

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/punctuated-equilibrium/2011/jun/30/2>

Kevin Callaghan

All Epigraphers will find this video clip most interesting and challenging. Thanks much Kevin!
Jim L.

Hi Scott,

Please forward the following email from Dr. Minas Tsikritsis (Heraklion, Crete) to MJ AMELL regarding the Bronze Medallion found off the coast of Cyprus.

Would you ask MJ AMMELL to email me the **Diameter** (preferably in **millimeters**) of the medallion? Later this week I will consult numismatic references in the Yale Library collection to look for photos of other examples.

Error! Filename not specified. Mythical Greek King **KEPHALOS** (Kappa Epsilon Phi), ca. 400 BC

Best regards,

Vance

Dear Vance,

I think that I have an answer for the medallion. The letters "ΚΕΦ" are greek (= KEPH or KEF in Latin-English alphabet). They are referred to the mythical King KEFALOS, see also the links <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cephalus> and <http://www.dfragos.me/kefalonia/mythology-of-kefalonia>

The coin is bronze and it is dated about 400 BC. KEFALOS, naked, is sitting on a rock holding a spear. A dog is sitting with him. These are presents of PROKRIS(=wife of KEFALOS) to him which they had been given to her by Minos. The picture of the one side of the coin is known and very common in the coins of the city of "ΠΑΛΗ"(=PALE). This city was one of the four cities of the KEFFALONIA island. The other side of the coin has a not so common representation . Usually, in the coins of this period is appeared the head of KEFALOS or the head of Demeter along with the initials of the city "Π» or "ΠΑ" while in this coin a ship is appeared and in the bottom the initials of the city "ΠΑΛΗ."

I think that it is a very rare coin. **I would really like to know more information about its provenance.**
with my best

regards
Minas

Dear Minas,

Have you any thoughts regarding the Bronze(?) medallion reportedly retrieved from off the coast of Cyprus in 1977? Have you seen similar examples in museum collections?

Regards,

Vance
vance.tiede@yale.edu

Dear Vance,

May I suggest that, if the letters are Greek, they could be short for (Keph)alee = head, leader, chief—which would explain the figure on the boat (tho' not why he's on it). He seems to be either holding a spear or hanging on like grim death with arm and leg to the mast. The Ship side of the artifact looks like a completely different style of work. It is much more artistic—a beautiful rendition of a ship in full sail with oars representing Oarsmen, no doubt and the first oar on the left leading up to a line pointing ahead (the captain? or the chief?). The sail and the ship are beautifully done. The artistic style on the other side is completely different. Could this artifact have had two lives? The first one with the sail, ship, and sailors and the other side re-carved by another chap to show the (or a later) leader, whoever he is (and whenever it was done). The workmanship on the two sides does not match.

All the best,

don

Gentlemen,

The three **Greek** letters on the medallion front read **KAPPA EPSILON PHI**, as seen in the following modern and ancient Greek alphabets.

<front2.jpg> Enlargement of the obverse side of the medallion found off Cyprus in 1977

<greek-letters.jpg>Modern Greek Alphabet

<220px-Greek_alphabet_variants.png>Ancient Greek Variant Alphabets

For more details, see Lindgren, Henry C., *ANCIENT GREEK BRONZE COINS* (1989) or the references listed at:

http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=ancient+greek+bronze+coins

<Lindgren 1989.jpg>

Regards,

Vance Tiede
Archaeologist
Astro-Archaeology Surveys, Inc.
vance.tiede@aya.yale.edu

Greetings all,

The medallion is Roman era. the letters are Latin. Could it be Jesus as the "Good Shepherd" overlooking his flock? If so, then it is from the Christian

era. The ship is of Greek design, but then the Romans used Greek style ships. The bow shows no ram (though it could be what is making the waves at the front), so it is either a Merchant vessel or a Fishing Boat; as in fishers of souls?? Since it does have a few oars it still could be a warship. By its size it could only be a Roman Liburna, if it IS a warship. Liburnas had open decks and operated as a sort of police boat, or coast guard, during the Roman Empire, when they had no enemies at sea, but the occasional pirates. So, i would guess at a date after 330AD when the empire had become Christian.

That's my 2 cents worth anyways.

Erik Rurikson

Two artifacts from Scott Wolter:

Item 1

Jim, This medallion (info below) was forwarded by some people who watched the show and wondered if anyone could help with the letters or the symbolism. Any ideas?

To Scott Wolter

Copper bronze medallion

Scott, This letter per our ph. call re: The medallion that was found in 1977 @ the bottom of the Mediterranean near Cyprus. We would like to know what the letters mean and the purpose it was meant for? Is it Minoan or Phoenician? Look forward to hearing from you. Thanks MJ AMELL

Scott: Everyone enjoys your shows! *[a plug: tonight's show is about the lead crosses found in Arizona - Calalus, a Roman Jewish colony in America, per Cyclone Covey]*. See www.history.com/h2 Jim Leslie. The below medallion reverse side shows a ship in full sail; the front shows a turbaned pilot steering the boat guided by maybe some navigational device? Maybe the glyphs are his initials?

Item 2

There is someone in Kansas that found this clay-like object while looking for arrowheads. He is wondering what it is! Any help that you could give would be great!

