

ACOR Newzette

Vol. 3.1 — January 1995



From the Director

Soon after the Petra Papyri were found ACOR received a number of offers from institutions in the U.S. and Europe to undertake the conservation and publication work—but the scrolls would have to be moved to those institutions. The conservators who examined them said that they could not travel because of their fragility. Thus a project had to be created here for the conservation and publication work.

One year and one month after the scrolls were found, the conservation work by the group from Finland is in the home stretch, the photographs are coming along, and the work on interpretation has begun. On the morning of Jan. 7, 10 members of the scroll team had a conference over coffee in the living room. We are all very proud that we have been able to gather that group here at ACOR to work on the scrolls and thank all those who made it possible.

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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, the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and numerous other donors

Petra Church Documentation Project, ACOR, World Monuments Fund

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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”

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”

Marc Lynch, USIA Fellow, “Sovereignty and the Contestation of National Identity in the Public Sphere”

Petra 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; Jan. Vihonen, U. of Helsinki; Fatma Marii, Yarmouk U.; Zbigniew Fiema; Henry Cowherd; Ludwig Koenen, U. of Michigan; and Clement A. Kuehn, Loyola U., Chicago.

Petra Church Documentation Project Staff in residence

Chrysanthos Kanellopoulos, Anthi Koutsoukou and Catherine Alexander

Happenings at ACOR

Dec. 14. Everybody gets involved in a Fellowship Flyer “Fold and Stuff” party. Sally de Vries agrees to take 2400 of them with her to the U.S. in her luggage the following morning.

Dec. 14. Robin calls with the news that another “Adopt-a-Scroll” donation is made—this time by Thomas and Francesca Bennett.

Dec. 15 Glen and Zbig escape to Petra.

Dec. 19. At 5:45 a huge BLACK BAT is again seen hovering over a snow-covered ACOR. It soon disappears because of “turbulence.”

Dec. 20. The Checkpoint Security System for the library finally arrives from the airport.



Dr. Ghazi Bisheh, Patricia and Pierre Bikai

Dec. 21. Ghazi Bisheh is appointed as the Director-General of the Department of Antiquities.

Dec. 21. Peter Kovach comes for another ACOR lunch—chicken this time.

Dec. 22. The power is off most of the day and Patricia organizes an *ACOR Newsletter* envelope stuffing party so nobody gets bored. By the end of the afternoon nearly all of the U.S. addressed envelopes have been stuffed. Thank you to the ‘volunteered.’

Dec. 24. An article on the Petra Scrolls appears in



Anja and Jaakko Frösén and Pierre serenade the Christmas dinner crowd

the University of Helsinki magazine.

Dec. 25. Mohammed prepares the usual fantastic Christmas brunch and Christmas dinner.

Dec. 26. A snafu develops with the postal requirements for the *ACOR Newsletter*. Pierre solves it with a personal visit to the Director-General of the Jordan Postal Service.

Dec. 27. Pierre purchases two gigantic truckloads of rocks—for purposes unknown. Kathy suggests that “maybe ACOR just didn’t have enough.”

Dec. 29. The signs for the Aqaba park finally arrive.

Dec. 31. A VERY quiet New Year’s Eve at ACOR—everyone leaves.

Jan. 2. The last of the latest edition of the *Newsletter* finally gets into the mail.

Jan. 3. Bert Randall presents ACOR with flower arrangements. We think he likes the place.

Jan. 3. Early in the morning, Glen departs for the U.S.

Jan. 3. The telephones, which haven’t been working for about four days, finally start to function again. Happily, everyone who has been trying to call ACOR has long since given up!

Jan. 4. Pierre describes a monument at Jerash as ‘drastic.’ [Did he mean dramatic?]

Jan. 6. Chrys Kanellopoulos describes an stone-aging technique that uses ‘ferocious oxide.’ [Did he mean ferrous oxide?]

Jan. 6. Scroll team members Ludwig Koenen and Clem Kuehn arrive from the U.S. and Jan. Vihonen from Finland.

Jan. 7. Ammar Khammash comes by to discuss the final touches for the shelters at the Virgin Church and the Church of the Apostles at Madaba.

Jan. 8. Anthi Koutsoukou says that she is smiling because she’s happy.

Jan. 8. In order to deal with the coming housing crunch, Pierre rents another apartment in the neighborhood.

Jan. 8. Chrys approves the final [FINAL FINAL FINAL] corrections of the films for *The Great Temple of Amman: The Architecture*. It is ready to print.

Jan. 9. Abdul Illah Khatib is named as the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities in the new cabinet headed by Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker.

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ACOR Newzette

Vol. 3.2 — February 1995



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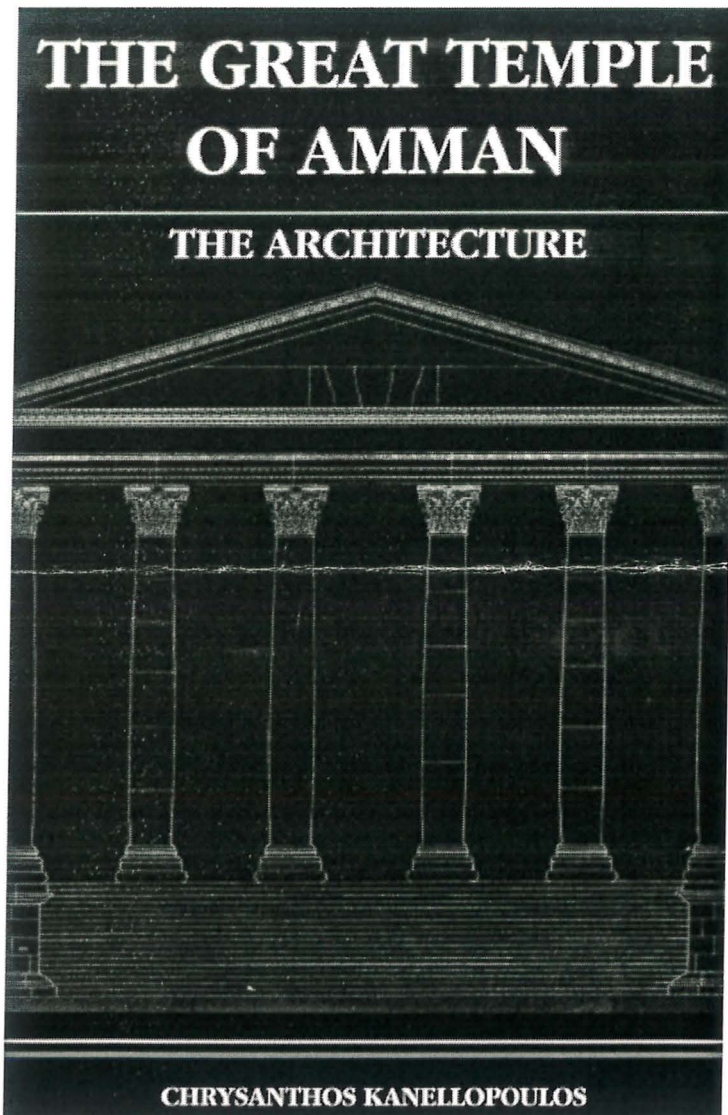
Owen Dickens, NMERTA Post-Doctoral Fellow, "Religious Diversity in the Modern Middle East: Christianity as a Minority Culture"

