

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Catherine Dueñas and Terry Friedman

As the United States and the world underwent a major transformation in the wake of the events of 11 September, the Oriental Institute Docent and Volunteer Program also redirected some of its priorities and sharpened its focus. In 2001/2002 the Oriental Institute Museum Docent Tour Program experienced a number of significant and effective operational changes. Both the docents and the volunteers carefully analyzed the strengths of the program and formulated new and positive strategies for areas that needed improvement.

Tour Program

Docent-led tours of the permanent galleries (the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery and the Persian Gallery) were in popular demand, keeping museum docents actively engaged. Whether school students, religious groups, community organizations, or senior citizens, the Oriental Institute Museum Docents were ready to share their knowledge and enthusiasm with museum visitors of all ages. Throughout the year, many museum docents initiated study sessions to work together on developing special interest tour topics that would enhance their own knowledge in specific areas of the collection. These informal gatherings were dynamic information exchange sessions, where ideas were shared to help improve tour content and interactive touring techniques.

The monthly docent captains' meetings continued to provide an excellent forum for the captains to voice their thoughts, sharing and discussing ideas on various aspects of the volunteer program, as well as other issues of mutual concern. The captains' suggestions and observations continued to generate helpful guidelines for initiating



Oriental Institute docents enjoyed a tour of the Spertus Museum in April. Conducted by Professor Norman Golb, the tour highlighted documents and artifacts from the Ben Ezra Synagogue in old Cairo. Photograph by Terry Friedman

MUSEUM



On a field trip in May, volunteers listened attentively to Kirsten Akre, Demonstration Garden Coordinator and guide for the Chihuly "Garden of Glass" Exhibit at the Garfield Park Conservatory. Photograph by Terry Friedman

changes and implementing improvements in the tour program.

The Docent Captain System, which was started many years ago, has continued to run smoothly and efficiently. We are grateful to the captains: Debbie Aliber, Joe Diamond, Gabriele Da Silva, Mary Harter, Teresa Hintzke, Nina Longley, Masako Matsumoto, Roy Miller, Donald Payne, Patrick Regnery, Stephen Ritzel, Lucie Sandel, Deloris Sanders, Larry Scheff, Anne Schumacher, Daila Shefner, Karen Terras, and Carole Yoshida for their dedicated work with the organization and maintenance of docent staffing for morning and afternoon tours. Their administrative skills and unwavering

support have helped to make the museum tour program successful and vibrant.

We are pleased to note that the new, improved tour booking procedure which handles tour reservations exclusively by mail continues to operate effectively under the watchful eye of Maria Krasinski, our Education Programs Assistant. With the volume of calls and inquiries concerning museum tours and programs, we instituted procedures to help make the process as systematic and error-free as possible. This streamlined format has been very successful not only in the processing of tour reservation/confirmation forms and fee-based program requests, but also in the tracking and compilation of statistical data. We now are able to retrieve important information of not only the numbers of museum visitors enjoying a docent-led tour, but also of what these numbers represent in terms of geographic distribution, educational level, and age profile of the touring groups. We are pleased to announce that well over 7,000 people enjoyed the advantages of a docent-led tour during the past year.

This year we revised and reformatted the Tour Brochure, making it more user-friendly and concise. With the creative design skills of Judy Chavin Hedges, former Education Programs Associate and now graphic design consultant, a handsome tri-fold Tour Brochure was produced to publicize the docent-led tours to community and school groups. In order to reach as many institutions as possible, we developed a targeted mailing list that encompassed those groups who have either received a docent-led tour since the reopening of the Egyptian Gallery in 1999, or have participated in outreach programming. We also incorporated into the database all Chicago Public School principals. Through this initiative, we were able to contact an expanding and diverse museum audience throughout metropolitan Chicago. Our thanks to our intern, Claire Thomas, for her patience and dexterity in compiling this important data.

