

**Report of the Committee on Publications
To The Executive Committee of ASOR
Submitted by Jeffrey A. Blakely, Vice-President
17 September 2010**

Summer can be a slow time in publications since the archaeologists tend to be in the field. Nonetheless, a number of publications events of this past summer demand note.

For our journals, the most recent issue of *JCS*, number 62 for 2010, appeared in late June. Technically this appeared early since 1 July is its scheduled publication date. *BASOR* 358 (May) came out in June and *BASOR* 359 (August) is currently at the printer and thus will probably appear at the end of September or very early October. *BASOR*, therefore, is continuing to run about a month and a half behind schedule. Jim Weinstein has suggested to both the *BASOR* Editorial Board and me the possibility of adding another Assistant or Associate Editor to his editorial staff to facilitate work. All have endorsed this idea if Jim can find a willing and appropriate editor.

The June/September issue of *NEA* appeared both in print and online at some point during the week prior to the EC Meeting. This is a stunning issue on Lebanon. And the issue appeared in its scheduled month for the first time this millennium. This is good news. The decision to create a double issue was a late development that started on the hope that a donor would support an expanded issue on the Lebanon topic, which would have good PR value just like the double Cyprus issue of two years ago. The donation did not happen and this is why an expanded issue became a double issue. I strongly supported this idea, but in the long view this was a mistake on my part and it delayed *NEA* being up to date by 3 months at the end of a fiscal year.

I hope that from this point the volume of claims for ASOR journals will begin to diminish now that we are more-or-less caught up. Claims should cease to be a significant drain in time, stationery, and postage in Boston. As I have noted for some time, this will probably take a year to 18 months to work itself through the libraries' purchasing and our distribution systems, however. That some members and subscribers have elected to take electronic versions will also help cause a decline in claims.

A new volume in the Archaeological Report Series, number 14, appeared in July. This is Suzanne Richard's volume entitled *Khirbet Iskander: Final Report on the Early Bronze IV Area "C" Gateway and Cemeteries*. Volume 15, John Oleson's volume on Humayma is in proofs, and Burton MacDonald's report on the Ayl-Ras en Naqab Archaeological Survey is the next in line for that series. *AASOR* 65, Michael Toumazou, Nick Kardulias, and Derek Counts's *Crossroads and Boundaries: The Archaeology of Past and Present in the Malloura Valley, Cyprus* is also ready for production and should appear in late December or January. The pipeline of volumes for both series is good. Income from these series exceeds costs by just a bit so the Opportunity Fund's balances remain adequate, especially with the rebound in the stock market.

The report of the Executive Director will describe the hiring/promotion of Kevin Cooney to the position of Director of Membership, Subscription, and Publication Services.

After lengthy discussions with librarians and publishers around the world, and after reading literature on developments and trends in the world of journal publications, I have concluded that ASOR will probably see a significant decline in subscriptions to *BASOR* and *NEA* for the next

few years, and, quite possibly, a drop in membership. This all relates to the necessity of producing electronic journals, mainly for libraries at this point. To me this suggests we need to consider possibly radical changes in journal pricing and even that we reconsider the very nature of ASOR membership and its benefits. Over the past few weeks I have tried to initiate this discussion in COP, but, while a few agreed with me, most COP members either disagreed with me or saw little or no point in such discussions. I believe this is the biggest issue facing ASOR right now and I will continue to try to get a discussion going in COP or among those on COP who see this as a problem along with members of other ASOR committees or boards who also foresee a danger here.

The current three-year terms of many of our editors come to an end in 2011: James Weinstein with **BASOR** at the end of June, and Ann Killebrew with **NEA**, Joseph Greene with **AASOR**, and Kevin McGeough with the ARS at the end of December. Over the next nine months COP will either renominate the current editors or nominate new individuals to fill these positions for the Board's consideration and approval.

I also note that my term as VP for Publications/Chair of COP will also end at the end of 2011. I will neither seek nor accept a second term. I strongly recommend that the Board initiate a search process for this position soon so that the Officers Nomination Committee can seek input from COP and the editors at the Annual Meeting in Atlanta. Then the Board should be able to vote on the new VP/Chair at the Spring Board Meeting, allowing a six month transition.

