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ASMOSIA Officers 1995 - 98

President
Norman Herz
Department of Geology
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602-2501, USA
fax: 1 706 542 2425
e-mail: normherz@uga.cc.uga.edu

Executive Council

Susan Kane
Department of Art
Oberlin College
Oberlin, OH 44074-1193, USA
fax: 1 216 775 8969
e-mail: susan_kane@qmgate.cc.oberlin.edu

Lorenzo Lazzarini
Dipartimento di Storia dell' Architettura
30125 Venezia, Italy
fax: 39 41 719044

Yannis Maniatis
Research Laboratory for Archaeometry
NRCP "Demokritos"
153 10 Aghia Paraskevi, Attica, Greece
fax: 30 1 6519430

D. P. S. Peacock
Department of Archaeology
University of Southampton
SO17 1BJ Southampton, UK
e-mail: dpp@soton.ac.uk

Max Schvoerer
Université de Bordeaux III - CNRS
Maison de l'Archéologie
Applied Physics Lab., CRIAA
F-33405 Talence Cedex, France
fax: 33 56 845157

Newsletter Editors
Archaeometry - Norman Herz
Archaeology & Art History - Susan Kane
President's Report

I trust that this has been a fruitful, eventful and exciting summer season for all our members. We now number 234 and are constantly growing. But please, if you haven’t already, send in your dues for this year ($10 or FF50), and if you can, for next year as well. For our European members, I would like to remind you that there is a new alternative for payment of their membership dues. Checks for FF50 (fifty French francs), payable to Norman Herz, may be sent to me c/o David Herz, 7, bis rue de la Durance, 75012 Paris, France.

You should also mark your calendars for exciting events in the spring and summer of 1998. The prima event, of course, will be the tenth anniversary meeting of ASMOSEA, held for the first time outside of Europe, on June 11-15 in Boston, Massachusetts. The meeting will be hosted by the Boston Museum of Fine Arts (MFA) and Harvard University. Papers will be given at the Museum from June 11-13, followed by a two day field trip in New England. Organization of the conference is going on now, so you can expect more details in succeeding Newsletters.

For now, person to contact for ASMOSEA is Dr. John Herrmann. And incidently, we should all join in congratulating John for his recent appointment as Curator of Classical Art at the MFA. Although it’s still too early to learn many more details other than the dates for the meeting, your contact address is: Dr. John J. Herrmann Jr. Department of Classical Art Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA 02115
tel 617 369-3258; fax 617 267 0280

The other great event of 1998 will be the 30th International Symposium on Archaeometry. This is tentatively set for April 27 - May 1 to be held in Budapest. Although it is still too early to learn any more details than this, a principal organizer for the Symposium is one of our own members, Dr. Katalin T. Biro at the Hungarian National Museum in Budapest, e-mail: ksl852bi@eila.hu.

When we started out so boldly at II Ciocco in the Spring of 1988, with the blessings of NATO and a determination to convince people that the humanities and sciences could work together to each other’s advantage, the world was full of skeptics. Most art historians and archaeologists believed in the existence of an impenetrable barrier, that the jargon of scientists could never be understood. And many scientists had to learn that the methods of the "soft sciences" where style, tradition and history and perhaps also the mysterious 'gut feelings' could play a valid role in solving problems. The success of ASMOSEA in establishing a firm contact between the two communities can only be described as astounding. Our success can be measured by the fact that ASMOSEA is now a widespread recognizable and respected acronym with conservators, archaeologists, art historians and archaeological scientists. The outlook for the future is indeed bright; at meetings now, such as the Archaeological Institute of America, papers with scientific themes are freely mixed in the program with the purely "humanities" papers.

See you in Boston in '98!
Co-Editor's Report

Thank you for sending me your notices of publications, events, and change of addresses. Remember to send your electronic mail and web site addresses, too.

I have two personal announcements, one happy and one sad, to make concerning two of our "charter members." The good news first. I am happy to announce the birth of our newest ASMOSIA baby: Miriam, born to Vicky Mandi on 17 March in Oxford, England. Congratulations to Vicky and her husband on their newest research program!

The sad news is that Keith Matthews had a stroke on 23 September and is hospitalised. It is still too early to determine his condition, according to his colleague Mike Hughes who provided this news. Please join me in wishing Keith and his wife Cathy strength during this difficult time. Keith's home address is: 79 Hurst Green Road, Hurst Green, Oxted, Surrey RH8 9AJ, United Kingdom.

Announcements

Dr. James Harrell, Director of the Institute for Archaeological Geology at the University of Toledo (Toledo, OH 43606-3390, USA) announces a new web site at the following URL:

HTTP://WWW.GEOLOGY.UTOLEDO.EDU/ARCHAEOLOGY/

The web site features information on ancient Egyptian quarries and quarry stones, including a listing of 157 hardstone and softstone quarries dating from the beginning of Early Dynastic times until the end of the Roman period. Included among the information listed under each entry is quarry location (geographic description, latitude and longitude); rock type(s) quarried (petrological description and classification, and geologic formation); maps showing the quarry locations, and color images of the quarry stones. This information will be updated as further research is completed. For additional information or comments contact: Professor James Harrell at e-mail: JHARREL@GEOLOGY.UTOLEDO.EDU; tel: 419-530-2198; or fax: 419-530-4421.

