

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Susan Geshwender

Celebrating 50 Years!

This is a milestone year for the Volunteer Program, as we proudly celebrate our 50th anniversary. Founded in 1966, the Oriental Institute's Volunteer Program shares the distinction of being the oldest in Chicago along with that of the Art Institute and the Chicago Architecture Foundation. The volunteer program was started as a docent program by the late Carolyn Livengood, who was the Museum secretary. We still have two active volunteers from the first volunteer class of 1966: Carlotta Maher and O. J. Sopranos. On December 4, 2016, the Volunteer Program will hold a celebration and reunion of all those who have served as volunteers.



Some of the Year's Highlights

For this year's enrichment field trip, we chartered a luxury coach bus and traveled to the Grand Rapids Public Museum in Michigan to see a reproduction of King Tut's tomb. Robert Ritner graciously donated his time and filled our heads with information during the three-hour bus trip. Professor Ritner even joined us on a carousel ride at the museum (figs. 1-2), proving there is nothing he won't do for our volunteers!

The Book Club has continued to grow in attendance and our discussions have been further enhanced by having experts from the OI join us, including McGuire Gibson, John Larson, and Emily Teeter. Director Gil Stein vacated his office so we could discuss *Pioneer to the Past* in James Henry Breasted's original office, providing a great atmosphere for that discussion (figs. 3-5).

A new Hospitality Committee was started with members Dee Speich, Peg Romm, Marilyn Murray, Kirsten Leasia, and Hilda Schlatter. This group organizes snacks and treats for the



Figure 1. Robert Ritner and Margaret Foorman



Figure 2. Robert Ritner and King Tutankhamun



Figure 3. The OI Book Club in the Director's Office! Left to right: Christel Betz, Stephen Ritzel, Shirlee Hoffman, Margaret Schmid, Marilyn Murray, John Larson, Sue Geshwender, Jean Nye, Deloris Sanders, Nancy Baum, and Semra Prescott



Figure 4. Left to right: Janet Helman, Larry Lissak, Deloris Sanders, Margaret Schmid, Emily Teeter, Jean Nye, Roberta Buchanan, Semra Prescott, Craig Tews, Irene Glasner, Nancy Baum, and Debby Halpern



Figure 6. UChicago Student Docents Emily Boak, Michael Goodyear, and Nick Posegay



Figure 5. Left to right: Deloris Sanders, Stephen Ritzel, Sue Geshwender, Carole Yoshida, Irving Finkle (author), Semra Prescott, Shirlee Hoffman, Christel Betz, Irene Glasner, and Gabriele Da Silva



Figures 7 and 8. Potluck luncheon for volunteers

monthly Volunteer Days and has been responsible for some delicious spreads. We need to make special mention of Stephen Ritzel's carrot cake, which has become a much requested favorite.

Docent Training

We started our year with the successful training and certification of several new docents: Luella Adan, Joe Barabe, Roberto Cepeda, Lauren Friesen, Brian Porrett and Darren Vilmin. We also certified three University of Chicago student docents this year, Emily Boak, Michael Goodyear, and Nick Posegay (fig. 6). To celebrate the completion of Docent Training 2016, we brought back an old tradition of the volunteer-catered potluck luncheon (figs. 7-8).

Volunteer Projects

Volunteers have logged in over 2,000 hours in the Research Archives, primarily on the Integrated Data Base Project under the supervision of Foy Scalf. This small army of volunteers includes Eric Aupperle, Joe Barabe, Rebecca Binkley-Albright, Ray Broms, Betty Bush, Gaby Cohen, Kym Crawford, Sequoia Chun, Gabriele Correa Da Silva, Irene Glasner, Katherine Hodge, Katherine Jarobe, Peter Johnson, Elisa Landaverde, Kristin Leasia, Michael McCarthy, Marge Nichols, Brian Porrett, So Young Oh, Roberta Schaffner, Ian Williams, Scott Vokes, and Amy Zillman. Additionally, Foy had grad students Theresa Tiliakos, Sunwoo Lee, and Ariel Singer working on the OIDOO Project.

Volunteers also have helped in several other areas. The Suq has benefited from the help of Ray Broms, Louise Despres, Jane Meloy, Alice Mulberry, and Norma van der Meulen. Museum Registration has been aided by Terry Friedman, Kierra Foley, Toni Smith, Jim Sopranos, Tasha Vorderstrasse, and interns Danielle Zwang and Tine Rassalle. Special thanks to Shirlee Hoffman for writing the quarterly Volunteer Spotlight articles in *News & Notes*. The Chicago Hittite Dictionary has had Barbara Jillison working diligently all year. George Sundell logged in over 700 hours on the Diyala Project. The Hacinebi Project continued to receive the attentions of Fred Eskra, Michael Goodyear, and Steve Scott. Carole Yoshida continued her project for John Larson, Larry Lissak continued his project for Bruce Williams, and Rebecca Wang started on a project for Robert Ritner. These are just a few of the different areas where volunteers help out.

