



## Current Fieldwork Projects

Madaba, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and ACOR/USAID: Burnt Palace, Ghazi Bisheh; Shelters for the Apostles' Church, Church of the Virgin and the Hippolytus Hall, Ammar Khammash; Archaeological Park, Pierre Bikai, Beatrice St. Laurent and Michele Piccirillo Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Program, ACOR/USAID and the Department of Antiquities, Gaetano Palumbo

St. George's Church, Jebel ai-Webdeh, ACOR and the Shoman Foundation, Pierre Bikai  
Petra, Petra Church North Rooms and Atrium Project, ACOR/USAID, Pierre Bikai and Zbigniew Fiema

## Fellows in Residence

Marie-Jeanne Roche, Dodge Fellow, The Origins and Background of the Khirbet et-Tannur Temple Sculptures: Research on Ancient Edomite Communities of the Nabatean Period

Irfan Shahid, USIA Fellow, The Ghassanid Structures in the 6th century and their Relevance to those of the Umayyads in Islamic times.

Marie Alanen, USIA Fellow, Architectural Reuse at Jerash; A Case Study in Transformations of the Urban Fabric, A.D. 100-750

Eric Evans (unaffiliated Fulbright), Arabic studies  
Charlene Constable (unaffiliated), Arabic studies

## Happenings at ACOR

Dec 18. Pierre visits the new Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, Mohammed al-Adwan.

Dec. 18. Another mortgage payment is made, reducing the debt to \$55,714.

Dec 20. Kathy Valentour, excavator of the Petra Scrolls arrives from Aqaba before the long flight home. She

spends the evening checking the scrolls for any signs of deterioration. A team from CNN headed by Stefan Kotsonis arrives to film the scroll unpacking in the conservation lab. They stay for about an hour while Kathy unpacks the miserable-looking yet priceless artifacts.

Dec 20. Going away party for Branwen. Irfan makes another famous speech.

Dec 21. Press release on the Petra Scrolls is issued by the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities.

Dec 22. Branwen departs for the US.

Dec 23. News of the scrolls hits the press—front page of the Jordan Times! While Zbig is being interviewed by the CNN team in Petra, Glen gives an interview to Nick Warren for BBC's "The World Today" program to be aired later in the day (Glen doesn't mess up too badly). ACOR is paid a visit by Jack Redden of Reuters News



Cathy Valentour with one of the scrolls



CNN filming the scrolls.

Service who stays for lunch. In the evening Zbig and Deborah arrive from Petra. News of Glen's BBC interview comes in from the U.S.—apparently it was aired on National Public Radio (NPR).

Dec 23. Kathy's daughter Lemya gets married. An ACOR delegation attends this happy occasion. Since it is raining, Patricia predicts that "the sun will shine on the bride."

Dec 23. A television crew from Reuters videos the scrolls and Zbig gives a short interview. They say it will be on all the U.S. networks this evening!! Zbig also gives an interview on the scrolls to Maha Addasi of Jordan Radio. In the afternoon, freelance journalist Kirk Albrecht gets yet another interview from Zbig.

Dec 23. Pierre attends the graduation of the mosaics

Dec. 23. ACOR receives a Christmas FAX from Bert de Vries. He passes along some tidbits from Internet about the intense speculation surrounding the Petra Scrolls in the academic community. It's amazing what people have deduced from ACOR's press release.

Dec 24. Shishir, Michele Piccirillo, and Patricia meet and finalize *The Mosaics of Jordan* dust jacket. Tom Dailey shows up later in the day to muddy the waters. Zbig's interview airs on Radio Jordan.

Dec 25. Christmas brunch and dinner. All of it wonderful thanks to Mohammed Adawi. The guest of honor at



The Yassines

brunch is Marwan and Shatha Yassine's baby, Farah.

Dec 27. Bikais leave to Petra to conduct a two-day tour for World Monuments Fund VIP Bob Geniesse. Vicky leaves for a vacation to the Philippines. Abdo Malki leaves for the U.S. Shishir leaves for Dubai to oversee the color separation for the dust jacket of *The Mosaics of Jordan*.

Dec. 27. Don Whitcomb returns from a two-month season in Aqaba. He announces that after years of searching for it, he has indeed found the 8th century mosque of ancient Ayla. Congratulations to Don and the Ayla team!

Dec 28. Bruce Borthwick leaves for the U.S. Friedrich Zink views the scrolls and provides advice on conservation.

Dec 29. Fatma Marii begins cleaning bronze artifacts from Madaba's Burnt Palace with the new air-abrasive unit.



Fatma Marii in the conservation lab.

Dec 29. Pierre and Patricia panic over ACOR's financial state. "We need substantial donations—FAST!!!!" says

"We have it—we just don't have it!!"

December 29. Tom Dailey arrives to take up his two-week residence at ACOR before leaving Jordan for the U.S.

Dec 30. Bob Geniesse of the World Monuments Fund and Trustees Widad Kawar and Mohammed Asfour and family attend lunch at ACOR. J.J. Whitcomb celebrates his birthday with one of Mohammed's special cakes.

Dec 31. ASAIIP Fellow Tim Werner leaves for the U.S. Shishir returns from Dubai with the color separations for the final design for the dust jacket.

Dec 31. ACOR receives a FAX of *Biblical Archaeology Review's* article on the Petra church. The personification of Summer is labelled as "X-Rated church Art!!!" It is decided that if BAR calls about the Petra Scrolls, we will say they are obviously the work of "heretic pornographers!!"

Dec 31. "Ali Baba Pierre" puts on a moustache and gives a New Year's Eve magic show for J.J. and Felicia Whitcomb (and the rest of the kids in the house). HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Jan 1. Eric Evans leaves for the U.S.



Gaetano, Zbig and Pierre at the annual New Year's Eve Uno Game.

Jan 2. Pierre and Patricia and a senior USAID official escape chaos, mayhem and a flash flood in Petra. The heavy rains make the road to Umm Sayhun impassable so they have to drive out of Petra via the Siq.

Jan 3. Former ACOR Fellow Laurie Brand shows up unexpectedly. The Petra Project and the scrolls appear on CNN Headline News (multiple times during the day). Zbig, Patricia and Kathy Valentour are now famous (again!). Everyone is pleased.

Jan 3. Pierre and Tom Dailey's major domo, "Louis of Lebanon," get into a very loud argument about ACOR's "snobar" (pine) trees. (We suspect Louis hasn't quite gotten over his ignominious defeat to Pierre in the now famous Mt. Nebo Pesto Cook Off.)

Jan 3. The presentation copies of *The Mosaics of Jordan* arrive. Jan 4. Patricia's sister, Elaina Coyne, calls from California (at some ungodly hour of the night) to say that she has just seen Patricia on CNN. Radio Jordan airs an interview with Pierre about ACOR. Unfortunately nobody hears it because 50 copies of the mosaics book arrive at the same time—in the middle of a cloudburst.

Jan 4. Kathy gets a purchase order for the book from Prinze von Baden of Zwingenberg. Part of the address is given as "Schloss." Kathy is puzzled: "schloss? schloss???"

# THE MOSAICS OF JORDAN

That sounds like some kinda beer!!" (The sayings of Chairperson Kathy will be ACOR publication no. 2.)

Jan 4. ACOR's Petra Project is the subject of an article by Chris Hedges in the New York Times.

Jan 5. Special luncheon for Tom Dailey. Tom is awarded the ACOR Distinguished Service Medal, is given a silk-bound copy of *The Mosaics of Jordan* and H.R.H. Prince Ra'ad also delivers a watch and a photograph from His Majesty King Hussein. Former Secretary-General of the Ministry of Tourism, Nasri Atalla, is presented with a copy of the mosaics book and thanked for all of his assistance to ACOR. Radio Jordan re-airs its interview with Pierre about ACOR. Unfortunately nobody hears it because everybody is too tired from the special luncheon. Immediately afterward is another interview with Zbig about life in Petra on an archaeological project—and right after that another interview with Pierre's—on the Arabic Radio Jordan.

Jan 6. Ghazi Bisheh conducts a tour of the Madaba excavations for British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd.

Jan. 6. ACOR Treasurer Randy Old makes another of his much-appreciated "Great Stuff!" phone calls.

Jan. 6. Pierre presents a copy of *The Mosaics of Jordan* to the U.S. Embassy. Patricia and Pierre attend yet another send-off for Tom Dailey. They appear to be holding up better than Tom.

Jan 7. Shishir arrives with a stack of dust jackets. The book is officially Available!!



MICHELE PICCIRILLO



H.R.H. Prince Ra'ad awards Tom Dailey the ACOR medal.

Jan. 7. Prof. Ludwig Koenen of the U. of Michigan and former president of the American Philological Association arrives to assess the Petra scrolls.

Jan 8. Mohammed notes that this is the first time in his life he has cooked six turkeys in as many weeks.

Jan. 8. Prof. Koenen tentatively identifies the name of

Flavianus II, bishop of Antioch, on a scroll fragment. Flavianus was exiled to Petra by the heretic Byzantine Emperor Anastasius in A.D. 512.

Jan. 8. Michele Piccirillo and Patricia are called to the palace to present a copy of the book to His Majesty King Hussein.

Jan. 9. Ludwig Koenen briefs interested embassy staff on his preliminary findings.

Jan. 10. Pierre, Patricia and Dr. Koenen leave for Petra.

Jan. 11. A crew from Reuters News Service in-

terviews Ludwig Koenen and Zbig at the site of the discovery.

The ACOR Newzette (circulation 80) is produced in-house by Patricia M. Bikai and Glen Peterman for distribution to ACOR residents, trustees and a few other friends of ACOR.

The following is information sheet released Jan. 10, 1994:

### The Petra Scrolls

The ancient scrolls found in the ruins near the basilica of Petra in early December 1993 have just been examined by one of the world's foremost papyrologists, Dr. Ludwig Koenen, the H.C. Youtie Professor of Papyrology at the University of Michigan, and former president of the American Philological Association. His inspection of the carbonized scrolls and fragments have revealed exciting new information about Petra and the scripts themselves.