Appendix: Editors' Reports:

BASOR: Editor James M. Weinstein

Current Status:

BASOR 358 (May 2010): Came out in June.

BASOR 359 (September 2010): Went to printer on September 10, should be out in a few weeks.

BASOR 360 (November 2010): Book reviews edited and sent to Eisenbrauns, started work on the article manuscripts the week of September 13.

BASOR 361 (February 2011): Four articles accepted or in revision for this issue.

BASOR 362 (May 2011): Various manuscripts out for review for the May issue.

A new set of "Instructions for Contributors" was posted on the ASOR website in August.

The only other item to report relates to the BASOR Publishing Agreement -- specifically, sections 2, 6, and 7 of that agreement -- which forces an author to sign a document that almost certainly puts him or her (and ASOR) in violation of museum permission statements.

Section 2 of the Publishing Agreement states that ASOR has the right to publish the paper in BASOR "and in any other ASOR publication for which the WORK may be deemed appropriate by the editors at such time, at such price, in such quantity, and in such format and medium, as the Publisher shall determine." But virtually all museum permissions specify that the permission is for one time use only, and the illustration can only be published in the journal specified in the permission, often at a certain dpi. Moreover, the number of copies of the issue published may not exceed a certain total.

Section 6 then compounds the problem for the author by saying that the author "shall hold harmless and indemnify Publisher, [etc.], against any losses, damages, reasonable legal fees and court costs, and other expenses that any of them may suffer or incur by reason of demand, claim, or litigation that may be brought against them, jointly or severally, by reason of any of the representations or warranties herein made by Author." So now the author may have to indemnify ASOR if it gets sued for republishing an illustration it had no right to republish!

And finally, section 7 says that author shall give to ASOR various republication and storage rights that in some cases she/he may have no right to grant to ASOR.

Rather than make an author sign such an agreement, ASOR should modify the agreement so it reflects what an author can properly agree to.

Near Eastern Archaeology: Editor 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. Since the April 2010 Executive Committee meeting, the following issues of *NEA* have appeared, are currently with the printers or are in the planning stage:

NEA 73/1: (Appeared)

Egyptians in Jaffa

Aaron A. Burke and Krystal V. Lords

Jordan's Stonehenge

Stephen H. Savage

Testing the Function of Early Bronze Age I Dolmens

Abdullah Al-Shorman

FieldNotes:

The Great Revolt in the Galilee

Camilla Luckey

The New Acropolis Museum: Where the Visual Feast Trumps Education

Katie Rask

Reviews

Ancient Jordan from the Air

Benjamin W. Porter

The Persian Empire

S. Rebecca Martin

Studying the Ancient Israelites: A Guide to Sources and Methods

Diana Edelman

NEA 73/2-3 (Completed – appeared the week of 19 September):

Double issue devoted to the archaeology of Lebanon

Introduction: The Archaeological Heritage of Lebanon

Jeanine Abdul Massih

The Necropolis and Dwellings of Byblos During the Chalcolithic Period

Gassia Artin

Tell Arqa: A Prosperous City during the Bronze Age

Jean-Paul Thalmann

Recent Excavations at Tell Fadous-Kfarabida

Hermann Genz

Sidon During the Bronze Age: Burials, Rituals and Feasting Grounds at the "College Site"

Claude Doumet-Serhal

Tell el-Burak: A New Middle Bronze Age Site from Lebanon

Helene Sader and Jens Kamlah

The Phoenician Cemetery of Tyre

Maria Eugenia Aubet

An Unexpected Archaeological Treasure: The Phoenician Quarters in Beirut City Center

Josette Elayi

The State of Underwater Archaeology in Lebanon

Zeina Haddad

New Light on the Phoenician harbor at Tyre

Ibrahim Nouredine

Forum:

The Beirut National Museum and Collective Memory: Sanctuary, Repository or Interactive

Space? Suzy Hakimian

Private Archaeological Museums in Lebanon

Leila Badre

Challenging Colonialism and Nationalism in Lebanese Archaeological Museums

Lina G. Tahan

Postcolonial, Neo-imperial, or a Little Bit of Both? Reflections on Museums in Lebanon

