

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Catherine Dueñas and Terry Friedman

This was a truly energizing year for the Volunteer Program, marked by the much anticipated grand opening of the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery. The enormous success of the newly opened gallery would not have been possible without the dedication and involvement of the Oriental Institute volunteers. With the increased awareness of this area of the world and its cultural significance, museum attendance surged to over 1,200 visitors during the opening weekend festivities. The Oriental Institute volunteers have worked hard to forge a deeper understanding of the cultural, historical, and artistic richness of this exceptional collection and have approached this challenge with steadfast determination and good humor.

Tour Program

With the reopening of the Mesopotamian Gallery, docent-led tours of the permanent galleries (the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery, the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery, and the Persian Gallery) were a high priority with audiences of all ages. We are pleased to announce that 10,721 people enjoyed a docent-led tour of the Oriental Institute this year. This number represents a nearly 50% increase over last year.

Whether school students, religious groups, community organizations, or senior citizens, the Oriental Institute Museum Docents were in demand and ready to share their knowledge and enthusiasm for the museum's collection.

We were delighted this year to have the opportunity to customize a special museum visit for pre-schoolers from the University of Chicago Lab School. The youngsters enjoyed storytelling, dress-up, hands-on activities, and a tour of the galleries. The children were so impressed with their experience that they converted their own classroom into a miniature museum.

As the date for the opening of the Mesopotamian Gallery drew near, the docents were eager to review the materials presented to them during the Spring 2003 Training Class. Four workshops on the Mesopotamian Gallery Collection were offered to reinforce and to consolidate background information about the artifacts. Our thanks to Clemens Reichel for teaching these informative workshops and for providing an informal opportunity for the volunteers to ask questions and to focus their attention on specific sections of the gallery.

Faced with the daunting task of incorporating the Mesopotamian Gallery into the confines of an hour tour, the docents needed to develop new strategies to meet this demanding time frame. They worked together as a team to offer suggestions and to demonstrate creative solutions. Our thanks to Semra Prescott and Mari Terman for presenting sample tours of the Mesopotamian and Egyptian Galleries. Their individual approaches to the material were unique and introduced us to new possibilities for presenting the collection to the public.

The Docent Captain System continues to be a vital link between the museum docents and the administrative staff. The captains' diligence and supervision over the organization and maintenance of docent staffing for the morning and afternoon tour schedules allow the program to



All eyes are on Museum Docent Toni Smith as she guides a group of youngsters through the Egyptian Gallery

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Joe Diamond and many museum docents participated in numerous gallery workshops given throughout the year. Here we see Ph.D. candidate Jonathan Tenney fielding questions from a group of docents in the Mesopotamian Gallery. Photograph by Terry Friedman

function with efficiency and purpose. The administrative skills and unwavering support of the Docent Captains is essential to maintaining the tour program's excellence as an enriching educational experience. Our thanks go out to Gabriele DaSilva, Joe Diamond, Teresa Hintzke, Dennis Kelly, Roy Miller, Charlotte Noble, Donald Payne, Melissa Ratkovich, Patrick Regnery, Andrew Rich, Stephen Ritzel, Lucie Sandel, Deloris Sanders, Anne Schumacher, Daila Shefner, and Carole Yoshida.

