

**Report of the Committee on Publications  
To The Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees of ASOR  
Submitted by Jeffrey A. Blakely, Vice-President  
13 November 2009**

As in my last two reports, it is my intent to keep the body of this report short. This report repeats some of the discussion of the report for the Executive Committee from last September. Appendix I provides current status of each journal/series provided by each editor.

**Status of Our Journals (for a detailed catalogue see Appendix I)**

During the summer and fall the editors of all three journals continued to make strides to get our journals on time after many years of being behind. The most recent issue of *NEA*, 72 (3), appeared at the end of October so *NEA* remains within a few weeks of being fully caught up. Editor Ann Killebrew reports that 72 (4), the December issue, should appear in December. *BASOR* 355, August 2009, appeared at the end of September, about three weeks late. It was found that the final corrections from this issue had not been made by the printer. The issue was reprinted and remailed and the corrected version arrived in late October. *BASOR* 356 will be shipped by Christmas, so it, too, will appear about three weeks late. *JCS* 60 for 2008 appeared in the spring and *JCS* 61 for 2009 appeared in my mail at the beginning of October. This is great news.

This does not mean that journals are fully caught up, but it does mean that we should be viewed by most observers as being caught up when 1 January 2010 rolls around, which is the most important date for subscription sales since that is when the journal status is determined. Nonetheless, it is important to consolidate these gains and run on time from now on. All of the journal editors and their assistants should be heartily congratulated for their hard work in this effort.

**Status of Our Books (for a detailed catalogue see Appendix I)**

*AASOR* 64, "Reflections of Empire: Archaeological and Ethnographic Perspectives on the Pottery of the Ottoman Levant and Beyond," edited by Bethany Walker appeared in October. A volume on Iskander by Suzanne Richard is currently in press as part of the Archaeological Report Series.

**Electronic ASOR Publications**

For the past few years the need to have ASOR's current publications become available for sale or distribution in an electronic format has been raised. At the most basic level we have been losing Institutional Subscribers because we did not provide our publications in an electronic format. As of 1 January 2010 our current journals will be online through Atypon. There are consequences of this action, however. These topics will be described by the Executive Director. In terms of ASOR providing Atypon with the necessary electronic files, there is no real extra work for publications. As the Executive Director will describe, the real question is how many members and subscribers stay paper, how many go electronic, how many do both, how many do we add, and how many do we lose over the next year. On all of these issues we can only speculate and the consequences may be great.

### **Subscription Renewals and Claims**

In my last reports the Executive Director and I laid out some of the problems that have led to a flood of claims and problems in timely renewal of subscriptions. As expected these continue, although they should start to abate since we are close to caught up, but the financial drag will continue to some extent. My best guess of the direct cost to ASOR from late payment for on-going subscriptions which are a consequence of our journals being behind at the start of 2009 is \$13,000.

The ASOR staff in Boston has worked very hard this year to maintain and grow membership. They have been successful, which is good news on many fronts, but from the perspective of COP this is quite important since members receive our journals. On the other hand, we have seen a sharp decline in subscriptions this year, especially for *NEA*. Given that we have been behind and how our agencies bill out, this has been a frustrating problem to track since only now are hard data available. The Executive Director will have the most current numbers. Going online is one way we are tackling the problem. This situation is being followed closely.

### **Printing Contracts**

Currently the Editors, Executive Director, and COP are examining bids and printers' samples relating to the printing contracts of ASOR's journals. Discussions will occur in New Orleans.

### **Oxford University Press**

After a delay on our part in responding to Oxford University Press over the preparation of a second edition of *OEANE* in the spring and early summer, discussions again began in July. These have moved forward and seem to be entering the final stages of negotiation.

## **Appendix I: Reports of the Editors**

**BASOR:** Editor James M. Weinstein

Current Status:

BASOR 356 (November 2009) - corrected first proofs returned to Eisenbrauns on 11/7; issue should go to printer around November 30, be shipped by Christmas.