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Part of the dust jacket of ACOR publication number 2

Petra Church Documentation Project Staff in residence: Chrysanthos Kanellopoulos, Anthi Koutsoukou, and Catherine Alexander

Happenings at ACOR

- Jan. 14. Fellow Alan Stein arrives from the U.S.
Jan. 15. The contractor fixing the pavement in the patio asks Pierre to buy more dirt. Kathy: "With all the dirt ACOR people dig up, do we have to BUY dirt?"
Jan. 17. Pierre leaves for Aqaba to install the new signs at Don Whitcomb's excavation.
Jan. 17. NMERTA Fellow Owen Dickens finds his way to ACOR.
Jan. 17. The editors of the *American Journal of Archaeology* congratulate Patricia and Deborah on the quality of the "Archaeology of Jordan" submission.
Jan. 18. While unwrapping a scroll, Fatma Marii finds the carbonized remains of a Byzantine BUG!
Jan. 18. Fellow Bert Randall departs for the states.
Jan. 18. Fellow Joe Purello and his wife Sheila arrive.
Jan. 19. An in-house party is hosted by the Bikais for all the old and new fellows. Pierre sings in Finnish—with some help from the Fröséns.
Jan. 20. There are a rash of last minute applicants for ACOR fellowships—the deadline is Feb. 1!
Jan. 23. Zbig invites Kathy to attend his lecture on Petra. Kathy: What are you going to talk about? Old rocks? Old dirt? Old burned paper?"
Jan. 23. Zbig suffers a bout of "exploding cheerfulness."
Jan. 24. Beatrice St. Laurent returns to continue her fellowship.
Jan. 24. The lecture on Petra by Zbig is a resounding success, causing another round of "exploding cheerfulness."
Jan. 25. ASAIIP fellows, Nancy Coffin and Fida Adley arrive.
Jan. 26. Pierre, Patricia, the whole scroll team, and a number of the resident fellows depart for Petra. The day includes a tour of the Petra Church.
Jan. 26. Glen returns from the U.S.
Jan. 27. Zbig gives the Petra group a tour of sites around Petra—the types of locations mentioned in the scrolls. During the course of the tour an archaeologist points out an abandoned village. A non-archaeologist asks, "Why was it abandoned?"—expecting, no doubt, earthquake, fire, famine, war or plague as an answer. Archaeologist: "I don't know—maybe they just didn't like it anymore."
Jan. 28. Tiina Purola of the scroll team returns to Helsinki.
Jan. 29. USIA fellow Elise Young arrives to take up



The convoy of cars on the Petra trip

her fellowship.

Jan. 30. Everybody wants everything and they want it now—Kathy is frazzled by the end of the day.

Jan. 31. Pierre, Patricia and Glen visit National Press where Shishir Dutta is supervising the print-



Shishir (center) at National Press

ing of *The Great Temple of Amman: The Architecture*. Today they are doing the dust jacket and it is beautiful.

Jan. 31. Peter Kovach comes by for lunch.

Feb. 1. Shishir reports that late last night after he had left National Press, the printing crew became confused by the Roman numerals used on some pages of *The Great Temple*. Creatively, one of them locates a watch with Roman numerals on it and they solve the puzzle of how the pages go together.
Feb. 3. The quality of life at ACOR has been substantially improved: Pizza Hut now delivers to our door!

Feb. 7. Glen is toiling away on his thesis. Patricia has taken off for parts unknown. Pierre reports to Robin that the peace and quiet in the office is very nice.

Feb. 8. Snow! Finally!

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ACOR Newzette

Vol. 3.3 — March 1995



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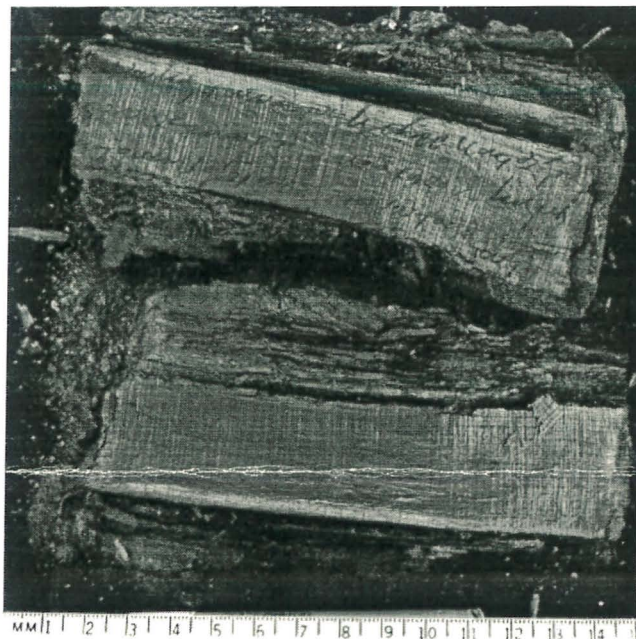
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Petra Church Documentation Project Staff in residence: Chrysanthos Kanellopoulos, Anthi Koutsoukou, and Catherine Alexander

Happenings at ACOR

Feb. 12. It is reported that Chrys Kanellopoulos has said that the Petra Church has a low cholesterol (did he mean clerestory?)



The last of the large scrolls to be opened.

