

2006 NEAS Members Meeting

The members of the Near East Archaeological Society met in room C-326 at the Hilton Washington Hotel in Washington , DC on Thursday November 16. Members present were Ralph Alexander, Charles Aling, Clyde Billington, Gary Byers, David Chapman, David Fouts, Paul Ray, Robert Smith, Tim Snow, Mark Wilson, John Wineland, Bryant Wood, Edwin Yamauchi, Ronald Youngblood, and Mark Ziese. Several guests were also in attendance.

President Ronald Youngblood called the meeting to order. Bryant Wood opened with prayer.

Pres. Youngblood's opening remarks.

- He noted that there is an exhibit titled "Bibles before 1000 A.D." at the Sacker Gallery at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. He went to see, and he encouraged members to go see. He gave directions to the Sackler Gallery.
- He again encouraged members to volunteer to help staff the NEAS booth during the annual meetings. See Gary Byers.
- He said that Harold Mare's festschrift "Beyond the Jordan" is for sale for half price at the Conference

Robert Smith presented the Treasurer's report.

- The current balance is \$5,674.59, about \$400 less than last year
- The projected budget for 2007 is \$6,200.00
- He noted that members, who are not up-to-date on their dues, continue to be a problem.
- NEAS has or will have enough money for 2007, but we need more money from dues for guest speakers.
- Clyde Billington volunteered to do a dues-collection mailing. Robert Smith will provide mailing labels.
- Robert Smith reported that Jim Estep consented to being the registered agent in the State of Illinois, where NEAS is incorporated.
- John Wineland moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Charles Aling seconded, and the motion carried.

Robert Smith also presented the Nominating Committee Report

- Chairperson Sara Fudge was unavoidably absent.
- He noted the nominee for Secretary Clyde Billington. Snow moved to accept the nomination of Billington. The position of Assistant Secretary would not be filled. Charles Aling seconded; and the motion carried.
- Smith noted the nominees for trustees of the Class of 2009, which are the Class of 2006 with the additions of David Chapman and Eric Mitchell. David Fouts moved, and Aling seconded that the nominees of the Class of 2009 be accepted. The motion carried. Snow moved that the Nominating Committee report be accepted. Alexander seconded, and the motion carried.

Ron Youngblood commented on membership matters. He underlined the need for new members.

Paul Ray presented the report on the *Near East Archaeological Society Bulletin*. The upcoming issue is ready to go, and it should be mailed out in January 2007. He noted that the issue is sent by bulk mail from Andrews which accounts of the lag between when the issue is done and when it is sent out.

Clyde Billington presented the report for *Artifax*. He thanked Editor Gordon Govier for his work. He noted that Tom Power's article on the ossuary of Simon of Cyrene in *Artifax* was reprinted by *Biblical Archaeology Review*.

President Youngblood made comments on the W. H. Mare Festschrift, *Beyond the Jordan*. He thanked Wipf and Stock publishers as well as the editors and copy editors. John Wineland also noted that the festschrift "The Light of Discovery" in honor of Edwin Yamauchi is also now available.

Program Chair Bryant Wood's Report

- He expressed his appreciation to the membership for the submission of papers.
- Papers can be submitted at NEAS WEB site
- He has asked the members to select a new Program chair as he will be stepping down at the end of this year.

President Youngblood thanked Wood for his help and support. Gary Byers will assume the post of Program Chair. He consented, and he was approved by acclamation.

Gary Byers asked for the help of members in selecting the NEAS Special Session theme for 2007. The ETS theme is "Teaching Them to Obey."

Other/ New Business. Clyde Billington suggested raising dues to \$35, since dues have been at \$30 for years. Discussion from members. Ron Youngblood said that an increase in dues needs to be first discussed at NEAS Board of Directors meeting.

Slates of officers and directors for 2007

President.....	Ron Youngblood
Vice President.....	Edwin Yamauchi
Secretary	Clyde Billington
Treasurer	Robert Smith
Program Chair.....	Gary Byers

Class of 2007

Ralph H. Alexander
Gordon Franz
Seijun Koh

Class of 2008

Charles Aling
Gary G. Byers
Mark W. Chavalas

Class of 2009

Clyde Billington
Rick Bullard
David Chapman

Ken Barker
David Merling
Paul Ray
Keith N. Schoville
Robert W. Smith
John D. Wineland
Mark S. Ziese

Robert E. Cooley
Sara Fudge
George Giacumakis
Alfred J. Hoerth
Walter C. Kaiser, Jr.
Edwin Yamauchi

John Davis
David Fouts
Eric Mitchell
Timothy C. Snow
Mark Wilson
Bryant G. Wood
Ronald F. Youngblood

Charles Aling closed the meeting with Prayer.

By Clyde Billington, Secretary