



Winter 2003
Volume 53, Number 4

American Schools of Oriental Research Newsletter

ASOR

ASOR at Boston University, 656 Beacon Street, 5th floor, Boston, MA 02215-2010

Douglas R. Clark Appointed Executive Director of ASOR

Arguably the most important decision made by the ASOR Board of Trustees in its November Atlanta meeting was its unanimous decision, on the recommendation of the search committee for a successor to Rudy Dornemann, to invite Douglas Clark to serve as ASOR's new Executive Director, starting January 1, 2004. After careful consideration, he thankfully agreed to serve. He has already taken up his responsibilities half-time until July 1, moving back and forth from Walla Walla, Washington, his current home, to Boston and Atlanta, where he is rapidly learning all he can about ASOR's operations, its joys and challenges.

Clark says, "I love ASOR. I love what the organization stands for. I love to work with ASOR people. I also love what I feel ASOR can become. I have to say that I think ASOR is on the verge of greatness, poised to notch itself up to the next level." After a first try, the search committee and board agreed that Clark was the logical candidate to do that very thing. Clark sees himself as "helping to create an ethos for success well into the 21st century." His perceived strengths include his knowledge of ASOR from the inside, his stellar accomplishments with the annual meeting, his solid administrative skills and experience, including management of budgets and fundraising, his energy and optimism, a "can-do" attitude, his open, communicative style of dealing with people, and an even temperament to work with ASOR's wide variety of personalities.

Currently Professor of Old Testament and Archaeology at Walla Walla College, where for eight years he served also as Dean of the School of Theology, Clark earned his Ph.D. in 1984 from Vanderbilt University with a dissertation on the book of Ezekiel. Ten years earlier he earned an M.Div. from Andrews University after getting his B.A. from Walla Walla College. Before coming to WWC, he served as a pastor and taught in Texas.

Long active in archaeological field work (eleven seasons since 1973) as well as the profession, he is co-director of the Madaba Plains Project-'Umayri in Jordan. He has served ASOR as its chair of the Committee on the Annual Meeting and Program (CAMP) as well as on the editorial board of *Near Eastern Archaeology* (NEA) and, in addition to denominational scholarly responsibilities, has been active in AIA, SBL, and AAR. He spent 2001-2002 at ACOR in Jordan on a CAORC Senior Fellowship continuing his research on Iron I domestic housing. While at Walla Walla College, Clark received numerous grants, awards, and honors for his teaching and research. Active in publication, his CV contains well in excess of a hundred professional presentations, journal articles and contributions to books, his most recent being as co-editor (with Victor Matthews) of ASOR's Centennial Volume.

Doug Clark and his wife, Carmen, who works in insurance/bookkeeping for a dental office, will be moving to Boston full time this coming summer whereupon Clark

will assume his new ASOR responsibilities full-time. They leave behind in the Northwest two grown sons, one at the Primate Research Center at Oregon Health Science University, and the other a software engineer in Seattle who has given the Clarks a granddaughter and grandson.

ASOR President Lawrence Geraty says, "I'm not surprised to see that Doug Clark is off and running, energized by the challenges ASOR faces. I'm convinced he's the right person for this time in ASOR's long and distinguished history. We welcome him to the task and we look forward to working with him to help bring about the potential that exists in ASOR for the benefit of its members and the profession." ✨



Rudy Dornemann Retires after 12 Years as ED

For most of those associated with ASOR now, it is easy to forget that the position of Executive Director is relatively new in its 103-year history. Rudolph Dornemann was the first occupant of that office and now, after more than a dozen years, has retired, effective December 31, 2003. According to ASOR Chair P.E. MacAllister, "Rudy has vindicated the office. Through his efforts, made it so essential the idea of abandoning the position and reverting to former status was never for a moment considered."

In fact, Dornemann has served three Chairs (Thompson, Harris, and MacAllister) and three presidents (Meyers, Seger, and Geraty). According to Eric Meyers at Dornemann's farewell at the Atlanta November meetings, that duration in office meant we should be celebrating Rudy's Bar Mitzvah! He then went on to say, "On this shabbat of your ASOR Bar Mitzvah, I am delighted to tell everyone assembled here tonight that in all these hard times you have stood tall and strong, and have defended the integrity of ASOR in Syria, in Jordan, and in Israel. You have conducted your term in office with honesty, dignity, and amazing patience. During your stewardship all ASOR's children [AIAR, ACOR, CAARI] have seemed to flourish despite the difficult political and economic times, and you have kept ASOR's birthright intact."

In typical fashion, Joe Seger gave his farewell tribute in verse; in part he said,

"For in all things he's stoic
His work's been heroic
He's kept all the bears at the door
Despite his exterior
He's really superior
A model for all of ASOR."

Among Dornemann's long list of accomplishments in office, he is proudest of the following:

1. Wrapping up the outstanding NEH grants and transitioning the center grants so they could handle them directly. (CAORC has now taken over the go-between role that ASOR played between the centers and federal funding agencies.)

2. Completing the negotiations to set up a Canadian ASOR as a tax-exempt entity in Canada.

3. Successfully moving ASOR's headquarters from The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore to Boston University in Boston, thanks to a deal worked out by Artemis Joukowsky.

4. Increasing the office's interaction with committees though a presence on the internet.

5. Completely reworking ASOR's financial recording system.

6. Devoting considerable effort to pulling off a successful Centennial Celebration out of which grew the Torch Campaign.

7. Supporting the progress made by publications, the annual meeting, and the committee on archaeological policy.

8. Revitalizing the Baghdad Committee and creating a new regional committee for Saudi Arabia.

9. Completing sponsorship agreements for the excavation projects at Tell el-Hesi, Dead Sea Plains, and Tell Qarqur.

10. Bringing together and supporting Holly Andrews, Britt Hartenberger and Selma Omerefendic in Boston, and Billie Jean Collins and Chris Madell in Atlanta who have done "a tremendous job moving ASOR ahead with limited resources, now looking toward limitless possibilities."

Dornemann received his B.A. in Classical Languages and Literature at the University of Connecticut and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from The Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, specializing in Syria and Jordan. He went on to dig for forty years in Palestine (Ta'annek), Sudan (Dorgenarti), Syria (Mureybit, Selenkahiye, el-Kowm, Hadidi, Qarqur), and Jordan (Amman Citadel and Nimrin). Before coming to ASOR in 1991, he worked at The Oriental Institute Museum, as archaeological advisor to Jordan's Department of Antiquity while he was the very first director of ACOR, and as head of the History Section of the Milwaukee Public Museum from 1972 until 1990. He has compiled a long list of published articles and book contributions.

We wish Rudy and Meredith well as they move into their new retirement home in Plymouth. Fortunately they will not be too far from Boston so ASOR can call on them from time to time to take advantage of their wisdom and historical memory. Thanks, Rudy, for a dozen good years! ✨

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The ASOR Newsletter (ISSN 0361-6029)
is published quarterly by the American
Schools of Oriental Research

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The American Schools of Oriental Research
www.asor.org

ASOR President's Report

Since our last Newsletter report and what has been called by many "the most successful Annual Meeting yet" (referring to the one just held in Atlanta), one of the most important developments has been the December 31 retirement of long-time executive director, Rudy Dornemann, and the "maiden voyage" of his successor, Douglas R. Clark, which began on January 1. Elsewhere in this issue we have featured both of these leaders so critical to ASOR's development and mission.

In addition, we note with deep appreciation for his many contributions to ASOR through the Committee on Archaeological Policy (CAP), the stellar work of David W. McCreery, who steps down as chair in June. His tenure is marked by the initiation of a computer-enhanced system of processing applications for ASOR-affiliation, thus streamlining committee work; complete and comprehensive reports, a system of correspondence with the administrations of ASOR-affiliated project institutions, and most importantly, a strengthening of ASOR's policies committed to the preservation and protection of Near Eastern antiquities. Burton MacDonald replaces McCreery as Chair of CAP and brings with him considerable archaeological, survey and publication experience.

We are also proud to welcome Loren Basch (Creative Resources Development) of Los Angeles as a new member of the Board of Trustees. His seventy-nine-page "Feasibility and Strategic Campaign Planning Study Conducted for ASOR" was presented formally at the Annual Meeting and adopted in Atlanta. Its purpose was to assess ASOR's current and recent fund raising results; to see whether we were ready to reposition ourselves to attract new resources; to see whether the membership sees itself and its scholarship as important and worthy enough to have a stronger service umbrella; to see if our membership services and benefits are satisfactory, asking which programs are most successful and why; to consider our satisfaction level and the image we present of ourselves; to look at our relationships as compared to other

Eric H. Cline Appointed to Chair the Committee on the Annual Meeting and Program (CAMP)

Eric H. Cline, Assistant Professor of Ancient History and Archaeology in the Department of Classical and Semitic Languages and Literatures at The George Washington University, was appointed by the ASOR Board of Trustees as the new Committee on the Annual Meeting and Program (CAMP) Chair at its November meeting in Atlanta. Because the position of CAMP Chair is an elected one by the entire ASOR membership, Cline's appointment is presently interim, until the next general election by the membership at the Annual Meeting in San Antonio in 2004.

