



The Artifact

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Letter from the President

*Dr. Jane C. Waldbaum,
Professor Emerita, University
of Wisconsin - Milwaukee*



Dear Members of the AIA-Milwaukee Society,

Welcome to the Spring 2014 edition of *The Artifact*, our members-only newsletter, and best wishes for the new year.

We have an exciting, internationally focused program planned for you in the next few months including three lectures *and* the Fifth Annual Milwaukee Archaeology Fair.

The spring lecture season starts on February 9 when Kevin Cullen of the Neville Public Museum in Green Bay will discuss how underwater excavations in Ireland and the Great Lakes produce evidence of trade connections between these far-flung regions; on March 30, Dr. Maria Liston of the University of Waterloo in Canada will talk about her research on a mass burial of infants in the Agora of ancient Athens; and on April 27, Dr. Hrvoje Potrebica of the University of Zagreb in Croatia will tell us about his recent excavations at a rich European Iron Age site near the village of Kaptol in Croatia.

All lectures are held in Room G90, Sabin Hall, 3413 North Downer Ave at the corner of Newport. Lectures are followed by discussion and refreshments and are co-sponsored by UWM's Departments of Anthropology, FLL/Classics, and Art History. All lectures are *free and open to the public*.

The Milwaukee Society and the Milwaukee Public Museum are delighted to be co-sponsoring the *fifth* annual Milwaukee Archaeology Fair. Five years is quite a milestone for us and to celebrate we have a great lineup of area archaeologists, museum specialists, re-enactors, and students of archaeology and related fields who are prepared to engage you in dozens of fun and

educational activities relating to archaeology. See pp. 4-5 for details on the upcoming Fair, and plan on joining us March 7 and 8 for the big event.

Please Renew and Stay up-to-date! Our members keep us going. Continuing members can renew for two years at a discount over the one-year rate. Information on rates is on the renewal notice you will receive from our Boston headquarters when your membership is nearing expiration, and on the AIA's national website at www.archaeological.org/membership.

Again, I welcome everyone to our spring programs and I hope to see all of you there.

Jane C. Waldbaum

Welcome New Members Joined Since September, 2013

Hillary Abraham Anna Alioto
Traci Billings Clare Connelly
Diane Feldkamp Sheena Finnigan

We are very happy you joined us!

Did You Know? Some Facts from AIA's Past

In 1879 the AIA was founded by Professor Charles Eliot Norton of Harvard University who was elected the Institute's first president. Said President Norton: *"The night of time far surpasseth the day, and it is the task of archaeology to light up some of this long night with its torch, which burns ever with a clearer flame with each advancing step into the darkness."*

The first local society was founded in 1884 in Boston. Today, in 2014, the AIA celebrates its 135th birthday with more than 110 local societies spread across 41 states, several Canadian provinces and three European countries: Portugal (Iberian Peninsula); Athens, Greece; and Italy (The Rome Society was just chartered at the 2014 Annual Meeting). The Milwaukee Society joined this illustrious company in 1968 and has been going strong ever since. To read more about the history of the AIA see: <http://www.archaeological.org/about/history>. Or see <http://www4.uwm.edu/archlab/AIA/history.cfm> for the history of the Milwaukee Society up to 2008.

Transportation, Trade & Treacherous Waters: Maritime Archaeology from the Irish Coast to Lake Michigan's Shores

A Lecture by Kevin Cullen
Neville Public Museum, Green Bay, WI

Sunday, February 9, 2014, 3:00 p.m.
Sabin Hall, Room G90



Kevin Cullen's talk will highlight recent maritime archaeology expeditions off Achill Island, Co. Mayo Ireland, as well as new and old discoveries pertaining to Wisconsin's maritime heritage. He will show how new insights from these disparately connected regions shed light on the foundations of local and global commodity maritime trade, the evolving architecture of historic shipwrecks, ongoing education potentials, tourism opportunities and increased public advocacy for long term preservation.

Kevin Cullen is Associate Curator at the Neville Public Museum in Green Bay, Wisconsin. He currently serves as President of the Wisconsin Underwater Archaeology Association and has extensive experience in underwater and maritime archaeology, particularly on shipwrecks in the Great Lakes.

Short Lives and Forgotten Deaths: Infant Skeletons from the 'Baby Well' in the Athenian Agora

A lecture by Maria Liston
University of Waterloo

Sunday, March 30, 2014
Sabin Hall Room G90, 3:00 p.m.



