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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE / Nicole Torres

Update on the LaSalle Room Renovation -

With the help of Museum Education and the Volunteer Office, I designed a floor plan for the renovation of the LaSalle Banks Education Center. We are currently in the process of receiving quote from two different vendors for the whole renovation project. Once we receive the quotes and agree on a final list of enhancements for the LaSalle Room, I will keep you posted on the date and time frame of the renovation project.

Jack Barrera - Admin Office Assistant

For those of you who have wondering about our afternoon office assistant, his name is Jack Barrera. Jack is a student at the University of Illinois - Chicago. He is a sophomore, majoring in Computer Engineering. Jack is here MWF from 12:30 to 3:30 and on T/Th from 2 to 5 PM. Please stop by and get acquainted with Jack.

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COMPUTER LAB / John Sanders

I continued to move a few more staff computers to the DHCP protocol as time permits. In rough numbers, 2/3 of the OI's machines have been switched, and I hope to finish the job in March. If I haven't moved your computer yet, expect a visit this month.

Professor Brinkman's Mesopotamian Directory is now available as an Adobe Acrobat file via the OI website, at:
<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/IS/BRINKMAN/MesDir2003.pdf>

As we start March the moving of the OI website to an NSIT-supported server has been put back on the front burner. I'll have more to say about this next month, by which time the move could have already been made.

Apple System X drivers for the two flatbed scanners in the Lab our still in beta testing, and the manufacturers will not say when they should be released (obviously their previous Jan. 2003 date didn't hold up). But both the G4 and the eMac computers can scan using System 9. I'll move them to System X permanently as soon as the drivers are available.

In the Computer Lab, on February 27, Sandy Schloen gave a great presentation of the eCHD (electronic Chicago Hittite Dictionary) programs she has been developing using XML and Regenstein Library's Tamino database program as the server. Along with the entire CHD staff, Chuck and I saw the basic operating components for a wonderful research tool for language and textual analysis. What remains is the front-end "look and feel", to be designed by the CHD staff based on their needs and suggestions. Congratulations, Sandy!

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COMMUNICATORS GROUP / Emily Teeter, Chuck Jones

Attendees: Denise Browning Debora Donato, Chuck Jones, Maria Krasinski, Carole Krucoff, Rebecca Laharia, John Sanders, Emily Teeter

The second gathering of staff who deal with OI external communications met on Wednesday February 19, at 10:30. The main point of discussion was our web site and how it will be managed after it is transferred to NSIT. Issues included: who will have access to programming; what we will do versus NSIT programmers under the contract we will have with them; site design; how information will be gathered here at the OI and relayed to NSIT; frequency of updating our site, and editing/ proofreading of new materials. An additional issue was how metadata will be added to the existing web text. We discussed ideals of operations, whether we ideally need an IT person for editing and management, and a web-master, the latter probably a work-study type position. Chuck and John pointed out how important it is to have reliable procedure and regular intervals for the update of the site.

We also discussed how our site is used by Education, Membership, and the Suq, and investigating ways to make the transfer of fees secure, and the need for

someone to serve in the role of public information officer, a person with skills different from or in addition to those needed by a webmaster or information technology person.

Debora summarized the preliminary schedule for events in conjunction with the opening of the Mesopotamian Gallery.

Agenda for the next meeting (March 19, @ 10:30, LaSalle Room)

-John will present a list of individual tasks that are involved in web maintenance. Using that list, we will begin to draw up recommendations for future web maintenance and prepare for the transfer of the data to NTSC.

-Further developments in the public events for the opening of the Mesopotamian gallery.

Anyone with concerns about external communications is welcome to attend the next meeting.

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MUSEUM / Karen Wilson

As those of you who have peered through the glass into the new Mesopotamian Gallery will have seen, the Robert and Linda Braidwood Prehistory Exhibit is now fully installed. Never have Paleolithic hand axes or Neolithic clay figurines looked so elegant, thanks to the efforts of the reinstallation team and all the museum staff. Chronology is the next section that will be installed, in March, with Khorsabad, Seals and Sealing Practices, and Daily Life to follow shortly.