Having served admirably for five years (the past three as Chair) on the Program Committee, in charge of the academic program of the Annual Meeting, Eric is extremely well suited for the CAMP position. He brings with him a knowledge of the inner workings of ASOR, especially the annual conference, as well as an extensive acquaintance with ASOR members and boundless energy and creativity. The work he and his committee have accomplished over the past several years is one of the major reasons the

Annual Meetings have grown in size, breadth of participation and increasing stature in recent times.

He also adds his own stature to the position, given his wide-ranging archaeological fieldwork throughout the ancient Near East and publications and presentations

about the eastern Mediterranean. He is the author of two books, *Sailing the Wine-Dark Sea: International Trade and the Late Bronze Age Aegean* (B.A.R. Series, 1994) and *The Battles of Armageddon: Megiddo and the Jezreel Valley from the Bronze Age to the Nuclear Age* (University of Michigan Press, 2000), winner of the 2001 Biblical Archaeology Society Publication Award for "Best Popular Book on Archaeology". In



addition, he has edited two volumes, written over forty articles as well as book reviews, delivered over one hundred presentations and can now even be seen on TV on the Discovery Channel in "Joshua and the Walls of Jericho."

Rachel Hallote will take over Cline's duties as Chair of the Program Committee. ✨

membership organizations; to assess our resource development connections in higher education and Washington, DC, where raising and applying additional dollars would have the most positive impact on ASOR's ability to implement its mission; to assess the internal and external obstacles we would face in a fundraising drive; to explore the degree to which our Board and membership agree on the "needs," and whether or not now is the time for ASOR to reposition for more effective fundraising, to determine the potential success of a fund

raising plan of action.

The study was based on interviews or questionnaire responses from 118 key ASOR members. While noting several success stories of ASOR over the past several years, including the publications program and the annual meeting, it also attempted to address ASOR's challenges, resulting in these nine recommendations:

1. Now is the time to move forward, to strengthen and ensure our future.
2. ASOR should raise and apply "first

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money” to strengthen its professional staff, particularly in development.

3. First money for the professional staff will come from recruiting new members to the Board of Trustees.

4. A fundraising campaign should be organized around the major programmatic points of consensus that currently exist. Among these are strengthening membership services, revitalizing the Committee for Archaeological Policy (CAP) as a vehicle for strengthening ASOR's relationship with the overseas institutes, translating ASOR's subject matter to reach a popular audience, continuing and expanding the public lecture program, developing ways to increase the public impact of the Annual Meeting and Publications, and taking a leading role in reintroducing the importance of our research and scholarship within the Academy.

5. Developing a new partnership with Higher Education to which billions of dollars are annually given.

6. The return of the CAP as “the anchor of the fundraising drive”—after all it focuses on the core interest of the organization, i.e. the encouragement and support of excavations and related project research in the Middle East and eastern Mediterranean. This implies a strengthening of ties to where this happens: AIAR, ACOR, and CAARI.

7. ASOR must get over its “push/pull” about the professional social science/humanities versus biblical studies dichotomy that exists within the membership and become a “big tent organization” by welcoming diverse approaches in the field.

8. Fundraising plans follow institutional repositioning.

9. Study the survey carefully and implement a clear response.

ASOR's new leadership has taken this mandate very seriously and it has become the blueprint from which we are working. Doug Clark has hit the ground running and, along with our exceptional staff in Boston and Atlanta, deserves much credit for new energy that has already been involved in some of the following developments:

1. Most board members have contributed to a fund to hire a new development director. Thanks to the initiative and support of Artemis and Martha Joukowsky,

Report of the Committee on Publications

At the ASOR annual meeting in November, Loren Basch presented a Feasibility and Strategic Campaign Planning Study for ASOR in which its publishing program was cited as one of the strongest and most effective of ASOR's activities. There are many who deserve credit for the continued strength of the program, and we are proud and pleased to play a valuable role in disseminating the latest archaeological research relating to the Middle East in high-quality publications to the scholarly community and the general public alike.

Despite the strength of the program, there are many areas where it needs to grow and develop. Specifically, there is a strong feeling that *BASOR*'s physical appearance needs to upgrade if the flagship journal of our society is to remain one of the premier publications in its field. Improvements should include higher-quality paper and the addition of color images, trends that can be seen in other journals in the field. With costs for production continuing to rise, an endowment for *BASOR* is a high priority. Other areas of potential growth include a more expansive and interactive website for *NEA*, and an endowment to support the production of books.

On everyone's mind is the need to get *NEA* back on schedule. Getting caught up will depend on the efforts of many people. Editor Sandra Scham has appointed Benjamin R. Porter of the University of Pennsylvania as editor of the *Arti-Facts* feature and Justin Lev-Tov of the University of Alabama as book review editor. Many issues are in the works on topics including Petra, gender and archaeology, dance, sacred spaces, food and wine, and the Persian period in the Levant. Although behind, *NEA* continues to work toward visually more pleasing issues with articles that are more accessible. Recent issues have included more color and more and larger illustrations. We hope that these changes will help to attract a broader audience to the work of ASOR and its membership.

In the coming year we expect to produce a number of excellent monographs. *100 Years of American Archaeology in the Levant: Proceedings of the American Schools of*

Oriental Research Centennial Celebration, Washington, DC, April 2000, edited by Douglas Clark and Victor Matthews, is set to appear in February, as is ASOR Annual volume 58, *The Near East in the Southwest: Essays in Honor of William G. Dever*, edited by Beth Alpert Nakhai. Burton MacDonald's *The Tafila-Busayra Archaeological Survey 1999-2001, West-Central Jordan*, is scheduled for this Spring. In addition, work is underway to produce a classroom-friendly compilation of the series of articles devoted to the archaeological history of the southern Levant that have appeared over the years in *NEA* under the rubric *Archaeological Sources for the History of Palestine*. The project is being spearheaded by David C. Hopkins, former editor of *NEA*. Many more volumes are in the planning stages.

COP has approved a new limited book series, tentatively titled the ASOR Introductory Series on the Archaeology of the Near East. The series is designed for a collegiate (undergraduate) audience, tapping the textbook market, as well as the popular imagination. We hope to have volumes for most of the countries of the Near East, including Egypt, Cyprus, Israel/Palestine, Jordan, Syria/Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Iran, and perhaps Saudi Arabia. We anticipate that individuals traveling to these areas will also find the volumes of interest. The editorial board for the project is currently being configured.

ASOR's three monograph series have gained momentum in the past few years and healthy sales reflect this. In the last fiscal year, ASOR sold more than 3,000 books, a 33% increase over the previous year's sales. In part this record is a result of the number of books published, but it also testifies to the strengthening of our marketing and distribution through the David Brown Book Company.

Much of the past year has been taken up with the transition to in-house membership and subscription fulfillment. Owing to the Herculean efforts of Chris Madell and Katie Chaple in the Atlanta office, this transition is complete, although the voyage of discovery continues as we perfect the system. ✨

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Committee on the Annual Meeting and Program – Atlanta 2003

Atlanta hosted one of the largest annual meetings in ASOR's illustrious history, providing a venue for scores of academic sessions and hundreds of papers, a large number of business and committee meetings, and thousands of conversations in the crush space between meeting rooms and session times. This report addresses the 2003 Annual Meeting in Atlanta, organized around the five major committees of CAMP, which have, in conjunction with the Boston and Atlanta offices, done the real work of organizing and pulling off the conference. We are indebted to all of these people.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

(Eric Cline, Chair)

As in the past several years, the program for the Annual Meeting was full to overflowing. The 2003 Annual Meeting drew the second largest crowd ever, with nearly 600 attendees. It was also one of the most diverse and timely in terms of the topics and issues covered, which included archaeological ethics and antiquities, gender concerns, ancient texts and inscriptions, technology and web-based computer database use in archaeology, and archaeo-logical preservation and presentation, not to mention a newly instituted presidential panel on excavating in today's Middle East. In addition, the sessions covered virtually the entire geography of the ancient Near East, from Anatolia to Egypt and beyond, as well as nearly all archaeological time periods, from prehistory to the modern period. Having Professor Lord Colin Renfrew present the opening night plenary lecture was a major coup and the discussion (vigorous debate!) that his lecture on the role of museums and scholars in preserving the world's diminishing heritage generated suggests something of the nature and extent of the problem. Renfrew's lecture was one of the highlights of the 2003 program, as was the all-day, international workshop on the Araba Project on Wednesday at the Fernbank Museum before the official meetings began. Add to these the Thursday evening Public Lecture on Jewish mercenaries in ancient Egypt by

Edward Bleiberg of the Brooklyn Museum, which was followed by a reception and tour at the Michael C. Carlos Museum exhibit on Jews in Egypt at Emory University. The Foundation for Biblical Archaeology, directed by Sheila Bishop, sponsored the exquisite reception. In all, there were 52 different sessions with nearly 250 different presentations by more than 250 different presenters and presiders from 15 countries (Austria, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, England, Finland, Germany, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Scotland, Switzerland, and the USA), not including the Wednesday Wadi Arabah presentations.

