of the Juarez City Hall, and eight Mexican rebels (soldiers). The words "Ruins of the Juarez City Hall" at the top of the bowl, and the words "Rebels in Action" is at the bottom. The numbers 78115 are scratched on the back of the handle. The weight of this spoon is approximately 25.272 grams. I originally assumed that it was the Juarez spoon that I described, in my original article, which was published in the JOURNAL in December 1997. The spoon was described in an advertisement in the MORNING HERALD as "showing the effects of a dynamite bomb on an adobe building." However, the scene in the bowl shown here is different from the one shown, and described in the ads - different building, completely different design.

The obvious question is, "Did Foster produce more than five spoons?" If the answer is "Yes," then the next question is "How many different spoons were produced?"

So many questions answered; so many questions asked!

If anyone can furnish information concerning these "Recuerdos," please contact me at [johardman@netdotcom.com](mailto:johardman@netdotcom.com), or Post Office Box 721, Warren, OH 44482-0721.





## BUST & LAPEL VARIETIES ON THE KM 442 TWENTY CENTAVOS

*Below are shown the three varieties of the bust and lapels found on the 1974 through 1983 Twenty Centavos, featuring Francisco Madero. These varieties are not listed in Krause at this time. This will hopefully be an ongoing feature showing the various varieties, overdates, etc. that are either unlisted or listed without illustration*

*If anyone has any varieties, over dates or over assayers that they have good photos of, and would be willing to share with us, please let the Association.*

*Photos and information by Ken Potter*



Ty 1. Bust with short lapel on a 1978 double die.

Ty 2. Bust with long lapel on 1981.

Ty 3. Bust with "notched" lapel on 1983.





## *THE JOHN JAY PITTMAN COLLECTION, PART THREE*

The third auction of the John Jay Pittman collection will be coming up on August 6 through the 8<sup>th</sup>, preceding the American Numismatic Association Convention in Rosemont, Illinois at the Westin O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois. This sale will include the entire foreign collection of John Jay, who many of our members remember over the years. This contains over 3,100 lots and features many rare and superb quality items that have not been on the market for nearly 50 years.

At the recent Central States show in Milwaukee I had the good fortune to look over the mockup up the Mexican section of the auction, and I was impressed with many of the pieces in this section. It is hoped that we will have further details in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter Journal. There were some very rare and high condition Mexican pieces in that listing that would be nice additions to any collection. There will be lots for all levels of collector, as there are lots that contain more readily available but nice coins.

This auction is being conducted by David Akers Numismatics Inc., Box 373, Stuart, FL. 34995-0373. The catalogs will be mailed out approximately six weeks prior to the sale date. Anyone interested in receiving this catalog may order one from David Akers Numismatics Inc. The cost of the catalog, which will become highly collectible as a reference for the future is \$50.00 postpaid anywhere in the world.

Akers has a web site, [http://www.akerscoin.com/02\\_auction.html](http://www.akerscoin.com/02_auction.html), and updates will be provided on the web site, as they become available. Go to the Press Release of the web site.

This Mexican session will be the second session of the auction, and will contain approximately 500 lots.

Early 2 and 4 Reales of Carlos and Johanna.

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Hookneck coinage.

A few of the highlights that are shown on the web site are:

|          |                                                                |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lot 2829 | 2 Reales, Early Series, ND. Carlos and Johanna, Nesmith 10, AU |
| Lot 2896 | 8 Reales, 1733 MF, Almost. Uncirculated.                       |
| Lot 3031 | 8 Reales, EoMo 1828 LF, Choice Almost Uncirculated.            |
| Lot 3111 | 8 Reales, Pi 1864 RO. Uncirculated.                            |
| Lot 3304 | One Peso, 1949. Choice Uncirculated.                           |
| Lot 3624 | 2 ½ Pesos, Ho 1888. Uncirculated.                              |