You may also have noticed two new faces in the museum office. Evelien Dewulf has joined the museum staff as Administrative Assistant for Reinstallation through the completion of the Mesopotamian Gallery. And Justine Warren will be working 15 hours per week as Museum Student Assistant. Both are familiar faces, as Evelien was previously in the Membership Office and Justine is the guard at the security desk during the day on Sunday. If you haven't met both of them, please stop in and introduce yourself.

There also have been several changes in staff in Preparation. In December, Elliott Weiss left to move to Israel. Erik Lindahl has taken Elliott's position as Assistant Preparator, and Beal Stafford has joined the installation crew as mount maker for the Mesopotamia project. One can't "stop by" Preparation, but I hope you will all have a chance to meet Erik and Beal.

And I am pleased to let everyone know that Margaret Schroeder has just been appointed to the board of the Smithsonian Institution's National Conference on Cultural Property Protection. She will be the first University representative to the board, speaking on behalf of University security in general, and more specifically to issues concerning University museums and libraries. Congratulations Margaret!

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CONSERVATION / Laura D'Alessandro

This spring, Laura D'Alessandro will be serving as a panelist for IMLS's 2003 Conservation Project Support grants. IMLS (the Institute of Museums and Library Services) is the federal granting agency that has funded the majority of our rehousing projects over the last 12 years. D'Alessandro will be in Washington, D.C. March 3-5.

Work is continuing on the Iron Storage Project, a long term research project begun in 1998 to test a new storage system for the storage of unstable archaeological iron. The RPA system, manufactured by Mitsubishi, is an oxygen scavenger and desiccant. Because this is a new product and has not been extensively tested by the conservation community, our goal is to set up mock storage environments using modern metal coupons to determine not only if the RPA system works, but whether the material itself promotes further deterioration of the objects. Right now we are finishing up the preliminary stages of the project, which involves testing the materials that will make up the storage system. In order to analyze the test coupons for unusual contaminants, we are using the Department of Geophysical Sciences' JEOL Scanning Electron Microscope with Energy Dispersive Spectrometry. When this stage is complete, then we can begin the long term testing of the mock storage systems. You can read more about the Iron Storage Project at: http://www.oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/CON/Iron_Storage.html which will be updated as the project progresses.

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EDUCATION / Carole Krucoff

Please watch your mailboxes for a copy our Spring Events Brochure, the publication that Museum Education produces and sends out every quarter to a mailing list of close to 5,000 members and friends of the Oriental Institute. We also send the events brochure to all who contact our office expressing interest in our educational programming for the general public. This spring, we're increasing the number we print so that all Oriental Institute staff and faculty can have their own copy of the brochure.

Please let us know if you have thoughts or ideas for new approaches to public programming that our office might present. We welcome your suggestions!

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VOLUNTEERS / Terry Friedman and Cathy Duenas

We would like to encourage all of you to join us for our March 10th Volunteer Day, when Professor Norman Golb will be bringing us up to date on his current research on the Dead Sea Scrolls and Karen Wilson will be taking us behind-the-scenes to show us what's new in the Mesopotamian Gallery. Please check your March Volunteer Voice for the time and place for these activities.

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MEMBERSHIP / Rebecca Laharia

RESEARCH ARCHIVES / Chuck Jones

During the month of February two new Oriental Institute Research Archives Acquisitions Lists have been distributed and published on-line:

Number 15. Acquisitions - November-December 2001
<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/RABooks.2001.11-12.html>

Number 16. Acquisitions - January-February 2002
<http://www-oi.uchicago.edu/OI/DEPT/RA/RABooks.2002.01-02.html>

We hope to be able to accelerate the pace and produce these documents in a more timely manner in the next few months.

