Letter from the President

Dr. Derek B. Counts, Assistant Professor of Classical Art and Archaeology, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

Welcome to the latest edition of the Milwaukee Society’s biannual newsletter, The Artifact. It is my pleasure to once again serve as President of our local society and I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to fellow officers, Bettina Arnold (Vice President) and Alice Kehoe (Secretary-Treasurer) for agreeing to continue in their present positions. This fall marks something of a transition as we welcome a new face to our executive committee, Ricky Kubicek, who now serves as our Public Relations/Outreach Coordinator, in addition to editing The Artifact. We can also take this opportunity to offer our sincerest thanks to outgoing editor and Outreach Coordinator, Katherine Murrell. I think you will all agree that Katherine did a tremendous job with the newsletter over the past two years, while also coordinating efforts to publicize AIA events to a wider and more diverse audience. Finally, it is my pleasure to welcome our new Refreshment Co-Coordinators, Christina Mani and Lindsey King.

Because of the success of the national AIA office’s membership incentive plan (as well as some of our own drum beating), this past year was a banner year in terms of increasing our membership with approximately 22 new archaeology enthusiasts brought into the fold. The Milwaukee Society attracted more new members through this plan than any other AIA local society! Thus, for many of you this is your first Artifact and with this letter, I would like to welcome you officially as new members of the Milwaukee Society of the AIA. We hope that you will enjoy this newsletter, which highlights upcoming lectures and events for the society and includes feature articles and announcements on ‘things archaeological’. In addition to our monthly flyers and email announcements, The Artifact is an important venue for us to reach out to our members and keep them connected to the Society’s activities.

In the most recent edition of Archaeology, the AIA’s award winning magazine, archaeologist Brian Fagan...
suggests that ‘more archaeological finds will be unearthed during the next half-century than during the entire 150 years or so that archaeologists have worked on the past,’ (*Archaeology*, September/October 2006, p. 20). These are exciting times for archaeology, but they are also very uncertain times as tourism and development, armed conflict, and a variety of other interventions threaten the world’s archaeological resources. As our local Society enters a new academic year with its membership at its highest level in several years, I think it is appropriate to stress the significance of your AIA membership, both locally and globally, and to emphasize the importance of your support as the AIA confronts the challenges to archaeology in the 21st century. Many of you joined by taking advantage of the (very) generous incentive plan offered by the AIA this year and it is my hope that you too will understand the significance of your commitment to the AIA and continue your membership for many years to come. As our own local member and current National AIA President, Jane Waldbaum, puts it: ‘as a member of the AIA you have the satisfaction of being part of all that we do…your tax-deductible membership contribution supports our mission and your voice, added to ours, keeps us strong’ (*Archaeology*, September/October 2006, p. 4).

Yours in archaeology,
Derek B. Counts

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**AIA - Milwaukee Society Email List**

We recently started a Society email reflector so that we can reach you more quickly with important news or last-minute information about lectures and events. If you would like to be added to this list please return this form to:

Ricky Kubicek, UWM-Dept. of Anthropology, Milwaukee, WI 53201

Or send your name and email address to: rkubicek@uwm.edu. If you are already on the list let us know of any changes to your email address

Name: _________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________

_____________________________________________

Member of AIA? Yes / No

Email address: _________________________________

I would like to receive notices of upcoming events by email: Yes / No

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**Ancient Egyptomania: The Lure of Egypt in Graeco-Roman Alexandria**

*By: Dr. Marjorie Venit*

**Professor of Art History and Archaeology**

**University of Maryland**

**Sunday, October 8, 2006, 3:00 PM**

**Room G90, Sabin Hall, UW-Milwaukee**

This talk addresses the adoption and adaptation of Egypt by peoples of the ancient Graeco-Roman world, especially those who inhabited the Egyptian city of Alexandria.

