Welcome to the Spring issue (2009.8) of the Asia Minor Report! The AMR seeks to inform scholars and students of early Judaism and Christianity in Asia Minor about recent historical and archaeological activities in Turkey. Please circulate this newsletter to colleagues and friends who might also be interested in these subjects. For more information about the AMRC, or to receive subsequent issues of the AMR, please email: markwilson@sevenchurches.org.

**BOOKS**

**Metropolis** by Serdar Aybeck, Aygün Ekin Meriç, and Ali Kazım Öz (İstanbul: Homerkitabevi, 2009), 192 pages, paperback, Turkish and English editions. Homer Book’s latest addition to its series of archaeological guides is on the site of Metropolis. This profusely illustrated guide first set Metropolis in its geographical and historical context before discussing the excavation areas and ruins. Most notable at the site are its acropolis, theater, stoa, and bouleterion. Important inscriptions include a measuring stone belonging to an agoranomos named Machatas that measured the real sizes and lengths of the liquid and length measures used in the city. Also found was a 1st century B.C. inscription that synchronized the Greek and Roman calendars in parallel columns. (Many of the significant finds from Metropolis are now displayed in the Izmir Archaeology Museum.) Religion, of course, played an important part in city life, and its name Meter Polis is derived from its patron deity, the Mother Goddess. A century ago Ramsay speculated that Metropolis, because of its location between Ephesus and Smyrna, must have had an early Christian community. Indeed it must have; evidence of an ongoing Christian community is found in the Araplıtepe Byzantine church. Excellent maps are inside the front cover; two suggested walking tours are found inside the back cover. Professor Recep Meriç is to be remembered for his 18 years work of excavation work at the site.

**I am the Last of the Travelers** by Emilie Haspels, ed. Dietrich Berndt with Halet Çambel (İstanbul: Arkeoloji ve Sanat, 2009), 192 pages, 91 photographs, English. I’ve always had a great interest in the travel narratives of early explorers in Asia Minor and have read all such accounts by Arundell, Ramsay, Bell, and others. It is fascinating to read how these pioneers of history and archeology made amazing discoveries in spite of challenging conditions. Miss Haspels, Dutch by nationality, is well known for her two-volume work *The Highlands of Phrygia* (Princeton, 1971). Her memoirs, reprinted from a diary, recount 21 years of working in Phrygia beginning at Midas City in 1939. The maps inside the front and back covers are largely useless because of their size and resolution, making it difficult to trace her routes. It is unfortunate that Berndt’s own map in his article with Jaap Hemelrijk in *Babesch* 74 (1999:2) was not used. The photographs accentuate the personal nature of the volume as they trace the progress of Haspels’s career. The glossary and synopsis of Haspels’s life prepared by Berndt are useful features in the appendix. Thanks are extended to Berndt for bringing this labor of love to press. Arkeoloji ve Sanat now offers its books in North America through the web site, Archaeology and Art Publications, www.aapbl.com.
Journals/Articles

Uludağ University in Bursa has established a national Mosaic Research Center under the leadership of Mustafa Şahin. This center is related to AIEMA, the International Association for the Study of Ancient Mosaics based in Paris. The center has sponsored several symposia, and on October 16–20, 2009, it is hosting the 11th International AIEMA Mosaic Symposium in Bursa. For more information on this symposium see www.aiematurkiye.org. The center has also embarked on an ambitious publishing program. Corpus of the Mosaics of Turkey, Volume 1 Lycia: Xanthos, Part 1 The East Basilica by Marie-Patricia Raynaud has just been published by Uludağ University Press with the assistance of the Getty Foundation. The 185 page volume is written in English with an Introduction in French and concludes with a Turkish abstract of the Synthesis. The volume features numerous color photographs, maps, and three folding site plans of the church. If this book is a harbinger of future volumes, this series holds great promise for those interested in the mosaics of antiquity. The Mosaic Research Center has also published Volume 1–2 (2008) of the Journal of Mosaic Research. This introductory issue features eight articles in German, French, and English. Two articles of particular interest are Ayşe F. Erol’s discussion of “The Port Illustration on the floor mosaic of the Yakto Villa” (pp. 39–44). This mosaic, discovered in Daphne, is now on display in the Mosaic Museum in Antakya (Antioch). Zaraza Freidman discusses “The Ship Depicted in a Mosaic from Migdal, Israel” (pp. 45–54). The illustrations and color photographs in the journal are of high quality. Both volumes are distributed by www.zerobooksonline.com.