As most of you know, Acquisitions Lists of the Oriental Institute Research Archives are also available by e-mail. To receive these lists as they appear, please follow the instructions for the RABooks list at:
<https://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/rabooks>

All of the volumes processed as the Oriental Institute's contribution to the first phase of the ETANA Core Texts project (<http://www.etana.org/coretexts.shtml>) are now back in Chicago. In addition to the originals and the scan freely available on-line we now also have high quality bound reproductions of all these volumes (most of which were selected because of their age and poor condition). Pending the processing of the shelf copies back into the reading room, those who would like to see these bound duplicates them can contact me in the office.

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PROJECTS
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EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY / Ray Johnson

As I write this, Luxor is almost as busy as usual at this time of the year, and is filled with European tour groups. We have noticed no thinning of the crowds of tourists at Medinet Habu and Luxor Temple, and the Corniche is surprisingly bustling. Local sentiments, which we are gauging carefully, are of course anti-war, but everyone is quick to divorce us from the policies of our leaders. We are cautious, but carrying on a normal schedule. While we are ready for anything, I still have my fingers crossed that war can and will be averted.

At Medinet Habu the epigraphic team has been continuing the drawing and collating of the reliefs in the Thutmosis III bark sanctuary and ambulatory. Artists Margaret DeJong and Sue Osgood are working inside the bark sanctuary on the Ptolemaic-renewed Thutmoside reliefs. Epigraphers Brett McClain, Harold Hays, and Randy Shonkwiler are working on the exterior walls of the bark sanctuary and pillars, while epigrapher / librarian Jen Kimpton is being trained by Brett McClain in the ambulatory façade. I have finished Director's Checks on the paint collations of the first painted chamber (pending one last drawing) with Brett and artists Sue Osgood and Margaret DeJong slated for Volume 1. I also finished Director's Checks on six of Sue Osgood's bark sanctuary pillar drawings, and two of Margaret's, which will be published in Volume 2, with more

this week; VERY satisfying seeing the material to this stage. The conservation team headed by Lotfi Hassan has been working in the back central sanctuary with excellent results, and they have finished cleaning and infilling two walls and part of a third. Very shortly the art team will move in to add newly exposed painted details to the drawings of the two finished walls of that chamber. Tina Di Cerbo has just finished the first version of her groundbreaking, digitally scanned paleography and iconography file of the small Amun temple drawings, something that we will constantly be building on and adding to as drawings are cleared for publication. She has also continued work on an exhaustive illustrated database of the Medinet Habu graffiti, from the main temple and the small Amun temple. Artist Will Schenck assisted by Emily Napolitano have made foil rubbings of a façade pillar partly hidden by a later Ptolemaic wall, and a roofblock over the bark sanctuary ambulatory which appears to be a reused architrave from Amenhotep III's mortuary temple. Both areas feature carved decoration partially hidden by stone blocks which can be recorded by intrepid, thin-wristed individuals (Emily) who carefully reach into the space available and rub aluminum foil over the relief to get an impression of the carving. This can then be outlined with an indelible marker, traced, reduced, and integrated with the rest of the drawing.

Dany Roy laid the last two sandstone floor slabs in the front central chamber last month which now finishes the new flooring in that chamber. Last week stopped our work on the new, damp-coursed sandstone base for the colossal Thutmosis III red-granite false door pending its possible selection as one of the objects for the new Luxor Museum extension. The theme of the new extension is 'Egyptian Empire and War,' and an SCA commission is reviewing the false door as a possible highlight of the exhibition. This would be an excellent thing, offering this unique monument the added long-term protection of an enclosed environment.

We have made excellent progress in the Luxor Temple blockyard this season raising the wall fragments up off the wet ground onto newly constructed protected storage platforms. Thanks to Jamie Riley and our extraordinary workmen we finished the eastern area in February, two months ahead of schedule. But we made a sad discovery when we moved the last Akhenaten talatat block row in the east area, piled against the outer east wall of the Colonnade Hall: another lower layer of Akhenaten blocks, the entire length of the hall (almost 200 feet), all decorated, but completely buried and totally saturated with salt-laden ground water. Some of the blocks have already turned to sand, while the rest - and there are over a hundred and thirty of them - require eventual placement on treatment platforms, and we have run out of space. We actually ran out of space long before we even found this group! So this was not a pleasant surprise.