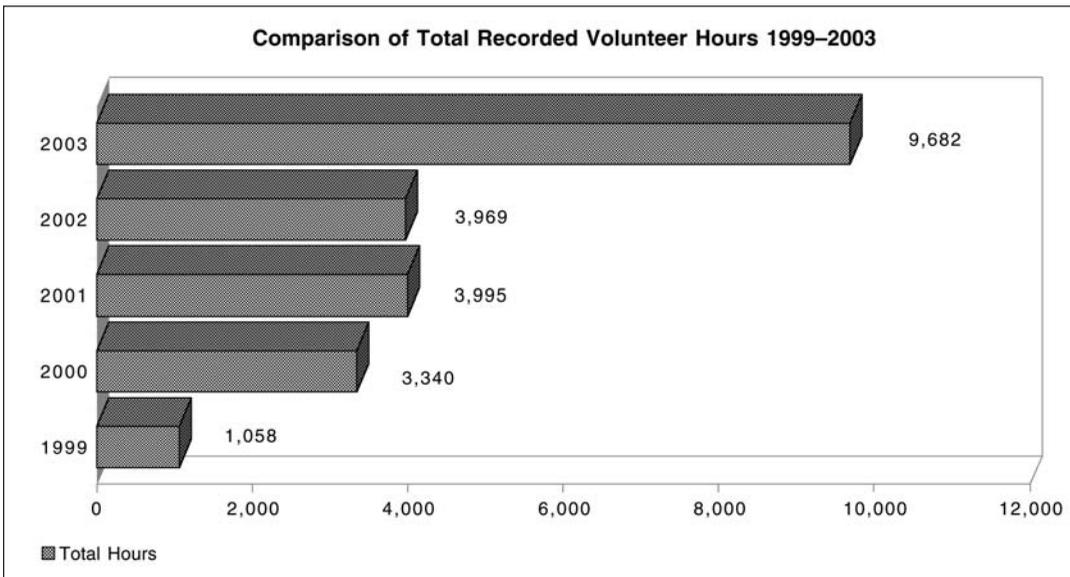
Maria Krasinski, Museum Education Assistant, was an important part of the Tour Program's efficient operation. Maria redesigned and updated our handsome tour brochure. Her keen sense of design coupled with her efficient administrative skills helped to keep the program running smoothly. We are pleased to announce that Maria has received a well-deserved promotion. In June, she assumed the responsibilities of Membership Coordinator for the Oriental Institute. Although Maria will no longer be our Program Assistant, she remains our colleague and friend. We wish her well with her new staff position in the Membership Office.

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Volunteer Honors

Over the past several years, the maintenance of a Volunteer Time Log has revealed valuable information about volunteer involvement throughout the Oriental Institute. This daily record allows us to tabulate important statistical information for writing valuable grant proposals to support the museum as well as the Education and Volunteer Programs.

Since its creation, the Volunteer Time Log has consistently demonstrated extraordinary time commitment and support from the Volunteer Corps. This year, with the help of our intern, An-



Graph by Andrew Rich

drew Rich, we were able to translate this data into an impressive graph that charts the increase of volunteer participation over the past five years. We were impressed to see that volunteer hours have increased 144% from the previous year!

Volunteer Training

Through the tutelage of the Oriental Institute's faculty, staff, and research assistants, the volunteers have acquired the knowledge and confidence to educate the public about the ancient Near East. Their encouragement and recommendations helped the volunteers to develop efficient strategies for adjusting their tour content to meet the challenges of a demanding and tighter time schedule.

For the past year, volunteers have diligently attended Mesopotamian Gallery workshops to gain access to the latest developments in current research as well as to broaden their appreciation for the archaeological, cultural, and historical backgrounds of the Mesopotamian collection.

Although a formal Volunteer Training Class was not offered this year, many dedicated and enthusiastic people eagerly joined the ranks of the Volunteer Corps. Through independent study and personal mentoring with Docent Captains, these new recruits are serving the Oriental Institute in a variety of capacities. We welcome aboard Myriam Borelli, Ana Dias, Djanie Edwards, Mary Finn, Erin Hardacker-Morr, Erin Harral, Dennis Kelly, Carol Kipp, Sherian McLaughlin, Dennis Pizarro, Kavita Rajagopal, Del Ramirez, Andrew Rich, Marcelle Robles, Tatyana Tsirlin, Robert Wagner, and Inge Winer.



