



ACOR
AMERICAN CENTER OF
ORIENTAL RESEARCH
المركز الأمريكي
للأبحاث الشرقية

أخبار أكور NEWSLETTER

Volume 27.2 Winter 2015

Building Momentum: ACOR's TWLCRM Initiative Looks to the Future

Glenn J. Corbett and M. Elena Ronza

Since 2012, ACOR's recent flagship project, the TWLCRM Initiative, has made enormous strides in conserving and preserving one of Petra's most impressive but threatened monuments, the Temple of the Winged Lions. Key elements of the deteriorating sandstone monument have been documented and conserved, while the trenches, spoil heaps, and rubble piles which resulted from the temple's original excavation are rapidly disappearing from the landscape.

At the same time, the project is ensuring that Petra's local communities—long marginalized by scholars and authorities alike—are involved directly in the project's mission. Through an innovative plan of social engagement, hundreds of men and women from Petra and surrounding communities have received employment, training, and educational opportunities in site preservation and management, which in turn have created a greater sense of local stewardship over Petra's ancient remains.



With the help of Sela, the TWLCRM's new local partner, excavation continued in the temple's southwest quadrant, confirming important new details of the temple's history, while also training several local Jordanians in archaeological methods and techniques (photo by Mahmoud Abdessalam).

In January 2015, the project earned the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA)'s award for Best Practices in Site Preservation, a prestigious recognition honoring projects from around the globe at the vanguard of cultural heritage preservation and community engagement in archaeology. Building on this momentum, the project took steps in 2015 to continue to find financial and logistical support for the important but unfinished work of preserving the temple, while also developing new ways to build local capacity and sustainability for heritage preservation within Petra. The results of these efforts are presented here.



Former TWLCRM Director Christopher A. Tuttle holds the Archaeological Institute of America's 2015 award for Best Practices in Site Preservation, awarded to the TWLCRM Initiative in January 2015 (photo courtesy Archaeological Institute of America).

Securing the TWLCRM's Future

A large portion of the TWLCRM's work in 2015 was dedicated to securing additional funding for the project. ACOR's four-year, \$600,000 grant from the U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP)—the primary source of funding for the project since 2012—was set to expire in September, so much of the year was spent developing a proposal and reapplication to AFCP that would allow us to complete all of the most essential preservation work on site. The application was successful, and on 5 August—the day after the birth of Natalie, the daughter of co-director Glenn Corbett and his wife Elena—ACOR was awarded an additional \$200,000 to support 15 more months of site presentation and conservation work. More specifically, these funds will be used to implement emergency conservation interventions across the site and to create a more accessible entrance to the temple and its inner sanctuary. In recognition of the award, the TWLCRM welcomed Alice G. Wells, U.S. Ambassador to Jordan, and other dignitaries to the site on 13 September 2015 for the launch of the second phase of AFCP funding. The highly successful event showcased the project's accomplishments and also provided Ambassador Wells with hands-on demonstrations in site documentation and conservation.

Additional project funding has been garnered thanks to the efforts of several of the TWLCRM's permanent local team members, who in 2015 created a non-profit company specializing in administering and managing training programs in cultural heritage preservation. The company, called Sela for Vocational Training and Protection of Cultural Heritage, provides professional development opportunities in site conservation, restoration, and maintenance



U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Alice G. Wells (far left) and other dignitaries visited the site in September 2015 to launch the second phase of the project's AFCP award (photo by Qais Tweissi, courtesy Petra Archaeological Park).

by cooperating with both local and foreign institutions to implement training programs at particular project sites in need of urgent conservation and maintenance. Sela, which was officially registered with the Ministry of Industry and Trade in July 2015, is the first company of its kind in Jordan and represents a major step forward in building long-term economic sustainability for host communities through cultural heritage resource management.

After completing its formal registration, Sela was able to successfully apply for and receive \$70,000 through the USAID Sustainable Cultural Heritage through Engagement of Local Communities Project (SCHEP) to develop a vocational training program at the Temple of the Winged Lions. As such, Sela is now a full project partner and is managing and implementing a one-year training program in site conservation and preservation within the temple's highly problematic and complex southwest quadrant. What is more, as mandated by SCHEP, Sela identified two site stewards to serve as local ambassadors for the site and the project, Eman Abdessalam and Ahmad Mowasa, both seasoned veterans of the TWLCRM local team and founding members of Sela. In just a few short months in their new roles, Eman and Ahmad performed brilliantly, leading tours of the site for dignitaries and school children alike, and, at the same time, improving their understanding of site management and preservation.

Junior Conservation Technician and SCHEP site steward Ahmad Mowasa teaches students from the American Community School of Amman how to clean destructive salts from a sandstone wall during an on-site visit in May 2015 (photo by Ghaith Faqeer).



Essential logistical support for the project continued to be provided through ACOR's USAID Endowment, which has long supported ACOR's mission of preserving and promoting Jordan's cultural heritage, especially within Petra. During 2015, the Endowment covered the rent and upkeep of the ACOR Project House, the TWLCRM's base of operations in Petra, as well as the room and board of some of the project's visiting specialist team members. In 2016, the Endowment will be transferred from USAID to ACOR as a permanent endowment, although the funds will still be utilized to further the goal of cultural heritage preservation in Jordan.

Finally, Royal Jordanian Airlines continued to be an enthusiastic sponsor of the TWLCRM Initiative, providing seven complimentary roundtrip airfare tickets for 2015–2016. These flights, which Royal Jordanian has generously provided since 2013, allow the project's specialist team members to travel from Europe and the United States to oversee critical conservation, stabilization, and preservation efforts on site. This support also allows the project's limited funds to be directed towards training staff and offering much-needed employment opportunities within Petra's local communities.