Thanks! Rhonda

Probably a terracotta pendant of Mayan origin (the red pigment) - Jim Leslie

3 files to attach – twoartifactsfromscottwolter

<http://www.dinosaur14ages.com/> MAKE SURE ALREADY ARTICLE

In Search of the Mudmen - at Falls of the Ohio Intrepretive Center, Clarksville, Indiana

Texasstonemarkings 6 pics

Howdy. I'm Travis from Texas. I have found a few stones on my property that have characters similar to celtic ogham on them. Along w/ them I also found what appears to be a tool sharpening stone and a stone spindle whorl used for weaving clothes. I was wondering if you would be interested in seeing pictures of the sones and if you could verify ith they are ogham or not? Thanks.

Trav, Thank you for contacting MES. I would be pleased to see your photographs & give my opinion. I can share them with people in our email circle, two people of which could possible render a translation if Celtic & enough characters to form a few words.

Jim Leslie - webmaster

Thanks James! I will send some over to you then. These stones were found in different locations on my property (which is mostly oak forrest). And before I built a house here a few years back I've not found evidence of a modern home ever being built on the property.

Photo 1 - This stone weighs approx 40 lbs and has tons of scratch marks on the ends as if shaped by a tool to form into a rectangle. This is the face of the stone the opposite end has no etchings. This stone is approx 9" tall x 8" wide x a foot and a half long. by looking at the stone in person it appears some areas of the stone are missing or chipped away? Thanks!

Photo 2 - This stone is approx 12" long x 6" wide x 7.5" tall-thick. This stone was mostly buried and I noticed it when the sun struck the etched marks. It appears that the marks were carved in an area of the stone that had been chipped away either intentionally or unintentionally (that I'm not sure).

Photo 3 - This stone is approx 2" wide x 1" thick. All these stones appear to be sand stone.

Photo 4 – Sharpening stone. The grooves are 1” deep.

Photo 5 – Side view of sharpening stone

Photo 6 - Other stone that I found (only two etchings on the edge of the rock) I dug it out of the ground. Thanks for your time. These pictures are yours to use if you want. They don't seem to say much but they were interesting to me. I've placed them all out of the elements to protect from harm. Thanks again! Travis

3 pictures to attach – forwardmillcreek

I did some Photoshop Elements "enhancements!" resulting in -1 & -2 attachments that might help. Any chance getting a line drawing of the tablet? A translator would be more sure of not missing any of the cuneiform wedges with an accurate copy. JIM

Jim and friends,

This tablet was discovered by a deer hunting group in a very rugged canyon east of Salt Lake City. I featured it in my book "Treasures of the Ancients" There has never been a full translation of it. It would be nice to finally be able to understand what's on it. STEVE

Picture: steadman's crossing

Thanks Steve. Ruskamp might see some Chinese glyphs. Figures look modern at first glance.
Note - chalk was used to outline for photography. Jim L.

We have this site that is deep within the Ute Reservation and not easily accessible by non tribal members. However, I was allowed to investigate the site. According to Ute legend this site was carved long before White Men came to Eastern Utah. Perhaps we can get some of our epigraphy friends to give us their opinions.
Thank you.

Steve Shaffer
President
The We Nooch Society.

Hi Everybody,
Wanted to share this unusual Celtic Spiral carved on this stone on the edge of Mobile Bay. I first thought it was a serpent but it is identical to Celtic spirals in Wales, Ireland etc. I've also found a Celtic Ruin stone with Ogham marks here. These stones are not far from Gulf Shores Alabama where Prince Madoc is said to have landed in 1171. I'm working on a book of legends and stories of this area and my research on Prince Madoc is taking over my project. There is more to this story than just what we read. I would be interested in Celtic findings anywhere in North America and especially carved stones and armor. I may be traveling soon to visit some sites of interest in several states.

Thanks,

Harry

I attached a photo of the Celtic Spiral with a friend of mine Bob Anderson of Mobile.

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Harry P. Davis
Baldwin County News
Reporter/Writer/Sales
Author

<http://harryoutdoors.com>

[Guerrilla Flyfishing](#) [Tales of 5 Rivers due out 2012](#)

[Harryoutdoors](#)
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California epigraph of huge ships

Did anyone see this? Please pass it on to friends of MES.

<http://home.comcast.net/~carlbjork/eyeRa.htm> (does not exist anymore)

SL Lee

If anyone in our email circuit can help Paige & Caleb with their question, please contact them direct at their email pmbendixen@gmail.com

Thanks,
Jim Leslie
Midwestern Epigraphic Society

Paige,

To learn more about ancient sites in the central part of the country I suggest you contact the following organizations; Midwest Epigraphic Society or Ancient Artifact Preservation Society.

I've copied Judy Johnson and Jim Leslie with each group who can help answer your questions. You might also consider one or both groups as they have a very knowledgeable and wonderful membership!

Good luck!

Scott Wolter

My husband and I live in Northeastern Iowa and have been interested in educating ourselves on the history of this land. We are seeking more information on the ancient earth works and stone structures found here. The problem we run into is that aside from Effigy Mounds, there are little to no resources to tell us where these locations are so we could explore them for ourselves. We know your time is valuable and so would greatly appreciate any resources or further information you could provide that would lead us in that direction.

With much respect and appreciation,
Paige and Caleb Bendixen
Decorah, Iowa