



# News & Notes

*Issued confidentially to members and friends  
Not for publication*

No. 109 May-June, 1987



*Chicago House artist Barbara Arnold working at the wall in Luxor Temple. (photograph by Gretel Braidwood)*

## LUXOR WEEKEND

The long weekend of March 12-15 was the time of the second annual meeting of the Egyptian branch of "Friends of Chicago House." Over seventy people (mainly Egyptian and American Cairenes, but augmented by a few hardy Chicagoans, including U of C's David Gillingham) arrived in Luxor for the three-day event, accompanied by Chicago House Development Officer, Jill Carlotta Maher.

Thursday afternoon they visited Luxor Temple to see the work of Chicago House artists Barbara Arnold, Peter Der Manuelian, Carol Meyer and Susan Osgood at the walls, and Conservator John Stewart's work on wall reassembly. Senior artist Ray Johnson then showed the visitors his block reconstruction project (described in the *1985-86 Annual Report of the Oriental Institute*). The early evening was given over to a special sound and light tour of Luxor Temple (with Chicago House director, Lanny Bell, providing the sound).

Friday, tour members had a day-long excursion to the mid-point of the Qift(Coptos)-Quseir road leading across the eastern desert toward the Red Sea. The road was long a major caravan and pilgrimage route, and predynastic rock drawings of boats attest to early contact (pre-3000 B.C.) with Western Asia. Hieroglyphic graffiti in the Wadi Hammamat, dating

*Continued on page 3*

## UPDATE FROM CHINA

Dear friends,

March 1, 1987

When Steve Cole wrote his "Letter from China" (*News & Notes*, No. 104) last year, I was in the throes of writing my dissertation on the ancient Sumerian texts from Sargonic Adab. That often frustrating exercise in the life of Oriental Institute graduate students was completed in October, 1986, and I was off with my husband, David Jacobson, to exchange with Steve Cole the snowier streets of Chicago for the biting cold of Northeast China.

Our trip to China was fun. Going via Europe and the Middle East, we were able to see colleagues at the British Museum, Oxford and the Ashmolean, and Cambridge. A scheduled trip to Heidelberg to attend a conference on Ebla was thwarted by the flu, and an invitation to come to Amsterdam to give a lecture and make friends there was impossible because of visa problems—a headache in general for Mainland Chinese. From Frankfurt, David and I went to Jordan where we made a cooperative agreement with ACOR in Amman. After a wonderful tour of Petra, the desert castles, and other sites in Jordan, we arrived in Peking after a one day lay-over in Bangkok, Thailand.

A ten day visit with my parents was a joyous reunion, but then it was off to Changchun to find out the realities of doing ancient historical work in China. Taking up the responsibilities of the Vice Directorship of IHAC has been a challenge, the rewards of progress being measured in small things. Two days

*Continued on page 2*



*I.H.A.C. Director, Zhu Huan (right) and Professor Han Jintao (left).*

*Continued from page 1*

ago we finally had a heavy-duty heater installed in our library. It had taken three months to convince our friends that 40°F (on warm days?) as a room temperature was less than adequate for students to do research in or for classes to be held in. Steve, Lisa, and Karen put up with much last year to help China progress. Last week we finally discovered a place where we can have file folders made for us. They, like many paper products taken for granted in the west, don't exist in China.

We Chinese love to eat—anything, it seems! Two days after our arrival in Changchun we were given a reception banquet. Over the course of the next month we attended six more banquets, the likes of which are hardly found even in Chicago's Chinatown. I've been offered (and not eaten) silkworm cocoons, whole deep-fried small frogs, whole deep-fried sparrows, to name but a few of the 40 to 50 different entrees which appeared over the course of those banquets. But, as Steve pointed out for Changchun, life in China isn't dull, it's still; eating is *the* Chinese pastime. Banquets are relished by any lucky enough to attend.

In January our Waiban (Foreigners' Affairs Officer) took us to Harbin, farther to the north and east, for a look at the famous ice-sculptures there. While my feet became insufferably cold, sending me back to our bus, David and Silvin Košak (formally of the Hittite Dictionary in Chicago) braved, no, joyfully



*Silvin Košak (left) in the library with students Li Zheng and Chen Xu.*

attacked (they claim) the ice slides in the ice-sculpture park. The temperature was  $-36^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $-30^{\circ}\text{F}$ !). In Harbin David also bought cheese, a food item which doesn't even exist in the vocabulary of most Changchuners. The five hour train ride home from Harbin was fun, filled with eating, drinking, and card playing. There was the added treat of having one of our Japanese colleagues getting up to make a speech, all in Japanese, to the astonished peasants in our car. Our friend had gotten quite happily into the spirit and spirits of the occasion.