OUTREACH EDUCATION COMMITTEE

(Gloria London, Chair)

This year in conjunction with its Annual Meeting, ASOR held numerous events for the public. The Teachers Workshop 2003 was co-sponsored with the Carlos Museum and Middle Eastern Outreach Program of Emory University, which drew 15 enthusiastic teachers. Ellen Bedell and Neal

Finally, in conjunction with the Michael C. Carlos Museum exhibit on Jews in Ancient Egypt, Edward Bleiberg, Curator of the Brooklyn Museum of Art, addressed an audience of hundreds with a lecture of the same name. The event was co-sponsored by the Museum and Emory University's Middle East Outreach Program.

LECTURE SERIES COMMITTEE

(Ann Killebrew, chair)

The ASOR Lecture Series is already underway for the 2003–2004 season. Emory University hosted three ASOR co-sponsored lectures in the Fall, including William G. Dever, "Who Were the Early Israelites and Where Did They Come From?" on Sep. 25, Elizabeth Bloch-Smith, "Life in Early Israel from the Perspective of the Dead" (Oct. 30) and Edward Bleiberg, "Jewish Life in Ancient Egypt" (Nov. 20). Two more lectures are planned for the Spring. On February 4, Ziony Zevit will speak on "Israelite Religion During the Biblical Period" and on March 4, Robert Tykok will speak on "Pre-Roman Sardinia and its Mediterranean Connections."

Other lectures and lecture series are still undergoing development. One is being planned with Neil Silberman at the Smithsonian in March. Another, to be co-sponsored by the Cotsen Institute at UCLA, will most likely take place in the Spring. Others in the Cincinnati area and in Cambridge, in conjunction with the Harvard Semitic Museum, are also being planned.

REGIONAL AFFILIATIONS COMMITTEE

(Suzanne Richard, chair)

Future prospects for regional ASOR entities appear strong: "Stage 1" in the revitalization of the ASOR regional societies has been a success. This included the beginning of a dialogue between the national office and the regional societies, some of which were already well-established, but others that had become



Lawrence T. Geraty (ASOR President), Lord Colin Renfrew (Plenary Speaker) and Douglas R. Clark (CAMP Chair) at the annual meeting in Atlanta.

Bierling made the major presentations during the six-hour session.

The "Communicating Archaeology to the Public" session featured Rami Khouri, a well-known and widely respected journalist and publicist for Middle Eastern politics and archaeology, and now editor of a major newspaper headquartered in Beirut. The session focused on archaeology and public education.

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A History of ASOR's Baghdad School, Part II

Given the current interest in ancient Mesopotamia and discussion of possible renewed American archaeological research in Iraq, we thought it timely to provide a short history of ASOR's research and presence in this region. From the early 1920s through the late 1960s, ASOR directly funded and assisted scholars in a series of groundbreaking excavations and surveys. ASOR has become an institutional member of the American Association for Research in Baghdad (AARB), which aims to establish an archaeological research center in Iraq. Our membership in the AARB will give our Baghdad Committee a voice in revitalization of archaeological research in Iraq.

By Richard Zettler, Chair (ASOR Baghdad Committee) and Britt Hartenberger (ASOR)

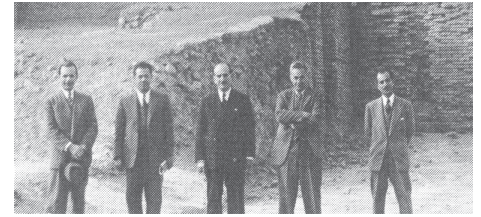
World War II brought the School's work in Iraq to a halt, and E. A. Speiser, Chairman of the Baghdad School, wryly noted in his report for 1941, "in the course of the past season fieldwork in Mesopotamia was under the direction of generals rather than archaeologists." Nelson Glueck, ASOR's Director in Jerusalem, who carried on with his surveys in Transjordan during the war, represented the School in communications with the Department of Antiquities in Baghdad. Glueck had been the Baghdad School's Annual Professor in 1933–1934, when foreign excavators temporarily halted work in Iraq pending changes in the country's antiquities laws.

Shortly after the War came to an end, the Baghdad School resumed its activities. Samuel Noah Kramer was Annual Professor in 1946–1947 and was able to work in museums in Istanbul and Baghdad. In 1946 the School established the *Journal of Cuneiform Studies*, with an Editorial Board consisting of Albrecht Goetze, Thorkild Jacobsen and Abraham Sachs. In 1947 Goetze became Director of the Baghdad School, serving for ten years and playing a prominent role in the Baghdad School until his death in 1971.

In the 1950s and 1960s, the Baghdad School once again assumed a highly visible role in promoting fieldwork in Iraq. It supported Robert J. Braidwood's Prehistoric Project, for example, naming Bruce Howe as Fellow in 1950–51 and Annual Professor in 1954–1955, 1959–1960 and 1963–1964. The School supported the early post-WW II seasons at Nippur, appointing field epigrapher Francis Steele its Annual Professor in 1949–1950 and 1951–1952. When the University of Pennsylvania withdrew from the Nippur excavations, the Baghdad School joined The Oriental Institute in sponsoring the excavations. The principal focus of work during the years that ASOR co-sponsored the Nippur

excavations was the temple of Inanna, whose Early Dynastic levels yielded unique architecture and rich inventories of sculpture. Thorkild Jacobsen, Nippur's epigrapher, was Annual Professor in 1953–1954 and Goetze, the epigrapher in the fifth (1955–1956) and sixth (1957–1958) seasons, was Annual Professor in the former year. Richard C. Haines, who directed the excavations, was Annual Professor in 1960–1961 and Donald P. Hansen, field archaeologist, in 1962–1963. Hansen began excavations at Tell Abu Salabikh, where he made the important discovery of late Early Dynastic texts, published by Robert D. Biggs, shortly after the end of the 1962–1963 field season at Nippur. The Baghdad School also supported Hansen's later excavations at al-Hiba (Lagash), a project he initiated in 1968 with Vaughn Crawford, who headed the School following Goetze.

In addition to its excavations, the Baghdad School played a prominent role in innovative archaeological surface surveys conducted by Thorkild Jacobsen, Vaughn Crawford and Robert McC. Adams. The



Samuel Noel Kramer, second from right, stands with the Director of the Iraq Department of Antiquities and Director of the Iraq Museum in front of the ziggurat at Aqar Quf. The photo was taken in 1946 during Kramer's year as Annual Professor of the Baghdad School.

School jointly sponsored Adams' 1956–1957 Iraq Surface Survey of the Akkad region. Adams was the Annual Professor for 1966–1967, and then Resident Director of the Baghdad School in 1968–1969, when he used the Oriental Institute's house at Nippur as a base for his survey of the area, as well as excavations at Tell Abu Sarifa, a project that aimed to disentangle Sassanian and early Islamic ceramic chronology.

Following the 1967 Arab-Israeli War and the July 17, 1968 revolution that brought the Arab Baath Socialist Party to power, the situation for foreign archaeologists in Iraq deteriorated. McGuire Gibson, the School's Annual Professor for 1969–1970, reached Baghdad, but was not given permission to work. Following the handwriting on the wall, the Baghdad School Committee, which had existed since 1921, changed its name to the Committee on Mesopotamian Civilization in December 1969 and made the Annual Professorship into a Fellowship for "study of Mesopotamian civilization—be it philology, archaeology, or art history—in Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Iraq, Iran, or any other country where the pertinent materials are available" (Board of Trustees minutes, Dec. 29, 1969). The first recipients of the Mesopotamian Fellowship were Stephen Lieberman (1970–1971), Elizabeth Carter (1971–1972), and Norman Yoffee (1972–1973); the most recent Jennifer Pournelle (2001–2002), Sarah Graff (2002–2003) and Bekir Gürdil (2003–2004).