Excavations at Petra are currently being conducted by the American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR) in cooperation with the Department of Antiquities with the purpose of enhancing and broadening the touristic attraction of Petra. ACOR is supported in the endeavor by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities in Jordan. ACOR's Petra Project is financed under a grant by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Amman.

The scrolls are of a type characteristic of the Byzantine period, and unroll vertically (from top to bottom) rather than horizontally. The texts are in single columns on the inside of the scrolls, predominantly across the fiber of the papyrus (*transversa charta*). In two instances script has been noted on both sides of the papyrus.

The scripts on the scrolls have been identified as a cursive Greek "documentary style" typical of the 5th-6th century. It is now clear, through a close examination of the handwriting, that more than one person was involved in writing them. Because the writing is on the inside of the scrolls (the scrolls have yet to be unwrapped) the text is readable only on isolated papyrus fragments. Some translated words seem to refer to a spiritual or tangible heritage; an agreement (contract) or confession; and one word has been translated alternatively as

"by fire" or "related to wheat". Another fragment refers to a "king". The identification of the non-Greek script remains elusive. It has been suggested that it may be some form of Aramaic script.

The most significant fragment is translatable as "Flavianus Patriarchus". This apparently refers to Flavianus, a patriarch of Antioch. After the Synod of Sidon in 512 A.D. he was banished to Petra for alleged heresy by the Byzantine emperor Anastasius, and lived there for the last six years of his life. The nature of the text in which the heretic's name is mentioned is unknown. The arrangement of the texts on the scrolls indicate that they are more likely personal writings such as sermons, letters or contracts, rather than literary book rolls, e.g. a "standardized" or "published" text like a Bible, or a Greek tragedy.

This enigmatic yet significant reference from the Petra scroll collection strengthens the suggestion that the recently excavated basilica may be the seat of the Bishop of Third Palestine—which is known from historic texts to be located in Petra—and that the adjacent structure in which the scrolls were found was perhaps a monastery.

It has been determined that the inner portions of the scrolls should be largely salvageable by modern conservation and restoration techniques. With the assistance of the Department of Antiquities, ACOR is now in the process of assembling a committee of international experts to undertake this delicate and demanding task.

ACOR would like to gratefully acknowledge the assistance of Prince Ra'ad bin Zeid, Chief Chamberlain of the Royal Court, former Ministers of Tourism and Antiquities, Abdul Karim Kabariti and Yanal Hikmat, of the present minister Mohammed Affash al-Adwan, of the former Secretary-General of the Ministry of Tourism, Nasri Atallah, and of the Director-General of the Department of Antiquities, Dr. Safwan Tell.

# ACOR Newzette

Vol. 2.3—March 1994



## Current Fieldwork Projects

Madaba, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and ACOR/USAID: Burnt Palace, Ghazi Bisheh; Shelters for the Apostles' Church, Church of the Virgin and the Hippolytus Hall, Ammar Khammash; Archaeological Park, Pierre Bikai, Beatrice St. Laurent and Michele Piccirillo

Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Program, ACOR/USAID and the Department of Antiquities, Gaetano Palumbo

St. George's Church, Jebel al-Webdeh, ACOR and the Shoman Foundation, Pierre Bikai

Petra, Petra Church North Rooms and Atrium Project, ACOR/USAID, Pierre Bikai and Zbigniew Fiema

Mosaics Shelter Concepts, ACOR, Robert Shutler, AIA

## Fellows in Residence

Irfan Shahid, USIA Fellow, The Ghassanid Structures in the 6th century and their Relevance to those of the Umayyads in Islamic times

Marie Alanen, USIA Fellow, Architectural Reuse at Jerash; A Case Study in Transformations of the Urban Fabric, A.D. 100-750

Julia Costello, USIA Fellow, Consultancy on Significance Criteria for the Evaluation of Jordanian Cultural Resources

Jane McAuliffe, ASAIP Coordinator

David Harris, ASAIP Fellow

Amy Bentley, ASAIP Fellow

Joseph Pimental, ASAIP Fellow

Eric Evans (unaffiliated Fulbright), Arabic studies

Charlene Constable (unaffiliated), Arabic studies

## Happenings at ACOR

Feb. 10. At the Bikais' restaurant, Glen gets the perfect dinner, complete with all four food groups: cheeseburgers, fries, Pepsi and a Snickers bar.

Feb. 10. Her Majesty Queen Noor dedicates the new wing of the Department of Antiquities building. Gaetano introduces her to JADIS.

Feb. 10. ACOR staff and Robert Shutler have a meeting with USAID to discuss designs for the mosaic shelters at Petra, Umm er-Rasas and Madaba.

Feb. 11. Dr. Irfan Shahid announces that he has taken up swimming "not for the pleasure of it, but to maintain my physical topography."

Feb. 11. Robin Brown gets a day off from the Baltimore office. There is ice everywhere and the front door of her house is frozen shut!

Feb. 12. Rob Shutler presents his Petra shelter concept to

assembled dignitaries, representatives of government ministries, and others interested in Petra. Unbelievably, a consensus is reached that this is the best type of shelter possible. Everybody is pleased.

Feb. 14. An ACOR Newsletter sent to Kuwait from Holland, Michigan, on Sept 26, 1990, comes back to ACOR.

Feb. 14. Charlene reveals that her standard answer to the taxi drivers' perennial question of "where are you from?" is (in perfect colloquial Arabic): "What's it to you?"

Feb. 15. Glen and Patricia hover over the FAX machine, waiting anxiously for the grant guidelines to come in from CAORC by the stated deadline. Everybody has bets going on whether the FAX will arrive or if it will snow first. EVERYBODY bets on snow. Neither arrive.

Feb. 16. Zbig heads to the isolation ward at Khalidi Hospital to deal with hepatitis.

Feb. 16. Humi's catalog computer begins emitting strange noises. It is determined that a new hard-disk is needed.

Feb. 17. A full-page review by Rami Khouri of the *Mosaics of Jordan* appears in the Jordan Times.

Feb. 20. Zbig calls from the hospital pleading for cheeseburgers. We think he's getting better.

Feb. 21. An article on the Petra project appears in the Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*.

Feb. 21. Wendy Steward calls and offers to become the first to "adopt a scroll"—or maybe just part of one.

Feb. 22. Dr. Jaakko Frösén of the Academy of Finland arrives to begin his work on the Petra Scrolls. Pierre gets up at 3:30 AM to meet him at the airport. Later, Dr. Safwan Tell comes to ACOR to welcome him and, during the meeting, Dr. Frösén estimates that he will need a half a kilometer of glass to mount the scroll fragments.

Feb. 22. Glen orders a hamburger at the Marriott which never seems to arrive. The waiter finally appears with the excuse that it had burned on the grill. Dr. Frösén says, "No problem, I know how to deal with it."



H.M. Queen Noor with Gaetano Palumbo, Dr. Safwan Tell and the JADIS group

Feb. 23. Zaafer Toukan of JTV shows up and takes more video of the temple models and plans.

Feb. 23. The Secretary-General of the Ministry of Tourism, Dr. Ghassan Mufleh, comes to ACOR on a fact-finding tour.

Feb. 23. Dr. Frösén begins work on the scrolls.

Feb. 24. Wendy Steward gets her wish: the first scroll opened is "part of one" so it is named *Papyrus Petra Russell/Steward*.



Dr. Jaakko Frösén and Fatma Marii working on the scrolls in the ACOR Conservation Laboratory

Feb. 24. A committee meets to review Michele Piccirillo's concept for a visitors' center at Umm er-Rasas.

Feb 25. Gaetano is interviewed LIVE on Italian TV about the Petra Scrolls.

Feb 26. Steve Eder, a producer for Time-Life Television, arrives at ACOR to begin a fact-finding tour for a documentary on the Roman Empire to be made later this year.

Feb. 26. Another 90 copies of *The Mosaics of Jordan* arrive from the binders.



Michele Piccirillo, Glen and Pierre checking the books

March 2. Pierre, Steve Eder and Dr. Frösén return from Petra with stories to tell. It seems that during a visit to one of the Roman forts, Pierre got lost and wound up with the Mercedes pointed over the edge of a cliff. His statement: "I don't know which way to go." Steve's suggestion: "Either right or left."

March 2. Dr. Frösén details the correct pronunciation of his name: Jaakko is pronounced "yako", and Frösén is pronounced "frow-sayn" with the emphasis on the second syllable, as in "Hussein."

March 3. Julia Costello's husband, Jeff Tuttle, arrives

carrying lots of bags of brown sugar and chocolate chips. March 5. H.E. Naman Rusheidat, the Honorary Consul General of Finland, comes to ACOR to see Dr. Frösén working on the scrolls.

March 6. After months of waiting and numerous bets with Pierre, snow appears (it's really hail but Pierre insists it's snow).

March 6. During a reception at the Bikais' for Eric Myers and the ASOR tour group, ASOR Trustee P. E. MacAllister



Dr. Frösén and P. E. MacAllister

adopts a Petra Scroll. The scroll currently under conservation treatment becomes *Papyrus Petra MacAllister*. It is estimated to be 10 meters long and even has the name Petra in it.

March 7. *ACOR Newsletter* 5.2 goes off to be printed.

March 8. Pierre leaves ACOR for Aqaba at 8:15 to attend to project-related business. He calls ACOR at 11:15 to say he's there, has visited the site, dealt with the project business, and has even had breakfast. Glen reaches for a calculator to determine by how much the Desert Highway speed limit (and perhaps also the world's land speed record) has been exceeded. In the evening, Pierre drives to Petra and cooks a birthday dinner for Zbig.

March 9. Glen and Patricia feverishly prepare the Getty library grant proposal, the USIA/CAORC proposal, and two new NMERTA fellowship funding proposals.

March 9. A fax from Finland—one of the fragmentary inscriptions found in the Byzantine church at Jebel al-Webdeh in Pierre's excavation last summer probably refers to the Roman emperor Trajan! Pierre is pleased.

March 10. Patricia finishes the mock up for a booklet on the Jebel al-Webdeh excavation. ACOR is doing this in cooperation with the Shoman Foundation.