The city of *Alexandria ad Aegyptum* - Alexandria by or near Egypt - was founded by Alexander the Great in 331 BCE on a spit of land at the very northern edge of Egypt. Although populated by peoples from all over the Mediterranean world, this Ptolemaic capital of Egypt and seat of the Roman prefect of Egypt intentionally maintained a Classical mien. “Ancient Egyptomania: The Lure of Egypt in Graeco-Roman Alexandria” considers the later western world’s adoption and adaptation of Egyptian visual themes and motifs in order to contextualize the responses of ancient Greeks and Romans—both at home and abroad—to Egypt. Examination of Ptolemaic- and Roman-period tombs, the best preserved ancient Alexandrian monuments, shows that the Graeco-Roman city of Alexandria embraced a varied and nuanced form of Egyptomania unattainable in other contexts, both ancient and modern.

Professor Marjorie S. Venit specializes in the art and archaeology of the ancient Mediterranean world with an emphasis on Greece and its periphery both geographically and temporally. She is particularly interested in the intersection of cultures and ethnicities. She has excavated at Tel Anafa, Israel, and Mendes, Egypt and is the author of *Monumental Tombs of Ancient Alexandria: The Theater of the Dead and Greek Painted Pottery from Naukratis in Egyptian Museums*. Her book projects have been supported by generous grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Kress Foundation, and the J.P Getty Trust. Among her other national awards are a Fulbright-Hayes Fellowship and fellowships from the American Research Center in Egypt, the American Association of University Women, and the American Philosophical Society. Venit’s articles on Greek vases and Greek and Roman wall paintings...
consider the social, religious, economic, and political context and implications of the monuments. Her articles have appeared in the *American Journal of Archaeology, Hesperia, Antike Kunst*, and the *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt* and in other periodicals, festschrifts, and collections of scholarly papers.

The Etruscan Site of Poggio Civitate: The Urban Process of Italy's First Towns

*By: Dr. Anthony Tuck*
**Assistant Professor**
*University of Massachusetts at Amherst*
**Sunday, November 5, 2006, 3:00 PM Room Room G90, Sabin Hall, UW-Milwaukee**

The cities of the Etruscan world represent Italy's first native experiment with the urban form. From the village complexes of the Italic Iron Age, Etruria's first cities emerge in the late 8th century and are largely known through their remarkable complexes of cemeteries that cluster around fortified urban centers. However, until recently, very little was known about the urban process in the northern, inland reaches of Central Italy. Recent excavation at the site of Poggio Civitate (Murlo) has revealed the presence of an opulent aristocratic center with some of Italy's earliest known examples of monumental architecture and sculpture. Additional excavation and survey around Poggio Civitate reveals the presence of smaller settlements on nearby hills, suggesting the urban process in this region developed along somewhat different lines with politically and socially extended settlements.

Anthony Tuck is an Assistant Professor of Archaeology at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He received his Ph.D. from Brown University and currently serves as Director of Excavations at the Etruscan site of Poggio Civitate (Murlo) and its environs. He has published extensively on topics including Etruscan burial form, economics and urban development and has recently worked on the topic of ancient textile manufacture. He lives in Boston with his wife, Michele, and new daughter, Maisie.
Origins of Writing and Urbanism in the Indus Valley: Recent Perspectives from Harappa, Pakistan

By: Dr. J. Mark Kenoyer
Professor of Anthropology
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Sunday, December 10, 2006, 3:00 PM Room G90, Sabin Hall, UW-Milwaukee

This illustrated lecture presents the most recent discoveries of the Indus Civilization in Pakistan and western India. A special focus will be on the recent discoveries at the site of Harappa, Pakistan, which have provided new evidence on the origins of writing and urbanism in the Indus Valley. Important topics will include the origins of agriculture and animal husbandry (7000 - 5000 BC), the emergence of village cultures and eventually towns (3300-2600 BC), and the urban expansion of the Indus or Harappan Period (2600-1900 BC). New discoveries on the development of writing, seals, and the use of standardized stone weights will be presented along with a discussion of Indus art, symbol and technology as well as the enigmatic undeciphered Indus script. The decline and reorganization of the Indus cities (1900-1300 BC) will also be discussed along with the gradual emergence of Indo-Aryan cultures in the northern subcontinent. Throughout the presentation the important contributions of the Indus culture to later civilizations in South Asia and other world regions will be highlighted.

