NOTICES

Calendar-year 1989 dues were due on January 1, 1989.

Paid-up members of the AAH are entitled to a $12.80 (20% discount) annual subscription rate to the American Journal of Ancient History. Write to: AJAH, Dept. of History, Robinson Hall, Harvard Univ., Cambridge, MA 02138.

Members with new books out, honors, or positions should notify me at the return address on this Newsletter. My reportage is largely determined by what you submit.

—Jack Cargill

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings to all our members, and best wishes for the new year.

At the 1988 annual meeting of the Association, held at the University of Utah, some items were discussed that may be of general interest to all members.

As you are by now aware, Jack Cargill of Rutgers University was elected Secretary-Treasurer for the term 1988-1991. Cargill succeeds Stanley M. Burstein, who served the Association for six years in exemplary fashion. Your president both salutes Burstein in recognition of a job well done, and looks forward to working with his successor.

The chair provided an opportunity at the meeting for members to alter the structure of the committee supervising the publications program of the Association. At present the committee consists of both officers and John Eadie of Michigan State University. It is my view that the committee should be kept small and informal, should include both officers, should be limited to persons with considerable publication experience and should include at least one person each from Greek and Roman history.

As there was no move to alter the existing structure, I asked John Eadie to stay on for one more year, and he agreed to do so. With his retirement from the committee in 1989, a Roman historian will be selected to replace him, as both officers are in Greek history. Thus, the committee composition will be: Borza (term ending with his office in 1990), Cargill (term ending with his office in 1991) and a Roman historian (term ending in 1992).

All members of the committee are receptive to suggestions from the membership at large concerning the publications program, ideas for future publications and membership on the supervising committee.

Finally, for some two decades our society of ancient historians has been dependent on the generosity of universities for heavily subsidizing the expenses of our annual meeting. We have been fortunate in this regard, and have been able to keep dues at an unusually low level, as our main expenses remain the costs of issuing this Newsletter, travel costs for the officers and the publications program.

Inevitably the costs of the annual meeting have risen dramatically along with the general cost of things, and we are faced with the prospect that our universities may no longer be able to assist us as in the manner past. I, for one, would be reluctant to see us leave our university settings, as the charm, informality and unique quality of each meeting reflecting the personality of the organizers and host institutions have long been among the most attractive features of our society.

Yet we are faced with the reality of change. In some instances, because of academic calendars, we are unable to enjoy the lower costs of using dormitory facilities for housing. Hotel costs reached an all-time high at the Utah meetings, even with the $10-per night subsidy provided by the hosts. Some of us are more affected by rising costs than others, and we have encouraged those on restricted budgets to double up in accommodations.

I should like to suggest to future hosts that the matter of expenses be kept a high-priority item in their planning. Perhaps modest accommodations should be used, but if these are at some distance from the meeting places, transportation costs will increase. Although it may be possible to provide a variety of accommodations to suit tastes and pocketbooks, this might produce an adverse effect on the informal social life that has always been a prominent part of our meetings.

Recognizing that these matters will require considerable thought and planning over the next crucial years, and in the manner of an experiment designed to meet some felt needs, your officers have decided to provide from Association funds a special subsidy for the 1989 meeting at Brown University. As the housing costs at Brown will be even higher than those at Utah, the Association will provide a markedly larger subsidy than usual, which monies will be specifically earmarked to provide support for our junior faculty members. Non-tenured members will be granted a larger housing subsidy than senior members, the underlying principle being to encourage continued and increased participation in the annual meeting by the younger members of our profession. Details will appear as part of the information distributed in advance of the meetings.

In order to meet these increasing costs, it may also be necessary to consider altering our dues structure.

—Eugene N. Borza

1989 AAH MEETING

The meeting at Brown University on May 5 and 6 (Fri. and Sat.) will be followed by an international conference on "Athens and Rome — Florence and Venice: City-States in Classical Antiquity and Medieval Italy" on May 7-9 (Sun.-Tues.). A Round Table for Friday, organized by Sarah Pomeroy, will discuss "Ancient History and the ‘New’ Social History". Saturday panels will deal with "The Roman Revolution" and "Religion and Politics". A complete schedule of papers will be included in the April Newsletter. For information, contact: Prof. Kurt A. Raaflaub, Dept. of Classics, Brown University, Box 1935, Providence, RI 02912.