Feb. 12. The scrolls publication and access agreement is finally, finally finalized. Thank you to trustee Terry Christensen for all of his advice. Everyone signs. Fellow Joe Purello is startled when he asked to witness a signature.

Feb. 12. Pierre and Patricia host a going-away party for Shishir. He is praised by a number of speakers and the first copy of *The Great Temple of Amman: The Architecture* is presented to U.S. Ambassador Wesley Egan.

Feb. 13. It had been thought that the Petra Church

collapsed in the earthquake of A.D. 551. Jaakko Frösén states that absolutely, positively, no question about it, he has a scroll with the date Jan. 30, 559, in it. Surprise!!

Feb. 13. Ludwig and Margaret Koenen return to Michigan. Ludwig will be back with more members of the Michigan scroll team in June.

Feb. 13. Randy Old arrives carrying 200 pounds of paperwork for the staff. Since he's carrying an equivalent amount of chocolate chips, he is admitted to ACOR.

Feb. 14. Pierre has been selling Valentine's Day cards from the hoard of greeting cards donated to ACOR. It is reported that this caused grumbling at the Albright: "Our director doesn't do that for us!"

Feb. 15. A group of archaeologists from Tel Aviv University come by for a tour. After the tour, there is a discussion of a regional database of archaeological information.

Feb. 16. Glen is pulled away from his dissertation work to diagnose yet another computer which appears to be failing.

Feb. 16. Ambassador Wesley Egan and Virginia Egan come by to see the last of the scrolls being opened.



Snowpersons Simone de Beauvoir and Jean Paul Sartre on the ACOR balcony

Feb. 19. Pierre takes off to Athens to meet with the Getty Conservation Institute group planning a seminar on conservation in May.

Feb. 19. Randy Old and Patricia end a week of work on ACOR's finances by meeting with the auditors.

Feb. 19. The trustees resident in Jordan meet in the afternoon to discuss, among other things, the June

meeting and the endowment campaign.

Feb. 19. Jordan TV's very nice film on JADIS appears on CNN World Report multiple times during the day. Gaetano, Ghazi Bisheh and ACOR are famous!

Feb. 19. It was a BIG DAY!

Feb. 20. Clem Kuehn of the scroll team leaves for the U.S.

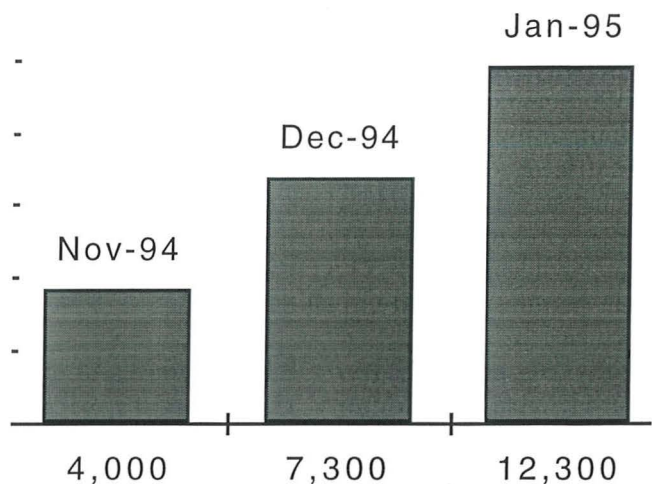
Feb. 21. Preparatory to his departure, Jaakko Frösén surveys all the scrolls which have been unwrapped and mounted. He announces that there are now approximately 150 scrolls! That is three times the original estimate!

Feb. 22. Walnut pie is served for dessert. Zbig takes his piece and then cons four other people into giving up theirs, stating that he doesn't care if it makes the *Newzette*.

Feb. 23. A draft application for matching funds for the endowment campaign goes off to NEH.

Feb. 23. Pierre returns from Athens with mid-19th century engravings of gold mining in California. Patricia: "Pictures? Where's the gold?"

Endowment Campaign



ACOR's endowment campaign is off to an excellent start

Feb. 24. A send-off party for the Finnish scroll team includes singing in every imaginable language. Some member of the team will return in May to continue the work.

Feb. 25. Pierre goes off to the palace with Ghazi Bisheh, Director of Antiquities, and the directors of the other archaeological institutes for a meeting with H.R.H. Prince Hassan on the conference to be held in Turin in June.

Feb. 28. Pierre, Patricia and Zbig are heard on Jordan Radio talking about the scroll conservation project.

March 8. The adoptable scrolls are arranged in the lab and a committee selects which ones will be named.

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ACOR Newzette

Vol. 3.4 — April 1995



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Elizabeth Anne Beal, NMERTA Pre-Doctoral Fellow, "A Preliminary Investigation of Consumption Practices among Urban Jordanians"

Rebecca Foote, CAORC Fellow, "Expanding the Market: Early Urban Commercial Architecture of the Levant in the Early Islamic Period"

Arabic Speaking Academic Immersion Program: Fida Adley and Nancy Coffin

Petra Scroll Project Staff in residence: Zbigniew T. Fiema.

Happenings at ACOR

March 9. H.E. the Ambassador of Japan and Mrs. Yuji Ikeda come by for lunch and a scroll visit.

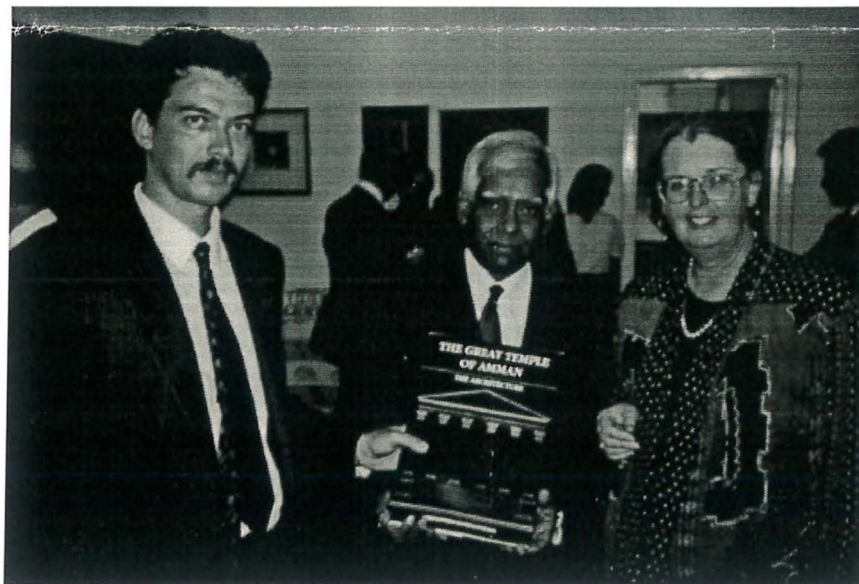
March 10. Pierre and Patricia give a tour of Jerash to Under-Secretary of State Phyllis Oakley.