In an effort to help recruit new volunteers to the program, several members of the Thursday morning volunteers spearheaded a campaign to merge their creative talents and energies into the development of our first recruitment brochure. This pamphlet will showcase the Oriental Institute Volunteer Program to the general public and indicate where each individual might fit in as a volunteer. Our thanks to Masako Matsumoto, Charlotte Noble, and Karen Terras for working on the development of this wonderful recruitment tool. We look forward to its production later this year.

Volunteer Training

Although a formal Volunteer Training Class was not held this year, ten very dedicated and motivated individuals have joined the volunteer corps. Through independent study, volunteer training materials, and practical on-the-job experience, they are all working in various capacities throughout the Institute. These new recruits are:

Andrew Buncis	Katrina Paleski	George Sundell
Joan Curry	Carol Randel	Monica Wood
Kavita Machhar	Martin Rowe	
Charlotte Noble	Toni Smith	

A special note of recognition to Jim (O. J.) Sopranos who has also rejoined the volunteer corps. Jim has been involved with the Oriental Institute since 1967. Even as an inactive volunteer for a few years, his commitment and loyalty to the Oriental Institute has never wavered. We are so pleased to have him back assisting the Senior Curator and Registrar, Ray Tindel, with a variety of projects.

Welcome aboard to everyone!



Annually volunteer recognition takes place at the Oriental Institute in December, followed by a festive luncheon at the Quadrangle Club. This year's award recipients are, from the upper left: Mary Jo Khuri, Rochelle Rossin, Carlotta Maher, Stephen Ritzel, Carolyn Payer, Patricia Hume, Peggy Grant, Bud Haas, Georgie Maynard, Irv Diamond, and Cissy Haas. Photograph by Jean Grant

Volunteer Days

Volunteer Days continued to provide stimulating topics for Oriental Institute Docents and Volunteers to explore and to use as a springboard for further research and study. These interactive monthly educational seminars serve as a unique opportunity to broaden everyone's knowledge of the ancient Near East, while enjoying special camaraderie with fellow volunteers, faculty, and staff here at the Institute and with colleagues at other cultural institutions.

The Volunteer Day Programs explored a sweeping range of research and interests. Our thanks to: Eleanor Barbanes, John Brinkman, Laura D'Alessandro, Norman Golb, Clemens Reichel, Emily Teeter, Tony J. Wilkinson, Karen Wilson, and Aslihan Yener for their informative presentations and involvement in the Volunteer Program. We also want to thank volunteers Debbie Aliber, Dorothy Blindt, Gabriele Da Silva, Debby Halpern, Teresa Hintzke, Masako Matsumoto, Kathleen Mineck, Donald Payne, Lucie Sandel, Larry Scheff, Karen Terras, Claire Thomas, Norma van der Meulen, and Carole Yoshida for their important contributions to Volunteer Day programming.



At a special Volunteer Day Program, all eyes were on Oriental Institute conservator Laura D'Alessandro as she showed volunteers pieces from the Khorsabad Court. Photograph by Terry Friedman

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Volunteer Recognition and Annual Holiday Luncheon

Each year faculty, staff, and volunteers gather to enjoy a festive holiday celebration for December Volunteer Day. This popular program includes a guest speaker, the introduction of new volunteers, and the volunteer recognition ceremony. The activities culminate with a lovely holiday luncheon at the Quadrangle Club. This year's special event took place on Monday 3 December.

The morning program featured Aslihan Yener who gave an extremely interesting lecture on "New Discoveries in the Amuq: Surprises in Woolley's Dighouse Depot." Her topic gave us insight into her fascinating new discoveries which promise to be a treasure trove of information for years to come.

The program continued with the introduction of new volunteers and the Recognition Awards ceremony. We were pleased to welcome aboard our new volunteers and to recognize fifteen people for their distinguished and loyal commitment to the Oriental Institute. Bravo and congratulations to all!

