



Summer 2000
Volume 50, Number 2

American Schools of Oriental Research Newsletter

ASOR

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

CELEBRATING A CENTURY

ASOR's celebration of its centennial in Washington DC on April 14–16 more than lived up to expectations with a full range of excellent program features. These included a formal Gala at the State Department Friday, an outstanding public program with the Smithsonian Associates and a no-holds barred reception Saturday, concluded by a wonderful series of academic papers and a closing luncheon on Sunday.

The Friday Gala was replete with all the pomp appropriate to the occasion. Hosted by the Under-Secretary of State for Political Affairs Honorable Thomas R. Pickering and Mrs. Alice Pickering, the evening began with a champagne reception featuring music by the Celebrated String Quartet. This was followed by a wonderful gourmet dinner by Well Dunn! Catering of Washington in the regal environs of the Benjamin Franklin Dining Room. As Master of Ceremonies, ASOR Chairman P.E. MacAllister opened the evening program by acknowledging the Honorary Patronage of the First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton, and by extending greetings to members of the Centennial Honorary Committee and all in attendance. With

his usual eloquent style he underscored the significance of ASOR's successful work through the past 100 years and of its arrival at a critical juncture, facing the challenges of continuing efforts in a new century. He then introduced the evening's Keynote Speaker, Under-Secretary Tom Pickering

Under-Secretary Pickering's talk was clearly the highlight of the evening. Drawing on his vast diplomatic experience, his own special interests in history and antiquity, and the special opportunities he had for first hand involvement in ASOR's and Overseas Centers' efforts while he served respectively as Ambassador to Israel and then to Jordan, he provided a wonderfully unique perspective on the backgrounds and importance of ASOR's contributions to cultural development and scholarship in the Middle East region. The full text of his comments will be presented as a special preface to the ASOR Centennial History volume now in preparation. The evening closed with a series of Toasts by President Seger to members of the Centennial Honorary Committee, ASOR's Life Trustees, its Overseas Centers and Boards, and the representatives of the wider community of associates and

associations providing support for the organization.

During the day on Saturday the public program of "ASOR at 100" Lectures in cooperation with The Smithsonian Associates was held at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Jefferson Auditorium. It drew a crowd of more than 400 attendees. The five special speakers, representing the work of ASOR and of the three overseas centers, provided excellent coverage of their topics which were organized to represent the chronological and geographical range of ASOR's Near Eastern work and interests.

These outstanding talks were interspersed with lively question and answer sessions. President Seger opened and closed the program with comments on ASOR's successful journey through the past century and with an optimistic view of its prospects as we begin the new millennium.

On Saturday evening, ASOR members and friends were given the opportunity to "cut loose" with a lively Grand Buffet Reception featuring good food and a fun filled program of "Roasts, Toasts, and Boasts."

Participants were first challenged to a game of "ASOR Mosaic Bingo" to earn

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a variety of special centennial edition prizes, with an ASOR monogrammed polo shirt topping the list. The program proceeded with a monologue roasting members by President Seger, followed by presentations of Centennial Year Honors and Awards presided over by CAMP Awards Subcommittee Chairman Harold Forshey.

The program also featured drawings for additional prize hand outs by Rudy Dorneman, presentation of an ASOR 100 special birthday cake with champagne, the singing of “Happy Birthday” to ASOR, and a series of toasts to memorialize and honor special members from ASOR’s past and present. However, the highlight of the evening was clearly the appearance of dancer Nancy Coll, whose performance in two separate segments left some attendees “in a whirl.” For the late night hangers on, President Seger, assisted by Babs Miley, took the stage as “Kornact,” à la Johnny Carson, and sought to mystify the audience by answering questions before they were asked - and poking more fun at ASOR notables.

The program continued more soberly on Sunday morning with a series of

concurrent seminar sessions on “Archaeological Periods in Perspective.” Each of these sessions, featuring the present state respectively of Bronze Age, Iron Age, Hellenistic/Roman, and Byzantine/Islamic Archaeology in the Near East, received rave reviews from participants and attendees. Plans are underway to see that the proceedings are published soon. The Sunday program closed with a “Digs Luncheon” featuring a back drop of slides organized by Rudy Dornemann showing special finds from ASOR-affiliated dig projects, and a few closing words by President Seger specially thanking the organizers and participants in the weekend program and reminding all of further centennial events planned for overseas and at the fall Annual Meeting in Nashville.

Those ASOR members and friends who attended the Washington program will carry with them wonderful memories of these century closing festivities. For those unable to attend, a warm invitation is extended to join the ASOR family as it assembles again to close out the centennial year this coming November in Nashville. A special program and reception is also being planned for this special centennial year occasion. ■

The American Schools of Oriental Research is a nonprofit, scientific and educational organization founded in 1900.

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ASOR
656 Beacon Street, 5th floor
Boston, MA 02215-2010
Tel. (617) 353-6570
Fax. (617) 353-6575
E-mail: asor@bu.edu



The ASOR Newsletter

Billie Jean Collins, Editor
Chris Madell, Assistant Editor

Suite 330, 825 Houston Mill Road
Atlanta, GA 30329
Tel. (404) 727-8989
Fax. (404) 727-4719
e-mail: asorpubs@asor.org

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Nominations

Nominations will be accepted through October 25, 2000, by the Nominations Committee for the following positions on the **ASOR Board of Trustees**. Candidates must be members of ASOR in good standing, willing to serve a three-year working term and to attend both fall and spring meetings. A one-paragraph biography should accompany the nomination.

- Three (3) trustees from the institutional members to be elected by representatives of Founding, Consortium, and Advisory ("Corporate") Members, to serve July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2004.

- Three (3) trustees from the individual members to be elected by the individual voting members, to serve July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2004. (NOTE: As currently defined, an ASOR "Individual Voting Member" is a member at the Professional member level or higher.

Nominations will also be accepted through October 25, 2000 by the Nominations Committee for the following committee positions:

AGENDA COMMITTEE

Agenda Committee candidates must be members of ASOR in good standing who are willing to serve a two year working term.

- One (1) Agenda Committee member from the institutional members to be elected by representatives of Founding, Consortium and Advisory ("Corporate") Members, to serve July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2003.

- One (1) Agenda Committee member from the individual members to be elected by individual voting members, to serve July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2003.

AGENDA ITEMS: If you have an item you would like to include on the agenda, please send it to the Boston ASOR Office and it will be passed along to the agenda committee.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Nominations Committee candidates must be members of ASOR in good standing who are willing to serve a two year working term upon appointment of the Chairperson to the Board of Trustees.

- One (1) recommended trustee from the Institutional Members of the Board of Trustees to be elected by member representatives of Founding, Consortium and Advisory ("Corporate") Members, to serve July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2003.

- One (1) recommended trustee from the Individual Members of the Board of Trustees to be elected by individual voting members, to serve July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2003

Please send nominations to Randall W. Younker, Chairperson, ASOR Nominations Committee, Institute of Archaeology, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104, Tel. 616-4713273, Fax: 616-471-3619 or e-mail: younker@andrews.edu.

