SIMILARITIES BETWEEN THE TALISMAN OF NAPOLEON & THE NAPOLEON ROSICRUCIAN MEDAL

By Randy Jensen

On April 10th, 2014, a theft at the Briars Museum in Australia resulted in the loss of the priceless Napoleon Rosicrucian Medal. This pendant is made of silver with inlaid jewels and is coded with Rosicrucian symbolism.
On the reverse side of this medal is written "Presented to Mich. Manning by"...
...and on the bottom of the Medal "Napoleon 1 at Torbay, 28 July 1815."

When Napoleon was transferred from the *Bellerophon* to the *Northumberland*, he spoke to the ship's Bosun, Michael Manning. Napoleon then removed the Rosicrucian Medal from around his own neck, and gave it to Manning, insisting that he wear it.

The Medal was sold to Dame Mabel Brookes by Manning’s grandson through an agent in London, Frank Maggs. Dame Mabel was a descendant of the Balcombe family who Napoleon stayed with, initially, on St. Helena in their house, The Briars.

William Balcombe, a trader, supplied Longwood and remained friends with Napoleon, as did his precocious 14-year-old daughter Betsy.

Dame Mabel became interested in the family history involving Napoleon, writing books and adding considerably to the memorabilia the family got from Napoleon. She also bought The Briars property on St. Helena and presented it to the French Government.
Green was Napoleon’s favorite color and both pieces prominently display four green stones. "Four" stands for "Emperor" in the Tarot/Rosicrucian coding. And so, the green stones stand for Napoleon in the Rosicrucian Medal just as they do in the Talisman of Napoleon.

Notice that the four green stones of the Rosicrucian Medal are set atop the crown---as Napoleon himself sits in this position, figuratively, as Emperor of the French, ruling over several Kings.

![Image of green stones on crown]

Within the Crown of the Rosicrucian Medal, the middle pyramid is not capped with a green stone, just as the Great Pyramid of Giza has no capstone. Of course, Napoleon spent a night in the King’s Chamber of the Great Pyramid of Giza during his Egyptian Expedition. This "pyramid" is part and parcel of Napoleon’s "Crown," as the ancient Egyptian mystery schools handed down the wisdom of the ages through the Tarot coding which was the "book" of secret knowledge possessed by the Rosicrucians.

The spires of the crown are set atop an upside down Egyptian boat like the one featured in the Talisman of Napoleon. The Egyptian boat is the boat of Isis, the goddess of fertility and Mother Earth energy. In fact, Napoleon commissioned a study that found Paris was named after the goddess Isis.

The coat-of-arms for the city of Paris, also commissioned by Napoleon, features this same Egyptian boat with a depiction of the goddess "Isis" seated inside the boat.
Here we see the Talisman of Napoleon next to the coat-of-arms for the city of Paris. All three designs feature the distinctive Egyptian boat.

The large, circular “Mother of Pearl” stone that is placed within the Egyptian boat in the Rosicrucian Medal also represents Isis---she sits within this boat just as she sits within the boat in the Paris coat-of-arms and just as she sits atop the boat, as a female sphinx, in the Talisman of Napoleon. The "circular" stone is a feminine symbol---the largest stone in the entire medal, just as the quartz crystal representation of Josephine as Isis is the largest stone in Napoleon’s Talisman.
Twin pillars containing six and seven stones respectively support the boat. The twin pillars represent the energy of the "Two" or "Wisdom" in the Tarot. Thus, the Egyptian boat of Isis is supported by "Wisdom" that at its central core is "Rosicrucian" as depicted by the Rosicrucian cross placed directly between the twin pillars.

The "Six" of one pillar represents "Love" and the "Seven" of the other pillar represents "Victory." Together they represent the energy of the "Thirteen" or "Death," which in this case represents the energy of "change" as in changing the World into a more positive, productive place which Napoleon was committed to achieving.

The original 13 colonies of the United States were also a Rosicrucian coding for this "Death" or positive "change" of energy from the old feudal system of Europe to a new ideology featuring increased personal liberty.

The red Rosicrucian cross has six vertical red stones, which is "Love," and two additional stones for "Wisdom," representing the Rosicrucian ideal of the love of wisdom. This is what the Rosicrucian Order meant to Napoleon.