Recognition Award Recipients**5 Years**

Pat Hume

10 Years

Carolyn Payer Laura Sanchez

15 Years

Irv Diamond Margaret Foorman Leila Foster

20 Years

Stephen Ritzel

25 Years

Mary Jo Khuri Georgie Maynard† Rochelle Rossin Mary Schulman

30 Years

Peggy Grant

35 Years

Cissy and Bud Haas Carlotta Maher

We would like to express our gratitude to Gene Gragg and the Office of the Director for underwriting the delicious Annual Holiday Luncheon at the Quadrangle Club; to Tim Cashion, Director of Development, for his generosity and support; and to John Larson and Denise Browning for their invaluable assistance with the awards and gifts.

For this very special occasion, we would like to express our appreciation to Thursday Docent Co-Captain Masako Matsumoto for creating the festive holiday decor for the LaSalle Banks Education Center. We would also like to thank Christel Betz, Elizabeth Lassers, Karen Terras, and Claire Thomas for their assistance with the event.

Randel Tea

In July the faculty, staff, and volunteers of the Oriental Institute were invited to enjoy a lovely afternoon tea reception at the home of President and Mrs. Randel. Our thanks and appreciation to President and Mrs. Randel for extending such a warm and gracious welcome to everyone.

Following the tea reception, we all gathered in the study to hear a special presentation about the many “Faces and Facets of the Oriental Institute Volunteer Program.” The talk explored the Volunteer Program from the perspectives of four individuals, a recent Ph.D. graduate, a museum/outreach docent, an undergraduate/intern, and a Suq volunteer. Congratulations to Clemens Reichel, Karen Terras, Claire Thomas, and Norma van der Meulen who did an outstanding job as the guest speakers.



As part of the July tea reception at the home of President and Mrs. Randel, docent Claire Thomas spoke of her experience as an undergraduate intern during the “Faces and Facets of the Oriental Institute Volunteer Program” presentation. Photograph by Jean Grant

Cleopatra Connection

We were pleased to have the opportunity to collaborate with The Field Museum on training sessions for the exhibition *Cleopatra of Egypt: From History to Myth*. Oriental Institute volunteers were invited to join with Field Museum volunteers in their preparation to guide visitors through the exhibit. *Cleopatra of Egypt*, which ran from 20 October 2001 until 3 March 2002, drew record-breaking crowds and much media attention. Many of our volunteers were thrilled with the opportunity to study new aspects of Egyptian history. Kudos to Betty Baum, Rebecca Binkley, Gabriele Da Silva, Catherine Deans-Barrett, Joe Diamond, Joan Friedmann, Terry and Bill Gillespie, Lee Herbst, Nina Longley, Masako Matsumoto, Georgie Maynard, Robert McGuinness, Roy Miller, Muriel Nerad, Nancy Patterson, Denise Paul, Rita Picken, Semra Prescott, Stephen Ritzel, Martin Rowe, Lillian Schwartz, Larry Scheff, Bernadette Strnad, Mari Terman, Karen Terras, and Carole Yoshida who attended the training sessions, assisted Field Museum visitors throughout the museum, and gave tours during the run of the exhibit. Thanks to all for making this joint venture with The Field Museum a very successful endeavor.

Library Expansion Project

This year, thanks to the generosity of many people, the Docent Library was able to expand its shelving and cabinet space. We contracted with Chip Davenport of 57th Street Bookcase and Cabinet to construct five new bookcases along with two new cabinet units. This beautiful new space will



Thanks to the efforts of Deloris Sanders, Sandra Jacobsohn, Debbie Aliber, and Daila Shefner (not pictured), the Oriental Institute docents and volunteers can now enjoy the benefits of the new expanded Docent Library. Photograph by Carole Krucoff

MUSEUM

now be able to accommodate the ever-expanding collection of articles, books, magazines, slides, tapes, and videos. Eventually, we will have the help of a graduate student in library science who will systematically catalog our collection, making it more user-friendly and organized. We would like to thank Masako Matsumoto who made a lovely silk floral centerpiece to enhance the appearance of the room. Congratulations to Debbie Aliber and her Library staff of assistants: Sandra Jacobsohn, Deloris Sanders, Lillian Schwartz, and Daila Shefner for all of their dedicated work, and to Anne Taylor, our new Library Science Intern, for her expert advice on how to organize and catalog the collection.

