



A Few Words From The President

Well, a new year is upon us, and although Molossia's ceremonial New Year doesn't take place until the Lunar New Year in February, we can nevertheless take this opportunity to look back and ahead. Our nation as always has made great strides and accomplishments over the past year, setting a record for tourists, launching a new submarine, hosting two State Visits, establishing our Constabulary and welcoming our newest citizen, as well as parades, expeditions and naval voyages. And this coming year shows no signs of slowing down. We will continue to make Molossia better known over the coming months, getting our name out there, so to speak. This year as well promises some great events, including the Misfit Regatta and MicroCon 2019 in Toronto, the biennial meetup of micronationalists from around the world. And of course the pace never slows for naval expeditions, rocket launches, scientific expeditions and more. And these are just the things we know of - who knows what else this year will bring for the mighty Republic of Molossia!

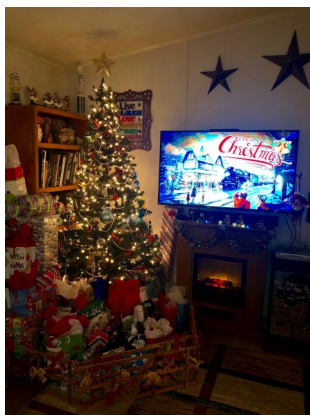


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Molossian Christmas

26 December 2018 XLI



The National Christmas Tree in Government House

Christmas is a major holiday in Molossia and a time of great tradition as well as festivity. Christmas is one of the most important holidays in the Republic of Molossia, and is traditionally a three-day celebration. The holiday actually begins on December 24th with Christmas Eve activities, including watching movies, baking (and eating) cookies, drinking eggnog and playing board games as a family - and the tradition of decorating Molossia's Christmas Crane. Christmas Eve dinner consisted this year of our traditional meal of lasagna, reflecting the Italian heritage of Molossia. The evening ends with the reading of the "Night Before Christmas", and with tracking the arrival of Santa Claus using NORAD's website. Christmas morning, December 25th, begins early, as the family descends upon the hoard of presents beneath the National Christmas Tree. Once the frenzy of present-opening ends, Christmas breakfast is made and served, and afterward everyone settles down to enjoy their gifts. Christmas Eve dinner takes place in the later afternoon, largely wrapping up a lazy, relaxing day. Christmas dinner this year was turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, stuffing, and all the trimmings. Boxing Day is on December 26th, and is the last day of the Christmas holidays. While no special events take place, dinner on Boxing Day is traditionally Shepherd's Pie, in keeping with the British theme of the day.

This wraps up the Christmas events for the year, with everyone eagerly looking forward to the distant arrival of next year's Christmas.



The National Christmas Tree in Republic Square

Small Town Christmas

3 December 2018 XLI

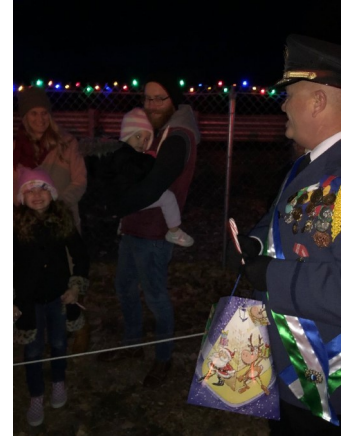
The Christmas Season is upon us, and in what has become an annual tradition, His Excellency, The President and The First Lady visited the annual Dayton Small Town Christmas, a tree-lighting and holiday event held in nearby downtown Dayton, in the town park. The President donated canned goods to the needy, passed out candy canes to children and visited Santa with the First Lady, while mingling with the festive holiday crowd. As always, Molossians are very popular in the community outside our door, and it's a pleasure celebrate and share the Christmas holiday with them. Of course the event is an excellent opportunity to spread awareness of our nation as well as being great fun!



Meeting Santa



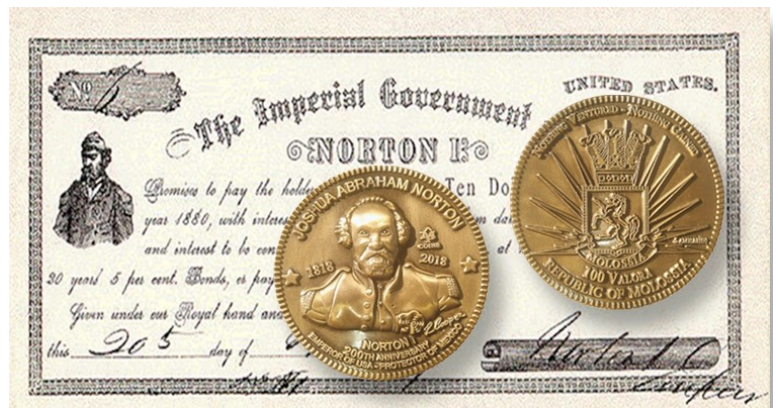
Festive First Couple



Passing Out Candy Canes

EMPEROR NORTON COIN AVAILABLE!