Neil Asher Silberman

Reviews:

The Bronze Age in the Lebanon

Sharon Zuckerman

Networking Patterns of the Bronze and Iron Age Levant

Louise Steel

Roman Berytus

Kevin Butcher

Protecting Catalhoyuk

Benjamin W. Porter

NEA 73/4: (Currently being worked on – manuscripts sent to Bob Buller after Labor Day):

Special thanks are due to Hanan Charaf and Gabriele Fassbeck, the guest editors of the Lebanon issue. Their assistance was invaluable! I would also like to thank Jennie Ebeling, Justin Lev-Tov, and Robert Schick (assistant editors) for their excellent contributions and Christopher Conlan and Heather Heidrich for their help as editorial assistants. Bob Buller and Susan Lingo are both a pleasure to work with – and *NEA* never looked better! We continue to expand the scope of the website to include recent archaeological discoveries, poems and other less conventional essays on archaeology. We recently added an essay by Benny Sass entitled: Taita, King of Palistin: Ca. 950-900 BCE? to the *NEA* website.

JCS: Editor Piotr Michalowski

JCS 62 appeared in late June, 2010, early. The second supplement to the series is currently in proofs and manuscripts for two additional supplement volumes are in hand and moving along.

ASOR Annual: Editor Joseph A. Greene

Status of AASOR

1. 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: Revised MS received 9/8/2010
Color: Full color, \$5K subvention promised to cover costs
Note: This will be *AASOR* 65 for 2010. Given the DBBC production schedule, the volume will be ready some time by December 2010/January 2011
2. Title: Photographs of the American Palestine Exploration Society
Taken by Tancrede Dumas
Author/Editor: Rachel Hallote (ed.)
Status: Proposal accepted, MS promised January 2011

Color: Not needed

3. 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 now promised "Fall 2010," not yet received
Color: Full color, \$5K subvention promised to cover costs
4. Title: Excavations at Tel Zahara, Israel
Author/Editor: Susan Cohen (ed.)
Status: Proposal accepted, MS promised "spring 2010"
Color: Not requested
5. Title: Nelson Glueck's 1937 Excavations at Khirbet et-Tannur
Author/Editor: Judith McKenzie
Status: Inquiry for publication received, no proposal received yet.
Color: Not requested
6. Title: Ties that Bind..., Ties that Unwind
Author/Editor: Ed Maher (ed.)
Status: Proposal received 7/20/2010, not accepted by editor
Color: Not requested
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.
Color: Not requested

Notes: Nos. 2 and 3, depending on order of receipt, may both appear as ASOR Annuals in 2011. If this occurs, how the volumes will be numbered has not yet been determined.

Nos. 4 and 5, depending on individual MS lengths and when MSS are received, could be combined in a single Annual for 2012.

Archaeological Report Series: Editor Kevin McGeough

1. ARS MSS in press
-ARS 15: Humayma, Jordan (J. Oleson) – proofs currently under review (expected to be published before the annual meeting)
-ARS 16: Ayl-Ras en Naqab Archaeological Survey (ARNAS) (B. MacDonald) – in “line” for production at DBBC
2. ARS MSS ACCEPTED, AWAITING REVISION
-none
3. ARS MSS NOW UNDER REVIEW
-Idalion, Cyprus (P. Gaber)

4. ARS PROPOSALS ACCEPTED, AWAITING MSS [MS promised-by date, if available]

-“Embodying Dilmun: Embodying Dilmun: The Peter B. Cornwall expedition to Eastern Saudi Arabia and Bahrain” – Ben Porter and Alexis Boutin

-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 PROPOSALS UNDER REVIEW

-None

6. ARS INQUIRIES, AWAITING PROPOSALS

-CAARI Conference - “Cyprus and the Balance of Empires: From Justinian I to the Couer de Lion” (Charles Stewart)

-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)

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

-Kourion’s Amathous Gate Cemetery (Michael Given)

-Tell en-Nasbeh (EB I), Israel (Catherine Foster)

7. ARS PORPOSAL WITHDRAWN, BUT WITH PLANS TO RESUBMIT

-Cadir Hoyuk, Turkey (S. Steadman)