

# Made in Korea

*Todd Town, Globe, AZ*

A lot of us collectors can remember Charlie Moore. He loved the acquisition of mining artifacts. And he truly loved the parlaying of the artifact into more artifacts and cash. A year before his passing, he had told me about a gentleman in town who had a candlestick that was inlaid with silver. He said he was working on trying to get this piece. Charlie went to Valhalla before he could acquire it. Charlie would never let you in his fishing hole, so the owner of this stick remained unknown to me. Until this February. My wife set up for the annual antique show here in Globe. In the morning, before the rush, a gentleman was looking over the guy stuff in the booth. Carbide lamps, hand cuffs, old photos and such. He paid no attention to the glass ware. His first words to me were, "Have you ever heard of a Korean Miner's Candlestick"? I think I shocked him when I said "yes I have heard of them and have seen a few. You must be the owner of the Korean stick Charlie Moore talked about". He left the show and in 30 minutes presented me with this gorgeous stick. I am sad to report that all of us had a chance at this stick at the time of it's original sale. The gentleman purchased this stick off eBay in a very obscure search title when eBay was just getting started. He chased down as much history as he could. And it goes as follows: the stick was purchased out of New York City from an estate of an American foreign diplomat who was still alive. His service to his country mainly was in the Asian Rim area. That was all the seller was willing to say about the stick. The stick is dated 1907 with a full-breasted American Eagle on the thimble. It has been used, showing wear on the tip with some loss of inlaid silver at this point. Korean characters on the stick translate as North UNSAN. A stick like this can sure make your day. Its raw beauty is a real eye opener and will certainly re-kindle the fire of collecting mining artifacts, when the water hole has been dry for a while.



