



ASOR

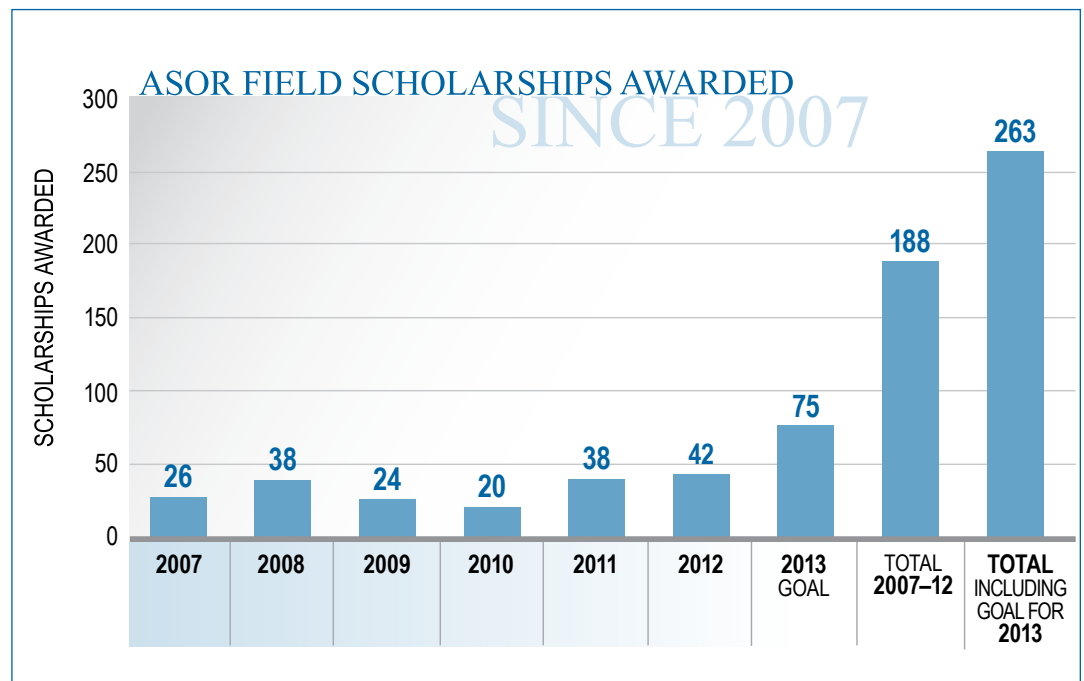
Summer/Fall 2012
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ASOR at Boston University, 656 Beacon Street, 5th floor, Boston, MA 02215-2010

ASOR BREAKS RECORD — AWARDS 42 FIELD SCHOLARSHIPS IN 2012

ASOR celebrates breaking another record—we awarded 42 scholarships for fieldwork to students and junior scholars during the summer of 2012. Our previous record had been 38 awards in 2008 and again in 2011. We were especially glad to be able to award more grants because we received applications from 187 people, more than double the number from last year. The increase in the scholarships is also timely because the number of scholarship funds available elsewhere has decreased with the challenging economy in the past three or four years.

We are pleased that ASOR is becoming known as one of the major sources for modest field scholarships, and we have awarded 188 grants since 2007. Given the unprecedented need demonstrated in 2012, we have decided to increase our efforts and set a goal of 75 schol-



arships and fellowships for 2013—giving us more than 260 awards since 2007! The above chart shows our annual progress.

continued on page 3

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

ASOR Breaks Record — Awards 24 Field Scholarships in 2012	1, 3
Reports From the 2012 Summer Field Fellowships.....	3-6, 31-47
Development Update	7-8
Fiscal Year 2012 Honor Roll	8-9
Election for the ASOR Board	10
New Assistant Treasurer Announcement.....	10
Call for Nominations.....	11
Membership Report.....	12-13

ASOR Continues Going Social	15
Crowdsourced	16
Outreach Committee Honored	17
ACOR 2013-2014 Fellowships.....	18-19
AIAR 2013-2014 Fellowships.....	21
ASOR Annual Meeting Program At A Glance.....	22-23
ASOR Annual Meeting Business Meetings and Events	24-25
ASOR Annual Meeting Academic Program Updates	28

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

This issue of the newsletter celebrates the successful year of ASOR's scholarship program. As reported in our cover story, this past spring and summer saw the award of a record-breaking 42 field scholarships to students and junior scholars. At a time when many organizations, including some of our institutional partners, have had to cut back on student funding, it has been gratifying to witness the continued and growing support our scholarship program has received from our membership. While some of the scholarships were funded through long-standing endowments, the largest number, 28 in total, were made possible through the Heritage Scholarship Program, which depends on annual contributions from individual donors. This year's record number was also achieved in no small part due to the tremendous response to our 'March Madness' call for support. Both of these initiatives highlight the dedicated commitment of our membership, but also the importance of maintaining an active engagement with each of our members. In light of the dramatic growth in the number of applications ASOR has received in recent years, we have set a goal of 75 scholarships and fellowships for 2013, almost double the number awarded this past year. Achieving this ambitious goal will require the continued active participation of our membership.

Concomitant with the growth of our scholarship program has been the increase in the number of donors who contributed to ASOR this past fiscal year (282), and the total amount of gifts received (\$196,000); both were record levels. These positive numbers are also reflected in the continued growth of our membership, which surpassed the 1500 mark this past March, and has enjoyed an annual rate of growth approximating 8% over the past few years. As Director of Membership and Publications Services Kevin Cooney notes in the Membership Report (see pp. 12-13), these positive trends are not only important to ASOR's fiscal health, they also help to broaden ASOR culturally and demographically. Indeed, as he points out, ASOR has been experiencing an important youth movement, with almost a third of our membership falling between the ages of 18 and 39. Gender and cultural diversity (and sensitivity) are also crit-



ically important, and their active engagement and inclusion will be vital to ASOR's continued growth and development as an organization.

Effective outreach is central to this effort. In our digital age, such an effort necessarily must engage the new social media. I am thus pleased to report that in March ASOR launched an exciting new social media initiative (see article on p. 15 in this Newsletter), involving the creation of an ASOR Facebook page (www.facebook.com/ASOR.org) and an ASOR Blog (asorblog.org), both of which have been an unqualified success, and most recently Twitter (<https://twitter.com/AmerSchOrientRes>). As of this writing, the ASOR Blog has received more than one million hits from over 20,000 unique visitors originating from over 90 countries. Many of these visitors revisit the blog regularly to read new posts, and it is rapidly becoming an important source for the latest news on developments in the field. The ASOR Facebook page has also attracted an active and growing membership, with posts on job and scholarship announcements, conferences and lectures, as well as archaeological news reports. For those like myself, less confident (or willing) to venture into this brave new world, ASOR will continue to communicate through the more traditional media. Whatever the media, ASOR is committed to more effectively engaging its membership and the broader public. Consequently, I will report on additional outreach initiatives in forthcoming issues of the Newsletter.

In closing, I wish to acknowledge the accomplishment of another important outreach initiative, specifically the Educational Outreach Committee's involvement in developing curriculum for Project Archaeology, a program developed by the Bureau of Land Management which received the Secretary of the Interior's Partnership Conservation Award in 2011. My hearty congratulations to them!

Best wishes with the start of the fall, and another academic year,



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ASOR Newsletter, Summer/Fall 2012

ASOR BREAKS RECORD CONTINUED

continued from page 1

Your participation is needed in 2013! We are fortunate to have some modest endowments that provide a crucial foundation for our summer fellowships and scholarships. For 2013, the Platt Endowment will provide about \$13,000 of support, and the Harris Endowment will provide about \$10,000 of funding (after several years of funds not being awarded due to the endowment being “under water”). The remainder of the funds for summer field scholarships comes from the generous support of friends and members. In order to reach our goal of 75 awards for 2013, we need more individuals to join our scholarship efforts on an annual basis. You can help in any of the following ways:

- **Heritage Donations:** Generous donors give \$2,500 annually to ASOR to support two summer field scholarships. This program accounted for 28 scholarships in 2012.

- **March Fellowship Madness:** Individual ASOR members make donations of any amount in March of each year to award additional scholarships. In 2012 this program was supported by 78 individuals who gave more than \$9,000 allowing ASOR to award 9 more travel scholarships.
- **Additionally, anyone can make a gift of any amount to our scholarship program at any time throughout the year.**

In order to demonstrate the impact of ASOR’s fellowships, we are pleased to highlight the fellowship reports from the recipients of the awards from 2012. We hope that you will read the reports and consider either giving a Heritage Gift (\$2,500) or another amount to support our scholarship program for 2013. Please contact me, Andy Vaughn, ASOR’s Executive Director, at asored@bu.edu or 617-353-6570 if you have any questions or suggestions.

REPORTS FROM RECIPIENTS OF 2012 SUMMER FIELD FELLOWSHIPS

HERITAGE FELLOWSHIP REPORTS

Stephane Beaulieu, Andrews University

My 2012 ASOR Heritage Fellowship helped fund an opportunity to spend three weeks in Jordan at Tall Jalul, near Madaba, where teams from Andrews University have been excavating for the past 20 years. As a first-time participant in an archaeological dig, it gave me the opportunity to learn what archaeologists do in the field.

This year’s project was to unearth more of the wall of a pool and its surrounding structures that were discovered in a previous season. Our day at the Tall began at four o’clock in the morning and went until twelve thirty in the afternoon. After the noon meal, we washed pottery and read



it for dating. In three weeks, my teammates and I dug down 9 feet on one side and 12 feet on the other side of our assigned square. In the process, we uncovered a portion of the wall of the pool as well as a rock with an ink drawing on it.

However, the three weeks weren’t all hard, hot, and dusty work. During the weekends, we toured Petra and visited other archaeological sites in Jordan. I also experienced a variety of cultures and made new friends from Jordan, the United States, Puerto Rico, Philippines, and Canada.

Although my interest, as a doctoral candidate, is in the area of Old Testament exegesis, the ASOR Heritage Fellowship has assisted in my quest to develop an understanding of what it means to be a good archaeologist. I am grateful for the donor support that has allowed me to learn new skills related to my academic field.

Thomas Beyl, Hebrew Union College

Thanks to the ASOR Heritage Fellowship, I returned to Tel Dan to continue supervising excavation activities begun in 2008. The goal this season was to expand excavation of an undated gate structure previously discovered in 1993. In addition, I was able to explore the use of an RC quadcopter for tracking excavation progress through aerial photography.

In the 3rd week of excavation we reached Iron II material, and discovered a very short course of stones abutting one of the towers of the gate structure to the east. This very short course of stones was only a meter in length, and there was no evidence of continuation. Preliminarily, it is believed this structure may have



been a failed project to build a six chamber gate. Unfortunately, we still have no conclusive evidence for the date of the gate's construction.

In addition to digging, aerial photos taken at the end of season enabled me to identify more elements of the gate structure that had been reused in later Iron II walls, just north of the gate towers. These elements have been clearly visible for more than 15 years,

but their association with the gate structure was never realized. My first hand experience this season with RC based aerial photography in the field, has opened my eyes to the value of this technology for survey, recording and mapping purposes. I am currently researching equipment software and techniques for the use of low level aerial photography combined with photogrammetry for future seasons. My gratitude to the ASOR Heritage Fellowship for making this experience possible.

Stephanie Boonstra, Wilfrid Laurier University

Throughout my second field season at Khirbat al-Mudayna, near Madaba in Jordan, I learned a great deal about Near Eastern archaeology, the history and culture of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, as well as about myself. After participating as a volunteer during the 2010 field season of the Wadi ath-Thamad project, which is run through Wilfrid Laurier University (where I am currently a student), I knew that I had to return. Thanks to the Heritage Fellowship and the generous donations from members of ASOR, I was given the opportunity to return this 2012 season as a square supervisor.



The square that I excavated over the course of six weeks, with the help of two volunteers, was located in the northern end of the mound, directly to the west of the six-chambered gate of the site. The trapezoidal shaped "square" was bordered by part of the western wall of the gate as well as the inner casemate wall to the north. This area of the Iron Age town is particularly interesting for the massive and widespread destruction that took place here sometime mid-first millennium; this destruction is evident in the ashy soil, burnt stone, and charred wooden beams found throughout the gate complex. The area that I excavated was of particular interest because of a unique mudbrick wall bisecting the square from the north to the south. This wall is especially unusual because it is the only wall of mudbrick found on the entire site and also for the use of chinkstones between the bricks of mud. Although the exact reason for an exterior mudbrick wall is still unknown, this unique wall poses many interesting questions about the construction and architects of this Iron Age settlement.

During my two-month stay in Jordan, I fell deeper in love with the country as well as the Near East as a whole. I am even more passionate about archaeology in the area than ever before and have the Heritage Fellowship to thank for this incredible experience.

Micaela Carignano, Cornell University

This summer, thanks to an ASOR Heritage Fellowship, I traveled to Cyprus to participate in the Kalavassos and Maroni Built Environments Project (KAMBE). The project, led by Sturt Manning of Cornell University and Kevin Fisher from the University of Arkansas, focuses on several Late Bronze Age sites in southern Cyprus. Most of the research has involved the use of geophysical techniques to survey the landscapes surrounding previously excavated LBA sites.



This season, I joined a group of students who worked alongside the geophysics team excavating some of the features that showed up in the survey data. We started our work at the site of Maroni-Tsaroukkas, which was excavated by the British Museum in 1897, and later in the 1990s by a team led by Dr. Manning. After some days of intense weeding to remove the thorny scrub that had grown since the last excavations, we opened small trenches immediately adjacent to those dug previously. This was difficult because the excavators on the British Museum expedition had dotted the terrain with large pits in their search for intact ceramic vessels. We were able to work around the pits to some extent, however. In one trench where I worked, instead of finding the continuation of a Building 1

wall, as we expected, we dug through a thick red clay deposit that contained some of the earliest ceramics on the site—an exciting find! Later we dug a test trench in a nearby hayfield, where we confirmed a feature found in the geophysics surveys. Throughout the season we took turns helping to re-bag and re-tag dozens of crates full of finds from previous excavations and surveys that had been stored in a rat-infested shed for years. This task culminated in an exciting trip to deliver the artifacts to the Larnaca Archaeological Museum, where they will fare much better in the future.

I greatly enjoyed my experience on the KAMBE excavation and my first trip to Cyprus. It proved to be a beautiful island which I hope to revisit as I continue my graduate studies. I am extremely grateful to the generous donors to the Heritage Fellowship and to ASOR for helping me travel to Cyprus and participate in this project.

Christine Chitwood, Andrews University

I participated in excavations at Khirbat Ataruz during the dates of June 6 through June 17, 2012, in partial funding by my acceptance of the 2012 Heritage Fellowship. Ataruz is a site situated along the Dead Sea, known to scholars for its Iron Age inhabitants and large temple complex. Under the direction of Dr. Chang Ho Ji, as well as that of my field supervisor, Dr. Robert Bates, my responsibility for this season's excavation was to open a square on the north side of the site, where evidence of walled structures could be seen from the surface level, suggesting a relationship



with the previously excavated temple complex. Immediately it was evident that I was excavating part of a wall (Wall 5), which was subsequently followed by two more walls. Following the walls, I moved to the western side of the initial wall that was discovered, where after a high volume of rubble removal, it was evident that more wall structures would reveal more detail to the functions of this area of the temple complex.

My fellow workers and I discovered a nearly whole, though broken, vessel that suggests a rather baffling purpose. The jar had been lined completely around the inside with stones, then filled to the brim with sterile soil. We wondered that perhaps the stones had fallen into the jar (demonstrated in the initial lack of rims) but after removing several of the stones inside the jar, the rims were discovered. Further perplexing was the second “ring” of pottery sherds located within the jar, suggesting that the storage jar contained not only the stone lining, but a second vessel as well. After

a thorough excavation of the contents inside the storage jar, the bottom was reached, with no further significant findings. After the exciting, though confusing removal of the large storage jar, the rest of my square was excavated down to a level of 1 meter, and my final drawings were taken for the closure of the season.

Caitlin Clerkin, University of Georgia

The Heritage Fellowship helped fund my participation in the 2012 excavation season at the site of Tel Kedesh, Israel, by aiding coverage of my travel and room/board expenditures. This current archaeological project at Tel Kedesh, located in Israel's Upper Galilee, is directed by Sharon Herbert (U. of Michigan) and Andrea Berlin (BU); the investigation is focused on the tel's Persian-Hellenistic Administrative Building, the “PHAB.”



During this short season, which was my second season of archaeological fieldwork as well as my second at Kedesh, I began the season assisting in the trench of another graduate student/supervisor. However, as the season progressed, I oversaw the excavation of a trench in the northeast portion of the PHAB; I was tasked with investigating the eastern extent of the PHAB's northern outer wall. In addition to this wall, my trench yielded several rubble pits, three late (relative to the date of the PHAB) human burials in the line of the aforementioned wall, and a great deal of pottery, which I, along with my fellow excavators, washed, sorted, and tallied up daily. This was my first “gig” as a supervisor; as such, it made for exciting and intense hands-on training and practice in excavation, management, and interpretation of a trench.

More than just providing me a venue for practical skill-set training, my season at Kedesh exposed me directly to research in one of my research interests, Phoenico-Punic identity, as well as to the expertise and perspectives of archaeologists much further along in their graduate school and/or professional careers than myself, an MA candidate in Classics. As such, the financial support provided by ASOR's Heritage Fellowship enabled me this summer to have practice in the nuts and bolts of fieldwork, an occasion to actively engage my research interests, and a valuable opportunity for professional development and insight into archaeology and academia.

Emily Coate, University of Toronto

The generosity of those behind the ASOR Heritage Fellowship afforded me my first opportunity to dig at a Near Eastern site. I participated in the excavations at Tell Tayinat, a settlement occupied during the Early Bronze and Iron Ages located in southern Turkey near the Syrian border. You may have heard the name in the news recently, owing to the discovery of a couple impressive statues this season. Particularly noteworthy is the



head and torso of King Suppiluliuma, with a Hieroglyphic Luwian inscription across his back.

I worked supervising a square currently in an Iron Age context. We were fortunate enough to uncover many interesting finds and significant architectural features, including clay figurines, loom weights, tabuns, and mud brick wall remains. Having previously only excavated in the Midwestern United States, I found tracing the mud brick lines

beneath our feet to be a new challenge—surely different than the posthole residues with which I had become accustomed. And coming from sites where we were excited to find a handful of sherds, the amount of pottery we unearthed at Tayinat never ceased to amaze me.

Along with the excavations, the experience itself is not one I will soon forget. Our team arrived at site with the dawn every morning, scooped the frogs out of our squares that had wandered in during the night, and prepared for another blisteringly hot day. I quickly found that the experienced local workers' abilities and familiarity with the area offered a great conduit to improving my own excavation techniques. Even with our limited Turkish vocabulary, they were always willing and effective teachers.

The people in the nearby villages we had the opportunity to get to know, the places we visited, the food we ate, and the mix of Arab and Turkish culture we experienced made the summer all the more remarkable.