Farewell

We were deeply saddened in October when we suddenly lost one of our well-loved docents, Don McVicker (fig. 9). He was a regular at the Oriental Institute, giving tours, discussing books, working as a guard, and eating his lunch in the Docent Library. We all miss him greatly. A generous donation to the Docent Library for new book acquisitions was made from Don's estate.

The volunteer program has a long history and continues to grow and enrich the lives of volunteers while adding value to faculty, staff, researchers, and the visiting public at the Oriental Institute.



Figure 9. Don McVicker

Photo Gallery



The OI welcomed over 1,000 visitors during October's Open House Chicago. Volunteers Lauren Friesen, Susan van der Muelen, Rebecca Binkley-Albright, Gaby Cohen, Alice Mulberry, Michael Goodyear, and Sarah Jung were on hand to give tours



Jean Nye, Wahied Helmy, and Marilyn Murray



Nancy Baum, Shirlee Hoffman, Christel Betz, and Carlotta Maher

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Roberta Buchanan, Mylicent Buchanan, and Peg Romm



Fun in the Docent Library! Stephen Ritzel is covering the Field Museum logo on his shirt and Carole Yoshida is dropping off some cookies for the volunteers. Also pictured are Terry Friedman, Carol Ng-He, and Moriah Grooms-Garcia



Denise Browning, Roberta Schaffner, and Daila Shefner



Waiting for a tour group to arrive. Joe Barabe, Luella Adan, Steve Scott, Shirlee Hoffman, Brian Porrett, Jean Nye, Nancy Baum, and Gabriele Da Silva



Mummies Night! Darren Vilmin, Rebecca Binkley-Albright, and Stephen Ritzel

Volunteer Recognition

In December we held our annual recognition ceremony and holiday luncheon. Congratulations to those who celebrated a milestone year in their volunteer service to the Oriental Institute.

5 Years	15 Years	25 Years
Jean Nye	Dario Giacconmoni	Nancy Baum
	Nancy Patterson	
	Semra Prescott	
	Joy Schochet	
	George Sundell	
10 Years		
Margaret Bolton		
Gabriella Cohen		
Andrea Dudek		

Museum Docents

** Denotes active docents who are also project or event volunteers*

Luella Adan	Margaret Foorman	Nancy Patterson
John Aldrin	Terry Friedman*	Brian Porrett
Rev. Dennis Bailey	Lauren Friesen	Nick Posegay
Joseph G. Barabe*	Dario Giacconmoni	Semra Prescott
Nancy Baum	Michael Goodyear*	Stephen Ritzel
Susan Bazargan	Wahied Helmy	Peg Romm*
Craig Bean	Lee Herbst	Deloris Sanders
Rebecca Binkley-Albright*	Shirlee Hoffman*	Hilda Schlatter
Daniel Bloom	Dennis Kelley	Margaret Schmid
Margaret Bolton	Ralph Klein	Joy Schochet
Emily Boak	Stuart Kleven	Stephen Scott*
Myllicent Buchanan	Panagiotis Koutsouris	Mary Shea
Roberta Buchanan	Alfia Lambert	Toni Smith*
Roberto Cepeda	Laurence Lissak*	Dee Speich
Gabriella Cohen*	Paul Mallory	Craig Tews
Gabriele Da Silva*	Sherry McGuire	Darren Vilmin
John DeWerd	Marilyn Murray	Ron Wideman
Cathy Duenas*	Jean Nye	Steve Wolfgang
Fred Eskra*	Mary O'Shea	Carole Yoshida*

Volunteers

Laura Alagna	Ian Hafley	Sara Mohr
Eric Aupperle	Calgary Haines-Trautman	Marge Nichols
Doug Baldwin	Janet Helman	Brandy Norton
Ray Broms	Katherine Hodge	So Young Oh
Elizabeth Bush	Katherine Jarboe	Karen Righheimer
Sequoia Chun	Barbara Jillson	Sasha Rohret
Kim Crawford	Peter Johnson	Roberta Schaffner
Andrea Dudek	Sarah Jung	O. J. Sopranos
Mariola Dudzicka	Kristin Leasia	George Sundell
Kierra Foley	Katherine R. Lieber	Rebecca Wang
Bill Gillespie	Carlotta Maher	Ian Williams
Terry Gillespie	Billie Males	Agnes Zellner
Irene Glasner	Sophia Mo	Amy Zillman

Suq Volunteers

Ray Broms	Jane Meloy	Norma van der Meulen
Louise Despres	Alice Mulberry	