Findings from the Field

As the TWLCRM Initiative looked to secure additional funding, on-site work continued throughout 2015, albeit at a slower pace because of dwindling financial resources. Thanks to the efforts of the project's core dedicated team members, progress continued to be made on clearing and sifting Soil Dump 4, the largest of the excavation dumps created by the earlier American Expedition to Petra (AEP). The sifted dump soil revealed a number of unexpected and fascinating finds, including a ceramic cup fragment depicting a Nabataean horned capital and a remarkable, delicately carved face that likely once adorned the temple's interior.



This small, delicately carved face was recovered during the clearing and sifting of Soil Dump 4 (photo by Eman Abdessalam).

In June, the TWLCRM Initiative was joined by Andrews University horticulture student Connor Smith who continued the landscape vegetation field survey begun by Erin Addison in 2012. Since Addison's initial survey made field observations of vegetation coverage in the fall and spring, Smith's survey aimed to record species observed on site during the summer. After laying out the survey grid, Smith was able to identify 26 plant species, an understandable drop from the 72 species that Addison had identified during her spring survey.

Also in 2015, Allison Mickel, a Ph.D. Student in Anthropology at Stanford University and a Fulbright scholar for Jordan in 2014–2015, was named the team's anthropologist. Mickel has been affiliated with the project since 2012 while working on a dissertation related to oral traditions and memories of the earlier AEP excavation. She is helping document local team member perceptions of archaeology and heritage preservation, while also experimenting with innovative recording methods aimed at capturing the local



Connor Smith, a horticulture student at Andrews University, worked on site in June 2015 to continue the project's Landscape and Vegetation Cover Survey, recording more than two dozen dry season species (photo by Ghaith Faqeer).

knowledge and understanding that team members bring to the project. Among the strategies employed was letting team members photograph their views of the site and the project during their daily work. Not surprisingly, team members photographed many aspects of the work and its context which would typically go unnoticed in traditional archaeological recording. In addition, Mickel produced a short video celebrating the TWLCRM receiving the AIA's Best Practices in Site Preservation award (viewable on YouTube by searching "Temple of the Winged Lions Petra"), which was created for the AIA Spring Gala in New York.

Under the direction of Documentation Specialist Eman Abdessalam and TWLCRM intern Wiebke Lepke, in summer 2015 the project also began re-photographing and re-registering objects recovered during the original AEP excavations, now housed in the museum storerooms of the Petra Archaeological Park. In addition to providing new digital photographs of 363 AEP objects (including excavated ceramics, metal, and bone), the procedure allowed the TWLCRM to note the condition of the finds, many of which have suffered deterioration since being placed in storage decades ago. From this initial assessment, the TWLCRM will develop a more systematic review and documentation process in the near future, including caring for objects that need to be conserved or restored.



TWLCRM intern Wiebke Lepke (seated) and Documentation Specialist Eman Abdessalam recorded the condition of AEP excavation objects long stored in Petra's museum storerooms (photo by Ghaith Faqeer).

Sela's First Training Program

With its USAID SCHEP funding approved, Sela, the TWLCRM's new local partner, began its first on-site training program in November. Focusing primarily on the temple's problematic southwest quadrant, Sela trained nearly 30 individuals from Petra's



With support from SCHEP, Sela trainees are helping the TWLCRM construct new and improved site paths, which will improve visitor access and circulation (photo by Eman Abdessalam).

communities in archaeology, conservation, documentation, and site presentation. Among the most immediately visible outcomes was the construction of several new, well-defined paths, built with registered ashlar blocks, providing improved access to the southwest quadrant and adjacent areas. These paths will be extended and connected in future seasons to improve visitor circulation throughout the entire site. Similarly, under the guidance of Ahmad Mowasa (also the project's Junior Conservation Technician), several trainees worked to remove destructive salts and cement mortars from the temple's fragile sandstone walls, while Eman Abdessalam mentored others in proper architectural documentation and recording techniques.



Junior Conservation Technician Ahmad Mowasa carefully removes cement mortars as part of Sela's conservation training program in the temple's southwest quadrant (photo by Mahmoud Abdessalam).

As part of the same training program, Sela trainees also helped the TWLCRM carry out limited excavations in the southwest quadrant. The primary aim was to resolve lingering questions from the fall 2014 excavation season (see Winter 2014 *ACOR Newsletter*) before the intended final backfilling of the area commences in 2016. In addition to training two recent Jordanian archaeology graduates in field methodology, as well as five members of the local community in proper digging techniques, the excavation—overseen by TWLCRM co-director M. Elena Ronza and Ahmad Hasanat of the Petra Archaeological Park—provided new evidence to support several preliminary conclusions reached during the 2014 season. First, there was once again no perceptible pattern to the deposition of the many scattered architectural fragments found



In the continuing excavation in the southwest quadrant, Sela trainees helped the TWLCRM discover new details about the temple's demise following the A.D. 363 earthquake (photo by Eman Abdessalam).

in the southwest quadrant, indicating that these remains almost certainly resulted from a deliberate cleaning of the temple following the A.D. 363 earthquake rather than from the destruction caused by the earthquake itself. Second, in continuing to excavate below the level of the temple's monumental western wall, no evidence for a foundational wall or structure was discovered, confirming our previous suspicion that the massive building was inexplicably built directly atop soil with no architectural foundation.



TWLCRM permanent team member Agelah Jmeidi holds up the new teal-on-grey edition of the project T-shirt, which team members received at a team mansaf in March 2015 to celebrate their role in the project's AIA award (photo by Barbara A. Porter).