March 11. Barbara Gibbs, director of the Cincinnati Art Museum and Glenn Markoe, the museum's curator of antiquities, arrive to prepare a major exhibit (for the U.S. and Europe) of materials from Petra.

March 12. A tour group comes through—Pierre sells six copies of *The Mosaics of Jordan!* He is pleased.

March 13. Pierre leaves for Petra to assist the Cincinnati group and to show the Petra church to Tim Miller of USAID.

March 14. Megan Perry arrives to take up her fellow-



Chrys Kanellopoulos, Shishir Dutta with Chrys' book, and Patricia Bikai

ship.

March 15. Rami Khouri comes by to see the scrolls.

March 16. Zbig takes off for Poland and Finland where he will lecture on the Petra Church Project.

March 17. Vice President Al Gore will visit Jordan beginning in a few days. The usual round of phone calls from the embassy starts. Pierre is ... is not ... is ... is not ... giving him a tour of Petra ... no, Jerash ... no, Petra ... Mrs. Gore is ... is not ... is ... is not ... visiting ACOR to see the scrolls.

March 18. The first bound copy of *The Great Temple of Amman: The Architecture* arrives. Chrys is pleased.

March 20. The Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, Abdul-Elah M. Khatib, comes to see ACOR and the scrolls.

March 21. 200 copies of *Great Temple* arrive from the printers. The price is set at \$60.

March 21. Pierre goes off to the Royal Cultural Centre to hear a speech by Al Gore. Later, most of the rest of ACOR goes to the embassy to meet the Vice President. As it is still unclear whether Mrs. Gore will come to ACOR, Patricia, Glen and a few others stay behind just in case.

March 21. Pierre and Patricia give a lecture at the Regency for the Israel Exploration Society.

March 23. The first of the applications for 1995-97 NMERTA funding is sent off to Robin for delivery to USIA.

March 29. Before two more applications to the NMERTA program go off to the U.S., Glen corrects Patricia's budget figures repeatedly and finally declares that she is brain-dead.

March 30. Pierre goes off to Petra with the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities.

March 30. The long-awaited CERM project cooperative agreement arrives from USAID. This will fund the Petra shelter as well as other work at Petra, the Amman Citadel and Madaba.

March 31. Pierre and Patricia go off to Qasr al-Bashir. Pierre gives a tour of the fort to the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities. The U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission, Robert Beecroft, stuns everyone by reading the Latin inscription on sight.

April 3. Camille Barone of USIA visits to review the NMERTA and USIA fellowships.

April 3. Chrys and Glen stay up until 2 in the morning making a model of the proposed restoration of the 'tower' room at the Petra Church.

April 4. Pierre goes off to Ma'in for an all-day meeting on the development of Madaba as a tourist center.

April 4. Chrys and Glen stay up until all hours making another model—the proposed restoration of the scroll room at the Petra Church.

April 5. Zbig returns from his trip. Among other

things he lectured twice in Helsinki about the Petra project and the scrolls. He brings back magazines from Finland which show what a BIG DEAL the scrolls are there.

April 5. Former U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Talcott Seyle comes by with a group to see ACOR and the scrolls.

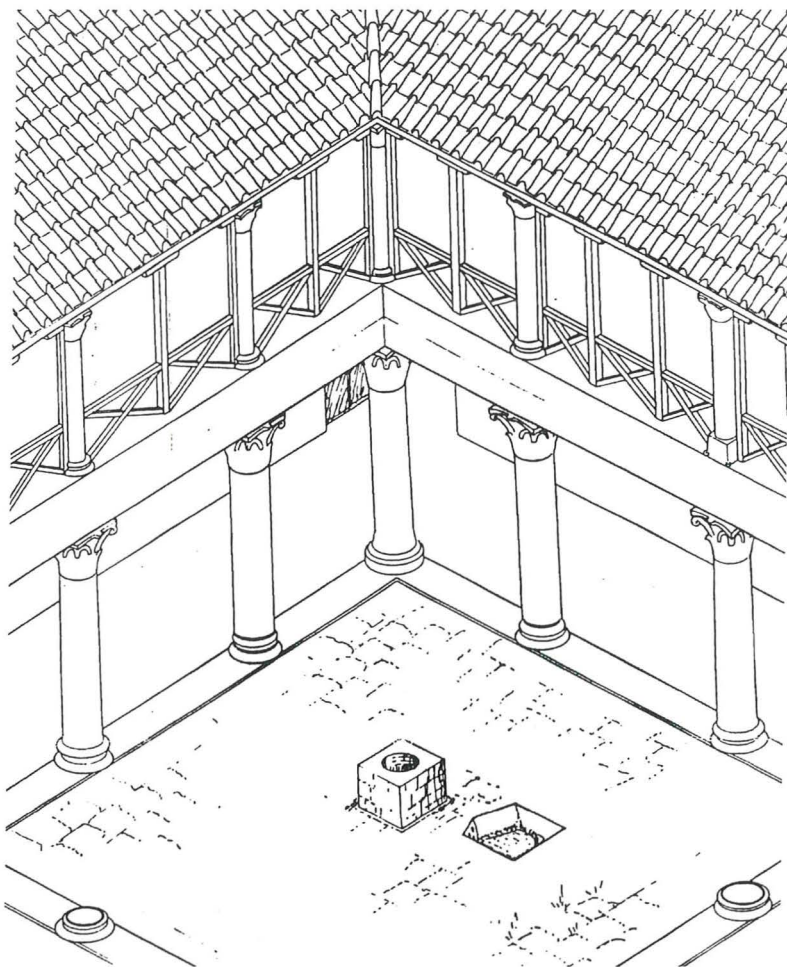
April 6. Pierre gives a tour of the Madaba project to the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities.