The fall semester ended on January 16th, sending our students home to celebrate the coming "Spring Festival" and "Chinese New Year." Although we managed a short trip to Peking during this period, in Changchun it was an opportunity

for us to tackle our library, badly in need of reorganization and cleaning. After scrubbing floors and re-arranging shelves, we managed to open the library up, providing more working space than before. Then I tackled the library cards, creating a complete author and title index to our holdings as well as arranging our journals and series in proper sequence (with index). By the time classes began again two days ago, we had managed to have our books labelled and catalogued along the lines of the research archives of the O.I. Now we have to train our students how to use this resource effectively. A request for four new sets of tailor-made shelves has gone through, so soon we will not find ourselves so desperately short of space as before.

This semester I'm teaching Sumerian, basic Akkadian, and Old Akkadian (jointly with David). David is teaching a historiography course with me and Silvin auditing. Silvin is teaching a basic Hittite and a more advanced Hittite course. We have a Classicist coming from Germany next week to help us put our Latin and Greek programs on track. Rainer Hannig is doing a splendid job on Egyptian for us. Our students are like students everywhere: some lazy but bright, some lazy and dumb, some slow but industrious, etc. All in all we are beginning to make some headway with them. My basic Akkadian class is helping me translate the Code of Hammurabi into Chinese for a *Classics of the Ancient World* series we are publishing. On track is the second fascicle of our *Journal of Ancient Civilizations* (late 1987), and a series we're calling *Periodic Publications on Ancient Civilizations* which will include my dissertation. Too much to do and no time, of course.

Eleven American students arrived last week to study basic Chinese for a year and a half. China has opened its doors to the world. We are excited about this and our work proceeds with a vision of our institute some day being able to stand side-by-side with the like of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. But it is a long and difficult process, hampered by the severe lack of foreign capital imposed on China by years of isolation. We have years ahead to build up the Chinese base. We have made some first steps. A first for us is the institution of work-study positions for several of our students. Unfortunately, the funds for this come out of our own salaries. Next year we hope to give some local scholarships. There again, unless we receive help from outside, the funds will come from our own private funds. Our library needs books. In March I go to Peking to talk to the State Educational Commission about providing us with major funds for library and foreign expert developments. But the demands on that State bureaucracy are numerous and varied and I am realistic. You who have helped us in the past have made a major dent in helping our institute to go forward. For that we thank you indeed. In a couple of years maybe we'll have our first international conference on the ancient Near East. If that happens, let's hope we see you in Changchun.

From China to all our friends in Chicago and especially the O.I., we wish you a delightful Year of the Rabbit.

Best Wishes,

Zhi Yang 楊熾

Zhi Yang

Vice Director, IHAC

*EDITOR'S NOTE:* If any *News & Notes* readers have books or journal runs they would like to contribute to the library at IHAC, please send them to the Oriental Institute China Project, room 234, The Oriental Institute, 1155 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637. The work study stipends Yang Zhi refers to for students are \$10 a month, and are hard to fund since the average university professor in Changchun receives a salary of \$25-\$30 a month. Checks to help with these stipends (or books for the library) may also be sent to the same address. Any help will go a long way.



*Ann Wolfe in picnic tent in the desert. (photograph by Gretel Braidwood)*

*Continued from page 1*

from the end of the Old Kingdom (ca. 2200 B.C.) down to the end of the first millennium B.C., testify to the activities of miners and quarrymen, as well as trading missions which set out with donkeys for the Red Sea coast (181 kilometers from the Nile Valley). Lunch was an elegant picnic (orchestrated by Martha Bell and Ingeborg Aeschlimann) in a tent pitched on the site of the Roman gold mining camp at Bir Fawakhir (where a brisk wind gave new meaning to the word "sandwich"). Egypt's deserts are hard on machines as well as people; a dry run for this trip the week before had resulted in the demise of the engine of Chicago House's 1950 Chevy. Not to be outdone, the Aeschlimanns' van blew a head gasket on the way back from this day's excursion into the desert and had to towed home.