BASOR 357 (February 2010) - will start checking bibliographies and copyediting articles after Thanksgiving, begin typesetting in late December or beginning of January; book reviews already typeset.

BASOR 358 (May 2010) - article manuscripts in revision; book reviews in copyediting or at typesetter.

BASOR 359 (August 2010) - article manuscripts out for review; book reviews to go to copyeditor after Thanksgiving.

Jodi Magness, Andrea Berlin, and Mark Smith have each served a single term (ending December 31, 2009) and are therefore eligible to serve a second term. All three have agreed to serve for a second term.

### ***Near Eastern Archaeology***

#### **Report to the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees November 2009 Ann E. Killebrew**

The following is a report and update on *Near Eastern Archaeology* submitted to Jeffrey Blakely, chair of COP, as part of the publications report submitted to the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees.

Since the ASOR Annual Meetings, the following issues of *NEA* have appeared, are currently with the printers, or are with Billie Jean Collins:

#### **NEA 71/4 (64 page issue April 2009):**

##### **Feature Articles:**

Tell Abu al-Kharaz: A Bead in the Jordan Valley The Millennial Rise and Fall of Its Societies  
(P. Fischer)

The Archaeology of Warfare: Local Chiefdoms and Settlement Systems in the Jenin Region  
During the Ottoman Period (H. Salem)

##### **Forum:**

Recovering the Past: Protecting and Recording our Archaeological Heritage in Southern Iraq  
(A. Abdulamir)

A Focus on the Demand Side of the Antiquities Equation (M. Kersel)

**FieldNotes:**

Art and Empire at the MFA (J. Chung)

Reading Ancient Moabite Pigments with Laser Ablation ICP-MS: A New Archaeometric  
Technique for Near Eastern Archaeology (B. Porter and R. Speakman)

Rainey Interview (S. Gitin and S. Scham)

**Book Reviews:**

Trade and Travel (K. Lewis)

An Archaeological Search for Jesus (G. Fassbeck)

The Cesnola Collection (L. Steel)

A History of Pottery and Potters (J. Blakely)

Mesopotamia: The Invention of the City (B. Parker)

**NEA 72/1 (64 page issue – appeared June 2009):**

**Feature Article:**

Apollonia-Arsuf: Between Past and Future (K. Galor, O. Tal et al.)

**Forum Section:**

The Qumran Digital Model: An Argument for Archaeological Reconstruction in Virtual Reality  
(R. Cargill)

Responses (by J. Magness and R. Cargill)

**FieldNotes:**

Alalakh Krater (A. Yener)

Beyond Babylon: Art, Trade, and Diplomacy in the Second Millennium B.C.

An Exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (A. Karmel Thomason)

Pompeii and the Roman Villa: Art and Culture around the Bay of Naples. An Exhibit at the  
National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C. (E. Friedland)

Maresha Inscriptions Provide Context for a Royal Stele in the Israel Museum (I. Stern)

Jabal Harun – note and book advertisement

**NEA 72/2 (48 page issue – appeared July 2009):**

**Feature Article:**

From the Stone Age to the Middle Ages: Digging up Tall al-Umayri (L. Herr and D. Clark)

**FieldNotes:**

New Iron Age Copper-Mine Fields Discovered in Southern Jordan: Erez Ben-Yosef, Thomas  
E. Levy and Mohammad Najjar

Whose Tail Did Nefermaat's Hunting Dog Bite? (Nicolas Manlius)

**Reviews:**

Crossing the Rift: Resources, Routes, Settlement Patterns and Interaction in Wadi Arabah  
(Hannah Friedman)

Biblical Peoples and Ethnicity: An Archaeological Study of Egyptians, Canaanites, Philistines,  
and Early Israel 1300-1100 B.C.E. (Avraham Faust)

Can There be a Philosophy of Archaeology: Processual Archaeology and the Philosophy of  
Science (Michael Brian Schiffer)

A Companion to the Ancient Near East (Gabriel H. Pizzorno)

**NEA 72/3 (64 page issue – appeared in October 2009 – slightly delayed due to problems with Joe Zias’ manuscript and response)**