Team Building and Community Outreach

One of the guiding principles of the TWLCRM's social engagement strategy has been to soften the often rigid barriers that separate men from women, and foreign experts from local workers. With due accommodation to local traditions, the project often organizes team events aimed at fostering a sense of mutual understanding and respect for all who contribute to the project's goals. In March, for example, current and former members of the TWLCRM Initiative, along with ACOR Director Barbara A. Porter and other members of the ACOR staff, gathered in Petra for an afternoon picnic celebrating the project's AIA award. The team marked the occasion with games, hikes, good conversation, and a large mansaf prepared by the local team members. The picnic also provided an opportunity to present team members with the reissued TWLCRM T-shirts created by JoBedu and now being used to promote the project.

Likewise in May, the TWLCRM permanent local team members traveled to ACOR to hear a public lecture by Erin Addison (SCHEP CHR Projects Lead) about the goals of USAID SCHEP.

As the TWLCRM Initiative was featured as one of the models for SCHEP, the evening allowed the team to appreciate the impact their



Sela's inaugural trainee class: top row (standing, from left): Mohammad Abu Bakr, Ibrahim Mowasa, Mohammad Saadin, Qais Faqeer; second row (standing, from left): M. Elena Ronza (trainer), Sabah Jdeilat, Kholoud Faqeer, Aishe Samahin, Eman Abdessalam (trainer); third row (sitting, from left): Wasim Jmeidi, Bassam Faqeer (trainer), Taya Jmeidi, Abdallah Jmeidi, Khatima Jdeilat, Amal Samahin; fourth row (sitting, from left): Salama Jmeidi, Suleiman Jmeidi, Sakher Samahin, Ibrahim Jdeilat, Abdalmajid Samahin (photo by Mahmoud Abdessalam)

work and contributions are having on cultural heritage preservation and community development in Jordan. The team traveled the next day to the site of Ghor as-Safi at the southern end of the Dead Sea, where they were given a tour of the Museum at the Lowest Place on Earth and the site's medieval sugar mill. The visit, which included an on-site lunch with members of the Ghor as-Safi community, allowed team members to interact and converse with like-minded individuals who live around another of Jordan's important cultural heritage sites.

Finally in October, after the project had secured additional funding, the TWLCRM hosted a community meeting in Petra to re-introduce the project and its goals to members of the local community. The well-attended event, which included brief presentations by the project co-directors, as well as site stewards Eman Abdessalam and Ahmad Mowasa, generated good questions and discussion, especially regarding the project's hiring procedures and employment practices. The meeting also served as an opportunity to formally introduce Sela and its mission to the Petra community.

Petra Church Conservation Endowment: Adopt a Mosaic Campaign

Barbara A. Porter and Miriam Saleh

The Petra Church was officially inaugurated in July 1998 after six years of concerted excavation, conservation, and presentation efforts conducted under the aegis of ACOR and funded largely by USAID. H.M. Queen Noor Al Hussein honored the occasion which was presided over by H.R.H. Prince Raad bin Zeid and ACOR Board President Artemis Joukowski as well as ACOR Director Pierre Bikai. There was considerable fanfare for this occasion attended by many distinguished guests (see *ACOR Newsletter* 10.1—Summer 1998).

In late 1999, Pierre and Patricia Bikai initiated an endowment campaign to ensure the long-term preservation of the Petra Church by suggesting the ingenious idea that donors “virtually” adopt mosaic designs. Announcements were placed in the *ACOR Newsletter* (Vols. 11.1 and 11.2—Summer and Winter 1999) which noted that a small panel could be adopted for \$1,000 and a large one for \$5,000. Particularly responsive were participants on the TCS Expeditions’ trip in 2000 by private jet to Petra and beyond. Appropriately, the company founder and president, T.C. Swartz, adopted a panel representing Oceanus. One central roundel with a vase (B28) was named by ACOR in honor of USAID Mission Director Lewis Lucke and his wife Joy.

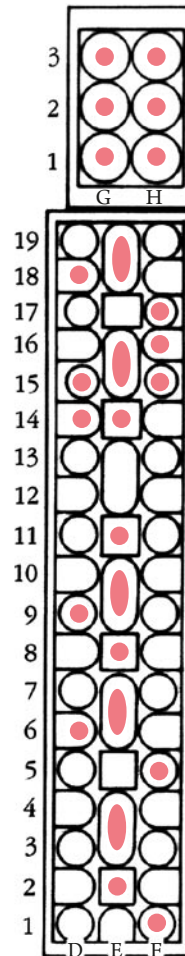
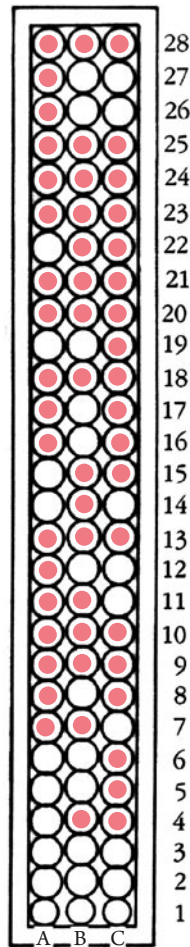
Here we honor those donors who adopted certain images, often in the name of family members, who are thus identified with specific motifs. These donations have created an endowment which helps ACOR—in cooperation with the Petra Archaeological Park—maintain the Petra Church and undertake basic mosaic conservation. Recent donations have also helped this endowment grow, albeit without the impetus of this naming opportunity.