Outreach

The Outreach Program continued to retain loyal supporters, as well as attract new audiences to enjoy this unique “in-school field trip.” The program received accolades from students, educators, parents, and adults throughout metropolitan Chicago. Our audience base represents diverse groups of all ages and cultural backgrounds. Even with the reopening of the Egyptian and Persian Galleries, many schools and community groups have opted to request an outreach visit to enhance their museum experience. This year the Outreach Docents took the “show on the road” to more than 425 participants. We would also like to thank Joe Diamond for developing a new outreach presentation to add to the existing repertoire. Joe, with the assistance of Abbas Alizadeh and Kathy Mineck, created a fascinating slide talk about Persia. Joe debuted his work during an outreach visit to River Trails Middle School in Mount Prospect, Illinois.

Farewell to Intern Claire Thomas

We were delighted this year to have the opportunity to continue to work with Claire Thomas from the University of Chicago. Whether assisting with administrative tasks, museum tours, or doing independent research, Claire’s energetic and creative spirit were appreciated by all who worked with her. Her numerous contributions to the Volunteer Program throughout the year have helped to enhance and support many vital areas of its ongoing operation. Although we are sorry to lose Claire this coming year, we are thrilled that she will be going to Paris, France, to spend her Junior year abroad.

Hosting Colleagues

On 15 August, we were pleased to co-host a joint meeting with the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust for the Volunteer Coordinators of Cultural Institutions (VCCI) here at the Oriental Institute. The VCCI is a group of professional colleagues from Chicago and the suburban areas. This group meets quarterly to discuss diverse issues and concerns that impact many cultural institutions. The topic for the August meeting was “Interacting with Special Needs Visitors and Volunteers.” The speakers were Mickey Bonk and Catherine Brady from Children’s Memorial Hospital. Our thanks to Mari Terman for helping to initiate the arrangements for this informative meeting.

In September, Oriental Institute volunteers hosted volunteers from The Field Museum as part of a collaborative September Volunteer Day program. Field Museum volunteers were treated to a comprehensive tour of the Oriental Institute Museum galleries with an emphasis on “Women in Antiquity.” A special note of thanks to Debby Halpern and Gabriele Da Silva who developed a tour that highlighted our collection and provided interesting background information for the exhibit *Cleopatra of Egypt: From History to Myth* at The Field Museum.

In October the volunteers from the Oriental Institute, Robie House, and the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust gathered at the Oriental Institute to enjoy a fascinating afternoon of archaeology, architecture, and art. We were pleased to host this collaborative event which highlighted the Oriental Institute's collection as well as the history and restoration of Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House.



Oriental Institute volunteer Mari Terman talks with the guest speaker from Children's Memorial Hospital. Mickey Bonk gave an informative presentation for an Oriental Institute joint meeting with the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust and the Volunteer Coordinators of Cultural Institutions of Chicago. Photograph by Terry Friedman

Field Trips

This year the docents and volunteers enjoyed four field trips to other cultural institutions in metropolitan Chicago.

In January, we traveled to The Field Museum to view the groundbreaking exhibition, *Cleopatra of Egypt: From History to Myth*. This exhibit brought together the unique aspects of the Egyptian, Roman and Greek culture that added depth and dimension to this period of history and to its most famous queen. The collection of more than 350 artifacts explored the life, liaisons, and legend of this provocative woman.

In April, we visited the Spertus Museum to see *A Gateway to Medieval Life: Cairo's Ben Ezra Synagogue*. Professor Norman Golb spoke about the Geniza exhibit and we enjoyed tours of the exhibit with Spertus docents and Professor Golb to see firsthand the exceptional collection of documents and artifacts from the Ben Ezra Synagogue in old Cairo.

On 11 May, Oriental Institute docents and volunteers gathered at the Garfield Park Conservatory for an outstanding tour of the conservatory and the Chihuly Sculpture Exhibit. Our thanks and appreciation to Kirstin Akre, Demonstration Garden Coordinator at the conservatory who served as our guide. The lush beauty of this natural setting formed a magnificent backdrop for a garden of glass. The merger of these two worlds created a stunning and unforgettable experience.