Our intern and volunteer, Andrew Rich, produced some impressive graphs comparing volunteers hours over the past four years. Photo by Wendy Ennes

Mesopotamian Gallery Opening

The Oriental Institute celebrated the successful opening of the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery in October with numerous events. During the opening weekend festivities, October 18–19, volunteers welcomed and educated over 1,200 visitors to the Oriental Institute. “Ask Me” Docents were also on hand to help with the Member's Opening Events, the Women's Board Evening Preview, the Educator's Opening Events, as well as numerous special programs and events for the university community.

A special note of thanks to Sargon II, who made a cameo appearance in the Mesopotamian Gallery on both Saturday and Sunday, October 18th and 19th. It was actually our own Sunday Docent Stephen Ritzel dressed in a very clever disguise. Stephen brought to life this very fa-



The Assyrian King Sargon II casts a long shadow. In reality, it is Sunday Co-captain Stephen Ritzel who designed and created this amazing costume himself. Stephen entertained museum visitors in the Mesopotamian Gallery during the weekend opening festivities. Photograph by Terry Friedman

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mous Assyrian King by wearing an elaborate costume which he designed and created. Needless to say, Stephen and Sargon were a great hit with everyone. Thanks to Stephen, Sargon II literally came alive.

Outreach



Museum Docent Charlotte Noble explains daily life in ancient Egypt to a group of pre-schoolers

during the noon-hour lunch break, incorporated ancient history with current events in the Middle East. Our thanks to Joe Diamond whose creative efforts made this pilot program a huge success.

The Outreach Program, which began over eight years ago, continues to engage audiences from all over metropolitan Chicago. From pre-schoolers to corporate board rooms, outreach has been on the move, continuously expanding its repertoire of activities and venues while cultivating groups of all ages. This year we were extremely pleased to have our annual outreach program to James Hart Millennium School in Homewood, Illinois, included in a documentary film produced by Leonard Aronson from WTTW. Outreach also made a visit to corporate America. We were invited to do a presentation for the staff of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Illinois. This special program, which took place

Docent Library

This year Margaret Foorman assumed the responsibilities of Head Docent Librarian. Building on a strong foundation developed by Debbie Aliber, her predecessor, Margaret continued to expand our collection as well as reorganize sections of its content. Her monthly updates in the Volunteer Voice helped to highlight new additions to the library and offered suggested readings to enhance our knowledge and understanding of the ancient Near East. Through the generous donations from faculty, staff, and volunteers, along with many outstanding new purchases, the Docent Library's collection continues to flourish as a valuable resource and educational tool. The library committee, which includes: Irene Glasner, Sandra Jacobsohn, Deloris Sanders, Mary Shea, and Daila Shefner, has been instrumental in assisting Margaret with the library's ongoing maintenance and organization, as well as ideas for new purchases.

Interns

We were delighted this year to have the opportunity to work with three exceptional interns: Charlotte Noble, Andrew Rich, and Claire Thomas. Throughout the year their numerous contributions have helped to support many vital areas of the Volunteer Program's ongoing operation.

Charlotte Noble has been an active member of the Volunteer Corps for the past three years. She has served as a Museum Docent and Captain, an Outreach Docent, a Faculty Assistant, has developed several independent research projects, and most recently has written and edited sections of the *Annual Report*. We are pleased that she will be assisting us with many projects during the next year.

Andrew Rich became an intern in October and immediately assumed an active role in many aspects of the program. From Thursday morning Docent Captain, to compiling and graphing important statistical data, to working with the Museum Registrar, and troubleshooting computer glitches, Andrew was a valuable addition to the program. We wish him well and much success as he continues his graduate studies in Classic Archaeology at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland.

Claire Thomas has been an intern for the Volunteer Program throughout her college career. During the past four years, as a student at the University of Chicago, Claire has nurtured and expanded her involvement in the Volunteer Program despite a rigorous academic schedule. She was always ready to take on a new challenge with enthusiasm and resolve. Whether serving as a Museum Docent, Volunteer Day presenter, or administrative assistant, Claire approached each task as a chance to grow intellectually and to explore new avenues of opportunity. Claire graduated in June and will be attending Graduate School this fall at the University of New Mexico to study Biological Anthropology.