In response to these challenges, Jamie and I commissioned our Luxor 'aluminum man' Mr. Usama to construct prototype frameworks in aluminum over several of these special platforms designed with a second level of shelving and a fibreglass roof above to protect them from the elements. These will take care of much of the material requiring treatment, but we still don't have the space to accommodate the new group, nor, considering their condition, would it be prudent to expose them to the air for long. So, Yarko and Sue will finish doing emergency reference photography on them tomorrow. After that, and on the advice of our stone conservator, Hiroko Kariya, we will be rebury them for the time being with the original soil which covered them, which will restore the balance of salt in the stone and soil and stop any movement of salt, which destroys the

stone, until we have an expanded consolidation program which can handle their treatment. It's frustrating... and sad. But all of the fragmentary wall material would end up this way if we weren't doing what we are doing now. Yarko, Sue, and Ellie will also finish the photography of the newly joined fragment groups this week, and will begin the reference photography of the Thutmosis III wall fragments shortly thereafter.

We had a quiet but busy Eid Al-Adha/Bairam holiday February 10-12. Half the staff went off to Hourgada on the Red Sea coast that Sunday and Monday with our driver Omar and his wife Halle, who is expecting their first child, and although it was quite cold, the group had a good break. I was my usual boring self and caught up on some office and research work during the holiday. On February 13th we had a World Monuments Fund review by the Director of Archaeological Conservation Gaetano Palumbo at Luxor Temple, and an ARCE/EAP review at the Medinet Habu small Amun temple on the 27th. On the 21st we hosted a reception and library briefing at CH for a large group made up of several Middle Eastern chapters of the YPO (Young Presidents Organization) hosted by the Cairo chapter. Emily and I attended a gala dinner hosted by the group in the Amunhotep III sun court at Luxor Temple the next night (drinks reception at 10:00 PM, dinner at midnight!), with Zahi Hawass as guest speaker. We sat at his table, along with friend and colleague Betsy Bryan, and were attended by embarrassed-looking waiters dressed in golden nemes headdresses and kilts. It was an experience. Last week I gave an on site briefing of our Luxor Temple blockyard preservation work to an SCA/Ministry of Culture commission planning the re-development of the Luxor Temple precinct. Initial plans called for the wholesale removal of the entire eastern blockyard treatment and storage area (!!), but after my briefing, that plan was completely reworked, with more discussions pending. Al'humdoolilah!

On other fronts, artist Sue Osgood had an exhibition in Cairo during February of some of her latest paintings, and hosted a preview for us in her studio the week before, with a reception in the artists' courtyard. Sue Lezon currently has a show of her art photography up in Qatar, as well as the CH library 'portrait gallery' and will be in Qatar next week to give lectures and a class in conjunction with the show. And last but not least, on Monday, February 10 at 7:30 AM Dany's wife Nada gave birth to a bouncing (albeit tiny) baby girl, Gabrielle (5.75 lbs.). Mother and daughter are doing very well, and will be with us from next week until our season's end, April 15th, something we are all looking forward to.

So all is well in Luxor. It's business as usual work wise, and we are getting a lot of field work done. But we are being cautious, are monitoring the local and regional situation, and are in constant touch with the US Embassy and State Department. Tuesday is Islamic New Year, and a time of new beginnings. Let us hope and pray for the best. Kullu cena w'intu tayibeen!