The Nominations Committee will review all nominations received and select slates for election at the Annual Meeting in November. The ballots will be mailed to corporate and individual voting members by October, 31, 2001, and should be brought to the November Meeting. Instructions will be included for absentee ballots.

For a complete listing of current Trustees and committee members, see the Spring 2000 ASOR Newsletter (vol. 50/1).

Nancy Lapp Honored

A reception honoring Nancy Lapp for her long time service as Curator of the Bible Lands Museum of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary was held on April 28, 2000. The celebration for Nancy, on the occasion of her official retirement as Curator, was linked to the re-opening of the renovated Museum, her long-time dream and special project.

During her tenure of thirty years as Curator, Nancy Lapp supervised the cataloguing of the extensive collection of archaeological artifacts and slides of the Museum. All of the objects were recorded in a special designed database and included assemblages from the excavations of Tell Beit Mirsim, Bethel, Herodian Jericho, Nitla, Tel el-Ful, Bab edh-dhra', and ten additional collections.

In addition to her duties as Curator, Nancy found many other ways to interest the local community in archaeology. She has taught annual courses in archaeology at the Seminary, inspiring students with her enthusiasm. Open houses with workshops were held and an annual lecture series, with outstanding scholars from the U.S. and abroad, was instituted during her tenure. Nancy also helped to establish the Jamieson-Trotter Endowment Fund, which promotes student scholarships for archaeological field work. Many of the attendees at the reception were multi-year veterans of Nancy's frequent guided tours throughout the Middle East, including Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Israel and Turkey.

The opening of the newly renovated museum culminates Nancy's complete absorption in this project over the past several years. She would be the first to acknowledge the generous contributions of others, the administrative, financial and volunteer help, which made the expansion possible. But those who worked with Nancy, in the Museum or on various committees, are well aware that it was her planning and her oversight of each and every detail of the new display space, storage areas and laboratory work areas that brought the dream to reality. It will remain as a fitting tribute to her dedication to the archaeological program of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. All who know Nancy Lapp also will not be surprised to learn that she continues to work daily at the Seminary, now as Curator Emeritus.

Call for Manuscripts

The ASOR Archaeological Reports Series welcomes proposals to publish the final reports of excavations, surveys and ethnoarchaeological field work. Initial proposals need not involve a finished manuscript, but can outline the project, the work completed and what remains to be done. Both ASOR-affiliated projects and others may qualify. Proposals for colloquia, conference papers, and other proceedings will also be considered. Further information and guidelines are available at ASOR's web site (asor.org) to help authors prepare their manuscripts for camera-ready production. Please address all inquiries to series editor Gloria London, 7701 Crest Dr., NE, Sattle, WA 98115 or e-mail: london@u.washington.edu

Previous volumes in the series:

Res Maritimae: Cyprus and the Eastern Mediterranean from Prehistory to Late Antiquity, edited by S. Swiny, R. Hohlfelder, and H. W. Swiny

Nelson Glueck's 1938-1940 Excavations at Tell el-Kheleifeh: A Reappraisal, by Gary Pratico

Shechem II, by Ted Campbell

Archaeological Survey of the Kerak Plateau, by Max Miller

Two new videos from Cyprus

Women Potters of Cyprus by Gloria London

An ethnoarchaeological study of the traditional craft specialists who coil-build utilitarian pots on a slow moving turntable, using a technique reminiscent of ancient pottery. The women are the last of their generation. (26 mins)

Cyprus on the Silk Route by Stavros Papageorgiou

A documentary about the 13th-15th century C.E. silk industry during the Lusignan reign. Silk production techniques and weaving are illustrated. (50 mins)

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The twentieth century witnessed an ever-increasing demand throughout America and the world for more information about the ancient and the contemporary Near Eastern region. From its birth in 1900, ASOR has helped to satisfy this curiosity for knowledge about the human past and has served to promote a better understanding of the foundations of western society.

ASOR now looks forward to a productive future as it pursues its mission into the twenty-first century. Through its support of scholars and scholarship, and in partnership with its affiliated Overseas Centers, ASOR is dedicated to maintaining its highly respected programs of exploration and discovery. In the coming decades excavations and other research work will continue in key locations throughout the Middle East.

**JOIN ASOR FOR
THE JOURNEY INTO
A NEW CENTURY OF
DISCOVERY!**

Founding Members for a New Century Provide Supplemental Support

A growing number of ASOR Institutional Member are signing on as Founding Members for a New Century and providing supplementary support for the Centennial Fund campaign.

ASOR would like to thank the following Institutional Members who have already renewed their commitment to ASOR and have joined in this special program to help initiate its programs for the next century.

Andrews University
Brigham Young University
Christian Theological Seminary
Claremont Graduate University
Cornell University
Emmanuel School of Religion
Emory University
Miami University, Ohio
Mississippi State University
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
Tufts University

The enlistment program of Founding Members for a New Century will continue through December 31, 2000. All Institutional Members are invited to join. See information as previously distributed or contact the ASOR Boston office for particulars.

Honors and Awards Committee Solicits Nominations

The ASOR Honors and Awards Committee invites all ASOR members to submit nominations for candidates who they believe would be deserving of one of the awards. The presentation will take place at the November ASOR Meeting in Nashville on Saturday, November 18, 2000. The categories are:

The Richard Scheuer Medal. This is the most prestigious award which honors an individual who has provided truly outstanding, long term support and service contributions to ASOR. (given only as appropriate)

The Charles U. Harris Service Award. This award is given in recognition of long term and/or special service as an ASOR officer or Trustee. (one annual award)

The P. E. MacAllister Field Archaeology Award. This award honors an archaeologist who, during his/her career, has made outstanding contributions to ancient Near Eastern and Eastern Mediterranean archaeology. (one annual award)

The G. Ernest Wright Award. This award is given to the editor/author of the most substantial volume(s) dealing with

archaeological material, excavation reports and material culture from the ancient Near East and eastern Mediterranean. This work must be the result of original research published within the past two years. (one annual award)

The Frank Moore Cross Award. This award is presented to the editor/author of the most substantial volume(s) related to ancient Near Eastern and

eastern Mediterranean epigraphy, text and/or tradition. This work must be the result of original research published during the past two years. (one annual award)

The W. F. Albright Award. This award honors an individual who has shown special support or made outstanding service contributions to one of the overseas centers ACOR, AIAR, CAARI, or to one of the overseas committees—the Baghdad committee and the Damascus committee. (given as appropriate)

ASOR Membership Service Award. This award recognizes individuals who have made special contributions on behalf of the ASOR membership through committee, editorial, or office services. (maximum three annual awards)

Nominations should be made in writing. Please send a letter in support of the candidate, specifying the award category. Include complete contact information such as postal address, phone, fax, and e-mail addresses for both the sponsor and the nominee. Please send all completed nominations to Harold O. Forshey, ASOR Honors and Awards

Committee Chair, Department of Religion, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio 45056 (e-mail: forsheho@muohio.edu; fax: 513 529 1774).

