

Andrews University

Digital Commons @ Andrews University

Faculty Publications

Winter 1-1-2018

ASOR 2017 Annual Meeting

Paul J. Ray

Andrews University, rayp@andrews.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/pubs>

Recommended Citation

Ray, Paul J., "ASOR 2017 Annual Meeting" (2018). *Faculty Publications*. 2898.
<https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/pubs/2898>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ Andrews University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Publications by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Andrews University. For more information, please contact repository@andrews.edu.

The Institute of ARCHAEOLOGY Siegfried H. Horn Museum



ASOR 2017 Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research (*ASOR*) was held in Boston from November 15-18, 2017. This year there were 120 sessions, in which over 650 papers and posters were presented. The plenary address was presented by William Boardman, Professor of Fine Arts at Harvard University, entitled “Archaeology, Object History, Art History: Questions of Definition and Discipline.”

This year was the 50th anniversary of the Madaba Plains Project and its predecessor the Andrews University Heshbon Expedition. In connection with this celebration three separate Madaba Plains Project at 50 sections took place, one for each major excavation site: Heshbon, ‘Umayri and Jalul. Those Madaba Plains Project Members and affiliates who presented papers in these sections included: Lawrence Geraty (Contextualizing the Quest for Biblical Heshbon at Tall Hisban); Bert deVries (Contextualizing the Quest for Early Christianity at Esbus); Bethany Walker (Contextualizing the Quest for Islamic Housban at Tall Hisban); Forde Jacobsen (Al Musallah: Local Ideas About Tal Hisban); Øystein LaBianca Contextualizing the Quest Theories of the *Longue Durée* at Tall Hisban); Timothy Harrison (Contextualizing MPP at Tall al-‘Umayri: The Early Bronze Age); Kent Bramlett (Contextualizing MPP at Tall al-‘Umayri: The Late Bronze Age); Douglass Clark (Contextualizing MPP at Tall al-‘Umayri: The Early Iron Age); Larry Herr (Contextualizing MPP at Tall al-‘Umayri: The Late Iron Age and Early Persian Period); Gary Christopherson (What Happened When the Tall al-‘Umayri Regional Met Fernand Braduel’s Temporal Hierarchy?); David Merling and Randall Younker (In the Trenches at Jalul: Struggles, Strategies, Discoveries); Constance Gane (Jalul and the Empires of the North); Paul Gregor (Tall Jalul: What Happened to Amorite Heshbon?); Paul Ray (Jalul and the Mesha Inscription: Was Jalul

(cont'd on p. 2)

Table of Contents

	Page
<i>ASOR 2017</i>	1
<i>Hess Lecture</i>	2
<i>Random Survey</i>	4

INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY
HORN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
MUSEUM
NEWSLETTER

Paul J. Ray, Jr.	Editor
Constance E. Gane	Assoc. Editor
Randall W. Younker	Assoc. Editor
Robert D. Bates	Assoc. Editor
Dorian Alexander	Asst. Editor

The Newsletter is published four times a year by the Institute of Archaeology, Andrews University. Annual subscription price is \$7.50. Museum membership, subscription, and editorial correspondence should be addressed to the Horn Archaeological Museum, Institute of Archaeology, Andrews University, 9047 US 31, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0990, Telephone 269-471-3273, Fax 269-471-3619, e-mail hornmuseum@andrews.edu.

Volume 39.2
Spring 2018
ISSN 1095-2837



Paul Ray, Randall Younker, Gerald Mattingly, William Dever and David Merling at ASOR.

Biblical Bezer?); and Randall Younker (Jalul and the Modified High Chronology for Iron Age IIA-B).

Other Madaba Plains Project Members and affiliates who presented papers this year that were not connected with the MPP 50th anniversary included: Michael Hasel (Socho of the Judean Shephelah: The 2010 Survey); Monique Vincent (Households, Communities, and Dimensions of Social Identity in the Early Iron Age at Tall al-‘Umayri, Jordan); S. Thomas Parker (Ceramic Imports to Petra: Domestic versus Funerary Contexts); Abelardo Rivas (Jalul as a Border City in Iron Age Transjordan), Michael Orellana (Building an Iron IIB-IIC Pottery Assemblage for Tall Jalul); Trisha Broy (Working Toward a Definition of the Collard-rim Pithos); Friedbert Ninow, Monique Vincent and Kent Bramlett (The 2017 Season at Khirbat al-Balu‘a—In Search of Patterns of Settlement); Robert Bates and Paul Ray (Between the Roads: An Update on the Iron Age Roads at Tall Jalul 2016-2017); Helen Dixon (The “Look” and “Feel” of Levantine Phoenician Sacred Space); and Ralph Hawkins with David Ben-Shlomo (The Bedouin at Modern Ras el-Auja and the Early Iron Age Settlers at Khirbet el-Mastarah).

