



## A Message from the President

Welcome back after what I hope was a good summer for all members, old and new! I just returned from nine weeks of fieldwork in Germany, and am looking forward to seeing all of you at our first meeting in October to share stories and experiences from the summer. The AIA-Milwaukee 1999-2000 season is coming together. Here is a schedule of lectures as it currently stands: Talks for the Fall range from Classical Greece (October 5), through a Mesoamerican Pompeii (November 2), and Ice Age art in Europe (December 12), in the tradition of offering Milwaukee members a wide selection of time periods and geographical areas. In the spring we will be hearing about research in Iron Age Europe (TBA), either Egypt or Viking Scandinavia (TBA) and a Hellenistic shrine in Caesarea Philippi in Israel (April 13).

Three of the six lectures for the coming year are funded by the national office of the AIA, including our first two speakers, Dr. John Camp of the American School of Classical Studies in Athens who will be lecturing on the role of the Athenian Agora on the development of democracy, Dr. Payson Sheets of the University of Colorado at Boulder, who will present the results of his fieldwork at the Ceren site in El Salvador, and the last of the speakers for Spring, Dr. Andrea Berlin of the University of Minnesota (Kershaw Lecturer), speaking about ritual at the Hellenistic Sanctuary of Pan at Caesarea Philippi, Israel. Our other lecturers are funded and chosen by our local society. Both nationally and locally sponsored lectures are made possible by our high level of membership. A large of the national dues goes to support the national lecture program, and a portion of dues from Milwaukee members is rebated to our local society every year for additional lectures and to cover expenses. We receive rebates only for paid-up Milwaukee Society memberships, not for subscriptions to Archaeology magazine alone. It is critical to our program for all members to keep their memberships up-to-date and to renew memberships in a timely fashion. You will

receive a reminder form from the national office when it is time to renew. Please take the time to return it with your dues. Also remember that you can renew your membership for two years at a time, locking in your current dues rate. Help us while helping yourself as well!

This year's officers, elected at the last Spring meeting, are in the first year of their two year terms. They are: President, Bettina Arnold, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at UWM; Vice-President, Jane Peterson, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Marquette University; and Secretary/Treasurer, Alice Kehoe, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology, Marquette University. The new editor of *The Artifact*, the local member's newsletter, is Jocelyn Boor, a graduate student in anthropology at UWM, while the web site will be maintained by Diane Grubisha, also a graduate student in Anthropology at UWM, in consultation with UWM Letters and Science Webmaster Thomas H. Hruby. Mary Koli, also in UWM's Anthropology program, will continue as Refreshments Coordinator. Note: We are currently in the process of moving the Web Site from its previous location to the Web site of the UWM Archaeology Lab. The URL will be included in the flyer for the first lecture of the year, which you should be receiving at the end of September, so look for it in the mail!

I would like to close by encouraging all of you to take an active part in the Milwaukee Society, through attendance at lectures, contributing refreshments to receptions, or attending the national meeting, which is in Dallas, Texas this year. This is one investment of time that pays real dividends in entertainment and learning, and how can you beat that?

Please feel free to contact any of the officers with comments, suggestions or problems. Messages sent to [barnold@csd.uwm.edu](mailto:barnold@csd.uwm.edu) will be forwarded to the appropriate officer. See you at this year's lectures!

Bettina Arnold, President

## From the Field

Several AIA-Milwaukee members spent the summer participating in excavations. Initial reports are in:

### **Khirbet Hammam Archaeological Project: 1999 Test Excavations**

During June and July, Jane Peterson conducted preliminary test excavations at a Pre-Pottery Neolithic site in west-central Jordan called Khirbet Hammam. Our tasks included making a topographic map of the site overlooking the Wadi el Hasa and the Burbayta hot springs. Controlled surface collections and an examination of a roadcut that truncates part of the site indicated that the Neolithic occupation extends horizontally over the entire 7 hectare terrace remnant.