March 10. Dr. Helge Fischer of the GTZ Petra stone conservation project and, later, a group from the Santa Barbara Museum of Art visit ACOR. H.R.H. Prince Ra'advists and Dr. Frösén explains the scroll conservation process.

March 10. A power surge knocks out the switchboard. No telephone calls!! Patricia: "How wonderful!"

The Newzette (circulation 80) is produced by Patricia Bikai and Glen Peterman for distribution to ACOR residents, staff families, trustees and a few other friends of ACOR.

# ACOR Newzette

Vol. 2.6—June 1994



## Projects

Madaba, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and ACOR/USAID: Madaba Mosaics Conservation, Mary Scott, Fatma Marii and Mahmoud Abu Juda  
Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Program, ACOR/USAID and the Department of Antiquities, Gaetano Palumbo  
St. George's Church, Jebel al-Webdeh, ACOR and the Shoman Foundation, Pierre Bikai  
Petra Shelter Design, ACOR/USAID, Rob Shutler, AIA  
Madaba and Umer-Rasas Master Plans, ACOR/USAID, Michele Piccirillo  
Qatrana Master Plan, ACOR/USAID, Leen Fakhoury

## Fellows in Residence

Zbigniew Fiema, USIA Fellow, Petra Church: Publication Phase  
Bruce Routledge, Winnett Fellow, Moab Marginal Agriculture Project  
Laurie Brand, USIA Fellow, Arab Women and Political Liberalization, Winners or Losers?  
Dale Lightfoot, USIA Fellow, Foggara Irrigation in the Jordanian-Syrian Desert: Contemporary Impacts of Ancient Technology  
Susan Slyomovics, USIA Fellow, Public Memory of Place: Rebuilding the Pre-1948 Palestinian Village.

## Excavations

Roman Aila, S. Thomas Parker  
Madaba Plains Projects: Tell el 'Umeiri, Lawrence T. Geraty; Tell Jalul, Randal Younker; Regional Survey, Øystein LaBianca  
Tell Jawa, Michele Daviau  
Umm el-Jimal, Bert deVries  
South Temple of Petra, Martha S. Joukowsky  
Via Militaris Project, David F. Graf  
Moab Marginal Agriculture Survey, Bruce Routledge  
Khirbet Iskander, Suzanne Richard  
Tell Nimrin, (study season) David McCreery, James Flanagan  
Humeima, (study season) John P. Oleson

## Happenings at ACOR

May 12. Pierre and Zbig go to Petra and, while there, are photographed by Annie Leibovitz.  
May 12. V. Rebecca (Mrs. P. E.) MacAlister also adopts a scroll!  
May 12. A huge power outage in the evening knocks out the phone system. Oh, blessed relief!  
May 13. Patricia is no rush to call the telephone repairman.  
May 14. Despite having been warned by everyone that this would happen, Gaetano PANICS when the wedding details become too overwhelming.

May 17. Chrys' book goes off to Bombay.

May 18. Pierre keeps making lists of things that have to be done before the wedding. Gaetano, now quite in control, is trying to keep Pierre calm.

May 18. One of the clothes dryers catches fire and sets off the alarms.

May 18. 50 cadets from the Officer's Academy visit ACOR to see Tom Parker's model of the Roman fort at Lejjun. Jane McAuliffe is completely startled by the invasion. Fires! Armies! What next?

May 18. Pierre and Patricia host a reception for the 45 family members and friends of Anna and Gaetano who have come in from Italy.

May 19. A.M. Total chaos.



May 19. P.M. The wedding is beautiful and at the dinner afterwards, everyone dances until midnight!

May 20. Gerald Mattingly brings his tour group of 25 to ACOR. After they have been given the tour and seen the scrolls, Pierre and Bruce Routledge sell books and postcards like crazy.

May 20. Zbig is caught reading Isobel's animal picture book.

May 20. An article by Glen on the Petra Papyri appears in *Biblical Archaeologist*.

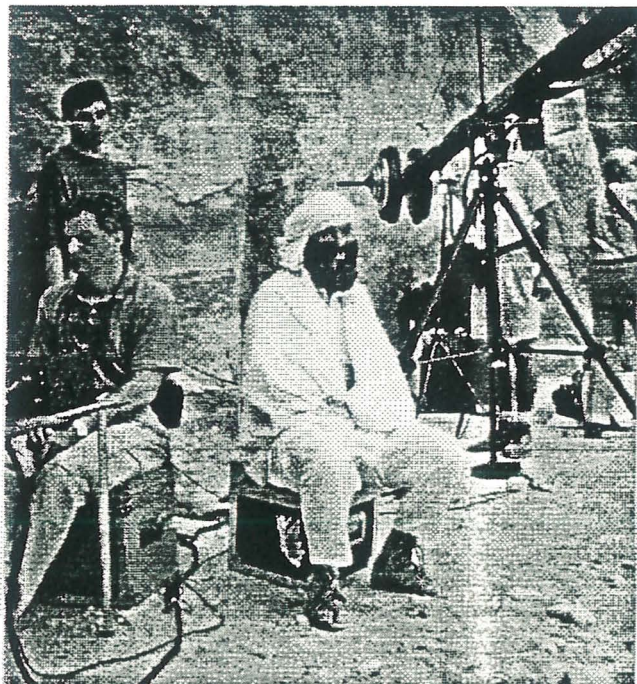
May 21. Pierre and Patricia escape to Petra. Max Miller shows up with a bus tour. Jane McAuliffe gives the ACOR Tour, Zbig shows off the Petra Project and the scrolls, and Bruce Routledge is pressed into service as "Director of Sales" (two bowls, 15 postcard sets and two copies of 'the book').

May 21 Former ACOR Director David McCreery and Jim Flanagan arrive from the U.S.

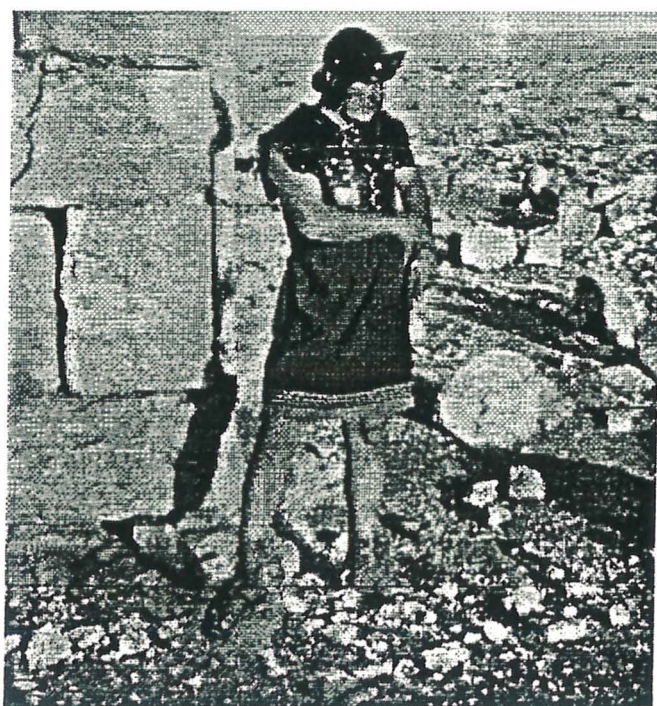
May 22. USIA Fellow Dale Lightfoot arrives.



Left: Johann Burckhardt ca. 1812. Right: Pierre as Burckhardt. Pretty bad, no?



Pierre as bored actor. Silly, huh? It gets worse:



Pierre as a Roman legionnaire.

May 23. An article on the Petra Papyri appears in *Archaeology* magazine.

May 24. Pierre and Patricia return from Petra with horror stories about flying and biting insects.

May 25. ASAIP Coordinator Jane McAuliffe (Jane Maguffie to Kathy) leaves for home.

May 26. The heat wave continues—Patricia claims that she's melting. USIA Fellow Lauri Brand appears. Everyone admires her diamond ring.

May 26. Pierre, grumbling about the preparation work he has to do for an incoming TV crew, says that he's had to find a number of electrical "adopters" for the generator.

May 27. Glen's computer monitor dies in a very loud, pyrotechnic display.

May 27. The Terra Nova/Time Life group filming for the Roman segment of next year's *Lost Civilizations* series on NBC arrives with what looks like enough equipment to film *Gone With the Wind*.

May 29. Zbig and Jane Taylor go along as the Terra Nova crew zooms around the country in a helicopter.

May 30. The TV people zoom around the country in a helicopter again and meet Pierre and Zbig at Qasr al-Bashir. Pierre and Zbig dress up in Roman legionnaire costumes and wave torches around in the dark. Then they all go on to Petra, arriving at midnight.

May 31. Pierre sets up a caravan encampment and reenacts Johann Burckhardt's goat sacrifice scene. The goat obligingly falls asleep at the appropriate moment (no harm was done to the goat).

May 31 Tom Parker arrives from Aqaba and tells tall tales about his backhoe driver who was arrested for digging on an old military outpost. Tom, generous as usual, pays for the driver's time spent in the Aqaba jail.

May 31. 400 copies of *The Mosaics of Jordan* arrive

June 1. For a change of pace, Pierre and Zbig, playing themselves, explain the Petra Church for the cameras.

June 1. The first contingent of the Jawanese arrives.

June 2. Mohammed spots a huge (5') long poisonous (?) black snake sunning itself on the terrace. Glen, unwilling to kill it, chases it under the guard shack with a stick, hoping it will leave the yard.

June 2. The first copies of *The Byzantine Church at Darat Al Funun* arrive. This publication was put together by Pierre, Patricia and others, and was printed by Shishir Dutta.

June 2. Pierre reenacts Johann Burckhardt's entry into Petra.

June 2. The Hollywood contingent returns to ACOR exhausted.

June 3. Zbig's article in *Archeologia* appears.

June 5. ACOR receives another 244 copies of *The Mosaics of Jordan*.

June 5. Susan Slomovics arrives to take up her USIA fellowship.

June 7. David McCreery fires up the new mini-furnace in the conservation lab to char some barleycorns and grains of wheat. The basement smells like 300 loaves of burnt toast.