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MODELING ANCIENT SETTLEMENT SYSTEMS PROJECT / Tony Wilkinson

We are pleased to announce that the Modeling Ancient Settlement Systems Project has just recruited Dr. Magnus Widell as our first post-doctoral fellow. Magnus was originally trained in Akkadian and Sumerian in Sweden, Austria and, most recently, Northeast Normal University, Changchun, in the People's Republic of

China. His PhD dissertation, from Northeast Normal University is entitled "Public and Private Economic Activities in the City of Ur during the Ur III Period." He was previously Senior Editor of the Journal of Ancient Civilizations, and he has published a range of articles on administrative and economic topics. Of particular interest to us in the modeling group is his long-standing interest in the economic and social history of early Mesopotamia. Over the next 18 months Magnus will be bringing together a wide range of textual and ethnographic data that can be used as input into the first stage models.

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WORKSHOP ON LANDSCAPE ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE NEAR EAST/ Tony Wilkinson

A workshop held in the La Salle room of the Oriental Institute over three days from Friday 31st January until Sunday 2nd February 2003 was specifically convened to examine past and present approaches to the study of the ancient Near Eastern landscape. Being sponsored by the Oriental Institute, the Department of Anthropology and the Interdisciplinary Archaeology Workshop, this was intended to be an integrative venture, and the final program included a wide range of papers on three chosen geographical areas as well as thematic issues such as computer data base systems in archaeology, the role of climate models in the study of ancient Near Eastern societies, ceramic chronology as well as geoarchaeology, remote sensing, and the interface of history and archaeology. In addition, a special session was constituted to discuss the impending conflict in Iraq, and how archaeologists might play a positive role in what many people regard as a rather dubious endeavor.

The sessions were pulled together by myself and Nick Kouchoukos, and I wish to take this opportunity to thank Nick for the considerable amount of work he did on finalizing the list of participants and making crucial arrangements, while I was off in Yemen. We must thank Gil Stein, the director of the OI, and Alan Kolata, chair of the Department of Anthropology for contributing generous funding for the workshop. The workshop was intended to bring together archaeologists working in three main areas: the Khabur basin of Syria, the southern Mesopotamian lowlands of Iraq, and the Susiana plains of SW Iran. Our basic objective was to look back at what types of work had gone before and then to look forward to see how the field was developing and how it might be shaped in future. The demographics of the sessions therefore reflected this perspective. Many papers on the latest results of remote sensing and GIS were presented by graduate students from both NELC and Anthropology, and these contributions were countered by other papers given by more senior colleagues, particularly those involved in the "golden age" of surveys in SW Iran and Mesopotamia. We were therefore very happy to meet and receive contributions from Henry Wright, Robert Adams, Robert Schacht, Elizabeth Stone, William Sumner, Liz Carter, Greg Johnson, Jason Evans, Jennifer Pournelle, Robert Wenke, Frank Hole, from outside Chicago, as well as from Matt Stolper, Mac Gibson, Gil Stein, David Schloen, Tony Wilkinson, Alan Kolata, Nick Kouchoukos, Donald Whitcomb, and Gidon Eshel from within Chicago. In many ways it was the contributions by the graduate students that blazed new trails, and these papers were able to show just how new technologies (both hardware and software) can be harnessed to obtain new insights into old terrain. Papers by Jason Ur (Chicago, NELC/OI), Eric Rupley (Michigan, Anthropology), Jennifer Pournelle (UCSD, Anthropology), Carrie Hritz (Chicago, NELC/OI), Jesse Casana (Chicago NELC/OI), and Mark Ataweel (Chicago NELC/OI) creatively demonstrated the wide range of new

How to cook a standing rib roast: First, I ask the butcher for a two rib roast, about five pounds. Pre-heat the oven to 375 degrees. Since we have a cool oven, I usually split the difference between 375 and 400. Place the roast in a pan and salt and pepper it; I usually also add Lawry's seasoned salt. Place the roast (uncovered) in the oven with the heat on for one hour. Turn off the heat, but DO NOT OPEN THE OVEN DOOR. Leave the roast in the oven with the oven door closed and the heat off for two more hours. One-half hour before serving, turn the heat back on to 375 for thirty minutes to reheat the roast. Remove and serve. The roast will be cooked medium to medium-rare. I cut the meat off the bones and usually get four good slices of roast. One tablespoon of pan drippings per slice usually suffices for au jus.