The obverse of the creation shows a bust of Emperor Norton, and the reverse depicts the coat of arms of the Republic of Molossia. The piece was designed by Massimo Pastorelli in Venezuela and sculptured by Robert Cooper in America. They were struck by MP Coins in Madrid, Spain. There are a maximum mintage of 70 pieces available across several different metal versions. The most abundant version is a zinc piece plated with an antique gold finish. It retails for €35 (about \$40 U.S.) plus shipping through MP Coins' eBay store.



Upcoming Tours Of Molossia

Tours of our nation are currently planned on the following dates only:

Saturday, 27 April 2019 XLII at 10:00 AM PST (first tour of the year)



The Molossian Navy



BE A PART!

WWW.MOLOSSIA.ORG/NAVY.INDEX.HTML AND
WWW.MOLOSSIA.ORG/MILACADEMY./INDEX.HTML



Emperor Norton - A Molossian Icon

January 8th is Emperor Norton Day here in Molossia, and here is a little about this celebrated figure.

Norton I, Emperor of the United States and Protector of Mexico - Joshua Abraham Norton - was one of the most picturesque figures in California history. Norton was born in 1818 or 1819 in London, England, but was taken almost immediately to South Africa, where his parents had decided to move to seek their fortune. In 1849 Norton moved to San Francisco, one of the thousands who rushed there hoping to strike it rich.

Norton soon became a commodities merchant, and for several years achieved a large measure of financial success - enough to be invited to join the elite San Francisco Vigilance Committee. But in 1853 his failed effort to corner the local rice market put him into bankruptcy. And his bankruptcy, in turn, seems to have driven him insane. Six years later, in 1858, he announced that:

At the peremptory request and desire of a large majority of the citizens of the United States, I, Joshua Norton, declare and proclaim myself Emperor of these United States.

Over the next twenty-one years, Norton cut a striking figure as he roamed the city in a European-style military uniform with a plumed top hat and a sword at his side. Norton issued further edicts, inspected building sites, intervened in a lynching, gave speeches, ate free at restaurants and was clothed free at haberdashers - in both latter cases allowing the businesses to announce that they served by appointment of the Emperor. Mark Twain even based the character of the King in Huckleberry Finn on the eccentric Emperor. Emperor Norton was a well-known and popular fixture of a colorful town.

Finally on a rainy January 8th in 1880, Emperor Norton died on the streets of San Francisco; thirty thousand San Franciscans attended his funeral.

Here in Molossia we regard Emperor Norton very highly, as the first micronationalist - more or less. As a result he is on our money and stamps, has a park and cannon named for him and the basic unit of our measurement system is named the Norton.



Winter Arrives in Molossia!



Around Molossia...

Grand Duke Travis of Westarctica visits Molossia's Desert Homestead Province and flies the Molossian flag!



Republic of Molossia

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Visit Molossia's website at
www.molossia.org.

We're also on Facebook, at
www.tinyurl.com/MolossiaFacebook

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January Calendar

Emperor Norton I Day - January 8th

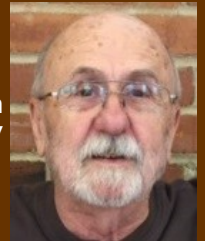
In memory of Emperor Norton I, Emperor of the United States and protector of Mexico. The "patron saint" of unrecognized nations. This holiday is traditionally celebrated with a "Cookie Dough Fest"

Molossaphone Day - 28 January

A day to laud our National Musical Instrument, the Molossaphone!



6 January - Mary Mercurio's Birthday



26 January - Tom Baugh's Birthday

Molossia's weather is always gorgeous, with plenty of sunshine and temperatures year-round of 22° Celsius (72° Fahrenheit). However, our little country is surrounded by the US and they are so close, their awful weather invades frequently! So the weather report reflects both our weather and theirs.

	Molossia	US
Maximum Temperature	22° C / 72° F	15° C / 60° F
Minimum Temperature	22° C / 72° F	-11° C / 13° F
Average Temperature	22° C / 72° F	13° C / 36.5° F
Monthly Precipitation	0 mm	24.6 mm
Sunshine hours	Pretty much every day!	

The Last Word With The First Lady

January is here and the start of a new year is upon us. During this time there is much talk about resolutions and changes that you may want to make to better yourself. Other people think this is hogwash. Myself, I go for the "do it when you're ready" mantra. Maybe you are ready on January 1st or maybe you were ready last week. If so, why wait those few extra days? In the meantime, something could change causing you to lose focus. When the time is right and you've made your decision, take the plunge and go for it any day of the year! What will you do to better yourself? Diet, exercise, money, patience, creativity? Or maybe you are already just how you want to be and living the life of your dreams? I can say that for the President and I, we are pretty great, but there is always room for improvement. I don't have any grand resolutions this year, but deciding what needs improvement just might be my resolution! Let's start somewhere. Every step, even small ones, are movement in the direction of change. Stagnant water grows moss, so let's move and see what happens next.



Thank you all and until next time...

Life is about the journey, not the destination but at least we are on the road to somewhere!