June 8. Cracks have already appeared in the Palumbo-Paolini marriage. Gaetano cooks his pasta a bit too hard for Anna and Anna cooks her pasta a bit too soft for Gaetano.

The Newzette (circulation 80) is produced by Patricia Bikai and Glen Peterman for distribution to ACOR residents, staff families, trustees and a few other friends of ACOR.



# ACOR Newzette

Vol. 2.7—July 1994



## Projects

Madaba, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and ACOR/USAID: Madaba Mosaics Conservation, Mary Scott, Fatma Marii and Mahmoud Abu Juda Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Program, ACOR/USAID and the Department of Antiquities, Gaetano Palumbo  
St. George's Church, Jebel al-Webdeh, ACOR and the Shoman Foundation, Pierre Bikai  
Petra Shelter Design, ACOR/USAID, Rob Shutler, AIA  
Madaba and Umer-Rasas Master Plans, ACOR/USAID, Michele Piccirillo  
Qatrana Master Plan, ACOR/USAID, Leen Fakhoury

## Fellows in Residence

Zbigniew Fiema, USIA Fellow, Petra Church: Publication Phase  
Bruce Routledge, Winnett Fellow, Moab Marginal Agriculture Project  
Laurie Brand, USIA Fellow, Arab Women and Political Liberalization, Winners or Losers?  
Dale Lightfoot, USIA Fellow, Foggara Irrigation in the Jordanian-Syrian Desert: Contemporary Impacts of Ancient Technology  
Susan Slyomovics, USIA Fellow, Public Memory of Place: Rebuilding the Pre-1948 Palestinian Village  
Robert Boling, USIA Fellow, Research in the Transition from the Late Bronze to the Iron I Periods in Jordan: The Emergence of Ancient Territorial States

## ACOR-Affiliated Field Projects

Roman Aila, S. Thomas Parker  
Madaba Plains Projects: Tell el 'Umeiri, Lawrence T. Geraty; Tell Jalul, Randal Younker; Regional Survey, Øystein LaBianca  
Tell Jawa, Michele Daviau  
Umm el-Jimal, Bert de Vries  
South Temple of Petra, Martha S. Joukowsky  
Via Militaris Project, David F. Graf  
Moab Marginal Agriculture Survey, Bruce Routledge  
Khirbet Iskander, Suzanne Richard  
Tor Faraj, Don Henry  
Khirbet Salameh, Pierre Bikai

## Happenings at ACOR

June 9. Kathy Nimri, in the thick of closing out the books for the 1993-94 fiscal year, comments, "I know it sounds strange, but I've really gotten sick of money!!"  
June 10. The rest of the Jawa team arrives and Bert de Vries arrives to begin his work at Umm el-Jimal.  
June 11. The first half of the docudrama, "The Restoration of the Great Temple," researched, directed and

produced by Zaafer Toukan is aired on Jordan TV. The most memorable quote: "It was a total mess."

June 11. Martha and Arte Joukowsky arrive.

June 12. Gaetano detects and cleans an insidious VIRUS from one of the lab computers.

June 12. Three more scrolls are adopted.

June 13. Fatma, looking at the piles of paper on Kathy's desk, asks, "Are you organizing the World Cup??"

June 13. The preliminary plans for the Petra Shelter design arrive.

June 13. In Baltimore, someone steals Robin's hubcaps.

June 14. A group from Rice University visits ACOR and view the scrolls. One woman is so overcome with this privilege she bursts into tears, claiming that this was the most exciting moment of her life.

June 15. Zbig is (again!) found reading books from Isobel Routledge's personal library.

June 16. Pierre receives a letter from Mr. Saidu Babalo, account officer of The Nigerian Petroleum Corporation of Lagos, Nigeria, who offers to give ACOR the mere sum of \$55,300,000 if ACOR will give him signed letterhead, three blank ACOR invoice sheets, our bank's name and our account numbers!!

June 17. The North Carolina State University film crew arrives from the U.S.—without their camera equipment which the airline left in London for them.

June 18. At 7:00 AM (and half of his day finished) Pierre tells Patricia: "Don't ask me to do anything, I'm too tired already!!"

June 18. The last half of the "Zaafer Video" is aired on Jordan TV. Everybody agrees that Zaafer could not have done better.

June 19. One of the Tell Jawa crew drops off an outgoing letter which is addressed to someone in "KANADA."

June 20. The Khirbet Salameh excavation, a field school for the University of Jordan directed by Pierre, begins.

June 21. Pierre dashes off to Pella and Umm Qeis with the NCSU film crew and winds up the day with a lecture at Abila.

June 21. Pierre appears on Jordan TV in a short documentary piece on the Darat al-Funun and the St. George's Church.

June 22. Glen brings a bunch of flawed copies of *The Mosaics of Jordan* into the lecture room, and accidentally interrupts, of all things, a class in Italian grammar!

June 23. ACOR has two film crews busy in the conservation lab—the NSCU team doing a promo video for ACOR and the New Dominion team doing a documentary on Petra for television's Discovery Channel. This makes 9?? film crews for this year (CNN, Reuters, JTV for the Scrolls, JTV for JADIS, Sumeria, Zaafer/JTV, Terra Nova, NCSU, and now New Dominion) with more crews to show up later in the summer! The New

Dominion crew is shooting film (rather than videotape) in the conservation lab which requires extensive acting and patience on Fatma's part, something she HATES doing.

June 24. Gaetano leaves for Los Angeles—for discussions with the Getty Conservation Institute.



Glen Peterman, Bert and Sally de Vries, Pierre Bikai, Laurie, Jonathan, Patricia Bikai and Dr. and Mrs. Safwan Tell at Umm Qeis.

June 24. USIA Fellow "Lady Laurie" Brand and "Gentleman Jonathan" Rice are married in a ceremony held at Umm Qeis. Reception, dinner and dancing follow at the Umm Qeis resthouse.

June 25. Shishir appears with copies of the Arabic language publication of St. George's Church—just in time for the evening's festivities.

June 25. A dinner in honor of Pierre is held in the St. George's Church, the garden of the Shoman Foundations's Darat al-Funun art center.

June 26. It's a three-birthday day, complete with four cakes at lunch!

June 28. An article appears in *Le Monde de la Bible* on the Petra Scrolls.

June 28. Prinze von Baden of Zwingenberg orders five copies of MOJ. Kathy says they have to be sent "to that place that sounds like beer!" (schloss).

June 29. Pierre teaches his morning field school, zooms off to Madaba, and then Petra.

June 30. Kathy and Marwan hastily get the accounts straightened out to close out the 1993-94 fiscal year.

June 30. Peter Warnock, camp manager for Tom Parker's Roman Aqaba Excavation calls up at 1:00 pm to say that Pierre has just left for Amman. Pierre shows up at ACOR at 3:45 pm (yes, on the same day!)

June 30. Robin dashes off to Washington for a fact finding tour at CAORC.

June 30. Pierre signs a contract with USAID to finish the Madaba Project.

July 4. An article on the St. George Church appears in the Jordan Times! The usual 4th of July celebration ensues with copious amounts of burgers, hotdogs, corn, potato salad, and soft drinks.

July 4. A proposal goes off to ICCROM for funding

mosaics conservation at the Petra Church. A prospectus goes off to Dumbarton Oaks for funding PCP Scroll conservation.

July 5. A bunch of people from the Arkansas Archaeological survey show up at ACOR.

July 5. News arrives that NEH is very excited about funding the Petra Scroll Conservation Project. Papers fly in all directions as Glen and Patricia put the finishing touches on the additional documents NEH needs in order to approve the funding.

July 6. Outgoing DCM Douglas Keene comes for an ACOR lunch, as do a whole mob of people from Tom Parker's Aqaba Project.

July 6. A FAX arrives from Claudio Fortunato asking ACOR to "execute" the final ASHA document required. Patricia has a better idea.

July 6. Pierre and Patricia decide to escape to Petra for a few days. After they leave, Kathy reveals that the whole Jawa crowd will also be going down to Petra for a two-day trip!!

July 6. The advertising for *Mosaics of Jordan* goes off to *Archaeology* and *Biblical Archaeology Review* magazines.

July 7. Pierre and Patricia give a tour of Petra to Ambassador Wesley Egan, his wife, Virginia, son Wes and daughter-in-law Kim. They visit the Petra Church and Martha Joukowsky's excavation of the South Temple where massive paving stones have just been uncovered.



Pierre leading a tour at the Treasury in Petra for the U.S. Ambassador and his family and Francesca Bennett.

July 7. USIA Fellow Robert Boling and wife Jean arrive.

July 7. In the evening Pierre makes tacos for Martha's dig crew at Petra.

July 8. Most of the Aqaba project staff head for home.

July 8. Joe Seger and Walt Rast, members of ASOR's Committee for Archaeological Policy (CAP) arrive in Jordan.

July 9. Pierre gives a tour of the Madaba project for the U.S. Ambassador.

The Newzette (circulation 80) is produced by Patricia Bikai and Glen Peterman for distribution to ACOR residents, staff families, trustees and a few other friends of ACOR.