April 7. Pierre goes off to Wadi Rum with the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities.

April 7. A number of residents are seen eating chocolate candy for breakfast—seems the scroll team sent a care package from Finland.

April 8. Elizabeth Anne Beal arrives to take up her NMERTA fellowship. She is accompanied by 16-month old son, Joseph.

April 9. The Petra Church Documentation Project



Part of Chrys' restoration of the Petra church's atrium

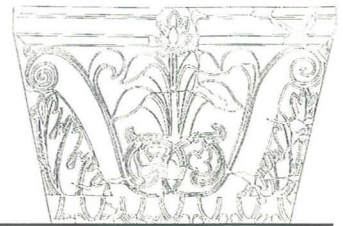
comes to a successful conclusion. Chrys and Anthi depart for Athens. Catherine Alexander is staying on for a day or two to work on the map of Madaba.

April 9. Kathy Nimri: "What I have to say you can't print!"

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Elizabeth Anne Beal, NMERTA Pre-Doctoral Fellow, "A Preliminary Investigation of Consumption Practices among Urban Jordanians"

Andrew M. Smith II, USIA Fellow, "The Historical Geography of Wadi Araba, Jordan"

Cathlene Hanaman, NMERTA Pre-Doctoral Fellow, "The Dynamics of Women in Jordanian Society"

Karla J. Cunningham, NMERTA Pre-Doctoral Fellow, "Islam and the Politics of Inclusion: A Jordanian Case-Study"

Najma Bachelani, NMERTA Pre-Doctoral Fellow, "Mobilization, Collective Action, and Democratization: Jordan"

Arabic Speaking Academic Immersion Program: Fida Adley and Nancy Coffin

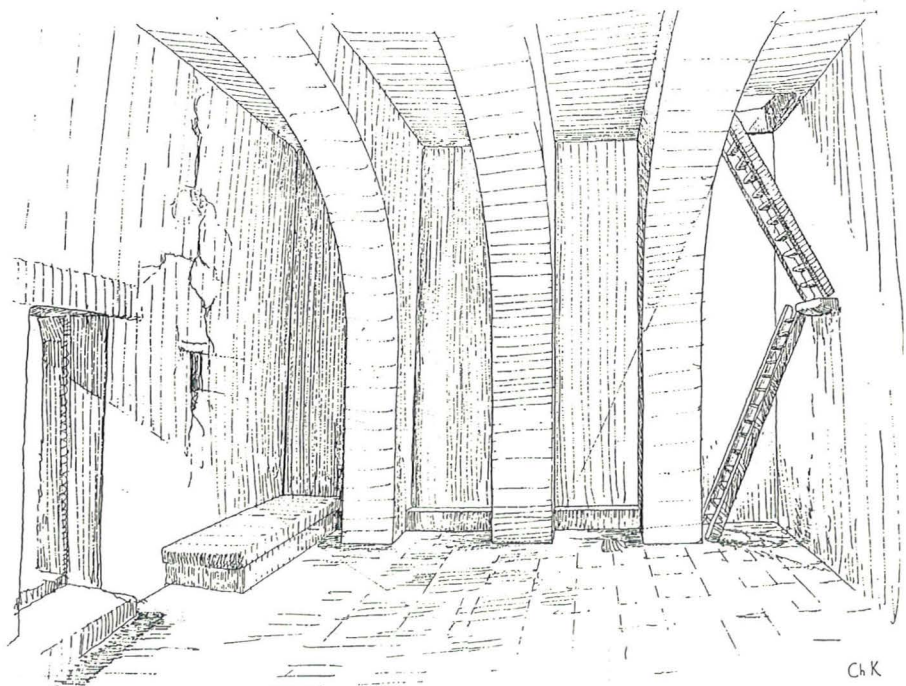
Petra Scroll Project Staff in residence: Jaakko Frösén, Marjo Lehtinen, Zbigniew T. Fiema, and Fatma Marii.

Happenings at ACOR

April 12. Pierre rents three more apartments for the summer—bringing the total to five.

April 12. Andrew Smith arrives to take up his fellowship.

April 13. Gail Vander Heide lectures on "Women, Islam, and Development in Jordan."



The room at the Petra Church site where the scrolls were found, the majority in the far left corner. Restoration drawing of the phase before the scrolls were stored there by Chrysanthos Kanellopoulos.

April 15. A long article by Rami Khouri on the Petra Scrolls appears in the Jordan Times.

April. 18. ACOR hires Nisreen Abu Al-Shaikh to replace accountant Marwan Yassine who is taking up another position.

April 20. Meta Beecroft comes by with Monika Owens for an ACOR and scrolls tour. She is visiting Jordan with her husband, Admiral William A. Owens, who is the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

April 21. The draft USIA/CAORC proposal for 1995-96 goes off to CAORC. Funding is requested for nine fellowships.

April 23. The proposal for matching funds for the endowment campaign goes to the National Endowment for the Humanities.

April 23. Former ACOR President, Edgar Harrell, drops by for a visit, during which he is grilled about details of the construction of the building.

April 25. Joseph T. Purrello lectures on "Seeking Development and Food Security: An Examination of Jordanian Agricultural Policy" and

Robert E. Rook on "U.S. Water Resource Planning for the Jordan River Valley, 1864-1969: An Overview."

April 27. Sharon Araji has reported that there is a virus on one of the computers. Pierre,

overhearing part of a discussion of this, says that indeed he had read in the paper that the government had shut down a sausage factory because of viruses.

April 27. Robert E. Rook, NMERTA Pre-Doctoral Fellow, departs for the U.S., saying he will be back.

April 27. The first complaint of the day is about the quality of the coffee. Patricia says she'll consider the complaint—after she's had her coffee.

April 28. Pierre gives a tour of ACOR, the scrolls and our projects in Amman for H.E. the Ambassador of Switzerland, Gian Frederico Pedotti, and his family.

April 28. In New York, there is a meeting of the Executive Committee of the ACOR Board of Trustees.

April 29. Pierre and Patricia depart for Petra.

April 30. Pierre uncovers part of the mosaic in the Petra church to see how it is faring after being buried for two winters. It looks fine.

May 1. While in Petra, Pierre runs into Israel's Yitzhak Rabin.

