

Message from the President



I am proud to send you issue No. 5 of *Napoleonic Scholarship: The Journal of the International Napoleonic Society*. Due to circumstances beyond our control this issue suffered a significant delay. However, as always, Alexander Mikaberidze has put together an outstanding collection of top scholarship in our field. We are already planning the next issue and I urge you to submit papers for consideration. I am quite sad that Alex, my close friend and colleague for many years, is resigning as Editor-in-Chief due to increasing work commitments. However, I am delighted that another close friend, Dr. Wayne Hanley, has agreed to accept the position. Wayne is Chair of the Department of History at West Chester University in Pennsylvania. Wayne is a top scholar and I have every confidence that he will do an outstanding job. You can reach him at whanley@wcupa.edu.

This year is the 5th anniversary of our founder and my friend Ben Weider's death. I am proud that this journal and other INS activities are still a major part of his Napoleonic legacy.

J. David Markham, President

Message from the Editor-in-Chief



I am pleased to present the new issue of *Napoleonic Scholarship*. As always, the journal discusses a wide range of issues and topics and contains essays by both well-known scholars and up-and-coming historians. William C. Nester explores French diplomacy, highlighting the role of Napoleon's character in shaping the diplomatic course of the empire. The next two papers deal with a difficult subject of the "Spanish Quagmire," France's six year long war that claimed tens of thousands of lives and had considerable impact on the course of the Napoleonic Wars. Michael Bonura focuses on the development of French military districts in Spain that was part of Napoleon's decision to make the war pay for itself. Napoleon's other quagmire, the Russian Campaign of 1812, is the subject of two papers, with Mark Edward Hay discussing the Dutch experiences and memory while Wayne Hanley continues his excellent series of articles on the military career of Marshal Michel Ney, this time highlighting Ney's leadership during the retreat from Russia. The retreat had claimed lives of tens of thousands of men and women of the Grande Armée, some of whom had been discovered buried in mass grave near Vilnius, the subject of Douglas D. Scott's article. Emilio Ocampo, who has published a fascinating study on Napoleon's exile to St. Helena and the Bonapartist cause in the Americas, delves on the long-standing theory that Napoleon had been poisoned, but instead of wading into the morass of modern-day debate, he introduces reader to the early 19th century origins of this theory. The topic of Napoleon's memory is further elaborated in two fascinating papers: Thomas M. Barden's paper that focuses on the memoirs of Napoleon's companions at St. Helena, and Mark Ehlers' essay on the Napoleonic memory in Early America. William L. Chew continues his research on the American travelers to Europe in his new essay on Rembrandt Peale, American portraitist and history painter, who visited France at the height of the First Empire.

We hope you will enjoy reading the journal and look forward to hearing from you. Sadly, this will be my last issue of The Napoleonic Scholarship. It has been an honor and privilege to work on this journal and correspond with so many incredible scholars. I am leaving with heavy heart but convinced that this publication will only grow and prosper under the leadership of my colleague and good friend Wayne Hanley.

Alexander Mikaberidze, Editor-in-Chief

Future INS Congresses Announced

The INS is very pleased to announce the following upcoming International Napoleonic Congresses. We sincerely hope that many of you will participate in them!

Napoleon and Revolutions Throughout the World
In cooperation with the Museo Napoleónico, La Habana
and the French Ambassador to Cuba
Havana, **Cuba**
7–11 July 2014

Waterloo and Beyond
Brussels, **Belgium**
In cooperation with Vesalius College, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
July 2015

Napoleon and the Irish
Dublin, **Ireland**
In cooperation with the Government of Ireland
Trinity College Dublin
The Napoleon Society of Ireland
July 2016

Napoleon's Final Years
In cooperation with Enterprise St. Helena and the French Consul to St. Helena
Jamestown, **St. Helena**
July, 2017