The deadline for nominations for the 2000 ASOR Honors and Awards is September 15, 2000. Current members of the Honors and Awards Committee are Martha K. Risser for ASOR, Bob Haak for AIAR, Øystein La Bianca for ACOR and Michael Toumazou for CAARI.

Past recipients of these awards are:

1997

Richard J. Scheuer Medal — Norma Kershaw
Charles U. Harris Service Award — Ernest S. Frerichs
P. E. MacAllister Field Archaeology Award — William G. Dever
G. Ernest Wright Publication Award — Eric M. Meyers
Frank Moore Cross Publication Award — James Charlesworth
W. F. Albright Award — ACOR — Artemis A.W. Joukowsky
W. F. Albright Award — CAARI — Stuart Swiny
Membership Service Award — Carolyn Draper-Rivers
Membership Service Award — R. Thomas Schaub

1998

Charles U. Harris Service Award — Walter E. Rast
P. E. MacAllister Field Archaeology Award — Lawrence E. Toombs
G. Ernest Wright Publication Award — Steven A. Rosen
Frank Moore Cross Publication Award — Ronald S. Hendel
W. F. Albright Award — ACOR — Nancy L. Lapp
W. F. Albright Award — CAARI — Giraud V. Foster
W. F. Albright Award — AIAR — James F. Ross
Membership Service Award — Anne Ogilvy
Membership Service Award — David C. Hopkins
Membership Service Award — Jonathan N. Tubb

1999

see pages following

ASOR HONORS ITS OWN

Several members of ASOR were presented with awards at the Centennial Meeting in Washington, D.C., April 14-16, 2000. Harold O. Forshey, Chair of The Honors and Awards Sub-Committee ASOR Committee on Annual Meeting and Program, presided over the presentations at the Saturday evening Grand Buffet Reception and Program. Each recipient was presented with a plaque and a certificate of merit. The committee, including James Moyer, Michael Toumazou, Øystein LaBianca and Robert Haak, reviewed nominations and certified the selections for the awards. The names of the 2000 award recipients and the texts of the citations follows:

P. E. MacAllister Field Archaeology Award

(Presented by David McCreery)

The recipient of the 2000 P. E. MacAllister Field Archaeology Award is well known in both the world of Classical Archaeology and Archaeology in the Middle East. Professor Martha Sharp Joukowsky is a member of the Department of Anthropology and of the Center for Old World Archaeology and Art at Brown University. She has had over thirty years experience as a field archaeologist throughout the eastern Mediterranean area with special expertise in field methods and ceramic typology. She is author of numerous articles and archaeological reports. These include, *A Complete Manual of Field Archaeology* (1980), as well as works on prehistoric Aphrodisias (1985) and on the Corfu Roman Baths (1997). She has received numerous awards and honors during her career, which also includes a term of service as President of the Archaeological Institute of America.

In 1993 she undertook the daunting task of making sense out of and restoring the jumble of stone and column drums in what has come to be known as the Great Southern Temple at Petra. In the process she has transformed the area through massive excavation and restoration efforts. Using total-station survey equipment and related computer planning technology these excavations serve as a model for the exploration and recording of classical remains. While her work is ongoing, her team has already completely rewritten our understanding of the Petra structure's history and of what it represents within the cities of the Nabataean and Roman period at the site.

It is a sincere pleasure to recognize Dr. Martha Sharp Joukowsky for her outstanding career as an excavator and scholar with this presentation of a P.E. MacAllister Field Archaeology Award for ASOR's Centennial Year.

Charles U. Harris Service Award

(Presented by Stuart Swiny)

ASOR is proud to present the Charles U. Harris Service Award for 2000 to Dr. Robert Hohlfelder for his exceptional record of long term service to ASOR. Dr. Hohlfelder served on the ASOR Committee on Archaeological Policy through four terms of five years each. Within CAP he served on the formative sub-committee which forged ASOR's Statement on Preservation and Access. Beyond this he served two separate terms on the Committee on Publications and was honored several times by holding the designation as an AIA/ASOR Kershaw Lecturer. While serving a four-year term as a Trustee of the Cyprus American Archaeological Research Institute, along with CAARI Director Stuart Swiny, he organized one of the Institute's most ambitious and successful programs, the *Res Maritimae* Symposium. With Swiny, Dr. Hohlfelder edited the final published volume on the proceedings of the Symposium.

It is a sincere pleasure to recognize Dr. Robert Hohlfelder for his outstanding career as an excavator and scholar and for long term service to ASOR and CAARI with this presentation of a Charles U. Harris Service Award for ASOR's Centennial Year.

W. F. Albright Award

(Presented by Joe Seger)

The winner of the ASOR W. F. Albright Award for 2000 is being recognized for her outstanding contributions to the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research. Dr. Patty Gerstenblith is retiring as President of the Albright after more than five years in office. Colleagues regard her role as President during a critical period in the history of the Albright as pivotal in making and maintaining it as an Institute of outstanding vitality and strength. The Albright enters the twenty-first century in robust

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condition: as the sole owner of its property, with an endowment of \$3.5 million, an expanded fellows program including the addition of a Fellow in Islamic Studies, and with continuing successes in attracting grants from the Department of Education, the USIA, the National Endowment for the Humanities as well as from private foundations. Dr. Gerstenblith has significant roots in the archaeological enterprise having participated in field research in Israel and Turkey during her career as a graduate student in the Classics and Near Eastern Languages Departments at Harvard University. She completed her Ph.D. in 1977 with a dissertation on the Middle Bronze IIA period in the Middle East, which was subsequently published by ASOR as *The Levant at the Beginning of the Middle Bronze Age*. This volume is still widely used and referenced. Patty is currently a member of the faculty at the DePaul University College of Law with specialization in cultural property rights. She has recently been named to the Presidential Commission on Cultural Property by President Clinton. She has been a long time and active member both of ASOR and of the Archaeological Institute of America.

It is a sincere pleasure to recognize Dr. Patty Gerstenblith for her outstanding service to the W. F. Albright Institute with this presentation of a W. F. Albright Award for ASOR's Centennial Year.

ASOR Member Service Award

(Presented by Al Leonard)

ASOR is proud to present an ASOR Member Service Award for 2000 to Dr. James Weinstein especially for his distinguished long-term service as Co-editor and Editor of the *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research*. Under his leadership the journal has been held to high and rigorous standards of scholarship and has achieved and maintained a deliberate and timely production schedule. Jim Weinstein has had a distinguished career as an Egyptologist and has served as a field participant and consultant to a large number of excavation projects in the Middle East. He is a recognized expert on Egyptian scarabs and on Near Eastern Bronze Age chronology. He is widely published on these and other topics in Middle Eastern history. Dr. Weinstein is an adjunct member of the Department of Classics at Cornell University and a long-term member of ASOR. In addition to his extensive service on ASOR's Committee on Publications he also has made numerous presentations in Annual Meeting programs and has widely participated in other ASOR activities.