Jonathan Mark Kenoyer, Professor of Anthropology, teaches archaeology and ancient technology at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He has taught at Madison since 1985 and is currently Director for the Center for South Asia, and also serves as President of the American Institute of Pakistan Studies. His main focus is on the Indus Civilization and he has worked in Pakistan and India for the past 32 years. Dr. Kenoyer was born in India and lived there until he came to the United States for college. He has a BA in Anthropology from the University of California at Berkeley and completed his MA and PhD (1983) in South Asian Archaeology from the same university. He speaks several South Asian languages and is fluent in Urdu/Hindi, which is the major language used in Pakistan and northern India. He has conducted archaeological research and excavations at both Mohenjo-daro and Harappa, two of the most important early sites in Pakistan, and has also worked in western and central India. He has a special interest in ancient technologies and crafts, socio-economic and political organization as well as religion. These interests have led him to study a broad range of cultural periods in South Asia as well as other regions of the world.

Since 1986 he has been the Co-director and Field Director of the Harappa Archaeological Research Project in Pakistan, a long term study of urban development in the Indus Valley. He was Guest Curator at the Elvehjem Museum of Art, Madison for the exhibition on the Ancient Cities of the Indus Valley Civilization, which toured the U.S. in 1998-1999, and was a consultant for the Indus section of the First Cities exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in 2003. His work was recently featured in the 2005 special issue of Scientific American and on the website www.harappa.com.
Interview with Professor Adam T. Smith
By: Ricky Kubicek

Adam T. Smith is associate professor of anthropology and social science at the University of Chicago. He specializes in the Bronze and Iron Ages of Transcaucasia and the rise of early complex societies. Dr. Smith gave an excellent lecture in our 2006 spring lecture series, Prometheus Unbound: Geographies of Transgression and Archaeologies of Authority in the South Caucasus. This interview was conducted via email while Dr. Smith was on location in Armenia in August of 2006. The Milwaukee chapter of the AIA thanks Dr. Smith for his continued contributions to our society.

The organization of space is a complex avenue of human activity that befits the application of modern technological analysis. How are you applying technology to your innovative analysis of spatial organization and politics?

As I contemplate this question I am watching our project architect unspool three tape measures in her effort to precisely render the architecture of a wall from the mid 1st millennium BC. This is painstaking work that in many ways could be automated by new techniques of digital rendering. And yet I find that those techniques can never mimic the eye and hand behind traditional architectural drawings.

In our field work, we of course utilize remotely sensed data, including both satellite imaging and aerial photos and do most of our site mapping digitally. But I am quite cynical about the possibilities of new technologies to open truly original perspectives on human spatiality. New technologies may open new ways of seeing the world, but this does not in itself constitute a contribution to understanding spatiality.

Learning tools like Geographic Information Systems are just a first step. The hard work comes in trying to think through the implications of this new way of seeing for how we understand the landscapes we produce--to turn a new way of seeing into a new way of thinking. I was in graduate school when digital spatial analysis really hit archaeology. There was a great deal of excitement as many of us (myself included) invested endless hours in mastering the software and hardware. But with few exceptions, the training made easier traditional archaeological work rather than creating the promised revolution in theory and practice.

Technologies cannot in themselves change the way we think about space. That work relies upon the painstaking work of thought and reflection to give it the same humanity that our architect's hand gives to her drawings. Deploying a new technology cannot substitute for this work.

How has the current political situation in Armenia affected your research into ancient political systems?

I have been working here since 1992 and so have worked through Armenia's most difficult times as well as the more recent boom in regional economic development. If I were to single out one observation that has influenced my thinking it is the fragility of complex polities. This is by no means a unique observation and yet ancient states for archaeologists often become all-encompassing enterprises (as the modern state does for socio-cultural anthropologists, sociologists, etc.). The collapse of the Soviet Union is difficult still to comprehend as it impacted millions of lives and spawned a new politics (in form at least if not always in content). And this process of collapse I think is likely not finished. It is important to keep in mind that in many ways what threatens to extend this process of collapse is less a systemic issue than an idiosyncratic one: leaders without sufficient character to resist the forces of kleptocracy in order to forge legitimate commitments of subjects to government. There is only so much weight that the ideology of nationalism can bear before co-fraternity no longer suffices as a source of legitimacy.