**Feature Article:**

The Archaeology of Border Communities: Renewed Excavations at Tel Beth-Shemesh,  
Part 1: The Iron Age  
Shlomo Bunimovitz and Zvi Lederman

**Forum**

The Tzuba Cave of John the Baptist: John the Baptist or Lazarus, the Patron Saint of Leprosy?  
(Joe Zias with responses by Shimon Gibson and Adrian J. Boas)

**FieldNotes**

The Fertile Goddess at the Brooklyn Museum of Art: Excavating the Western Feminist Art  
Movement and Recontextualizing New Heritages (Uzma Z. Rizvi and Murtaza Vali)  
The Life of Meresamun: A Temple Singer in Ancient Egypt: An Exhibition at the Oriental  
Institute Museum, University of Chicago (Jean Li)

**Book Reviews (depending on available space):**

The Bible Unearthed: The Making of a Religion (Tristan J. Barako)  
Mosaics as History: the Near East from Late Antiquity to Islam (Jane deRose Evans)  
Bible, Map, and Spade: The American Palestine Exploration Society, Frederick Jones Bliss,  
and the Forgotten Story of Early American Biblical Archaeology (Jeffrey A. Blakeley)  
Homeric Seafaring (Yaacov Kahanov)  
The Petra Siq: Nabataean Hydrology Uncovered (John Peter Oleson)

**NEA issues in preparation:**

**NEA 72/4 (all material with Billie Jean Collins. Issue should appear before the end of 2009)**

**Tentatively scheduled for NEA 72/4 (Special issue on the Neo-Hittites: Guest editor: Tim Harrison)**

The Temple of the Storm-God in Aleppo During the Late Bronze and Early Iron Ages. (K. Kohlmeyer, 12 pp; approx. 5,000 words; he has provided 24 images for us to choose from)  
New Excavations at Zincirli--Ancient Sam'al. (D. Schloen, 30 pp; 10,000 words; 30+ images; David is in the process of producing a more abbreviated version of his paper)  
Sea Peoples, Neo-Hittites and Aramaeans in the ‘Land of Palastin’: Renewed Investigations at Tell Tayinat on the Plain of Antioch. (T. Harrison, 15 pp; 5,000 words; 15-20 images to choose from)  
Cilicia, Aleppo and the Amuq: New Evidence on the Late Bronze-Iron Age Transition. (D. Hawkins, 6 pp. single-spaced; approx. 4-5,000 words; mss. is in typescript, not yet in an electronic format; 1-2 images).

**NEA 73/1: (Currently being worked on):**

Suggested Feature Article: Tell Qarqur (R. Dorneman) with several shorter articles already edited and ready to go to BJ.

**NEA 73/2: (Currently being worked on):**

First issue devoted to the archaeology of Lebanon.

Due to the healthy backlog of manuscripts, I anticipate that most, if not all, of the upcoming issues will be 64 pages in length.

I would like to thank Jennie Ebeling, Gabriele Fassbeck, and Justin Lev-Tov, assistant editors of *NEA*, and to outgoing assistant editor Ben Porter for their excellent work and contributions to *NEA*. I also take this opportunity to welcome Robert Schick, to our team of assistant editors, and Christopher Conlan, who will join Heather Heidrich as an editorial assistant. We continue to update the *NEA* website and we are planning to expand the scope of the website to include recent archaeological discoveries and outreach initiatives with other ASOR committees.

One issue continues to be challenging: Pdf files are not being sent to authors in a timely manner. This is a very straightforward matter but for some reason Pdf files are problematic. I request that this issue is addressed and the problem resolved.

As already noted in my Spring 2009 report, I anticipate that NEA will be full caught up at the end of 2009.

***JCS***: Editor Piotr Michalowski

No report.