Our June field trip took us to the Chicago Botanic Gardens in Glencoe to hear a talk by Masako Matsumoto on "Symbolism and Design in Ancient Egypt." It was an opportunity to study the rich botanical diversity expressed in Egyptian art. The program concluded at the home of Anita Greenberg where the volunteers enjoyed a lovely luncheon and a fascinating talk by Teresa Hintzke on "Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan: Tamerlane and the Silk Route."

In Memoriam

We were saddened this past year to lose six devoted friends and supporters of the Oriental Institute: Laurie Fish, Libby Hurbanek, Mary Irons, Georgie Maynard, Helaine Staver, and Elizabeth Tieken. They were extraordinary individuals whose gifts of time, talent, and dedication helped to enrich the Volunteer Program, the Museum, and the Institute in many ways. They will be greatly missed.

MUSEUM

Reflections

In a year of uncertainty and concern, the Volunteer Program has remained resilient and productive. Throughout its thirty-five year history, it has adapted well to change. The program has also maintained meaningful growth opportunities as well as the highest standards for the docent and volunteer corps. Over the past three and a half decades, the program has developed in strength and stature. We gratefully acknowledge the friendship and support of the faculty and staff of the Oriental Institute for making this possible. They have been our teachers and mentors, continually sharing their wealth of knowledge, sparking our curiosity, and supplying countless resources for our ongoing monthly continuing education programs for the docents and the volunteers. Their accessibility and involvement continue to motivate and inspire the high level of volunteer commitment throughout many vital areas of the Oriental Institute and the Museum.

We would also like to thank our colleagues in Museum Education for their faithful support throughout this past year: Judy Chavin Hedges, Education Program's Associate and graphic design consultant; Maria Krasinski, Education Programs Assistant; Carole Krucoff, Head of Education and Public Programs; and Wendy Ennes, Teachers' Services and Family Project Coordinator. In an environment bustling with activity, their calm reassurance, prudent guidance, and good humor provide a congenial and productive atmosphere.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the many people who have contributed so much to the development of the Volunteer Program for the past thirty-five years. Their wisdom and vision have paved the way for the program to strengthen and evolve over time, reaching out and offering assistance to many areas of the Oriental Institute. The volunteers have demonstrated through their hard work and loyal support that they are vital contributing partners and valued resources in the Institute's ongoing operation. Collectively and individually the volunteers are a rare and treasured asset. We are proud of all that they have accomplished and look forward to a successful and dynamic future with their help and support.

Advisors to the Volunteer Program

Carlotta Maher Peggy Grant Janet Helman

Honorary Volunteers-At-Large

Carol Randel Elizabeth Sonnenschein

Museum Docents

Debbie Aliber	Joan Friedmann**	Sherif Marcus	Martin Rowe
Bernadine Basile	Dario Giacomoni	Masako Matsumoto	Laura Sanchez
Jane Belcher	Anita Greenberg**	Georgie Maynard†	Lucie Sandel
Christel Betz**	Bud Haas	Robert McGuinness**	Deloris Sanders
Rebecca Binkley	Cissy Haas	Roy Miller	Larry Scheff
Dorothy Blindt	Debby Halpern	Kathy Mineck	Joy Schocket
Wanda Bolton	Ira Hardman	Charlotte Noble	Anne Schumacher
Myllicent Buchanan	Mary Harter	Katrina Paleski	Mary Shea**
Andrew Buncis	Janet Helman	Nancy Patterson	Daila Shefner
David Covill	Lee Herbst	Denise Paul	Toni Smith

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Joan Curry	Teresa Hintzke	Carolyn Payer**	Bernadette Strnad
Gabriele Da Silva	Leigh Ann Hirschman	Donald Payne**	Mari Terman
Catherine Deans-Barrett	Henriette Klawans	Kitty Picken	Karen Terras
Joe Diamond	Elizabeth Lassers	Rita Picken	Claire Thomas
Erl Dordal	Nina Longley	Semra Prescott	Roxanne Volkmann
Sam Dreessen	Lo Luong Lo	Patrick Regnery	Monica Wood
Margaret Foorman	Kavita Machhar	Stephen Ritzel	Carole Yoshida