The Society for Archaeological Sciences announces their new web site at the following URL: http://www.wisc.edu/anthropology/sas/sas.htm

The American School of Classical Studies in Athens announces that the search has been re-opened for the Director of the Wiener Laboratory. They seek an individual with an area of expertise in one of the primary areas of the Lab's research programs (human skeletal analysis, zooarchaeology, geoarchaeology) who has an established publication record and demonstrated administrative experience in collaborating with archaeological and Classical scholars. Salary is negotiable and commensurate with rank and experience. The position is to be filled for the term 01 July 1997 to 30 June 2000, with eligibility for renewal. The deadline for applications is 15 November 1996. For further information, contact: Professor George Rapp, Jr., Chair of the Search Committee, Archæometry Laboratory, University of Minnesota, Duluth, MN 55812, USA; tel. 218-726-7629 and fax: 218-726-6979.

The American School of Classical Studies also invites applications for a one year (1997-1998) Research Fellowship in Geoarchaeology for
research on a geoarchaeological topic in Greece. The Fellowship is open both to scholars with a Ph.D. and those working on a doctoral dissertation, with a stipend of approximately $13,000 to $25,000 depending on seniority and experience. The deadline for applications is 05 February 1997. For further information contact: Scott Pike, Acting Director, The Wiener Laboratory, American School of Classical Studies, 54 Souidias Street, Athens GR 106-76, tel: 30-1-723-6313 or 723-9281. fax: 729-4047.

New Publications

Books

*The Roman Imperial Porphyry Quarries: Gebel Dokhan, Egypt, Interim Report*, 1996, 26 pp. by David Peacock, University of Southampton and Valerie Maxfield, University of Exeter. The report includes an extended article on “The Leptis Quarries” by Jill Phillips and Sue Wright, and shorter articles on excavation at the fort in Wadi Abu Mal’Amel, basketry and cordage, ostraca, glass, textiles, coins, lamps, and environmental data.


Articles


Communications

The Fifth International ASMOSIA Symposium will be held in Boston, Massachusetts, USA from June 10 - 15, 1998 at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. Mark your calendars now for this historical tenth anniversary meeting. More details will be included in the next newsletter.

The Israel Journal of Chemistry has published a special issue devoted to
Calendar

(=new items or information)

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Nov 06-09. Third Symposium on Archaeometry, Athens, Greece. Contact Elea Alper, 41 M. Mousouni St., 116 36 Athens, Greece. fax: 301-792-3090 e-mail: theo@neto.gr.

Dec. 02-06. Materials Research Society, Fall meeting, Boston. Contact Materials Research Society, 9800 McKnight Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237 U.S.A. Tel: 412-367-3003; Fax: 412-367-4373.

Dec 27-30. 98th Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America, New York City. Abstract deadline 22 March. Contact Shelley Griffin, AIA, 656 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02215. fax: 617-353-6550 e-mail: aia@bu.edu

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* May 29-31. Remote Sensing Applications in Archaeology, St. Cloud St. University, St. Cloud, Minnesota. Sponsored by St. Cloud St. University, NASA, and the Oriental Institute. Contact: Benjamin Richason, Spatial Analysis Research Center, Dept. of Geography, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN 56304. e-mail: RSAA@eleftheria.stcloud.msus.edu and conference home page: http://eleftheria.stcloud.msus.edu/RSAA


*Sept 21-27. XIII International Symposium on Environmental Biogeochemistry, Monopoli (Bari) Italy. Special session on weathering processes of monuments and techniques of diagnosis. Information: Prof. Nicola Senesi, XIII ISEB, Istituto di chimica agraria, Univ. di Bari, via Amendola 165A, 70126 Bari, Italia. tel: 39-80-544-2853; fax: 5442813; e-mail: nsenes@mail2.clio.it

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*April. International Archaeometry Symposium, Budapest, Hungary. A web site is under development for this meeting at the following URL: http://orgo.hnm.hu/amingy98/home.html

*June 10-15. Asmosia V, Boston, Massachusetts, USA.

New Members

Prof. Dr. Gregor Borg
Institut für Geologische Wissenschaften
Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg
Domstrasse 5
D-06108 Halle, Germany
tel 49-345-5526080, fax -5527178
borg@geologie.uni-halle.de

Dr. Mary B. Hollinhead
Department of Art
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, RI 02881-0820
tel 401-792-2131
mbholl@uniacc.uri.edu

Dra. Federica Paglietti
via Petropo da Cortona, 8
I-00196 Rome, Italy

Dr. Myrini Varti-Matarangas
Institute of Geology & Mineral Exploration
70 Messoghion Street
Athens 125 27 Greece
mvm@quartz.igme.ariadne-t.gr

The Wiener Laboratory
American School of Classical Studies
GR-106 76 Athens
Greece

Dra. Anna Gallina Zevi
Superintendenza Archaeologica di Ostia
Via del Romagnoli, 717
00119 Ostia Antica (RM) Italia