***ASOR Annual***: Editor Joseph A. Greene

1. Title: Reflections of Empire: Archaeological and Ethnographic Perspectives on the Pottery of the Ottoman Levant and Beyond  
Author/Editor: Bethany Walker (ed.)  
Status: Published in October 2009 as AASOR 64.
2. Title: New Perspectives on the Iron Age Archaeology of Edom, southern Jordan  
Interim Studies of the Surveys, Excavations and Research of the Edom Lowlands Regional Archaeology Project (ELRAP) 2006-2008  
Author/Editor: Thomas E. Levy (ed.)  
Status: Proposal Accepted, MS promised December 2009
3. Title: Crossroads and Boundaries: The Archaeology of Past and Present in the Malloura Valley, Cyprus  
Author/Editor: Michael Toumazou, Nick Kardulias, Derek Counts (eds.)  
Status: Proposal Accepted by previous editor, MS promised "Fall 2009"
4. Title: Excavations at Tel Zahara, Israel  
Author/Editor: Susan Cohen (ed.)  
Status: Proposal accepted, MS promised "early 2010"
5. Title: Photographs of the American Palestine Exploration Society  
Taken by Tancrede Dumas  
Author/Editor: Rachel Hallote (ed.)

Status: Proposal under review

6. Title: Nelson Glueck's 1937 Excavations at Khirbet et-Tannur  
Author/Editor: Judith McKenzie  
Status: Inquiry for publication received, no proposal received yet.
7. Title: Food and Foodways in the Ancient Near East  
Author/Editor: Oded Borowski, Al Leonard (eds.)  
Status: Inquiry for publication received by previous editor, no proposal received yet.
8. Title: Ties that Bind..., Ties that Unwind  
Author/Editor: Ed Maher (ed.)  
Status: Inquiry for publication received current editor, no proposal received yet.

***Archaeological Report Series:*** Editor Kevin McGeough

1. ARS MSS in press  
-Iskandar, Jordan (S. Richard) –currently reviewing galleys and indexing
2. ARS MSS ACCEPTED, AWAITING REVISION  
-Humayma, Jordan (J. Oleson)  
-Ayl-Ras en Naqab Archaeological Survey (ARNAS) (B. MacDonald)
3. ARS MSS NOW UNDER REVIEW  
-none
4. ARS PROPOSALS ACCEPTED, AWAITING MSS [MS promised-by date, if available]  
-Idalion, Cyprus (P. Gaber) [PROMISED BY September, 2009]  
-Akko, Israel (A. Brody) [This was a proposal that was initially accepted but then ‘pulled’ by the author. The author has decided to proceed with publication in ARS and so the proposal has been ‘re-activated’ based on prior review].

I have not yet had contact with these authors:

- Caesarea Promontory, Israel (K. Gleason) [MS NOT YET RECEIVED]
- Phlamoudhi-Melissa, Cyprus (J. Smith) [PROMISED BY END OF 2008, NOT YET RECEIVED]
- Roman Aqaba, Jordan (T. Parker) [PROMISED BY JUNE 2009]
- Wawiyat, Israel (B. Nakhai and J. P. Dessel) [MS NOT YET RECEIVED]

5. ARS INQUIRIES, AWAITING PROPOSALS

- Shechem Iron Age (J. Holiday)
- Tell er-Ras (R. J. Bull)
- Caesarea Mithraeum (A. Ratzlaff)
- Athienou, Cyprus (M. Toumazou, D. Counts) [ADDED NOVEMBER 2008]
- Phlamoudhi-Vounari (M. Horowitz)
- Dhibon (Morton Excavations), Jordan (Bruce Routledge)

5.5 ARS QUERIES, UNDECIDED ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT THEY WILL SUBMIT

- Kourion's Amathous Gate Cemetery (Michael Given)
- Cyprus Conference Proceedings for CAARI Monograph Series (Thomas Davis) [just a query, awaiting conference group decision]
- Tell en-Nasbeh (EB I), Israel (Catherine Foster)
- Bahrain Bioarchaeology Project (Tombs in the Hearst Museum Collection) (Ben Porter)

6. ARS PORPOSAL WITHDRAWN, BUT WITH PLANS TO RESUBMIT

- Cadir Hoyuk, Turkey (S. Steadman)