ANMED: News of Archaeology from Anatolia’s Mediterranean Areas (Antalya, 2009) 203 page, paperback, Turkish and English, has just been published by the Suna & İnan Kıraç Research Institute on Mediterranean Civilizations. This annual review presents the reports from excavation sites not only in the Mediterranean but beyond (Kahramanmaraş!). Biblical sites discussed are Perge (pp. 61-69), Pisidian Antioch (70-74), Myra’s harbor Andriake (105-7), and Attalia (pp. 189-99). It’s wonderful to see work beginning again at Pisidian Antioch, a site developed largely in past years by the diligent labor of a friend of many, Mehmet Taşlıalan. Street excavations and theater restoration are two primary areas of focus. A large map tracing Paul’s journey has now been installed In the local museum at Yalvaç. Volume XII (2009; 401 pages) of AKMED’s journal Adalya is also now available. Julian Bennet reassesses a Roman military inscription from Attalia (pp. 185-94) while Inci Delemen investigates “Two New Portrait Heads with Priestly crowns from Perge” (pp. 173-84). The Table of Contents for both can be found at www.akmed.org.tr
ANNOUNCEMENTS

An International Symposium on Stone in Ancient Bithynia will be held in İstanbul November 7-8, 2009. For more information contact the organizers, Ayşe Çalık Ross at acalikross@gmail.com or Haluk Çetinkya at halukcet@gmail.com

NEWS   AND  NOTES

Pamukkale University in Denizli and its archaeology department headed by Celal Şimşek are to be congratulated for the outstanding job done hosting the 31st International Symposium of Excavations, Surveys and Archaeometry in Denizli on May 25-29, 2009. The symposium was informative as usual with each session featuring excavation or survey reports from the 2008 season. A poignant moment occurred during the Pessinus report when Professor Johnny Devreker announced his retirement as excavation director. He received a standing ovation that lasted for several minutes. Book publishers presented a number of new volumes in their displays, some of which are featured in this and the next issue of AMR.

An International Symposium on Stone in Ancient Bithynia will be held in İstanbul November 7-8, 2009. For more information contact the organizers, Ayşe Çalık Ross at acalikross@gmail.com or Haluk Çetinkya at halukcet@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**News and Notes**

Karl P. Donfried of Smith College has received a fellowship from the Mellon Foundation to pursue a major project on Paul, Judaism, and the Roman Empire. In October 2009, Prof. Donfried with his wife and friends will be traveling to certain Pauline sites in Turkey necessary for his research.

Gerald Stevens of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary received a Lilly Educational Research Grant. In 2010 he will explore small, off the beaten path archeological and historical museums in Western Turkey, for the possible relevance of holdings and artifacts helpful for illustrating New Testament backgrounds in the classroom and local church.

Michael Gorman of St. Mary’s College and Seminary and an editorial board member of *Interpretation* informs *AMR* that the January 2009 issue of the journal is entitled “Revelation as a Critique of Empire.” It includes articles by Craig Koester, David Barr, Warren Carter, and Allen Dwight Callahan plus some homiletical reflections on Revelation. The articles can be read online using the 7-day promotion found at [www.interpretation.org](http://www.interpretation.org).

*Love for Lydia: A Sardis Anniversary Volume Presented to Crawford H. Greenewalt, Jr.* edited by Nicholas Cahill and Andrew Ramage (Archaeological Exploration of Sardis Reports, 2009) has recently been published. The 288 page volume is a fitting tribute to Professor Greenewalt’s thirty plus years of leadership of the expedition.

*The Asia Minor Report is a quarterly publication of the Asia Minor Research Center, İzmir, Turkey. AMRC is a registered 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit corporation in the USA. Its legal mailing address is P.O. Box 64788, Virginia Beach, VA 23467-4788, USA. For questions or comments, or to add or remove yourself from the mailing list, please contact the AMRC director Dr. Mark Wilson at markwilson@sevenchurches.org.*