It is a sincere pleasure to recognize Dr. James Weinstein for his outstanding career as an editor and scholar and for long term service to ASOR with this presentation of an ASOR Member Service Award for ASOR's Centennial Year.

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Newsletter Copy Deadlines	
Issue	Copy Deadline
Fall 2000	September 15
Winter 2000	December 18
Spring 2001	March 15
Summer 2001	June 15

Pictures from GALA April 14, Benjamin Franklin Room, U.S. State Department

Opposite, from top left to right: The Honorable Thomas Pickering, Host and Keynote Speaker, with ASOR Board Chairman P.E. MacAllister; Dean Charles U. Harris, ASOR Life Trustee; P.E. MacAllister, ASOR Board Chairman, Life Trustee; Marion Sofaer, Albright Institute Trustee, (also representing Richard Scheuer, ASOR Life Trustee); Honorable Thomas Pickering, Keynote Speaker; Joe Seger, ASOR President; Eric Meyers, Centennial Committee Co-Chairman, ASOR Past President; General view of Gala Dining room; Honorable Thomas Pickering at podium; President Seger with Board Chairman MacAllister; Honorable Thomas Pickering with Patty Gerstenblith, Albright Institute President; Eric Meyers, Dean Charles Harris and Carol Meyers, Albright Institute Trustee

On page 10, from top left to right: President Seger at podium, Dean Charles Harris, Honorable Thomas Pickering, Eric Meyers and Patty Gerstenblith, Eric Meyers with Dr. Ernest Frerichs, AIAR Honorary Trustee, William G. Dever, ASOR Trustee and Carol Meyers, Chairman MacAllister at podium, Honorable Thomas Pickering, Chairman MacAllister and President Seger at table, President Seger with Hostess Alice Pickering, Dean Charles Harris at table receiving applause.









**Saturday April 15 Reception
Wyndham Washington Hotel**

On page 12, from top left clockwise: Artemis Joukowsky, ACOR President, accepting special toast; Dancer Nancy Coll with President Seger; David Noel Freedman, former ASOR First Vice President with Carol Meyers; Martha Joukowsky, recipient of a P.E. MacAllister Field Archaeologist Award for 2000; Norma Dever, Albright Institute Trustee, an ASOR Service Award Recipient for 2000; Rudy Dorneman, ASOR Executive Director, Meredith Dorneman, Jerry Vincent ASOR and CAARI Trustee, with Ian Morris, Eric Cline and James Hardin; Stuart Swiny, ASOR Trustee and CAARI Former Director, with Harold Forshey, Chairman of the CAMP Awards and Honors subcommittee, presenting a G. E. Wright Publications Award for 2000 to Robert Hohlfelder; Gough Thompson, ASOR Former Board Chairman, lifts a toast to former Presidents Philip J. King and James Sauer; Dancer Nancy Coll with David Hopkins, former editor of BA/NEA.

Opposite, from top left clockwise: President Seger as the Great Kornact; Director Dornemann at the podium; ASOR 100 birthday cake; Awards Sub-committee Chairman Forshey at the podium; Dancer Nancy Coll cuts up with James Strange, ASOR Secretary; Pierre Bikai, ACOR Director, lectures in afternoon Smithsonian Associates program; Chairman MacAllister lifts a toast to the memory of W. F. Albright; William Dever, ASOR Trustee, Sy Gitin, Albright Institute Director, and Jeff Zorn engrossed in the roasts, toasts and boasts program.

ASOR Member Service Award

(Presented by John Spencer)

ASOR is proud to present an ASOR Member Service Award for 2000 to Ms. Norma Dever for her long term service to ASOR and to the W. F. Albright Institute. Ms. Dever has a long history of experience and involvement with archaeology in Israel and with the programs of the Albright Institute. She served for a number of years as Camp Manager for the Hebrew Union College Excavations at Gezer and provided significant leadership support at the Albright Institute during William Dever's term as Director in the early 1970's. In more recent years she has participated as a member of the recording staff for the Leon Levy Ashkelon Excavations. There are few members of ASOR that are more widely known or better loved than Norma Dever, and few that have so selflessly contributed to the welfare of the organization. In the past decade she has done great work in pushing development efforts for maintenance of the furnishings and property at the Albright. Most members of ASOR have probably received more than one letter from her on behalf of the Institute. In addition she has also served ASOR as assistant to the editors of BASOR and in compiling lists for centennial mailings, the so-called "Long Lists Project."

It is a sincere pleasure to recognize Ms. Norma Dever for her outstanding long-term service to ASOR and to the Albright Institute with this presentation of an ASOR Member Service Award for ASOR's Centennial Year.

OVERSEAS CENTERS' NEWS

Albright, Jerusalem—It is my sad task to inform you that Said Freij, the Albright's longtime major-domo in charge of facility maintenance, died at Hadassah Hospital, Mt. Scopus, Jerusalem, on Wednesday, May 31 following a nine-month battle with acute leukemia.

Said began work at the Albright in 1976 as a part-time maintenance person, when David Noel Freedman was the Director. In 1981, during the directorship of S. Gitin, he became a full time employee with increased responsibility for the Institute's maintenance as well as the major domo for the Albright/Hebrew University's Tel Miqne-Ekron excavation project. Throughout the twenty-four years that Said worked at the Albright, and the eighteen years he was associated with Miqne, he was held in high esteem by all those with whom he came into contact—the Institute's staff, fellows, residents and board of trustees, the Miqne staff and volunteers, co-workers from Kibbutz Revadim, and members of the Palestinian and Israeli business and academic communities. Said was a dedicated and loyal employee, who carried out his work in a professional manner. He was also an enthusiast with his seemingly boundless energy infecting everyone around him. A warm and caring person, Said had a sincere love of people, and was always there to extend a helping hand when needed. His dedication, concern for people and his strength of character have left a lasting impression on all of us who knew and respected him. He will be sorely missed. Said is survived by his wife Diana, four children, two sisters and a brother. The Lord Giveth and the Lord taketh away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Sy Gitin

Amman • Baghdad
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Announcing

Milestones in Archaeology from the Lands of the Bible

a series of eight video programs from **The American Schools of Oriental Research** that relate how scholars have recreated past civilizations in this important region through the science of archaeology. Each one hour story is told by the actual excavator(s).