We excavated a 2 x 1 meter test unit along the face of the roadcut. Over 2 meters of stratified, cultural deposit were discovered...and we didn't get to sterile soil. Within that small excavated "window" we found domestic architecture, in the form of nicely faced walls, preserved to at least 1.8 meters. Examples of classic Pre-Pottery Neolithic (PPN) plastered and decorated floors were also uncovered.

Artifactual material included a variety of lithics, both chipped and ground. The projectile points (and lack of sherds) allow us to assign a PPN date to Khirbet Hammam (c. 10,000 - 7,700 b.p.). Well preserved faunal specimens and a variety of bone tools were also retrieved; as were ornaments made from both shell and stone. Human skeletal material was eroding from the roadcut in a number of locations, leading us to believe that burials under the house floors also occur. Anecdotal evidence from local Bedouin informants suggests that plaster statuary has been looted from the site. The similarities in technology and symbolism with the larger, more well-known PPN sites such as Jericho and 'Ain Ghazal are unmistakable.

In the immediate future, charcoal samples will be sent to the lab for dating. The lithics and faunal material are here in Milwaukee and will be analyzed. I will be preparing grant applications to continue the work at Khirbet Hammam, at a larger scale, in 2001. More detailed descriptions of the 1999 field-work season will be forthcoming in the *Archaeology in Jordan* section of the *American Journal of Archaeology* as well as the *Annual of the Department of Antiquities of Jordan*.

My thanks to the American Center of Oriental Research in Amman; the United States Information Agency; Dr. Ghazi Bisheh, Director General of the Department of Antiquities of Jordan; Mr. Rahim Hazeem; Dr. Michael Neeley; Dr. Burton MacDonald; and my colleagues at Marquette University and elsewhere for making this season's fieldwork possible.

--Dr. Jane Peterson

### **"A Landscape of Ancestors": Excavations at Tumulus 17, Summer 1999**

UWM Assistant Professor of Anthropology Bettina Arnold and Institute of Minnesota Archaeology Senior Archaeologist Dr. Matthew Murray directed a nine week field season at an early Iron Age burial mound in Germany this past summer. The excavation is part of a long-term regional study which includes the analysis of ancient DNA from skeletal populations in the region around the Heuneburg hillfort, the best-studied Iron Age site of its kind in central Europe. Relatively few large burial mounds of the early Iron Age have been systematically excavated, and the goals of the project were 1) to gain a better understanding of mound construction, and 2) to explore early Iron Age mortuary ritual from the perspective of social organization and relationship analysis: how were individuals within and between mounds related to each other, for example?

Tumulus 17 is one of a large number of mounds in the vicinity of the second-largest Iron Age burial mound in central Europe, the Hohmichele, which is thought to have been the burial place of some of the first elites of the Heune

burg hillfort. At just under 30 meters in diameter and preserved to a height of just over 3 meters, Tumulus 17 is one of the largest of the mounds in the Hohmichele group, and the team of eight students (three UWM undergraduates, three UWM graduate students, and two graduate students from the Universities of Chicago, and New Mexico, respectively) were able to excavate two quadrants (half of the mound) during the nine week field season.

The 1999 field season confirmed the Iron Age date of the mound on the basis of distinctively Hallstatt funerary ceramics decorated with burnished red slip, graphite and incised decorations as well as the presence of iron. Radiocarbon dates of the successive multiple construction phases are pending. Large quantities of charcoal distributed in a patterned fashion on the surface of one of the core mounds are likely the remains of at least one, possibly several funeral pyres. Small fragments of cremated bone, fire damaged pottery fragments and the remnants of bronze ornaments and iron objects found within the fill and in the charcoal concentrations and other features support the idea that the central chamber of the mound contains one or more cremation burials, probably in conjunction with several ceramic vessels. No inhumation burials were identified in the mound fill, which is unusual for a mound of this size from the early Hallstatt period.

A second season is planned for the summer of 2000, with a projected crew of eight experienced excavators, including the two directors. The remaining quadrants,

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## From the Field - continued

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the cross baulks and the central chamber, outlined by a post-and-ditch system in the two quadrants excavated this past summer, will be excavated in 2000. A preliminary report will be published in *Archaeologische Ausgrabungen in Baden-Wurttemberg* next spring.