Knowing that the work we accomplished this summer adds inch by inch toward a better understanding of the lives, economy, and industry of the people who inhabited the area so long ago makes me all the more grateful for the chance to be a part of the Tayinat excavations, and to the Heritage donors who made it possible.

Shane Edwards, Claremont Graduate University

The earliest possible appearance (early bronze-2200 BCE) of the name for Acre is in the archives of Ebla, a city in Syria. In addition, an Egyptian mention of Akko was dated to 1800 BCE. However, it is during the middle bronze age (2000-1550 BCE) that the Akko Tel becomes an important regional hub of commerce, which continued (at greater or lesser levels) through the early Hellenistic period (332 BCE).



Moshe Dothan (University of Haifa) and Diethelm Conrad (Marburg University, Germany) performed excavations of the Akko tel between 1973 and 1989. Unfortunately, very little documentation exists from the first series of excavations and no final reports have been published.

I was assigned to Section OO/20, which is loosely believed to overlap with Dothan's section O/20. Dothan's O/20 is believed to have excluded approximately the top two meters of the north end of section OO/20. Due to multiple seasons and lack of clear strategy of the Dothan excavations, remains from numerous strata were exposed. Our initial short term goal was the gradual "phasing" of previously excavated portions of OO/20, in the hope to link up with Dothan's excavation plan and the systematic new excavation of the six feet northern end of the square. By the end of the 2012 excavation in OO/20, we felt we had a reasonable understanding of Dothan's grid system and how it links to the current grid system in OO/20.

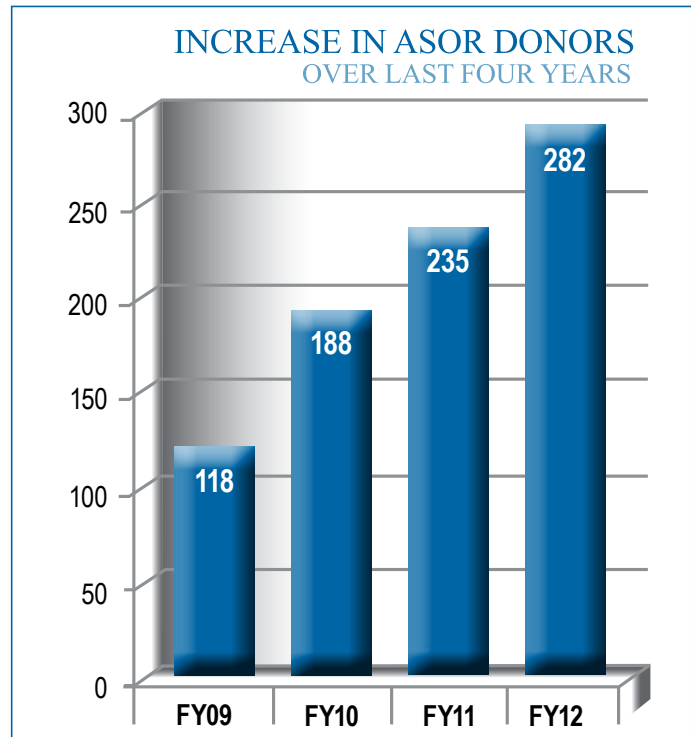
The 2011 excavation in square OO/20 exposed a rock foundation that is believed to be built during the late Iron Age (which we later determined extends into areas to the west of OO/20). The foundation of the Iron Age wall is believed to support what is likely an early Persian Age wall, anchored by ash-lars. The ash-lars are approximately 25 cm width, 30 cm height and 50 cm length. By the end of the 2012 we are not able to determine the depth of all the ashlar walls. However, where ashlar walls were excavated to the bottom, significant broken pottery was found under the ash-lars. The late Iron Age rock wall consists of smaller rocks of varying dimensions weighing from 5 lbs to 30 lbs. In the two meter northern end of the square we continue to excavate significant whole broken, but restorable, jars and bowls so we do not believe we have reached the floor (i.e. living elevation).

continued on page 31

DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Andrew G. Vaughn
ASOR Executive Director

We did it (again)! In 2011 we exceeded expectations and reached a new record of 235 donors. This year we raised our sights even higher and set a goal of 280 donors for the 2012 fiscal year (ended June 30, 2012). Thanks to the 282 different donors (see the 2012 Honor Roll) who stepped up for ASOR, we surpassed our goal and had an extremely successful year in development. We were successful both in terms of total dollars raised (\$196,000

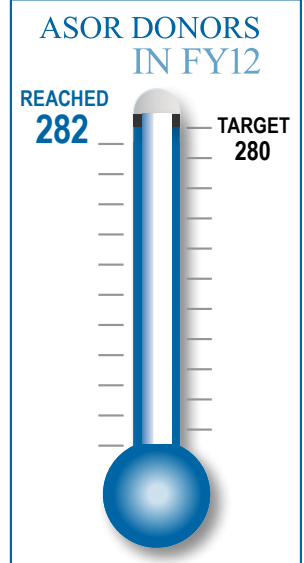


compared to \$160,000 in 2011) and in terms of participation. The success is even more dramatic when we compare ourselves to other learned societies. Many other societies consider their development efforts a success if they reach a 1-in-50 ratio for charitable gifts by members. Thanks to the loyal participation of our members, almost 1-in-5 ASOR members made a gift in FY12.

ASOR members often ask me why we need the annual fund. I am able to respond succinctly: membership and subscription revenues only account for 37% of our annual revenue, so these gifts play a critical role in enabling us to carry out our mission, to give scholarships, and to do public outreach. This past year we were extremely successful in all of those areas. We awarded a record 42 scholarships to students and junior scholars for fieldwork during the summer of 2012 (a remarkable increase from three scholarships awarded seven years ago). We have doubled our scholarships to the annual meeting, and we are expanding our publication program (e.g., BASOR is now being published in color). ASOR's annual fund does not account for all of our revenue beyond mem-

berships and subscriptions, but we would not be able to do the work that we do without your participation and partnership. Thank you!

The ASOR board once again led the way in our development effort, and we had 100% participation for the third straight year. In addition to generous support from Boston University, board members Stevan Dana, W. Mark Lanier, and P. E. MacAllister set the pace with five-figure contributions. As a group, the board contributed \$124,000 of our \$196,000 raised last year. The dollars raised came from a broad group of supporters. We had ten additional people and institutions make contributions of \$5,000 or more, another 25 individuals contributed \$1,000 or more, and yet another 25 contributed \$500 or more. In short, ASOR's success in development is a team effort, and all gifts are meaningful. The following is a list of some of the highlights made possible by your generous support:



- We once again finished the year with a balanced budget.
- The Chairs Coordinating Council was formed and began meeting in FY12, providing more effective member leadership over our academic programs.
- We received \$196,000 in total giving.
- Our endowment for operations grew to a record \$480,000 (more than double from six years ago despite some challenging years in the stock market).
- A record 822 people registered for our 2011 annual meeting in San Francisco.
- We will have more than 450 paper presentations at the 2012 annual meeting in Chicago.
- We awarded 42 scholarships for fieldwork during the summer of 2012 from an unprecedented pool of 187 applicants.
- March Fellowship Madness resulted in 76 people giving more than \$9,000—that meant that we awarded nine additional scholarships!
- We launched a social media initiative that has been extremely successful.
- We have had more than 600,000 hits on the ASOR Blog (asorblog.org) in the last six months; we now have had over 1 million hits over the life of the blog.
- The ASOR Facebook Page (www.facebook.com/asor.org) is updated daily with new content, and we now have almost 2,000 "likes."
- ASOR's prestigious Mesopotamian Fellowship program continues, and we have continued to award scholarships for Mesopotamian research at the annual meeting.

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DEVELOPMENT UPDATE CONTINUED

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- Scholarships for the annual meeting have been expanded.
- Our individual membership reached a record 1,530 in FY12 (up from 1,400 in FY11 and 1,050 six years ago).
- Our institutional subscriptions grew for a second straight year following the recession and cutbacks from libraries.
- Our journals (all the way back to 1920) are now available online on JSTOR, and our members who choose the online subscription have unparalleled access.
- Our archives project is making the Boston headquarters a research destination.
- We had 67 affiliated excavation projects (33 field and 34 publication) in countries throughout the eastern Mediterranean.
- We continued to support the publication of site reports through the ASOR Annual and the Archaeological Report Series.

- We switched our book distribution services to ISD Distributers, and we now offer prepublication prices to our members.
- BASOR is now published in color.
- Last, but certainly not least, all of our journals (BASOR, JCS, and NEA) are once again up-to-date at the end of the fiscal year.

As stated above, these highlights and accomplishments would not have been possible without the generous support of our members. Thank you! ASOR will once again be conservative with expenses and spending, but we need your continued participation and partnership. We are poised to move to even greater levels in 2013. While we celebrate all that we accomplished in FY12, your ongoing partnership and support will help us to accomplish our goals in FY13—ASOR's 113th year.

FISCAL YEAR 2012 HONOR ROLL

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ELECTION FOR THE ASOR BOARD, CLASS OF 2015

Each year, ASOR's membership has the opportunity to vote for some members of the Board of Trustees. There are two types of trustees who are elected for three-year terms at the annual ASOR membership meeting: a) individual trustees; and b) institutional trustees. Each year, two individual trustees are elected by all ASOR members who are present at the membership meeting. Likewise, two institutional trustees are elected by those institutional representatives of ASOR member schools who attend the membership meeting. These elections are important for ASOR, and thus your attendance at the membership meeting is crucial. To read more about the responsibilities of the ASOR Board of Trustees, see Article III of the ASOR by-laws (<http://www.asor.org/about/bylaws.html>).

This year, eight candidates are running for four positions on the Board. Four (Ackerman, Gittlen, Knoblauch and Younker) are running for reelection, while the four others (Charaf, Danti, Duff and Hawkins) are new candidates. Three candidates (Ackerman, Gittlen and Younker) are running for the two institutional positions. Five candidates (Charaf, Danti, Duff, Hawkins and Knoblauch) are running for the two individual positions.

Voting will take place at the Membership Meeting held during the annual meeting on Friday, Nov. 16, from 7:00-8:15 A.M. Please visit the ASOR home page (www.asor.org) for a link that contains information on each candidate, their many contributions to the field of Near Eastern archaeology and to ASOR, and their visions for ASOR. Then, come and vote!

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Alpert Nakhai

Chair, ASOR Board Nominations Committee

ASOR ANNOUNCES NEW ASSISTANT TREASURER

ASOR is pleased to announce the appointment of Richard L. Coffman as our new Assistant Treasurer. Coffman will serve in that capacity through the end of the calendar year and then succeed Sheldon Fox as our Treasurer on January 1, 2013 (Fox is completing his second three-year term as Treasurer). The Officers' Nominations Committee and the ASOR Board both unanimously and enthusiastically elected Coffman, and we are most fortunate to have someone of his ability and training as our Treasurer elect.

Coffman is a Certified Public Accountant who is also a trial lawyer and managing partner of the Coffman Law Firm in Beaumont, Texas. The Coffman Law Firm represents individuals and businesses across Texas and throughout the United States in complex commercial litigation, class actions and mass actions. Richard's litigation practice is focused in the areas of antitrust, ERISA, data breach, theft of trade secrets, intellectual property, civil RICO, agriculture, consumer cases, and general business disputes.



Richard is a native Texan who spent his formative years in Houston. He graduated from Texas Lutheran University in 1978 with a B.A. in accounting and the University of Texas at Austin in 1980 with a Master in Professional Accounting with a specialty in taxation. After graduate school, Richard worked with two international Big 8 public accounting firms in Seattle, Houston and Austin. He also taught accounting as an adjunct member of the faculties of the University of Washington and University of Texas business schools.

After working as a CPA for several years, Richard returned to the University of Texas at Austin where he received his law degree in 1989. During law school, he met and married Sonya, who also is a CPA, an accomplished trial lawyer, and his partner at the Coffman Law Firm. Richard is active in civic and charitable organizations. In addition to serving as the Assistant Treasurer of ASOR, he is currently serving as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Beaumont Crime Stoppers. Richard and Sonya have one daughter, Carson, who is a sophomore at Washington & Lee University in Lexington, Virginia.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE ASOR CORPORATION

The Officers Nominations Committee of the American Schools of Oriental Research announces a General Call for Candidates for service as Officers of the Corporation. Nominating an officer is an important way for members to speak into the governance of their organization, and we encourage you to nominate and participate!

Two positions are currently open for nominations:

President of ASOR:

leads the organization, supervises the Executive Director, and is the public face of ASOR.

Secretary of ASOR:

responsible for providing minutes of all meetings of the corporation and acts as custodian of the official records of ASOR

Inquiries should be addressed to Gary Arbino (GaryArbino@ggbs.edu), Chair of the Officers Nominations Committee. The other members of the committee are Carol Meyers, Christopher Rollston, Joe Seger, and Susan Sheridan.

Nominations should include the candidate's name, the position for which the candidate is nominated, a one-paragraph academic biography (including membership and activities in ASOR), a brief statement as to why the candidate would be appropriate for the position, and the candidate's contact information.

Self-nominations are encouraged and should include the same information as well as a brief vision statement describing why the candidate is interested in the office.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS FOR ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF ASOR

The Officers Nominations Committee of ASOR announces a general call for nominations and applications for individuals to be considered for the position of President of the Corporation. The term of office for this position is three years beginning January 1, 2014. A general description of the Office of President and its responsibilities is given in the ASOR Bylaws, available at <http://www.asor.org/about/mission-statement.html>, (click on "Bylaws", especially Article IV, Section 6). The President is expected to attend all appropriate meetings of the corporation and be available for other travel as necessary.

Nominations should be submitted via e-mail to Gary Arbino (GaryArbino@ggbs.edu), Chair of the Officers Nominations Committee. Review of applications and nominations will begin on October 15, 2012 and continue until the position is filled. The Officers Nominations Committee expects to present a nominee for President to the ASOR Board for a vote at either the November 2012 meeting or the Board's April 2013 meeting in Indianapolis, IN.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS FOR ELECTION OF THE SECRETARY OF ASOR

The Officers Nominations Committee of ASOR announces a general call for nominations and applications for individuals to be considered for the position of Secretary of ASOR. The term of office for this position is three years beginning January 1, 2013. A general description of the Office of Secretary and its responsibilities is given in the ASOR Bylaws, available at <http://www.asor.org/about/mission-statement.html>, (click on "Bylaws", especially Article IV, Section 10). The Secretary is expected to attend all appropriate meetings of the corporation.

Nominations should be submitted via e-mail to Gary Arbino (GaryArbino@ggbs.edu), Chair of the Officers Nominations Committee. Review of applications and nominations will begin on September 30, 2012 and continue until the position is filled. The Officers Nominations Committee expects to present a nominee for Secretary to the ASOR Board for a vote at the November 18 Board meeting in Chicago, IL.

ASOR MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Kevin Cooney

Director of Membership and Publication Services

Membership in ASOR has been at record levels for the last two years surpassing the 1500 mark this past March. During this time we have seen a steady growth of about 8% annually. Increased participation at the Annual Meeting, membership drives, a new e-journal subscription option, and improved customer service are the primary catalysts for this growth. We are very pleased that ASOR has continued to grow during a period in which membership in many learned societies has decreased due to the tough economic climate (figure 1).

More members mean more resources for ASOR's mission of promoting scholarship in the Near East. This year alone members have helped:

- send 42 researchers to the Near East
- digitize the archived Shechem excavation collection
- publish BASOR in color for the first time
- transition to JSTOR as a host for all of our electronic content
- increase our web presence via our blog and Facebook page
- set an attendance record at the 2011 Annual Meeting

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our members who have made the past year so successful, especially the 76 donors who contributed to our March Fellowship Madness campaign! The growth of ASOR membership these past two years has the added effect of increasing the organizations cultural and demographic diversity. We believe both are necessary for a sustainable healthy organization.

ASOR has gotten younger as our membership has grown in the past two years. In December of 2010 approximately 37% of our members were over 60 years old, today that number has dropped to 31%. In fact 28% of our members are between the ages of 18

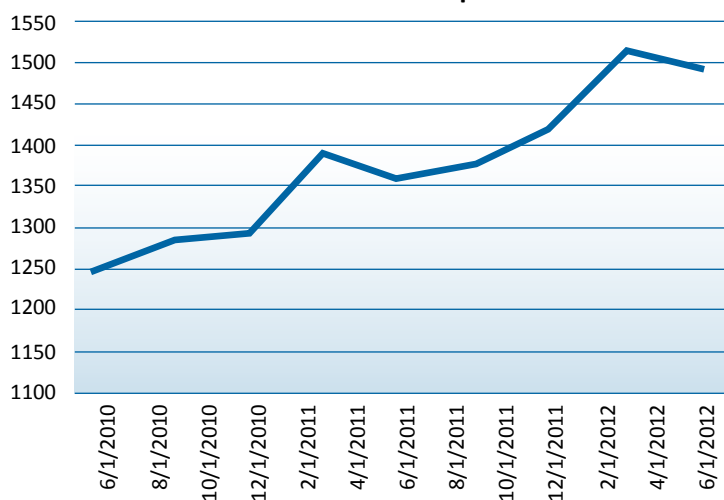
and 39. This youth movement within the membership is necessary in order for ASOR's mission to exist in posterity. For a complete breakdown of membership age demographics please see figure 2. While ASOR may be getting younger the organization continues to be dominated by professional members (figure 3). Approximately 69% of our members fall into this category followed by graduate students at 18%, interested enthusiasts at 12%, and undergraduates at 2%. In the past two years the percentage of members identifying themselves as students has increased just 2%, while interested enthusiasts have increased by 6%.

In order to continue growing at the current rate ASOR will have to increase the number of non-professional members. In the next year we have several direct mailing, email, and social media campaigns scheduled that are designed to appeal to enthusiasts and students. These include a Contributing membership drive, monthly blog themes, and increasing use of Facebook and Twitter.

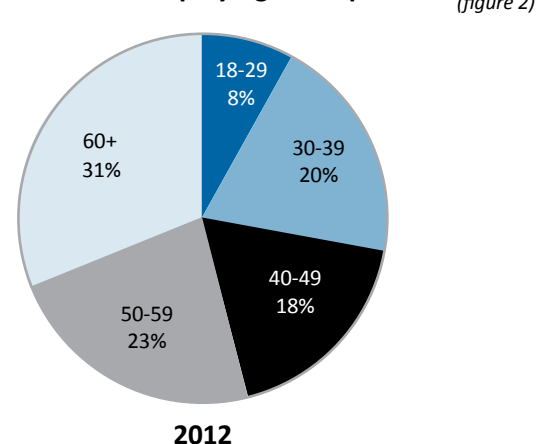
Given the large number of self-described professional members it comes as no surprise that the most popular of our actual membership categories is the Professional type (figure 4). Approximately 52% of our members fall under this type, with Student and Retired following at 19% and 10% respectively. Of all types more and more members are electing the e-journal option instead of receiving print copies. Currently 46 percent of our members access our journals online through JSTOR (figure 5). We believe this trend will continue. Electing the e-journal option is not only environmentally friendly but also helps us cut down on printing costs, decreasing the cost of publication and freeing up valuable financial resources that can be put to good use elsewhere.