NOTE: If you have recently joined AAH or have recently changed your address, you may want to contact Kurt Raaflaub, to make sure that you receive registration materials for the meeting: the mailing list I sent to him was that used for the October Newsletter, which is by now slightly outdated.
AMERICAN SCHOOL
AT ATHENS SUMMER SESSIONS

The two 1989 Summer Sessions are open to high school and college teachers and to graduate and upper-level undergraduate students, who may receive credit by arrangement with their home institutions. The program provides an intensive introduction to the antiquities of Greece, many of which will be visited. The $1800 fee covers tuition, room, and partial board; transportation to and from Greece is the responsibility of the participant. The sessions (June 19 - Aug. 2 and June 26 - Aug. 9) will be led by Kenneth F. Kitchell (Louisiana State University) and John Truill (University of Toronto).

Applications, which must be returned by February 1, 1989, are available from Department A-3, Summer Session, American School of Classical Studies, 41 E. 72nd St., New York, NY 10021. Limited scholarship support is available. Secondary school teachers in Social Studies and/or related Classical fields are urged to apply for the Katherine Keene Fellowship, which provides a stipend in addition to a full scholarship.

AMERICAN ACADEMY
IN ROME SUMMER SESSION


The Classical Society of the American Academy in Rome offers two $1500 scholarships, one to a graduate student studying or teaching classics, one to a high school teacher of classical languages and/or classical civilization, awarded on a competitive basis, to be used to attend the 1989 Summer Session of the American Academy. Winners of these scholarships will also have $100 of their Summer Session tuition remitted. Application forms (due completed by February 15, 1989) are available from: Prof. Norma Goldman, Dept. of Greek and Latin, 431 Manoogian Hall, Wayne State Univ., Detroit, MI 48202.

POSITION ADVERTISED

Classics/Roman History tenure track Assistant Professor, beginning Sept. 1, 1989; research area Roman Empire; secondary teaching interests Roman law, religion, and/or archaeology. Ph.D., scholarly potential, teaching excellence required. Send c.v., 3 letters of rec. by January 15, 1989, to: Prof. John W. Zarker, Chair, Dept. of Classics, Tufts University, Medford, MA 02155. AA/EOE.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR
PATRISTIC/BYZANTINE STUDIES

The Institute held its 1988 Annual Conference, the Eighth International Patristic-Byzantine Symposium, on the island of Kos, July 10-13, with seven scholarly papers on the theme of “The Fathers and Experiences of Orthodoxy”. The Institute’s journal, Patriotic and Byzantine Review, vol. 7 (1988), nos. 1 and 2-3, is available. For information, write: Prof. Constantine N. Tsirpanlis, RR 1, Box 353-A, Minuet Lane, Kingston, NY 12401.

PERSONALIA

Ernst Badian (Harvard University) is a Fellow at the National Humanities Center for 1988-89, working on studies on Alexander the Great and on the Consuls of the Roman Republic, 200-49 B.C.

William M. Calder III (formerly University of Colorado) has been appointed W.F. Oldfather Professor of Classics at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, which carries with it appointment of an annual research scholar and an international colloquium (each April) on some aspect of Wissenschaftsgeschichte.

Robert A. Kaster has been appointed General Editor of the “Aspects of Greek and Roman Life” Series at the Cornell University Press.

George A. Kennedy (University of North Carolina) has been named Editor of the American Journal of Philology, effective January 1, 1989. Article MSS and books for review should be sent to him at CB 3145, Murphey Hall, UNC Classics Department, Chapel Hill, NC 27599. (Correspondence relating to 1988 no. 4 and 1989 nos. 1 and 2, already in production, should be addressed to Kennedy’s predecessor as Editor, Prof. Georg Luck, Department of Classics, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD 21218.)