Saturday began with a visit to the temple of Medinet Habu on the West Bank, where the Egyptian Antiquities Organization's restoration section is working. Epigraphic Survey epigraphers Lorelei Corcoran and Edward Walker demonstrated their work on the inscriptions, and photographer Tom Van Eynde talked about his new project to photograph reliefs and inscriptions in the deep wells. The group then moved on to Deir el-Bahri where the joint Polish-Egyptian missions are doing reconstruction work on the temples of Queen Hatshepsut and Thutmose III. Recrossing the Nile, the group visited the French Archaeological Institute's work at Karnak North (the temples of Montu and Maat) and enjoyed a picnic lunch at their



*Tour group viewing the work of the Polish Mission at Deir el-Bahri. (photograph by Gretel Braidwood)*

expedition house high atop the northern wall of Karnak Temple. After lunch the tour saw the work of the Franco-Egyptian Center for the Study of the Temples at Karnak at the Temple of Amun-Re in the southern axis; and Chicago House administrator Christian Loeben explained the University of Geneva's work at the Tenth Pylon. The final stop of the afternoon was the site of Brooklyn Museum's work at the Temple of Mut (which was the inspiration for the paintings by Chicago artist Martyl which will be on exhibit at the Oriental Institute from June 2nd to July 26th).

The group then enjoyed a tour of Chicago House's facilities and library, including a display of the Labib Habachi Archives by Mme. Atteiya Habachi and Dr. Henri Riad, followed by a reception in the house and garden.

Beautiful weekend weather gave way to a sandstorm Sunday morning, grounding the return flight to Cairo for four hours, creating general confusion in the Luxor Airport, and causing great speculation about who would camp where in the Chicago House gardens that night. But good humor prevailed and eventually the sand abated enough to allow the plane to take off. Everyone in the group vowed to our Cairo organizers Ann and Ron Wolfe that they would return for next year's trip.



*Lanny Bell showing tour group the rock inscriptions on the trip into the eastern desert. (photograph by David Maher)*

## FREE SUNDAY MOVIES AT THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

All films will be shown at 2 p.m. in Breasted Hall

MAY	3	Egypt's Pyramids
	10	Rivers Of Time
	17	The Egyptologists
	24	Of Time, Tombs And Treasures
	31	Iran: Landmarks In The Desert
JUNE	7	Iraq: Stairway To The Gods
	14	Egypt: Gift Of The Nile
	21	Megiddo: City Of Destruction
	28	Preserving Egypt's Past

## FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SULTAN SÜLEYMAN THE MAGNIFICENT

Oriental Institute 1987 Tour to Turkey August 21-September 10, 1987

From June 13 to September 6, 1987, the Art Institute of Chicago will exhibit works from "The Age of Sultan Süleyman the Magnificent." This exhibition of more than 200 works, of which 150 are on loan from Turkish national museums in Istanbul, documents the splendid artistic achievements during the reign of Sultan Süleyman (1520-1566). This Oriental Institute tour will give travelers an opportunity to see many more of the wonders of Turkey at firsthand. It will be led by Oriental Institute doctoral candidate Ronald Gorney who lived in Turkey for a year as a Fulbright fellow. He currently spends his summers as a staff archaeologist at the excavations in Ashkelon, Israel. Our tour will begin in Ankara and then proceed east, first visiting the Hittite center at Bogazkoy, through Capadocia with its wild rock formations and hidden Byzantine churches, to coastal Turkey, providing unparalleled opportuni-



ties for viewing the famed Greek cities of Asia Minor: Didyma, Ephesus, Pergamon, Sardis, and legendary Troy. The tour ends in Istanbul, with its famous mosques, the Topkapi Serai Museum, and the exotic bazaar. Since the late summer weather in Turkey will still be hot, hotel pools and the beaches of the Mediterranean will provide an enticing end to many of the days of touring. A complete itinerary is available from the Membership Office. The cost of the trip from Chicago is:

Land arrangements (per person, double occupancy)	\$1935
Single supplement	\$375
Round trip air fare from Chicago (APEX)	\$1217

Plus a \$350 tax-deductible contribution to the Oriental Institute. This includes first class accommodations and almost all meals. A \$400 deposit is required at the time of booking.

Please enroll me/us in the Institute's 1987 Archaeological Tour to Turkey; August 21-September 10, 1987

- Share room (with?)  
 Single room  
 Send detailed itinerary

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Home telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$400 per person) as a deposit to hold my/our place, payable to ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOURS, INC.

Mail to: Membership Office, The Oriental Institute, 1155 East 58th St., Chicago, IL 60637 (312) 702-9513.