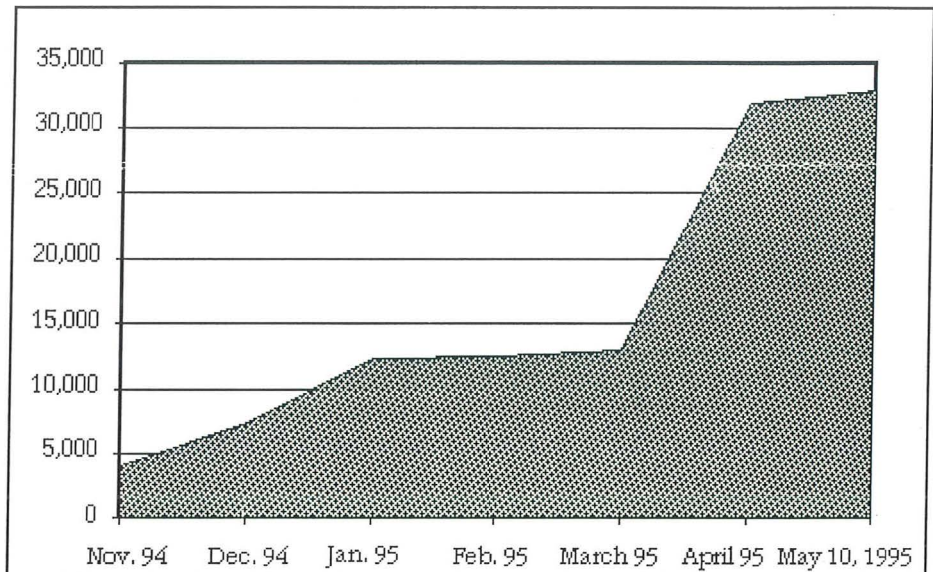
May 1. Glen gives a tour of ACOR, the scrolls and the Citadel for a group led by Trustee Nancy Lapp.

May 1-2. It's a busy night. At 10 pm, fellow Cathlene Hanaman arrives; at 3 am, Karla Cunningham arrives to take up her fellowship; at 6 am, Jaakko Frösén and Marjo Lehtinen arrive to resume work on the scrolls.

May 2. Patricia is interviewed by German Radio (DLF) about an article which appeared in the Independent (U.K.), claiming that the Jordanian authorities were damaging the site of Petra for the sake of tourism, putting up fake cement columns, etc. Patricia: "The article was nonsense."

May 1. Andrew Smith, viewing Pierre's pride and joy, ACOR's growing art collection: "Every time I come back here, the walls are more cluttered."

May 2. Erin Addison gives a lecture entitled "By Myself with Other Women." Glen wonders if it's OK if he attends.



The endowment campaign received a boost in April with significant donations from Trustee Judy Zimmerman and from Citibank. Thank you to them and to all the others who have contributed to securing ACOR's future.

May 2. At 1 am, fellow Najma Bachelani arrives.

May 4. Pierre departs for Tunisia with Ghazi Bisheh for the Getty Conservation Institute's Mediterranean Conference—aboard a cruise ship which will sail to Sicily, Crete, Turkey, and then back to Athens. **Everyone is pleased.** Everyone is jealous.

May 4. German Radio returns to interview Jaakko about the scrolls.

May 6. The formal opening of the Madaba Archaeological Park, scheduled for June 12, is postponed as Her Majesty Queen Noor will not be able to attend on that date.

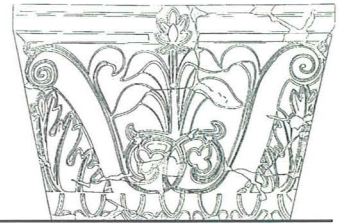
May 7. Kathy Nimri on the subject of the JADIS volume: "I'm surprised people would actually buy a book with just a bunch of numbers in it." It really does read like a telephone book.

May 7. Word comes that Grace Anne Parker was born to Tom and Mary on May 1. Congratulations!

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ACOR Newzette

Vol. 3.6 — June 1995



Projects

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

Field Projects

Tell Nimrin, James Flanagan and David McCreery
Tell Jawa, P. M. Michèle Daviau
Umm el-Jimal (study season), Bert de Vries
Wadi Ziglab, Ted Banning

Fellows in Residence

*Near and Middle East Research and Training Act
Post-Doctoral Fellows:*

Sharon Araji, "Women, Education and
Development in Jordan: A Comparative Study"
James Gillespie, "The Hashemites: A Study in
Dynastic Politics and Modernization"
Clement A. Kuehn, "Estates and Proprietors in
Early Byzantine Jordan and Egypt"
Jesse C. Long, "Educational Strategies in
Archaeology: A Study Project in Jordan"

*Near and Middle East Research and Training Act
Pre-Doctoral Fellows:*

Megan Perry, "Sampling Bias: The Nature of its
Effect on Demographic and Epidemiological
Analyses of Skeletal Remains in Jordan"
Elizabeth Anne Beal, "A Preliminary Investigation
of Consumption Practices among Urban
Jordanians"
Cathlene Hanaman, "The Dynamics of Women in
Jordanian Society"
Karla J. Cunningham, "Islam and the Politics of
Inclusion: A Jordanian Case-Study"
Najma Bachelani, "Mobilization, Collective Action,
and Democratization: Jordan"
Pete Moore, "The Paradox of Civil Development:
The Jordanian and Kuwaiti Chambers of Commerce
in Comparative Perspective"
Barbara Kingsley, "Sport and Jordanian Women"
Maggi Moorehouse, "Measuring Democracy in
Jordan"
Cheryl Steele, "Democratic Processes in Jordan: Their
Role and Impact upon the Middle East Peace Process"

United States Information Agency Fellows:

Beatrice St. Laurent, "A Survey and Analysis of
Late Ottoman Pasha Residences and Farmsteads in
Jordan"
Louise Cainkar, "A Social History of the Returnees
from Kuwait in Jordan"
Andrew M. Smith II, "The Historical Geography of
Wadi Araba, Jordan"
Nora Anne Colton, "Return Labor Migration to
Jordan since the Gulf Crisis"
John Creed, "Environmental Politics in Jordan"
Denise Schmandt-Besserat, "Aspects of Neolithic
Symbolism: the Socioeconomic Significance"

Other:

Jillian Schwedler, Social Sciences Research Council
Fellowship, "The Transformation of Islamist
Groups in Yemen and Jordan"
Brian B. Schmidt, Council of American Overseas
Research Centers Fellowship, "Magic and
Divination in Ancient Levantine Cultures"
Carlos Cordova, EBR/ASOR Summer Travel Grant,
"Ancient Agricultural Landscapes in the Levant"

Happenings at ACOR

May 12. ACOR Trustee Ted Banning appears.
May 12. Fellow Clem Kuehn arrives.
May 12. Matti Mustonen and Jan Vihonen return
from Finland to work on the scroll photographs.
May 13. Jaakko has found the name of a person
known from a classical author in one of the scrolls.
May 13. Nora Anne Colton arrives with Annie
(aged 8 months) and Bassam (age 5). Everyone
comments that it is nice to have children in the
house again.
May 13. H.R.H. Prince Ra'ad asks to meet some of
the ACOR fellows and this evolves into a small
event in the evening.
May 13. Pierre returns from the cruise around the
Mediterranean sponsored by the Getty
Conservation Institute (GCI). The group visited
sites with high-impact tourism problems and
conservation problems in Tunisia, Crete, Sicily,
Turkey and Greece. He now speaks
'conservationese.' The delegation from Jordan
included Dr. Ghazi Bisheh and Dr. Kamel Mahadin

of the Department of Architecture at the University of Jordan. The sponsors have asked that ACOR's Petra Church Project be written up as a case study on the state of the art in conservation.

May 14. ACOR Trustee David McCreery appears for the season at Tell Nimrin.

May 16. Suddenly, the scroll conservation project is almost over. Looking at the last scroll needing conservation, Fatma, Marjo and Patricia are practically in tears.

May 16. The Baltimore Chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America comes by for an ACOR and scroll tour. Gladys J. and Frank J. Vocci adopt a scroll.



Jaakko Frösén, Frank and Gladys Vocci, and Pierre

May 16. Sharon Araji gives a lecture entitled "Higher Education in Jordan: Do Dreams and Realities Match?"

May 17. Deborah Jones, who will soon have the Jordan desk at the State Department, comes by for an ACOR tour.

May 17. General Wayne Downing comes by for a scroll tour. He and his party are the last to see a scroll being opened.

May 18. Word comes that H.M. Queen Noor will visit ACOR to see the scrolls in two days. Panic ensues.

May 19. The place gets all spiffed up and all the scroll dust in the lab magically disappears.

May 20. On Her Majesty's visit, see the following pages.

May 20. During the Queen's visit a small drama is played out: Jaakko and Marjo are supposed to be at the airport to get their plane back to Finland. Officials from Her Majesty's office arrange to have them checked in and their baggage loaded in advance. Sa'id runs the luggage and tickets out to the airport and then Sa'id makes a second trip to get Jaakko and Marjo to the airport. They get through the VIP lounge just in time to board the plane.

May 20. Asked what he thought of the whole visit, Bassam says: "When I grow up, I want to be the

Queen."

May 20. A long, very nice segment on the visit and the scrolls appears on Jordan TV at 6, 8 and 10 pm. Everyone is pleased.

May 22. A computer virus has worked its way into many of the IBMs and everyone panics. While cleaning out David McCreery's laptop, Glen warns David that if there is a virus on the laptop, bells will sound. Just then the fax machine bell goes off. David freaks!

May 23. The fight against the computer viruses continues. One computer crashes completely.

May 23. Pierre gives a lecture to a visiting tour group.

May 24. Glen revives one of the computers. More transatlantic phone calls to get anti-virus software.

May 24. In the morning, Pierre makes the last mortgage payment. We own it!

May 24. A small reception which is scheduled for May 27 is held in the evening.

May 24. A research assistant to one of the resident fellows tries to insert a floppy disk into one of the computers that's been cleaned up.

All the new virus-alert bells and whistles go off.

May 25. Magid Nimri is enlisted in the fight against the viruses.

May 27. Michèle Daviau and some of the Jawidians arrive.

May 28. Max Miller and Gerry Mattingly bring two busloads of tourists by to see ACOR and the scrolls. The reception first held on May 24 is repeated.

May 29. The first copies of the new *Newsletter* arrive from the printers.

May 29. Pierre gives a lecture on the scrolls for the Friends of Archaeology.

May 29. Glen is up until all hours printing mailing labels for the *Newsletter*.

May 30. A holiday. The phone is very quiet.

May 31. Pierre receives the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Award "in recognition of his efforts and accomplishments" in cultural preservation.

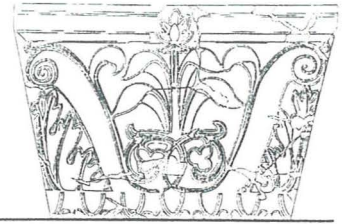
May 31. Glen announces that, finally, his own computer has been cleared of the various viruses.

May 31. More Jawidians arrive.

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ACOR Newzette

Vol. 3.12 — December 1995



Projects

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

Petra Church Shelter and Conservation Project, Robert Shutler, architect, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and ACOR/USAID (CERM)
Qasr al-Bint Conservation Project, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and ACOR/USAID (CERM)

Burnt Palace, Madaba, Presentation Phase, Leen Fakhouri, architect, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and ACOR/USAID (CERM)
Ayyubid Tower Restoration, Amman Citadel, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and ACOR/USAID (CERM)

ACOR-Assisted Field Projects

Aqaba/Ayla, Don Whitcomb

Fellows in Residence

Near and Middle East Research and Training Act

Post-Doctoral Fellows:

Clement A. Kuehn, "Estates and Proprietors in Early Byzantine Jordan and Egypt"

Zbigniew T. Fiema, "Petra and Tuwaneh Publication Project"

United States Information Agency Fellow:

Charles L. Wilkins, "The Muslim Residents of Jaffa, 1839-1856: History of a Muslim Community in Social and Political Transformation"

Scott Greenwood, "State, Business, and Democratization in Egypt and Jordan"

Other:

Social Sciences Research Council ACOR-affiliated Fellows:

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

Happenings at ACOR

Nov. 13. Pierre and Patricia go into PANIC MODE and try to clear their desks before leaving for "vacation".

Nov. 14. The Bikais leave for the U.S. The "Tyranny of Glen" begins.