In 1932, excavators in the Athenian Agora discovered a disturbing deposit in one of the wells on the site. The skeletons of hundreds of infants and dogs were recovered from debris deposited after the well ceased to be used as a water supply. The mass of infant burials led to much speculation. Possible explanations for the large number of infant skeletons included a cult of infant sacrifice, previously undocumented plague, and association with military disaster. A recent multi-disciplinary project has at last clarified the date and nature of the deposit, and provides insight into the high infant mortality rates that plagued the ancient city. In her lecture Dr. Liston examines the causes of death of nearly 450 infants deposited in the well, and explores the possible explanations for the creation of this unusual mass grave.

Dr. Maria Liston is Associate Professor and Chair of the Anthropology department at the University of Waterloo. She pursues research as a skeletal biologist and archaeologist, focusing on the excavation and analysis of human remains and their mortuary contexts. Since 1987 Dr. Liston has worked as the skeletal biologist for the Iron Age excavations at Kavousi, Crete, and various other projects in Crete. Since 2002 she has been participating in the excavation of the Iron Age site

of Azoria in Crete. She also has directed the analysis of the remains of previously recovered British and colonial soldiers at Fort William Henry, in New York, and in 1996 conducted the first excavations at the fort in over 30 years.

Professor Liston holds the AIA's William D. E. Coulson Memorial Lectureship for 2013-2014.



For Further Reading:

Camp, John McK. *The Athenian Agora: Excavations in the Heart of Classical Athens*

Websites:

<http://www.agathe.gr/> (official website of the Agora excavations)

Kaptol—Princes of the Crossroads

A Lecture by Dr. Hrvoje Potrebica
University of Zagreb, Croatia
Sunday, April 27, 2014
Sabin Hall Room G90, 3:00 p.m.

Dr. **Hrvoje Potrebica** will talk about his recent discoveries at an Iron Age fortified settlement and two burial grounds near the village of Kaptol in the Požega Valley of Croatia. Potrebica's excavations at this site have brought to light one of the most important Hallstatt (8th to 6th centuries BCE) complexes in this part of Europe. This large and prosperous settlement, accompanied by elite burials with prestigious goods from distant areas, probably drew its importance from its central position within the communications and trade network which connected the Mediterranean cultural area with the rich seats of Hallstatt princes in Central Europe. The Iron Age cultures of the Balkans and Pannonia played an important role in this system and were closely and directly connected with the center at

Kaptol. Dr. Potrebica will present his research on the necropolis at Gradci, where fifteen tumuli were excavated in the period between 2001 and 2012. He will also discuss the results of initial stages of research at the hillfort, which suggests a longer life span for the settlement and its possible continuity into the La Tène Period of the later Iron Age (5th to 1st centuries BCE).



Hrvoje Potrebica (center) explains some Iron Age pottery

Dr. Hrvoje Potrebica is Associate Professor of Archaeology, Dept. of Archaeology, University of Zagreb in Croatia. He earned the M.A. and PhD in Archaeology from the University of Zagreb. His research focuses on Iron Age Europe and on Bronze and Iron Age elites. Dr. Potrebica holds the Archaeological Institute of America’s prestigious Samuel H. Kress Lectureship in Ancient Art for 2013-14.



Ceramic vessel from late Iron Age cemetery of Zvonimirovo, Croatia

Milwaukee Archaeology Fair Coming March 7 & 8

Come and meet the experts at the Fifth Annual Milwaukee Archaeology Fair! The Fair, co-sponsored by the AIA-Milwaukee Society and the Milwaukee Public Museum, will take place at the Public Museum on Friday March 7 and Saturday March 8 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm both days. Admission to the Fair is free with regular admission to the Museum. MPM members get in to the museum free anytime, and AIA members who show their membership card get in for half off regular admission.

As always, many members of the Milwaukee archaeological community will be on hand to help the past come alive for children, families and teachers from Southeastern Wisconsin. Professional archaeologists, museum professionals, and students will present a wide range of hands-on activities and demonstrations including such topics as Digging at Omrit in Israel; Celtic burial practices, or learning to make a Roman wreath. You can learn archaeological techniques such as sifting, flotation, and plotting grids on sites; and you can also find out how to be an “art detective,” or learn how shells and pearls were used in different cultures around the world.



Kids learn about flotation techniques at the 2013 fair

Great favorites returning from previous fairs are the Roman, Greek, Celtic and Renaissance re-enactors. New this year is “The Banner of St Michael,” a colonial period re-enactor group who will demonstrate various crafts known in both Europe and the New World at the time of the earliest settlements.

And I am very happy to report that the Milwaukee Society has won an AIA Society Outreach Grant to help with expenses for this year’s Fair.