We wish Andrew and Claire much success in their future professional careers. They have enriched the Volunteer Program with their intelligence, enthusiasm, and hard work.



Our intern and volunteer, Claire Thomas, returned from her Junior year abroad in Paris to complete her undergraduate studies at the University of Chicago. Here, Claire is ready to introduce visitors to the new Mesopotamian Gallery. Photography by Terry Friedman

In Memoriam

The Volunteer Program lost three loyal friends and supporters of the Oriental Institute: Albert “Bud” Haas, Rochelle Rossin, and Frank Yurco. Bud and Rochelle devoted decades of time, sharing their unique talents and skills to help further the goals and mission of the Oriental Institute. These two remarkable individuals will be greatly missed, and we are thankful that they chose to spend a portion of their lives with us.

We were also deeply saddened with the death of longtime teacher and mentor to the Volunteer Program Frank Yurco, who died on February 6 after a long struggle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). Frank was an outstanding scholar who dedicated his life to teaching and sharing his love of the ancient world, especially Egypt, with his students.

Randel Tea

President and Mrs. Randel graciously hosted a special July Volunteer Day Tea Reception at their home for Oriental Institute faculty, staff, and volunteers. Three Oriental Institute graduate students, Jesse Casana, Kathleen Mineck, and Nitzan Mekel-Bobrov, presented a talk entitled “How do we know what we know?” This



During story-telling time, Volunteer Services Coordinator Catherine Dueñas captures the imagination of her pre-school audience from the University of Chicago Lab School. Photograph by Jean Grant

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informative presentation reflected the latest techniques and the most current information on the ancient Near East. A special thank you to the Randels for their generous hospitality and to Jesse, Kathleen, and Nitzan for their outstanding presentations.

Volunteer Days

Volunteer Days provide a stimulating learning exchange for Oriental Institute docents and volunteers to explore topics for further research and study. These monthly educational seminars



Muriel Brauer has been volunteering in the Suq on Thursday morning for over twenty-five years and still enjoys it. Photograph by Catherine Dueñas

serve as an interactive forum to broaden one's knowledge of the ancient Near East while enjoying special camaraderie with fellow volunteers, faculty, and staff members at the Institute, as well as with colleagues from other cultural institutions.

This year's programs explored a broad range of topics and interests that served as a springboard for gathering new ideas to incorporate into tours. Our thanks and appreciation to faculty and staff members of the Oriental Institute: Robert Biggs, Stephen Harvey, John Larson, Clemens Reichel, Martha Roth, Margaret Schroeder, Gil J. Stein, Emily Teeter; to graduate students: Jesse

Casana, Nitzan Mekel-Bobrov, Kathleen Mineck, and Jonathan Tenney; and to volunteers: Janet Helman, Shel Newman, Semra Prescott, Stephen Ritzel, and Mari Terman.

Volunteer Recognition and Annual Holiday Luncheon

December Volunteer Day has become an annual tradition when faculty, staff, and volunteers gather to enjoy a festive holiday celebration together. This popular program includes a guest speaker, the introduction of new volunteers, and the volunteer recognition ceremony. The program concludes with a lovely holiday luncheon at the Quadrangle Club. This year's special event took place on Monday, December 8.

Our guest speaker was Oriental Institute Professor Martha Roth. Her presentation, "Crime and Punishment in Ancient Mesopotamia," was an informative discussion of laws, crimes, and punishments in ancient Mesopotamia.