The individual images represented on the mosaic floors include in the north aisle (L. 22.2 m) 28 rows of 3 roundels each (some with spectacular renderings of human faces), surrounded by inhabited vine scrolls, and on the opposite south aisle, 19 rows of varied animal pairs and personifications of the seasons (i.e., winter, spring, summer, fall), wisdom, and ocean, as well as men active in nature (i.e., bird catching, fishing). The third prominent floor mosaic depicts pairs of animals in roundels and is located at the east end of the south aisle. The patterns can be seen in the wonderful balloon photograph taken in spring 1993 by the Myers just as the main phase of the excavation was completed.

At the time that this endowment campaign started, Patricia Bikai was editing the final publication, *The Petra Church* (Amman: ACOR, 2001), which is an in-depth account of the Petra Church Project by many contributors. The main authors were Z.T. Fiema, C. Kanellopoulos, R. Schick, and T. Waliszewski, and the latter was responsible for much of the mosaic presentation. Many aspects of the mosaics are discussed in great detail by him as well as by other scholars. The color photos in the book capture the wonderful images of the tessellated mosaic floors first revealed in 1992. The many people involved in the Petra Church Project are acknowledged in the introduction and the long list includes the donors to the Petra Church Endowment who gave in the first years of the campaign and could thus be included in the final publication. Here we honor and thank all who “adopted” mosaic images in order to help preserve this Byzantine basilica in the heart of Petra.

South Aisle

- A28** John & Paula Gambs
A27 Charles Schuler Roos
A26 Britt Tidelius
A25 Barrington Flath
A24 Dorothy & James Conant
A23 Katheryn Flath
A21 Harold & Judy Zimmerman
A20 Artemis & Martha Joukowsky
A18 John & Nancy Neerhout
A17 James A. Knight Jr. & Lisa Ferrin
A16 Tony & Gail Vander Heide
A13 Nora Glenn Lynch
A12 Anastasia F. Knight
A11 Emma Roos-Colins
A10 Alexander & Zachary Prinscott
A09 Austin Ritterspach & Norma Sullivan
A08 Harold & Judy Zimmerman
A07 Kathleen Daubert Smith
B28 Lewis & Joy Lucke
B25 Britton Flath
B24 James & Dorothy B. Conant
B23 Mackenzie Flath
B22 San W. Orr Jr.
B21 Harold & Judy Zimmerman
B20 Artemis & Martha Joukowsky
B18 John & Nancy Neerhout
B15 Justin Bucksbaum
B14 Emmy Swart Vooren
B13 Janice Lynn Brannon
B11 Omar & Dorothy Barker
B10 Omar & Dorothy Barker
B09 Austin Ritterspach & Norma Sullivan
B07 Lee & Doris Brigham
B04 Thomas & Francesca Bennett
C28 Colin Davies
C25 Kyle Flath
C24 James & Dorothy B. Conant
C23 Nicole Flath
C22 Charles & Anne Roos
C21 Harold & Judy Zimmerman
C20 Artemis & Martha Joukowsky
C19 Mr. & Mrs. Willoughby L. Bishop
C18 John & Nancy Neerhout
C17 James Garland & Carol Andreae
C16 Gilbert & Marie Cleasby
C15 Ronald & Ruth Anna Stolk
C13 Margaret Elizabeth Lynch
C10 William R. Jarvis
C09 Austin Ritterspach & Norma Sullivan
C08 James Garland & Carol Andreae
C06 Byron Roos-Collins
C05 Yona Joest
C04 Nancy C. Reynolds



- GH3** Rebekah Anne Verdoorn
GH2 Emily Kathleen Verdoorn
GH1 Rachel Suzanne Verdoorn

- D18** James & Dorothy B. Conant
D15 Lily Katherine Roos
D14 Ruth Hughes
D09 Jon Pearl
D06 Judith Adams
E19 Stephen S. Infantino
E18 Stephen S. Infantino
E16 Anonymous
E15 Anonymous
E14 Luther H. Soules IV
E11 Laura Nell Soules
E10 Joyce E. Chelberg
E09 Joyce E. Chelberg
E08 Sydney Claire Soules
E07 T.C. Swartz
E06 T.C. Swartz
E04 David & Janelle Shaffer
E03 David & Janelle Shaffer
E02 Brett Augusta Morrison
F17 Adam Joseph Jensen
F16 Ike Doubleday Wilson
F15 Maria Joy Jensen
F05 Robert & Emily King
F01 James A. Knight Jr. & Lisa Ferrin

Code for identifying mosaic details adopted by or in the name of individuals; the roundels and panels adopted during the Petra Church Endowment Campaign from 1999 to 2005 are indicated by a red dot.

Donors to the Petra Church Conservation Endowment:

Judith Adams; Anonymous; Joan Barker (in memory of Omar and Dorothy Barker); Thomas and Francesca Bennett; Willoughby Bishop and Augusta W. Bishop; Lee and Doris Ann Brigham; Carlisle Foundation (through auspices of Mr. and Mrs. Grant M. Wilson), Cavaliere Foundation, Inc. (through auspices of James Knight); Joyce E. Chelberg; Gilbert and Marie Cleasby; James and Dorothy Conant; Cynthia Infantino Trust (in memory of Stephen Infantino); Gene and Judy Flath; Gambs Family Foundation; James Garland and Carol Andreae; Ruth S. Hughes; William and Letitia Jarvis; Yona Joest; Joukowsky Family Foundation (through auspices of Artemis A. W. Joukowsky and Martha Sharp Joukowsky); Robert and Emily King; Mary Ellen Lane; The Martin Bucksbaum Family Foundation (through auspices of Melva Bucksbaum); John and Nancy Neerhout; San and Joanne Orr; Jon and Barbara Pearl; John Prinscott; Nancy C. Reynolds; Austin Ritterspach and Norma Sullivan; Charles and Anne Roos; Seven Wonders Travel (through auspices of Janice Lynn Brannon); David and Janelle Shaffer; Kathleen Daubert Smith; Luther Soules III and Andrea Marie Morrison; Ronald and Ruth Anna Stolk; Paula Swart; T.C. Swartz and TCS Expeditions; Britt Tidelius; Tony and Gail Vander Heide; Ronald Verdoorn; Harold and Judy Zimmerman



This story will be shared on the ACOR website where the mosaic details will be featured and the donors and their family members will be more specifically connected. Any additions or updates will be reflected on the website. If you would like to adopt one of the few remaining "orphan" mosaic images and thus contribute to the Petra Church Conservation Endowment, please contact Barbara A. Porter (acor@acorjordan.org).