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Petra: Lost City of the Nabateans • Martha Sharp Joukowsky

Cyprus: Archaeology on the Island of Aphrodite • Nancy Serwint

Shechem: Abraham's shrine, capital of early Israel • Ted Campbell

*Mashan-Shapir: Disappeared 1720BC, found 1991 A.D.
Elizabeth Stone and Paul Zimansky*

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Sepphoris: Revisit a city bustling in Jesus' Day • Eric and Carol Meyers

*Bab edh-Dhra: Pre-literate culture revealed by shaft tombs
Walt Rast and Tom Schaub*

The sites were selected by the Centennial Committee of ASOR and the programs involve acknowledged experts. The project was produced without anticipation of profit to commemorate ASOR's Centennial year.
P.E. MacAllister, Producer
American Schools of Oriental Research

To order your set of *Milestones in Archaeology from the Lands of the Bible* fill out the information below and send the return form and check to: ASOR, P.O. Box 1941, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

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ASOR 2000

Annual Meeting Information

Information on the 2000 Meeting of ASOR is now available in the Program Book mailed with this issue of the Newsletter. Or contact the ASOR office at 656 Beacon St., 5th floor, Boston, MA 02215-2010. Tel. (617) 353-6570; e-mail: asor@bu.edu. The Program Book can also be obtained on ASOR's website at www.asor.org/AM/2000program.htm.

The meeting will take place from November 15-18 at Loews Vanderbilt Plaza Hotel, Nashville, Tennessee. The *New York Times* (Friday July 28, 2000, p. B35), calls Loews "without doubt the best address in a city with a chronic dearth of first-class hotels."

Highlights of the meeting will include more than fifty academic sessions, a special Centennial Reception at the Parthenon, and a series of organized sessions for the public. Please join ASOR at what promised to be a very exciting meeting.

**Look for these Publishers
Among the Exhibitors at
ASOR 2000 in Nashville!**

American Schools of Oriental Research

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Dumbarton Oaks

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Oxford University Press

Society of Biblical Literature

University of Pennsylvania Press

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Coming this Fall

Ancient Naukratis: Excavations at a Greek Emporium in Egypt, Part II: The Excavations at Kom Hadid

Albert Leonard, Jr.
ASOR Annual vol. 55

According to the Greek historian Herodotus, the ancient city of Naukratis was the first and only city in Egypt in which the early Greek merchants were allowed to settle. Volume 55 of the Annual of ASOR is the companion volume to AASOR 54, and details the excavations to the northeast of the modern village in an area known to both Sir Flinders Petrie and local farmers as Kom Hadid. ISBN: 0-89757-025-1

"East of the Jordan": Territories and Sites of the Hebrew Scriptures

Burton MacDonald
ASOR Books vol. 5

This volume is a convenient tool for all those interested in the location of territories and sites attested in the Bible as "East of the Jordan," i.e., in what is now The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. It presents the history of the identification of each biblical site and suggests the most likely location based on information provided by the biblical text, extra-biblical literary information, toponymic considerations, and archaeology. The volume treats all territories and sites of the Hebrew Scriptures in Transjordan, from the "Cities of the Plains" (e.g., Sodom and Gomorrah), the Exodus itineraries, and the territories and sites of the Israelites tribes (Reuben, Gad, and half Manasseh), to Ammon, Moab, Edom, and Gilead. ISBN: 0-89757-031-6

An ASOR Mosaic

Joe D. Seger, editor

A pictorial history of ASOR's first century of research and discovery in the Near East. It is designed to complement Philip King's earlier work, *American Archaeology in the Middle East*, and features photos and essays commemorating the activities of ASOR and its affiliated overseas centers through to the close of the twentieth century. ISBN: 0-89757-033-2

The Greek and Latin Inscriptions of Caesarea Maritima

Clayton Miles Lehmann and Kenneth Holm
Joint Expedition to Caesarea Maritima Excavation Reports vol. 5

Caesarea Maritima, a port town on the Mediterranean coast about 40 km north of modern Tel Aviv, was founded by King Herod the Great sometime shortly after 22 BC and flourished as a major urban center during the first six centuries C.E. The 411 inscriptions included in this volume represent the finds of a quarter century of investigation at the site and bear crucial testimony to the civil and military organization, urban construction, religion, and funerary practices of an important Roman and Byzantine provincial center. In addition, the language of the Greek and Latin inscriptions provides important insights into the evolution of those languages as well as information on the demographic, ethnic and social make-up of the population of Caesarea Maritima in the Roman and Late Antique periods. ISBN: 0-89757-028-6

See our exhibit at the ASOR Annual Meeting in Nashville, TN
or visit The David Brown Book Company website at www.oxbowbooks.com (under "Distributed Titles")

Sunken Ships and Submerged Cities:

Recent Maritime Archaeology in the Eastern Mediterranean

A JOINT AIA-ASOR COLLOQUIUM IN HONOR OF ASOR'S CENTENNIAL

Organizer: Eric H. Cline, George Washington University

As part of the ongoing celebration of the American Schools of Oriental Research's centennial, a colloquium jointly sponsored by both the AIA and ASOR, with the sponsorship of the Near Eastern Archaeology Committee of the AIA, has been organized. The colloquium has a nautical theme, in recognition of the San Diego location for the 2001 AIA annual meeting. Participants include some of the most widely-recognized experts in nautical archaeology currently working in the eastern Mediterranean area. They will discuss their most recent findings and the implications of these discoveries. These include the 1999 Deep Water Survey of Ashkelon which discovered, via the remotely operated vehicle system MEDEA/JASON, two Iron Age shipwrecks resting upright on the bottom of the Mediterranean some 50 km west of Ashkelon in waters about 400 m deep; the investigation of the submerged ruins of Aperlae, a small maritime city in ancient Lycia; and the 1999 INA/Robo Remote-Sensing Expedition searching for shipwrecks of all periods off the coast of Israel. The colloquium will also include the most recent research concerning the Uluburun shipwreck and the harbor of Caesarea Maritima.

Co-Chairs: Joe D. Seger, Mississippi State University and President, ASOR; Jane C. Waldbaum, University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee and First Vice-President, AIA.

- 1) Iron Age Merchant Ships off the Seaport of Ashkelon, Lawrence E. Stager, Harvard University, and Robert D. Ballard, Institute for Exploration
- 2) The Uluburun Shipwreck and the Source of its Copper, Tin, and Terebinth Resin, Cemal Pulak, Institute of Nautical Archaeology at Texas A & M University
- 3) Marine Archaeology in Caesarea Maritima: 25 Field Seasons of Underwater Research at the Harbor of Sebastos, Avner Raban, University of Haifa
- 4) Swimming over Time: the Submerged Ruins of Aperlae, Robert Hohlfelder, University of Colorado
- 5) Near and Far: The Case for Deep-Water Shipwrecks off Israel's Mediterranean Coast, Shelley Wachsmann, Institute of Nautical Archaeology at Texas A & M University

The Ancient Cyprus webproject is a new venture in scholarship and knowledge-sharing. It offers the opportunity for people with all levels of experience to participate, from undergraduates and knowledgeable amateurs to the most senior figures in archaeological research. The Institute of Archaeology in London is building a website that will provide information such as extensive bibliographies, sources of funding, centres of study, lists of collections and access arrangements, scholar and project contact details, bulletins on excavations and projects, and excavation reports. Major archaeological topics will be introduced by straightforward essays, and guidance given on further reading. More complex topics will be presented by specialists.