Membership in ASOR is also geographically diverse. Almost a quarter of our members are from outside the US, with Canada, Israel, and the UK as the top three international homes. ASOR has members in 42 countries around the world! Such a

ASOR Membership Count (figure 1)



Membership by Age Group (figure 2)



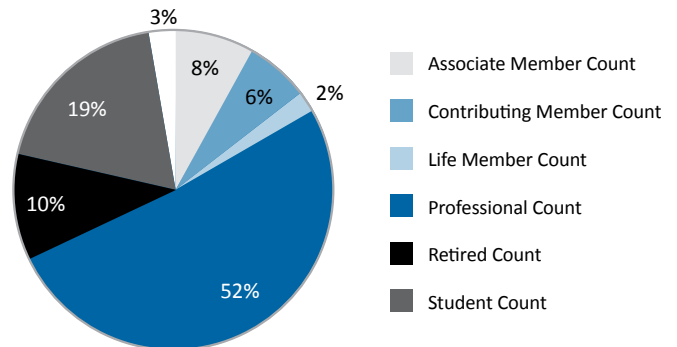
ASOR MEMBERSHIP REPORT CONTINUED

large international contingent assures cultural diversity and helps keep ASOR from becoming ethnocentrically American.

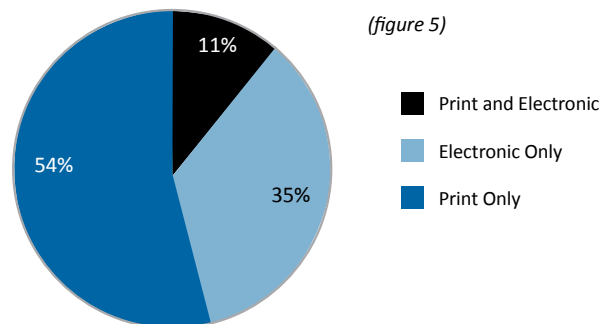
The one glaring absence in these statistics are male/female demographics. Unfortunately, we have not collected data on the sex of our members to date. However, we are planning a survey of our membership in the coming months to rectify this issue. For years our benefit structure has largely been geared toward the needs of the professional member without considering age or sex. Going forward we must alter that approach to ensure we meet the unique needs of both our male and female members. The number of professional women working in the Near East has skyrocketed over the last decade and we want ASOR to be a valuable resource for them and future generations of female scholars and interested enthusiasts. To that end a session on the role of women in ASOR has been planned for the upcoming Annual Meeting. As part of the session the ASOR staff will outline some potential future resources geared specifically toward our female members. One of the proposed ideas is an interactive map of female members, their research interests and current projects. We hope this will be a valuable tool for female students looking for mentors, and professionals hoping to network. Additionally, we hope the map can be used to identify any gender gaps in research by location and time period. We hope you will join us in Chicago for this session, which will hopefully inspire a healthy debate and give us the insight we need to move forward.

This brief report evidences an increase in the number and diversity of our membership. We are happy with the results of the last two years but by no means satisfied. We hope our continued work will sustain growth while increasing ASOR's influence on Near Eastern Scholarship. ❁

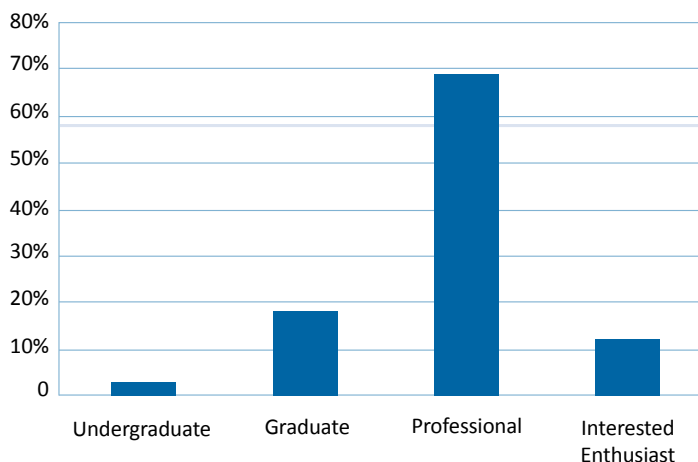
Membership by Category (figure 4)



Professional, Student, and Retired Members by Subscription Type



Membership by Identity (figure 3)



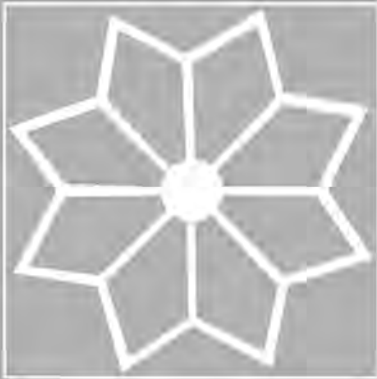
TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN IN THE DISCUSSION

Check out ASOR's Facebook page and Blog for the latest in archaeological news and debates on hot topics



Facebook: www.facebook.com/ASOR.org
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ASOR CONTINUES GOING SOCIAL

Jennifer Fitzgerald
Publications Assistant and Membership Specialist

ASOR launched an exciting social media initiative in March 2012. Our goal was to make the ASOR Facebook page (www.facebook.com/ASOR.org) and the ASOR Blog (asorblog.org) key online destinations for anyone interested in the Eastern Mediterranean. After eight months, the initiative has been a resounding success and is still going strong.

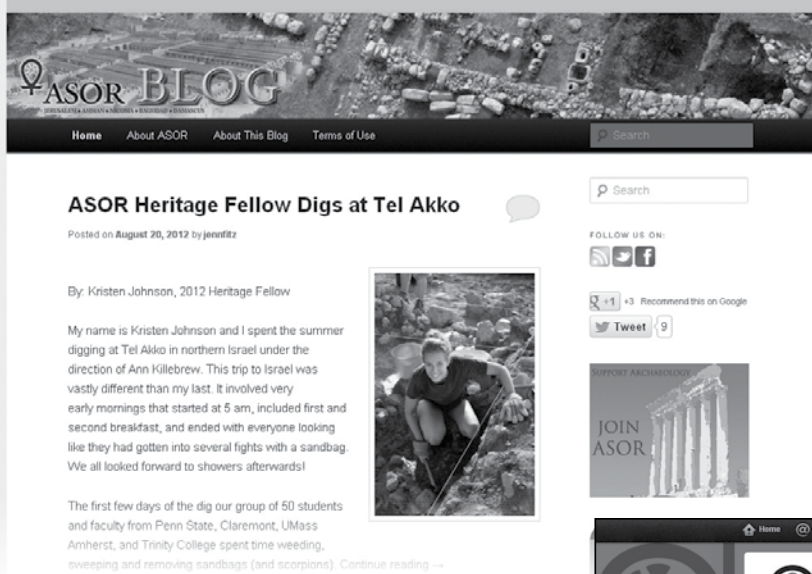
The ASOR Blog has seen a dramatic increase in traffic. We reached 1 million hits in September, and we have had over 20,000 unique visitors from more than 90 countries since March. Many of our visitors have returned time and again to read new posts. In addition to the ever-popular weekly archaeology news roundup, we have added blog posts from ASOR fellowship recipients who discuss their life-changing experiences in the field. We invite you to go online and read all of these posts under the “Scholarships”

Month will follow in October, with scholars posting on a range of heritage-issues, from the illegal antiquities trade to community outreach and collaboration. If you are interested in organizing a future themed month on the blog let us know! We’d love to hear any proposed topics or answer any questions you might have about themed months or the blog.

The ASOR Facebook Page also experienced dramatic growth! In addition to sharing archaeology news, we post important items that come to our attention (e.g., job and scholarship announcements). Our announcements about free trial access to NEA and BASOR through JSTOR were great hits, generating a large number of new “likes” for our page. As always, pictures from ASOR’s Archives have remained favorites. If you have any archaeology news, job, scholarship, grant or conference announcements, or new publications you think would be of interest to ASOR members, please share them on our Facebook page or email them to Jenn Fitzgerald at asormedia@gmail.com. If you have not done so, please like the ASOR Facebook page (www.facebook.com/asor.org).

ASOR has recently moved into another area of social media, Twitter. Twitter users can now follow us at <https://twitter.com/AmerSchOrietRes> where we will be posting links to blog articles and news items. Also, if you would like to Tweet about the upcoming Annual Meeting you can use the hashtag #asor12 and make sure to Tweet at us @AmerSchOrietRes.

So far the first eight months of the social media initiative has been a great success! In the coming months we plan to continue engaging with members and providing interesting new content on the ASOR Blog, Facebook, and now Twitter. Check back often to make sure you stay up to date on the latest news and announcements.



category, or view them by the country where they worked by clicking on the tag for each country in the sidebar.

Building on the success of the fellowship posts, this fall the ASOR Blog introduced posts from directors of CAP-affiliated field projects. The directors describe their most recent fieldwork and present overviews of their sites. We welcome additional contributions from directors of field projects. Please email asormedia@gmail.com with blog submissions or questions.


Themed months have also returned to the blog this fall. September is Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls month with posts from leading scholars about the Dead Sea Scrolls and the archaeology of Qumran. Cultural Heritage





CROWDSOURCED


Below is a photograph from the ASOR Archives that shows some men doing ... something. Even though the tools look like they are intended for a specific purpose, we couldn't figure out what they are up to. We took it to the ASOR Facebook page to see if any of our 1,800+ fans had any thoughts. Check out the discussion that ensued.





 Maya Hmeidan It looks like a group of men, probably Jordanians, preparing or roasting coffee beans !!! Not very clear, I'm curious to know ??
February 13 at 2:31pm · Like · 1

 American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) We are as curious as you are, Maya! They are most likely Jordanians, but we aren't sure what they are up to. Anyone second Maya's coffee bean theory?
February 13 at 3:02pm · Like

 Rawad J. Bou Malhab Hey Maya. I like the coffee bean theory but I think there is something different happening. The black mats around the unburnt wooden log & the luggage (centre right) suggest that these are travelers preparing to rest in this specific location and maybe light up a fire during the eve for dinner, tea and warmth.
February 13 at 3:16pm · Like · 2

 Maya Hmeidan U have a point rawad regarding the luggage and travellers... We know about the Arabs' hospitality traits especially for travellers.... The fire is already on , but the big black spoon- like things is on the wooden box, made me think of as a tool for coffee roasting.... I think there is both travellers (standing) and locals being hospitable....
February 13 at 3:37pm · Like · 1

 Rawad J. Bou Malhab yeah, after a closer look, the wooden log is partly burnt at the center. That big round spoon with a long handle is very much to roast coffee beans and welcome those standing travellers. The sitting man in the center with a standing young boy to his left might be the locals in this equation! Bravo Maya and thank you!
February 13 at 3:50pm · Like

 Reem Alshqour What I see in this picture are travelers preparing a place for gathering for later in the evening; it is not evening yet because it still sunny. The black mats around the wooden logs in the fireplace suggest that more people will come to sit. Because the preparing of the Arabic coffee (قهوة سادة Qahwah Sadaḥ) takes time, they will start to prepare it before the other people come, because that the first thing you offer people in Arabic tradition. The round long spoon is a tool for roasting the coffee; it is called AL-Mahmash المحمشة. The small spoon next to it is one of the two tools that always go together to stir the coffee evenly. The wooden tool above the wooden box is where they keep their stuff for preparing the coffee, etc. The young man is laying his hand on it. We call it مبرد القهوة - it is where they put the coffee to cool as it cannot be crushed hot . The pot next to it is for keeping the coffee beans. I hope I helped.
February 23 at 11:10am · Like · 2



The information from Maya, Rawad, and Reem will be added to our photo database. Want to join the discussion, receive updates on what's new in archaeology, and hear what's happening at ASOR? "Like" the American Schools of Oriental Research on Facebook.

ASOR OUTREACH COMMITTEE HONORED WITH PARTNERSHIP IN CONSERVATION AWARD

Ellen D. Bedell

ASOR Outreach Committee (Former Chair)

Project Archaeology, a program developed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and currently affiliated with Montana State University, won a Secretary of the Interior's Partnership in Conservation Award in 2011. ASOR recently received a certificate signed by Ken Salazar, the Secretary of the Interior, recognizing the ASOR Outreach Committee as a partner in this award.

ASOR's Annual Meetings. One of our most successful workshops was held at Harvard's Semitic Museum in 2008. I have posted a picture of teachers, working on Project Archaeology lessons, at this ASOR sponsored workshop. Next November, the ASOR Outreach Committee will hold another ASOR affiliated teachers' workshop at the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute. At these workshops, we use lesson plans developed by ASOR members and Project Archaeology lessons to teach basic concepts in archaeology and archaeological ethics. Teachers, who are not usually trained in archaeology, take these important lessons back to their classrooms to inspire their students. The



Stefanie Elkins and Ellen Bedell teach a lesson in a 2008 workshop for teachers working on Project Archaeology lessons at Harvard's Semitic Museum

Project Archaeology, a program developed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and currently affiliated with Montana State University, won a Secretary of the Interior's Partnership in Conservation Award in 2011. ASOR recently received a certificate signed by Ken Salazar, the Secretary of the Interior, recognizing the ASOR Outreach Committee as a partner in this award.

Members of the ASOR Outreach Committee, currently headed by Stefanie Elkins and Neal Bierling, have used Project Archaeology materials in teachers' workshops held during

BLM lessons were designed specifically to encourage teachers and their students to appreciate and protect our cultural heritage.

ASOR's sponsorship of teachers' workshops enables Project Archaeology to distribute materials and provide professional development to educators and their students throughout the nation. This is very important community engagement. On behalf of the Outreach Committee, I would like to congratulate ASOR for the organizations continued commitment to archaeology education at all levels. ❁

THE AMERICAN CENTER OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH (AMMAN) ANNOUNCEMENT OF FELLOWSHIPS 2013-2014

Deadline for all applications is February 1, 2013

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Fellowship:

One to two awards of four to six months for scholars who have a Ph.D. or have completed their professional training. Fields of research include: modern and classical languages, linguistics, literature, history, jurisprudence, philosophy, archaeology, comparative religion, ethics, and the history, criticism, and theory of the arts. Social and political scientists are encouraged to apply. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or foreign nationals living in the U.S. three years immediately preceding the application deadline. The award for six months is \$25,200. Awards must be used between May 15, 2013 and December 31, 2014.

ACOR-CAORC Post-Graduate Fellowship:

Two or more two- to six-month fellowships for post-doctoral scholars and scholars with a terminal degree in their field, pursuing research or publication projects in the natural and social sciences, humanities, and associated disciplines relating to the Near East. U.S. citizenship required. Maximum award is \$31,800. Awards must be used between May 15, 2013 and December 31, 2014.

ACOR-CAORC Fellowship:

Two or more two- to six-month fellowships for masters and doctoral students. Fields of study include all areas of the humanities and the natural and social sciences. Topics should contribute to scholarship in Near Eastern studies. U.S. citizenship required. Maximum award is \$22,600. Awards must be used between May 15, 2013 and December 31, 2014.

ACOR Publication Fellowship:

One award of three to four months for senior scholars or advanced graduate students pursuing a publication project in the fields of Jordanian archaeology, anthropology, cultural resource management, or history with the goal of completing a final publication. Open to all nationalities. Maximum award of \$19,000 includes residency at ACOR in Amman. The award will be prorated accordingly if ACOR residency or international travel is not required. This research must be undertaken in Jordan. The award is subject to funding and it must be used between May 15, 2013 and December 31, 2014.

Jennifer C. Groot Fellowship:

Two or more awards of \$1,800 each to support beginners in archaeological fieldwork who have been accepted as team members on archaeological projects with ASOR/CAP affiliation in Jordan. Open to undergraduate or graduate students of U.S. or Canadian citizenship.

Bert and Sally de Vries Fellowship:

One award of \$1,200 to support a student for participation on an archaeological project or research in Jordan. Senior project staff members whose expenses are being borne largely by the project are ineligible. Open to enrolled undergraduate or graduate students of any nationality except Jordanian.

Harrell Family Fellowship:

One award of \$1,800 to support a graduate student for participation on an archaeological project or research in Jordan. Senior project staff members whose expenses are being borne largely by the project are ineligible. Open to enrolled graduate students of any nationality except Jordanian.

Pierre and Patricia Bikai Fellowship:

Two awards for one month each or one two-month award for residency at ACOR in Amman. It is open to enrolled graduate students of any nationality except Jordanian participating in an archaeological project or conducting archaeological work in Jordan. The fellowship includes room and board at ACOR and a monthly stipend of \$600.

MacDonald/Sampson Fellowship:

One award for either six weeks residency at ACOR for research in the fields of Ancient Near Eastern languages and history, archaeology, Bible studies, or comparative religion, or a travel grant to assist with participation in an archaeological field project in Jordan. The ACOR residency fellowship option includes room and board at ACOR and a stipend of \$600. The travel grant option provides a single payment of \$1,800 to help with any project related expenses. Both options are open to enrolled undergraduate or graduate students of Canadian citizenship or landed immigrant status.

James A. Sauer Fellowship:

One award for one month residency at ACOR. It is open to enrolled graduate students of U.S. or Canadian citizenship participating on an archaeological project or research in Jordan. The fellowship includes room and board at ACOR and a stipend of \$400.

Kenneth W. Russell Fellowship:

One award of \$1,800 to support a graduate student for participation in an ACOR-approved archaeological research project, which has passed an academic review process. Senior project staff members whose expenses are being borne largely by the project are ineligible. For this cycle the competition is closed to Jordanian students, but open to enrolled graduate students of all other nationalities.

THE AMERICAN CENTER OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH (AMMAN) ANNOUNCEMENT OF FELLOWSHIPS 2013-2014

Kenneth W. Russell Annual Tawjihi Prize:

Annual prizes for the male and female students from Umm Sayhoun (Petra Region) who achieve the highest score on the yearly Tawjihi examination. The award for each student is 200 Jordanian Dinars (\$280)..

Frederick-Wenger Jordanian Educational Fellowship:

One award of \$1,500 to assist a Jordanian student with the cost of their education. Eligibility is not limited to a specific field of study, but preference will be given to study related to Jordan's cultural heritage. Candidates must be Jordanian citizens and currently enrolled as undergraduate or graduate students in a Jordanian university.

ACOR Jordanian Graduate Student Scholarship:

Four awards of \$3,000 each to assist Jordanian graduate students with the annual costs of their academic programs. Candidates must be Jordanian citizens and currently enrolled in either a Master's or Doctoral program in a Jordanian university. Eligibility is limited to students in programs related to Jordan's cultural heritage (for example: archaeology, anthropology, history, linguistics/epigraphy, conservation, museum studies, and cultural resource management related issues). Awardees who demonstrate excellent progress in their programs will be eligible to apply in consecutive years.