Aerial view of the Petra Church on May 31, 1993 (Photo by J. Wilson Myers and Eleanor F. Myers)

American Center of Oriental Research: 2016–2017 Fellowship Awardees Announcement

National Endowment for the Humanities Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship

Geoffrey Hughes (Anthropology, London School of Economics) Nation and Agnation: Kinship, Conflict, and Social Control in Contemporary Jordan

ACOR-CAORC Post-Graduate Fellowship

Susynne McElrone (Independent Scholar) The 1858 Land Code and the Transformation of Rural Property Tenure in Late-Ottoman Palestine

Michael Vicente Perez (Anthropology, University of Washington) Surviving Statelessness: Gaza Refugees and the Politics of Living in Jordan

ACOR-CAORC Pre-Graduate Fellowship

Brittany Barrineau (Department of Geography, University of Kentucky) Exporting Heritage and Highlighting Politics: Extra Virgin Olive Oil Production in Jordan

Lillian Frost (Political Science, The George Washington University) Redefining Co-Nationals: Variations in States' Citizenship Policies Over Time

Rana Khoury (Political Science, Northwestern University) Blurred Boundaries: External and Local Determinants of Social Order in Syria's Civil War

Zachary Sheldon (Sociocultural and Linguistic Anthropology, University of Chicago) Resettling the Past: The Social Meaning of the Nation-State among Iraqis in Jordan

Jennifer C. Groot Fellowship

Catherine Maier (Undergraduate, Anthropology, Whitman College) Eastern Badia Archaeological Project

Kristina Reed (Graduate Student, Near Eastern Archaeology, La Sierra University) Early Bronze IB Dolmen Research at Tall al-'Umayri, Jordan

Tara Stanko (Graduate Student, Anthropology, East Carolina University) Petra North Ridge Project

Pierre and Patricia Bikai Fellowship

Piotr Makowski (Graduate Student, History, University of Warsaw) Khirbat edh-Dharrah in the Byzantine and Islamic Periods

Bert and Sally de Vries Fellowship

Sherihan Inalo (Graduate Student, Institute of Oriental and Asian Studies, University of Bonn) Madaba Plains Project – Tall Hisban

Harrell Family Fellowship

Akacia Propst (Graduate Student, Anthropology, East Carolina University) Petra North Ridge Project

Burton MacDonald and Rosemarie Sampson Fellowship

Steven Edwards (Graduate Student, Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations, University of Toronto) Khirbat al-Mukhayyat Archaeological Project

James A. Sauer Fellowship

Sara Wenner (Graduate Student, Classics, University of Cincinnati) Udhruh and Wadi Ramm Ceramic Study

ACOR Jordanian Graduate Student Scholarship

Mais Al Abbadi (Graduate Student, Archaeology and Tourism, University of Jordan) Lithic Tools from Tell Sawwan

Farah Abu Nasser (Graduate Student, Archaeology of Ancient Arab Civilizations, Hashemite University) Developing a Conservation Plan for the Umm Qais Nymphaeum

Rawan Abu Sakha (Graduate Student, Archaeology of Ancient Arab Civilizations, Hashemite University) Motifs/Iconography in Jewelry from Ottoman/Modern Jordan into the Past

Ahmad Mousa Al Ghizawat (Graduate Student, Epigraphy, Yarmouk University) Rise of Monotheism in Arabia through Exploring Inscriptions

Frederick-Wenger Jordanian Educational Fellowship

Amany Al Dabouki (Graduate Student, Archaeology of Ancient Arab Civilizations, Hashemite University) Islamic-period Habitation in Wadi Zarka

Kenneth W. Russell Memorial Fellowship

Farah El-Sharif (Graduate Student, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University) Research trip to Jordan to study the Kingdom of the Hijaz

Public Lectures at ACOR (Fall 2015) (Find now on YouTube via name of presenter and ACOR!)

October 20—Gary Rollefson (Whitman College), “A Kinder, Greener Black Desert: Results of Archaeological Research of Neolithic Sites”



Moawiyah Ibrahim, Gary Rollefson, Khair Yassine, Barbara Porter, Ghazi Bisheh, and Zeidan Kafafi meeting on the patio before the Rollefson lecture

December 16—Győző Vörös (Hungarian Academy of Arts) “Excavations at the Fortified Royal Palace of Machaerus Overlooking the Dead Sea”



Hungarian Ambassador Czába Czibere and Győző Vörös with Fathers Massimo Pazzini and Eugenio Alliata of the Studium Biblicum Franciscanum

Mohammed Adawi's ASOR Award Citation

American Schools of Oriental Research

The W. F. Albright Service Award

2015

Mohammed Adawi

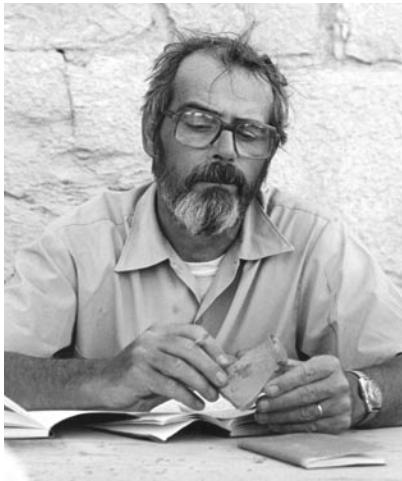
(Abu Ahmed)

This award honors an individual who has shown special support or made outstanding service contributions to one of the overseas centers, ACOR, ALAR, CAARI, or to one of the overseas committees—the Baghdad committee and the Damascus committee.