The website is linked to a discussion list, at egroups.com/group/ancientcyprus. The list covers the archaeology and history of Cyprus from earliest times to 1900 AD. Its aim is to stimulate discussion and disseminate knowledge. No discussion of events after 1900 AD permitted to ensure focus is on scholarly rather than political issues. The list is open to archaeologists, historians, and interested members of the public.

Discussion papers are welcomed, as are bulletins on current excavations and research, and practical advice on support for, e.g., research and reading lists. The contributions page can be printed for display on notice boards or circulated to colleagues.

Details can be found through the call for contributions section at geocities.com/career_in_ruins/Cyprus/contributions.html. Contact: Freya Horsfield (freya.horsfield@cwcom.net).

IN THE MUSEUMS

“Traces of Paradise: The Archaeology of Bahrain,” an exhibition of antiquities from Bahrain opened at the Brunei Gallery, School of Oriental and African Studies, Thornhaugh Street, London WC1 on July 12, 2000 and will run until Sept. 15, 2000.

The Iraq Museum in Baghdad, one of the Middle East's most important museums, has recently re-opened its doors after being closed for a decade. Most of the museum's collection, comprising some 250,000 artifacts, was packed into crates and stored in secret locations to avoid possible theft or damage at the outbreak of the Gulf War. Core pieces from the collection, including Mesopotamian farming tools, Sumerian cylinder seals, and Assyrian statues of winged bulls, are now back on display with more pieces due to be added in coming months. New to the museum are many pieces recovered from looted sites or recent excavations in Iraq. Following the Gulf War thousands of objects were stolen from provincial museums, particularly in the north and south of the country, and smuggled abroad. Iraqi officials have managed to regain at least some of the smuggled artifacts. In April, Rabi' al-Qaisi, director of the museum's Iraqi Antiquities Department, announced that he had retrieved statues and engraved jars from Switzerland.

The Iraq Museum is also displaying new finds. Rescue operations by the Iraqi government's Antiquities Service are under way in several locations including Umma in the southeastern part of the country, where archaeologists have found an imposing building, likely a Babylonian temple, and at Basmyiah, where ongoing excavations have recently uncovered cylinder seals including one with a representation of a tall figure, possibly Gilgamesh, king of Warka.

Poll Finds Public Support of Archaeology

A new poll conducted by Harris Interactive found that most Americans support the goals and practice of archaeology, endorse laws protecting archaeological sites and artifacts, and think archaeology is important to today's society. Although they may be unclear about the primary activities of and topics studied by archaeologists, a majority (60%) of the public believes in the value to society of archaeological research and education.

A clear majority of the public (96%) believes that there should be laws to protect archaeological resources, but is less certain of laws pertaining to materials found on private land. Many people (80%) agree that public funds should be used to protect archaeological sites, with a higher percentage (86%) believing that public monies also should be used to preserve historic sites. Many Americans also felt that archaeological objects should not be removed from a foreign country without that country's permission (64%).

Most Americans (98-99%) said that archaeologists study ancient civilizations and the human past, with more than one-third (38%) mentioning Egyptian sites such as the pyramids and the Valley of the Kings as some of the most important archaeological discoveries. More recent discoveries also received public attention, with 83% aware that archaeologists also study the 19th and 20th centuries, and 77% identifying archaeologists as shipwreck investigators.

The majority of respondents learned about archaeology through television (56%) and books, encyclopedias, and magazines (33%), followed by newspapers (24%). Learning about archaeology in school accounted for 23% of respondents at the college level, 20% at the secondary level, and 10% at the primary level, although the vast majority (90%) believed that students should learn about archaeology as part of the school curriculum from their earliest years. Most of the public (88%) have visited a museum exhibiting archaeological material, while 1 in 3 people (37%) have visited an archaeological site.

To determine how Americans view archaeology, Harris contacted a random sample of 1,016 adults across the continental United States. Questions centered on the public's grasp of, and participation in, archaeology.

The project was instituted by a coalition of archaeological organizations, including the Society for American Archaeology, the Archaeological Conservancy, Archaeological Institute of America, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, National Park Service, and the Society for Historical Archaeology. For further details on the project, visit SAA's website, www.saa.org.

The Eight Most Sensational Archaeological Discoveries of the New Century

IRAQ

I. A "Sumerian palace" dating from 2,900 BCE, has been discovered at Umm al-Aqarib, site of ancient Umma and 375 km south of Baghdad. According to the report, the area of the palace would be 2,500 square meters, with large mud walls, towers, and a sewer system. Excavations have also unearthed a rich ED cemetery. Source: www.el-mundo.es/noticias/2000/5/31/ciencia/959792615.html

II. Bones belonging to two skeletons, which are believed to be in storage in Baghdad Museum in Iraq, or one of its annexes, appear to be those of two princesses from Jerusalem who married the monarchs of the Middle Eastern superpower of the time, Assyria. Stephanie Dalley of Oxford University suggests the skeletons probably belonged to the daughters of the Biblical kings Uzziah and Jotham. If so, they are the only human remains of the ancient Israelite royal family. The two princesses, Yabaa and Atal-ya, were buried amidst a spectacular treasure of gold jewels in the same stone coffin in the same tomb in the ancient Assyrian capital, Nimrud. Found lying next to them were a gold bowl, a rock crystal jar and an electron mirror, all bearing inscriptions that read "belonging to Atalya, Queen of Sargon, King of Assyria." Source: Independent News Report, 31 May 2000.

III. Extraordinary finds from the Near Eastern Early Neolithic are reported from the excavators in the 9000 year-old village of Ba'ja in the mountainous terrain north of Petra. For the first time a true burial chamber was encountered from the early Neolithic, containing in its upper layer the skulls of at least 7 individuals with post-cranial bones stained in red, and with arrowheads, necklaces and mother-of-pearl pendants as grave goods. Among the skulls was that of a foetus. One wall of the chamber intentionally hid a figurative wall painting in fresco technique, which depicts fragments of abstract motifs with rays and a ladder-like image. Source: Ba'ja Neolithic Project press release.

JORDAN

V. Statues of a pharaoh thought to be Ramses II and an ancient cow goddess, their colors intact, have been discovered in a hidden chamber at a necropolis south of Cairo. The meter-high statue of the king and the taller sculpture of Hathor, goddess of love and happiness and guardian of cemeteries, were found in a sealed room beneath the Saqqara funerary chapel of Ramses II's treasurer, Necheruymes. Source: Agence France Presse, June 10, 2000.

VI. A team of Japanese archeologists excavating near the Giza Pyramids has found three 4,500-year-old tombs, one containing a skeleton sitting cross-legged. The interconnected walk-in limestone tombs each contained a burial hole in the ground, including one with the skeleton. The skeleton was seated cross-legged with the head turned north and the body facing east. Also found in the tombs, which date back to the Old Kingdom, around 2700-2300 years before Christ, were three limestone altars for offerings and several items of pottery. The discovery of the tombs was made in the area just south of the three pyramids of Giza. From a press release dated June 26, 2000.

