

Greek Coins – Observations

Virginia Wayland - October 20, 2007

Greco-Roman Realia

[NOTE: new scans of RAK coins have blue background]

1. 2.6763 g; 13-14 mm. The head covers approximately three-quarters of the coin face, facing right with the brow, nose and chin against the right side of the coin. Hair is indicated by four coarse vertical striations from the top of the head to the neckline. The cheek, brow and back of head are strongly raised with respect to the nose, eye, and mouth. No writing is visible. The reverse shows a spear or wheat stalk along the diameter with ΦΙΛ(A) above and either a fish symbol or possibly K.. below.

[RAK 11/5/07 [Moushmov 212](#) = Issuing City Thrace, Kallatis; Magistrate Filwn, Denomination AE15 [14?], Date c. 2nd C. BCE;

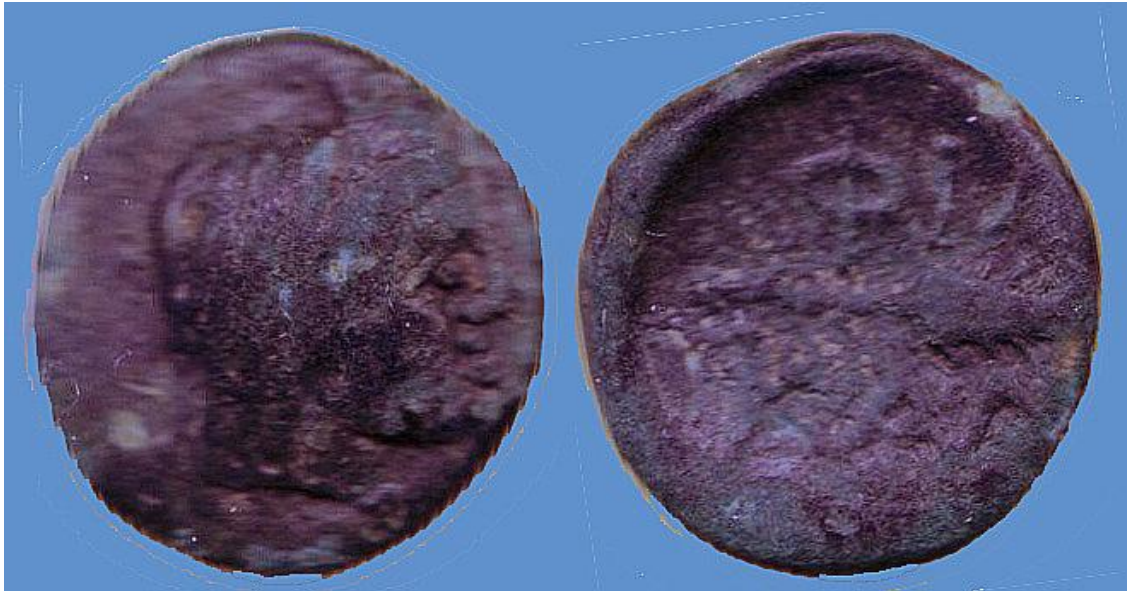
Obverse: Bare head of young Herakles right,

Reverse: Horizontal club separating FIL / KAL,

Weight 3.63gm [2.68], Diameter 15mm [14], Reference Pick AMNG I,206.

Missing from other major references, Rare?]





2. 4.0641 g; 17 mm. The head covers nearly all of the face of the coin facing right, with no visible writing. The upper and back curves of the head are contiguous with the edge of the coin. The reverse contains an ornate trident with a dolphin between each of the prongs. There is writing below [beside] the trident.

[VLW 11/10/07 Similar trident designs on:

SNGcop357 - Caria, Halikarnassos. Circa 2nd Century BC. Æ 16mm (3.58 gm). Head of Poseidon right / Ornate trident head. However, note the head of Poseidon on that coin has a definite beard. Also note the differences of size and mass.

SNGcop1299 - Macedon, Kings of. Philip V and Perseus. 185-168 BC. Æ 21mm (7.33 gm). Head of river-god Strymon right / Ornate trident; monograms below. The head of the river-god is beardless, which is a better match for our coin, but again note the significant differences in size and mass.]