BOOKS

Robert A. Kaster, Guardians of Language: The Grammarian and Society in Late Antiquity (California 1988, Transformation of the Classical Heritage 11)


Chester G. Starr, The Influence of Sea Power on Ancient History (Oxford 1988; chapter on Athenian Sea Power also in Military History Quarterly); The Roman Empire: A Study in Survival (Natural Science Book Club 1988)

Constantine N. Tsirpanlis, Greek Patristic Theology, vol. 3: Basic Doctrines in Eastern Church Fathers (Eo Press 1987)

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT
FOR THE HUMANITIES

Among the 64 NEH Summer Seminars for College Teachers offered in 1989 are several of direct interest to AAH members:

The Greek Encounter with Judaism in the Hellenistic Period (June 12 - Aug. 4). Director: Louis H. Feldman, Yeshiva University, 500 W. 185th St., New York, NY 10033.

The Family in Classical and Hellenistic Greece (June 12 - July 21). Director: Sarah B. Pomeroy, Dept. of Classical Studies, CUNY, Graduate Center, 33 W. 42nd St., New York, NY 10036.

History Writing in Ancient Greece, the Near East, and Israel: A Comparative Study (June 12 - Aug. 4). Director: John Van Seters, Dept. of Religious Studies, 101 Saunders Hall CB 3225, Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599.

Participant Stipends, NEH Summer Seminars for College Teachers: Applications from prospective participants (12 per seminar) are invited; stipends are intended to help cover travel to and from the seminar site, books, and research and living expenses ($3500 for 8-week seminars, $2750 for 6-week seminars). Applications from prospective participants must be filed by March 1, 1989. Write to: Summer
Seminars for College Teachers, Room 316, Division of Fellowships and Seminars, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC 20506.

An NEH Summer Seminar for School Teachers (same stipend and application deadline) will also be conducted in 1989 by an AAH member.

Plutarch and Athens (June 26 - Aug. 4), Director: Hubert M. Martin, Jr., Dept. of Classical Languages, Univ. of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506.

Prospective directors for Summer Seminars in 1990 have the same deadline as 1989 participants. Applicants should have distinguished teaching and publishing records; their proposed topics should focus on enduring issues or current scholarship in the humanities, and they must bear intensive peer scrutiny.

MAILING LIST INFORMATION

Your mailing label is printed from AAH’s computerized database, and automatically includes your most recent year of paid-up dues. If you find a mistake in your address or the spelling of your name, please send me a correction, using the AAH Member Information form on this page. Please realize that my computer program allows me a maximum of four lines in the address and limits the length of individual lines; do not “correct” an adequate address merely because it is abbreviated.

This will be the last Newsletter sent to members whose most recent dues payment was for 1985 or earlier. Anyone who has paid through 1986 or later will be considered “in good standing” and kept on the mailing list for the Newsletter through 1989. The mailing lists sent to the editor of AJAH and to the organizers of subsequent annual meetings include the same last-year-paid notation that appears on our own mailing labels. These colleagues may choose to be less lenient in their definitions of “paid-up” status.

Several colleagues (both in the U.S. and in Canada) have offered comments and suggestions relating to a problem I described in the preceding Newsletter, namely the fact that I have not been able to find a bank that will process checks for Canadian dollars, or checks for U.S. dollars drawn on a Canadian bank, or some kinds of Canadian money orders, without charging collection fees that generally exceed the value of the checks or money orders themselves. I am pleased to discover that the problem is not as severe as I had thought: many Canadian banks have U.S branches, and their money orders, bearing an “American Banking Association” number on their faces, can be deposited as if they were U.S. checks. Canadian Postal Money Orders can be cashed at U.S. Post Offices, but the “payee” line should include my name in addition to “AAH”. Gene Borza and I will also accept dues payments in cash, and give receipts for them, if you encounter either of us at the various scholarly meetings. We are considering opening a small bank account in Canada, if these alternatives prove inadequate; please let us know if this is causing you a problem. We know that it is insulting and annoying, and we are very much frustrated by the banks’ provincialism, too.

I ask members’ assistance in connection with the following names, for whom my records show dues paid in 1986 or later, but no accurate current address. If you know any of these colleagues, please contact them and ask them to write to me (last year paid in parentheses): Andrea Berlin (1986), Claude Eilers (1987), Paul Corby Finney (1986), Craig Hanson (1986), Carolyn Koehler (1987), Michael Reiter (1986), Jeffrey Robinson (1986).