VII. A team of Egyptian archeologists has discovered two limestone tombs modeled on the design of the Great Pyramids of Giza. Built by the builders of the pyramids for themselves and not for the kings, the two tombs were constructed with limestone and are distinguished by their pyramidal shape. Source: Agence France Presse, June 21, 2000.

VIII. Archaeologists scouring the Mediterranean seabed have found the 2,500-year-old ruins of submerged Pharaonic cities that until now were known only through Greek tragedies, travelogues and legends. Among the discoveries at the sites where the cities of Herakleion, Canopus and Menouthis once stood are remarkably preserved houses, temples, port infrastructure and colossal statues. Herakleion, once a customs port where commerce flourished until the founding of Alexandria by Alexander the Great in 331 B.C., was found in its entirety. Source: Associated Press June 3, 2000.

SYRIA

IV. In the northeastern corner of Syria, near the Iraqi border and within sight of southern Turkey's Taurus Mountains, archaeologists have begun excavations of an ancient settlement that lay on a major trade route from Nineveh to Aleppo. The ruins from more than 5,500 years ago are telling them that previous ideas about the spread of early civilization were more than likely wrong. The first trenches cut into the large 500-acre site, Tell Hamoukar, have yielded strong evidence that centrally administered complex societies in northern regions of the Middle East apparently arose simultaneously but independently of the more celebrated city-states of southern Mesopotamia, in what is now southern Iraq. In the conventional view, civilization was thought to begin solely in the south and then move north through trade and colonization.

EGYPT

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

November 15–18, 2000

American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting, Loews Vanderbilt Plaza Hotel, Nashville, TN. Members of the American Schools of Oriental Research are invited to participate in the 2000 Annual Meeting of ASOR. Instructions and forms are included in the insert to this Newsletter, or access our web page at asor.org.

November 15–19, 2000

American Anthropological Association, 99th Annual Meeting, San Francisco Hilton & Towers, San Francisco, CA. Theme: Public Face of Anthropology. Contact AAA Meetings Dept, 4350 N Fairfax Dr, Suite 640, Arlington, VA 22203-1620; 703/528-1902 ext 2; jmeier@aaanet.org.

November 18–21, 2000

Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Opryland Hotel & Convention Center in Nashville, Tennessee. Contact: www.sbl-site.org.

December 1–2, 2000

International Conference: Archaeological Field Survey in Cyprus, past History, Future Potentials, Archaeological Research Unit, University of Cyprus, Nicosia Cyprus. A two-day long international Conference on the past history and the future potentials of archaeological survey on the island is planned. Contact: Archaeological Research Unit, University of Cyprus, P.O.Box 20537, CY-1678 NICOSIA. ARU -Tel. 00357-2-674658/674702. ARU -Fax: 00357-2-674101.

December 16–19, 2000

Encounters with Ancient Egypt. The UCL Institute of Archaeology will host an international conference examining the ways in which the cultures of ancient Egypt—predynastic, dynastic, Hellenistic, Roman, late-antique, Islamic, and colonial—have perpetually been re-configured in response to changing ideologies and strategies for appropriating the past. As well as presenting new or neglected sets of data, we hope that contributors will also be inspired to offer papers that constitute a fresh look at familiar evidence from a variety of theoretical viewpoints. Contact: ancient-egypt@ucl.ac.uk. Postal address: "Encounters with Ancient Egypt Conference," Institute of Archaeology, University College London, 31-34 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PY, England.

February 24–25, 2001

Religious Texts and Material Contexts, University of South Florida, Tampa campus. Contact: Jacob Neusner or James Strange, 735 14th Avenue Northeast, St. Petersburg, FL 33701-1413; tel: 813-974-1875; fax: 727-894-8827; e-mail: jneusner@luna.cas.usf.edu

March 8–11, 2001

The Fourth Bi-annual Conference on Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity: "Travel, Communication and Geography in Late Antiquity," to be held at the Downtown Center of San Francisco State University, San Francisco. Presentations invited on themes involving all kinds of travel (religious pilgrimages; travel for official, commercial, or military purposes; travel for pleasure; journeys of the soul), on various kinds of communication (inter-religious or inter-cultural communication; written, spoken, or visual communication; pedagogy; linguistic change; communication between the human and the divine), and on any aspect of geography and especially its interrelationship with travel and communication (e.g., land vs. sea vs. river travel or communication; travel and communication between highland and lowland; the psychology of distance, geology, and/or geography; geography of the heavenly city). Contact: Prof. Linda Ellis, Department of Classics, San Francisco State University 1600 Holloway Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94132-4162 (FAX: 415-338-1775; e-mail: ellisl@sfsu.edu). Abstracts are due 1 October 2000.

March 30–April 2, 2001

American Oriental Society Annual Meeting, Toronto Colony Hotel, 89 Chestnut St., Toronto, Ontario. Contact: www.umich.edu/~aos/AM2001.html.

April 17–21, 2001

Building Communities: House, Settlement and Society in the Aegean and Beyond, Cardiff University. This conference is intended to explore a range of approaches to the built environment of the Mediterranean world from the Neolithic through to the Hellenistic period, with the aim of relating archaeological evidence to the wider historical context. Contact: Nick Fisher, School of History & Archaeology, Cardiff University, P.O. Box 909, CARDIFF CF1 3XU, Tel: +441 29 2087 6105; fax: +441 29 2087 4929. E-mail: oikos@cardiff.ac.uk. www.cardiff.ac.uk/uwcc/hisar/conferences/oikos/

April 25–29, 2001

Computer Applications in Archaeology (CAA) 2001, Visby on the island of Gotland, Sweden. The conference will take place at the Gotland University College and will consist of three parallel sessions of lectures, as well as posters and demonstrations. The aim is to bring together archaeologists, anthropologists, osteologists, environmentalists, cultural heritage managers, historians, mathematicians, numismatists, human geographers, computer scientists and experts from other disciplines related to archaeological research and methodology, and to encourage communication between these disciplines, provide a survey of present work in the field and to stimulate discussion and future progress. The main themes of CAA 2001 will be: GIS Applications, CAD Applications, GPS, Survey and Mapping, Database Applications, Computer Applications in Osteology (human and animal), Statistics and Quantitative Methods, Virtual Reality, Cultural Heritage Management, Archaeometry, Digital Image Processing, Internet Applications. Contact: CAA2001 homepage: <http://caa.hgo.se/>

July 8–14, 2001

In the context of the XXI International Congress of History of Science to be held in Mexico City, 8-14 July 2001, a Symposium on **Science at the Frontiers: Medicine and Culture in the Ancient and Medieval Worlds** will be organized. The objective is to study the transfer of knowledge between cultures from Antiquity to the end of the Middle Ages. Given the link between medicine and culture, the Symposium will focus on the transformations occurring in the process of transfer and on the further adaptation of knowledge to new cultural parameters. The concept of medicine includes all the disciplines of the bio-medical field, from medicine *stricto sensu* to therapeutics, herbal medicine and, for instance, iatro-mathematics. The range of cultures taken into consideration is wide, from pre-Western (Greece, Rome, Late Antiquity, and the Arabic World) and Western (from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance) to the Near and Far East (Egypt, the Hebrew World, Mesopotamia, Persia, Iran, India or China). Contact: Alain Touwaide (atouwaide@hotmail.com).