SG 4881 = ORC1343 Caria, AE17, Poseidon EF
Halikarnassus, Caria, Æ17, (4.37g) late 2nd-1st century BC, Head of Poseidon right. / ALIK MELAN Trident, ornamented with volute on either side of handle, dolphins between prongs. S4881var.; BMC 32. EF, beard weakly struck. Rev possibly LAK or LAM (Mysia) on left,



3. 4.8433 g; 18-20 mm. The head occupies approximately half of the face of the coin, facing right. The line of the face is nearly straight with prominent eye socket, definite nose and mouth. The hair is raised relative to the face with uneven texture. A line of writing follows the curvature of the back of the head from the base of the neck to the top of the crown following a beaded line around the edge of the coin. When cleaned, the hair

appears to form a bun. The reverse side is entirely crusted over with a hard black coating containing small clear crystals.

[RAK 11/1/07 KRISPINA SEBASTH, AE 19, wife of Commodus (180-192).]

Crispina AE 19 of Philippopolis, Thrace.

ΚΡΙCΠΕΙΝΑ CEBACTH, draped bust right /

ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΠΟΛΕΙΤΩΝ, Zeus seated left with scepter. BMC 23. Moushmov 5238.

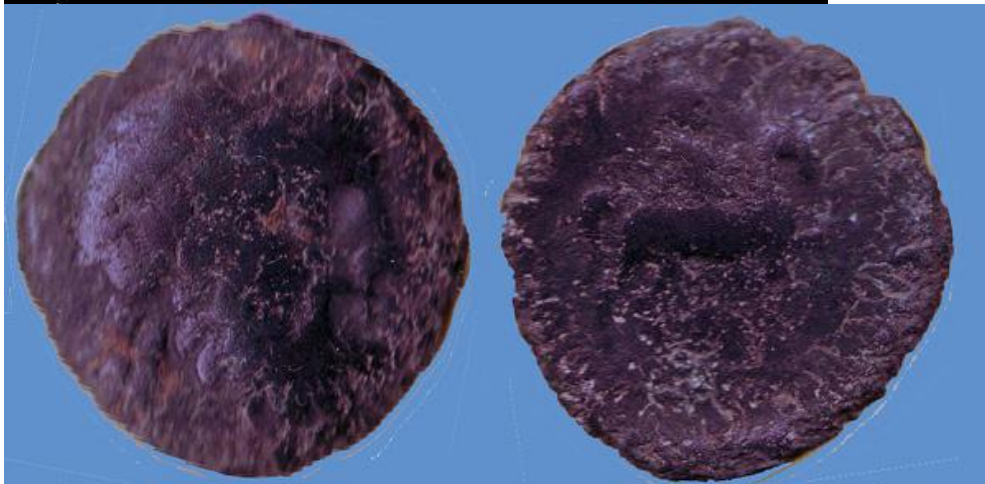


4. 6.6359 g. 21 mm. Smooth green[-black] surfaces with chipped edges. The head is unclear due to being worn nearly smooth, but appears to occupy about 90% of the surface with a strongly protruding nose and jutting chin that form a diagonal along the upper right curve of the coin. The curve of the back of the head follows the left hand curve of the coin. [Possibly bearded.] The top of the head is chipped away. The reverse has a small [?] figure of a horseman riding [a prancing horse to the right, with uplifted head and tail] at the [upper-]center of the coin.

[see SG 6680, 6689, 6690: Philip II

Obv. head of Apollo or Zeus facing right

Rev. naked youth on horse prancing right



Roman coins
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October 28, 2007

1 thin bronze coin. 1.3672 g; 14 mm. Laureate Head facing right occupies the center half of the coin. The head is beardless, with medium length hair. A swirled pattern may be intended to convey curly hair. Writing along the right edge is not legible. The reverse side has two anthropoid figures standing at either side of an ornate pillar. The figure on the left holds a full length staff or spear. The pillar has three stacked loops and a chamber at the top. The figure to the right holds a chain or staff approximately half his height and resting on the ground. The figures may have had animal heads or masks. [See #3 and #5 below]

Identification: two soldiers with a single standard - Constantine I, Constantine II, Constans, Constantius II, Delmatius Ceasar

2 ovoid thick bronze coin. 2.9777g; 15 mm/14 mm. Laureate head with a sharp profile covers the left two-thirds of the coin? This side of the coin is highly pitted, and no features are distinguishable. The obverse shows a standing figure holding an orb in his right hand (at the left side). Three letters are visible in the upper left side next to the head, P EI.