Mohammed Adawi (Abu Ahmed), Chef, American Center of Oriental Research, has served as ACOR's chef since the institute's inception in 1968. Prior to that he was at the Jerusalem School for eight years (starting in 1960) and early in his career worked as the cook for several archaeological projects (i.e., Shechem, Tell Rumeith, Iraq al-Amir, Wadi ed-Daliyeh Caves, Bab edh-Dhra', Pella, Tawilan, and Hesban). Needless to say, no one will ever be able to rival the number of years dedicated to ACOR! As Abu Ahmed continues to preside over the kitchen in Amman for the 2 PM lunch served to all resident scholars, the well-being of myriad dig teams is assured and the meals (and desserts) he has catered have been greatly appreciated. Abu Ahmed has played a significant role in the success of ACOR, which has benefitted from his cooking, but also from his wisdom, his sensibility, and his amazing memory.

ACOR is also grateful for the many years of service provided by Abu Ahmed's family, including his son Said, ACOR's Facilitator since 1988; his son Abed, Building Manager since 1992; and his nephew Ghassan Adawi, the assistant chef since 2011, all of whom form part of a long tradition of service and dedication to the institute.

In Memoriam: R. Thomas Schaub



Tom Schaub reading pottery

Tom Schaub died on 19 October 2015 at age 82 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He is well known for his role as co-director of the Expedition to the Dead Sea Plain (EDSP) and the many publications about the sites, some co-authored with his co-director, the late Walt Rast (ACOR Board President 1978–82). Their work is honored jointly in the

2011 volume *Daily Life, Materiality and Complexity in Early Urban Communities of the Southern Levant: Papers in Honor of Walter E. Rast and R. Thomas Schaub*, edited by Meredith Chesson who, with Morag Kersel, is preserving their legacy in many ways.

Schaub was born in South Bend, Indiana and attended the University of Notre Dame for architecture and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for engineering. He joined the Dominican order in 1953 and received a Master of Theology from the Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis. He continued his studies at the École Biblique in Jerusalem and at that time was invited by Paul Lapp to participate in the excavations at Bab ed Dhra' where he met his future wife, Marilyn McNamara. During their 46 years of

marriage, she was a collaborator on his many projects. Long-time ACOR Board member Nancy Lapp comments that she was able to excavate with the Schaub family and contribute to the publications of the Dead Sea Plain, but more than that, Tom and Marilyn provided great support for her and her family in Pittsburgh after Paul's death on Cyprus in 1970 and they were life-long friends.

He completed his Ph.D. in Archaeology in 1973 at the University of Pittsburgh. He was a faculty member of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania where he taught for 30 years until his retirement in 1999. The university established in 2005, the R. Thomas Schaub Religious Studies Essay Contest in his honor.

His last field season in Jordan was a survey at Numayra in 2004 which marked more than 30 years of archaeological activity in the Kingdom. During those years he came regularly to ACOR and in 1982–83 he was an ACOR NEH fellow. Throughout his life he attended scholarly conferences—usually in the company of Marilyn—particularly the ASOR Annual Meeting. He also served on the ASOR Board at various times and in 1997 received the ASOR Membership Service Award.

ACOR is proud that he was one of the speakers at the Boston ASOR meeting session in 2008 honoring ACOR@40, when he presented an overview of his work spanning four decades in the Kingdom. Schaub organized a study collection of Early Bronze Age sherds in a special cabinet at ACOR, which is a small part of his legacy in Jordan. He is survived by his wife, daughter Helen Schaub, and daughter-in-law Reena Karani, as well as a legion of friends.

Barbara A. Porter



José Martínez (on left)
and Ali Hamdan

Fellows in Residence (July–December 2015)

ACOR-CAORC Fellows

Ali Hamdan, Geography, University of California, Los Angeles; *Tracing the Roots of Conflict: Geographic Perspectives on Sectarian Violence in Syria*

José Martínez, Politics and International Studies, University of Cambridge; *The Politics of Bread: Neoliberal Economic Reform and Authoritarian Persistence in Contemporary Jordan*

Why I Support ACOR

Randolph B. Old, ACOR Board President

In the early 1970s, when oil prices spiked and the business world predicted that the Middle East would undergo unprecedented growth, Chase Bank included me in a task force deciding where it should open new branches. I recommended that Chase open a branch in Amman, and to my surprise, I was told to go make it happen. In August 1975 I moved to Jordan with my wife and three small children, having very little knowledge of Jordan, its history, or its culture – and knowing no one. During our first week, we bought a used Volvo from Mohammed Asfour and shortly thereafter met Jim Sauer, ACOR's Director, thus initiating my family's long and warm relationship with Jordan and ACOR.

In the early days, we followed Jim around from site to site, learning about the different layers of visitors to Jordan over the millennia. My wife Jody took Jim Sauer's pottery course with Alice Pickering and many other interested (and interesting) friends of ACOR. Then in later years my children participated in excavations with Doug Clark and Tom Parker. I tended to like "the old rocks," as Kathy Nimri (ACOR's administrator) called them, the hand axes that Gary Rollefson taught my family to recognize. In 1990, I was recruited to the ACOR Board and have spent many wonderful hours with our great mix of academic, business, diplomatic, and other ACOR Board members.

