

The Volunteer Guide Program

Janet Helman

The Volunteer Guide Program entered its twentieth year in 1986. We celebrated the anniversary at our Christmas buffet with a special cake and program. Carolyn Livingood, who started the program in 1966, talked about her experiences in many years of volunteering at the Oriental Institute. She was presented with a special pendant created by Terry Friedman based on Egyptian hieroglyphic writing for twenty years. Pendants were also presented to Ida DePencier and Betty Baum, members of the first docent class and still active docents.

During the past twenty years the docents have encountered many different groups of people who came, and continue to come, to the Museum with widely varying needs and demands. Under the leadership of the daily captains, teams of docents have coped competently and efficiently with all kinds of problems, and our visitors have left happy and informed. The captains this year are:

Alice Mulberry, Tuesday morning
 Terry Friedman, Tuesday afternoon
 Jane Imberman, Wednesday morning
 Muriel Nerad, Wednesday afternoon
 Kitty Picken, Thursday morning
 Elizabeth Spiegel, Thursday afternoon
 Debbie Aliber, Friday morning
 Gloria Orwin, Friday afternoon



Georgie Maynard, Saturday morning
 Dorothy Blindt, Saturday afternoon
 Teresa Hintzke, Sunday
 Steve Ritzel, Sunday
 Peter Hancon, Sunday

Marianne Ford stepped aside as Saturday afternoon captain last summer and the spot was filled very ably by Dorothy Blindt. Fortunately, Marianne has continued as a regular Saturday docent.

The Docent Program was saddened by the loss in October of Anne Conway, who had been a Thursday morning docent for the last six years, and the loss in November of Lita Gaber, a member of one of the first docent classes.

Besides the volunteer guides, the Suq docents are the Institute's other representatives to the public. They help our visitors to find the right souvenir, or an informative book to answer questions, or a beautiful piece of one-of-a-kind jewelry. They get busier and busier as we have more and bigger groups and as our well-stocked shop becomes better known.

In addition to leading tours and selling in the Suq, volunteers also work for the Registrar, the Archivist, the Photographer, the Museum Education office, the Membership office, and for various faculty members.

One new area of activity this past year was helping with the Chicago House benefit "A Night in Egypt." Docents worked on the invitations,



A selection of craft projects from the Museum Education Program's Art Projects manual was displayed and raffled at the annual dinner in May for the Volunteer and Education programs.

collating lists, addressing, and then collating returns, as well as on decorating, on selling in the little Suqs, and on running the silent auction. The success of the benefit was celebrated at a special party for volunteers.

Docent Days, the Monday seminars that keep us in touch with recent developments in museums and archaeology started with a September tour of the Milwaukee Public Museum and lunch with the docents who took us through their ancient history exhibit. Other Docent Days

featured Tom Logan talking about his views of the O.I. Museum, Joe Manning on "Non-literary Ostraca in the O.I. Collection," a viewing of "Out of the Fiery Furnace," Marsha Holden on assembling an exhibit, and Kitty Picken on Stonehenge. During the summer, Carlotta Maher, our illustrious alumna, told us of her work at and for Chicago House.

Afternoon workshops centered on the problems docents encounter in the museum leading specific kinds of tours. They included "Working with Children in the Museum," led by Ida De Pencier; a discussion on

teen-agers in the galleries led by panelists Elizabeth Spiegel, Georgie Maynard, and Muriel Nerad; a workshop on children without background with materials by Kitty Picken; and a tour of the special exhibit "The Gods of Armageddon" led by Tom Logan.

The monthly newsletter, *Docent Digest*, carried articles by Peggy Grant (an interview with Tom Logan), Marsha Holden on the bust of Nefertiti, Georgie Maynard on objects carried by Egyptian statues, and on food in ancient Egypt by Mary Jo Khuri. We also carried articles on the Featured Objects in the Museum: The Persian Bull and the Baal statue, taken from materials prepared by Helene Kantor and Ray Tindel.

Besides the twenty year pendants presented at our Christmas buffet, the following longevity awards were made:

5 years

Ria Ahlström
Deborah Aliber
Dorothy Blindt
Cathy Chilewski
Carol Goldstein
Dianne Haines

10 years

Leonard Byman
Evelyn Dyba
Teresa Hintzke
JoAnn Putz
Barbara Watson

This year we lost a special docent, Roberta Tracy, after almost five years of guiding. She had computerized the docent list to provide our mailing labels. She has moved to Vermont, and although she left behind the disk and taught us to use it, we miss her anew every month.

Training courses for new docents ran on both Saturdays and Mondays this year and afforded us a large class



Picnic lunch in the garden at a spring Docent Day.

of new guides for both weekdays and weekends. Lecturers included McGuire Gibson, John Brinkman, Thomas McClellan, Harry Hoffner, Klaus Baer, Edward Wente, and Helene Kantor. The members of the planning committee which oversees the course are Klaus Baer, Peggy Grant, Carolyn Livingood and Janet Helman.