Immediately following Martha's talk, the program continued with the introduction of the new volunteers and the Recognition Awards Ceremony. We are pleased to welcome the following individuals to the program: Myriam Borelli, Ana Dias, Djanie Edwards, Mary Finn, Erin

Hardacker-Morr, Erin Harral, Dennis Kelly, Carol Kipp, Sherian McLaughlin, Kavita Rajagopal, Del Ramirez, Andrew Rich, Marcelle Robles, Tatyana Tsirlin, Robert Wagner, and Inge Winer.

In addition to new volunteers, thirty-four individuals were recognized for their years of distinguished and loyal commitment to the Oriental Institute. Bravo and congratulations to all!



This year's Volunteer Recognition recipients enjoyed posing for their picture on the stage of Breasted Hall. Photograph by Jean Grant

2003 Recognition Award Recipients

Five Years

Myllicent Buchanan
Bob Cantu
David Covill
Debby Halpern

Lee Herbst
Henriette Klawans
Elizabeth Lassers
Robert McGinness

Donald Payne
Lucie Sandel
Mari Terman
Karen Terras

Ten Years

Bernadine Basile
Jane Belcher
Erl Dordal
Bettie Dwinell
Irene Glasner

Ira Hardman
Johanna Lucas
Roy Miller
Kathleen Mineck
Denise Paul

Diane Posner
Deloris Sanders
Bernadette Strnad
Jane Thain

Fifteen Years

John Gay

Mary Grimshaw

Daila Shefner

Twenty Years

Carole Yoshida

Twenty-five Years

Muriel Brauer

Anita Greenberg

Janet Helman

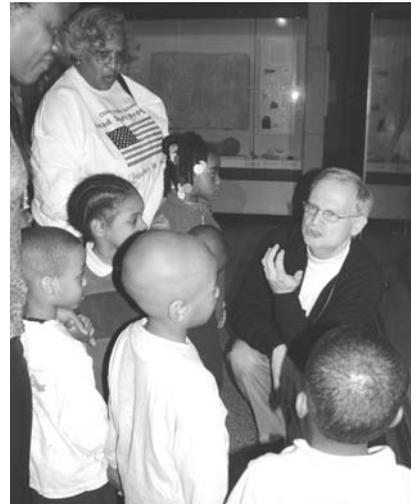
Norma van der Meulen

Field Trips

April Volunteer Day was a special field trip to The Field Museum to see the “Splendors of China’s Forbidden City, The Glorious Reign of Emperor Qianlong.” The program began with a lovely coffee reception for the volunteers and an excellent presentation from our own Tuesday morning Museum Docent Gabriele DaSilva, who is also a Field Museum Docent Captain. Gabriele gave us a comprehensive overview of the exhibit to help us focus on some key areas of this magnificent collection. The volunteers were then escorted into the exhibit to view firsthand these treasured antiquities. Our thanks and appreciation to Bob Cantu and the staff of The Field Museum for an outstanding visit.

Hosting Colleagues

This year we had the pleasure of hosting two programs for colleagues from other cultural institutions in Chicago. In December, the volunteers from The Field Museum enjoyed a morning coffee reception and guided tour of the Mesopotamian Gallery. It was a wonderful opportunity to showcase our collection and to share ideas about touring techniques.



Museum Docent Tom Hunter engages this group of youngsters with a face to face encounter with the mummy Potosiris. Photograph by Wendy Ennes

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Thursday Museum docents Rita Picken and Pierangelo Taschini introduce these children to the Persian Gallery

der Meulen for sharing their individual perspectives about volunteering with our colleagues from the VCCI.

Reflections

The faculty and staff of the Oriental Institute are an integral part of the program's vitality and stature. As our mentors and teachers, they continue to inspire and motivate the volunteers, sharing their wealth of knowledge, sparking our curiosity, and supplying countless resources to enrich our education. Their accessibility and involvement continues to foster the high level of

volunteer commitment throughout many areas of the Oriental Institute and the Museum.