Along the way there have been endless stories of fun and wonder . . . finding the papyri in the Petra Church; the discovery of the famous statues from Ain Ghazal; many wonderful trips getting lost in the desert; watching Tom Holman's convertible with the top down slowly fill up with very fine dust as we drove to the desert castles; restacking the columns on the Amman Citadel; listening to Gary Rollefson explain the structure of the heavens to my youngest daughter Josephine on a starry night as we lay on our backs on cots in the middle of the desert where it seemed you could almost touch the stars; lots of laughs from 15 of us sitting around a circle in Ajloun listening to each Board member's life story at the insistence of our newest board member, Reem Habayeb; trying on various types of traditional clothes at the home of Widad Kaware; and many more special shared times.

As ACOR's mission matures, my experiences have become more profound, as I witnessed last year at Hisban, north of Madaba. I was on a tour with several ACOR Board members and we met up with a group of team members from ACOR's Temple of the Winged Lions project in Petra, to see the site of Hisban. As I walked down from the top after the tour, I was following two women from Petra who stopped, bent over, and picked up some pieces of pottery, discuss-

ing their characteristics with interest. This is remarkable, first that women worked on an excavation in Petra, that they learned and took an interest in pottery, that they organized a trip out of Petra to visit Hisban (some having never left Petra), and that at their own initiative they were inquisitive about the differences between the pottery of Petra and Hisban. This is ACOR at work. This is dig directors (Bert and Sally de Vries, Sten LaBianca, Chris Tuttle, to name a few) making a difference in the lives of people who live near the sites; dig directors who have taken the time to train, employ, care, and nurture local citizens so that their lives change in Hisban, Umm al-Jimal, and Wadi Musa. This is turning archaeology into a tool for economic development, not just a colonialistic one-time dig for artifacts, then back to the museum, leaving the community without creating any value.

This is a major source of the pleasure and pride I receive from ACOR. This and the laughs, stories, friends, and family engagement that makes ACOR such a wonderful experience for me and my family. These are some of the many reasons why I spend time on the ACOR Board and travel to Board meetings in cities around the United States each fall. For me, ACOR is a rare source of fun, joy, giving back, and helping Jordan. If you feel as strongly as I do about ACOR, I hope you will consider joining us and adding ACOR as a beneficiary in your estate plans.



Late 1970s expedition to Ayn al Assad. From left (back row): Talla Asfour, Jody and Randy Old, Gary Rollefson, and Ed Harrell; from left (front): Phil Harrell, Josephine Old, Katy Old (with cap), Bruce Old, and Matt Harrell (courtesy of Old Family Archives)

Donations to ACOR (July–December 2015)

General Donations to the Annual Fund

Fida Adely; Mitchell Allen; Anonymous; Edward and Jocelyn Badovinac; Roger S. Bagnall; Laird H. Barber; Robert and Mette Beecroft; Rick and Carla Berry; Martha Boling Risser in memory of Robert and Jean Boling; Karen Borstad; Laurie A. Brand; Patricia M. Briska; Joseph A. Bruder IV; Merel Bruning; James Callahan in memory of Susan Long Callahan; Joyce E. Chelberg; Henry Christensen III; Douglas R. Clark and Carmen L. Clark; Anne Goheen Crane and Thomas Crane in honor of Barbara A. Porter; Erin and Robert Darby; Molly Davies and Daniel Beal; Piet De Klerk and Victoria De Klerk Rubin; Harriette Resnick and Michel de Konkoly Thege; Bert and Sally de Vries; Nina Dodge; Fred Donner; Christel Faltermeyer; Elizabeth Gebhard; Robert J. and Jane F. Geniesse; Edward Gnehm Jr.; Anna Gonosová; Julia Greene; John R. Hale; Timothy P. Harrison; Sarah Harvey; Robert F. Hayman and Sally Pritchard Hayman; Ray Anita Hemphill; Holly Mak Hersh and Marc Hersh; Ellen Herscher; Ellen Porter Honnet and Charles Honnet; Paul and Brenda Katerberg; Gene Kenney and Dale Burchard Kenney; Morag M. Kersel and Yorke Rowan in memory of R. Thomas Schaub; Sara M. Knight; Christoph Knoch; Knox College; Herbert Krosney; Øystein LaBianca; Peter and Anna Levin; Helen Lovejoy; Edward J. and Eileen T. Lundy; Joan Porter MacIver and David MacIver; Lawrence and Judy Mandel; Stanley and Phemie Maxwell; David and Linda McCreery; Donald and Gerda Mook; Richard and Anne Murphy; Daniel Onstad and Deborah Winters; Megan A. Perry; Dwight A. Porter and Christina L. Porter; D. Richard Powell; Joseph and Shelia Purello; Nanette Pyne; Jennifer Ramsay; Benjamin Rauch and Margaret Scott; Anneliese Reinemeyer; Suzanne Richard; Gary O. Rollefson in memory of Nancy Coinman; Robert Rook; SAD Foundation (through the auspices of Stewart Dunn); Susan A. Sauer; John Scott; Lola K. Semerad and Lita A. Semerad in honor of Barbara A. Porter; Audrey Shaffer; Robert and Beverly Shumaker; Maria-Louise Sidoroff; Elizabeth Simpson; Pamela Smith; Sandra R. Smith; Rochelle Snee; John Sprague; Martin St. Clair; Joseph and Julia Stanik; Sally B. Strazdins; Tony and Gail Vander Heide; Andrew Vaughn; Nicholas and Patricia Veliotis; The Violet Jabara Charitable Trust; Nancy Webster; Robert Whitman

Annual Fund Donations for Library Support

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FAFA: Foreign Affairs Friends of ACOR

In December 2015, Ambassador Edward “Skip” Gnehm and Anne Aarnes of USAID, both retired U.S. diplomats who served in Jordan, created a special group centered on those whose careers included Jordan and who care about the country and appreciate ACOR. In the past, many foreign service officers have supported ACOR but this new endeavor helped ACOR reach others with whom we had lost contact. We hope that this circle of supporters will widen and the word will spread. Many thanks to each new FAFA member!