As a growing cynicism about the possibilities of truly productive political engagement take root, there is a corresponding diminishment in many of my colleague's interest in ancient politics. Hence a conspicuous focus on culture has gained new popularity in the last few years. This is not necessarily a focus on culture as ethnos or nation, but as the most determinative dimension of life constitutive of the archaeological record. I do not agree, but I understand that it is difficult to be engaged with politics in the past when politics in the present seems so hopeless.

What forthcoming works can we look forward to seeing from you?

At present I am largely consumed with finishing the first volume of the Project ArAGATS (The
Archaeology and Geography of Ancient Transcaucasian Societies) monographs which will detail the results of our regional survey. A long article on the archaeology of the Bronze Age South Caucasus is currently in press with the Journal of World Prehistory. And with the proceedings of the first University of Chicago conference on Eurasian Archaeology now out (Brill), I am working with two co-editors to quickly finish the proceedings of the second conference.

Can you give us some highlights or a summary of your field experiences this summer?

As I am still in the field as I write, it is hard to decide what constitutes our highlights. That said, a couple spring to mind. Our investigations this summer were focused on the site of Gegharot which has both Early and Late Bronze Age occupations. This season was particularly significant for the Early Bronze Age as we uncovered a series of well-stratified floors that appear to extend from ca. 3200 to 2800 BC. As we were clearing the floor from the earliest period of occupation, we noticed a peculiar rectangular construction in one corner. As we opened around it, a dromos (doorway) appeared, and a chamber. We came to realize that our earliest Early Bronze Age living surfaces at the site appear to have been constructed atop a small collective tomb.

Contemporaneous with these floors on another part of the site we opened a remarkable series of rooms, completely intact, with barley seeds strewn from tumbled vessels. Most notably, the residents left behind a single bronze spear point. To our knowledge, this is the only Early Bronze spear point from a settlement anywhere in the Kura-Araxes region.

But since my primary interests are in the Late Bronze Age, our most dramatic finds of the summer (in my opinion) are two cylinder seals. These are again the first cylinder seals in Armenia from settlement rather than burial contexts. And they are the first items we have found at the site which speak to Gegharot’s involvement with a world far outside the Tsaghkahovit Plain.

Closing:
The Project ArAGATS website contains updates on field and lab work, as well as a breadth of general information concerning the cultural history of the Caucasus region. If you have further interest in Professor Smith’s research projects, you can find links on his website- including the ArAGATS homepage at, http://home.uchicago.edu/~atsmith/.

Surveying the Maritime Archaeological Landscape of Achill Island

By Kevin Cullen
Masters of Science student in Archaeology and Museum Studies
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

This summer I was fortunate to spend five weeks working on a project funded by the Irish Heritage Council that involved documenting the 19th century maritime archaeological landscape (both terrestrial and underwater) of Ireland’s largest island, Achill, located on the Atlantic Ocean off the west coast of Co. Mayo. This was the third and final year of the project headed by Chuck Meide, current director of the Lighthouse Archaeological Maritime Museum Program (LAMP) in St. Augustine FL. Our main objective this season was to map four shipwrecks, two located on the foreshore (intertidal zone), which are exposed at low tide, as well as two submerged wrecks located off the coast of the island. Other tasks involved documenting anchors raised by local fishermen, conducting oral history and rendering technical illustrations of vernacular watercraft such as Achill yaws and currachs.

In comparison to terrestrial archaeology, underwater archaeological work is fraught with a considerable amount of environmental and technological challenges. Whether it is unfavorable surf, bad visibility, changing tides, equipment malfunctions or physical discomfort, any underwater operation should anticipate each of these occasional limitations. Despite the challenges the results from this type of archaeological research often produces preserved aquatic data samples that would otherwise remain unknown. This is especially true for shipwrecks, which can be seen as proverbial “time capsules,” as well as for submerged habitation sites that retain a remarkable amount of organic material. But how are these aquatic archaeological data recovered?