ACOR Jordanian Travel Scholarship for ASOR Annual Meeting:

Two travel scholarships of \$3,500 each to assist Jordanians participating and delivering a paper at the ASOR Annual meeting in mid-November in the United States. Academic papers should be submitted through the ASOR's website (www.asor.org/am) by February 1, 2013. Final award selection will be determined by the ASOR program committee.

PLEASE NOTE: NEH, CAORC, MACDONALD/SAMPSON (RESIDENCY OPTION), SAUER, AND BIKAI FELLOWS WILL RESIDE AT THE ACOR FACILITY IN AMMAN WHILE CONDUCTING THEIR RESEARCH.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

ACOR 656 Beacon Street, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02215

TEL.: 617-353-6571; *Fax:* 617-353-6575;

EMAIL: *acor@bu.edu* or

MAIL:

ACOR P.O. Box 2470, Amman 11181, Jordan

(Fax: 011-9626-534-4181); Email: acor@acorjordan.org

WEBSITES:

<http://www.acorjordan.org> and <http://www.bu.edu/acor>

ALSO NOTE: Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) Multi-Country Research Fellowships:

The program is open to U.S. doctoral candidates and scholars who have already earned their Ph.D. in fields in the humanities, social sciences, or allied natural sciences and wish to conduct research of regional or trans-regional significance. Fellowships require scholars to conduct research in more than one country, at least one of which hosts a participating American overseas research center. It is anticipated that approximately ten fellowships of up to \$9,000 each will be awarded. Applications will be available in early October.

Deadline: January 15, 2013

For more information and to download the application form:

www.caorc.org/programs/

EMAIL: *fellowships@caorc.org,*

TEL.: *202-633-1599,*

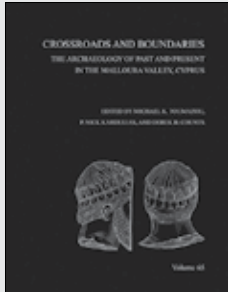
MAIL:

Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC)

PO Box 37012, MRC 178

Washington, DC 20013-7012





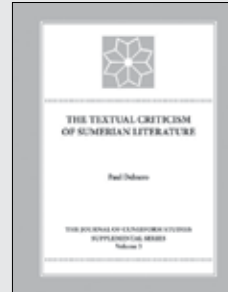
Crossroads and Boundaries
The Archaeology of Past and Present
in the Malloura Valley, Cyprus

edited by Michael K. Toumazou, P. Nick Kardulias
and Derek B. Counts

Since 1990, the Athienou Archaeological Project has investigated the Malloura valley on the edge of the central Mesaoria plain near the modern town of Athienou, Cyprus. This research has focused on how successive rural populations have

adapted to local environmental changes and shifting political tides in the region, and how this adaptation is reflected in the archaeological, historical, and ethnographic record.

400p, color illus throughout (April 2012, *Annual of ASOR* 65) hardcover, 9780897570862, \$89.95



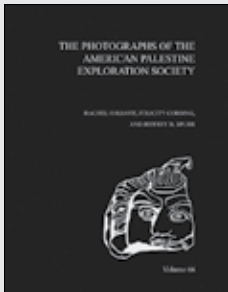
**The Textual Criticism
of Sumerian Literature**

by Paul Delnero

Drawing from a detailed analysis of the different types of textual variants that occur in the numerous duplicates of a group of ten compositions known collectively as the Decad, this

book aims to provide a much needed critical methodology for interpreting textual variation in the Sumerian literary corpus.

230p (September 2012, *Journal of Cuneiform Studies Supplement Series* 3) hardcover, 9780897570886, \$89.95



**The Photographs of the American
Palestine Exploration Society**

by Rachel Hallote, Felicity Cobbing,
and Jeffrey A. Spurr

This volume includes over 150 never previously published photographs of archaeological sites in the Middle East (Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and Israel), taken in 1875 by photogra-

pher Tancred Dumas for the American Palestine Exploration Society.

The volume additionally tells the complete history of the American Palestine Exploration Society, which functioned in the 1870s and worked together with the British Palestine Exploration Fund to survey and map archaeological sites in Ottoman Palestine. These photographs preserve the appearance of many of these sites when they were first seen by westerners, before urban development and tourism changed the nature of the regions. Photographs include the ruins of Baalbek, Jerash, parts of Jerusalem, and numerous other sites.

368p, 15 b/w figs, 180 b/w pls (September 2012, *Annual of ASOR* 66) hardcover, 9780897570985, \$89.95

**The Roman Marble Sculptures from the Sanctuary of Pan
at Caesarea Philippi/Panias (Israel)**

by Elise A. Friedland

This constitutes the first publication of a deposit of broken marble statues discovered in 1992 during excavations of the Roman Sanctuary of Pan at Caesarea Philippi (Baniyas, Israel). From 245 fragments, 29 statues ranging from colossal to miniature and representing Graeco-Roman deities and mythological figures are reconstructed.

ca. 250p, 95 b/w illus (November 2012, *Archaeological Reports* 17) hardcover, 9780897570879, \$89.95

The Ayl to Ras an-Naqab Archaeological Survey, Southern Jordan 2005–2007

by Burton MacDonald, Larry G. Herr, D. Scott Quaintance, Geoffrey A. Clark,
and Michael C. A. Macdonald

The main goal of the project was to discover, record, and interpret archaeological sites within the survey territory, which resulted in a statistically valid sample of the archaeological materials of the area. In addition, team members recorded 389 archaeological sites encountered within, adjacent to, or on their way to-from the squares.

2 vols, 552p, with DVD, 74 b/w figs, illus throughout, 24 tpls (October 2012, *Archaeological Reports* 16) hardcover, 9780897570855, \$149.95

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W.F. ALBRIGHT INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH, JERUSALEM 2013-2014 FELLOWSHIPS IN NEAR EASTERN STUDIES



Fellowships are open to students and scholars in Near Eastern studies from prehistory through the early Islamic period, including the fields of archaeology, anthropology, art history, Bible, epigraphy, historical geography, history, language, literature, philology and religion and related disciplines. The research period should be continuous, without frequent trips outside the country. Residence at the Albright is required (except for the Frerichs Fellow and Program Coordinator). The option to accommodate dependents is subject to space available at the Albright.



www.aiar.org

Seymour Gitin Distinguished Professorship:

\$45,000 award for 9 months or \$22,500 for 4.5 months. Open to internationally recognized senior scholars of all nationalities who have made significant contributions to their field of study. Deadline: October 1, 2012.

Annual Professorship:

\$15,000 award for 4.5 months. Open to post-doctoral scholars, who are US citizens. Deadline: October 1, 2012.

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Fellowships:

\$100,800 available for up to 5 awards: \$37,800 for 9 months and \$18,900 for 4.5 months. Open to post-doctoral scholars who are U.S. citizens (or alien residents for at least three years). Deadline: October 1, 2012.

Ernest S. Frerichs Fellow and Program Coordinator:

\$11,500 for 9 months. Open to doctoral students and post-doctoral scholars. Recipient is expected to assist the Albright's Director in planning and implementing the Ernest S. Frerichs Program for Albright Fellows, which requires a working knowledge of living and traveling in Israel and includes leading an annual trip abroad. Deadline: October 1, 2012.

Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellowships (ECA):

- Junior Research Fellowships: \$48,000 for up to four awards from 4.5-9 months. Open to doctoral students and recent Ph.D. recipients who are U.S. citizens. Deadline: October 1, 2012.
- Associate Fellowships: 13 administrative fee awards for senior and junior fellows (for one or two semesters). No deadline.

Noble Group Fellowships for Chinese Students and Scholars:

\$75,000 for three awards of \$25,000 each for 9 months. Open to Chinese citizens who are doctoral students or post-doctoral scholars, and are doing research in China or at institutions in other countries. Deadline: January 15, 2013.

Glassman Holland Research Fellowship:

\$12,000 for 3 months. Open to all European post-doctoral researchers who are permanently resident in Europe. Deadline: January 15, 2013.

George A. Barton Fellowship:

\$5,000 for 2 months. Open to all doctoral students and recent Ph.D. recipients. Deadline: October 1, 2012.

Carol and Eric Meyers Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship:

\$5,000 for 2 months. Eligibility is for doctoral students whose research involves the study of archaeology and society in the biblical or early post-biblical periods. Topics dealing with society at the household level are encouraged. Deadline: October 1, 2012.

W.F. Albright Associate Fellowships:

No stipend. Open to senior, post-doctoral, and doctoral researchers. Administrative fee required. No deadline.

Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) Multi-Country Research Fellowships:

The program is open to U.S. doctoral and post-doctoral scholars in the humanities, social sciences, or allied natural sciences and who wish to conduct research of regional or trans-regional significance. Fellowships require scholars to conduct research in more than one country, at least one of which hosts a participating American overseas research center. Approximately nine fellowships of up to \$12,000 each will be awarded in the doctoral candidate/post-doctoral scholar competition. For more information: www.caorc.org, fellowships@caorc.org, 202-633-1599. Deadline: January, 2013.

ACLS Recent Doctoral Recipients Fellowships:

\$35,000 for 10 months. Eligibility is limited to awardees and alternates of the Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships the prior year. For application and more information: <http://www.acls.org> Deadline: November 2012.

ALL AWARDS ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS..

FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

*Dr. Joan R. Branham Chair, AIAR Fellowships
Department of Art and Art History
Providence College
Providence, RI 02918
Tel: 401-865-1789 Fax: 401-865-2410*

EMAIL: jbranham@providence.edu

Or visit the Albright's website at: www.aiar.org

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Program-at-a-Glance

WEDNESDAY • November 14, 2012

EVENING SESSION 7:00pm-8:15pm	A1	Plenary Address	Chicago Ballroom D&E
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THURSDAY • November 15, 2012

MORNING SESSIONS 8:20am-10:25am	A2	Secondary Context: Considering Theory and Method for the Study of Objects of No Known Origin (Workshop)	Chicago Ballroom D
	A3	Archaeology of Anatolia I	Chicago Ballroom E
	A4	Archaeology of Cyprus I	Chicago Ballroom A&B
	A5	Dress in the Ancient and Classical Near East	Denver/Houston/KC
	A6	Myth, History, and Archaeology	Chicago Ballroom H
	A7	Reports on Current Excavations, Non-ASOR Affiliated	LA/Miami/Scottsdale
	A8	Ancient Inscriptions I	Chicago Ballroom F&G
	A9	Khirbet Qeiyafa: The Sanctuaries and Early Judean Art and Cult	Chicago Ballroom C

MID-MORNING SESSIONS 10:40am-12:45pm	A10	Archaeology in Context: History, Politics, Community, Identity	Chicago Ballroom H
	A11	Archaeology of Israel I	Chicago Ballroom A&B
	A12	Archaeology of the Byzantine Near East	Denver/Houston/KC
	A13	Archaeology of the Natural Environment: Archaeobotany and Zooarchaeology in the Near East I	Chicago Ballroom C
	A14	Hebrew Bible, History, and Archaeology	Chicago Ballroom E
	A15	Stepping Outside the 'Palace': Alternative Approaches to Ancient Power Dynamics	Chicago Ballroom F&G
	A16	Landscapes of Settlement in the Ancient Near East	Chicago Ballroom D
A17	Current Research at Kültepe/Kanesh (Workshop)	LA/Miami/Scottsdale	

12:45pm-2:00pm

Junior Scholar's Luncheon

Water Tower

AFTERNOON SESSIONS 2:00pm-4:05pm	A18	Archaeology and Biblical Studies	Chicago Ballroom D
	A19	Archaeology of Islamic Society I	Chicago Ballroom C
	A20	Endeavors, Encounters, and Challenges: Research Jerusalem	Chicago Ballroom E
	A21	Archaeology of the Southern Levant I	Chicago Ballroom H
	A22	Art Historical Approaches to the Near East I	Chicago Ballroom A&B
	A23	Reports on Current Excavations and Surveys, ASOR-Affiliated	LA/Miami/Scottsdale
	A24	Theoretical and Anthropological Approaches to the Near East I	Chicago Ballroom F&G
	A25	Imperial Peripheries: Archaeology, History, and Society on the Edge of the Neo-Assyrian Empire	Denver/Houston/KC

LATE AFTERNOON SESSIONS 4:20pm-6:25pm	A26	Archaeology of Jordan I: Nabataean through Byzantine Periods	Chicago Ballroom A&B
	A27	Archaeology of Mesopotamia I	Chicago Ballroom E
	A28	Archaeology of Southern Arabia and Her Neighbors I	Chicago Ballroom F&G
	A29	Beth-Shemesh between the Bronze and Iron Ages: New Discoveries, New Thoughts	Chicago Ballroom C
	A30	The World of the Philistines in the Iron Age Context	LA/Miami/Scottsdale
	A31	Women in Near Eastern Archaeology: An Open Forum	Denver/Houston/KC
	A32	Individual Submissions I	Chicago Ballroom H
A33	The City of David Excavations Revisited: In Memory of Yigal Shiloh (1937-1987)	Chicago Ballroom D	

FRIDAY • November 16, 2012

MORNING SESSIONS 8:20am-10:25am	A34	Ancient Inscriptions II	Chicago Ballroom F&G
	A35	Archaeological Processes and Phenomena in Natural (Karstic) Caves in Israel	LA/Miami/Scottsdale
	A36	Archaeology of Anatolia II	Chicago Ballroom D
	A37	Archaeology of Cyprus II	Chicago Ballroom E

MORNING SESSIONS (Continued) 8:20am-10:25am	A38	Archaeology of the Southern Levant II	Chicago Ballroom H
	A39	Basileus, Sebastos, Shah: Archaeologies of Empire and Regional Interactions in the Hellenistic and Roman Near East	Denver/Houston/KC
	A40	Community-Based Practice and Collaboration in Near Eastern Archaeology	Chicago Ballroom C
	A41	Technology in Archaeology	Chicago Ballroom A&B
MID-MORNING SESSIONS 10:40am-12:45pm	A42	Archaeology of Gender	Chicago Ballroom C
	A43	Archaeology of Islamic Society II	Denver/Houston/KC
	A44	Archaeology of Israel II	Chicago Ballroom D
	A45	Archaeology of Mesopotamia II	Chicago Ballroom E
	A46	Archaeology of the Near East: The Classical Periods	LA/Miami/Scottsdale
	A47	Khirbet Wadi Hamam: A Roman-Period Galilean Village	Chicago Ballroom H
	A48	Religions in Bronze and Iron Age Syria-Palestine	Chicago Ballroom A&B
AFTERNOON SESSIONS 2:00pm-4:05pm	A49	Theoretical and Anthropological Approaches to the Near East II	Chicago Ballroom F&G
	A50	The Archaeology of Iran I	Chicago Ballroom A&B
	A51	Archaeology of Jordan II: Bronze and Iron Ages	Chicago Ballroom E
	A52	Bioarchaeology in the Near East	Chicago Ballroom C
	A53	Cultural Heritage Management: Methods, Practices, and Case Studies	Chicago Ballroom D
	A54	Political Landscapes of Bronze Age Syro-Mesopotamia	Denver/Houston/KC
	A55	Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls	LA/Miami/Scottsdale
LATE AFTERNOON SESSIONS 4:20pm-6:25pm	A56	Theoretical and Anthropological Approaches to the Near East III	Chicago Ballroom F&G
	A57	Archaeological Conservation Strategies in the Near East (Workshop)	Denver/Houston/KC
	A58	Archaeology of Southern Arabia and Her Neighbors II	Chicago Ballroom A&B
	A59	Archaeology of the Near East: Bronze and Iron Ages I	Chicago Ballroom D
	A60	City of Gold: Archaeological Excavations at Polis Chrysochous, Cyprus	Chicago Ballroom F&G
	A61	Prehistoric Archaeology	Chicago Ballroom E
	A62	Parthia and the West	LA/Miami/Scottsdale
A63	Organic Residue Analysis in Archaeology	Chicago Ballroom C	
6:30pm-7:00pm	Aviram Prize Paper		Chicago Ballroom H

SATURDAY • November 17, 2012

MORNING SESSIONS 8:20am-10:25am	A64	Maritime Archaeology	Chicago Ballroom E
	A65	Archaeology of the Natural Environment: Archaeobotany and Zooarchaeology in the Near East II	LA/Miami/Scottsdale
	A66	GIS and Remote Sensing in Archaeology	Chicago Ballroom A&B
	A67	History of Archaeology	Chicago Ballroom F&G
	A68	Imperial Entanglements: Surveys and Excavations at Oğlanqala, Azerbaijan	Chicago Ballroom C
	A69	Archaeology of Anatolia III	Chicago Ballroom D
	A70	The German Contribution to the Archaeology of the Southern Levant	Denver/Houston/KC
MID-MORNING SESSIONS 10:40am-12:45pm	A71	Mesopotamian Civilization: New Directions in Iraqi Archaeology I	Chicago Ballroom E
	A72	Archaeology of the Near East: Bronze and Iron Ages II	Chicago Ballroom A&B
	A73	Collecting and Displaying Ancient Near Eastern Materials in the Museum: Past, Present, Future	Chicago Ballroom D
	A74	Between Land and Sea – The Archaeology of Coastal Landscapes	Denver/Houston/KC
	A75	Innovations in Integrative Research Using the Online Cultural and Historical Research Environment (OCHRE)	LA/Miami/Scottsdale
	A76	Archaeology of Lebanon	Chicago Ballroom F&G
	A77	Joint Archaeological Expedition to Tell el-Hesi: Regional Overview	Chicago Ballroom C
AFTERNOON SESSIONS 2:00pm-4:05pm	A78	The Archaeology of Iran II	Denver/Houston/KC
	A79	Archaeology of Syria	Chicago Ballroom A&B
	A80	Current Issues in Biblical Archaeology	Chicago Ballroom D
	A81	Mesopotamian Civilization: New Directions in Iraqi Archaeology II	Chicago Ballroom E
	A82	The Archaeology of Immigration in the Ancient Near East	Chicago Ballroom C
	A83	Topics in Cyberinfrastructure, Digital Humanities, and Near Eastern Archaeology I (Workshop)	LA/Miami/Scottsdale
	A84	Archaeology of Egypt	Chicago Ballroom F&G
LATE AFTERNOON SESSIONS 4:20pm-6:25pm	A85	Individual Submissions II	Chicago Ballroom C
	A86	Archaeology of Jordan III: Iron Age Art Historical Approaches to the Near East II	Chicago Ballroom D
	A87	Art Historical Approaches to the Near East II	Chicago Ballroom E
	A88	Islamic Frontiers and Borders in the Near East and Mediterranean	Chicago Ballroom A&B
	A89	Topics in Cyberinfrastructure, Digital Humanities, and Near Eastern Archaeology II	LA/Miami/Scottsdale
	A90	The Archaeology of Meals and the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament in Its World	Denver/Houston/KC