# ACOR Newzette

Vol. 2.8 — August 1994



## Projects

Madaba, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and ACOR/USAID: Madaba Mosaics Shelters, Ammar Khammash  
Madaba and Umer-Rasas Master Plans, ACOR/USAID, Michele Piccirillo

## Fellows in Residence

Zbigniew Fiema, USIA Fellow, Petra Church: Publication Phase  
Bruce Routledge, Winnett Fellow, Moab Marginal Agriculture Project  
Laurie Brand, USIA Fellow, Arab Women and Political Liberalization, Winners or Losers?  
Robert Boling, USIA Fellow, Research in the Transition from the Late Bronze to the Iron I Periods in Jordan: The Emergence of Ancient Territorial States

## ACOR-Affiliated Field Projects

South Temple of Petra, Martha S. Joukowsky  
Via Militaris Project, David F. Graf  
Moab Marginal Agriculture Survey, Bruce Routledge  
Tor Faraj, Don Henry

## Happenings at ACOR

July 10. Tom Parker lectures on his Roman Aila/Aqaba project. It looks like he excavated half of Aila in one season.  
July 11. Patricia sends off the final version of the proposal for emergency funding for the conservation of the scrolls to of the National Endowment for the Humanities.  
July 13. ACOR receives notice that the films for Chrys's book will be ready for shipping from Bombay in about a week.  
July 13. Gaetano gets a wonderful job offer from Getty Conservation Institute in Los Angeles—proving that his time spent in Jordan implementing JADIS was worth the effort.  
July 13. Pierre dashes off to sites in northern Jordan with the U.S. Ambassador.  
July 15. Zbig dashes off to Petra with the engineer to examine the footing locations for the Petra Shelter.  
July 17. It is announced in the newspapers that the Director of Antiquities, Dr. Safwan Tell, will retire.  
July 17. Michele Daviau lectures on the Tell Jawa excavations.  
July 18. Gaetano Palumbo accepts the Getty job offer.  
July 18. Leen Fakhoury presents her final plans for the conversion of the Qatrana Fort to a tourist resthouse.  
July 18. The proposal guidelines for the Department of

Education grant arrive at ACOR. The deadline for submission is August 8. Glen PANICS!!

July 19. Patricia receives a new laser printer.  
July 20. The fax is not working properly. Kathy wonders if the asteroids smashing into Jupiter are the cause.  
July 20. Suzanne Richard and her crew arrive to begin excavations at Khirbet Iskander.  
July 21. As his last official act, Dr. Safwan Tell approves an excavation permit for Suzanne Richard.  
July 21. ACOR throws a gala party for the Jawanese, complete with Mohammed's standard party munchies.



Michele Daviau at the Jawa party.

July 23. One of the Jawans berates ACOR for not having any extra pasta for dinner, and accuses Pierre of being "cheap." Pierre is not pleased.  
July 24. ASOR's Committee on Archaeological Policy, the Khirbet Iskander and Tell Abila excavation crews are all present for lunch.  
July 24. A whole bunch of people lecture on the Madaba Plains Project. Over 100 people attend.  
July 24. Pierre appears on TV with the Minister of Water and Irrigation in a short report on water resources in Madaba.  
July 25. Pierre finds a cave with Hellenistic remains during the course of excavations at Khirbet Salameh.



Sy Gitin and Pierre on July 25.

July 25. Sy Gitin shows up just in time to sit with Pierre to watch the Washington handshake on TV.

July 25. The Bikais host a party on their terrace for Sy Gitin, Walt Rast, and Joe Seger. Pierre shows off his collection of "urban archaeology artifacts" recovered from the Madaba cistern.

July 27. Outgoing USAID Deputy Director Bastiaan Schouten comes to ACOR for a farewell luncheon.

July 28. ACOR is awarded an emergency grant of \$30,000 for the scrolls by the National Endowment for the Humanities!

July 28. The final plans for the Petra Shelter arrive from Rob Shutler.

July 28. Michele Piccirillo appears with his plans for the Madaba Park.

July 30. Patricia puts the final touches on ACOR's proposal to the U.S. Department of Education.

July 30. The films and page proofs for Chrys's book arrive from Bombay. They are gorgeous!!

July 30. The Abila team arrives after finishing their season.

July 30. Mary Scott, Fatma Marii and Mahmoud Abu Juda complete the conservation of mosaics in the Burnt Palace at Madaba—on time and under budget.

July 31. Pierre moves more mosaics to the Archaeological Park at Madaba.

August 2. Pierre finds a Hellenistic era bowl in the cave at Khirbet Salameh. Gary Rollefson and Zeidan Kefafi find a stone fertility goddess at 'Ain Ghazal.

August 3. Robin Brown mails away the Department of Education proposal to Washington, complete with six boxtops. In a month we hope to get the special plastic train set, plus \$81,000 to fund an Academic Program Director for three years.

August 4. USIA Fellow Susan Slymovics, husband Najeeb and son Sandy leave for the U.S.

August 4. Pierre and Arte pay a visit to the U.S. Ambassador.

August 4. Prince Ra'ad shows up to visit Larry Geraty (who is out at Kan Zemaan), and instead tells Glen and Zbig about his recent plane flight above Tel Aviv and

Jerusalem with His Majesty King Hussein.

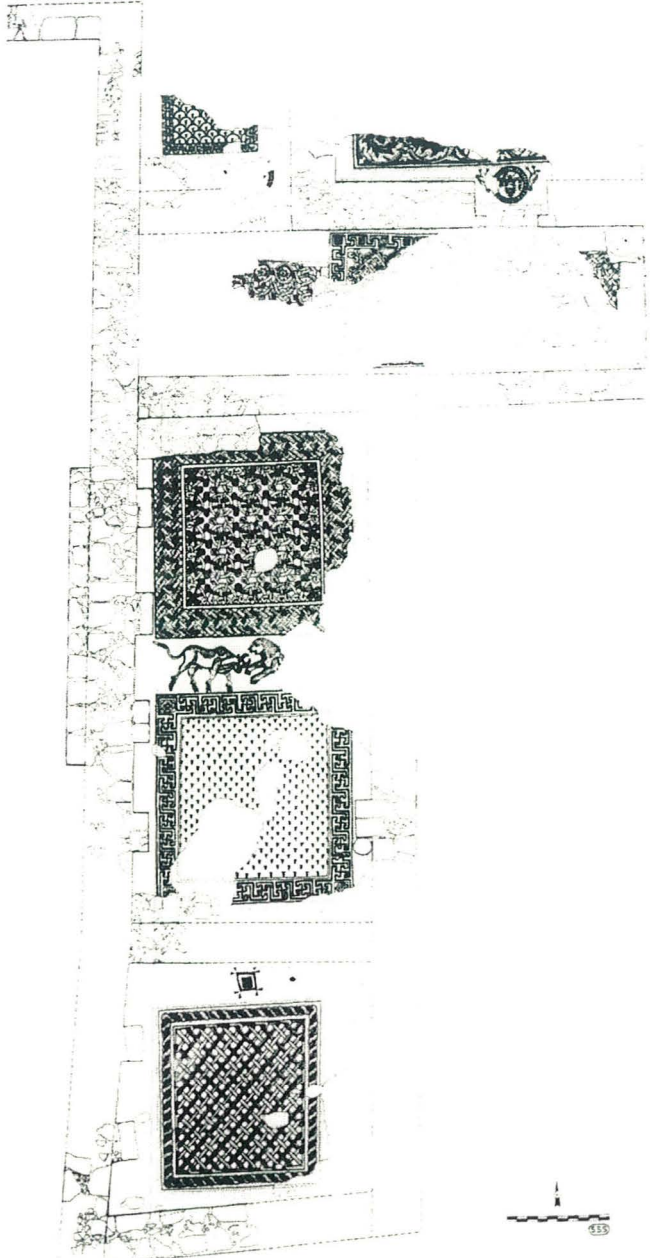
August 6. Patricia shows a large group of new U.S. Embassy personnel around ACOR and then Pierre takes them on a tour of the Citadel.

August 6. The Queen's office calls with a Royal request for Pierre to show around some VIP's at Mt. Nebo.

August 6. The Bikais receive an invitation from Deborah Kooring to her marriage to Zbig Fiema. Pierre wonders, "Does Zbig know about this?"

August 7. Bert de Vries lectures on Um el-Jimal.

August 8. ACOR receives its first direct long-distance call from Israel—from a woman who needs Kathy's help with a plane ticket!!



The west wing of the Burnt Palace at Madaba.

August 8. After the tour at Mt. Nebo, Pierre and Patricia escape to Petra for a few days.

August 10. Zbig and Fatma are interviewed for a program to be aired on the BBC World Service.

The Newzette (circulation 80) is produced by Patricia Bikai and Glen Peterman for distribution to ACOR residents, staff families, trustees and a few other friends of ACOR.

# ACOR Newzette

Vol. 2.9 — September 1994



## Projects

Madaba Archaeological Park and Mosaics Shelters, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and ACOR/USAID Petra Scrolls Conservation Project, ACOR, Academy of Finland, University of Helsinki, University of Michigan. Funded by National Endowment for the Humanities, numerous private donors, and the Ministry of Tourism.

## ACOR-Assisted Field Projects

Lehun, Denyse Homes-Fredericq

## Fellows in Residence

Robert Boling, USIA Fellow, Research in the Transition from the Late Bronze to the Iron I Periods in Jordan: The Emergence of Ancient Territorial States  
Erin Addison, Near and Middle Eastern Research and Training Program (USIA) Fellow, Women's Support Systems in a Middle Eastern Context

## Happenings at ACOR

Aug. 11. It is reported that at Martha Joukowsky's dig-house, Mrs. Peter Parr is confronted by a woman demanding to use "the loo." Mrs. Parr informs her that she's "sorry, but this is a private dig-house," and directs the visitor to the resthouse some 100 meters away. Hearing this, the woman draws herself up and declares, "But ... but my husband is a British General!!" Mrs. Parr responds dryly, "This is an American project and all that was over in 1776."

Aug. 12. A mob of Friends of Archaeology members invade and occupy Khirbet Salameh during a Treasure Hunt.

Aug. 12. Pierre and Patricia host a going-away party for



Nancy and Dan Gamber with Zbig Fiema.

Irfan and Mary Shahid. Rising to the occasion, Irfan makes a speech complete with poetry.

Aug. 14. Twenty three silk-bound copies of *The Mosaics of Jordan*—bound especially for His Majesty King Hussein arrive from the binder. Pierre sells one of them by mistake and then frantically tries to retrieve it. Stay tuned.

Aug. 14. ACOR is the site of a conference on The Conservation of Historical and Cultural Resources in Jordan, organized by Rami Daher.

Aug. 15. Martha's team descends on ACOR from Petra.

Aug. 16. Ghassan Mufleh, Michele Piccirillo, Carl Dutto, Aied Sweis, and the ACOR staff meet to discuss the final plans for Pole I at Um er-Rasas, Qatrana, Madaba and the Petra Shelter.

Aug. 17. Martha lectures on The South Temple of Petra.