Late Early Dynastic plaque (7 N 407) from the Inanna Temple at Nippur, discovered during the 1960–1961 field season.

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At the November 2003 ASOR Annual Meeting in Atlanta, and the weeks that followed, the Committee on Archaeological Policy (CAP), approved affiliation for a total of 69 new and ongoing projects (31 field and 38 publication), with the following geographical distribution.

- Tunisia — 1 publication project
- Turkey — 1 field project
- Cyprus — 3 field & 5 publication projects
- Israel — 7 field & 14 publication projects
- West Bank — 2 publication projects
- Jordan — 19 field & 16 publication projects
- Syria — 1 field project

Since we are now receiving and distributing all proposals electronically, we have been able to cut costs, improve efficiency, and drastically reduce our meeting time from twelve hours to two and a half hours. Despite our attempt to increase efficiency; in the future CAP will need at least three hours of meeting time to deal adequately with the increasing numbers of project proposals and policy issues.

This is obviously a difficult time to conduct fieldwork in the Middle East and a number of projects were forced to scale down or postpone their 2003 field seasons. Despite the obstacles, most project directors were busy this past summer pursuing their research programs both at home and abroad. The summer of 2004 appears to be very promising with new projects going into the field and on-going projects re-initiating field work. ASOR remains resolute in promoting continued research activity and on April 1, 2003 announced the following grant awards funded by the Torch Campaign in the amount of \$3,200.

Susan Cohen — Excavations at Geshur
Robert Haak & Susan Sheridan — Byzantine St. Stephen's
John Oleson — Huymayma Room at Aqaba Museum
Danielle Parks — Excavations at Kourion

Hopefully we will be able to make more, and more substantial, awards in 2004. This is of course dependent upon the success of on-going fundraising efforts.

At the CAP Meeting on the evening of Thursday, November 20, 2003 in addition to vetting the 69 proposals, the Committee heard reports from the Center Directors, the Chairs of the Damascus and Baghdad Committees, and David Graf who is taking the lead on the Saudi Initiative.

As my tenure as CAP Chair ends and I look forward to the future of CAP and ASOR, I would like to make the following

observations. In the survey conducted by Loren Basch, a number of comments indicate that CAP lies at the heart of ASOR's mission. I strongly agree with this assessment but if we are to be serious about "revitalizing CAP," resources must be made available. Over the past six years, CAP has operated on a budget of \$6,000, which I, and I think all former CAP Chairs, have been forced to call upon our university's to match in order to be able to function. That is clearly not enough funding to accomplish all the things CAP would like to do, including providing funding to projects, involving more CAP members on the annual tours, sponsoring special events, and making better use of the committee members in terms of public outreach and fundraising efforts. If CAP's role is recognized as central to the mission of ASOR, that priority ought to be more apparent in the fundraising effort and the annual CAP line item.

Perhaps the most important decision that CAP made during its meeting in November was the nomination of Dr. Burton MacDonald as the next CAP Chair. The appointment was confirmed at the Board of Trustees Meeting on November 22, 2003. Professor MacDonald is well-known within ASOR. He is a lifetime ASOR member who has served several terms on CAP, most recently as Secretary, and was instrumental in founding ASOR Canada. A Professor at St. Francis Xavier College (N.S.) since 1965, Burton has an extensive record of archaeological fieldwork in Cyprus, Egypt, Israel and Jordan over the past thirty years. In addition to his extensive field work, Professor MacDonald has an admirable record of expeditious publications, which provides a model for the priorities set for by CAP. Burton's integrity, interpersonal and diplomatic skills will ensure his success as an outstanding CAP Chair.

Finally, it should be acknowledged that the Committee on Archaeological Policy has taken a much more public stand over the past few years than it did before. Although some lament this as a "politicization of the organization," I applaud it and think that CAP and ASOR, after careful deliberations, should take a more public stand on the ethics of such issues as one's engagement with the antiquities market (whether directly or indirectly). ASOR also needs to take a strong stand in urging all governments, including our own, to work more diligently to protect the world's archaeological heritage during both times of war and peace. The direct connection between human suffering and poverty must also be acknowledged if we are to address seriously issues relating to cultural preservation. A peaceful and prosperous Middle East will not eliminate the looting of archaeological sites, but it would constitute a major advance in preserving sites and promoting future research. ✨

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ASOR Committee on Archaeological Policy
ASOR AFFILIATED PROJECTS, 2003–2004

(TOTAL = 69 PROJECTS; 31 FIELD, 38 PUBLICATION)
 (# = project completed)

Tunisia (1 Publication)

Carthage Punic Project - publication

P.I. / Director(s)

L. Stager, J. Greene

Turkey (1 Field)

Reinvestigation of Tell Atchana/Alalakh - field

K. A. Yener

Cyprus (3 Field, 5 Publication)

Aredhiou-Vouppes: Bronze Age Farmstead Project - field

L. Steel

Kalavastos- Kopetra Project (KKP) - publication

M. Rautman & M. McClellan

Kholetria-Ortos Neolithic Excavations - publication

A. Simmons

Kourion-Amathus Gate Cemetery Excavation - publication

D. Parks

Politiko Phorades Excavation (SCSP) - publication

B. Knapp

Sotira Kaminoudhia - field

S. Swiny

Troodos Archaeological Survey Project - field

B. Knapp, V. Kassianidou, M. Given, S. Van Lokeren

Vasilikos Valley Project - publication

I. Todd & A. South

Israel (7 Field, 14 Publication)

Byzantine St. Stephens Project - field

S. Sheridan, R. Haak, M. Driscoll

Caesarea Maritima Vault Project - publication

J.A. Blakely, W.J. Bennet

Combined Caesarea Expeditions (CCE) - field

K.G. Holum, A. Raban, J. Patrich

Excavations at Kedesh of the Upper Galilee - field

S. Herbert, A. Berlin

Gesher Excavations - field

S.L. Cohen

Joint Expedition to Tell el-Hesi - publication

J.A. Blakely

Lahav Research Project, Phases I-II - publication

J.D. Seger

Lahav Research Project, Phase III - publication

P. Jacobs, O. Borowski

Meiron Excavation Project - publication

C. Meyers, E. Meyers

Nahal Tillah Excavation - publication

T. Levy

Neo-Assyrian Project - publication

S. Gitin

Promontory Palace at Caesarea Maritima - publication

K.L. Gleason

Sepphoris Acropolis Excavation - field

J.L. Reed

Sepphoris Regional Project (1993-1997) - publication

E. Meyers, C. Meyers

Sepphoris Regional Project ('Ein Zippori) - publication

C. Meyers, E. Meyers, J.P. Dessel

Shiqmim Excavation, Phase II - publication

T. Levy

Tel Miqne-Ekron Publications Project - publication

S. Gitin, T. Dothan

Tell el-Wawiyat Excavation Project - publication

J.P. Dessel, B.L. Wisthoff, B.A. Nakhai

University of Puget Sound Excavation at Khirbet Cana - field

D.R. Edwards

USF Excavations at Sepphoris - publication

J.F. Strange

Zeitah Excavation - field

R.E. Tappy

West Bank (2 Publication)

Joint Expedition to Tell Balatah - publication

E.F. Campbell, Jr.