September 2001

Colours in Antiquity: Towards an Archaeology of Seeing, the Department of Classics, University of Edinburgh announces an international conference exploring aspects of hue and colour in the ancient Mediterranean world. The conference will focus on archaeological and art historical perspectives together with cultural and historical contexts. Papers are invited in one or more of the following areas: dyes and textiles, pigments and painting (including wall-painting; ceramics; sculpture; architecture; mosaics), linguistics (colour terms; referents), fashion (dress; cosmetics; home furnishings), symbolism (literary; artistic; social: ethnicity; gender; luxury). The sessions will cover the Aegean Bronze Age, Archaic to Classical Greece, The Hellenistic World, The Roman World (including the Etruscans), Late Antiquity, the reception of the Classical World. E-mail contact: colours@ed.ac.uk



by P. E. MacAllister



Surviving the Century...

Perhaps you'll permit a few minutes for some personal reflections on ASOR past, present ... and future as perceived from a personal vantage point. Being part of the ongoing governance makes total objectivity a bit difficult, but being distinct from the core group of scholars, teachers, and diggers adds a modicum of balance to the perspective.

I have been secretly amazed ASOR has withstood the long trial and have marveled at its pertinacity over the 23 years I have been observing the scene. However, there's a typical weakness in my appraisal. It will be a tendency to compare ASOR with other volunteer organizations like a symphony orchestra, a liberal arts college, theatre group, political party, trade association, or a condominium board. Conditioned, thus, by sundry other experiences I have noted a striking difference. Like ASOR, all were created, underwritten and directed by volunteers who usually resort to professional staff, in turn guided by rules or principles established to articulate purpose and process. Unlike ASOR, rarely has most of the burden of managing been carried by a volunteer President, which was the case with ASOR in my first 15 years. Complicated further by the meandering nature of our headquarters—Boston first, then with Jim Sauer to Philly, then Kyle and Baltimore, four years ago to Boston, all of which seemed to one otherwise oriented, frenetically peripatetic.

Aside from that, the funding mechanism struck me as arcanelly unique and perilously disheveled. Most organizations have members and dues. We had magazine subscribers underwriting the publication costs; *and* we had institutions, plus a couple of lifesaving donors who hit us sporadically with five figure amounts (thank goodness). Underneath all this was the guts of ASOR in a relatively active excavation program carried on by institutions, field teams each year to continue the exploratory process constantly unveiling more of the ancient Middle East and reporting findings with varying promptness to an expectant, if limited, awaiting world. The weakness in all of this (as I saw it) was the enormous load shouldered on the President, and the momentum maintained by a very few souls, all impacted by hurried Board consultation twice a year to monitor institutional health and wellbeing.

The obdurate stubbornness about survival stands us in good stead since it seems to imply no matter how difficult the journey, there is a Divine Providence that somehow watches over ASOR, though my fear is said "providence" is getting weary of the burden.

If there is a conclusion to all of this, it might be similar to that reportedly mumbled by Galileo after recanting his teaching about the sun and the earth, i.e. "epure se muove," yet "she still moves." We plod bravely forward. The bottom line proof is 58 excavations still under the aegis of CAP, a very successful Annual Meeting, and a great Centennial Celebration. "Mirabile dictu," as ole Cicero used to say.

I mean so what's the problem? One might be a decline in institutional membership and a corresponding sag in excitement about archaeology itself. The rupture with SBL has been of concern; surely a decline in federal funding also hurts. Major nemesis to me, probably unnoticed by most of you, are two items. One, is the ongoing financial under-girding of ASOR which is still too much catch-as, catch-can with every single year bringing a new challenge. The last three-four years running, we have had a slight deficit ranging from \$10,000-20,000. As an organization on the operational side—the non-publishing part, please—we generate \$100,000 mainly from institutions. Along with that, we need to raise another \$100,000 in gift income to underwrite the expense of the office, the staff, the committees, mailings, utilities and phone, meetings, etc.—a really modest amount, and giving what we *do*, surprisingly small. But we play hell getting it raised.

If you are with me so far, the fact is *we run an operation that cannot fund itself*. Politicians shake that status off, but to a businessman, this is a very bad omen. It is unrecognized failure. The challenge is to raise more money and though we have spent a lot of time preparing, have not really finished shaping a decent development strategy, though by the end of this year there will be one in place. What we need to find is a sure way of underwriting the work of ASOR for the purpose of mere survival. That is issue number one. The second wonders where ASOR is going. Quo Vadis? What do we have lined up to do when the Centennial is finished? Is our objective mere survival in a pattern similar to the last five years? Is this all we can do for our craft, our field, our scholarship, our supporters?

This year, we have elected four new Trustees as our *Board* nominations and each has been cultivated, wooed, stroked, and counseled. The understanding is that given our desperate need for better funding and given the traditional Trustee role of participation in, and responsibility *for*, fiscal integrity, we hope as a Trustee each can see his/her way clear to give us \$5,000 a year as a minimum contribution. Sometimes the blood leaves the face when they hear this blatant request, words fail, the eyes glaze, hands tremble. But Hey! It is working.

The objective would be to expand this sort of strategy and see if we can not lock in enough pledged support to count on balanced budgets. Beyond that, each new member is asked, "Who do you know in your community (Chattanooga, Columbus, Minneapolis, Indianapolis) who might be interested in our work? Who else helps us broaden the base at your level of giving?" All critical I think if, long range, we intend to *get ASOR beyond the survival mentality and to a point where we can go on the offensive*. Has anyone thought about what we *should* be doing, given our stature, scholarly resource, capability, experience? Is there a moment when we decide here is what we intend to do toward improving the status of archaeology—and then find the resource to do it.

But a problem in getting effective, successful lay Trustees to support this noble endeavor is finding out how to deploy them. We need a way to engage the resource we have struggled to locate. I submit there are times when these meetings do not provide much opportunity for input. They did not come merely to vote "Aye." My hunch is they want *on the team*. If we can indeed move on the offensive, we'll need the planning to do that. And if we want to keep people seriously involved in ASOR, we might well use them to expand horizons in the future.

And, again, if all this unfolds, we might see some changes from the old patterns since we deal with problems differently and have differing areas of expertise. This will broaden our capacity to solve problems, give us greater bench strength; hopefully get us out of the woods financially, and prepare us to enhance the all-around strength and influence of ASOR.

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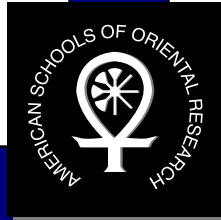
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