A list of all the presenters is on the MPM's website:
<http://www.mpm.edu/plan-visit/calendar/milwaukee-archaeology-fair>

Make your plans now to attend the Fifth Annual Milwaukee Archaeology Fair. To arrange a field trip please call: 414-278-2714 or see:
<http://www.mpm.edu/plan-your-visit/educators/field-trips> for more information.

AIA's 115th Annual Meeting Held in Chicago, IL January 2-5, 2014

The 115th Annual Meeting of the AIA took place in January just down the road in Chicago, IL. Cold weather and snow did not deter almost 2500 participants from making it to the windy city meetings. The full program featured over 70 scholarly paper sessions on a wonderful array of topics from "Ships, Shipwrecks, and Harbors," to "Legions and Tribes: Archaeology in Eastern and Central Europe," to "Mapping the Roman World," to "Protecting Archaeology in Conflict Zones" (literally a hot topic in these times). A highpoint was the presidential panel on Food and Drink which included papers ranging from cooking at ancient Uruk to the role of chili peppers in South American cultures. For a copy of the full program see:
<http://aia.archaeological.org/program2014/>

The meeting also featured more than 300 events, including an opening night reception, where attendees could greet old friends and make new ones, and a rousing public lecture by Dr. Garrett Fagan on "How to Stage a Bloodbath: Artificiality and Theatricality in the Roman Arena." Also on the roster were a job placement service for newly minted Ph.Ds, committee and interest group meetings, and an exhibit hall featuring new books on archaeological topics, many at bargain prices.

Milwaukee Society members were quite busy in Chicago. A number of our members attended the meeting, some sampling its offerings for the first time, among them Dave Adams, Traci Billings, John and Sylvia Peine, and Sheena Finnigan. Others participated in various ways: Sarah Bond co-presented a paper on "Mapping Ethnicity and Community in Imperial-Era Roman Cemeteries;" past president Derek Counts served on the panel for an AIA Professional Development Workshop on Open Access Publication and co-presented a paper on the results of his recent excavations at Athienou-Malloura in Cyprus.



Derek Counts and Elisabetta Cova enjoy the book exhibit at the 2014 Annual Meeting

Milwaukee Society members also made a great showing through their national service on some of AIA's governing bodies, committees and interest groups: Derek Counts and Elisabetta Cova are members of the James P. Wiseman Book Award Committee and the *American Journal of Archaeology* Advisory Board in their role as co-editors for book reviews for the *AJA*. Derek is also an Academic Trustee on the AIA's Governing Board and a member of the Professional Responsibilities Committee. Bettina Arnold is a member of the Lecture Program Committee; Sarah Bond attended a meeting of the Geospatial Interest Group and a meeting of the editors of *Pleiades*. Jane Waldbaum, Sarah Bond and Renee Calkins served as Milwaukee Society delegates to the Council meeting and Derek attended as a Trustee. The Council conducts important business for the organization at the Annual Meeting including, this year, electing new president Andrew Moore and first Vice President Jodi Magness. At the Council, Jane Waldbaum was elected to a second one-year term on the Nominating Committee. Jane is also a member of the Tours Committee which met this year by phone.



Next Year in New Orleans

I hope this sampling of the rich and varied offerings available at the AIA's Annual Meeting is enough to whet your appetite for next year's meeting which will take place in New Orleans on January 8-11, 2015. Save the Date!

Milwaukee Society Officer Elections in Spring 2014

It's time for the AIA-Milwaukee Society to elect new officers. Positions up for election are President, Vice President for Programs, Vice President for Education and Outreach, and Secretary-Treasurer. Bettina Arnold, Renee Calkins, and Jane Peterson form the nominating committee charged with presenting a slate of candidates to Milwaukee Society members on April 27 just before our last lecture of the season. Nominees *must* be members of the AIA in good standing and be willing to volunteer their services on behalf of the Milwaukee Society and its programs. If you have a name to propose please contact Bettina: barnold@uwm.edu. Suggestions welcome!

The Milwaukee Society's By-Laws are available at: <http://www4.uwm.edu/archlab/AIA/milwsociety.cfm> (bottom of page).

International Archaeology Day in Milwaukee

What used to be National Archaeology Day is now so popular and so widespread around the world that it has been renamed International Archaeology Day to reflect its wider reach. And the third Saturday in October is now the official day for this annual celebration of the excitement of archaeology. Milwaukee's contribution in October 2013 was themed "Games Ancient People Played," which was once again hosted by The AIA-Milwaukee Society and UWM's Archaeology Lab. Among the many fun offerings: Jocelyn Boor taught players Senet, the Egyptian board game; Derek Counts and Elisabetta Cova presented "Rolling the Bones: Greek and Roman Games of Dexterity and Chance;" Shaheen Christie demonstrated some Native American stick catching and throwing games; Shannon Freire set up outdoors to teach visitors how to throw an atlatl like an Aztec; and Bettina Arnold and Alexis Jordan challenged all comers to a couple of European board

games: Nine Men's Morris (Roman) and Hnefatafl (Viking)—if you can say it you win!