Business Meetings, Receptions, and Events



WEDNESDAY • November 14, 2012

1:00-4:00pm	Madaba Plains Project—Umayri Workshop, Douglas R. Clark and Kent V. Bramlett, Presiding	Denver
1:30-2:45pm	Administrative Oversight Committee, Timothy P. Harrison, Presiding	Houston/Kansas City
3:00-5:15pm	Chairs Coordinating Council, Sharon Herbert, Presiding	Los Angeles/Miami
5:00-5:30pm	New Member Orientation	Kansas City
5:30-6:00pm	New Attendee Orientation	Kansas City
7:00-8:15pm	Welcome to the Annual Meeting and Plenary Address	Chicago Ballroom
8:15-10:00pm	Welcome Reception	Chicago Ballroom

THURSDAY • November 15, 2012

7:00-8:15am	Bulletin of ASOR (BASOR) Editorial Board, James Weinstein, Presiding	Navy Pier
7:00-8:15am	Consultation of Dig Directors in Jordan, Bethany Walker, Presiding	Northwestern/Ohio
7:00-8:15am	TAARII Breakfast	Water Tower
8:30-9:00am	ASOR Membership Committee, Theodore Burgh, Presiding	Huron
9:00-9:45am	ASOR Membership Committee with Institutional Members, Theodore Burgh, Presiding	Huron
12:45-2:00pm	Madaba Plains Project Staff Consultation, Oystein S. LaBianca, Presiding	Navy Pier
12:45-2:00pm	Junior Scholars Panel Discussion, Robert Darby and Erin Darby, Presiding	Water Tower
12:45-2:00pm	ASOR Damascus Committee, Jesse J. Casana, Presiding	Huron
12:45-2:00pm	ASOR Outreach Committee, Stefanie Elkins, Presiding	Lincolnshire, 6th Fl.
1:00-2:00pm	ASOR Media Relations Committee, Robert Cargill, Presiding	Printers Row
1:00-2:00pm	ASOR Honors and Awards Committee, TBA, Presiding	O'Hare
5:30-7:30pm	AIAR Development Committee Meeting, Lydie Shufro, Presiding	Huron
7:15-7:45pm	Saudi Arabia Committee, David Graf, Presiding	Navy Pier
8:00-11:00pm	ASOR Committee on Archaeological Research and Policy (CAP), Oystein S. LaBianca, Presiding	O'Hare

FRIDAY • November 16, 2012

7:00-8:15am	ASOR Members Meeting, Theodore Burgh, Presiding	Chicago Ballroom
8:30-11:00am	AIAR Fellowship Committee, Joan Branham, Presiding	Huron

8:30-10:00am	ASOR Committee on Publications (COP), Charles Jones, Presiding	Navy Pier
11:00-1:00pm	AIAR Executive Committee, J.P. Dessel, Presiding	Huron
1:00-1:30pm	AIAR Trustees Luncheon, J.P. Dessel, Presiding	Avenue Ballroom
12:45-2:00pm	ASOR Program Committee, Elise A. Friedland and Andrew M. Smith II, Presiding	Great America, 6th Fl
12:45-2:00pm	Madaba Plains Project Reception, Lawrence Geraty, Presiding	Water Tower
12:45-2:00pm	ASOR Baghdad Committee, Marian Feldman, Presiding	Navy Pier
12:45-2:00pm	Tel Gezer Excavation Consortium and Staff Consultation, Steve Ortiz and Sam Wolff,	O'Hare
1:00-1:45pm	Regional Affiliations Committee, Suzanne Richard, Presiding	Huron
1:30-5:00pm	AIAR Board of Trustees, Sidnie White Crawford, Presiding	Houston
2:00-3:00pm	ASOR Lecture Committee, Jacob Wright, Presiding	Huron
2:00-4:00pm	CAARI Executive Committee, Raymond Ewing, Presiding	Navy Pier
2:00-4:00pm	Development Committee Meeting, Robert A. Oden, Jr., Presiding	ASOR Suite
5:15-6:45pm	AIAR NEH Committee Meeting, Joan Branham, Presiding	Huron
5:30-6:30pm	Initiative on Status of Women in ASOR, Beth Alpert Nakhai, Presiding	O'Hare
6:30-7:30pm	CAARI Reception	Fifth Floor Foyer

SATURDAY • November 17, 2012

7:00-8:15am	Session Chair Breakfast	Northwestern/Ohio
8:15-9:45am	ASOR Finance Committee, Sheldon Fox, Presiding	ASOR Suite
8:15-9:45am	ACOR Executive Committee Meeting, Randolph B. Old, Presiding	Avenue Ballroom
9:00-5:00pm	CAARI Board of Trustee Meeting, Raymond Ewing, Presiding	Water Tower
10:00-12:30pm	ASOR Executive Committee Meeting, P.E. MacAllister, Presiding	ASOR Suite
9:45-1:45pm	ACOR Board of Trustees Meeting, Randolph B. Old, Presiding	Avenue Ballroom
12:45-2:00pm	Projects on Parade Poster Session, Morag M. Kersel, Presiding	Fifth Floor Foyer
2:00-3:00pm	ASOR Campaign Cabinet Meeting, Robert A. Oden, Jr., Presiding	ASOR Suite
2:00-4:00pm	ASOR Canada, Debra Foran, Presiding	Streetville, 2nd Fl
3:00-5:00pm	Tell el Hesi Board & Publications Committee, Jeffrey A. Blakely, Presiding	Old Town, 2nd Fl
3:15 – 4:30pm	Optional ASOR Trustee Discussion Session: Committee Reports, Timothy P. Harrison and Andrew G. Vaughn, Presiding	ASOR Suite
5:30 – 8:30pm	Orientation and Dinner for New and Recent Trustees, Andrew G. Vaughn, Presiding	ASOR Suite

SUNDAY • November 18, 2012

8:00am-12:00pm	ASOR Board of Trustees Meeting, P.E. MacAllister, Presiding	Avenue Ballroom
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ASOR ARCHIVES

The ASOR archive houses materials documenting over a century's worth of ASOR's contributions to archaeology.

Collections include:

- William F. Albright Papers
- Nelson Glueck Papers
- Carl Kraeling Papers
- Ernest Wright Papers
- Tell el-Kheleifeh Excavation Records
- Jerash Excavation Records
- Shechem Excavation Records
- Beth Zur Excavation Records
- Historic Photograph Collections

The archive has been funded in part by a 27-month grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. We are presently seeking funding to continue giving these important collections the attention they deserve.

Contact the archivist at asorarch@bu.edu to make a research appointment, submit a reference request, or donate to the archive.



**VISIT THE ARCHIVES ONLINE AT
WWW.ASOR.ORG/ARCHIVES**



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2012 ASOR ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION

NOVEMBER 14-17 • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
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Spouse/Partner **	\$150	\$175

Notes: Paper presenters must be registered as a professional or student member. Scholarships may be available for retired and student members. Please email Kelley Herlihy at asormtgs@bu.edu.

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Refund policy: All refunds must be requested in writing by November 9, 2012. A \$35 administrative fee will be assessed per registration. No refunds will be given on the student or spouse/partner fees. Refunds may be processed after the meeting and will be issued by February 10, 2013.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM UPDATES FOR THE 2013 ANNUAL MEETING

For the 2013 Annual Meeting, our Academic Program will incorporate four venues for presenting your research and new discoveries: “ASOR Sessions,” “Member-Organized Sessions,” “Workshops,” and “Projects on Parade Poster Session.”

1. ASOR Sessions: Sessions that are long-standing ASOR-mainstays sponsored by the Program Committee (with existing chairs continuing to provide invaluable expertise and organization) to assure that the Academic Program for each Annual Meeting includes venues for the presentation of new research in the broad temporal, regional, and disciplinary areas represented in the ASOR membership (see list of “ASOR Sessions” below).

2. Member-Organized Sessions: These sessions may be proposed by ASOR Members who wish to explore a special topic or theme at the Annual Meeting for a term of one to three years.

3. Workshop Sessions: Workshops are interactive sessions organized around a tightly focused topic or theme or around an archaeological site; in these, oral presentations and/or demonstrations are kept to a minimum in favor of open discussion between prospective session chairs, presenters, and members of the audience.

4. Projects on Parade Poster Session: The Poster Session offers an informal venue for ASOR members to “get the word out” about their research and is designed to provide student and junior members an opportunity for greater involvement in the program of the ASOR Annual Meeting.

We encourage all members to contribute to the 2013 Annual Meeting’s Academic Program and welcome new Member-Organized Session proposals, new Workshop Session proposals, and paper proposals. Please keep in mind the following deadlines:

December 15, 2012: New Member-Organized Session proposals and new Workshop Session proposals due

February 15, 2013: Abstract/participation forms from those wishing to present papers at ASOR due

April 15, 2013: ASOR office emails official acceptance/rejection notice to presenters

August 15, 2013: Proposals for Projects on Parade Poster Session due

ASOR Sessions

- Ancient Inscriptions
- Archaeology and Biblical Studies
- Archaeology of Anatolia
- Archaeology of the Byzantine Near East
- Archaeology of Cyprus
- Archaeology of Egypt
- Archaeology of Eurasia and the Black Sea
- Archaeology of Gender
- Archaeology of Iran
- Archaeology of Islamic Society
- Archaeology of Israel
- Archaeology of Jordan
- Archaeology of Lebanon
- Archaeology of Mesopotamia
- Archaeology of the Natural Environment: Archaeobotany and Zooarchaeology in the Near East
- Archaeology of the Near East: Bronze and Iron Ages
- Archaeology of the Near East : The Classical Periods
- Archaeology of Southern Arabia and Her Neighbors
- Archaeology of the Southern Levant
- Archaeology of Syria
- Art Historical Approaches to the Near East

- Bioarchaeology in the Near East
- Cultural Heritage Management: Methods, Practices, and Case Studies
- GIS and Remote Sensing in Archaeology
- History of Archaeology
- Individual Submissions
- Maritime Archaeology
- Myth, History, and Archaeology
- Prehistoric Archaeology
- Reports On Current Excavations—ASOR Affiliated
- Reports On Current Excavations—Non-ASOR Affiliated
- Technology in Archaeology
- Theoretical and Anthropological Approaches to the Near East

Pre-approved “Member-Organized Sessions” for 2012 Annual Meeting

- Archaeology in Context: History, Politics, Community, Identity
- Archaeology of Ritual and Religion
- Basileus, Sebastos, Shah: Archaeologies of Empire and Regional Interactions in the Hellenistic and Roman Near East
- City of Gold: Archaeological Excavations at Polis Chrysochous, Cyprus

- Collecting and Displaying Near Eastern Art and Archaeology in the Museum
- Imperial Peripheries: Archaeology, History, and Society on the Edge of the Neo-Assyrian Empire
- Islamic Frontiers and Borders in the Near East and Mediterranean
- Joint Archaeological Expedition to Tel el-Hesi Regional Overview
- Landscapes of Settlement in the Ancient Near East
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James Heilpern, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

This was my second season excavating at Huqoq, and first as assistant square supervisor. I was lucky enough to be assigned to my old area - "The Pit" as we lovingly called it last season - where after weeks of digging through layers of modern trash we were



shocked to come down on the eastern wall of the ancient synagogue during the last three days of excavation.

As it turns out, the wall was just the beginning of Huqoq's surprises. The slow trickle of tesserae squares (tiny cubes used in ancient mosaics) that began to pop up in the sift near the end of last season turned into a deluge by the end of the first week of

the 2012 excavations. By the end of week two, we were digging up plaster chunks with tesserae squares still attached, causing us to fear that whatever masterpiece may have once adorned the floor had long since been destroyed. Then, during week three, just when we were starting to lose hope, that beautiful face with her haunting eyes appeared in the dust. Words simply cannot do it justice, so I've attached a picture instead.



*Huqoq mosaic with female face and inscription.
Photo by Jim Haberman*

The area was all but shut down for the rest of the season as the conservationists painstakingly revealed the rest of the square's mosaic. Soon we had not one, but two faces, each flanking a side of an Aramaic or Hebrew inscription possibly alluding to a passage in Ecclesiastes. Soon Samson and his infamous foxes entered the fray, as well right at the edge of the square's southern balk.

We will have to wait until next season to discover what other treasures Huqoq may contain in adjacent squares. More biblical scenes? A zodiac cycle? Helios? One way or the other, this discovery will likely force us to reconsider the traditional

synagogue typology. The size of the ashlar used in the walls and the other architectural fragments discovered at the site suggested initially that this building was a "Galilean-type synagogue" . . . but no such building has ever been discovered with a mosaic floor - until now. Perhaps . . . perhaps . . . the typology is wrong. Only time will tell.

Amanda Hopkins, Wesley Theological Seminary

Excavators focused their efforts exclusively on clarifying the nature and function of a large rock-cut feature previously identified as a wine cellar and part of the 'Umayri Survey Site 84.15 (I.15). Site 84 was initially surveyed in 1989 when surveyors discovered cisterns, terraced walls, grape pressing in-



stallations with cup holes, quarrying marks and water reservoirs. The primary purpose of Site 84 was to produce wine. Surveyors also documented a rectilinear structure that originated in the Late Iron II/Early Persian period that provided the central feature of the complex. This farmstead was excavated in 1994.

The purpose in 2012 was to clarify the use of this rock-hewn feature and to recover any material remains that might exist within the installation. It consists of a curvilinear opening that stretches 1.5m by 2.4m. This feature occupies a limestone ledge located approximately 20m from the 10m-by-10m farmstead. The initial opening quickly blossomed into a rounded dome measuring 5.24 m by 4.4m.

While the full extent of the cavity has yet to be cleared, excavators made observations about its construction and use. In the southern area of the cave excavators noted chiseling and found remnants of plaster. They also identified dissolution features in the southeastern section and in the southern quadrant which were also worked by human hands. Pottery gathered was rare throughout the accumulation but was consistent with the site's utilization during the late Iron II/Early Persian period.

Excavation results from the 2012 season suggest, based on the evidence of chisel work and plaster on the walls and ceiling of the cave, that it was probably used as a cistern. The chiseling of the natural dissolution features into what can best be described as channels running into the underground space support this new understanding. A more definitive view of the rock-hewn cave will not occur until excavators return and continue to clean this feature.

Brittany Jackson, University of California, Los Angeles

Season Four at Marj Rabba, Israel, has been one of our most successful, thanks to funding from ASOR. The Marj Rabba excavations, led by Dr. Yorke Rowan (University of Chicago) and Dr. Morag Kersel (DePaul University), are very important for exploring the virtually unexplored lifeways and material culture of



the Galilee during the Chalcolithic (c. 4500-3500 BC). As a recipient of the Heritage Fellowship, my participation has been vital to training new excavators (of whom we had almost 20 this year!). As part of my work, I have led excavations in one of our areas, where we have had many very exciting and promising finds this season.

During the 2011 season at Marj Rabba, the

area I supervise was started by opening two five meter by five meter excavation units. We were hoping to better understand and explain the relationship between two previously excavated areas of the site, which appeared to have at least two different building phases. The season proved very rewarding, as excavators uncovered at least five stone wall remnants, three of which were seemingly large, well preserved, and apparently contemporaneous, and appeared to form the majority of a possible storage room.

This season, we decided to expand excavations by adding an additional five meter by five meter excavation square to the area, and, lo, we found the final, closing wall to the well preserved room, as well as a series of other very exciting finds. Excavators and students have uncovered multiple beads of various materials, as well as bone tools and jewelry, and obsidian, which was imported from Turkey.

We still have about two weeks until the end of our 2012 excavation season, and staff, interns, and students are all working hard to make sure this is the best season yet! The storage room in my area is still being excavated, and it appears that our stone-built walls are better preserved and larger than any of us could have hoped. Thanks again to ASOR, for supporting my participation in Marj Rabba's search for the prehistory of the Galilee!

Dylan Johnson, Harvard University

The 2012 excavation season at Tell Tayinat in southern Turkey yielded some breathtaking finds from multiple occupational levels this summer. The most striking discovery was a monumental Neo-Hittite statue of a king named Suppiluliuma, known

from a Luwian inscription on the back of the statue. The statue had near perfectly preserved inlaid eyes of limestone, though it was broken at the waist cutting off a portion of the inscription. Adjacent to this statue was a large architectural feature with a winged-bull and a griffin in relief, perhaps meant to be set into a wall. It appears that these two statues fell within some kind of a monumental gateway structure, and that several of the pavement stones were removed to lay these statues in a pit. It is unclear what group may have done this or why, but there is strong belief among some of the team that the monumental lion statue discovered last season, which was only two meters to the west, is likely associated with these two new ones. The statues date to the Iron I period, somewhere in the 10th-8th centuries, and their destruction may be related to



the site's conquest by Tiglath-Pileser in 738 BCE, but that is only conjecture at this early stage.

Tell Tayinat contains two main occupational phases, Early Bronze and Iron Ages. This clearly connects the site to the nearby Tell Atçana (ancient Alalah), which hosts only Middle and Late Bronze occupational layers. Though the Iron Age finds of this season demanded the bulk of our attention and energy, there were two squares working through EB material with a third passing through early Iron I occupation into the EB levels. By the end of the season we had an entire field trough into EB phasing, making it the largest EB exposure thus far in the Amuq Plain, which will hopefully yield valuable information concerning architectural and urban planning practices of this period.

Kristen Johnson, Princeton Theological Seminary

A group of about 50 students and faculty from Penn State, Claremont, UMass Amherst, and Trinity College spent the month of July digging at Tel Akko in northern Israel. In the first few days we spent time weeding, sweeping and removing sandbags (and scorpions). Once our site was cleared we split up into 7 squares in site A and started digging through the Hellenistic, Persian, and Iron Age stratum. Though we found a few modern artifacts such as a nails, a bullet from the 1948 war, and 1970s excavator Moshe Dothan's pocket knife, we also found a number of incredible ancient artifacts including shards of Cypriot bichrome pottery, unguentarium, many complete juglets, stamped amphora handles, bronze nails, fish hooks, Hellenistic oil lamps, beads, arrowheads,

slag, and evidence of metallurgy. Though I spent most of my time lowering bulks, articulating walls, and uncovered diagnostic shards from the Persian and Iron Age, I did find a drain, a very thin and painted juglet neck, a bronze nail, and a shard inscribed with a lamed and gimel. The find of the season found just north of my square was a Hellenistic cylinder seal with a boat, sun, horse, and a few other undecipherable designs on it.

However, excavation at site A was just a small part of the total archaeology that went on Tel Akko this summer. Members of the program participated in underwater excavation at the Akko harbor, survey of the entire tel, digital GIS of its topography, metallurgy labs, and conservation programs. The Tel Akko project also included a lecture course from a faculty of 8 along with guest speakers from



the Israel Antiquities Authorities and local Akko. Each week on Sunday we took a tour of Akko to physically learn more about the history of the city. We saw the remains of Crusader, Ottoman, and British Mandate Akko, while learning about the walls, tunnels, compounds, prison, places of worship (mosques, churches, and Bahai shrines), bazaars and bathhouses that comprised the Old City during those periods. We also took conservation tours to see how the IAA is going about the restoration and preservation of the Old City. Each week on Shabbot we would travel outside Akko to see more of Israel's ancient history. We went to Jerusalem, Sefphoris, the Sea of Galilee (including Capernaum, Kursi, and the Jordan River), Caesarea, the Carmel Caves, and Haifa (Hecht's Museum and the Bahai Gardens). The culmination of all of these experiences, both archaeologically and errantly, informed me more fully about many topics which were already of great interest to me. Aside from learning, I also made a lot of friends from all walks of life whose company made this trip a lot of fun. For this total experience I am truly grateful for the privilege to have been a participant.