Annual Fund Donations for Roger S. Boraas Library Support Fund

Miriam Boraas Deffenbaugh and Ralston Deffenbaugh; Liga Stam

The ACOR General Endowment

Anne Aarnes; William Burns; Ellen Porter Honnet and Charles Honnet; Gary O. Rollefson; Thomas and Theresa Whetstone

The ACOR Jordanian Graduate Student Scholarship Fund

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The Anne C. Ogilvy Memorial Library Endowment

Henry Christensen III; Moors Myers in memory of her mother, Anne Ogilvy

The Pierre and Patricia Bikai Fellowship Endowment

Henry Christensen III; Wesley W. Egan Jr and Virginia W. Egan; Debra Mosel; Megan A. Perry; Rochelle Snee

The Bert and Sally de Vries Fellowship Endowment

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The Frederick-Wenger Jordanian Educational Fellowship Endowment

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Petra Church Conservation Endowment

Donna H. Antoon; The Selz Foundation; Edwin and Heather Taylor

Temple of the Winged Lions Cultural Resource Management Initiative

Donna H. Antoon; Glenn Corbett; Ellen Porter Honnet and Charles Honnet; Knox College; Debra Mosel; Rochelle Snee; Ann Syring

In-Kind Donations

Jane Taylor; Leen Al Zubi

Donations to ACOR Library (July–December 2015)

Yousef Abu Ali; Raouf Abujaber; Erin Addison; Nizar Al Adarbeh; Zaki Ayoubi; Nora Barakat; Ghazi Bisheh; Zeinab Bishtawi; J.-M. Blázquez Martínez; Sarah Bush; Qutaiba Dasouqi; Jean-Michel de Tarragon; Neil Dearberg; Department of Antiquities of Jordan; Wafaa Fali; Omar Al Ghul; Seymour Gitin; Abdul Aziz Hameed; Nadine Panayot Haroun; Hani Hayajneh; Zeidan Kafafi; Frauke Kenkel; Hisham Khatib; Sami Khoury (through auspices of Ann O'Neill); Enas Kiwan; Nancy Lapp; Thomas E. Levy; Joan Porter MacIver; Fatma Marii; The Metropolitan Museum of Art (through auspices of Crystal Dombrow); Steve Monroe; Bernd Müller-Neuhof; Lorenzo Nigro; Randolph B. Old; Carol Palmer; Barbara A. Porter; I'timad Qasayri; Amnon Ramon; Sami Sabat; Benjamin Saidel; Farid Al Salim; Ahmad Al Salman; John Scott; Reem Al Shqour; Cariman Soblaban; Richard Talbert; Jane Taylor; Győző Vörös; Tomasz Waliszewski

ACOR Announcement: Special Award



Mohammed Adawi receiving ASOR's 2015 W.F. Albright Service Award

ACOR's chef, Mohammed Adawi (Abu Ahmed), was honored with the American Schools of Oriental Research W.F. Albright Service Award which honors an individual who has shown special support or made outstanding service contributions to one of the overseas centers. He has served as the cook for ACOR since its founding 1968 and has contributed to the wellbeing of countless visitors in the decades since. The full award citation is shared in this newsletter and here we thank him for his dedication to ACOR over the years. To learn more about Abu Ahmed see the **ACOR Blog** (www.acorjordan.wordpress.com) to find "The Distinguished Career of ACOR Chef Mohammed Adawi."

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**To donate to ACOR use the Annual Appeal
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www.acorjordan.org**

ACOR is proud to include stories from our supporters as the one in this issue by Randy Old. Please e-mail us at acor@acorjordan.org to tell us why you support ACOR or to let us know if you would like information about how to include a bequest to ACOR in your will or other ways to give back to ACOR and Jordan.

November 2015 Board Meeting

The ACOR Board of Trustees' fall meeting took place at the InterContinental Buckhead Atlanta Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia on November 21, 2015. President Randolph B. Old presided and also acted as Treasurer in the absence of James Wiseman. The Director's updates included information on the ACOR USAID Cooperative Agreement entitled SCHEP (Sustainable Cultural Heritage through Engagement of Local Communities Project), for which Nizar Al Adarbeh became the Chief of Party in September 2015. Nanette Pyne provided invaluable consultation on development matters, thanks to CAORC funding, and she also ably recorded the minutes in the absence of Donald Keller, the Associate Director of the ACOR Boston office. It was duly noted that Board members Susan E. Alcock and Elizabeth Barlow Rogers were stepping down and that Seteney Shami of the Arab Council for the Social Sciences (Beirut) was voted to the class of 2018. Christopher A. Tuttle, CAORC Executive Director, gave a helpful appraisal of relevant programs and future funding opportunities.

ACOR Trustees

Class of 2016: Mr. Henry Christensen III (Secretary); Dr. Bert de Vries; Mrs. Jane F. Geniesse; H.E. Dr. Abdelelah Al Khatib; Mrs. Nina J. Köprülü; H.R.H. Prince Raad bin Zeid (First Vice President)
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The *ACOR Newsletter* is edited by Barbara A. Porter, Glenn J. Corbett, and Isabelle A. Ruben.

Printed in Jordan by National Press.