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JOURNAL OF NEAR EASTERN STUDIES / Robert Biggs

The most recent issues of JNES is available on-line free of charge. Eventually the site will be access controlled, but all subscribers will have access to the on-line version. No doubt the University of Chicago Press will inform subscribers when this happens.

For now access to Volume 62, Number 1 (January 2003) is at:
<http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/JNES/journal/>

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IN MEMORIAM

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BRAIDWOOD MEMORIAL SERVICE

There will be a memorial service for Robert and Linda Braidwood on Sunday April 13th at 3:30 PM in Rockefeller Memorial Chapel

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[The following remarks were made by Alice Swift Riginos on 26 January 2003 at Montgomery Place, and are included here with her permission]

ELEANOR RANSOM SWIFT (1917-2003): A REMEMBRANCE

Good afternoon. In saying that your presence today is greatly appreciated, I am speaking for my sister, Eleanor, my brother, Gus, as well as for myself and the members of our families. Each of you will have known Eleanor Ransom Swift in a distinctly personal way. I see here many friends of long-standing and each of you surely have your own memories of her. But others of you knew Mother only during her later years. With that in mind, I would like today to evoke something of Eleanor Ransom Swift in her younger days. Eleanor Bowne Ransom was the sole child of Carolyn Quaintance of Golden, Colorado, and Rastus Seneca Ransom, Jr., originally of New York City. Our mother was proud that her maternal grandparents were early settlers in Colorado. The traits of pluck, determination, self-reliance, independence of spirit, a courage in meeting life head-on-traits required to face life on the frontier-all are qualities which I would say Mother shared with her Colorado forbearers.

Mother's father, by contrast, was an Easterner, a New Yorker, son of Judge Rastus S. Ransom, Sr., a well-connected New York lawyer and his very social wife Carol Bowne Edwards. Rastus Jr., familiarly known as Bud and terribly handsome, came to Golden as a student at the Colorado School of Mines. He courted and married a Golden belle who had the pluck to join him in the itinerant life of a mining engineer, moving in a wide arc from Utah to Pennsylvania. At her father's untimely death Mother was not yet 5 years of age. Her relationship with her own mother continued to be intense and close, both as a girl and a woman.

After a brave attempt at running her husband's mining venture, Carolyn Ransom, now a young widow, returned with little Eleanor to Colorado, eventually to reside in Denver with her eldest brother, Mother's beloved Uncle Charlie. This life-long bachelor and entrepreneur of many callings—including a go at prospecting the streams of Clear Creek running past Golden for nuggets of the metal from which his home town derived its name—the confirmed bachelor Charles Quaintance provided a loving but strict home for his sister and his little niece. He took great pride in the young woman who emerged from this Presbyterian household where brother and sister agreed on the prohibition of smoking, of the consumption of alcoholic beverages, of playing cards. And they did not dance on Sunday.

With the blessing and support of her mother and Uncle Charlie, Eleanor departed from Denver for Cambridge, Mass., as an entering freshman at Radcliffe College. This was a bold step to take. Colorado in the 1930's was not the popular vacation destination of today but still part of the Old West, a place on the fringes of civilization and wild when viewed from a Bostonian perception. Mother must at that time have conveyed an aura of that West to her friends at Radcliffe for upon arrival she was dubbed with the nickname of "Ranchie" which stuck for many years.

While Eleanor Ransom did eventually adjust herself to the ways of the East—as later she would to the manners of the Midwest—I do think she retained for all her years certain qualities which we associate with "the mores of the West"—an open manner, a directness of speech stamped with conviction and lack of subterfuge. She had, too, a bright and infectious laugh which swept you in and embraced you with good humor.