Jocelyn Boor teaches Senet, the Egyptian Game of Kings

The Milwaukee Society's program was one of some 375 different events held by 75 other AIA local societies as well as by 180 collaborating archaeological groups of all kinds, including the American Schools of Oriental Research, the Archaeological Society of Malta, Bandelier National Monument, Illinois State Archaeological Survey, Museum of Science-Boston, the Royal Ontario Museum, the Society of American Archaeology, the Wisconsin Historical Museum, Petra National Trust (Jordan), New Zealand Historic Places Trust, and many others.



Learning to play ancient European board games at International Archaeology Day in Milwaukee

You can read more about all the different events sponsored by archaeological groups around the world in honor of International Archaeology Day on the AIA's website: <http://www.archaeological.org/archaeologyday/blog>

The next International Archaeology Day is October 18, 2014. Watch for another fun and educational program!



“Excavating” Museum Collections in Southeastern Europe

Adrienne C. Frie

Anthropology Department, UW-Milwaukee

A central part of archaeological research involves going back to previously excavated materials with fresh eyes and new research questions, rather than excavating new material.

While many members of the AIA are undoubtedly familiar with excavation practices, people are often less familiar with the laborious work of investigating museum collections and archives to study material that sometimes has not been reexamined since it first arrived at the museum! That was my project last summer in Austria and Slovenia, in the course of my doctoral research analyzing animal depictions in Iron Age Slovenia (circa 800-300 BC). I focused on three cemetery sites in Slovenia: Brezje near Trebelno, Kapiteljska njiva in Novo mesto, and Magdalenska gora near Šmarje-Sap, and examined all the artifacts depicting animals including bronze vessels for mixing alcohol, ceramic cups, brooches, and glass and amber beads. This work took me to three museums: the Naturhistorisches Museum in Vienna, Austria; the National Museum of Slovenia in Ljubljana; and the Dolenjska Museum in Novo mesto, Slovenia.



Adrienne Frie (left) excavating an Iron Age grave at Kapiteljska njiva in Novo mesto, Slovenia

In summer of 2012 I participated in excavations at a burial mound with the Dolenjska Museum at the site of Kapiteljska njiva in Novo mesto, so it was exciting to return to the museum in 2013 and see the artifacts from that mound post-conservation, restored to how they may have looked when originally deposited. This helped paint a picture for me of the significance of these artifacts that led to their use as grave goods.

Examining these artifacts in person provided some interesting insights – it is clear from the many forms and types of depictions that animals were not only an important part of everyday life but were also ritually and symbolically significant in the Iron Age. Glass ram's head beads came in a number of sizes and color combinations, but most were associated with women, and may have been used as amulets.

Bronze vessels called *situlae* were used by elites, and showed activities involving animals such as feasting, hunting, and chariot racing. Even bronze brooches used to fasten clothes were embellished with small animal heads, especially horses and waterfowl, though their meaning is still less clear – were these sacred, or simply decorative items? Answering questions like these is often only possible with the insights gained from the hands-on, in-person “excavation” of museum collections.



Bronze Vaška Situla with warriors, combats and animals, 5th century BCE, National Museum of Slovenia





AIA-MILWAUKEE SOCIETY
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AIA-Milwaukee Society Spring Calendar



PLEASE SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

Spring 2014

- February 9 Sunday, February 9, 2014, 3:00 pm. *Lecture*
Transportation, Trade & Treacherous Waters: Maritime Archaeology from the Irish Coast to Lake Michigan's Shores
- March 7 & 8 Friday & Saturday, March 7 & 8, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. **Milwaukee Public Museum**
Fifth Annual Milwaukee Archaeology Fair
- March 30 Sunday, March 30, 2014, 3:00 pm. *Lecture*
Short Lives and Forgotten Deaths: Infant Skeletons from the 'Baby Well' in the Athenian Agora
- April 27 Sunday, April 27, 2014, 3:00 pm. *Lecture*
Kaptol—Princes of the Crossroads

All lectures will take place in room G90 of Sabin Hall on the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee campus unless otherwise noted. Sabin Hall is located at 3413 N. Downer Ave. Free street parking Sundays or in Klotsche Center lot north side of Sabin Hall.