We celebrated the completion of the course at a Docent Day slide show of a trip to China by Georgie Maynard and with our annual picnic in Debbie Aliber's backyard. The new docents are:

Ginny Arata
John Burton
DeeDee Dieffenderfer
Catherine Duenas
Marilyn Fellows
Pauline Grigelaitis
Susan Malaskiewicz

W Mary Naunton
Marceine Street
Yvonne Wesley
DeWitt Williams

This year's Annual Members' Dinner was given in honor of the Volunteer Guide Program and Museum Education. The dinner was attended by a large crowd which included a large number of docents. It was followed by a slide show, both informative and entertaining, written by Peggy Grant with slides from the docent office collection, supplemented by others taken by Jean Grant, Herb Barghusen and Teddy Buddington. The narrators were Joan Barghusen and Janet Helman. We are highly appreciative of the efforts made by many to ensure the success of the dinner, and also of the improvements we will be able to make in the docent office with the proceeds of the dinner.



Docents at unveiling of memorial plaque in the Institute garden.



Detail of plaque.

With the help of the Museum Education Coordinator, Joan Barghusen, the Volunteer Guide program grows and develops new ways of helping people in the galleries. We are always indebted to her for the help and the good ideas that she gives us.

Regularly scheduled docents:

Elaine Antoniuk
 Christel Betz
 Rebecca Binkley
 Teddy Buddington
 Anne Conway
 David Cooper
 Lilian Cropsey
 Mary d'Ouille
 Cathy Dombrowski
 Milton Droege
 Gordon Evison
 Laurie Fish
 Marianne Ford
 Helen Glennon
 Anita Greenberg
 Sally Grunsfeld
 Dianne Haines
 Marsha Holden
 Alice James
 Julie Katz
 Mary Jo Khuri
 Kathryn Kimball

Dennis Kopaz
 Nina Longley
 Katy Mann
 James Meany
 Joan Mitchell
 Dorothy Mozinski
 Melanie Petroskey
 Rita Picken
 Jo Ann Putz
 Jean Robertson
 Joan Rosenberg
 Janet Russell
 Marion Salmon
 Mary Shea
 Oliver Szilagyi
 Roberta Tracy
 Beverly Wilson
 Carole Yoshida

Part-time Museum Docents:

Betty Baum
 Calla Burhoe
 Cathy Chilewski
 Ida DePencier
 Lita Gaber
 Nancy Gerson
 Peggy Grant
 Carol Green
 Bud Haas
 Cissy Haas
 Erhard Loewinsohn, MD

Regularly scheduled Suq Docents

Ria Ahlström
 Muriel Brauer
 Leonard Byman
 Charlotte Collier
 Evelyn Dyba
 Carol Goldstein
 Diana Grodzins
 Kate Grodzins
 Jane Hildebrand
 Inger Kirsten
 Peggy Kovacs
 Norma Kruskal
 Mary Martino

Carmen McGarry
 Rochelle Rossin
 Mary Schulman
 Eleanor Swift
 Mardi Trosman
 Norma van der Meulen
 Barbara Watson
 Lee Weaver

Part-time Suq Docents

Barbara Frey
 Peggy Grant
 Carol Green
 Sarah Helman
 Jo Jackson

Museum Archives Volunteers

Lilian Cropsey
 Harold Rantz
 Kay Ginther
 Joan Rosenberg
 Kate Grodzins

Registrar's Office Volunteers

Leah Baer
 Irving Diamond
 Lilla Fano
 Diana Grodzins
 Marsha Holden
 Steven Knapp
 Georgie Maynard
 Mila Rowton
 Luciana Stefani
 Peggy Wick

Ceramic Restoration

Elizabeth Tieken

Assistant to Miss Kantor

Carolyn Livingood



Assistant to the Epigraphic Survey

Katherine Rosich

Assistant to Prehistoric Project

Andrée Wood

Assistant to Quseir Project

Sally Zimmerman

Photography Laboratory Volunteers

Ria Ahlström
 Joe Denov
 Richard Frank
 Kate Grodzins
 Heng-Tatt Lim
 Kent Stefferson

Volunteer in the Suq Office and Stockroom

Eleanor Swift

Volunteer in the Membership Office

Helen Glennon

Volunteers in the Education Office

Debbie Aliber
 Peggy Grant
 Joan Hives
 Georgie Maynard
 Kitty Picken
 Roberta Tracey

Assistant to the Luristan Publication Project

Peggy Grant

Assistants to the Nubian Project

Carlene Friedman
 Deborah Schwartz