In truth, Mother liked meeting people and sweeping them in. She was gregarious in the extreme and never seemed at a loss to make conversation. Conversation, not idle chatter, for she had a wonderful way of making very personal contacts with another person. She would remember all sorts of details from previous conversations, even when these encounters were held at long intervals, and in this way would demonstrate the sincerity of her interest.

Mother especially enjoyed being with young people. Many of my schoolmates remember how much fun it was to have Mrs. Swift along on a fieldtrip. Our home at 56th and Kenwood was always open. One neighbor, who shall remain anonymous, famously said to their own children, presumably at a moment of exasperation, "Why don't you go over to the Swifts'? Mrs. Swift loves to play board games." While this may be somewhat less than true, she did enjoy playing with and reading to her own young children. She welcomed the arrival of grandchildren and created opportunities to spend time with and be in the lives of each of them. Her zest and good humor drew her nieces and nephews to her—in tribute to this so many of our cousins are here today. And it is particularly touching to

see children of our cousins here, not out of obligation, but out of affection for their great aunt.

At Radcliffe, from which she exited in 1939 with a diploma in English, Magna cum laude, Mother met her future husband, our father, Gustavus Swift, then a Harvard student of classical languages. When she first entertained the attentions of the tall, lanky, serious, shy Gus Swift, Mother had little notion of how very different her own background was from that of the Chicago family of her studious suitor whose clothes were, in her estimation, frankly, a little shabby. Eleanor Ransom, soon Eleanor Swift, having grown up a single child in a loving but rather different family structure, found herself entering a family where smoking was permitted, the cocktail hour a regular feature of the day, and card playing an approved pastime. I don't know about dancing on Sunday, but the style of life lived in our grandparents' house on Astor Street must have seemed almost libertine compared to Mother's own background. Of course, this was not the case at all: life on Astor Street was conducted under the formal dictates of Mother's new mother-in-law, the formidable Marie Fitzgerald Swift. With pluck and determination, Mother set about to make a place for herself in her new family by marriage. Her mother-in-law intended, and largely succeeded, to remain "Mrs. Swift" to all the "children" acquired by marriage, but with Father's three sisters, especially Marie and Jane who still lived in the family home on Astor Street, (Aunt Geraldine, the eldest of the four siblings, was already married and concerned with her own new family) Mother formed bonds of affection which would link them all their adult years. As for our grandfather, Gustavus F. Swift II, then president of Swift and Company, it is clear that he had been won over by this gal from the West via Radcliffe when, prior to the newly-weds' embarking on a planned trip to Italy in the fall of 1939, he wrote to his friend Count Giulio Bolognesi, the former Italian consul in Chicago, the following to announce his son's wedding and the young couple's impending visit to Italy: "she graduated from Radcliffe this spring, but their acquaintance had gone on there for a couple of years or more, so there was nothing very sudden about it. She is a fine girl, of very nice family, and we are all very happy about it."

Another trait of our Mother was a sense of volunteerism. The urge to "do her part" was a motivating force in her life. Among my earliest recollections of Mother is one from the war years, which we spent in Washington DC. I remember her, the air raid warden for our immediate neighborhood, donning her identifying arm-band and heading out to the darkened streets carrying with her a perfectly huge flashlight. In later times, settled here in Chicago, she served the Chicago Child Care Society for many years. She was a fixture at all volunteer opportunities at our school, scholarship sales and the like. And for thirty years she was an energetic volunteer at the Oriental Institute.

In the early 1960's, Mother's life took a tilt that was decidedly...Turkish! She had always intended to be a companion to her husband in travel and archaeological fieldwork, and when Father became a senior staff member of a large archaeological venture, the excavation of the city of Sardis in western Turkey undertaken by Harvard and Cornell universities, Mother rose to this new opportunity, determined to be at Sardis, then a remote and backward area, with husband and family. She set about learning to speak Turkish, she was undaunted when informed that her family, not being excavation staff but only volunteers, would not be able to take meals at the excavation house. Actually, for this same reason we avoided staying in the excavation compound, in which the others were confined behind a guard wall. The Swift family had a small but open house

