Horn Fund Awarded

The "Friends of Siegfried H. Horn Endowment Fund" awarded its first travel grant to Zacarias Vargas, a Master of Divinity student from Nicaragua. This $1,000 award broadens the perspective of a future minister by allowing the recipient to gain the personal experience of visiting the Holy Land and participating on an excavation sponsored by Andrews University along with the Madaba Plains Project. Because of this scholarship, Vargas was able to participate on the dig during the summer of 1996 and at the same time fulfill a lifelong dream of visiting the Holy Land. The recipient of the Horn Endowment Fund grant was selected from a pool of outstanding students. A committee composed of the Seminary Dean, the Institute of Archaeology Director, and the Siegfried H. Horn Archaeological Museum Curator chose the recipient.

The goal of the endowment fund is to provide scholarships for five M.Div. students to participate in an archaeological dig. This means the fund must reach $100,000. Future grants will be awarded in years during which an archaeological excavation will be conducted. Zacarias Vargas' name has been inscribed on the plaque located in the Seminary building. As this is an endowment fund, only part of the interest may be placed toward the grant. Your donation to this account is greatly appreciated. Currently the endowment fund has reached the $12,500 mark. The Institute of Archaeology established the Horn Endowment Fund as a memorial to Siegfried H. Horn, founder of the museum. (David Merling)

Zacarias Vargas (front left) receives the first Horn Endowment Scholarship from David Merling (front right) as Randall Younker and Werner Vohlmeister look on.
Younker Elected ASOR Trustee

At the year-end meetings held in New Orleans, Institute Director Randall W. Younker was elected as an ASOR trustee serving as the Institutional Representative for Andrews University. During his 3-year term, he will meet with other ASOR trustees to discuss administrative matters such as finances and publication. Younker has previously served as a trustee to the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem from 1991-1994 and joins MPP colleagues Lawrence T. Geraty, Larry G. Herr, and Øystein S. LaBianca who also hold ASOR appointments.

Personnel from the IA/HAM presented several papers at the combined year-end meetings. Younker explained the "Archaeology of the Seven Churches of Revelation," Museum Curator David Merling used the book of Joshua to illustrate “The Relationship between Archaeology and the Bible,” and Paul J. Ray, Jr., outlined the solution to some “Problems of Middle and Late Bronze Age Chronology” for the Near Eastern Archaeological Society. LaBianca discussed “Appropriate Theory for Preparing Archaeological Reports” with members of the Society of Biblical Literature and also read “The 'Hardy Diet': Food as a Weapon in Indigenous People’s Resistance Against Subjugation” to the American Anthropology Association in San Francisco. These meetings allow MPP research colleagues to present papers and gather for the purpose of strategic planning as was done in the MPP Consultation hosted by Douglas R. Clark. (Philip R. Drey)

Donations

Several people have gratiously provided generous donations. We wish to thank Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Buck, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Upton, and Dr. John J. Davis. Donations are a major source of fun-ding by which we are able to continue work in the area of archaeology, and are much appreciated. (Philip R. Drey)

Lectures


On Nov 18, Leen Ritmeyer lectured on “Where the Ark of the Covenant Stood in Solomon’s Temple” and “Locating the Original Temple Mount.” Ritmeyer provided current archaeological insights on the temple of Herod. Ritmeyer is co-partner of Ritmeyer Archaeological Design and has authored several articles on the temple mount. (Philip R. Drey)

Visitors

The Museum welcomed many visitors from the community and area schools this fall quarter. Over 100 people toured the exhibits on Saturday afternoons. Visiting students included classes from St. Mary’s of Three Oaks, MI; Washington Elementary School of Coloma, MI; E.P. Clark Elementary School of St. Joseph, MI; and a home school. The Pathfinder’s of Cicero, IN, and a Sabbath School class from Pioneer Memorial Church also visited. We were also pleased to welcome the family of Senator Fred Upton during their tour of the museum. All totalled, 431 students, teachers, and community members viewed the exhibits. (Philip R. Drey)

Inscription Found at Ekron

A Phoenician inscription has been found at Tell Mique/Ekron, an archaeological project supported in-part by Andrews University. Seymour Gitin and Trude Dothan, co-directors of the Tel Mique/Ekron project, reported that this five-line inscription was the first written evidence from Ekron bearing the name of the city. The inscription also lists two of the city’s known kings, Padi and his son Achish, who had constructed a temple at Ekron dedicated to a goddess.