Publication of Tell Tannek - publication

K. Nashef, Hamid Salem, N. Lapp

Jordan (19 Field, 16 Publication)

'Ain Ghazal Project - publication

G. Rollefson

Arch. & Environ. of the Dead Sea Plain - field

P. Edwards, S. Falconer, P. Fall

Ayl to Ras en-Naqb Archaeological Survey Project - field

B. MacDonald

Bir Madhkur Excavation and Survey - field

A.M. Smith

Bioarchaeology of Byzantine North Jordan (Ya'amun) - field

J.C. Rose

Excavation of Neolithic 'Ain Abu Nekheileh - publication

D.O. Henry

Expedition to the Dead Sea Plain in Jordan

R.T. Schaub, M.Chesson, S. Sheridan

(Bab edh-Dhra, Numeira) - publication

Ghwair I Neolithic - publication

A. Simmons, M. Najjar

Hisban Final Publication Project - publication

Ø.S. LaBianca & L.T. Geraty

Humayma Excavation Project - field

J.P. Oleson, R. M. Foote

Humayma F103 Qasr-Mosque Complex - publication

R.M. Foote

Humayma Geophysical Survey Project - field

J.P. Oleson

Investigation of Levantine Mousterian - publication

D.O. Henry

Jebel Harat Fidan - field
 Jordan Valley Village Project
 (Tell Abu en-Ni'aj) - publication
 Jordan Valley Village Project (Tell Dhahret
 Umm al-Marar) - field
 Kataret es-Samra Project - publication
 Kerak Resources Project (al-Mudaybi') - publication
 Khirbet Iskander Excavation - field
 # Limes Arabicus Project - publication
 Middle Paleolithic of NW Jordan (Ar Rasfa) - publication
 Origins of Arid-Zone Pastoralism in the S. Levant - field
 (Bawwab al-Ghazal, Azraq)
 Petra Garden & Pool-Complex Excavation Project - field
 Petra Great Temple - field
 Roman Aqaba Project - publication
 Tafila-Busayra Archaeological Survey (TBAS) - publication
 Tall Jalul Excavations (MPP) - field
 Tall Hisban Project, Phase II (MPP) - field
 Tall al-'Umayri (MPP) - field
 Tell Madaba Archaeological Project - field
 Tell Nimrin Project - publication
 Umm el Jimal Project - publication
 Wadi Araba Earthquake Project - field
 Wadi Ramm Recovery Project - field
 Wadi ath-Thamed Project (Kh. Mudayna) - field

T. Levy, R. Adams
 S. Falconer, P. Fall, J. Jones

J. Jones, S. Falconer, P. Fall

A. Leonard, Jr.
 G.L. Mattingly
 S. Richard, J. Long
 S.T. Parker
 J.J. Shea
 P. Wilke, L. Quintero, G. Rollefson

Leigh-Ann Bedal
 M.S. Joukowsky
 S.T. Parker
 B. MacDonald
 R.W. Younker & D. Merling
 Ø.S. LaBianca
 L. Herr, D.R. Clark
 T.P. Harrison
 J.W. Flannagan, D.W. McCreery, K.N. Yassine
 B. deVries
 T.Niemi
 M.B. Reeves & D. Dudley
 M. Daviau

Syria (1 Field)

Renewed Excavations at Tell Qarqur in the Orontes
 Valley, Syria - field

R.H. Dornemann

Continued from page 6

In addition to awarding the Mesopotamian Fellowship, the Committee on Mesopotamian Civilization has continued to publish and support the *Journal of Cuneiform Studies*. Upon Goetze's death in 1971, Erle Leichty became Editor and served for twenty years, contributing not only his time, but providing financial support as well. When he stepped down in 1991, William L. Moran, who had just retired from Harvard University, took over as Editor, and a new Editorial Board (Gary Beckman, Elizabeth Carter, Piotr Steinkeller and Matthew Stolper) began work. For various reasons, Moran gave up the position and Piotr Michalowski (University of Michigan) replaced him.

The Committee began publishing a Directory of Mesopotamian Scholars in 1985, a project John A. Brinkman, Annual Professor in 1968–1969, continues today. The Committee also published a semi-annual newsletter entitled *Mar Sipri* between 1988 and 1993. The newsletter, edited by Paul Zimansky (Boston University), was devoted to current research in Iraq. In the late 1980s the Committee was able to resume its support



Staff of the Nippur expedition during 1955–1956, showing from right to left, Albrecht Goetze, Richard C. Haines, Donald P. Hansen, Vaughn Crawford, and Abdul-Qadr al-Tikriti, the Iraq representative.

for excavations in Iraq thanks in large part to a generous contribution from P.E. MacAllister, current Chairman of ASOR's Board of Trustees. Baghdad Excavation Awards funded projects at the sites of Tell

Hamide, Tell Abu Duwari (Mashkan-Shapir), Abu Salabikh, and Tell al-Deylam (Dilbat).

Directors of the Baghdad School during its existence included George A. Barton (1923–1934), E. A. Speiser (1935–1946), Albrecht Goetze (1947–1956), Vaughn Crawford (1956–1968). Following Crawford's tenure in late 1968, the Chairman of the Baghdad School Committee became the *de facto* head of the Baghdad School/Committee on Mesopotamian Civilization. Chairmen of the Baghdad School Committee have included Samuel Noah Kramer (1955–1964), Donald P. Hansen (1964–1970), John A. Brinkman (1971–1985), McGuire Gibson (1985–1986), Jerrold Cooper (1987–1993), Elizabeth Carter (1994–1996), Paul Zimansky (1997–2002), Richard L. Zettler (2002–present). ✨

Steatite Artifacts in Jordan

Diane Grubisha

(University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee)
ACOR/CAORC Fellowship

My research focused on the study of steatite artifacts in Jordan. Very little research has been done previously on this subject, thus, a lot of my work involved gathering data.

Steatite is a metamorphic rock composed primarily of talc. It is also referred to as soap-stone or soft-stone. Steatite is easily carved and can be fashioned into a variety of items. The types of objects found in Jordan primarily consist of cooking pots, decorated bowls, lamps and incense burners.

There are no sources of steatite in Jordan. Evidence suggests that the vessels recovered are probably from the Arabian Peninsula, where there are many quarries. Importation of steatite vessels into Jordan begins in the Late Roman Period, circa late third to early fourth centuries CE, based on the remains of two cooking pots found at Aila. The importation continues in limited numbers through the Byzantine period at the sites of Aila, Lejjun, and possibly Mt. Nebo. Importation greatly increases in the Early Islamic Period at many sites throughout the country.

Studies of steatite artifacts in Jordan are quite limited. My research at ACOR sought to build a body of knowledge regarding this item of material culture. I undertook the study of approximately half of the steatite corpus from the site of Aila in the form of a Master's thesis in the US. At ACOR I was able to study the other half of the assemblage and complete a typology of these artifacts to serve as a basis to study steatite from other sites. The methodology used in the study is a form of ceramic analysis.

Also, my research involved a study of steatite artifacts of other sites in Jordan from museum collections and individual sites. With this data, I am looking for both diachronic and synchronic distribution patterns in Jordan and I would like to test the hypothesis that these artifacts might be markers of migration of people from the Arabian Peninsula.

The eventual goal of my research is to publish this information so it can be available for scholars in Jordan and the region.

Historical and Archeological Study of the Ajlun Area under the Ayyubids and Mamluks

Neil D. MacKenzie

(Independent Scholar)
ACOR/CAORC Fellowship

This project is the continuation of a project begun in 2000 on the Ajlun district under the Ayyubids and Mamluks, with four basic aims:

1. To provide an integrated study of the Ajlun area under the Ayyubids and Mamluks in political, economic, and social/religious aspects;

2. to study of the relationship of the castle and Ajlun town to the outlying communities (between Wadi Rajib and Wadi Yabis);

3. to inquire into the absence, or misunderstanding, of material relics between the early Abbasids and the Ayyubids in this area; and,

4. to create a corpus of plans of village mosques during the Ayyubid/Mamluk period.

The methodology consisted of a surface survey of relevant archeological sites, a study of historical and geographical texts relevant to the Ajlun area, and a comparison with related sites in other parts of Jordan.

In terms of survey, I examined sites that were generally already known, but with a strict concentration on their Ayyubid/Mamluk contexts, and a broader examination of their Byzantine-Islamic relics. These included town sites, fortifications, agricultural and industrial elements (water mills, mines, iron working) and religious/social institutions (mosques, mashhads, and a khanqah). Some twenty-five sites were examined, with specific concentration on the immediate suburbs of the castle. In addition many outlying sites not examined in 2000 were surveyed. I was particularly interested in Baun—a major religious center during the Mamluk period—but the modern town had covered virtually all traces of this occupation. Better luck awaited me, however, in ceramic finds, where I may have found key indicators to solving the hiatus following the early Abbasids. I also found and created plans of several village mosques, and I be-

lieve I have enough material to begin a corpus of these buildings for northwestern Jordan.

I studied medieval historical and geographical texts, for example, Ibn Shaddad, Abu al-Feda, al-Dimashqi, Qalqashandi, for information on local politics, commerce and agriculture, religious activity, and other elements effecting settlement activity. These include catastrophic events, such as wars, plagues, earthquakes, floods and locust swarms, which engendered significant depopulation and probable village abandonment during the later medieval period.

Comparisons were made with other sites in Jordan. These include major Ayyubid/Mamluk sites such as Kerak and Shawbak, as well as other sites with substantial Ayyubid/Mamluk occupation such as Hesban, Pella and Amman citadel. While there is obviously considerable variation in local ceramic production, more work is required on comparative settlement patterns of these Islamic sites.

The ultimate product of this research will be a comprehensive study of the Ajlun area under the Ayyubids and Mamluks as a semi-rural district, which will complement previous works on the major urban centers of Cairo, Damascus and Aleppo.