We would also like to thank our colleagues in Museum Education for their trusted support, prudent advice and good humor throughout this past year: Maria Krasinski, Education Programs Assistant; Carole Krucoff, Head of Education and Public Programs; and Wendy Ennes, Teacher Services and e-Learning Coordinator. In an office environment filled with activity and interruptions, their calm demeanor fosters a congenial and productive atmosphere.

Faced with lingering hardships from the war in Iraq, the opening of the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamian Gallery in October 2003 has reinforced the value of education about the Near East. The determination and enthusiastic spirit of the Oriental Institute volunteers has been instrumental in assisting the



Museum Docent Myllicent Buchanan tells these youngsters about Nefermaat and his family. Photo by Wendy Ennes

Oriental Institute in achieving its mission. From reaching out to Assyrian groups in Chicago to educating schoolchildren about Iraq, our volunteers have established their position as global citizens during these difficult times. They are truly a rare and treasured asset. We take pride in all their accomplishments, past, present, and future.

A note of special thanks and appreciation to Charlotte Noble and to Claire Thomas for their assistance with the editing and production of this year's *Annual Report* contribution.

Advisors to the Volunteer Program

Carlotta Maher

Peggy Grant

Janet Helman

Honorary Volunteers-At-Large

Carol Randel

Elizabeth Sonnenschein

Museum Docents

Debbie Aliber	Joan Friedmann	Sherian McLaughlin	Lucie Sandel
Jane Arkell	Dario Giacomoni	Roy Miller	Deloris Sanders
Bernadine Basile	Anita Greenberg	Kathleen Mineck	Larry Scheff
Jane Belcher	Debby Halpern	Charlotte Noble	Joy Schocket
Christel Betz	Ira Hardman	Nancy Patterson	Anne Schumacher
Rebecca Binkley	Erin Harral	Denise Paul	Mary Shea
Dorothy Blindt	Mary Harter	Carolyn Payer	Daila Shefner
Myriam Borelli	Janet Helman	Donald Payne	Toni Smith
Myllicent Buchanan	Lee Herbst	Kitty Picken	Bernadette Strnad
Andrew Buncis	Teresa Hintzke	Rita Picken	Pierangelo Taschini
David Covill	Dennis Kelly	Dennis Pizarro	Mari Terman
Joan Curry	Carol Kipp	Semra Prescott	Karen Terras
Gabriele Da Silva	Henriette Klawans	Kavita Rajagopal	Claire Thomas
Catherine Deans-Barrett	Elizabeth Lassers	Melissa Ratkovich	Pramerudee Townsend
Joe Diamond	Nina Longley	Del Ramirez	Tatyana Tsirlin
Ana Dias	Lo Luong Lo	Patrick Regnery	Robert Wagner
Sam Dreessen	Kavita Machhar	Andrew Rich	Inge Winer
Djanie Edwards	Sherif Marcus	Stephen Ritzel	Monica Wood
Mary Finn	Masako Matsumoto	Maricelle Robles	Carole Yoshida
Margaret Foorman	Robert McGuiness		

Outreach Docents and Volunteers

Myllicent Buchanan	Janet Helman	Caryl Mikrut	Larry Scheff
Janet Calkins	Lee Herbst	Roy Miller	Anne Schumacher
Hazel Cramer	Henriette Klawans	Kathleen Mineck	Karen Terras
Joe Diamond	Betsy Kremers	Nancy Patterson	Claire Thomas
Bill and Terry Gillespie	Nina Longley	Stephen Ritzel	Carole Yoshida
Debby Halpern	Masako Matsumoto	Deloris Sanders	Agnes Zellner
Ira Hardman	Robert McGuiness		

Docent Library – Head Librarian

Margaret Foorman

Committee

Irene Glassner

Sandra Jacobsohn

Deloris Sanders

Mary Shea

Daila Shefner

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Emeritus Librarian

Debbie Aliber

Suq Docents

Muriel Brauer Irene Glasner Caryn Noble Rochelle Rossin Norma van der Meulen
Patty Dunkel Peggy Grant Kavita Rajagopal Jane Thain Felicia Whitcomb