Amy Karoll, University of California, Los Angeles

The site of Jaffa, located in the modern city of Tel Aviv-Yafo, Israel, was first occupied during the earliest phases of the Middle Bronze Age. As a vibrant maritime commercial center in antiquity, Jaffa boasts a MBA and LBA ceramic assemblage consisting of both locally-produced ceramics and imported wares from across the eastern Mediterranean. In the Late Bronze Age, the site was dominated by an Egyptian fortress. This was the focus

of the excavations in the summer of 2012 by the Jaffa Cultural Heritage Project under Drs. Aaron Burke (UCLA) and Martin Peilstöcker (Mainz), a continuation of the excavations from the previous summer. The primary goal of our season was to discover correlations between the materials that we were uncovering and those already discovered and documented by the two previous excavations by Jacob Kaplan from 1955 to



1958 and Ze'ev Herzog in 1997 and 1999. The predominate finds of the season date to the Late Bronze Age and help to clarify the presence of Egyptians in the southern Levant during this time period. The two phases of mudbrick gateway construction that were uncovered this season in the course of excavations are consistent with what was discovered by Kaplan and Herzog.

On top of the current excavation season, the staff of the JCHP also conducted a four week study season to analyze and prepare for publication the previously excavated materials that are at the Jaffa Museum. In particular, I have been using the 3D scanner and photographing the finds to prepare for publication.

Tristan Matheson, Bishop's University

The 2012 season at the ancient Moabite site of Khirbat al-Mudayna, located 30 minutes south west of Madaba, Jordan, proved to be very successful. The team not only found many high status artefacts, but team members also found a complete painted foot fragment that belonged to the rest of the statue recovered during the 2010 season. A tiny scaraboid-shaped



ring seal with a sunken relief depiction of a person leading a horse was also recovered.

The field stone walls of four rooms were exposed on the western side of North Gate 100. A (2.5 m length?) long mudbrick wall was discovered on the north-western side of the main gate structure. All previously excavated architectural features have been constructed of field stones making this wall somewhat unusual.

During the course of the 2012 season team members completed a digitized master top plan for North Gate 100 and the northern end of the site.

Another area of interest this season was the partial excavation of the large, circular depression approximately 20 meters in diameter, located on the Northwest side of the site. The depression, clearly visible in aerial photographs, is an intriguing part of the site. The area was excavated to bedrock in several squares but no features were exposed. The nature and use of this topographical feature is unclear although excavators hypothesize that it might have been used as a cistern. To date the nature of this depression remains undetermined. Work will continue in the depression area in future seasons.

Heather Pillette, Asbury Theological Seminary

I spent three weeks this summer at Tel Rehov, located in the northern Beth-Shean Valley of Israel. Tel Rehov has seen thirteen seasons of excavation; with the one I participated in being its final one. Amihai Mazar and Nava Panitz-Cohen led the excavations at Rehov; both of them taught me a great deal.

Most of my time was spent excavating in a square that had never been dug in previously—this was really exciting! One of Rehov's richest finds was the discovery of an ancient apiary. The area I dug in came down directly next to the apiary; essentially where the hives "leaned". I uncovered a nearly whole amphora, and as the weeks passed we discovered a chalice and a hippo jar as well as pieces of several bowls. The most interesting aspect of my square was the walls. The walls had layers of ash as well as wooden beams still semi-preserved. These things can tell us a great deal about the chronology.

The pottery ended up being my favorite part of this experience. The study of pottery is a rich art that reveals aspects of sociology, culture, and anthropology. The possibilities are amazing and endless and I thoroughly enjoyed the questions we could



answer and even more so the ones that left us wondering and dreaming. I also realized how much the societies of the past have in common with current ones.

I have learned that archaeology is both a science and an art. It is rich and beautiful as well as telling and imaginative. It takes talent, knowledge, and heart to succeed in this field. I left Rehov with a greater understanding of archaeology and a stronger desire to continue learning as much as possible in this field. Perhaps the greatest lesson I learned was that it is not about what you find, but what you discover.

Nate Ramsayer, Boston University

Tell es-Safi is an enormous site in the Shephelah (hill country) region of Israel, and has been convincingly identified as the Philistine city of Gath, from where the biblical giant Goliath is said to have come. Safi has been excavated for 15 consecutive years now, spearheaded by Dr. Aren Maeir of Bar-Ilan University in Israel. This year it boasted the title of largest excavation in Israel, with around 150 staff members and volunteers working at once, representing over 20 different countries of the world! We had almost every kind of specialist there is—pottery, carbon 14, linguistics, architecture, metallurgy, zooarchaeology, botany, 3D scanning, OSL dating, geomorphology, a bone specialist, a phytolith specialist, a pollen expert, etc.



While our team has yet to uncover any size 20 sandals or skeletons that measure "six cubits and a span," scores of exciting finds have nonetheless already made the journey from deep trenches to the lab at Bar-Ilan University to pages of publication in years past, and we were able to supplement that list with some new treasures this season. I was assigned to Area P, the smallest (but definitely most fun!) excavation area at Safi, which was previously excavated for two seasons, but abandoned for the last four years (thus, we had four years of winter wash build up to burrow through!). Our fearless leader, Dr. Jill Katz from Yeshiva University in New York City, led a cohort of 15 of the craziest and most fun people from around the globe in search of evidence of the elusive transitional period from the Late Bronze to Early Iron Age. Not only was I able to fulfill my dream of getting to dig, measure elevation, and help identify indicative pottery sherds, but being at Safi provided me with the opportunity to participate in unexpected areas of archaeology, from extracting phytolith layers in

the soil to micro-sieving for faunal remains at our bone lab. The educational aspect was above and beyond anything I imagined!

I personally found several flint blades, some nice painted Philistine pottery, and a foundation deposit of two stacked bowls (the top one placed upside down as a lid) containing a lamp inside—these were whole vessels, untouched for about 3,500 years! The major find of the season came from our Area P; we discovered a quite unexpected 15-meter section of a fortification wall of the city from the Late Bronze Age, which is significant because it may be the only Late Bronze Age wall in all of Israel. Typically the fortified cities reused Middle Bronze Age fortifications; this may lead to a revision of how scholars understand fortifications in Israel during this time period!

So I'd like to take this opportunity to tip my fedora to ASOR and the generous donors of the Heritage Fellowship. Without their assistance and hard work, this Bible scholar would not have had the chance to travel the world, help the team at Safi, learn all about the excavation process, and make amazing new friends from around the globe. Cheers to you, ASOR!

Tiffany Raymond, Mississippi State University

This summer I was able to take part in the excavations at Khirbet Summeily due to the fact that ASOR awarded me a Heritage Fellowship, and I am very grateful to them for this.



Khirbet Summeily is an Iron Age village site on the edge of the Negev Desert, and is believed to be a border site between ancient Philistia and Judah. The site is being excavated in association with the Tel-Hesi Joint Archaeological Project, and is directed by James W. Hardin and Jeffery A. Blake. Typical artifacts at the site are loom weights, spindle whorls, mudbricks, beads, and pottery galore! Some of the rarer artifacts that we found were scarabs with Egyptian hieroglyphics, and figurines.

The experience that digging at this site gave me will help me in my future career as a Near Eastern archaeologist. The mudbricks at Khirbet Summeily were very difficult to differentiate from the surrounding dirt, especially at four in the morning when we headed to the site, as their color and texture tended to be very similar. At times, compaction of the soil with slight color chang-

es could indicate a mudbrick. This made digging quite difficult at times, but it also taught me to look at the subtle differences in the soil, rather than looking solely for drastic changes. Another valuable learning experience I had came from being a supervisor-in-training. As I learned more about phasing, stone foundations to walls, mudbricks, and other artifacts, I was able to explain to the students what, and why, we were excavating and handling the artifacts in different ways. This reinforced all that I had learned, while simultaneously preparing me to supervise my own units and students in the future. I was fortunate to dig in areas that had many architectural features such as walls, several tabuns, and a pit or two. These features definitely complicated the phasing at the site because the walls weren't always preserved completely or in a logical place, but it afforded me with a much desired learning experience.

In addition to the excavation experience I was also able to travel all over Israel. I went to many well known archaeological sites like Lachish, Masada, Ein Gedi, Maresha, and Dan. I was also able to travel to many modern cities including Jerusalem, Be'er Sheva, and Tiberias. I even had the opportunity to travel to Petra in Jordan on a free weekend. I really loved seeing the different sites because they put into perspective the rich history that the people of Israel have. The people in Israel were very welcoming, and at no point did I feel unsafe. The culture is enlivening, and Jerusalem is now my favorite city in the world! It was an experience of a lifetime and I am very thankful that ASOR and the Heritage donors helped me make this trip possible.

Arielle Reed, University of Toronto

During the dates of June 4th, 2012 and July 10th 2012, a team consisting of three other students, two supervisors, and myself excavated a 5m by 2.5m part of square 5L12T4 in Field B of Tel Madaba in Madaba, Jordan. The remaining time of my trip, July 11th – 15th, was spent doing lab work.

Our findings consisted of: a variety of pottery and faunal remains dating from the Islamic Period to Early Bronze Age, rock tumble, a small mosaic, and a part of the Tel Madaba fortification wall. The rock tumble, which was found in Locus 6, had a clearly



constructed end that did not extend into the Southeast corner of the square. This end revealed a terrace, which was also located in the square to the South – 5L12Y2. We took out the tumble to further excavate horizontally, in order to contain any decontamination, and found the fortification wall underneath. We hit steady pottery context once we took out the rock tumble and found majority Iron Age II. This fortification wall had been excavated in a variety of other squares at Tel Madaba and our elevation (787 mASL) matched other findings thus confirming that the wall we found was, indeed, the Tel Madaba fortification wall.

During the excavation, I learned a variety of techniques that will be useful for any expeditions in the future. Such techniques included: filing out Locus, Architecture and Installation sheets; object and pottery drawing, as well as manual mapping techniques and top plan/baulk drawing. After this field school, I not only feel more competent but also confident in my ability for function adequately on an archaeological excavation.

Monica Rey, Boston University School of Theology

The 2012 Heritage Fellowship gave me the opportunity to go on my first archaeological excavation, which took place at Khirbet Qeiyafa, a fortified city southwest of Jerusalem overlooking the Elah Valley. As a student who plans on pursuing a doctorate in

Tanakh, I have always been fascinated by how archaeology can help illuminate the context of the biblical narrative. This is just one of the reasons why being able to dig at Khirbet Qeiyafa was a remarkable opportunity. With dig director Yossi Garfinkel and Israel Antiquities Authority inspector Mr. Saar Ganor at the helm, the site has already impacted our understand-



ing of urban centers in Judah during the time of the Iron Age, the time period corresponding to the United Monarchy. The site helps to answer the question of when urbanism may have begun both at KQ and more broadly.

This summer the excavation centered on three areas, all of which I had the pleasure of digging in. Starting at Area F, we were tasked to search for where the meeting point between the pattern created by the casemate walls (which went in opposite directions from the double gates). After opening a number of squares, we were finally able to find the meeting point. At Area C, I was able to dig at the floor, finding a beautiful Iron Age jug,

and I also helped clean a hearth. A cultic area, Area C produced a number of finds including more Semitic inscriptions, a number of seals, an amulet, a jar with 20 olive pits (which will help with dating the site) and a huge basin- fit for the likes of Bathsheba! Finally, at Area A most of the season was spent digging through Byzantine material. It was only until the final weeks that we uncovered an enormously long Iron Age wall. Located at the highest point of KQ, it has the potential of being an administrative center. As my first archaeological dig, this dig was unforgettable. Thanks to the Heritage Fellowship and ASOR's wonderful donors I now walk away with a fuller and richer understanding of archaeology and its impact on biblical studies.

Abelardo Rivas, Andrews University

Thanks to the Heritage Fellowship, I was able to participate in two excavations in Jordan and conduct studies on cultic objects found at Atarutz. I had a double purpose for my research this year. First, supervise two squares, one at Tell Jalul



and a second square at Khirbet Atarutz searching for answers to questions raised in previous excavations. Second, to initiate a systematic study of the cultic objects found at Khirbet Atarutz during the last ten years of excavations.

In regards to Jalul, our goal for the season in square W-7 at Jalul was to trace the development, on the southern slope of the central depression in field W, of the wall and plaster of the Iron Age water reservoir found last summer. It was a high goal since we only had a short season and about 20 meters in depth to excavate. However, to our surprise, during the first week we found a wall that seemed to be completely unaligned with the wall of the cistern. This find in turn raised questions as to the orientation of the reservoir. Indeed, we thought it was perhaps a sharp turn. The wall was poorly constructed and did not match any of the reservoir's walls or the assumed orientation. Yet, in square W-5 there is part of a wall, not aligned either with the plaster or the wall over the plaster of the reservoir, that could be part of the first wall found at my square if such continues to widen as it goes down. Indeed, this seems to be the case. Moreover, as we continued to dig, it became clear that such wall on the northeastern corner of the square was more a partition wall within the reservoir. It is possible, as it seems by repairs in the plaster, that

a certain area of the reservoir became unusable and it was sealed with this Northeast partition from the rest of the water reservoir in order to utilize the rest of the reservoir. Furthermore, about a meter below the partition wall following, we found the plaster of the cistern, the wall may have been robbed, following the logical line demarked by the depression and correlating with the section of the plaster excavated last season in square W-5. This tends to verify our assumption that the structure of the water reservoir followed the general orientation of the central depression of field W or that the depression is actually caused by the previous construction of the reservoir. At the center of the square, as we removed a layer of tumbled rock, we found a stone with drawing, maybe Islamic, which called the attention of the entire team because of its potential significance. The drawing consists of several geometrical patterns, most of them circulars/square, over imposed one upon the other. At each corner of each pattern a semicircle is drawn surrounded by a set of small triangles. The center of the drawing is a square formed by the over imposition of each pattern and the internal corners are a set of four rectangles. The suggestions run from an Islamic Blue Print of a building to an Islamic artistic design or ornament. Yet, one person argued it is not Islamic. Therefore, further studies will reveal its true content. The pottery was mostly Iron Age II. Yet there was also Middle Bronze, an Early Bronze, and Hellenistic pieces at various levels. Thus, this made in turn dating the layers a considerable challenge. Even though the square was not finished, important information surfaced helping us understand more the use and the design of the water reservoir, which could be potentially one of the biggest yet to be excavated in Jordan.

On the second excavation project at Atarutz, we set as our goal, in square F-4, to trace the structure of a potential wall which started in square F-3. Again, to our surprise we not only excavated one wall but four walls. One of them, wall 14, is an internal division of the structure. The pottery was domestic Iron Age including cooking pots, storage jars, jugs, bowls, kraters, whole mouth kraters, and painted Moabite/Ammonite ware. The eastern area of the square also presented ash pockets along with carbonized samples and burned pottery. This seems to indicate cooking evidence. The vast majority of the pottery came from the eastern side of the square and the division wall. The soil firmness and color suggested at least one floor level of beaten dirt. The southern wall was very poorly constructed and it seems it had evidence of repairs. Most likely, this was a house and its use seems to correlate to the period of the temple found in field E during the Iron Age II. The northern area of the square remains to be excavated making it difficult to come to definite conclusions. However, an important insight we gained from this season in my square is that we may have reached the limits of the temple complex and are now beginning to explore the domestic areas of Atarutz. Since Dr. Ji started his excavations the center of attention has been the cultic areas. However, to fully understand the religion of Atarutz it is important to research how it transcended to the local people. Our field, which seems to be domestic, will help in finding such information.

Finally, the Heritage Fellowship allowed me to also conduct a second area of research which is studying the cultic objects of Atarutz stored in the Madaba Museum. I spent a week photographing and analyzing the details of several objects found at the central court area of the main temple at Atarutz. Among these objects were Kernoi, lamps, shrines, statues, and others. I

will be presenting some of them at the upcoming ASOR meeting in Chicago. My main objective is to deepen the understanding of the local religion at Atarutz and how these objects play a role in the daily manifestation of the beliefs of the locals as well as understanding the ritualistic uses these objects may have had.

Rebekah Ross, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

The Kourion Urban Space Project 2012 began with high expectations of locating the continuation of the Late Roman community, dubbed the “Earthquake House” dated to 365 to 370 CE found in the 1980s by David Soren and his team. The site was originally to be located on the opposite ridge southwest of the



“Earthquake House” overlooking the Roman breakwater; however there were complications that prevented this location. The site was relocated closer to the “Earthquake House.”

Square A was plotted level and west of the Late Roman site. Square B was sited uphill and southeast of square A and square C plotted in downhill and southwest of Square A. At the midway point in the excavation, Squares D1 and D2 were opened because the Kourion Mapping Project revealed a potential location for a mosaic floor and tesserae had been found scattered along the cliff side.

The first few weeks revealed a potential wall in square C and the beginnings of a wall was emerging in square A. Square B was an enigma. After a few more weeks of excavation the potential wall in square C revealed a shallow water installation. Square A revealed that the wall continued toward the west. A Byzantine oil lamp was found in square A. Square B continued to be mysterious until a beaten floor was located about 80 cm down. Below the beaten earth surface revealed bedrock but in the folds and dives of the bedrock was evidence of intentional filling. In the fill was found a different type of soil, bones, glass, metal, and a huge cache of large pottery pieces. The vast majority of the shards were amphora handles and bases; all of the pottery found in the fill was Byzantine. Square D1 and D2 revealed a mosaic fragment and two mosaic floors were located along with a cistern.

The conclusion of field season 2012 is that the land located southwest of the “Earthquake House” was not inhabited during the Late Roman period but was the site of a post-quake Byzantine occupation.

Miranda Siklenka, University of Victoria

I wish to express my sincere gratitude for the generous funding provided by the ASOR Heritage Grants that enabled me to participate in the Humayma Excavation Project in Jordan this summer. The successful Humayma Excavation Project had been directed by Dr. John P. Oleson of the University of Victoria from 1987-2005. It is now under the direction of Dr. Barbara Reeves of Queen's University. The project focuses on the Roman and Byzantine periods in Jordan. My colleagues and I were involved in the excavation of two major structures: a Roman and Byzantine bath house complex as well as a mudbrick building which is hypothesized to be a brothel. In addition to digging at the site, our team worked together to wash pottery, sort and date pottery, draw field plans, and process finds.