Da'Janiya Hinterland Survey Project

John Rucker

(University of Missouri, Columbia)
ACOR/CAORC Fellowship

The Roman fort at Da'Janiya, about 40 km north of Ma'an, just west of the Desert Highway was built circa AD 300. It is the largest and best preserved fortification on the Roman limes between the two legionary forts at Lejjun and Udruh. The fort at Da'Janiya is something of an anomaly, since at just over 100 m by 100 m, it covers over four times the extent of the typical *castellum* in Jordan. There has been some test excavation within the fort itself, limited to establishing the dating of the construction; but until this project there has been no survey of the area surrounding the fort. This project was conducted during my tenure at ACOR as a CAORC Fellow.

This project was envisioned as a small scale, very intensive archaeological survey around the fort. Realities of site type and density required a broader approach, including vehicular as well as pedestrian survey, which proved successful. In the course of five weeks of fieldwork, 43 sites were visited and recorded, including watchtowers, roads, and agricultural sites contemporary with the fort, as well as Nabataean and lithic period sites. Other periods were represented as well, but precise dating awaits analysis of the pottery. These findings allow some limited field conclusions: the fort at Da'Janiya is situated on a nearly perfectly flat plain, surrounded by extinct volcanic cones. The presence of watchtowers on these cones provides a wide area of control for the fort. There are also two separate ancient roads, running north to south within the survey area. There is not an extensive settlement around the fort itself, and the fort does seem to be placed to guard the agricultural zone to the west.

The Evidence for Cultural Interaction in the Art and Archaeology of the Latin East

James Schryver
(Cornell University)
ACOR/CAORC Fellowship

The Archaeology of the Crusaders in Transjordan is in some respects still in its infancy. Crusader period (twelfth century CE) remains from sites such as al Al have yet to be identified. At other known sites such as Ain al Habis, very little archaeological work has been carried out. Take a trip there without any climbing gear and you will quickly see why. In addition, where work has been carried out, the analysis is hindered by the gaps in our knowledge concerning the relevant pottery that are also lamented in most recent publications con-

cerning the related periods Islamic archaeology of Jordan, such as the Fatimid, Ayyubid and Mamluk periods.

Referred to as the "Crusader interlude" in much of the literature, its study has for the most part been seen as a subset of studies focusing on the Islamic archaeology of the region. There is a danger inherent in this terminology. "Interlude" periods are often glossed over or simply ignored in studies focusing on those periods preceding and following. In addition, where Crusader monuments have been incorporated into later buildings, as at Kerak and Shobak, the remaining portions of these "interlude" period monuments may be ignored (or worse) as efforts regarding other phases (often the latest) are carried out. An important exception to this is the exciting work that is being undertaken by an Italian team from the University of Florence in and around Petra.

These challenges make the rewards of studying this topic all the more worthwhile. Taking the results of the Petra studies and adding to them the bits and pieces of information that are being produced at other sites, a more complex picture of Crusader settlement and involvement in the area than expected begins to emerge. Finds such as the Crusader coins produced in recent excavations at Umm Qais present interesting questions about the relationships of the Crusaders with the local population. How did they get there? Where did they come from? And as more and more studies produce information about their presence, and others, such as my own focus on this period, this picture becomes clearer. Many obstacles still exist, however my research has shown that the archaeology of the Crusaders in Jordan represents a unique solution to the specific situations they faced in the Transjordan. As a result, it is an archaeology that is different from the other areas of Crusader settlement in the Levant. As such, it represents an important aspect of the history of the Middle East as a whole, and one that it definitely worthy of more focused study.

President's Report, cont'd from page 4

David Rosenstein, P.E. MacAllister, and many others, we have identified development counsel and designed a process that will help us accomplish our goals in this area.

2. Doug Clark has initiated the drafting

of a "case statement," which is coming to the board and which seeks to set out what is significant and urgent for ASOR to accomplish.

3. Job descriptions are being developed and revised.

4. The most pressing and urgent funding

Burton MacDonald
Elected to Chair the Committee on Archaeological Policy (CAP).



needs are being identified in preparation for the campaign.

5. We are cultivating a number of important potential board members but further suggestions from any and all would be appreciated.

6. B. W. Ruffner is working hard to learn the ropes as Finance Committee Chair and is leading an effort to simplify financial reporting so ASOR's finances are not only sound but transparent.

7. Ed Gilbert is chairing a new investment committee whose goal is of course maximizing our income, but also to serve our needs better.

8. We are reworking aspects of ASOR's committee structure to make it more representative and effective, including the formation of an implementation committee to make sure we are following through on the promise of the Basch Report mentioned above.

9. We have a new bequest to report: \$50,000 from Floyd Myron Johnson, Jr. It certainly comes at an ideal time. At the same time, we do not forget the blessing to ASOR of other bequests earlier in the year from Mildred F. Alberg, Mina B. Abramowitz, and Leon Levy. Members and friends remembering and supporting ASOR's mission in this way are crucial for our ongoing growth and development. To all who are responsible for these gifts we offer heartfelt thanks.

10. In an effort to be responsive to members and their concerns, the administration has committed itself to ensuring transparency and communication in the work of the organization.

This is a dynamic and exciting time for ASOR as we enter the second century of its existence. With your help we are determined to successfully meet the new challenges and possibilities. ✨

My vision for ASOR grows from its mission statement and finds expression in its vitality, relevance and viability.

VITALITY

ASOR has a long history of active engagement in the scholarly pursuit of knowledge about the ancient Near East. It has sought with energy and conviction to corral the considerable talent and drive of hundreds of intrepid researchers. Within this context, ASOR finds its most important evidences of vitality in several arenas.

Of course, the excavations and related research in the Middle East contribute significantly to the strength of the organization. Given the importance of fresh, cutting-edge archaeological research based on the best methodologies, technologies and standards of ethical behavior, ASOR's excavations, approved through the accrediting procedures of the Committee on Archaeological Policy, have shown themselves highly competent and competitive. This is an important aspect of the life and wellbeing of the organization and deserves continued support and development. ASOR scholars should not only be the best in their fields, but they should also be at the top of media contact lists when events around the Middle East are in the news, especially to help clarify issues of concern to all members of our global community.

The publications program of ASOR also provides ample evidence of the vibrancy of the organization. The Publications Office staff along with the current cadre of editors and the leadership of the Committee on Publications make for a dynamic program. With continued maintenance and growth, ASOR publications will keep providing a first-rate outlet for scholarly research as well as an ongoing source of quality information for a wider audience.

Certainly at the heart of ASOR's activities, which serve not only ASOR itself, but the overseas centers as well, is the annual meeting. Its remarkable success

over the past several years speaks well of the investment of time and energy made by numerous participants on committees responsible for various aspects of the conference. Supplementing this is the current expansion of influence into the eleven North American regional groups with which ASOR has joined in one type of affiliation or another. To envision and enable continued growth and development of these efforts will enhance the vitality of ASOR significantly.

In addition, the potential of educational outreach from ASOR has hardly been tapped. As part of our mission, we take seriously the need to educate the public, especially North American educators, about the ancient Near East for the greater understanding of, appreciation for and preservation of its rich cultural heritage. Outreach activities associated with the Annual Meeting, teacher workshops, the ASOR Lecture Series and co-sponsored regional conferences contribute to the realization of this objective.

All of these factors signal significant potential for growth, a necessity, it appears to me, for lasting vitality. ASOR would be well served by paying special attention to expansion of individual memberships (why would not 2,000 members be possible within five years, especially given the role of the Lecture Series, outreach functions, enhanced organizational publicity and regional activities?); institutional memberships; subscriptions, especially to *Near Eastern Archaeology*; attendance at the Annual Meeting (without losing our "family" atmosphere, is attendance of 800-900 in five years not possible?); and an enlarged vision of the possibilities for development.

RELEVANCE

Issues of relevance center around three factors: 1) the organizational structure of ASOR, especially how ASOR relates to the overseas centers; 2) the services the organization provides its members in their various interests and research; and 3) the contributions ASOR makes to the wider

educational enterprise among the public.

Currently, ASOR's research opportunities, annual meeting and publications programs address all three factors, albeit with varying degrees of success. Concerns related to ASOR and the centers deserve further discussion and elucidation. A potential Pandora's box, it nevertheless demands intentional conversation. This should not be seen as a threat to any element, but rather as a way of clarifying ties and ensuring a positive future. Hopefully, with greater attention to public lectures, regional activities and formal efforts in public relations, ASOR will become more and more successful in achieving its educational goals for a wider audience.