Funding for the 1999 season was obtained from the National Geographic Society, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the UWM Graduate School. The project would not have been possible without the generous support of the Landesdenkmalamt of the Baden-Wurttemberg in Tübingen and its Director, Dr. Hartmann Reim, which provided housing (Hubert Hagmann of the Dollhof farmstead, whose friendship and Schnaps were dispensed in equally generous proportions, is due especial thanks!), tools and other equipment as well as on-site expertise (thanks go particularly to Hans Teufel, who makes a mean goulash and plays an impressive set of drums). Moral support and local knowledge were provided by Sabine Hopert, to whom we are indebted forever for pointing out the restorative benefits of the spa in Saulgau!

See <http://www.uwm.edu/~barnold/>

--Dr. Bettina Arnold

### **Mendes, Egypt: Settlement Patterns and Burials**

Excavations at Mendes, an ancient city in the Delta region of Egypt, were directed by Dr. Donald Redford of Penn State this past summer. I attended as a member of the support staff for session 1 (June to July), which meant I could be assigned to anything.

The earliest occupation of the site dates to the Naqada II period (ca. 3200 B.C.), and it was inhabited through the dynastic period. The only standing architecture at the site is a 10 meter tall granite shrine, the sole survivor of four that were in the Temple of the Ram (the local cult god).

The team opened eight 2 x 10 meter units, seven in the vicinity of the standing shrine. A pottery workshop was uncovered in one unit, while several others revealed intriguing mudbrick walls and floor structures. The unit directly north of the shrine contained sprawled skeletal remains of several adults and children (a massacre? plague?). I assisted the physical anthropologist with the painstaking retrieval and cleaning of ten burials from various units, all dated to the Old Kingdom/First Intermediate Period. Potsherds were abundant, and everyone assisted with the sorting each day. In addition, several of the senior staff lectured on various aspects of Egyptology and archaeological techniques.

It was hot (110 degrees in the shade) and humid, and I hope to return to Egypt - to dig in the winter!

--Jocelyn Boor



Tumulus 17: Iron Age Burial Mound, Germany

### Meet Jean Hudson

Dr. Jean Hudson has joined the Anthropology Department at UWM as an assistant professor. Her technical specialty is zooarchaeology, and she has worked in California, Peru, Europe and Africa. A current project in South America involves the shifts in exploitation strategies of hunter-gatherer populations. This semester she is teaching both "Digging the Past" and an upper level seminar on environmental archaeology. Her expertise in these areas is a welcome addition to the department.

### AIA Annual Meeting 1999

Dallas is the location for this year's annual meeting, to be held from December 27-30, 1999. A variety of colloquia, papers and workshops is scheduled, and the preliminary program is posted on the AIA website, at [www.archaeological.org](http://www.archaeological.org). Special events include an opening night reception at the Dallas Museum of Art, and the "Lure of Egypt", an evening program open to both the public and AIA meeting attendees. Bob Brier (a.k.a. the Mummy Man, from Long Island University) and Jon Solomon (University of Arizona) are the featured speakers. The national office is mailing all AIA members in good standing an invitation to attend in September. Registration, hotel, and air discounts are available.

### Refreshment Help Requested

Our delightful tradition of closing the lectures with an informal reception continues. Mary Kohli, who is continuing as our Refreshments Coordinator, would like your help in providing treats at one or more of our talks. Please contact her at:

E-mail: [marcrete@elknet.net](mailto:marcrete@elknet.net)  
Phone: (414) 723-5569 or  
(414) 723-8899

### News? Announcements?

If you have any news or announcements for the newsletter, please contact Jocelyn Boor:

E-mail: [joceboor@uwm.edu](mailto:joceboor@uwm.edu)  
Phone: (414)962-4625.