Both the Egyptian boat and the red Rosicrucian cross contain "eight" stones, representing the Tarot's "Eight" card: "Justice." This was an extremely important concept to Napoleon, who spent three years developing his "Code Napoleon" that was published in 1804 and is still the basis of French law today.

The Code Napoleon instituted Napoleon's system of meritocracy used during his rule, where individuals were afforded the opportunity to rise as high as their talents could take them (just as Napoleon had done), replacing the system of rank and privilege based on bloodline that often led to incompetence at the highest levels. This meritocracy, of course, was a major reason for Napoleon's military successes.
The 10 stones in a partial circle at the bottom of the Rosicrucian Medal represent the wheel of "Fate" that is depicted in the Tarot as a circular wheel below a reposing sphinx. This is displayed quite obviously in the Talisman of Napoleon with a partial circle of 10 sapphires below the reposing sphinx. In the Rosicrucian Medal, the 10 stones are also set in an arc below a reposing "Phoenix" nursing its "seven" young.

The Phoenix is based on the Benu bird, a solar bird of ancient Egypt.

Within the Phoenix motif, there are "Four" young birds (Emperor) before a backward-facing bird, and then two more birds (Wisdom). The one backward facing bird (whose eyes are "hidden") represents the "Magi" or "Magician" (Tarot card #1) who was familiar with the esoteric or "hidden" knowledge of mankind. It is this "Magi" who is the link between Napoleon as Emperor and the Wisdom of the Ancients. The other six birds all display one eye---the famous "all seeing eye" symbol that meant "higher knowledge" or "insight into the occult mysteries" during this period of time.

Of course, the Phoenix nurturing its young is another "Isis" or "mother" motif, showcasing how Wisdom nurtures the soul of the Emperor Napoleon.

The six birds displaying the "one eye" represent Napoleon’s love (six = love in Tarot) of the esoteric. The seven young birds in total represent the victory (seven = victory in Tarot) achieved through the acquisition of this knowledge by the Emperor Napoleon.
Of course, what would a great Napoleonic item be without his iconic “N” found on so many of his personal items?

The Talisman of Napoleon had his initials “NB” coded into the piece in an ingenious fashion involving the total number of precious stones, and Napoleon’s Rosicrucian Medal also displays a wonderfully inventive coding that secretly displays Napoleon’s famous “N.”

The Crown rests atop the large, mother of pearl “head” that has two legs of six and seven stones, respectively. So this crowned “stick man” is composed of 14 stones; the 14th letter of the alphabet is “N” for Napoleon, of course! Note that the “heart” of Napoleon is the Rosicrucian cross. The complexity of the overlapping coding is a striking reflection of Napoleon’s gifted and nimble mind.
There are 21 clear stones above the mother of pearl circular inlay AND the obvious “blank” where you would think a fifth green stone should be; this represents the Tarot deck with its 21 cards and a blank card. Again, this is duplicated in the Talisman, with its 21 rubies and a blank hole in one of the ruby panels, representing the "key" to unlock the coding of the piece.

Overall, there are 57 stones in the Rosicrucian Medal, exactly half as many as the 114 of the Talisman. The Talisman was a tribute to Josephine and with Napoleon’s divorce of Josephine (in an attempt to produce an heir---as Josephine could no longer have children), Napoleon’s other “half” was no longer with him.

In conclusion, let’s review the similarities between these two pieces:
1) both feature “four” green stones to represent Napoleon;
2) both feature the upside down Egyptian boat;
3) both feature twin “towers” extending from the boat;
4) both feature Isis as the largest stone or central figure of the piece;
5) both feature the red Rosicrucian cross;
6) both feature themes of wisdom, love, and victory;
7) both feature the Rosicrucian coding of “21 and a blank;”
8) both feature the “wheel of Fate”---an arc underneath a representation of Isis;
9) both feature Napoleon’s initial(s) coded into the design.
An interesting difference between the pieces is that in the Talisman of Napoleon, a sphinx is used at the top of the piece, and in the Rosicrucian Medal, a pyramid is used at the top of the piece.

It is quite possible that this Rosicrucian Medal was produced as the replacement for the Talisman of Napoleon with Napoleon's divorce from Josephine in 1810.