ASOR 2013 Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) was held in Baltimore from November 20-23, 2013. There were 928 registered participants, who attended 450 papers, 49 business meetings, consultations and special events, and visited 25 poster exhibits. The plenary address this year was presented by Brian Rose, of the University of Pennsylvania, Penn Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, entitled “Cultural Heritage Protection in Zones of Armed Conflict: Lessons Learned and Future Strategies.”

Madaba Plains Project members and affiliates who presented papers this year included: Constance Gane (Transcendent Occultation of the Divine in Neo-Babylonian Art); Matthew Vincent (Topics in Cyberinfrastructure I: Scholarship in the Twenty-First Century, a Panel Discussion); S. Thomas Parker (A Reevaluation of the Chronology of Nabataean Painted Fine Ware Pottery); Øystein LaBianca (Human Subject Review and Archaeology—the View from CAP); Ralph Hawkins (The Iron Age I Structure on Mt. Ebal); Sabal Al Zaben (The Zabens of Jalul: A Look at Local Nineteenth Century Tribalism and How it Illuminates Our Understanding of Iron Age Societies at Jalul); Monique Vincent (Households, Communities, and Dimensions of Social Identity in the Early Iron Age at Tall al-‘Umayri); Elisabeth Lesnes and Randall Younker (Ethnographic Perspectives on the Nineteenth Century Settlement of Madaba and Jalul, Jordan); Bert de Vries (Anatomy of a Late Antique Complex at Umm el-Jimal); Paul Ray, Constance Gane, and Randall Younker (Jalul in the Nineteenth-Century Explorers Accounts); Randall Younker (Jalul in Time and History); Matthew Vincent, Monique Vincent, and Friedbert Ninow (The 2012 Season at Khirbat al-Balu’a: Report on the Completion of the GPS Mapping Project and Continued... (cont’d on p. 2)
Running Dies

On January 22, 2014 the Institute of Archaeology and the Siegfried H. Horn Archaeological Museum lost one of its most ardent supporters, loyal colleagues, and dearest friends. Leona Glidden Running, professor emerita of Semitic languages, died in her sleep at the age of 97. She served as professor of Semitic languages for nearly fifty years at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University.

Dr. Running has supported the Institute of Archaeology in many ways since its inception. She has been a regular contributor to the Horn Archaeological Museum fundraising campaign as well as other projects. She has sponsored students pursuing archaeology in the seminary and helped them participate in excavations, national conferences, and other projects.

Leona Running.

As usual, there was time for networking and catching up with the activities of distant colleagues, as well as the perusal and purchase of books and other media at the 30 or more exhibit booths in the hallway, between sessions.

Those who chaired sessions for the program this year include: Constance Gane (Archaeology of Mesopotamia); and Øystein LaBianca (One Hundred ASOR Global History Stories). In addition, Douglas Clark presided over the Madaba Plains Project–‘Umayri Workshop; Lawrence Geraty over the Madaba Plains Project Staff Consultation; and Bethany Walker, who headed up the Consultation of Dig Directors in Jordan. Also Tim Harrison presided over the Administrative Oversight Committee; Larry Herr (with James Weinstein) over the BASOR Editorial Board; and Øystein LaBianca over the Committee on Archaeological Research and Policy.

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Concurrent Annual meetings of the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) and the Near East Archaeological Society (NEAS) were held from November 23-27, 2013, respectively. At the latter Paul Ray presented a paper entitled “The 2011-12 Excavations at Tall Jalul.” In a special Session on Reuben Bullard and Archaeology in Jordan, Mark Ziese presented a paper entitled “Reuben Bullard: ‘Dr. Rock’ and His Students.”

(Paul J. Ray, Jr.)

Leona Running.

valedictorian, in 1937, she took a job as a high school French and German teacher in the state of Oregon. After World War II broke out she moved to California where she met her husband Leif (Bud) Running and got married in 1942. She worked as a German, Spanish and Portuguese translator from 1944-48. Sadly, her husband died in an operation in 1946, and she never remarried.