Before submerging, each diver has a set of specific items attached to their BCD (Breathing Control Devise) in order to perform the required task, such as a clipboard with mylar paper for drawing and note taking, pencils, measuring tapes, hammer, rebar (for setting up a base line), compass, camera, video camera, dive knife, etc. in addition to all the necessary scuba equipment. Fortunately, all of this equipment is virtually weightless once underwater. It is vital that the equipment is firmly attached yet
easily accessible for the archaeologist. Furthermore, being neutrally buoyant means you are able to attain a variety of vantage points when working over a given object/site. I imagine it is comparable to working in outer space…equipment floats around you and everything is quiet except for the sound of your exhalations.

After a bit of onsite logistical training we began with a crew of four experienced divers and a hired boat skippered by a local boat builder. We spent a week diving twice a day on two 19\textsuperscript{th} century shipwrecks. Each wreck was entirely different. One wreck carrying salvaged iron, primarily locomotive parts, was located on a sandy bottom in 90 feet of water. A site that deep allows only 25 minutes of bottom time, so it requires the utmost planning and time efficiency to maximize data collection. Our objective on the initial dive was to locate the wreck by conducting a circle search, which involved hammering a rebar stake on the bottom, tying a measuring tape to the rebar, then swimming in a circle along the bottom surface at a given interval, depending on visibility. Once the target was located, a basic reconnaissance survey was performed of the wreck site. Subsequent dives involved predetermined operations, such as mapping diagnostic features like hull dimensions, and creating a photomosaic of the entire wreck for illustration and provenience records.

The survey of the second submerged wreck, “The Jenny”, involved a different methodology because of bottom surface conditions. This ship was a Norwegian \textit{bark} carrying a load of hardwood from Jamaica bound for Germany when she foundered off the cliffs of Achill Beg on January 13\textsuperscript{th} 1894. The wreckage is scattered across a kelp covered cavernous terrain in 40 feet of water. Because of the relatively shallow depth, we were usually able to utilize an hour of bottom time, which in our initial survey involved tying buoys to diagnostic features then flagging and numbering each additional artifact. By pulling a measuring tape from a datum point along a specific compass bearing we were able to create an artifact distribution map of the entire wreck site. In situations where artifacts were located in deep gullies, we hovered over the object at a specific depth and pulled a measuring tape to the established datum point at the same depth for a more accurate distribution reading. Finally, a detailed map of the wreck site was compiled by swimming the perimeter of the wreck site and associated cliff coastline with a waterproof GPS.

Things become much more complicated and expensive when performing actual excavation underwater. While this was not in the scope of this season’s survey, hand fanning the sediment to expose the desired structural features/artifacts was required. However, once documentation was finished these features were redeposited for preservation purposes. In most cases where underwater excavations are conducted, a metric grid must first be established across the site. Typically dredging equipment is used to suction the sediment out of a specific area, which is then sent to the surface for wet screening. Once documented in situ, any diagnostic/desired artifacts can then be carefully air lifted to the surface to undergo an immediate process of desalination and stabilization.

Clearly, the operational challenges involved in underwater archaeology are diverse; however, the results far outweigh the difficulties. The primary requirements entail a concise methodology, an
array of diving, mapping and excavation equipment, a reliable and spacious boat, a well organized team of experienced technical divers as well as a healthy budget. The maritime realm has only begun to shed its aquatic secrets with the advancement of technology and human ingenuity. I dare to speculate that some of the most exciting discoveries still await us beneath the vastly unexplored waters throughout the world. Stay tuned!!

