We are sorry to inform you of the passing of our friend Alan Brodie, age 79, on October 18, 2010, at his home in Chicago. Alan joined the Oriental Institute Visiting Committee in 1997 and volunteered for a number of years prior to joining, becoming a consistent and engaged supporter of Oriental Institute work at Hamoukar in Syria.

Alan was born in Portland, Oregon, and attended Grant High School and Reed College, class of 1951. He then attended the University of Chicago Law School and was admitted to the Illinois Bar in 1954, practicing law at the firm of Bell, Boyd & Lloyd LLP for thirty years. Alan also served in the United States Army. We at the Oriental Institute will miss Alan's quiet wit, his keen curiosity, and his loyal friendship. Please keep him in your memories.

John L. Foster

We regret to announce the death on January 25, 2011, of long-time Oriental Institute research associate John (“Jack”) Foster. Jack was a well-known translator of Egyptian literature, especially poetry. Among his books are Love Songs of the New Kingdom; Echoes of Egyptian Voices, and Hymns, Prayers and Songs. He was professor of English literature at Roosevelt University from 1966 to his retirement in 1994. An active member of both the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities and the American Research Center in Egypt, for the latter, he was the editor of the Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt from 1984 to 2001 and a member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors from 1986 to 2001. At the time of his death, Jack was preparing a catalog of the Egyptian literary ostraca in the Oriental Institute collection.

Barbara L. Hamann

It is with great sadness that we learned that Barbara L. Hamann, who worked in the Conservation Laboratory from October 22, 1990, to September 5, 1998, passed away in November after losing her battle with cancer. Barbara initially pursued a career in archaeology and was awarded an MA in classical art and archaeology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, but then decided to take a parallel track, that of archaeological conservation. After her graduation with honors from the Institute of Archaeology, University of London, with a degree in archaeological and ethnographic conservation, she spent a year at the Art Institute of Chicago.