Aug. 18. Gaetano, Anna, and Glen escape to Syria for the weekend.

Aug. 18. Tom Dailey appears from Egypt where he is now assigned.

Aug. 19. Sa'id Adawi gets married.



Sa'id's bride, Jalila

Aug. 20. Don Henry lectures on Tor Faraj.

Aug. 21. Daniel C. Gamber and Nancy E. Gamber adopt a Petra Scroll.

Aug. 21. Pierre and Patricia host a reception following a trustees' meeting. The guests include the U.S. Ambassador and the primary care physicians from the University of Jordan and the Jordan University of Science and Technology who are involved in a joint program with Brown University. The Gammers are also guests and are thanked for their donation to the scroll project.



Artemis Joukowski, Ambassador Wesley Egan, Virginia Egan and Karen Asfour at the reception.

Aug. 21. Gaetano, Glen and Anna return from Syria. All sorts of stuff happened in their absence.

Aug. 24. Peter Kovach comes for lunch—chicken this time.

Aug. 24. Examining the final plans of the Petra Church, Zbig makes an amazing discovery: the location of the (unexcavated) baptistry.

Aug. 24. Another meeting on the Madaba Park.

Aug. 24. Pierre, Martha and Arte go to a farewell party at FoA for the recently retired Director of Antiquities, Safwan Tell.

Aug. 25. Bruce Routledge admits to getting lost in Petra (on Umm el-Biyara), and admits that there were search parties looking for him.



A 'hands-on' trustee—while Mohammed Adawi was away preparing for Sa'id's wedding, the Chairman helped Vicki in the kitchen.

Aug. 27. A Petra Scroll is adopted in honor of Zbigniew Fiema and Deborah Kooring.

Aug. 28. Zbig escapes to Utah.

Aug. 30. The Routledges clear up a flight reservation mess created by KLM and prepare to head for home.

Aug. 31. Carl Dutto, Michele Piccirillo, Aied Sweis, Gaetano, Patricia, and Pierre gather for another meeting on the Madaba Park plans.

Aug. 31. ACOR gets the turndown on the ASHA Library Development Grant.

Sept. 2. Lloyd Cotsen of Neutrogena Corporation adopts a scroll. It will be named *Papyrus Petra Joanne Cotsen*.

Sept. 3. ACOR's first NMERTA Post-doc Fellow, Erin

THE PETRA SCROLL CONSERVATION PROJECT IS SPONSORED BY  
**The American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR)**  
**The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities of Jordan**  
**The University of Helsinki and the Academy of Finland**  
**The University of Michigan**

THE PROJECT IS SUPPORTED BY  
**The National Endowment for the Humanities**

AND BY  
 SCROLLS WHICH WERE ADOPTED AND NAMED BY THE DONORS  
*Papyrus Petra Kenneth W. Russell and Wendy Steward*  
*Papyrus Petra P. E. MacAllister*  
*Papyrus Petra V. Rebecca MacAllister*  
*Papyrus Petra Daniel C. and Nancy E. Gamber*  
*Papyrus Petra Patricia M. Bikai*  
*Papyrus Petra Pierre M. Bikai*  
*Papyrus Petra Zbigniew T. Fiema and Deborah Kooring*  
*Papyrus Petra Joanne Cotsen*  
*Papyrus Petra Selz Foundation I*  
*Papyrus Petra Selz Foundation II*

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PROJECT WERE MADE BY  
**The United States Information Agency (USIA)**  
**Robert Johnston**  
**The Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA)**

THE EXCAVATION OF THE PETRA CHURCH DURING WHICH  
 THE SCROLLS WERE FOUND WAS FUNDED BY  
**The United States Agency for International Development  
 (USAID)**

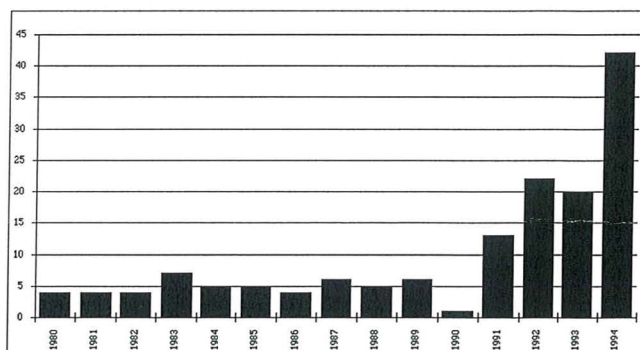
A sign similar to the above is in the Conservation Lab

Addison of Hollins College, arrives.

Sept. 3. Ham and special cakes for lunch!!

Sept. 3. Arte leaves for the U.S, Martha leaves for Istanbul.

Sept. 6. Jaakko Frösén and the scroll conservation team arrive from Finland.



The 1994-95 academic year will host the largest number of resident fellows in ACOR history.

Sept. 7. ACOR is forwarded a letter from a person requesting a confidential evaluation of some antiquities he has. ACOR forwards the letter to the Department of Antiquities.

Sept. 10. There is yet another meeting on the Madaba Park.

Sept. 10. Bernard Selz adopts two scrolls!

Sept. 10. Wedding day for Deborah and Zbig.

The Newzette (circulation 80) is produced by Patricia Bikai and Glen Peterman for distribution to ACOR residents, staff families, trustees and a few other friends of ACOR.

# ACOR Newzette

Vol. 2.10 — October 1994



## Projects

Madaba Archaeological Park and Mosaics Shelters, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and ACOR/USAID Petra Scrolls Conservation Project, ACOR, Academy of Finland, University of Helsinki, University of Michigan. Funded by National Endowment for the Humanities, numerous private donors, and the Ministry of Tourism.

## Fellows in Residence

Robert Boling, USIA Fellow, "Research in the Transition from the Late Bronze to the Iron I Periods in Jordan: The Emergence of Ancient Territorial States"

Erin Addison, Near and Middle Eastern Research and Training Program (NMERTA) Fellow, "Women's Support Systems in a Middle Eastern Context"

Sharon Araji, NMERTA Post-Doctoral Fellow, "Women, Education and Development in Jordan: A Comparative Study"

Yorke Rowan, USIA Fellow, "Craft Specialization in the Southern Levant"

Stefania Dodoni (Arabic Studies; unaffiliated)

Maria Chiara Malatesta (Arabic Studies; unaffiliated)

**Scroll Project Staff** in residence: Jaakko Frösén, Academy of Finland; Marjo Lehtinen, U. of Helsinki; Erja Salmenkivi, U. of Helsinki; Mari Mustonen, U. of Helsinki; Matti Mustonen, U. of Helsinki; Fatma Marii, Yarmouk U.; Zbigniew Fiema; and Henry Cowherd

## Happenings at ACOR

Sept. 11. Pierre drops off 10 copies of *The Mosaics of Jordan* at the Marriott gift shop.

Sept. 12. The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities donates four tickets on Royal Jordanian to the Petra Project.

Sept. 13. Yorke Rowan arrives to take up residence as USIA Fellow.

Sept. 14. Michele Piccirillo and Patricia meet again to discuss the plans for the Madaba Park.

Sept. 14. Jaakko and the "Finnish Gang," working in hushed reverence, peel away HUGE fragments of inscribed papyrus.

Sept. 14. Kathy pushes for a computerized inventory/invoicing system for book sales, that way it "will eliminate us from having to think!"

Sept. 14. Henry Cowherd's free ticket appears in an obscure office of Royal Jordanian in New York. In his honor, his friends at the Bengal Kentucky Catfish and Corn Likker Research Council have a "goin' away party, an all-day peach wine tastin' and snappin' turtle fry."

Sept. 15. *Biblical Archaeology Review* arrives with the ad for *The Mosaics of Jordan*.

Sept. 15. Gerry Vincent of CAORC pays ACOR a visit. He provides information which leads to the inescapable

conclusion that ACOR did not get the Department of Education grant.

Sept. 15. ACOR receives word that the two new NMERTA fellowship programs have been funded!! Perhaps as many as 10 pre-doc and post-doc fellowships over the next 2 years!!

Sept. 16. 5:20 AM: Earthquaaaaaake!!!! Fortunately there's no damage, but Marjo wonders if maybe the vibrations helped to separate some of the more impossibly-stuck-together fragments of papyrus.

Sept. 16. Pierre takes Erin, Yorke, the Bolings and the Finns to Jerash.

Sept. 17. A group from the U.S. Embassy tours ACOR and views the scrolls.



P E T R A

The word Petra in one of the scrolls. Photo by Henry Cowherd using the Hasselblad camera donated to the project by Robert Johnston.

Sept. 18. When seeing the scrolls, a visitor remarks, "So they are actually burning??!!" Five minutes later Kathy remarks, "Do they actually say something??"—Jaakko and Matti report that one scroll seems to be a will.

Sept. 19. Matti reports that one scroll has the name of a woman who may be a slave.

Sept. 20. Patricia produces a whole bunch of press releases with the latest on the Petra Scrolls.

Sept. 20. Glen and Dr. Khairiyeh 'Amr discuss revised Department of Antiquities excavation rules. Glen suggests that maybe every project should be required to have a conservation budget and an on-site conservator. Dr. 'Amr counters that maybe every project ought to have an on-site psychiatrist!

Sept. 20. Ghazi Bisheh conducts an archaeology class at ACOR.

Sept. 20. Robin returns from a much deserved vacation. Kathy and Glen breathe a sigh of relief.

Sept. 21. An article on the Petra Scrolls appears in the Jordan Times written by "A Jordan Times Staff Reporter." Patricia now has another job to add to her curriculum vitae.

Sept. 21. A Jordan Television crew shows up to video the scrolls (again) and interviews Jaakko and Fatma (who continues to HATE being interviewed).

Sept. 22. Tom and Tina Oliver from USAID and a contingent from the French archaeological institute pay a visit to see the scrolls.

Sept. 22. ACOR receives another donated car—Tom Dailey's Talbot (Plymouth) Horizon.

Sept. 23. It rains at ACOR, signalling the harvest of the olives from the trees in the garden. Pierre notes that (according to Lebanese folklore) rainfall on the 24th will determine if it will rain in November or December.