During the six weeks spent as a first time volunteer in this excavation, I gained an extensive knowledge of the fascinating aspects of the ancient cultures in Jordan. In addition to being immersed in archaeological fieldwork in the desert, I was able to contribute my artistic ability to the project by illustrating a large number of ceramic fragments and small finds in the laboratory. Most of the fragments included Roman vessel rims, Byzantine lamps, and some very delicate sherds of Nabataean fine-ware. While handling these objects, I often paused to think for a moment of just how remarkable it was to be holding a piece of ancient history in my hands. Being an illustrator is rewarding, mostly because my work provides a visual understanding to the research conducted by Dr. Reeves and Dr. Oleson.

My work with Dr. Oleson as his research assistant at the University of Victoria resulted in my enthusiasm to participate in this archaeological project. As his assistant, I prepare Adobe Illustrator drawings of archaeological finds (primarily pottery). The ceramics and other finds come from Dr. Oleson's previous excavations at Humayma in Jordan, and the drawings will be used in volumes 2 and 3 of his final report publication. It was an incredible opportunity to apply these skills to my field study overseas, and I plan to work as an archaeological illustrator for future projects in Greece and Italy. Again, I give thanks to ASOR for making this experience in Jordan possible.

Jordan Skornik, University of Chicago Divinity School

Finally underway at Zincirli Höyük, Turkey!

After a later-than-usual start due to Ramadan, the 7th season of the Neubauer Expedition to Zincirli (ancient Sam'al), an archaeological project of the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute, has begun in earnest. Digging officially commenced at dawn on Saturday, August 25, and now, with only one week under our belts, there is already much to be excited about. Thanks to the Heritage Fellowship, I am able to experience it firsthand.

In my trench, opened just this season as an extension of another area situated on the southern slope of the mound, we are hoping to further our understanding of the mound's stratigraphy. Previous seasons have provided the basic sequence, especially concerning the fortifications. A surprising result was the discovery of an Iron Age rampart earlier than the citadel walls. Since German archaeologists had uncovered these walls along with a series of palaces at the end of the 19th century, we have extended our work into an area previously excavated by them in order to correlate their research with the current findings.

Thus far we have located a cobbled surface along with an embedded, restorable pithos similar to those drawn in the German top plan. Since the cobbled surface lies above one of two towers belonging to the upper citadel gate, below which is the alte Bau – possibly an earlier fortification of a different orientation – we can expect the next few weeks to be very illuminating.

While the steady heat and early wake-up calls have been a bit of a shock to the system, the rewards of exciting new finds, beautiful sunrises, and interactions with local workers and skilled colleagues from all over the world more than make up for the difficult work. This being my first ever field experience, I feel as if I am perpetually one step behind. But thankfully the staff and volunteers are generous of their time and very supportive, not to mention loads of fun. I have already learned a great deal and am looking forward to further discoveries in the coming weeks.



I am helping clean what seemed to be a possible differentiation in the color of a plastered mud-brick wall.

Mehrnoush Soroush, New York University

I received the Heritage Fellowship to participate in my first fieldwork at the site of Kınık Höyük, in Cappadocia. Kınık Höyük is close to the small city of Altunhisar, and Niğde is the closest real town where we spent several free Saturday afternoons. I cannot think of a better way to have spent this scholarship. To begin with, our höyük (mound) is located in such a picturesque landscape. My early morning trips to the site and my afternoon



trips back to the dig house were like short dreams in a wonderland: endless combinations of horizontal lines of golden grain fields and orchards and vertical lines of poplars which constantly sway in the cool mountain breeze. All of these are embroidered on a blend of clear blue sky and pinkish gray mountains that infinitely reflect one another. Our höyük is the most prominent feature, at least in my eyes, in this landscape: a miraculously intact golden cup, set up-side down amidst orchards and fields and visible from almost everywhere, including our dig house in the village of Yeşil Yurt.

Digging at Kınık, I worked with a team from Pavia University, Italy, directed by Prof. Lorenzo d'Alfonso from the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University. Prof. d'Alfonso's enthusiasm for and dedication to teaching and mentorship took me, at an unexpected pace, through all steps of archaeological practice. He has all students take part in all activities and learn all tasks. Thus, I dug in the mornings, and spent my afternoon hours helping organize the finds: washing ceramics, filling forms, photographing, working with our database, and making drawings, all of which involved unplanned short lessons from Prof. d'Alfonso and my very congenial colleagues on all aspects of archaeology. On top of that, I had one little extra responsibility: flotation of soil samples, the first step for the study of archaeobotanical remains of Kınık Höyük. Dr. Naomi Miller from the University of Pennsylvania Museum paid us a visit to teach me how to do this. My summer archaeological field school made me most certain that archaeology is no doubt the most exciting profession in the world!

As one can imagine from my enthusiastic words, I enjoyed everything I experienced this summer. But, my favorite was observing the very varied rhythm and changing dynamics of fieldwork: the mix of planning and decision-making that involves every team member and yet produces uncertain results and unexpected moments. To give you a hint: Our ordinary everyday

routine was broken when a possible differentiation in the color of a plastered mud-brick wall was observed, or when weeks of disappointingly digging of pit after pit, in the least promising part of our operation, ended in our finding a wonderfully preserved stone pavement in the very last week of the season. Or, one day, when we had extra workmen, we had them open a seemingly unpromising area that we had put off digging until next year. This area had such complicated stratigraphy that the day before we decided to stop working there and concentrate on finishing what we had opened elsewhere. Guess what?! In the first hours of digging, we found our most beautiful Iron-Age ceramic of the whole season lying just ten centimeters below the surface. Maybe my most interesting experience, in this regard, was when we hit an undisturbed "context" of destruction, full of ceramics, some half an hour before heading back to the dighouse. It was most exciting to see how our routine changed: some of us had to forget about the break and work non-stop until the afternoon and the others came back to continue the work until we made sure that all material was being taken care of. This does not mean that fieldwork is mainly about excitement: One needs to learn how to bear with boring hours and days, how to stay calm, creative and interested under the sun at noon or amidst the blinding dust devils and how to bear the physical and emotional pressure of the end-of-the-season days and hours.

We closed this year's season yesterday. As I am flying back home, my mind is still processing it: thinking about the friends and the scenes I will miss, the things I could have done better, the things to remember in future. And, last but not least, that my initial joy and excitement of receiving an ASOR field scholarship is complete because I used it in such a fulfilling field experience.

Michele Stillinger, University of Minnesota

This summer I embarked on the first stage of my dissertation research, collecting archaeomagnetic samples from the small tell of Khirbet Summeily in Israel, an Iron Age site in the northern Negev desert. Khirbet Summeily is located near Tell el-Hesi, the large Bronze and Iron Age fortress site recently featured in *Near Eastern Archaeology*, (Vol 75, No 1). Both sites are located along the ancient transportation route between Gaza and Hebron. Summeily is significant because it sits on the very edge of the Philistine/Judahite border and contains elements from both cultures.

This was my first extended stay in a desert environment. Admittedly, I was a bit hesitant to spend five weeks in the hot desert sun, being from Minnesota. Ev-



everyone assured me it was a “dry” heat. Maybe fifty years ago, but now the deserts of Israel are being irrigated for a variety of food crops, including the orange groves near our site, and it was muggy. Fortunately, our day began at 4 AM, watching the sunrise over the farm fields as we chased away camel spiders and scorpions from our units before excavating. We were only five minutes from Gaza, which became a bit unnerving one week when there were some skirmishes and our days were filled with the not-so-distant rumble of shelling. It was a sad reminder of how different life is in this part of the world and how I may never get to visit many of the places in the Near East where I’ve wanted to do research.

Our first two weeks of excavation were relatively uneventful for me in terms of collecting archaeomagnetic samples. Archaeomagnetism, a subfield of paleomagnetism, is the study of the ancient magnetic field of the Earth stored within archaeological materials. The record of ancient field strength and direction is recorded by magnetic particles such as iron, magnetite, and hematite, found within materials made of stone, clay, sediment, and soils. When these materials are subjected to high temperatures, such as an intense fire or baking in a kiln, and then cooled, the magnetic particles align in the direction of the Earth’s magnetic field at that moment in time. This record of field strength and direction is highly dependent on location. Databases of measurements can be used to construct magnetic variation curves, which can then be used as dating curves in the absence of other archaeological dating methods.

By the third week of excavation we were uncovering several hearths and small destruction layers, from which I collected numerous pottery and taboon samples. A taboon is a small, conical bread oven, ideal for archaeomagnetic analysis as it can provide a more accurate magnetic directional component since it is still in-situ. Overall, I acquired a large number of samples for archaeomagnetic testing and was pleased to be invited back next year to visit additional sites to collect samples, which will assist me in further refining the archaeomagnetic database for Israel. Thanks in part to the generous donor of my Heritage Fellowship and the support of ASOR, I had a very successful and rewarding first field season and made a number of new friends and professional contacts. I am already looking forward to next summer; sweltering heat, scorpions and all!

Aaron Styba, Queen’s University

Between the dates of 16th May 2012 and 1st July 2012, I was fortunate enough to be titled the role of junior excavator in the Humayma Excavation project directed by Dr. Barbara Reeves of Queen’s University, in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. The Humayma site is located approximately an hour’s drive north of Aqaba, Jordan. The site contains periods of occupation by the Nabataeans, Romans and Byzantines, as well as the Abbasids during their plot to overthrow the Umayyad. Working alongside a partner, a square supervisor and a rotation of local Bedouin, I was involved in the excavation of what is identified as a bathhouse from both the Nabataean and Roman periods of occupation.

Specific details concerning the contents of the square I excavated I wish to omit, as the site director, Dr. Reeves, intends to publish concerning this bathhouse as soon as possible. Broadly put, found within my square was the continuation of a previously discovered latrine drainage channel, as well as the westward pro-

gression of two previously excavated walls. The square in question was one of the northernmost excavated during this season, and quickly revealed a previously unexcavated room. This room measured several times longer than it did wide, crossing atop the latrine drainage channel and lined with rectangular flagstones. Initially, the purpose of this room was suspect. However, a quick investigation into the prevailing winds of the region determined this room was likely used to prevent sand from entering the bathhouse. Herein, with the discovery of a doorway, we concluded that this was one of the entranceways to the bathhouse.



Ultimately, without the financial assistance provided by ASOR through the Heritage Fellowship, my participation in this excavation would have been in jeopardy. I’d like to extend my thanks to the members and donors of ASOR.

Emily Wilson, University of Chicago

Greetings from the field! Due to Ramadan’s late ending this year, the dig at Zincirli has only just completed the first week of fieldwork. Zincirli, ancient Sam’al, was initially excavated by a German team in the late 19th century and is currently being excavated by the Neubauer Expedition, housed at the University of Chicago’s Oriental Institute. Zincirli was an important Early Bronze Age site and then reemerged as a Syro-Hittite city-state that controlled the trade routes between the Euphrates and Central Anatolia. Chicago’s expedition is attempting to improve and widen



knowledge gained by the German team, with excavations concentrated both on top of the fortified höyük and in the lower town as well. I have returned to the trench that I supervised in 2010, which includes the citadel wall and the structures lying immediately against it. In 2010, we overturned the notion that this area had been abandoned after the Assyrian demise of the late 7th century BCE by finding a Hellenistic coin and a sherd of Attic pottery. Thus, we have tentatively re-dated the citadel wall to the late Achaemenid period and our primary goal for this season is to get a clear chronology for the citadel wall and the structures lying immediately within. Our first week thus included a thorough cleaning of the trench (after two years of sitting, my trench's balks had eroded and partially collapsed into the square), and beginning to remove some of the architectural features that obscure our understanding of this area's chronology, including a beautiful stone pavement. As square supervisor, I am in charge of 7 workmen and an assistant, which can require quite a bit of attention! In addition to keeping everyone on task and busy, I am fortunate to be able to have time to dig alongside my men, complete paperwork, and pick up the occasional Turkish insult or joke. The support I received from a Heritage Fellowship considerably diminished my travel expenses, allowing me the opportunity to both partake in this amazing archaeological opportunity and explore the greater area of Southeast Turkey on my time off.

PLATT REPORTS

Nicholas Ames, University of California, Berkeley

Working in Jordan under the largesse of the Platt Fellowship has proved to be a mind-opening and productive experience in developing a solid grasp on modern archaeological techniques, as well as collecting data for my own project on micro-debris analysis of multi-period domestic contexts of Dhiban.

Participation in the Dhiban Excavation and Development Project (DEDP) field-school taught me proper methods for excavation, such as troweling, sweeping, collecting soil and phytolith samples, and documentation of our excavated units through photographing, measuring, drawing and many others. Within my own project, I was able to collect contextually relevant samples of micro-debris, artifacts smaller than 1cm in size, throughout different site areas to use for my methodological review of current archaeological interpretive practices.



Micro-debris, as with many artifacts found in domestic contexts, is a residual product of daily activity occurring at or around their place of primary deposition. These debris often become embedded in the immediate surfaces as a result of an area's daily use, thus representing the site's area activities through a process of usually unintentional deposition. The value of micro-debris in relation to these larger artifacts comes from its propensity to escape secondary depositional processes common to domestic spaces, such as cleaning or sweeping, leaving these minute fragments largely in primary situ. Because of this, micro-debris, in conjunction with the larger materials left behind, potentially provides a much more telling system of unintentional patterning of human behavior within site areas. The size of micro-debris also allows for the preservation of materials that may otherwise have been removed from its area of use, resulting in this micro-material often embodying site activities unrepresented by larger artifacts in the archaeological record.

The work of the DEDP, as well as my own research on micro-debris, will continue to contribute and impact our understanding of the Near East through its focus on the domestic aspects of past daily social life. Up to this point, much of the archaeological work of the Near and Middle East has focused on the grandeur of monumental architecture and lifestyles of the elite. Though in recent years the lives of non-elite majority has grown into fashion, the methodology for successful interpretation requires a much more detailed approach than previously granted. My project looks to provide this required attention into the daily tacit life experienced by the people of Jordan's past whom lived under tumultuous periods of imperial dominance, and how this complex past continues to shape the local communities of today.

Nadia Ben-Marzouk, University of California, Los Angeles

This summer marked my first season with the Jaffa Cultural Heritage Project (JCHP) and first time as a staff member on an excavation. The overall focus of the JCHP's excavations during the 2012 season was on the Late Bronze Age Egyptian gateway complex in Area A, which contains a large amount of destruction debris, and was a continued effort from the 2011 season. The area was dug by Jacob Kaplan in the 1950s, and again in the 1990s by Ze'ev Herzog, however, little has been published from these excavations. The JCHP's excavations, therefore, play a critical role



in understanding the previously excavated architectural phases and their relationship to the destruction that occurred in this space.

Our work this season concentrated on locating the ground floor in hopes of providing important dating material to pinpoint features exposed by previous excavations, and to shed new light on the nature of the construction and consequent destruction of the LB gateway. We were able to identify at least three distinct architectural phases, which date from the Late Bronze IA–IIB, with each phase of the gateway containing a different type of mudbrick construction. Although we were unable to reach the ground floor, important diagnostic material was recovered in secure destruction debris that helped to date each phase. Next season, the JCHP tentatively expects to excavate the lowest level of the LB gateway. I would like to thank ASOR for the Platt fellowship which afforded me the opportunity to contribute to this exciting project.

Caroline Carter, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

This summer, I attended my second season at Huqoq, Israel under direction of Jodi Magness of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Israel Antiquities Authority.



Last year was the first season of the Huqoq Excavation Project as well as my first dig then as an upcoming sophomore double majoring in Classical Archaeology and Religious Studies at UNC Chapel Hill. Upon arrival, I had been notified that I had been promoted to be a square supervisor! I was assigned to the same square I worked in last year- SQ7/7 in the village area- east of the synagogue. Without ASOR, I would not have had the chance to go nor make the wonderful memories I did.

One of those memories: WE FOUND A MOSAIC FLOOR ON THE ANCIENT SYNAGOGUE!!!! This is a day that I will never forget. It was one of those tired and slow mornings- several people were feeling ill and the square I was supervising in the village area wasn't finding much of anything. All of the sudden we heard a scream of excitement from the area of the synagogue. The volunteers and students nearby gathered around one square with the biggest smiles on their faces. As everyone in my area started curiously getting out of their squares, we hear Prof. Magness scream, "Mosaic!!!!" I'm not sure if I have ever run that fast.

In addition, I also had the opportunity to help excavate one of the cisterns on site. To enter, I descended down a long shaft to reach an open area with branching tunnels. It was dark, spotted with spiders and slugs, and full of dirt. I had to move dirt from one tunnel through the other as the only option of moving was the army-crawl. Personally, this was the moment that put me in awe at the reality of the exciting direction my life is taking as a future archaeologist.

I truly had the time of my life.

Patrick Clark, University of California, Berkeley

This summer I had the privilege of receiving the Platt Fellowship. This generous grant enabled me to join Dr. Andrew M. Smith II for a second incredible field season at Bir Madh-



kur. In my photo I am sitting on a boulder in a wadi, recording a Bedouin camp built on a Roman-era wadi terrace. My friend, and our guide, Musa yells "Shoof, Ghadeer (my Bedouin name)!" I look up. A camel is walking up to me. My friend yells from across the wadi, "Dude, I got a nice Facebook photo!" The camel starts sniffing my site form. So I give the camel an old one, thinking it won't enjoy paper. The camel eats my site form. To my surprise, the camel does not find paper disgusting, but delicious, and starts sniffing for more. Finally, Musa comes over to lead the camel away.

What is important about this moment is not the cool Facebook photo or the close encounter with a camel, but the two things the camel and the site together indicate. The first is that ancient peoples exploited the same limited fertile land as the Bedouin do today. One feature of my site was the wadi terrace, created by a Roman-era wall for small scale agriculture (I am sitting on a part of the wall). At the same time, a man named Abdullah was herding his camels into the same wadi to feed. Thus when thinking about how ancient peoples exploited the limited resources of the region, it might be helpful to use the Bedouin as a comparison. The second is that the ancients permanently altered the landscape. The wadi terrace created a flat, clear area that the Bedouin reused for a camp (you can see the hearth dug in the middle of the terrace behind me). In other areas, the some Bedouin still exploit large Roman-era field systems.

To conclude, scholarships, such as the Platt and Heritage, are indispensable for students like me in our quests for knowledge and experience.

Carrie Fulton, Cornell University

In 1897, an expedition by the British Museum to Cyprus opened a number of pits in search of tombs in the lower Maroni Valley at Tsaroukkas, removing many objects of interest and backfilling the pits they had created. Fast-forward about 115 years later and thanks to the generous funding from the Platt Fellowship through ASOR I was able to join the Kalavassos and Maroni Built Environments (KAMBE) Project for a month of excavation. The project, led by Dr. Sturt Manning (Cornell University) and Dr. Kevin Fisher (University of Arkansas), has focused on using geophysical survey to elucidate patterns in the Late Bronze Age occupation for this region of Cyprus, and this season they added excavation to ground truth their findings.