Substitute Suq Docents

Janet Helman Jo Jackson

Suq Jewelry Designer

Norma van der Meulen

Suq Office and Stock Room Volunteer

Irene Glasner

Membership and Development Volunteers

Sophie Bloom Djanie Edwards Janet Helman Carlotta Maher Mary Shea
Joe Burgess Margaret Foorman Henriette Klawans Kavita Rajagopal Mari Terman
Hazel Cramer Erin Harral Jo Lucas David Ray Agnes Zellner

Museum Archives Volunteers

James Baughman Patricia Hume Lillian Schwartz
Hazel Cramer Sandra Jacobsohn Carole Yoshida
Peggy Grant

Registrar's Office Volunteers

Mary Grimshaw O. J. Sopranos Toni Smith

Diyala Project Volunteers

Richard Harter Betsy Kremers George Sundell Karen Terras Robert Wagner

Iraq Museum Database Project Volunteer

Karen Terras

Amuq Project Volunteers

Irene Glasner Mari Terman Tatyana Tsirlin

Abydos Project Volunteers

Chad Bouffard Christopher C. Miller

Hamoukar Project Volunteers

Betsy Kremers Richard Harter George Sundell

Photography Lab Volunteers

Pam Ames Irene Glasner Carole Yoshida

Courtyard Volunteers

Terry Gillespie Bill Gillespie Robert Herbst

Museum Education and Family Programs Volunteers

Sabahat Adil	Joe Diamond	Kavita Machhar	David Ray
John and Sylwia Aldrin	Stephen Esposito	Sherian McLaughlin	Patrick Regnery
Ana Dias	Mary Finn	Robert McGuinness	Andrew Rich
Catherine Deans-Barrett	Terry and Bill Gillespie	Mitch Michalik	Stephen Ritzel
Jane Belcher	Ruth Goldman	Roy Miller	Lucie Sandel
Christel Betz	Anita Greenberg	Kathleen Mineck	Deloris Sanders
Rebecca Binkley	Debbie Halpern	Charlotte and John Noble	Anne Schumacher
Dorothy Blindt	Teresa Hintzke	Nancy Patterson	Toni Smith
Muriel Borelli	Dennis Kelly	Donald Payne	Bernadette Strnad
Myllicent Buchanan	Janet Kessler	Rita Picken	George Sundell
Hazel Cramer	Henriette Klawans	Semra Prescott	Mari Terman
Joan Curry	Barbara Levin	Diane Posner	Claire Thomas
Gabriele da Silva	Lo Luong Lo	Melissa Ratkovich	Carole Yoshida

Junior Volunteers

Kristina Cooper	Kristen Mineck
Sam Dreessen	Caryn Noble
Carl Mineck	John Whitcomb

Assistants to the Epigraphic Survey and Chicago House

Debbie Doyle Mary Grimshaw Carlotta Maher Crennan Ray David Ray

Assistants to the Prehistoric Project

Diana Grodzins Andree Wood

Hittite Dictionary Project Volunteers

Irv Diamond Irene Glasner Anne Schumacher

Demotic Dictionary Project Volunteers

David Berger Amelia Karraker Anne Nelson

Iranian Prehistoric Project Volunteer

Janet Helman

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Faculty Assistant to Professors Jan Johnson and Don Whitcomb

Ruth Goldman

Faculty Assistants to Professor Matt Stolper

Irene Glasner

Charlotte Noble

Volunteers Emeritus

Debbie Aliber
Elizabeth Baum
Charlotte Collier
Erl Dordal
Mary D'Ouille
Bettie Dwinell

Carol Green
Bud Haas †
Cissy Haas
Alice James
MaryJo Khuri
Masako Matsumoto

Dorothy Mozinski
Rochelle Rossin †
Janet Russell
Eleanor Swift †
Peggy Wick

† Denotes deceased