Identification: Spes Reipublice (ca. 361 CE) either Constantius II or Julian II as Caesar.

3 very thin irregular bronze coin. 0.8601 g; 15 mm. The bare head is at the right center of the coin facing right. The hair is short. The face has a protruding nose and definite chin. The shoulders are not visible. The coin may be misstamped with a raised edge inside the left edge of the coin. There is lettering, ??IHC or ??VHC, along the left edge.

The reverse has two standing figures facing each other across a pillar composed of a crossed stake surmounted by a circle and three stacked bells. The figure on the left is shorter. The figure on the right is taller and wears a helmet. The beaded edge is inside the upper right hand curve of the coin. Very small letters, ROM TV (??extremely uncertain), can be seen right below the beading. [See #1 above and #5 below]

Identification: two soldiers with a single standard - Constantine I, Constantine II, Constans, Constantius II, Delmatius Ceasar

4 bronze coin. 0.9386 g; 15 mm. The laureate head is centered on the coin facing right. The face is quite long, with a clearly visible nose, headband ending in two ribbons, and a flat collar with a low neckline. Lettering at the lower left edge is not legible. Lettering at the lower right edge (KV or HV) is barely legible. There are deep cracks at the top left and top right. The reverse side has two standing figures dressed in full length robes. The left hand figure is shorter and has a hand or sword raised toward the other. The right hand figure is taller and has a hand or sword raised to the facing figure and a shield(?) at his back. Between the two figures is a small tree or shrub. The lettering at the bottom, AIS, is slightly larger than the lettering along the right hand curve, ?DDIVGC OVH

Identification: two victories facing? issued by Constans and Constantius II, 340 - 348

CE. legend should read VICTORIAE DD AVGG Q NN.

5 very thin ovoid bronze coin. 0.8827 g; 17 mm/ 14 mm. A clear beaded edge is unevenly stamped along the upper right. The head faces right in the left two-thirds of the coin. Writing is located in the upper right edge, NSPER, but cut off by the uneven shape.

The reverse seems to have two standing figures facing a central column, both holding spears behind them. Along the top reads VER(E) below a beaded edge.

[See #1 and #3 above]

Identification: two soldiers with a single standard - Constantine I, Constantine II, Constans, Constantius II, Delmatius Ceasar

6 very thin bronze/copper coin. 1.0306 g; 14 - 15 mm. The coin has an uneven surface but no clearly distinguishable marks. The raised surface on the left side of one face may have represented a head.

7 thick black/gray coin broken at top right corner. 2.8966 g; 15 mm. A laureate head and shoulder portrait in the center occupies approximately three fourths of the coin. The reverse side has a standing figure facing right with one leg raised holding a round shield behind him. A single letter, O, is seen along the rim to the left of the figure's head. A crown? appears at the left shoulder. There seems to be at least one thin vertical line to the right of the figure.

8 broken very thin bronze coin. 1.4575 g; 18 mm. The coin is broken along the profile of the laureate head facing right, with perhaps one-fourth of the coin missing. Writing, PVH PIIPII (??second set largely illegible), extends from the shoulder up to the broken edge along the left side of the coin. The reverse has a helmeted figure running to the left, with a shield? behind. Below: SIA. There is writing or perhaps beading along the right edge.

Identification: victory walking - if the writing can be read SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE, the portrait could be Valentinian I, Valens, or Gratian.

9 irregular very thin black coin. 1.2666g; 19 mm/ 17 mm. The bare head occupies about half of the center of the coin facing right. The nose and chin are clearly stamped, and the neck is nearly as wide as the head and shoulder. A pattern of dots at the chin may indicate a beard. IV is clearly stamped at the right, C below to the right. A at the top?

The reverse seems to be a deer or perhaps a horse. SHVO along the right side.

10 gold/gray coin. 5.3367 g; 22 mm. Strongly raised bare head occupies left half of the coin surface facing right. The hair is very short, but may have a ribbon or band or ponytail along the back of the neck. The face is flat, with no visible nose. May have had writing, CAN ANR L O, along the upper half of the outer curve, but it is now too worn to be certain. The reverse side appears to have a standing archer pointing a drawn bow to the right. Lettering, VCVS, appears 2 mm inside the lower right curve of the coin. This face is somewhat concave.

References: 12 Types. http://dougsmith.ancients.info/uncleaned_coins.