SEMINAR ON GREEK AND LATIN EPIGRAPHY

A Seminar on Greek and Latin Epigraphy will be held on July 12-14, 1989 at the University of New England (Australia). Among the overseas specialists participating will be Mortimer Chambers and Harold Mattingly; information sessions on the TLG and the Lexicon of Greek Personal Names are also hoped for. Registration is $20 ($15 for students), accommodations on the campus of Wright College are about $35 per day. Please indicate interest as soon as possible, by writing to: Dr. Ian Worthington, Dept. of Classics & Ancient History, Univ. of New England, Armidale, N.X.W. 2351, Australia.

REVIEW


This slender survey, professing to be “the first chapter in the history of womankind”, is directed to a general audience. Its tone is conversational, with only an occasional citation of sources interrupting the prose; it is enhanced by fine illustrations. Although scholars may be disappointed by the brevity of this study, Lesko’s major thesis — that women in pharaonic Egypt were remarkable because they enjoyed more personal freedom and parity with men than women of the classical period — is indeed an exciting one and it fully deserves the attention of scholars of Greek and Roman antiquity.

Part One surveys Royal women. The significance of matrilineal descent in royal succession and the role of the Great Royal Wife, in theory the daughter of the previous pharaoh, are discussed at length. Lesko observes that marriage to this Daughter of the God was theologi-
cally necessary and the royal custom of marriage of full siblings accordingly arose. She goes on to note that rulers who departed from this practice often took their own daughters as consorts, but fails to mention such well-known figures as Ramses II, Ramses III, and possibly Akhenaten in connection therewith.

Details of the activities of specific royal women are hastily sketched. For example, although allusion is made to Hatshepsut’s use of miracles and oracles from the temple of Amon to depose her rival and secure her own succession, this is not explained. An illustration depicts Hatshepsut wearing a dress along with a pharaoh’s headdress, but the author neglects to mention that Hatshepsut was often portrayed as a traditional male ruler: as Osiris, a sphinx, or wearing the royal ceremonial garb including beard and kilt (see W. Hayes, The Sceptre of Egypt, II, figs. 49-53). One would like to learn more about other famous queens, and the study is deficient on the Persian and Ptolemaic periods. Cleopatra VII is discussed, but the brilliant and tumultuous reigns of Arsinoe II and Berenike II have been totally neglected.

Part Two is devoted to “average”, i.e., non-royal women, including professional women and housewives. Lesko boldly argues for equality of men and women under the law during the pharaonic period, based in part on the evidence of demotic legal documents that are Ptolemaic in date. Nevertheless, if, as Lesko claims, women were ordinarily excluded from government and bureaucratic offices, it is impossible to sustain the claim that the average Egyptian woman exercised full citizenship.

One must try to distinguish between law and actual practice. Equal status of men and women may have been decreed by Egyptian pravina law, but it nevertheless appears to have been assailed by Egyptian men, so that a double standard existed. Even the teachings of Ptahhotep advise husbands to curb their wives’ exercise of their rights: “do not contend with her in court, keep her from power, restrain her” (Lichtheim, Ancient Egyptian Literature, I, 69). Indeed, Lesko’s excerpt from Ptahhotep’s teachings has been taken out of context; the passage actually suggests that the primary function of the wife was sexually to gratify her husband, the master to whom she was subordinate (see W.K. Simpson, The Literature of Ancient Egypt, 167).

The Remarkable Women of Ancient Egypt succeeds in demonstrating that Egyptian women of the pharaonic age enjoyed extraordinary freedom compared with their Greek and Roman successors: they could own property, transact business without reliance on legal guardians, make wills and appear in court. Some became professional scribes; at least one became a royal vizier! Omitted from Lesko’s bibliography are the following works which will interest readers: L. Manniche’s Sexual Life in Ancient Egypt (London: Routledge, Kegan, Paul, 1987) addresses aspects not discussed by Lesko; C. Desroches Noblecourt’s La femme au temps de Pharaons (Paris: Editions Stock, 1986) is more detailed; and S. B. Pomeroy’s Women in Hellenistic Egypt from Alexander to Cleopatra (New York: Schocken, 1984) surveys the later period.

Diana Delia, Texas A&M University

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