Outreach Docents and Volunteers

Bernadine Basilie	Lee Herbst	Kathy Mineck
Myllicent Buchanan	Mary Jo Khuri	Charlotte Noble
Janet Calkins	Henriette Klawans	Nancy Patterson
Hazel Cramer	Betsy Kremers	Stephen Ritzel
Joe Diamond	Nina Longley	Deloris Sanders
Bill and Terry Gillespie	Kavita Machhar	Larry Scheff
Bud Haas	Masako Matsumoto	Anne Schumacher
Cissy Haas	Georgie Maynard†	Karen Terras
Debby Halpern	Robert McGuinness**	Claire Thomas
Ira Hardman	Caryl Mikrut	Carole Yoshida
Mary Harter	Roy Miller	Agnes Zellner
Janet Helman		

Suq Docents

Ria Ahlstrom	Ruth Hyman	Jane Thain
Barbara Storms Baird	Georgie Maynard†	Norma van der Meulen
Muriel Brauer	Agnethe Rattenborg	Felicia Whitcomb
Patty Dunkel	Rochelle Rossin	
Peggy Grant	Anne Schumacher	

Substitute Suq Docents

Janet Helman Jo Jackson

Suq Behind-the-Scenes Docent

Georgie Maynard†

Suq Jewelry Designer

Norma van der Meulen

Suq Office and Stock Room Volunteers

Georgie Maynard†

MUSEUM

Museum Archives Volunteers

Hazel Cramer	Sandra Jacobsohn	Carole Yoshida
Peggy Grant	Lillian Schwartz	
Patricia Hume	Helaine Staver†	

Registrar's Office Volunteers

Mary Grimshaw	Ila Patlogen	Peggy Wick
Janet Helman	O. J. Sopranos	
Georgie Maynard†	Tamara Siuda	

Diyala Project Volunteers

Richard Harter	Betsy Kremers	Helaine Staver†	George Sundell
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Hamoukar Project Volunteers

Betsy Kremers	Richard Harter	George Sundell
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Photography Lab Volunteers

Pam Ames	Irene Glasner	Carole Yoshida
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Courtyard Volunteers

Terry Gillespie	Bill Gillespie	Robert Herbst
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Museum Education and Family Programs Volunteers

Debbie Aliber	Elizabeth Lassers	Lucie Sandel
Rebecca Binkley	Nina Longley	Deloris Sanders
Dorothy Blindt	Sherif Marcus	Larry Scheff
Myllicent Buchanan	Masako Matsumoto	Anne Schumacher
Gabriele Da Silva	Roy Miller	Mari Terman
Joe Diamond	Carl Mineck	Karen Terras
Daria Giacomoni	Kathy Mineck	Bernadette Strnad
Bud Haas	Kristen Mineck	Claire Thomas
Mary Harter	Semra Prescott	Carole Yoshida
Lee Herbst	Patrick Regnery	
Teresa Hintzke	Stephen Ritzel	

Assistants to Epigraphic Survey and Chicago House

Debbie Doyle	Carlotta Maher	David Ray
Mary Grimshaw	Crennan Ray	

Assistants to the Prehistoric Project

Diana Grodzins Andree Wood

Hittite Dictionary Project Volunteers

Irv Diamond Irene Glasner Anne Schumacher

Demotic Dictionary

Anne Nelson Kathy Wagner

Publications

Irv Diamond

Iranian Prehistoric Project Volunteers

Janet Helman

Volunteers Emeritus

Elizabeth Baum

Carol Green

Janet Russell

Charlotte Collier

Mary Irons†

Eleanor Swift

Mary D'Ouille

Alice James

Bettie Dwinell

Dorothy Mozinski

**Please note that these names were inadvertently omitted from the listing in last year's *Annual Report*. We apologize for this omission.

† Represents Deceased 2001/2002