VIABILITY

The viability of ASOR's future will depend to a large degree on the continued enthusiastic participation and support of its leaders and members, its adherence to historic principles and standards, its focus on its academic mission and the dissemination of results to membership and the wider public. But, while these are strong forces well at work within ASOR, and will be for the foreseeable future, the financial underpinnings absolutely must come up to a higher standard. Running an organization like ASOR in hand-to-mouth fashion will simply not do. This is to fault no one who works to overcome our financial plight. I am encouraged with recent achievements in this regard: the tedious and painful switch to an accrual-based accounting system, some success with the Torch Campaign, movement toward more intentional board development, increased energy and focus on institutional membership growth, commitments on the part of the new leadership to dedicate time and energy to fundraising and foundation support, further conversations about planned giving. But only as ASOR finds ways to increase significantly its fundraising capacity and endowments, will it ever realize its full potential. ✨



Rami Khouri addresses ASOR at a special session on “The Future of American Archaeology in the Post-Saddam Middle East”

inactive. With continued funding, good programming and hard work, the regional societies should continue to grow. “Stage 2” should include official letters of affiliation from ASOR, regularized funding of a sufficient amount to allow the regional societies to develop a greater partnership with SBL, AAR and AOS, better programming and plenary speakers, and publicity.

Eight of the eleven regional societies appear to be well established now, in terms of their co-sponsorship with SBL (or other organization), their annual call-for papers, programming, and concerns (especially among the newer groups), to grow their programs and expand participation among ASOR members. We have had a good response to the Newsletter deadline for submission of the Call for Papers. The separate Regional Affiliations page on the ASOR website is a good first step at coordinating all the societies. Building upon these strengths, we hope to regularize several items (publicity [through the ASOR website, newsletters, teacher workshops, etc.], funding requests, etc.), to discuss ways to bring the affiliations to a full complement of eleven, and to discuss various ideas to promote and develop interest in the regional groups by the general ASOR membership.

HONORS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

(Martha Risser, chair)

A full report on ASOR’s evening of honors and awards will appear in the Spring issue of this Newsletter. ✨

Leon Levy: In Memoriam

By Philip J. King

Leon Levy was one of the finest people I have ever known. He was so intelligent, so kind, so generous, so inclusive, so unpretentious. During my years as President of ASOR (1976–1982) he, along with Joy Ungerleider, Dick Scheuer and a few others, were the backbone of ASOR. Were it not for their munificence, ASOR would not have survived. The presidency of ASOR is never an easy job, but in my case, with the support (in all areas) of Leon, the burden became a pleasure.

I recall the first Trustees meeting Leon attended in 1976. I was hoping all would go smoothly, lest he be “turned off” by the contentiousness that sometimes characterized those meetings. True to form, that meeting was especially contentious; I was certain Leon would not remain on board. I was very wrong. When I apologized for the raucousness, he told me that such animated participation was a sign of vitality, and that it encouraged him to stay on as a Trustee during my tenure and for several years afterwards.

Leon was intensely interested in every aspect of the ASOR enterprise, especially the excavations. He and his wife, Shelby White, who shared his enthusiasm for the ancient world, visited practically all of ASOR-sponsored digs, and others as well, on both sides of the Jordan. They did not allow the divisive political realities of the Middle East to deter them from supporting digs quite apart from their location.

To sponsor a dig from start to finish was Leon’s great ambition. He used to tell me to find him a creative archaeologist, not

simply a technician, and he would see the project through to publication. This was realized when Larry Stager undertook the Ashkelon excavations. Every season Leon and Shelby arrived at Ashkelon to participate in the digging. Leon’s skills did not match Shelby’s, so he was quite content to tour the site each day with Larry Stager, whom he interrogated about every stratum and every sherd while not losing sight of the *longue duree*.

Leon and Shelby were keenly aware of the importance of publishing the results of excavations, especially in view of the poor publishing record of many Near Eastern archaeologists. To correct the deficiency he established the Shelby White-Leon Levy Program for Archaeological Publications to which all archaeologists are free to apply. Each year for the past seven of its existence the White-Levy Program has awarded grants in a generous amount. To my knowledge, this Program is unique.

Archaeology was only one of Leon’s interests. Few know how broadly his philanthropy extended, a subject he never discussed. He used to say facetiously that he loved to make money, but even more he loved to give it away. Those of us who know how generous he was to archaeology in general and to ASOR in particular are saddened when myopic people, including some recipients of his largesse, are so quick to disparage him.

I was always so pleased when he introduced me as his “rabbi.” I have lost one of my best friends. ✨

A Special Note of Thanks to Sheila Bishop

The Annual Meeting of ASOR is a costly endeavor. Most of the expense is borne by participants through their registration fees, as well as other sources of support, but it is especially nice when someone or some group covers or contributes to the expense of one of our events. P.E. MacAllister has often underwritten the opening reception. Others have done something similar. We are all in their debt.

Given the special opportunity afforded us to bridge the distance between ASOR scholars attending the Annual Meeting and the Atlanta public by means of the Thursday evening Bleiberg lecture at the Carlos Museum, we all benefited from the generosity of another ASOR member. Sheila Bishop, Director of The Foundation for Biblical Archaeology, kindly underwrote the spectacular reception at the Carlos. Our sincere thanks to Sheila for helping us cap off a fine evening in splendid fashion with superb refreshments. ✨

Bibliography of Archaeological Excavations in the Southern Levant

The proliferation of archaeological research in the southern Levant in recent years has resulted in a veritable flood of information.

Unfortunately, existing bibliographic tools fail to provide efficient and effective access to this information. Instead, researchers must consult a variety of tools which are difficult to use, not comprehensive and not widely available. Fortunately, the World Wide Web provides an unprecedented opportunity to address this problem. One step towards the realization of this potential is the "Bibliography of Archaeological Excavations in the Southern Levant" (BAESL), a web-based database designed to provide bibliographic access to information in all formats on archaeological excavations in the southern Levant from the beginnings of scientific exploration in the 19th century to the present. Expanding on the work of such scholars as Eleanor Vogel and Larry Herr, BAESL includes complete bibliographic data on scholarly monographs, popular books, edited collections, reference works, articles, book reviews, preliminary reports, theses, dissertations, microforms and publications in various electronic formats, including web sites. BAESL supports both simple and sophisticated queries using a full set of boolean operators and allows searching by keyword, title, author, site name and archaeological period. Users may print out citations or download them in a variety of formats. Facilities are also provided for users to report errors and recommend additions to the database. BAESL will be updated on a quarterly basis and will remain freely available to anyone with access to the World Wide Web. A beta version of BAESL containing nearly 15,000 references is now available for searching at <http://library.weber.edu/cm/wkotter/baesi.cfm>. ✨

AncientNearEast.net

The Excavation Volunteers page in AncientNearEast.net has been updated to provide further outline details of Excavation Opportunities for 2004 and establish links back to excavation websites and email contact addresses: www.ancientneareast.net/volunteers.html

This page will be progressively updated as new information comes to hand over the next few weeks and months. Experiments will also be conducted as to the optimum formatting for this page and its information—all suggestions will be received with interest.

As usual, Israel is well represented amongst excavations seeking volunteers. In order to provide a wide variety of

excavation opportunities, however, we would also very much like to hear from directors of excavations in Jordan, Turkey, Cyprus and elsewhere. Egyptian excavations are also more than welcome, though we recognise the unique security / personnel issues that excavation in Egypt entails which might preclude an open listing.

AncientNearEast.net is a popular portal site (in excess of 500 visitors a day) and can help provide excellent publicity for any relevant expeditions. Directors and coordinators of excavations proceeding next year (2004) should forward information to the editor@ancientneareast.net ASAP in order to have their initiative included in our listing (free of charge, naturally!) ✨

ETANA-Abzu-news

We are pleased to announce the availability of a new mailing list that will serve to inform the public of developments at ETANA: Electronic Tools and Ancient Near Eastern Archives, and of additions to Abzu, ETANA's guide to the ancient Near East on-line. Instructions for adding your address to the list can be found at:

<https://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/ETANA-Abzu-news>

The ETANA project seeks to serve as a model of how a discipline-specific content site in ancient Near Eastern Studies can be constructed to become the dominant site for that discipline. ETANA will take a leadership role in developing standards specific to this discipline, test altruistic funding models, utilize OpenArchive metadata standards and create discipline-specific harvest engines to work with these metadata. ETANA will create a structure whereby scholarship can be accessible from data capture to finished scholarship on a single site. It will host data capture and access, core texts and born-digital publications in an environment of rights management, appropriate levels of peer review, and archival permanence. ETANA encompasses the primary portal in ancient

Near Eastern Studies: Abzu, and the multiple rich image databases being created in the discipline.