### Preview of Future AIA-Milwaukee Lectures

#### Tropical Time Capsule:

##### The Ceren Site in Central America

The Ceren site, located in present-day El Salvador, was a thriving village 1400 years ago, when it was suddenly entombed by 5 meters of volcanic ash. Dr. Payson Sheets, who has conducted fieldwork there since 1979 (with an eight year hiatus for war), will present a slide-illustrated lecture about this unique site on Tuesday, November 2, at 8 p.m.

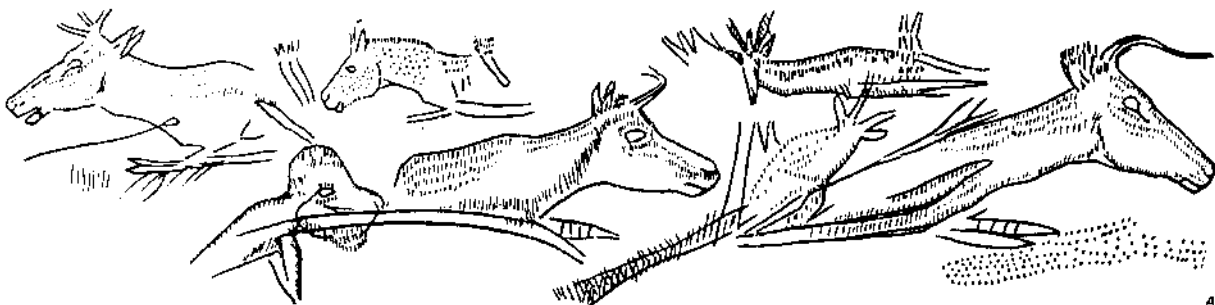
Dr. Sheets is a Professor in the Anthropology Department of the University of Colorado at Boulder. His fieldwork experience spans over two decades and includes sites in El Salvador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Panama

The villagers of Ceren were able to flee, but left their material goods behind. The volcanic ash has preserved the architecture, the artifacts, and the landscape to an extraordinary degree: we have a picture of daily life. The latest results of the on-going excavations will be presented.

#### New Advances in Ice Age Art

"We are currently living through the most exciting phase in Ice Age art research since its discovery and authentication over a century ago. This is due not only to new discoveries of portable art and of caves -- most notably the Grotte Chauvet -- but also of art on rocks in the open air; and the revolution caused by pigment analysis, direct dating of paints, and techniques of study such as the use of Ultra-Violet light. All of these aspects and more will be covered in this survey of Ice Age art in the world." -- Dr. Paul Bahn

Dr. Paul Bahn, prehistorian, author, and one of the foremost experts on Ice Age art will present a lecture on Sunday, December 12, at 3 p.m. *Watch your mailbox for the lecture flyer with further information about this exceptional presentation.*



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Artifact 5



**AIA-Milwaukee Society 1999-2000  
Lecture Schedule**

**FALL SEMESTER 1999**

October 5: *The Athenian Agora and the Origins of Democracy*  
Dr. John McK. Camp II  
American School of Classical Studies  
Tuesday, 8 p.m.

November 2: *Tropical Time Capsule: The Ceren Site in Central America*  
Dr. Payson Sheets  
University of Colorado, Boulder  
Tuesday, 8 p.m.

December 12: *New Advances in Ice Age Art*  
Dr. Paul Bahn  
Sunday, 3 p.m.

**All lectures will be held in Mitchell Hall, Room 195  
UW-Milwaukee Campus  
corner of Downer Avenue and Kenwood Blvd.**

**SPRING SEMESTER 2000**

February 6: Title TBA: Pre-Viking Scandinavia  
Dr. Nancy Wicker  
Minnesota State University, Mankato  
Sunday, 3 p.m.

March 5: Title TBA: Early Iron Age in Germany  
Dr. Bettina Arnold  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Sunday, 3 p.m.

April 13: *The Archaeology of Ritual*  
Dr. Andrea Berlin  
Thursday, 8 p.m.

*Artifact 6*

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The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
College of Letters and Science  
Department of Art History  
P.O. Box 413  
Milwaukee, WI 53201