This inscription holds archaeological as well as historical significance. Archaeologically, it verifies the modern site as biblical Ekron. Historically, it is the first time a biblical city and a list of its kings have been found at a site in a stratigraphical historical context. (Editors)
New Secretary

We are proud to announce the appointment of Susan Oliver as the Institute secretary. Mrs. Oliver has previously served with her family as missionaries to French Guyana. She received a Masters degree in Communications from Andrews University, and has served with several large businesses including The Dow Chemical Co.

Rejoining the IA/HAM student staff are Philip R. Drey as Editorial Assistant in the Publication Department, Paul J. Ray, Jr., as Assistant to the Curator, and artist Giselle S. Hasel who was contracted for the fall quarter drawing the Jalul 1996 small finds. (Philip R. Drey)

APOT Available

Ancient Pottery of Transjordan by Hendrix, Drey, and Storfjell is now available. The 356-page manual introduces the study of pottery—the essential archaeological element for establishing ancient chronology. Its compact, 6 x 9 in., wire-bound format with 469 pottery examples from 23 archaeological periods is ideal for field or classroom use. Offered at $18.95, see the enclosed insert for a special discount. (Editors)

Herr and Clark Update

Even though field work has come to a close for 1996, this does not mean that MPP personnel are not working hard. In Douglas R. Clark’s laboratory at Walla Walla College, Hester Thompson, the pottery registrar from Hesban, and a group of volunteers are reconstructing collared pithoi from the 1994 season. Gloria A. London, University of Washington, is supervising this project. Clark is also working on a report to publish on the new web site of ASOR digs. Larry G. Herr, Canadian Union College, has just finished the inventory of the Tell el-‘Umeiri objects and has divided them into basic types of artifacts (weapons, textiles, inscriptions, etc.). His assistant, Elena Charapova has begun drawing and describing the ‘Umeiri pottery from the 1996 season. Karen Borstad, University of Arizona, continues work on the design of the database which MPP used this past field season. Rusty Low-Schnurrenberger has reported that a wooden beam from Field B at Tell el-’Umeiri was oak and that other wooden pieces were olive. (The recovery of wood is extremely rare from sites as old as ‘Umeiri). At Andrews University, Randy Siebold continues digitizing dig photos onto CDs. Rhonda Root is working on an isometric drawing of an early Iron I house. (Edited from recent communication with Larry G. Herr)

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Provides information on the most recent edition of the Levant Journal

www-oi.uchicago.edu
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Online edition of Jordan’s weekly newspaper

www.lonelyplanet.com
Travel information for Middle East countries

Often we have been asked if there exists a standard format for archaeological publications. We recommend the ASOR style used in BASOR and many other publications. ASOR has recently made available a handbook for ASOR editors and authors. You may contact Dr. Billie J. Collins at BCOLLIN@EMORY.EDU for information regarding this new handbook.

Ph.D. candidate, Friedbert Ninow, has accepted the position of professor of biblical studies at Theologische Hochschule Friedensau in Germany. Ninow has assisted Udo Worschech at al-Balua and looks forward to continuing excavations at the site as well as enlarging the museum collection.

UPCOMING LECTURE

Gerald L. Mattingly, Professor of Biblical Studies at Johnson Bible College, will lecture Feb 24, 1997, on the Kerak Resources Project at 8:00 pm for the Horn Lecture Series, here on campus.

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