Sept. 24. USAID Deputy Director Diane Swain, the Consul of Iceland Stefania Khalifeh, and the Vice Consul of Finland Tette Wegelius, pay a visit to see the scrolls and have lunch.



Erja Salmenkivi works on a scroll fragment. Kathy watches carefully as she has somehow persuaded herself that one of the wills leaves her a million dollars in gold!

Sept. 24. Jordan TV airs their piece on the Petra Scrolls. Everybody's famous!!

Sept. 25. Prince Ra'ad pays a visit to see the scrolls.

Sept. 25. Na'if Zaban brings a gift to ACOR—a sheep. Patricia says she doesn't want to see it or even know where it is—it somehow disappears.

Sept. 26. Steve Talley of FilmRoos Productions spends the morning filming ACOR and the Petra Scrolls. Fatma has to act AGAIN!

Sept. 26. It is revealed that one of the scrolls seems to show that the Petra Church may be named for St. Peter (St. Pierre). Pierre sings Greek hymns.

Sept. 27. It is revealed that the Petra Church may NOT be named for St. Peter after all. Pierre stops singing.

Sept. 27. Steve Talley of FilmRoos Productions spends an additional morning filming ACOR and the Petra Scrolls.

Sept. 27. Pierre goes zooming off with CNN in a Jordanian Air Force helicopter to places unknown.

Sept. 27. A firm date is read in one of the scrolls: A.D. 538.

Sept. 27. Ghazi Bisheh conducts an archaeology class at ACOR.

Sept. 27. After a week of frantic chasing about with last-minute arrangements, Robin heads off to JFK to drop off Henry Cowherd and all his photo equipment.

Sept. 28. 40 patrons of the Santa Barbara Art Museum take lunch at ACOR. Pierre later accompanies them to Darat al-Funun.

Sept. 28. Sa'id and Glen retrieve scroll photographer Henry Cowherd (plus 1250 lbs of stuff) from the airport.

Sept. 28. While unpacking, Henry inquires if there is still a pig farm in Madaba. Upon hearing that there may be, he notes, "Good! If we hillbillies don't get pork, we die!!"

Sept. 29. Robin reports that the world largest cockroach (WLC) has taken up residence in the ASOR office. Unable to suck it up with a vacuum cleaner, Pam Turner attempts to bludgeon it to death with a yardstick.

Sept. 29. Pierre and the Finns head off to Petra and Aqaba. At Aqaba, Pierre gives a tour for the Friends of Archaeology.

Sept. 30. NMERTA Fellow Sharon Araji and her husband Ahmed Araji arrive.

Oct. 2. Pierre and Patricia throw a going away party for Gaetano and Anna. Pierre makes a fullsome speech. Gaetano makes a counter-speech followed by a tribute to Jordan.

Oct. 3. Pierre heads off to Petra for a tour and to collect more marble fragments for Na'if.

Oct. 4. Discussing an important issue with Patricia, Kathy remarks "You don't have to be THAT honest!!"

Oct. 6. Sonja al-Adwan (wife of the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities) comes to visit the scrolls.

Oct. 6. Peter Kovach comes for lunch.

Oct. 6. USIA Fellow Beatrice St. Laurent arrives to begin her fellowship.

Oct. 6. An article appears in The Star on the Petra Scroll Conservation Project.

Oct. 8. Sonja al-Adwan visits the scrolls—again. We think she likes them.

Oct. 9. Pierre conducts a tour of Madaba for the Goois Museum tour group. Later in the day Patricia conducts a tour of ACOR and the scrolls for the Long Island chapter of the Archaeological Institute of American tour group.

Oct. 9 Zbig and Deborah return to ACOR.



The Newzette (circulation 80) is produced by Patricia Bikai and Glen Peterman for distribution to ACOR residents, staff families, trustees and a few other friends of ACOR.



# ACOR Newzette

Vol. 2.11 — November 1994



## Projects

Madaba Archaeological Park and Mosaics Shelters, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and ACOR/USAID Petra Scrolls Conservation Project, ACOR, Academy of Finland, University of Helsinki, University of Michigan. Funded by National Endowment for the Humanities, numerous private donors, and the Ministry of Tourism.

## Fellows in Residence

Robert Boling, USIA Fellow, "Research in the Transition from the Late Bronze to the Iron I Periods in Jordan: The Emergence of Ancient Territorial States"

Erin Addison, Near and Middle Eastern Research and Training Program (NMERTA) Fellow, "Women's Support Systems in a Middle Eastern Context"

Sharon Araji, NMERTA Post-Doctoral Fellow, "Women, Education and Development in Jordan: A Comparative Study"

Yorke Rowan, USIA Fellow, "Craft Specialization in the Southern Levant"

Beatrice St. Laurent, USIA Fellow, "A Survey and Analysis of Late Ottoman Pasha Residences and Farmsteads in Jordan"

Steve Simms, USIA Fellow, "Petra Ethnoarchaeological Project (PEP)"

James Gillespie, NMERTA Post-Doctoral Fellow, "The Hashemites: A Study in Dynastic Politics and Modernization"

Andrew Parasiliti, NMERTA Pre-Doctoral Fellow, "Tightrope: Jordan, Iraq and the Gulf War"

Stefania Dodoni (Arabic Studies; unaffiliated)

Maria Chiara Malatesta (Arabic Studies; unaffiliated)

**Scroll Project Staff** in residence: Jaakko Frösén, Academy of Finland; Marjo Lehtinen, U. of Helsinki; Mari Mustonen, U. of Helsinki; Matti Mustonen, U. of Helsinki; Fatma Marii, Yarmouk U.; Zbigniew Fiema; and Henry Cowherd

## Happenings at ACOR

Oct. 10 The Goois Museum tour comes to ACOR to see the scrolls. Pierre dashes off to Jerash with the AIA tour. Jack Josephson, Chairman of the U.S. Cultural Advisory Committee comes to lunch with Jonathan Rice and Ghazi Bisheh. Later in the evening Pierre dashes off to a dinner under the patronage of H.R.H. Princess Wijdan.

Oct. 10. After a week and a half of sprinkles and heat lightning, ACOR receives its first good thunderstorm of the season.

Oct. 11. Pierre goes to Madaba on the way to a two day tour of Petra with the AIA tour group.

Oct. 11. Humi begs Glen not to put her into the *Newzette*, and extracts a promise from him only to "put in the good

things." (Glen had his fingers crossed!!!!!! HAH-HAH!!!!)

Oct. 11. Randy Old shows up at ACOR with 16 large manila envelopes from Robin.

Oct. 12. Pierre returns from Petra.

Oct. 12. Zbig comes into the office wearing the expensive cologne "ARAMIS." Glen insists it smells like ant poison.

Oct. 12. Henry surprises Vicky while she cleans his sub-basement room. Her shriek is heard all the way on the top floor.

Oct. 12. After a terrific early morning thunderstorm, word reaches ACOR that there were flash floods in Wadi Musa that stranded 600 tourists in Petra - where is Pierre?

Oct. 13. Pierre returns from Petra from the AIA tour with a substantial donation to ACOR (he did not have to swim back to ACOR from the Araba).

Oct. 15. Steve Simms arrives to begin his USIA Fellowship.

Oct. 16. Pierre and Patricia conduct three tours of ACOR and the scrolls; one for friends of the Queen; one for Prince Ra'ad; and one for a group of photographers sent by the Ministry of Tourism.

Oct. 17. Bob and Jean Boling pay a visit to Azraq and the Shaumari Game Preserve to see the migrating birds. Jean announces that all she saw were "two sick oryxes and a sparrow".

Oct. 18. The PCP section drawings appear just as mysteriously as they disappeared. Zbig is relieved.



The shwerma party

Oct. 19. H.R.H. Princess Majda and the Scandinavian Ladies Association come to see the scrolls.

Oct. 18. Pierre takes most of the residents to the second circle to eat shwerma.

Oct. 19. Pierre recruits an army of ACOR residents to pick olives in the garden.

Oct. 19. H.R.H. Prince Ra'ad visits ACOR and the scrolls with the Master of Christ's College, Cambridge.

Oct. 20. Pierre and Patricia deliver 20 silk-bound presen-



The olive-pickers

tation copies of *The Mosaics of Jordan* to the Royal Palace.

Oct. 20. James Gillespie arrives to begin his NMERTA fellowship.

Oct. 21. Pierre and Jaakko are busy digging in the cave across the street.

Oct. 21. U.S. Ambassador and Mrs. Wesley Egan pay ACOR a visit.

Oct. 22. Pierre reveals that "President Clinton needs him" (to give a tour of the Citadel—later cancelled).

Oct. 23. Pierre and Patricia, Zbig and Deb, and Gaetano and Anna head off to a UNESCO conclave on Petra.

Oct. 23. Rudy Dornemann shows up with a tour group.



Virginia Egan assisting Pierre with the surveying at the Byzantine church in Petra

Oct. 23. In preparation for the upcoming visit of dignitaries (including Bill and Hillary) for the signing of the Jordan-Israel peace treaty the police begin to tighten security. As part of the process, a policeman telephones ACOR to ask what ACOR's telephone number is.

Oct. 24. The Baltimore Office gets a flashy new warp-speed computer. Robin cautions Glen not to tell Randy, because it is probably bigger, faster and better than his.

Oct. 25. More meetings on the Petra Master Plan for Petra.

Oct. 25. Kathy demands that Glen make a decision on whether to take the next day off according to the national "Peace Holiday," just declared by H.M. the King. Glen declines saying, "Hey that's not my job, I'm just a soldier here."

Oct. 26. At 3:30 AM Pierre and Glen take an ailing Belgian to the hospital.

Oct. 26. Immediately after the signing of the peace treaty between Jordan and Israel—an event viewed by a worldwide television audience—the Jordanians give gifts to the assembled dignitaries. To the highest ranking guests go special silk-bound copies of ACOR's first publication, *The Mosaics of Jordan* by Michele Piccirillo.

Oct. 26. Suha Shoman comes to visit the scrolls.