## SUMMER MEMBERS' COURSE

### INTRODUCTION TO MODERN TURKISH

A knowledge of the Turkish language offers opportunities for understanding Turkish culture in ways not otherwise possible. An increasing number of Westerners are discovering the joys of traveling in Turkey, with its rich historical heritage, beautiful handicrafts, and warm friendly people. Even a little study of the language makes it possible to converse with the Turkish people, who respond very warmly when they meet a foreigner who has taken the time to learn some of the language. One need not go abroad, however, to enjoy the benefits of learning Turkish. There is a rich literature of novels, modern short stories, and folk tales; these last may be read after only a short time of study.

The Turkish language makes a fascinating study on its own merits; its grammatical system is totally unrelated to English and yet is quickly learned because Turkish is one of the most regular languages in the world, with none of the exceptions to grammatical rules which afflict beginning students of most languages. The study of Turkish vocabulary with its sampling of Arabic and Persian loanwords provides a brief introduction to the Islamic and Ottoman worlds, as one learns the meanings of words and phrases which have become loanwords into English and which are used in our histories and descriptions of the Islamic world.

The course will include an introduction to the grammar of Turkish and instruction in basic phrases used in conversation and in restaurants, hotels, etc. The instruction in conversational Turkish will serve as a natural means of introducing students to many aspects of modern Turkish culture and will include observations from the instructor's personal experience on how a foreigner fits into that culture. In addition students will learn about the origins of Turkish from its roots in central Asia through Ottoman to modern Turkish as well as an overview of the other Turkic languages being spoken in Asia today.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Greg McMahon is a Ph.D. candidate in Hittitology and Turkish at the Oriental Institute. In addition to his training at The University of Chicago, he has spent two summers studying Turkish at the University of the Bosphorus in Istanbul. He has travelled extensively throughout Anatolia and has recently come back from a full year of research in Turkey.

The class will meet at the Oriental Institute from 10 a.m. till noon on Saturdays, beginning June 20 and continuing through August 15 (no meeting on July 4). Tuition is \$60 plus \$25 annual membership in the Oriental Institute. Please register by Wednesday, June 17th.

**Please register me for**

- Introduction to Modern Turkish  
 I am a member and enclose a check for \$60  
 I am not a member but enclose a SEPARATE check for \$25 to cover a one year Oriental Institute membership.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Daytime telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE.

Mail to: EDUCATION OFFICE, The Oriental Institute, 1155 East 58th St., Chicago, IL 60637.



Acrylic "Sakmet" by Martyl.

## EXHIBITION AT THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE MUSEUM

**"Site Drawings by Martyl: The Precinct of Mut at Luxor" June 2-July 26, 1987**

This summer the Oriental Institute Museum will present an exhibition of recent work by the prominent, contemporary Chicago artist Martyl.

"Site Drawings by Martyl: The Precinct of Mut at Luxor," is an impressive collection of some forty pieces. They were commissioned in 1985 by the Brooklyn Museum to document its excavations in the temple of the goddess Mut in Luxor, Egypt. The exhibition will open to the public on June 2.

While in Luxor, Martyl made hundreds of sketchbook drawings. Upon returning to her Chicago studio, she used these as the inspiration for her drawings, paintings, and watercolors. Although based on her observations, the works became interpretive and increasingly abstract. Barry Walker, Associate Curator of the Brooklyn Museum, writes in the exhibition catalogue that "the artist's concern with a concrete representation of the *intangibles* of air and light becomes more pronounced. Paradoxically, the more abstract the image, the more intense the feeling of place as Martyl depicts the effects of the Egyptian sun with its white-hot washes of light and contrasting intensity of shadow. Her color in the daytime images in acrylic and watercolor is suffused with light."

"Site Drawings by Martyl: The Precinct of Mut at Luxor" was organized by the Brooklyn Museum. The exhibition is partially funded by contributions from individual donors, Allied Signal, Illinois Bell, and Kraft, Inc.

# THE SUQ سوق



**Bronze Age Anatolian Neck Ring.**

Taken from a metal piece found in Turkey. Antique finish of gold plated pewter. Approx. 3 inch diameter **\$14.00**

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**SUQ SALE**

*Special Members' Only Sale*

**Monday, June 1**  
**10 A.M. - 7:30 P.M.**

*30% off all merchandise*

*20% off all books*

*Sale opens to the public*  
*and continues during normal Suq hours*  
**June 2 - 7**

*30% off all merchandise for members*  
*20% off for non-members*

*20% off books for members*  
*10% off books for non-members*

**Please bring your membership card**



## The Oriental Institute

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