Nov. 15. In keeping with his "No More Mr. Nice Guy" policy, Glen spends some of ACOR's money and orders a new office computer.

Nov. 15. Gaetano Palumbo, ACOR's former CRM archaeologist, arrives from the U.S. for a short visit.

Nov. 17. More of those strange, snakelike fish for lunch.

Nov. 18. All the bamboo furniture is picked up and packed off for repair, painting and for a fluffing-up and re-covering of the cushions.

Nov. 18. The ACOR Board of Trustees convenes in Philadelphia at the Annual Meeting.

Nov. 19. As Glen restocks JADIS, Kathy notes, "If you can sell JADIS to somebody, you can sell anything to anybody!!"

Nov. 20. The new office computer arrives and is in service by evening.

Nov. 21. ACOR receives an information booklet on "The Wiener Laboratory." Mo decides to stick with chicken and beef for lunch.

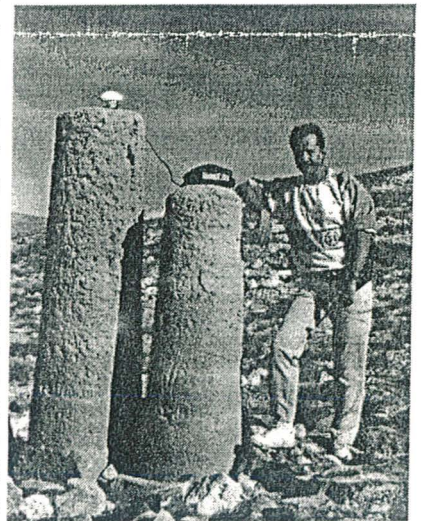
Nov. 21. E-Mail arrives at ACOR (acor@nets.com.jo)

Nov. 22. At 6:20 am, Jordan is rocked by a 30 second, 7.1 magnitude earthquake. Chrys Kanellopoulos calls from Greece to ask if his temple restoration on the Amman Citadel is still standing. Kathy reports that in Aqaba the beach west of the marina "just went!" No word is received from Don Whitcomb who is excavating Islamic Ayla (just to the west of the marina) either regarding his crew's safety or precisely to where the beach - and perhaps also his site - has departed.

Nov. 23 THANKSGIVING PANIC!! Upon arriving ,

M o h a m m e d discovers that one of the turkeys is spoiled. Saeed dashes off to Safeway, gets a new turkey, and spends hours bathing it in hot water to defrost it. By 3:30 both turkeys are cooked and ready to eat. The meal is GREAT!

Nov. 24. ACOR receives its first E-mail - from Rami Khoury who wants someone to



Zbig Fiema mapping Roman milestones in the Tuwana area with GPS. (It didn't happen this month, but we liked the picture!)

look over his article on Patricia's "Ridge Church" in Petra.

Nov. 24. Don Whitcomb tells scary stories of the Aqaba quake. Only one injury to the team: one guy stubs his toe while dashing out of the dighouse.

Nov. 25. Antoni Ostrasz, Polish architect of the Jerash excavations, signs his contract and begins his work on the Ayoubid Tower on the Amman Citadel.

Nov. 26. Marjo Lehtinen returns to continue her research on the Petra Scrolls.

Nov. 26. More aftershocks in Aqaba.

Nov. 27. Kathy suggests that Clem take up "fusion physics rather than working on them stinkin' scrolls."

Nov 27. Antoni Ostrasz introduces himself at lunch. Kathy leans over and whispers, "What's his name? Tony OSTRICH??"

Nov. 28. David McCreery brings back a fossilized clam from one of his trips into the desert. With both halves put together, its the size of a bowling ball. Kathy wonders if maybe the pearl is still inside, and suggests breaking up the fossil to find it, claiming, "desperate times call for desperate measures!"

Nov. 29 ACOR receives word that its NEH Challenge Grant application has been turned down.

Dec. 1. Nisreen threatens to shoot her computer. Wow, does she hate that new accounting software! "You practically need a manual for the manual!" In computerese, this is officially known as "being as user friendly as a spitting cobra."

Dec. 2. Kathy receives word that Jaakko Frosen and the University of Hesinki papyrological team will be in residence in January.

Dec. 3. Despite mom's protestations, Malcolm Crystal (age 5) once again seriously misbehaves at lunch. Glen notes: "I can fix that problem!"

Dec. 4. A lamp in the elevator catches fire - smoke everywhere, but no alarms.

Dec. 5. Engineer Kareem puts in a new telephone line in the office dedicated to e-mail.

Dec. 5. Humi and Abed begin rearranging the archive. Glen inquires about the location of the dumpster.

Dec. 6. Clem and Charles embark on an adventure to Petra, Wadi Rum, and Aqaba.

Dec. 6. Chrys and Anthi decide to come back to Jordan for a short vacation and also to do a pre-feasibility study for the Roman street and shops in Petra.

Dec. 7. In Baltimore, Carrie Nee learns about the finer points of USIA's "Fly American" rules for ACOR Fellowship holders. Glen offers to teach her a special vocabulary for just this situation.

Dec. 7. News arrives that the Bikais are in California, and are busily panning for gold. Glen predicts that Pierre will buy another gold nugget (like he did two years ago) to prove he has gold on his land.

Dec. 7. Ron and SueEllen Kirkwood return from their travels, after losing their passports and getting replacements. They are thrilled to get back "home" to Jordan.

Dec. 8. Kathy finds someone to buy a whole bunch of computer paper.

Dec. 9 The architect for the Petra Shelter receives four bids and makes his recommendation.

Dec. 9. Clem and Charles return from their adventure, noting that now that they are back, they can say it was a lot of fun.

Dec. 9. Abed finishes painting the Director's apartment.

Dec. 10 NMERTA Senior Educator Ron Kirkwood and wife SueEllen begin their trip back to the U.S. With great delight, Ron donates his crutches to ACOR.

Dec. 10. For lunch: Yellow rice, baked chicken in mushroom sauce, cut green beans, sliced tomato and cucumber salad, and spice cake with lemon frosting for dessert! Mmm, mmm - builds strong bodies 12 ways!!



Her Majesty Queen Noor opening the Madaba Archaeological Park



Father Michelle Piccirillo, Pierre Bikai and Her Majesty Queen Noor at the Madaba Park

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