Oct. 27. Patricia, nearly in a state of panic, reveals that she hasn't packed for the week-long expedition to Petra.



Mrs. Maria Pedotti, H.E. the Ambassador of the United States Wesley Egan, Pierre, Mrs. Karen Asfour, Mrs. Marousia Zimmerman, Patricia, Mrs. Virginia Egan, H.E. the Ambassador of Switzerland Gian Fredrico Pedotti, and Nasri Atalla

Oct. 28. Pierre and Patricia leave for a week-long series of archaeological test excavations to determine the extent of the ruins near the Petra Church. Excavations are to be directed by the Drs. Bikai with a crew of volunteers (above).

Oct. 28. Marjo and Erin retrieve the ailing Belgian (Gianni Eggermont of Lehun) from the hospital. He is fine.

Oct. 28. Everybody gears up for the first "The Cats are Away, the Mice will Play" party of the season. After an evening of wild behavior, the Bikais' apartment is thoroughly trashed.

Oct. 31. Horrors of horrors, the Hasselblad camera for the scroll project goes belly-up. Eathel Mendenhall agrees to take it back to the U.S. with her.

Nov. 1. NMERTA Pre-Doc Fellow Andrew Parasiliti arrives at 2:30 AM; Erja Salmenkivi scroll conservator leaves for Germany at 3:00 AM; Eathel Mendenhall leaves at 5:30 AM; Glen gets to sleep at 8:00 AM.

Nov. 4. Pierre and Patricia return from Petra where they've uncovered a large Nabataean/Roman era public structure and a Byzantine church, the second one found at Petra.

The Newzette (circulation 80) is produced by Patricia Bikai and Glen Peterman for distribution to ACOR residents, staff families, trustees and a few other friends of ACOR.

# ACOR Newzette

Vol. 2.12 — December 1994



## Projects

Madaba Archaeological Park and Mosaics Shelters, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and ACOR/USAID

Petra Scrolls Conservation Project, ACOR, Academy of Finland, University of Helsinki, University of Michigan. Funded by National Endowment for the Humanities, Samuel Kress Foundation, numerous private donors, and the Ministry of Tourism.

Petra Church Documentation Project, ACOR, World Monuments Fund.

## Fellows in Residence

Erin Addison, Near and Middle Eastern Research and Training Program (NMERTA) Fellow, "Women's Support Systems in a Middle Eastern Context"

Sharon Araji, NMERTA Post-Doctoral Fellow, "Women, Education and Development in Jordan: A Comparative Study"

Beatrice St. Laurent, USIA Fellow, "A Survey and Analysis of Late Ottoman Pasha Residences and Farmsteads in Jordan"

James Gillespie, NMERTA Post-Doctoral Fellow, "The Hashemites: A Study in Dynastic Politics and Modernization"

Andrew Parasiliti, NMERTA Pre-Doctoral Fellow, "Tightrope: Jordan, Iraq and the Gulf War"

Ellen Lust-Okar, CAORC-ACOR Affiliated Fellow, "Managing Crises: Political and Economic Liberalization in the Middle East"

Albert Randall, NMERTA Post-Doctoral Fellow, "Spiritual-Religious Dimensions of Peace in the Middle East"

Betty Anderson, USIA Fellow, "The Evolution of Jordan's National Identity: The Role of the National Socialist, Ba'ath and Communist Parties 1948 to 1957"

Stefania Dodoni (Arabic Studies; unaffiliated)

Maria Chiara Malatesta (Arabic Studies; unaffiliated)

**Scroll Project Staff** in residence: Jaakko Frösén, Academy of Finland; Marjo Lehtinen, U. of Helsinki; Sampo Vesterinen, U. of Helsinki;

Marjanna Vesterinen, U. of Helsinki; Fatma Marii, Yarmouk U.; Zbigniew Fiema; and Henry Cowherd

**Petra Church Documentation Project Staff** in residence

Chrysanthos Kanellopoulos and Anthi Koutsoukou

## Happenings at ACOR

Nov. 7. Two Scroll Tours: one for Widad Kawar and Friends, one for the Friends of Archaeology.

Nov. 7. Pierre goes into PANIC MODE after realizing he leaves for the U.S. in two days.

Nov. 8. Henry Cowherd makes some of his special lentil soup for lunch.

Nov. 9. Pierre and Patricia escape to the U.S.

Nov. 9. A German T.V. crew shows up to video the scrolls and the conservation process. Zbig takes charge. Fatma, having learned from her previous experiences with film crews, says that "with all that equipment it looks they're gonna stay three hours!"

Nov. 10. Ellen Lust-Okar, ACOR's first CAORC Affiliated fellow arrives a month early. Kathy panics but still can't find housing for her.

Nov. 12. Its Henry's "Sink-Day"!!! (A new sink for the photolab.)

Nov. 12. Yorke returns from the Dead Sea after having rolled the white Hilux. Thanks to a dinky little rollbar and a lot of luck, he is unhurt.

Nov. 13. The photolab sink is finished. Henry is pleased.

Nov. 14. Newsletter films go off to the printers.

Nov. 17. Gaetano and Anna appear in the society page of the Jordan Times. Later, Gaetano lectures on the Reheil Survey.

Nov. 17. While working with the Scroll Conservation Team, Zbig makes another amazing discovery: some of the charred wood fragments are inscribed with Greek script!!!

Nov. 18. Jaakko learns that he has been granted another three years of funding from the Academy of Finland.

Nov. 19. The Bikais attend the Trustee Meeting in Chicago; Robin is at the MESA meeting in Phoenix.

- Nov. 19. Glen gets on the phone and calls all over the globe to find film for Henry. It is found in Washington D.C.
- Nov. 20. Two purpose-built special lamp bases arrive for the conservation lab. The Team is pleased.
- Nov. 20. Fawwaz Khraysheh, former USIA fellow and professor of epigraphy at Yarmouk University lectures at ACOR on the Bayir Epigraphic Survey.
- Nov. 20. Chrys and Anthi arrive to begin work on the Petra Church documentation project which is funded by the World Monuments Fund.
- Nov. 22. Abed takes an unscheduled free fall in the elevator car from the basement to sub-basement. Fortunately he is not hurt.
- Nov. 22. Gaetano is interviewed by Jordan Radio.
- Nov. 22. Henry gets new print trays for the darkroom. Once again he is a happy boy.
- Nov. 23. Gaetano leaves Jordan for his new job at Getty.
- Nov. 23. Kathy remarks that she thought her biggest problem for the day would be locating some canned cranberry sauce for the Thanksgiving meal, but "it just isn't working out that way!!"
- Nov. 23. Robin receives a check for \$25,000 for the Petra Scroll Project from the Samuel Kress Foundation. What a wonderful surprise!!
- Nov. 23. The USIA fellows go to the Embassy for a Thanksgiving reception.
- Nov. 24. Mohammed cooks up his standard Thanksgiving lunch - simply amazing!!
- Nov. 25. An article on CRM and Gaetano's work in Jordan and an article on the Great Temple of Amman appear in *The Star*.
- Nov. 27. NMERTA Post-Doctoral Fellow Bert Randall arrives from the U.S. with the repaired Scroll Project Hasselblad camera. All the rest of his luggage is lost in transit somewhere between Clarksville, Tennessee, and Amman.
- Nov. 29. Gaetano's interview is aired on Radio Jordan.
- Dec. 1. Bert Randall's luggage arrives, having taken a separate vacation of its own in Paris.
- Dec. 2. Bert and Sally de Vries arrive—bringing along the library security system. Unfortunately it gets stuck at the airport, and the power supply he is able to get through is the wrong voltage.
- Dec. 2. Jaakko comments: "Well if you can't read it, just turn it upside down!"
- Dec. 2. Anja and Jaakko have a going away party for Mari and Matti. Jaakko sings and everybody has a good time.
- Dec. 3. At midnight, in the middle of a foggy snowstorm, Henry flies his special kite: it looks like a 3 foot wide black bat is hovering over the building.
- Dec. 4. Sa'id and Abed begin renovation works near the library door so the security system can be installed.
- Dec. 7. Water is all over the place - no heat; no hot water. Jaakko remembers the lakes of Finland while washing his hair.
- Dec. 7. Glen goes to the doctor (third time in a week) for more "pain therapy."
- Dec. 7. The last silk-bound copy of *The Mosaics of Jordan* goes off to the Minister of Tourism. We suspect it will be given to visiting Queen Beatrix of The Netherlands.
- Dec 7. The Vesterinens arrive to begin their work on the scrolls. Their first job will be to work on the "Christmas Box" of scrolls. This is the largest batch of scrolls.
- Dec. 8. Peter Kovach, Jack Loyello and Tom Johnston of USIA-Washington visit ACOR and meet all the USIA and NMERTA Fellows.
- Dec. 8. The plumbers fix the pipes in the periodicals room. What a mess!! - but hot water is restored later in the day.
- Dec. 8. Steve Simms lectures on the Petra Ethnoarchaeological Project.
- Dec. 8. Chrys and Anthi leave for Petra to begin their work.
- Dec. 9. Steve Simms leaves for the U.S.
- Dec. 10. An article on the Petra Scrolls appears in *Discover* magazine. The scrolls are listed as one of the 75 top science stories of 1994—along with the Shoemaker-Levy comet smashing into Jupiter; the discovery of the Top quark by Fermilab; and the record 10.7 million watts generated by Princeton's TOKAMAK fusion reactor. We are pleased.
- Dec. 11. More rusted pipes needing replacement are found in the furnace room—this time the pipes carrying diesel fuel from the tanks to the boilers.
- Dec. 12. The Director of the Ecole Biblique and editor of *Review Biblique* in Jerusalem pay a short visit to ACOR.
- Dec. 12. H.E. Artu Kurittu the Ambassador of Finland, and Mrs. Kurittu take lunch at ACOR, and visit the scrolls.
- Dec. 13 The Bikais return from their "vacation" in the U.S.

The Newzette (circulation 80) is produced by Patricia Bikai and Glen Peterman for distribution to ACOR residents, staff families, trustees and a few other friends of ACOR.