Scholarship is enhanced by technological innovations that facilitate communication and expedite the efficient sharing of research and ideas. No less than other disciplines, the study of the ancient Near East promises to be enriched significantly by the development of a singular, far-reaching resource for research that will be widely accessible to professionals and amateurs alike. To that end, ETANA brings together a consortium of universities and academic societies in order to develop and maintain a comprehensive, unified Internet site for the study of the ancient Near East.

ETANA is a cooperative project of: American Oriental Society | American Schools of Oriental Research | Case Western Reserve University | Cobb Institute of Archaeology at Mississippi State | Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago | Society of Biblical Literature | Sonia and Marco Nadler Institute of Archaeology of Tel Aviv University | Vanderbilt University | Virginia Polytechnic and State University

Support for ETANA has been provided by funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation (8/00 to 2/02, 6/01 to 8/02) and the National Science Foundation (Continuing grant IIS-0325579). ✨

C O N F E R E N C E C A L E N D A R

February 20–22, 2004

SOMA 2004. The eighth annual meeting for postgraduate researchers in Mediterranean Archaeology, Trinity College Dublin. The symposium provides an informal setting for predoctoral researchers across Europe and beyond to come together to present and discuss their works in progress. Contact: email: soma@tcd.ie; web: www.tcd.ie/Classics/soma/somahome.html

February 20–24, 2004

Midwest Region of the American Schools of Oriental Research. Olivet Nazarine University Bourbonnais, IL. Contact K. L. Younger, Trinity International University, 2065 Half Day Rd., Deerfield, IL 60016, email: lyounger@trin.edu.

March 6–7, 2004

ASOR Southwest Regional Meeting. The Harvey Hotel, Dallas (DFW Airport; 972 929-4500). Contact: Stephen Von Wyrick, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. Email: swyrick@umhb.edu

March 12–15, 2004

214th meeting of the American Oriental Society. DoubleTree Hotel (Mission Valley), 7450 Hazard Center Drive, San Diego, CA 92108. Contact: www.umich.edu/~aos/

March 21–22, 2004

Annual Meeting of the Pacific Coast Region of the Society of Biblical Literature with the American Schools of Oriental Research will be held at Whittier College in Whittier, CA. Contact: (Bible and Archaeology) Tammi J. Schneider, School of Religion, The Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA 91711, 909-607-3217, Tammi.Schneider@cgu.edu; (The Archaeology of the Ancient Near East) Beth Alpert Nakhai, The University of Arizona, 816 E. University Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85721, 520-206-9748, bnakhai@email.arizona.edu.

March 26–28, 2004

Across the Ages: Archaeological Transitions and the Reconstruction of Old Testament History. Evang. Freizeitheim Aichenbach - Schorndorf. Contact: Peter van der Veen, van_der_Veen@t-online.de.

March 28–29, 2004

ASOR Midwest States Regional Meeting. Holiy Inn Westport, St. Louis, MO. ASOR invites paper proposals on any aspect of ancient Near Eastern or Mediterranean archaeology, the history and culture of the ancient Near East, or graphic displays of ancient architecture, material culture, or everyday life. Send proposals to: Dr. Victor H. Matthews, Southwest Missouri State University, 901 S. National Ave., Springfield, MO 65804. Ph: (417) 836-5529. Fax: (417) 836-8472. Email: vhm970f@smsu.edu

March 28–April 3, 2004

4th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East - 4ICAANE, Berlin. Contact: www.4icaane.de.

April 1–2, 2004

The Eastern Great Lakes Biblical Society, Oglebay's Resort in Wheeling, WV. Contact: Suzanne Richard, Box 3161, Gannon University, University Square, Erie, PA 16541. Email: Richard@Gannon.edu

April 13–17, 2004

Computer Applications & Quantitative Methods to Archaeology. Prato, Italy. Contact: Email: info@caa2004.org. Web: www.caa2004.org.

April 16–17, 2004

Upper Midwest Regional Meeting of the AAR, SBL and ASOR. Luther Seminary, Saint Paul, Minnesota. Contact: http://umw-aarsbl.org/proposal.htm.

April 17–18, 2004

Becoming Divine: Concepts of Immortality in the Ancient World. Contact Richard Short (short@fas.harvard.edu). Abstracts of no more than 500 words should be mailed to the following address by November 15, 2003: Dept of the Classics, ATTN: Graduate Conference, 204 Boylston Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138.

April 19–22, 2004

The Levant in Transition: the Intermediate Early Bronze Age. A Four-Day International Conference. Clore Education Centre, British Museum. Contact: www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk/ane/anenoev.html

May 7–9, 2004

Association of Ancient Historians. Ann Arbor, MI. Theme: Perceptions of Change: In the Ancient World, Of the Ancient World. Contact: www.lsa.umich.edu/aah.

May 7–9, 2004

Pacific Northwest Regional ASOR Conference. University of British Columbia and Simon Fraser University. Contact: Douglas Clark, Walla Walla College, clardo@wwc.edu.

May 20, 2004

The 4th Middle Bronze Age Study Group Workshop. Nelson Glueck School of Biblical Archaeology, Hebrew Union College, Jerusalem. Theme: Social Constructs of the Middle Bronze Age. Contacts: Aren Maeir (maeira@mail.biu.ac.il), David Ilan (dilan@huc.edu) and Ezra Marcus (ezra@research.haifa.ac.il).

June 4–5, 2004

Dialogues between Sculpture and Archaeology. International Conference at the Henry Moore Institute. Contact: Liz Aston, Henry Moore Institute, e-mail: liz@henry-moore.ac.uk.

June 18–21, 2004

3d International Conference: "Hierarchy and Power in the History of Civilizations." Co-sponsored by the Russian Academy of Sciences, the Center for Civilizational and Regional Studies and the Institute for African Studies, 30/1 Spiridonovka St., 123001 Moscow, RUSSIA. Tel.: + (7 095) 291 4119; Fax: + (7 095) 202 0786. E-mail: civ-reg@inafr.ru. Contacts: Prof. Dmitri M. Bondarenko, Dr. Igor L. Alexeev, and Mr. Oleg I. Kavykin preferably by e-mail <conf2004@hotmail.com>, or either by fax (+ 7 095 202 0786), or by ordinary mail (Center for Civilizational and Regional Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, 30/1 Spiridonovka St., 123001 Moscow, Russia). Tel: + 7 095 291 4119.

June 20–22, 2004

Confronting Catastrophe in the Ancient World. Contact: Dr Erhan Altunel, Osmangazi University, Eskesehir, ealtunel@ogu.edu.tr or Dr Iain Stewart, University of Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QQ, UK. Tel: +44 (0) 141 330 6653 or ext. 6653; Fax: +44 (0) 141 330 4894; E-mail: istewart@geog.gla.ac.uk.

July 25–28, 2004

SBL International Meeting. Groningen, The Netherlands. Contact: www.sbl-site.org.

July 25–28, 2004

European Association of Biblical Studies (EABS) and the European branch of the Society for Biblical Studies will jointly convene an international meeting in Groningen, the Netherlands. Contact: www.shf.ac.uk/bibs/EABS/news.htm.

August 2–6, 2004

50th rencontre assyriologique internationale. Theme: Fauna and Flora in the Ancient Near East. To be held at the Skukuza (Kruger National Park, South Africa). Contact: http://www.unisa.ac.za/rai50/.

September 17–19, 2004

Hittites, Greeks and Their Neighbors in Ancient Anatolia: An International Conference on Cross-Cultural Interaction. Emory University, Atlanta, GA. Keynote speaker: Walter Burkert. Abstract deadline March 21, 2004. Contact: Billie Jean Collins, Department of Middle Eastern Studies, S312 Callaway Center, Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322. Email: bcollin@emory.edu.

October 21–23, 2004

Fiscality in Mycenaean and Near Eastern Archives, Naples, Italy. The Conference, organised by M. Rosaria De Divitiis and Massimo Perna, will be held at the Soprintendenza Archivistica della Campania in Naples, Palazzo Marigliano, via S. Biagio dei Librai n.39, 80138. Contact Massimo Perna: via F. Crispi 72, 80121 Napoli, Italia. e-mail: massimo-perna@rdm-web.com.

September 5–9, 2005

Sixth International Congress of Hittitology. Università di Roma - La Sapienza. Contact: rita.franca@tin.it.

With inquiries regarding membership in ASOR or for subscriptions to the journals *NEA*, *JCS* and *BASOR*, contact:

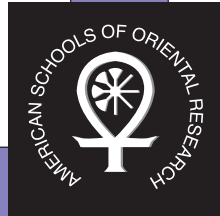
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