Her academic and writing career began in 1950 when she wrote her first book, 36 Days and a Dream, which recounted her adventures traveling through Europe. Soon after she was encouraged to get an MA degree in biblical languages from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in Tacoma Park, MD. By 1956, with the help of Dr. Siegfried Horn, she was appointed to a full tenure faculty position, teaching Greek and Hebrew. Her second book, From Thames to the Tigris, followed soon after a study tour with Dr. Horn, where among other adventures, she described how she climbed to the top of the Great Pyramid of Giza.

In 1957, Leona was accepted into the PhD program at Johns Hopkins University. When she went for her interview
with Dr. William Foxwell Albright, she took Siegfried Horn along because they were acquaintances. Albright sat her down and began conversing in Spanish, then French and German and finally English. She was also asked to translate Hebrew and Greek from the Bible. By the end of the hour-long conversation, Dr. Albright informed her that she had passed her language entrance requirement. She completed her course work while continuing to work as a faculty member at Potomac College and later Andrews University, graduating in 1964. Her dissertation was entitled *An Investigation of the Syriac Version of Isaiah*. In 1965 she returned to Johns Hopkins as Dr. Albright’s research assistant, returning each of the following summers, until 1971, where she helped him complete several articles, chapters and books. When Albright died, Leona and David Noel Freedman wrote his biography, *William Foxwell Albright: A 20th Century Genius*.

Running received many distinguished awards during her career, including being awarded alumna of the year at both her high school (Adelphian Academy) and her college (Andrews University), in 1977. Among her most notable awards, she was given a medal for Women of Excellence in 1983, the Weniger medal for excellence in teaching in 1989, the J. N. Andrews Medallion for significant achievement in the advancement of knowledge and education in 1993, and the General Conference Medallion for excellence in teaching in 1997. Finally in May 2012, at the age of 96, she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Andrews University; the same type of degree given to her mentor Dr. Albright.

Leona Running published her biography in 2009 entitled *My Journey*, and although she retired in 1981, she continued to teach Akkadian, Syriac, and Egyptian, as well as edit and chair numerous dissertation committees until 2002. She will always remain a role model and inspiration for generations of pastors and scholars at Andrews University. Her guiding hand over newsletters, journals and books will be greatly missed by the staff here at the Institute of Archaeology and Siegfried H. Horn Archaeological Museum. (Robert D. Bates)
**A Sphinx Found in Israel:**

The remnant of a sphinx, consisting of the front paws, with an inscription and a cartouche of Pharaoh Menkaure between them, has been found in a 13th century BC destruction layer at Hazor, in Israel. While the statue probably originated in Heliopolis (biblical On), in the 4th Dynasty of Egypt (ca. 2613-2494 BC), it probably did not come to Canaan until either the 2nd Intermediate Period, when Semites controlled Lower Egypt, or during the early New Kingdom (15th-13th centuries BC), when Canaan was under Egyptian rule.

**3500-year old Tombs Found in Turkey:**

Several tombs, possibly Mycenaean in origin, have recently been found in the Bodrum district, on SW coast of Turkey, NE of the Island of Kos. Remains found so far include a flask, a three-handled cup, and a jug, as well as a bronze razor, beads, and numerous animal bones.

**New Assyrian Site Found:**

Archeologists have discovered a new Assyrian site near the center of the city of Arbil, in northern Iraq. What has been excavated so far is part of the nearby cemetery, where a few of the bodies have been exhumed, and mudbrick gravestones have been found. In addition, brick arches and corridors of an Assyrian-period building have started to emerge beneath ruins from the Persian, Sassanid dynasty, which ruled the region from AD 224-651.

**Snake Goddess Receives an Identity:**

A terracotta plaque of a snake goddess, found in 1932, in a 7th century BC gravel fill near the Athens Agora has recently been identified with Demeter. Evidence associates her with snake iconography, and a nearby shrine from the same period was built in her name.

**Workers’ Town Found:**

A town that housed the workers who built the pyramid of Menkaure, at Giza, Egypt, has recently been found ca. 400 m south of the Sphinx, along with a corral containing piles of sheep, goat, cattle, and pig bones; enough to have supplied an estimated 1814 kg of meat per day. A cemetery containing the bodies of these workers was also found nearby. In addition to their meat-rich diet, it is possible that the workers also received medical care, as some of the skeletons from the cemetery reveal evidence of broken bones that had been healed.

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