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| MEXICO 8 REALES, 1863 Ga-FV, lt.cld.VF, 3 chopmarks..... | 3750.00 |
| MEXICO 8 REALES, 1847/6 Mo-MF, VF+, lt.adj.mks.Rev.....  | 4750.00 |
| MEXICO 8 REALES, 1849/8 Pi-PS/AM, wk. VF, tiny rn.....   | 1250.00 |
| MEXICO 8 REALES, 1857 Pi-MC, Lust. XF.....               | 2400.00 |
| MEXICO PATTERN MAXIMILIAN PESO, SM.LETTERS, 1866.....    | 1750.00 |
| CHILE 8 ESCUDOS, 1790 So-DA, KM-42, Lust. XF.....        | 1500.00 |
| CHINA \$10.00, Yr-8 (1919), Y-330, NGC-MS62.....         | 6500.00 |
| COLOMBIA 8 ESCUDOS, 1772 NR-VJ, P.LXF-AU, faint scr..... | 1450.00 |
| GREAT BRITAIN, CROWN, 1695, WM.III, Ch.P.L XF-AU.....    | 800.00  |
| GUATEMALA QUETZAL, 1925, Nice XF.....                    | 900.00  |
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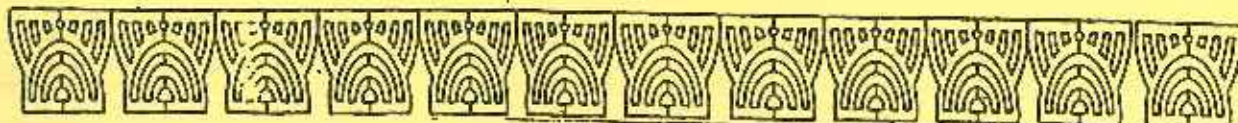
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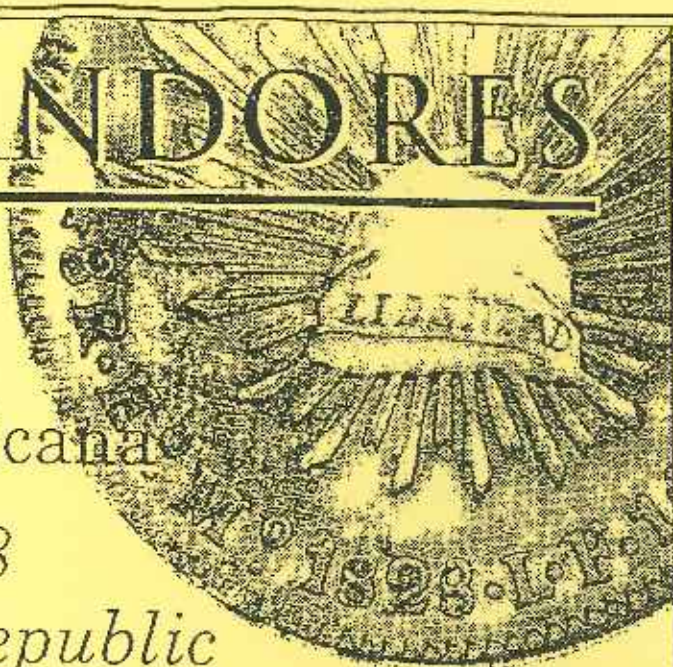




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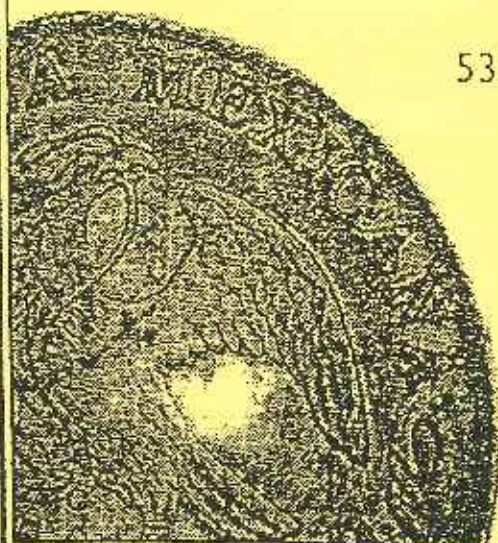
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