Additionally, we extended excavations at the Late Bronze Age site of Maroni-Tsaroukkas outside of two buildings that had been excavated in the early 1990s as part of the Maroni Valley Archaeological Survey Project under the direction of Dr. Sturt Manning. In one of the trenches I worked in, just outside of one building, we came across a wall. As we continued to excavate, we noticed the soil to the north of the wall was different from what was inside the wall, indicating what was most definitely a pit from the British Museum's expedition in 1897. As we continued to excavate, we uncovered pottery and stone tools that had been discarded by the British Museum diggers and thrown into the pit as backfill, including potsherds from several large pithoi, coarse wares, base ring ware, and white-slip vases.

My involvement in the KAMBE project this summer has been invaluable and on our days when we weren't working, I had a chance to travel and experience areas of Cyprus. In addition to thanking Drs. Sturt Manning and Kevin Fisher for allowing me to participate in the project, I owe this amazing opportunity to the assistance from the Platt Fellowship through ASOR.

Mariana Garcia de la Noceda, University of Puerto Rico

When I learned that one of my professors was going to dig in Jordan with Andrew's University's Madaba Plains Project, I begged her to take me along. Not only was it a once in a lifetime opportunity to gain some valuable experience in field archaeology, but I had always dreamed of visiting the



Middle East and immersing myself in a simply fascinating culture. The Platt Fellowship, awarded to me by ASOR, helped me make this dream a reality.

Located some kilometers east of Madaba, Tall Jalul is believed to be the largest tell in central Jordan. It is also believed to have been an important settlement for the Ammonites and Moabites during the Iron Age, and perhaps even the Biblical town of Heshbon. With this much history buried under the dirt, I was more than eager to get my hands on some picks and shovels and start finding it.

I left Puerto Rico with my professor and arrived in Jordan two days later. Then we set off from Amman to Madaba to meet with the rest of the team. This was my first "real" experience in field archaeology, and I had never worked in such a large site as Tall Jalul. The first thing I noticed on the first day was the water cistern that was uncovered the previous summer. The size and depth of it were quite impressive, and I could easily picture it filled with water and glistening in the sunlight; the beautiful "pools of Heshbon" from the Song of Solomon.

I was pleasantly surprised when I was assigned to the square in the cistern, supervised by the awesome Erica Fortin. My square, nicknamed the United Nation since none of us were from the same country, had the goal of reaching the base of the cistern's wall and find some pottery to date the cistern. We had some surprises along the way, not the least of which was a second wall that seemed to go straight into the cistern wall. We also found animal bones, arrow heads and a whole lot of pottery.

The experience of digging in the Middle East has served to enhance my love for history and archaeology.

Nicolas Gauthier, Boston University

I spent my summer as an ASOR Platt Fellow in western Turkey as a member of the Central Lydia Archaeological Survey (CLAS). CLAS is a diachronic study of cultural patterns around Lake Marmara, a large freshwater lake in the hinterland of the Iron Age metropolis of Sardis. CLAS researchers, led by Professors Christina Luke and Christopher Roosevelt of Boston University, have used intensive pedestrian survey to build a rich dataset reflecting patterns of land use and subsistence over the past 7,000 years around Lake Marmara. 250 potential sites have been identified in past seasons; the focus of this summer was in expanding the survey coverage to the northern shore of the lake. A center of habitation in antiquity, the region north



of Lake Marmara is now threatened by the construction of a major highway slated for the coming years. The project also revisited several previously identified Bronze Age settlements for more intensive investigation.

The sprawling orchards and vineyards of western Turkey proved a fitting backdrop not only to encounter a host of survey techniques but also an appreciation of

some of the subtler joys of archaeological research. Two teammates and I were tasked with conducting electrical resistance survey on Kaymakçı – a Middle and Late Bronze Age citadel on a mountainous spur directly west of the lake that was larger than contemporaneous levels at Troy and all other known cities in western Anatolia.

Though I now look back at my week on Kaymakçı favorably, it seemed at first a dubious honor to spend each day navigating thigh-high thistles and unusually resilient spider webs for nine-plus hours. The gusting wind quickly snapped the metal frames of our tent and the mallets we used to set up grid lines shattered, reducing us to driving stakes into the ground with whatever rocks we could find. The sun had sapped all moisture from the already compact soil; for the resistance meter to get an accurate reading in such conditions we had to pre-drill holes directly into the ground and then far-from-delicately drive in the meter's electrodes. Even the wooden rig to which the meter itself was attached had snapped by our final transects (though soon repaired by local craftsmen).

But upon returning to the lab and uploading each day's hard-won data, all hardship was completely forgotten. Every new transect made the picture of the complex mud-brick architecture buried less than a meter beneath our feet increasingly clear. It was so gratifying to see such tangible results after so many painstaking hours and to know that we had truly earned these data. The feeling is quite addictive, and in its pursuit I anticipate braving several more spidery fields in the years to come.

Theodore Gold, University of Chicago

This season, I worked at the Chalcolithic site of Marj Rabba for a total of six weeks, doing fieldwork, pottery and lithics washing and marking, as well as a bit of flint analysis on the side.

The site itself was divided between areas AA, BB, and CC. I began working in area CC (which was divided into squares L and M) under the direction of our archaeobotanist. CC's distinguishing features lie in several masonry walls, two of which run in a distinct parallel without flooring which suggests some kind of street(?). Our goal, post cleaning up L and M, was to open up a new square

(unsurprisingly named N), to see whether the structure walls in L and M continued. After several weeks of excavation, we managed to uncover what appeared to be two parallel walls (one of which showed signs of having been built off of and adapted with further improvements), and a fire pit outlined with fixed stones, all buried under a layer of rubble. Unfortunately, circumstances conspired to rob us of our supervisor, so my group was split and transferred to other areas of the dig.



I was placed in area BB for the final two weeks of the dig. Area BB was home to a just-revealed room, a parallel couple of walls, and what appeared to be several stone circles and features. I was placed at the southernmost part of BB, with the job of cleaning out one of the stone features to see whether it had been an intentional structure or merely a collection

of rubble. It was revealed to be the latter, but beneath said rubble there were a number of bones belonging to pigs or sheep/goats, as well as several pieces of local pottery and lithics (blades and flakes) of presumably local origin. A burnt seed was also found, and a soil sample was accordingly taken. As of now, I have not managed to remove all of the stones that had previously belonged to the rubble assemblage, but hopefully next season will see them fully removed.

I'd like to close out this report by stating my appreciation for the Platt Fellowship provided by ASOR, and expressing my extreme personal enjoyment of this dig.

Andrew LoPinto, University of Arkansas

The principle purpose of my involvement with the Penn State Expedition to Mendes was to serve as the bioarchaeologist for the excavation and analysis of the human remains. During the excavation season (23 June-19 August) five burials were uncovered and excavated, all dating to the First Intermediate Period (approximately 2200 BCE). In previous years, contemporaneous burials had been radiocarbon dated to secure the most accurate dates for these burials.

The five burials excavated consisted of three adults and two sub-adults. All of the burials were individual interments (there were no joint or group burials), and of the five, four appeared to be purposefully interred.

Due to the extremely poor preservation of skeletal material in the Egyptian delta, the remains were in very bad condition, and had



suffered extensive taphonomic damage. Of the three adult individuals, only one was reliably classified as “male” while the other two could not have sex identified. Age determination was also difficult, and impossible in one case as the burial had been damaged in a previous season’s excavation and consisted only of legs and feet.

The two sub-adults were in equally poor condition. These two burials, though both of children, were distinctly different. The individuals, aged to approximately seven and ten years at the time of death, respectively, received very different treatment upon interment. The seven-year-old child was very carefully interred in what appeared to be a coffin of some kind (possibly wood, though it was difficult to determine) and was the only burial this season to contain any grave goods--a single glazed ceramic earring. The ten-year-old, by contrast, did not appear to have been buried with any ceremony, but rather looked like it had been buried where it had died. The body position was different than all of the other burials and neither grave goods nor burial equipment were found.

This season offered an interesting insight into First Intermediate Period burial, which is a little-studied subject. Further excavation of the non-elite burials at Mendes could well provide a new understanding of life in this period of Egyptian history.

Sara Rich, University of Leuven

The Mazotos shipwreck lies off the southern coast of Cyprus at a depth of ~45m, and its third year of excavation has just been completed. The previous two years were focused on excavating the south end of the wreck, which corresponds to the bow (front) of the 18-m long cargo vessel. In previous years, we exposed part of the preserved hull and keel at the bow, and three lead anchor stocks were also uncovered and surfaced. This 2012 season however, the focus was shifted from the bow to the stern of the ship, or the north end of the shipwreck. From amphora typology, it is estimated that the ship went down a few decades before the *Kyrenia* during the Late Classical Period (mid-fourth c. BC). She was stocked with mostly Chian and some Samian amphoras, but this year Attic hydrias (water jugs) were also excavated and surfaced. These small hydrias are flat on the bottom, unlike the amphoras, and so were designed to set directly on a tabletop. On the insides of several of the surfaced



hydrias, there appears to be pine resin streaked inside. The hydrias are located in the cargo area, so it seems unlikely that they carried just water, and the pine residue also suggests a content of retsina wine or simply resin for export. Inside various vessels were found olive pits, what appear to be grape stems, and other seeds that seem to have come from grapes or some other fruit. Beneath the layer of hydrias was another layer of Chian amphoras, indicating the ship’s lower deck. At these layers more and more wood began being uncovered, until finally the vessel’s hull was revealed during the last week of excavation. The exposed wood was then reburied until next season.

The nature of the wreck is still unclear. It made stops at Athens, Chios, and Samos, but it is unknown if it even arrived in Cyprus before sinking, or where its port of origin was. Future seasons of excavation and scientific examination of the botanical finds (including the wood of the ship) will hopefully help to write this ancient vessel’s final report.

Carolyn Swan, Brown University

During this 2012 summer excavation season I served as the glass artifact specialist for two archaeological projects located in Israel and Turkey. It is due to the generosity of ASOR and the Platt Fellowship that this was possible, and I am very grateful to have had this opportunity.

I spent the first part of my summer working with Jodi Magness (UNC-Chapel Hill) at the site of Horbat Huqoq in the Galilee region of Israel, studying the glass assemblage that was excavated



from a Jewish village. Although the main occupation of the site dates to the Late Roman/Early Byzantine period, our project is interested in all periods of the site's occupation—including the modern Arab village that was built over a portion of the ancient settlement, which was abandoned in 1948 and bulldozed in the 1960s. As a glass specialist I therefore spent just as much time and attention on those glass finds dating well after the Byzantine period as I did to those dating to that particular era. I'm currently writing up the results of this season, and am very much looking forward to returning to this site over the next 4-5 years of the project.

After spending one month in Israel, I traveled to southern Turkey to participate in the final study season of the Kinet Höyük project. My job was to study the glass that was excavated during the 2011 field season at Tupras Field, a part of the site approximately 800m north of the Kinet mound, which has been identified by Asa Eger (UNC-Greensboro) as the Early Islamic settlement of Hisn al-Tinat. The glass from this site dates primarily to the 8th-12th centuries CE; I previously examined the glass finds from the 2008-2010 excavation seasons, incorporating these artifacts into my doctoral dissertation research. I am also currently writing up the results of the 2012 field season, and I have plans to chemically analyze a selection of the glass fragments in order to determine the glass raw materials, processing, and possible economic/trade links.

Jennifer Swerida, Johns Hopkins University

The field of 'Near Eastern Archaeology' encompasses a nebulous temporal and geographic array of archaeological sites and interwoven histories. Recent scholarship has seen the boundaries of the 'Near East' flex to incorporate ever-broader interaction zones. In the summer of 2012, the Platt Fellowship enabled me to participate in field projects in two such peripheral Near Eastern regions: the Southern Red Sea Archaeological Histories (SRSAH) Project in Ethiopia, run by Dr. Michael Harrower (Johns Hopkins University), and the Naxçivan Archaeological Project in Azerbaijan, run by Dr. Lauren Ristvet (University of Pennsylvania). Both projects consider the nature and development of complex societies in regions adjacent to more well known Near Eastern polities.

Although this was my second year participating in the SRSAH Project, I continue to be surprised at how working in Ethiopia can simultaneously be vastly different from and yet hauntingly familiar to my experiences on projects in the Levant or Southern Arabia. The SRSAH Project is made up of a regional survey component and an excavation component, centered on the largest known site in the 10002 km survey area. My role was to head up the latter component – an experience that gave me a taste of the many challenges faced by the dig director. While the vibrant local culture of the village near our site is unlike anything I have previously experienced, the workmen assisting our

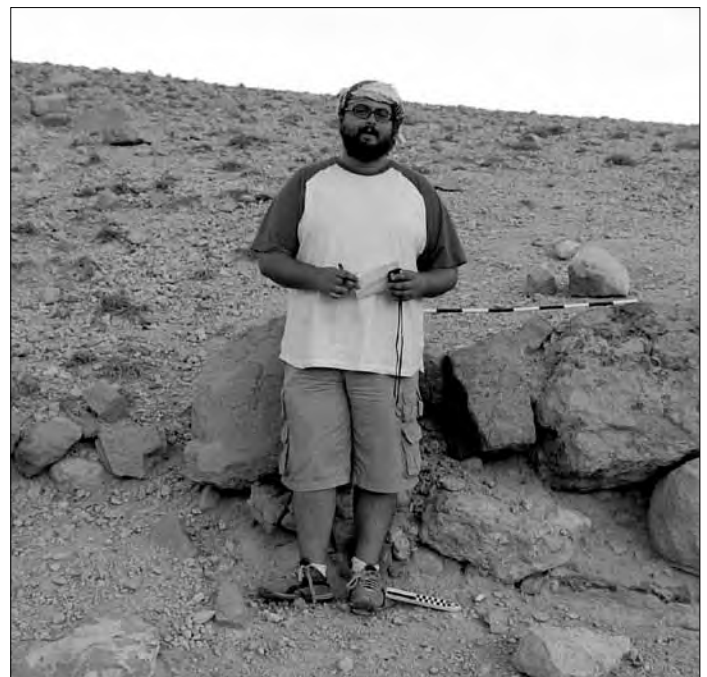


excavations were all from a small Islamic population within the village. I found myself chatting with the Ethiopian workers in broken Arabic about the ancient Sabaeen population that appears to have migrated from modern Yemen onto the Horn of Africa in the 8th century BC. Additionally, while the irregular stone-and-mud architecture were nothing like the beautiful mudbrick walls I've grown accustomed to in Syria and Oman, the domestic assemblage of hearths, cookware pottery, and assorted stone tools made me feel right at home.

A surprisingly short plane ride away, in Azerbaijan's Naxçivan Province, I began my second field project for the summer. This year marks my fourth year participating in the Naxçivan Archaeological Project – a project which considers the development of political complexity in the southern Caucasus in contrast to that of Mesopotamia. In previous years I've supervised an excavation unit and served as the small finds registrar. This year, as the project was running a shorter study season, I had the opportunity to help fill in the small holes left in our understanding of the site of Oqlanqala and its surroundings. My tasks included assisting on survey, mapping, ceramic analysis and drawing, small finds conservation, and even trying my hand at kite photography! Although it was initially disorienting not to be excavating at Oqlanqala, the small tasks and 'filling in' of holes gave me a new, more comprehensive perspective of the site and of how field archaeologists ideally construct site interpretations based on extended fieldwork.

These experiences were made possible by the generosity of the Platt Foundation, for which I am sincerely grateful.

Clive Vella, Brown University



I am fascinated by the places that archaeology takes me to, and thus far, I have never been disappointed. In fact, one can only hope that no unfortunate event or misgiving can ever squander anyone's archaeological experience. For me, this mantra was

seriously tested when I severely dislocated my finger during our second week of the field season. Yet, one cannot forget the ultimate archaeological experience, i.e. teamwork. Indeed, thanks to my several colleagues, their energy and their inquisitiveness, this season shaped up to be the best one in Jordan yet.

Thanks to the generous aid provided by the ASOR Platt Fellowship, I returned to Jordan once more with the Brown University Petra Archaeological Project (BUPAP). As a multi-component project, BUPAP operates on numerous endeavors including a systematic field survey and features documentation. While in previous years the BUPAP excavation sub-project focused on the Islamic village of Beidha, this season our research turned to a wider focus. In conjunction with my colleagues, we decided to turn our excavation interests towards multiple archaeological sites that were potentially Nabataean. However, due to lack of investigation these minor sites outside of Petra had never been appropriately tested or studied stratigraphically. Therefore, our aims for this season included the comprehension of the chronological phasing of cultural features currently recognizable in the plough-soil surface as well as to provide the BUPAP project with a better sense of the human use across the wider Petra region. However, as our season progressed it became apparent to us that we should also illustrate patterns of looting.

Aside from the numerous sites investigated, the ultimate reality remains that the modern interest in Petra is leading to an increased conflict between contemporary use, archaeological heritage, and conservation. Through our work this past season, we have managed to examine ten sites across the wider Petra region, gather a substantial corpus of data and garner a better sense of how humans adapted and exploited their surrounding landscape. Therefore, I would like to finally thank those who have graciously contributed to my ASOR Platt Fellowship. I hope to return this great honor by studying this place in the coming years and as always remain fascinated by it.

WRIGHT REPORT

Ian Herriott, University of California, Berkeley

I used my fellowship to fund my airfare to and from Israel. I joined the 3 week dig season at Tel Burna, directed by Joe Uziel and Itzick Shai of Bar Ilan University and then the 4 week season at Tell es-Safi/Gath, directed by Aren Maeir also of Bar Ilan University.

At Tel-Burna I spent my time digging in a Late Bronze age context with massive architecture, and a rich material culture just centimeters below the surface, and bedrock not far beneath. The exact nature of the structures being unearthed there is still not certain, but many indications point to a cultic function. One of the most exciting finds for me was a trio of plum sized vessels, seemingly parts of a kernos, resting perfectly upright together upon a large sherd, directly on top of a stone, all laid on bedrock. Everything seemed exactly as someone had placed them over 3,000 years ago. I also spent a couple weeks in 9th and 8th century Judahite levels on top of the tell. I had a chance to dig within cistern walls, which had been pocked in later times with silos. Aside from intriguing architecture, exciting things surfaced nearby, like a complete Judean decanter, a LMLK jar handle, and an especially gorgeous Judean pillar figurine head.

At Tell es-Safi/Gath I spent four intensely productive weeks in a 9th century destruction level. The finds were almost overwhelming. I had the joy of excavating many complete and intact vessels; from pear sized juglets to storage jars the size of large pumpkins. However, in other nearby areas of the site there was ample evidence of a massive and violent destruction, with smashed charred artifacts and stratigraphy showing collapsed roofs. It was impossible to not become immersed in the sheer reality of the event we were unveiling, the violent end to an illustrious Philistine city.

Many dig volunteers express having had a “once in a lifetime” experience. It was early during my first dig in 2011 that I resolved to myself I would not be satisfied with a single season of archaeology. This 2012 Wright fellowship made coming back to Israel a possibility for me. Thank you.



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