For more information on this and other underwater projects visit the Institute of Maritime History website: www.maritimehistory.org

Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs - AIA Milwaukee Excursion

A group organized by the AIA-Milwaukee Society will be traveling to the Field Museum in Chicago to see the world famous exhibition, Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs. This exhibition features artifacts and information about the famous King Tutankhamun and the legendary 18th Dynasty, the so-called Golden Age of Pharaohs. The exhibition has added many additional attractions since the first Tutankhamun tour came to the United States in 1977. There are twice the number of physical artifacts, as well as exhibits detailing daily life during the time of Tut, displays on folk beliefs, legends of the afterlife, and artifacts from the famous boy-king’s tomb. Also featured is a project sponsored by National Geographic, which uses CT scanning technology to investigate the mystery surrounding the death of Tutankhamun and to provide an illustration of what the live Pharaoh may have looked like. In addition there will be historiographical information about the explorations that led to Howard Carter’s world-famous discovery of the tomb, among many other interesting displays.

The Milwaukee Society will be visiting the exhibit on Saturday, October 21st, 2006. While many of you have already reserved your spot on the bus, there are several seats available. If you are interested in joining the group please return the registration form (next page) with full payment by October 6th, 2006. We hope you can join us for this exciting trip!

For those of you who have already submitted your deposit: please note that final payments are due October 6th, 2006.

The AIA-Milwaukee Society will be viewing the exhibition on Saturday, October 21. The itinerary for the day follows.

Itinerary

Thanks to all who have signed up to join our trip to see the Tutankhamun exhibit at Chicago’s Field Museum (seats are still available). The day promises to be entertaining and intellectually stimulating! Following is the projected schedule of events for the day (if you wish to join us and have not yet signed-on, please see the flyer on the following page):

Saturday, October 21

9:00 AM - Meet in front of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Student Union (on Kenwood Blvd).

9:30 AM- Depart via charter bus from UWM Student Union (Lamers Bus line). During the trip to Chicago, an introductory talk on the Golden Age of Pharaohs will be given by Jocelyn Boor (Ph.D. candidate, Anthropology, UWM).

11:30/12:00 PM – Arrive Field Museum
For those interested, lunch options are available, you may bring your own lunch or purchase a meal from McDonalds or the Corner Bakery, or grab a snack from a vending machine. Cafeteria-style seating is available.

1:00-1:30: Timed ticket entrance to the exhibit for our group.

4:30 PM Depart Field Museum

6:30 (approx) arrive at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Student Union
Milwaukee Society
Archaeological Institute of America

RESERVATION FORM

TUTANKHAMUN
AND THE GOLDEN AGE OF THE PHARAOHS

Saturday, October 21, 2006, Field Museum (Chicago)

Name (s): __________________________________________

Email/phone: _________________________________________

Please indicate your fee category:
AIA Members
____ Adult Member and immediate family $45.00/person
____ Senior (over 65)/Students under 18 yrs $42.00

Non-AIA Members
____ Adult $55.00
____ Senior (over 65)/Students under 18 $52.00
____ University Students (over 18) $42.00

*New members who join the AIA prior to the excursion qualify for the discount.
If you are sending in payment for more than one individual, please indicate the total number for each category.

Reservation forms and full payment should be sent to: Derek B. Counts, Department of Art History, PO Box 413, UWM, Milwaukee, WI, 53201 by October 6th, 2006.

Checks should be made payable to AIA-Milwaukee Society.
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<tr>
<td>October 8</td>
<td>Dr. Marjorie Venit</td>
<td>Ancient Egyptomania: The Lure of Egypt in Graeco-Roman Alexandria</td>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
<td>Sabin Hall, Room G90</td>
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<td>November 5</td>
<td>Dr. Anthony Tuck</td>
<td>The Etruscan Site of Poggio Civitate: The Urban Process of Italy's</td>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
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<td>December 10</td>
<td>Dr. J. Mark Kenoyer</td>
<td>Origins of Writing and Urbanism in the Indus Valley: Recent</td>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
<td>Sabin Hall, Room G90</td>
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All lectures will take place at 3pm in room G90 of Sabin Hall on the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee campus unless otherwise noted. Sabin Hall is located at 3413 N. Downer Ave. Parking is available on the street nearby or in the Klotsche Center structure next door to Sabin Hall.