Those MPP members who chaired sessions of the program this year include: Øystein LaBianca and Lawrence Geraty (Madaba Plains Project 50: Hisban); Douglas Clark and Larry Herr (Madaba Plains Project 50: Tall al-‘Umayri, Randall Younker (Madaba Plains Project 50: Jalul); Timothy Harrison (The CRANE Project I and II); and Owen Chesnut (Archaeology of the Southern Levant I, II, and III). In addition Bethany Walker presided over the Consultation of Dig Directors in Jordan.

In a workshop on gender-related situations in the workplace, dealing with broadly-based gender-related issues in the field, in grad school, in the academy and other work places, Stefanie Elkins-Bates presented a paper entitled “A Professional Woman Working in Jordan.” In addition, Douglas Clark and Kent Bramlett

presided over the Madaba Plains Project and Khirbat Balu‘a Workshop; with Clark also presiding over the Madaba Regional Museum Project Workshop.

The Poster session included entries by Jeff Hudon (Refreshing an Archaeological Site: The Example of Tall Hisban, Jordan); Kristina Reed, Sarah Burton, Lawrence Geraty, Øystein LaBianca, Randall Younker and Douglas Clark (Golden Excavations: Fifty Years of the Madaba Plains Project); Kristina Reed (Tall al-‘Umayri: 32 Years of Excavations and Discoveries); and Randall Younker (Highlights from the Heights of Jalul).

Concurrent Annual Meetings of the *Society of Biblical Literature (SBL)* and the *Near East Archaeological Society (NEASB)* were held from November 18-21, and 15-17, 2017 respectively. (Paul J. Ray, Jr).



Hess Lecture

On Oct. 23, 2016 Richard Hess, professor of Old Testament studies at Denver Seminary, presented a lecture entitled “King Lists, Names, and the Line from Adam to Abram in Genesis 1-11” as part of the Horn Museum Lecture Series.

Hess opened his lecture by explaining that his goal was to use ancient Near Eastern materials to study the Genesis genealogies, and to suggest how comparative material enlightens the questions connected with them. To achieve this, he analyzed literary comparisons, especially the king lists and what such observations might say about the origins and contributions of comparative material.

When looking at the genealogies in Gen 5 and 11, ancient Near Eastern comparisons have focused on king lists, e.g., King, who argued that names from the *Sumerian Kings List (SKL)* are found in Gen 5 and 11; Jacobsen, who suggested that the purpose of the *SKL* was to promote national feeling; Hallo, who further suggested its purpose was to promote unity under a single king, and that there always be only one king who

ruled. Lambert suggested that before 1600 BC the term “x son of y” referred to a biological or adopted son, with no generations between them, but after this time it could refer to missing generations. But “son of” does not occur in Gen 5 or 11. In the 1960s Reiner and Landsberger reconstructed a tradition about the seven *apkallu* as the pre-Flood fish (monsters) that brought about the collapse of civilization. Each *apkallu* correspond to a king and brings some new aspect of civilization. In this sense, they were comparable to the line of Cain in Gen 4.

Later Finkelstein argued that the *SKL* has kings reign between 6,000-72,000 years, which is much more than in Gen 5 or 11. He compared the *apkallu* and the pre-Flood kings with the lists in Gen 4 and 5, because both have dual lines (*SKL* the *apkallu* and pre-Flood kings; Genesis the lines of Cain and Seth). In both cases, the first line doesn’t continue after flood (the *apkallu* and Cain), but the second line (kingship and Seth) returns after flood. There are also similar names in both lines (e.g., En-men-gal-ana/An-men-gal-ana; Methushael/Methuselah). But, there is no convincing evidence between the names in the *SKL* and Gen. 5 and 11. Lambert then compared Gen 1-11 to the Atrahasis Epic, and noted that the creation and flood accounts in both occur in a larger literary narrative. Finkelstein also published Tablet BM80328, which contains rulers of the 1st Dynasty of Babylon. Some of the names correspond with known Amorite tribes, as well as to names at the beginning of the Assyrian King List (e.g., Tu-ub-ti-ya-mu-tu /Tudiya-Adamu). This is not a king list, but a ritual text with a religious purpose (like Gen 5 and 11), and thus part of a larger perspective.

Hallo also argued that there was a genealogical orientation by the Babylonians ca. 200 BC, a notion furthered Malamut, who also observed a similar numerical grouping of 10-12 names both in the king lists and Gen 5 and 11. However, Wilson, who compared ethnographical, oral, and tribal genealogies in order to gain an overview of their